

Accomplishments 2017

Strengthened CASO's operations for Members

- Worked with Sarah Ker-Hornell, SKH Consulting, to tackle various corporate operations updates: Fiscal reporting review and update, Corporate records review, update and process going forwards, and Board governance and by-laws review, update and development
- We then established key Committees, each led by a Board Member, to focus our efforts in order for the Board to deliver on our Mission.
- Committees include: By-laws and Governance review, Government Relations strategy, Membership outreach and Communications, Professional Development, Sponsorship, Data/Research
- Received permission from CRA to adjust our fiscal year to align with government fiscal years (April 1 – March 31), to assist with accessing grants for research and marketing
- Held a mid year Town Hall for Members and Guests to report out on our progress and get your feedback

Mission Commitment: Advocacy

- CASO successfully worked with the Provincial government to protect OCASE tax credit, and further, ensured that OCASE remains a Vendor tax credit.
- CASO co-Presidents have begun a round of meetings with key Ministers and PC and NDP counterparts, and Leaders of all Ontario parties, as they prepare their election platforms
- CASO was a key contributor to the City of Toronto's Strategic Plan 2017
- CASO now has official seats on the Ministry of Culture Industry Advisory Committee; OMDC screen-based advisory committee; and the City of Toronto Film, Television, and Digital Media Board, including co-Chair of the Digital Media committee
- CASO works co-operatively with CMPA, FilmOntario, and Interactive Ontario on various policy initiatives that impact vfx and animation studios.
- CASO has initiated collaborative government submissions, where possible, with CMPA, FilmOntario, OCADU and others

Mission Commitment: Professional Development

- CASO has established a MOU with Interactive Ontario, ensuring co-sponsorship of several business seminars, including Kids VR, Legal/succession planning, and banking/insurance.
- As well, CASO has hosted an OMDC tax credit seminar – planned to be annual
- Has an International Tax Credit Markets seminar scheduled for early 2018.
- In April of this year, CASO partnered with TAAFI to host the most successful vfx/animation job fair in Ontario's history.

Mission Commitment: Marketing Initiatives

- CASO participated in the Mayor's LA trip, January 2017, and will in 2018
- CASO was invited to participate in the Mayor's Industry Stats press event, earlier this year.
- CASO has developed vfx and animation showreels for Marketing Ontario's vfx and animation studio expertise, with funding assistance from the OMDC.
- CASO was invited to participate in the Ottawa Animation Festival with a CASO panel.