

# Town of Greensboro

P.O. Box 119  
Greensboro, Vermont 05841  
802-533-2911

June 15, 2024

Sarah DeFilippi  
Vermont Department of Tourism  
National Life Drive  
Montpelier, VT 05620

Dear Ms. Defilippi,

On behalf of the Greensboro, Vermont, Select Board I am writing to support the Transformational Tourism, Events, and Regional Marketing T-Term Grant application being submitted by the Highland Center for the Arts.

The economy of the Northeast Kingdom is in transition. While the traditional dairy farm has been disappearing, we are seeing the emergence of a new value-added agricultural economy, spurred largely by the Center for an Agricultural Economy in Hardwick, Vermont. With this changing economy there is an increasing appreciation for the importance of tourism as an essential marketing partner for our products. Agriculture and tourism have become mutually dependent.

Climate change, however, is having a measurable impact. We have sought to make skating one of the winter attractions in this area, but the increasing unpredictability of weather patterns puts those plans in jeopardy. This grant would help us weatherproof that attraction, make winter visits more predictable with a longer season and provide more opportunities for skating and for events like Curds and Curling--<https://highlandartsvt.org/events/curds-curling-2/>.

Tourism is increasingly important to our area. It is an important source of jobs and it is equally important in promoting our products. This grant would be transformational in that it would allow us to help strengthen an attraction that is increasingly to our community and its future.

Sincerely,

Eric Hanson  
Chairman  
Greensboro Select Board

