



May 18, 2012

The Honourable Brad Wall  
Premier of Saskatchewan  
226 Legislative Building  
Regina, Saskatchewan S4S 0B3

RE: Saskatchewan Film Employee Tax Credit

Honourable Premier Wall,

The Broadway Business Improvement District (BBID) enjoys intangible benefits a thriving arts community provides to our district. Arts & culture are integral to the success of the BBID, with most of our organized events centering around this theme; Without the arts, the entire culture and charm of Broadway suffers.

It is based on economic development of the BBID that I write this letter. BBID merchants span a wide mix, including banks, entertainment, professional offices, restaurants, retail, schools, etc. Many of these, by few degrees of separation, are directly affected by our government's most recent withdrawal of the Film Employee Tax Credit. The measurable economic effect on Broadway's business community alone is notable. This data, as pertaining to Broadway merchants, has been sourced directly from affected members:

- Broadway is home to 2 film businesses, which directly access the Film Employee Tax Credit; These alone employ 36 full time & 80 part time employees. If the changes in this credit were to cause them to close their business, it would represent at least an approximate temporary yearly loss to property owners, City of Saskatoon, and the BBID of 8,500 square feet rented at \$127,500, and an additional \$76,500 in occupancy costs, which include the BBID levy.
- Broadway is home to 3 more businesses secondarily related to the film industry as suppliers; These would naturally be impeded, also.
- The Broadway Theatre shows 24 Saskatchewan films yearly, with an average attendance of 175 individuals; At approximately 4000 patrons per year, Saskatchewan film viewings represent 25% of the theatre's yearly patronage.
- As stated by the film industry itself, for every \$1 provincially invested into the industry, the film industry returns \$6; Broadway's 2 businesses alone have spent \$9 million over the last year within Saskatoon; Broadway knowingly accesses percentages of these dollars spent.
- One Broadway restaurant realizes an approximate annual \$10,000 from one film company's loyalty; Another service provider realizes an approximate annual \$700 for alterations for the industry; These dollar values can be exponentially anticipated across the entire street and varying industries represented.
- For each employee of the industry working on Broadway, we predict a loss of \$84,240 to district restaurants at 3-\$15 meals per week.

While these numbers do not sufficiently total lost expenditures within the Broadway district, the projected economic consequences of this decision are apparent. Thanks kindly for your attention to this matter, and for the opportunity to share the Broadway Business Improvement District's economic effect from this decision. The BBID looks forward to supporting and seeing the growth of its local branch of the Saskatchewan Film Industry.

Thanks kindly for your reconsideration,

Sarah Marchildon, Executive Director  
Broadway Business Improvement District

cc The Honourable Bill Hutchinson, Minister Tourism, Parks, Culture and Sport  
cc John Nilson, Leader of the Official Opposition  
cc Danielle Chartier, Opposition Critic for Tourism, Parks, Culture and Sport  
cc Cathy Sproule, MLA Saskatoon Nutana  
cc Ron Goetz, President Saskatchewan Media Production Industry Association  
cc BBID Merchants & Board of Directors