

## MINISTER FEDELI SPEAKS AT FILMONTARIO GENERAL MEETING

**Toronto, ON** (November 23, 2018) – The Honourable Vic Fedeli, Ontario Chair of Cabinet and Minister of Finance, spoke to members of the screen-based industry at FilmOntario's Annual General Meeting on Wednesday, November 21 at the Four Seasons in Toronto.

FilmOntario renewed several of its objectives and commitments at the meeting, including a continued engagement in government relations to promote the benefits of stable and effective tax credits for Ontario's screen-based industries in order to maintain the province's reputation as a world-class and competitive jurisdiction for content creation.

The members also elected Toronto studio executive Jim Mirkopoulos to the FilmOntario Board of Directors for a term beginning in January 2019.

During his remarks, Minister Fedeli highlighted the government's commitment to stability and support for the industry, as outlined in last week's Fall Economic Statement. He also lauded the success of the film and TV industry in North Bay, including shows like *Cardinal* and *Carter*.

"We are very pleased to see that the Government of Ontario has committed to stability and support for the screen-based sector, both in tonight's speech by the Minister and in last week's Fall Economic Statement," said Sue Milling, FilmOntario co-chair and Executive Director of ACTRA Toronto.

"It is gratifying to work with a government that understands and appreciates the economic impact the industry has in Ontario," added Jennifer Jonas, President of New Real Films and FilmOntario co-chair. "We look forward to continuing to work together to promote the benefits of our industry and bring more business to the province."

The AGM was well-attended by a wide range of FilmOntario members, including ACTRA Toronto President Theresa Tova and member Art Hindle, who introduced the Minister, along with executives representing eOne, William F. White, the SIM Group, EP Canada, Take 5 Productions, New Real Films and unions ACTRA, IATSE and NABET 700-M UNIFOR. Special guests included City of Toronto Councillor Paula Fletcher, and MPPs Deepak Anand and Vincent Ke, who is also the Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport.

Some industry facts:

- \$1.6 billion in independent film and television direct spending in Ontario in 2017, leading to a \$2.3 billion contribution to provincial GDP
- Domestic feature film spending was up by 16% in 2017 to \$80.6 million
- Foreign TV series spending was up by 27% in 2017 to \$653 million

### About FilmOntario

FilmOntario is an industry-funded, non-partisan consortium representing the approximately 35,000 individuals from Ontario-based production companies, unions, studios, equipment makers and other organizations in the province's screen-based industry. Our emphasis is on marketing Ontario as a screen-based content creation and production jurisdiction, and working with all levels of government so that policies and programs ensure our international competitiveness.