

## PACE Arts Vote 2017 Questionnaire

As in previous municipal elections in Edmonton, the Professional Arts Coalition of Edmonton (PACE) is conducting the ArtsVote 2017 campaign. This means we are doing our best to ensure that support for Arts and Culture in Edmonton is a feature of public discussion during this campaign.

To that end, we are asking all candidates in the municipal election to respond to this short questionnaire and to send your responses to [admin@pacedmonton.com](mailto:admin@pacedmonton.com). We will post your responses on the PACE website as they are received.

1. Do you feel the city does enough to encourage and support an active arts sector? Yes.
2. What would you change in the city's current approach? Not much.
3. Do you support the city's purchase and display of public art through the Percent for Art program (this provides 1% of the construction budget of publicly accessible buildings in Edmonton to buying public art)? If not, please explain why not. Yes, but I do not like the type of art that we purchase. For example, I think that the hand in Boyle Street is depressing and raw.
4. Appropriate facilities to support Edmonton's arts and culture industries are critical to our city's growth and development in this area. The creation of specific districts to support certain kinds of Arts, such as music districts, has been adopted in some cities to foster growth of cultural industries. How would you propose supporting the creation of dedicated arts districts? We are already seeing this happen with Alberta Avenue and some parts of downtown. I don't think we need to change what is happening, but I am open to learning and listening to contrasting views.
5. In the province's current economic situation, the city's resources are stretched. In this climate, how important is it for the city to financially support new arts facilities and activities? It is important regardless of the economic situation, because art is both its own industry and nurturing to people emotionally and spiritually.
6. Beyond the scope of the questions above, do you have other thoughts as to how you would continue to enhance arts and culture in our city? My view of art and the arts is not the popularist one: I advocate strongly for the Edmonton Youth Orchestra and life-long studies and perfection. So, it is hard for
7. What would you advocate to ensure that training in Fine Arts – music, dance, theatre, visual arts – is an integral part of the education of young Edmontonians? me to be the best voice on this topic.

The City currently runs a host of programs for little children that are quite fun and well organized. My young son attended a few of them, and I believe they have helped him grow as a tolerant, calm, and intelligent little boy. Formative minds and exposure to all sorts of artistic abilities is key for a healthy society, and a vibrant community, so you will never see me stand in the way of arts culture. My opinions may not reflect the majority, but I will work for the majority.