



FEDERATION FOR THE
**HUMANITIES AND
SOCIAL SCIENCES**

FÉDÉRATION
**DES SCIENCES
HUMAINES**

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April 1, 2020

The Honourable Bill Morneau
Minister of Finance
Department of Finance Canada
Parliament Buildings
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6

Dear Minister:

I am contacting you on behalf of the Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences, a national charitable organization with a membership comprising over 160 universities, colleges and scholarly associations representing a diverse community of 91,000 researchers and graduate students across Canada.

On March 12, 2020, you received correspondence from the Canadian Society for Association Executives (CSAE) requesting that the association sector receive a portion of the fiscal support announced by the government to address the impacts of COVID-19. The Federation fully supports CSAE's work to ensure that this sector is supported during this difficult time.

On March 19, 2020, the Federation announced that its flagship event Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences – an annual gathering of more than 8,000 scholars in the social sciences and humanities – was no longer going to take place at Western University between May 30 and June 5, 2020, as originally scheduled. Instead, a small number of activities are to be moved online. The cancellation of the in-person event represents – for the Federation, Western University and the participating associations – a significant loss of revenue.

As stated by CSAE, financial assistance to combat and mitigate the impacts of the outbreak of COVID-19 is greatly needed to protect not-for-profit associations. The Federation stands with CSAE and agrees with the recommendations they have made.

Sincerely,

Gabriel Miller
President and Chief Executive Officer