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March 19, 2024

Dear ANSM Members,

On Thursday, February 29, the Nova Scotia Government delivered Budget 2024-25. While there was no additional funding provided for the museum sector, it appears that there are no cuts to the programs and operational funding that museums rely on.

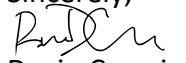
In 2023 there was an increase of \$650,000 to the Community Museum Assistance Program (CMAP) and 2024 will be the first year of the CMAP program being reassigned to the Archives, Museums, and Libraries division of the Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism, and Heritage (CCTH) who will distribute it to the museum sector. We're encouraged by these changes and have already seen the positive benefit of streamlined communications between ANSM and Government.

ANSM will continue to work closely with CCTH to emphasize the importance of museums in Nova Scotia, as well as the constrained financial situation that museums currently face. We are aware that there remain substantive pressures on museum infrastructure and operations. We look forward to meeting Minister MacMaster in the coming months for further discussion.

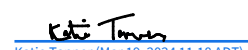
We encourage all museums and their boards to advocate for museums and invite local MLAs to visit museums this summer to show the role that museums play in making Nova Scotia a prosperous, healthy, and vibrant province.

We thank our members for their continued support, as well as the members of the ANSM Advocacy Working Group, Provincial Government stakeholders, and Nova Scotians for their continued support of museums.

Sincerely,


Devin Casario

Executive Director, ANSM


Katie Tanner (Mar 19, 2024 11:18 ADT)
Katie Tanner

President, ANSM