

Ministry of Tourism,
Culture and Sport

Minister

9th Floor, Hearst Block
900 Bay Street
Toronto, ON M7A 2E1
Tel: 416-326-9326
Fax: 416-326-9338

Ministère du Tourisme, de la
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Télé: 416-326-9338



NOV 23 2016

Martha Durdin
Chair
Royal Ontario Museum
100 Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M5S 2C6

Dear Ms. Durdin:

Thank you for your leadership as Chair of the Royal Ontario Museum (ROM).

Ontario's board-governed agencies are vital partners in ensuring the delivery of high quality services to Ontarians. The people of Ontario depend on you to provide leadership to your agency's board, management and staff. Together with your fellow board members, and in collaboration with the ROM Executive leadership, you establish the goals, objectives, and strategic direction for the agency consistent with your agency mandate, government policies, and my directions where appropriate.

I appreciate the work undertaken by your board and staff in developing the ROM's 2016-17 Business Plan. I look forward to hearing about the results of your plan.

As you begin to undertake your 2017-18 business planning, and pursuant to the requirements of the *Agencies and Appointments Directive*, this letter sets out my expectations for ROM for its 2017-18 fiscal year.

As you know, your agency is mandated by the *Royal Ontario Museum Act, R.S.O. 1990*. The objectives of the Museum as set out in the Act are the collection and exhibition of objects, documents and books of any kind to illustrate and make known to the public the natural history of Ontario, Canada and the world; the collection and exhibition of objects, documents and books of any kind to illustrate and make known to the public, human history in all the ages, and; the promotion of education, teaching, research and publication in any or all fields related to the objects of the Museum. Concurrently, supporting arts and culture in Ontario to bring us together and make our communities and economy stronger is one of the priorities in the Premier's mandate letter to me which the ROM helps to accomplish through delivery of its mandate.

To ensure services are provided in accordance with your mandate and government priorities, I expect that the ROM will align its planning with ministry priorities set out in my mandate letter, and establish strategies to support those priorities. Specifically, the ROM will focus on effectively managing expenses to align with the government's fiscal

objectives to ensure efficiency and sustainability; supporting the goals of the Ontario Culture Strategy; and supporting government initiatives that strengthen our relationships with Indigenous communities and work toward reconciliation.

To achieve and maintain the highest levels of accountability, the ROM will work with the ministry to review and enhance governance, fiscal management and sustainability, and accountability processes to reflect best practices and ensure compliance with Treasury Board/Management Board of Cabinet direction as well as the new requirements with respect to executive salaries and compensation. The ROM also will maintain an effective system of internal controls and compliance with applicable requirements to promote transparency and accountability, and will be required to manage any operational, strategic and financial risks to help ensure business objectives are met.

For 2017, ROM will deliver special programming that celebrates Canada's and Ontario's 150th anniversary.

I appreciate the hard work being undertaken by the ROM's Board and staff and wish you continued success.

All my best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Eleanor McMahon', written in a cursive style.

Eleanor McMahon
Minister

c: Maureen Adamson, Deputy Minister
Kevin Finnerty, Assistant Deputy Minister, Culture Division
Josh Basseches, Chief Executive Officer, Royal Ontario Museum