MINISTER OF
CULTURE, HERITAGE AND TOURISM

ROOM 118
LEGISLATIVE BUILDING
WINNIPEG, MANITOBA, CANADA
R3C 0V8

JUN 1 7 2004

Councillor Jae Eadie
Acting Mayor of Winnipeg
City Of Winnipeg
Civic Centre
510 Main Street
Winnipeg MB R3B 1B9

Dear Sir:

The Province is currently engaged in a series of discussions regarding the future of the Prairie Production Centre (PPC). Manitoba is considering acquiring the facility and managing it under the legislation that governs the Manitoba Centennial Centre Corporation (MCCC) and is seeking the support of the City of Winnipeg to explore this opportunity which could benefit both levels of government and the film industry.

Winnipeg's film industry has enjoyed phenomenal growth over the past five years and the Province remains firmly committed to the continued growth and development of this valuable industry. Whether through the Manitoba Film and Video Production Tax Credit Program, funding to agencies and organizations such as Manitoba Film and Sound, the National Screen Institute of Canada, the Manitoba Motion Picture Industry Association, The Winnipeg Film Group, or Film Training Manitoba, considerable resources are directed towards sustaining and developing our film industry. The benefits to the City of Winnipeg and the Province through job creation and economic activity is clearly something that both levels of government understand and appreciate.

Beyond the economic benefits, what the industry does in terms of promoting Winnipeg as a vibrant and exciting city is of great value to the future of the City. Arts and culture form one of the central pillars for any community's appreciation for what is unique and important about why people choose to live where they do.

The Province is looking to the City for support in our efforts to find a sustainable solution for the future of the PPC. To that end the Province is seeking the City's concurrence to place the title to the premises commonly known as the Prairie Production Centre in the name of Her Majesty in right of Manitoba in accordance with Section 3(2) of the Centennial Centre Corporation Act. The purpose of this is to provide a means to save PPC from municipal property and provincial education taxes. There would be no expectation on the part of the Province for the City to collect and remit education taxes from PPC.

I look forward to receiving the City of Winnipeg's support for this endeavour which I believe will prove to be a significant contributor to Manitoba's film industry.

Sincerely,

Original Signed
By ERIC ROBINSON

Eric Robinson

c: Sandy Altner

bc: Minister/file
Deputy/file
A/ADM/file
Pat Tooth/file

