



**MAR 02 2010**

February 11, 2010

Ms. Wendy Fitch, Director, Museum Development  
Museums Association of Saskatchewan  
424 McDonald Street  
REGINA SK S4N 6E1

Dear Ms. Fitch:

Thank you for your letter supporting the work of the Saskatchewan Heritage Foundation (the Foundation) and recommending increased funding to the Foundation be considered.

As you are undoubtedly aware, heritage is a key component of the new cultural policy being developed by Saskatchewan Tourism, Parks, Culture and Sport. Through this policy, arts, culture, and heritage will be placed at the centre of government's strategic priority to increase quality of life and build pride in Saskatchewan. Stewardship of arts, culture, and heritage resources is a main theme of the policy, and, as you know, the Foundation plays a vital role in this regard by supporting community-based heritage projects and initiatives.

I appreciate the challenges the Foundation is facing, such as a demand for heritage funding that often exceeds its capacity. Responding to these challenges is a priority and, in recent years, government has managed to increase the Foundation's funding. For example, in 2008-09, with additional funds for grants and for the Claybank Brick Plant, the Foundation's annual allocation more than doubled. Unfortunately, as government now readies to make tough budget decisions, similar increases will be difficult in the near term.

Finally, I appreciated hearing about how the Foundation supported many worthwhile community museum projects across Saskatchewan. As we move forward with Saskatchewan's new cultural policy, I look forward to working with

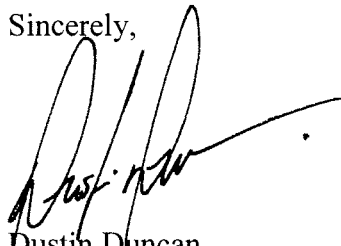
... 2

Ms. Fitch  
Page 2  
February 11, 2010

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individuals such as yourself, and with organizations like the Museums Association of Saskatchewan and Heritage Saskatchewan, to conserve and increase public appreciation of our shared heritage. Once again, thank you for your letter and your interest in Saskatchewan heritage and its many benefits to our communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dustin Duncan', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dustin Duncan  
Minister of Tourism, Parks,  
Culture and Sport

cc: Ingrid Cazakoff, Chairperson, Saskatchewan Heritage Foundation  
Celine Perillat, President, Museum Association of Saskatchewan