

Ministry of Education

Minister

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Ministère de l'Éducation

Ministre

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January 23, 2023

Chris Day
Chair
Ontario Educational Communications Authority (TVO)
2180 Yonge St, Stn Q
Toronto ON M4T 2T1

Dear Mr. Day,

I am pleased to share our government's 2023-24 priorities for the Ontario Educational Communications Authority (TVO). As Chair, you play a vital role in helping TVO achieve its mandate to support education and life-long learning through educational communications and programs.

Thank you for your support for the learning of fundamental skills like Math and STEM skills with Mathify and MPower. The expansion of Mathify to grades 4-12 means that even more students have access to quality online math tutoring, empowering them to succeed. I have been particularly impressed with the role TVO has played in supporting an online learning system. Pivoting TVO ILC to develop a preview for teacher-led online courses for our secondary school students and developing course packs covering every subject for K-8 is another critical piece in preparing our students for an increasingly digital and global future.

Following two years of pandemic instruction, it is critical that TVO come alongside our schools in re-enforcing fundamentals like reading, writing and math and preparing our students for the jobs of the future. The work that you and your fellow TVO directors undertake to establish the goals, objectives and strategic direction ensures it performs its mandate in a responsible manner, supporting this critical education and life-long learning.

This letter sets out my expectations for TVO for 2023-24, per the requirements of the Agencies and Appointments Directive. In fulfilling TVO's legislated mandate, my key expectations include:

- continuing to provide strong and innovative supports, including curriculum-linked digital resources, for Ontario students;
- prioritizing learning recovery with particular focus on literacy and math skills;
- continuing to increase digital presence through distribution channels, making educational resources and services available to students, parents and teachers, in order to promote the continuity of learning; and

- supporting a more coordinated, robust provincial online learning system that will allow students to access high-quality, teacher-taught online learning courses they need or wish to take, no matter where they live or go to school.

I look forward to discussing these priorities as they are required to be reflected in TVO's upcoming business plan and future annual reports.

In addition, I have listed below the government-wide commitments for board-governed provincial agencies. Please see the attached guide for further details of each priority. The government wide priorities are:

1. Competitiveness, Sustainability and Expenditure Management

- Identifying and pursuing opportunities for revenue generation through partnerships, where appropriate.
- Identifying efficiencies and savings through innovative practices, and/or improved program sustainability.
- Operate within the agency's financial allocations.
- Complying with applicable direction related to supply chain centralization, including contract harmonization for planned and pending procurements, accounting practices and realty interim measures for agency office space.
- Leveraging and meeting benchmarked outcomes for compensation strategies and directives.

2. Transparency and Accountability

- Abiding by applicable government directives and policies and ensuring transparency and accountability in reporting.
- Adhering to accounting standards and practices, and responding to audit findings, where applicable.
- Identifying appropriate skills, knowledge and experience needed to effectively support the board's role in agency governance and accountability.

3. Risk Management

- Developing and implementing an effective process for the identification, assessment, and mitigation of agency risks, including COVID-19 impacts and any future emergency risks.

4. Workforce Management

- Optimizing your organizational capacity to support the best possible public service delivery, including redeploying resources to priority areas, where needed.
- Supporting the implementation of the Community Jobs Initiative (CJI) by identifying opportunities to relocate new or existing agencies to lower cost communities.

5. **Diversity and Inclusion**

- Developing and encouraging diversity and inclusion initiatives by promoting an equitable, inclusive, accessible, anti-racist and diverse workplace.
- Adopting an inclusion engagement process to ensure all voices are heard to inform policies and decision-making.

6. **Data Collection**

- Improving how the agency uses data in decision-making, information sharing and reporting, to inform outcome-based reporting and improve service delivery.
- Increasing data sharing with Supply Ontario when applicable regarding procurement spending and planning, contract arrangements and vendor relations to support data-driven decision-making.

7. **Digital Delivery and Customer Service**

- Exploring and implementing digitization for online service delivery to ensure customer service standards are met.
- Using a variety of approaches or tools to ensure service delivery in all situations, including pursuing delivery methods that have evolved since Covid-19.

Thank you and your fellow board members for your continued commitment to TVO. Your work and ongoing support is invaluable to me and the people of Ontario.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Deputy Minister Nancy Naylor at Nancy.Naylor@ontario.ca.

Sincerely,



Hon. Stephen Lecce
Minister of Education

Attachment:

- Government Priorities for Agency Sector Chart