

## A Message from Marie Lalonde, Executive Director

Thank you to all of the 110 respondents who were able to complete the OMA's Survey on the Impacts of COVID-19 for Ontario museums. This critical information from the early days of the pandemic--a snapshot in time--has been essential for the OMA to support members, provide recommendations to government, and to coordinate with our colleagues in our national, provincial and territorial museum associations. We expect to be reaching out to our sector again to ask how museums are being affected.

The OMA will continue to share timely information for supporting our members such as funding programs for wage subsidies and deadline extensions for T3010 charitable information returns.

As Minister MacLeod stated in a tele-townhall on March 26, the early release of museum and heritage funding grants (including CMOG, HODG, and PHO) is a priority and the Ministry is considering prompt action.

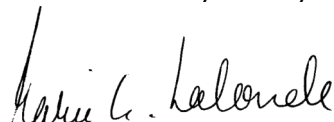
We aim to continue to provide important resources such as for holding online Annual General Meetings, museum closures, and caring for collections. We have held a teleconference with our Regional Museum Networks; please be in touch at [mlalonde@museumsontario.ca](mailto:mlalonde@museumsontario.ca) or [community@museumsontario.ca](mailto:community@museumsontario.ca) and the OMA can help to connect Networks who may be working remotely.

Please keep in mind as you read our Survey results that responses first came in when some museums were just announcing closures, we have since seen States of Emergency declared across the province. The situation is changing daily.

We know from annual earned revenues and donations reported in the [Government of Canada Survey of Heritage Institutions](#) that Ontario museums bring in \$500million a year in revenue, or approximately \$150million in the spring quarter (April-May-June). Ministry sources estimate the revenue of 166 CMOG-recipient museums as \$100million, and we are working with the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries to understand more. We are aware of the serious impacts for all, particularly independent not-for-profit museums that raise 65% of their revenue through donations and other forms of earned revenue.

We thank everyone for their time and consideration. The OMA is committed to working with the Ontario museum community during this pandemic and into the recovery period.

Be safe and stay healthy,

  
Marie G. Lalonde