

Statement Regarding Announcement of \$400M for Quebec's Cultural Sector

June 2, 2020

As the union locals representing more than 3,000 stage technicians, front of house workers, film technicians, camera technicians, and hair, make-up, and wardrobe artists across the province, we would like to voice our concern over the complete omission of support for workers in the province's recent announcement of \$400M in funding for Québec's Cultural sector.

While we applaud the Quebec government's commitments to financial support the cultural sector, any support that is not worker focus ignores those that have been most effected by the COVID pandemic. The working people of Quebec's cultural sector were among the very first to be affected by this pandemic and will most certainly be the last to recover. Without support from the Quebec government, many of our craft workers, artisans, and tradespeople will not be able to continue in their chosen professions, which will ultimately lead to the decimation of the very workforce that enables Quebec's artists and creators to produce the culture that the Government has spoken so passionately about.

Any funding that is being earmarked to support our industry must include programs to support the workers that make it possible. In the coming days and weeks, we look forward to the opportunity to working with the government of Québec to ensure that the workers receive the support they desperately need.

Sincerely,

IATSE locals 56, 262, 514, 523, 667, and 863.

