[Letterhead]

Dear MPP [last name],

Thank you for your leadership and your work to support our community during the COVID-19 crisis. As the province plans for recovery, we would like to remind you of the contributions museums make to the well-being of our community. As a member of the Ontario Museum Association (OMA) and in my capacity as [role] of the [local museum or Network name], I am requesting your support for museums and the OMA’s recommendations for our sector for Ontario’s 2021 Budget.

While doing their part to address COVID-19, all 700-plus museums in Ontario are seeing negative impacts. With months of closure, increased costs, and decreased ability to generate revenue, Ontario’s museums—vital assets in every town across the province—are at risk of closure. To protect irreplaceable collections held in the public trust for the people of Ontario, museums need support to survive and contribute to the province’s recovery: re-opening safely to serve the public and their communities.

During the pandemic, museums can contribute to rebuilding tourism, offering safe, hyperlocal experiences—“staycations”; they can also support the Ontario education curriculum with quality learning experiences linked to digitized collections. The recommended funding will ensure that every Ontario museum has the opportunity to participate in producing digital content in a strategic, sustainable way that meets the needs of their communities and helps build their visitor base.

The Ontario Museum Association has made the following recommendations to the Ontario government, in a letter to Minister Bethlenfalvy on February 9. Read the letter on the OMA website here: <https://members.museumsontario.ca/programs-events/advocacy>

**We request your support of the following recommendations outlined in this letter:**

**Support for Ontario Museums in the 2021 Provincial Budget:**

**1. An Ontario Museum Relief Fund of $8.5million**

**2. A Digital Response Fund of $10million over three years**

**3. A Renewed Museum Funding Model of operating funding to a total of $15million annually**

In our community, these recommendations would: [add details of how these recommendations and support could make a difference for your museum]

We look forward to working together to support Ontario’s museums. Please feel free to contact me if I can answer any questions: [email] or [phone].

Thank you,

 [name and role]

[Organization you represent (if applicable)]

cc. Ontario Museum Association