

CASO Achievements during covid, 2020-2021

The covid pandemic brought massive change and challenge to the world.

CASO mobilized immediately to ensure that our members were fully informed, as governments at all levels began to develop policy on a wartime scale and timeline.

CASO delivered 350 daily updates to members on policies, legal and HR considerations, security and privacy updates, and their impacts on your businesses and employees, and our advocacy to ensure industry inclusion in all government supports at all levels.

Thank you to all of our CASO members for their participation in our Survey on the costs of transitioning to WFH, which assisted us in our Advocacy work to ensure that our industry was included in government supports at all levels.

Thank you to all of you for your tenacity and incredible nimbleness – thanks to all of your efforts, Ontario's vfx and animation industry has not only survived, but thrived and expanded!

Mission Commitment: Advocacy

Federal Government

- Worked along side other industry orgs, Ontario Creates, and the Ministry of Ontario Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries to ensure that Federal covid supports for wage subsidy and commercial rent subsidy included film + television activity.

Ontario Government

- Worked with industry partners, Ontario Creates, and the Ontario Ministry of Labour to update Health + Safety Section 21 guidelines for covid safety.
- Developed important data with our members, on the cost of transitioning to work-from-home, to assist government with policy decisions and industry inclusion.
- Worked with various Ministries to ensure that vfx + animation were eligible for all Ontario covid business supports.
- Delivered a Fall Economic Statement submission, reiterating the importance of untethering OCASE from OPSTC and OFTTC.
- CASO has a seat on the industry Panel for the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture industries. That work assisted with the Minister's White Paper, Dec 2020. http://www.mtc.gov.on.ca/en/Reconnecting_Ontarians.pdf
- Delivered a Spring Budget submission, reiterating our 'ask' and thanking the government for maintaining stable tax credits at their current rate.
- Continuing to work on the Panel to develop a short, mid and long term plan for industry growth and success, expected to be released in Fall 2021. Our

hope is that the recommendations will see results in the Fall Economic Statement 2021.

Toronto Film, Television, and Digital Media Board

- CASO continues to enjoy a seat on this Board
- In summer 2021, CASO co-Chair, Neishaw Ali was elected co-Chair of the Toronto Film Board, along with Councillor Paula Fletcher.

Mission Commitment: Professional Development

- Developed important data with our members, on the cost of transitioning to work-from-home, to assist government with policy decisions and industry inclusion.
- June 2020 AGM was held via webinar, with strong attendance.
- Spring webinar 2021 on work from home during covid, and hybrid variations to come
- CASO's AGM moved to September 2021
- Currently developing a Business Intelligence Report on Broadband and Cloud opportunities and challenges for Ontario's vfx + animation industry. Expected Fall 2021 release.
- Ottawa International Animation Festival 2021 will once again have a CASO Panel discussion on how the industry has handled covid changes, and CASO member discounts.

Mission Commitment: Marketing Initiatives

- With covid came many changes, including the elimination of marketing efforts with the City and the Province on the international stage. Plans for 2022 include a marketing trip to LA with the Province, and the City of Toronto.
- Social media continues to include twitter and facebook, with increased attention to LinkedIn.