



September 24th, 2021

To Whom it May be Presented,

At this time, I am pleased to offer my support for the Haliburton Highlands Arts Centre Foundation and their commissioning of a feasibility study into the possibility of a world-class arts centre in Haliburton County.

The County of Haliburton has long been a home of the arts, with the Haliburton Guild of the Arts started in 1967. Since then, the region has become home to many artist studios and eventually spurred the creation of three annual studio tours. The county has also attracted full-time and part-time residents active in all disciplines of the arts. Thanks to a collective of forward-looking community leaders, this ultimately led to the Guild of the Arts becoming the Haliburton School of the Arts, a campus of Fleming College.

It's evident that arts and culture play a large part of the economic well-being and quality of life in the county. Being the home of the Haliburton School of the Arts, multiple amateur performing arts groups, plus two annual summer performance events (The Highlands Summer Festival and Highlands Opera Studio), a new arts centre would be advantageous for this growing community. From potential job creation to increased shopping and nightlife options, I am looking forward to the outcome of the feasibility study.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jamie Schmale". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Jamie Schmale
Member of Parliament
Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock