

#OTTAWACULTURECOUNTS

Good for our community, good for our economy

ARTS NETWORK OTTAWA SENT OUT THIS SHORT SURVEY TO CANDIDATES FOR THE MUNICIPAL ELECTION AND THE RESPONSES WE RECEIVED TO DATE ARE BELOW:

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Good for our community, good for our economy

A thriving arts and culture scene makes Ottawa a great place to live. Arts Network Ottawa represents over 400 artists, arts organizations and supporters from across the City. We wish to know where you stand on the City's role in advancing Ottawa's local arts scene for the next four years.

Do you know that the arts provide both important economic and social benefits to our City? The arts contribute to community-building, and offer valuable benefits to families, jobs and tourism. Yet our local artists and arts organizations are under-resourced. Please read the attached document or [Find out more about Ottawa Culture here.](#)

Please let us know:

1. How are you involved in the arts in your ward?
2. If elected, will you make arts and culture a priority for the next term of City Council?
3. If elected, will you support the new Cultural Roadmap now in development by the local cultural community?
4. For School board trustees: Will you support increased attention to arts learning within the school system. Not just STEM, but STEAM!)

[Arts Network Ottawa](#) supports the #OttawaCultureCounts campaign of the [Ottawa Cultural Alliance](#).

For more information on the social and economic benefits of the arts go to the Ontarians for the Arts and the Arts Network Ottawa websites:

<http://ontariansforthearts.ca/>

<http://www.artsoe.ca/about-us/what-we-do/advocacy/>

COUNCILLOR CANDIDATES

Ward 1 Orléans

Rick Bedard: Cultural industries account for roughly 630,000 jobs across Canada which contributes roughly \$54.6 billion to Canada's economy every year. The Cultural Roadmap outlines plans to bolster Canada's public broadcaster, which should help encourage competition in the private media sector and generally greaten the quality of journalism products. It also discusses the need to strengthen Canada's presence in the cultural sphere. I support these goals and objectives and I look forward to learning more about how the roadmap will enhance our local cultural community.

Mireille Brownhill

Thank you for taking the time to engage candidates on this issue! Here are my answers to your questions.

1) How are you involved in the arts in your ward?

I believe that the arts are an essential part of our city's culture! I support our artistic community by attending shows and concerts, purchasing works by local artists, and sending my children to art classes.

2) If elected, will you make arts and culture a priority for the next term of City Council?

I agree that arts and culture should be included in the next Term of Council priorities.

3) If elected, will you support the new Cultural Roadmap now in development by the local cultural community?

Yes, I will support the Cultural Roadmap. We must listen to and collaborate with the local cultural community in order to adequately represent its members at City Council, as well as understand their needs. I look forward to reading the Cultural Roadmap that is being developed and learning how I can support it in my role as Councillor.

Guy Desroches

I am involved today in arts in Orléans being the soundman for my church. We also host a Choirfest at Christmas uniting more than 10 choirs.

We in Orléans are spoiled to have here one of the city facilities, Shenkman Center, and MIFO. I would make sure that these facilities are a priority in my ward.

I will support the new Cultural Roadmap. Plan, Do, Check, and Act.

Je soutiendrai la nouvelle feuille de route culturelle; Planifiez, effectuez, vérifiez et agissez.

Dina Epale:

If elected, I will work closely with the local cultural community on a Cultural Roadmap. If we are to mobilize city resources, it will be important to be ready with a vision of what we need and a consensus on the priorities. We need to be able to articulate what a fully funded program would include as well as individual components that can be implemented as funding becomes available. The Roadmap is both a means of building consensus in Orléans and a starting point for discussions on funding.

Jarrold Goldsmith

Thank you for the opportunity to provide some input for #OttawaCultureCounts!

1. How are you involved in the arts in your ward?

Joining AOE back in 2011 was one of the best moves I've ever done. It provided me an opportunity to learn valuable skills in the Arts and network with like-minded professionals at the same time. Sax Appeal would not be where it is today without this constant support.

2. If elected, will you make arts and culture a priority for the next term of City Council?

ABSOLUTELY.

The following text is actually on my website and can be found here:

ARTS & RECREATION

A vibrant arts community helps shape and define our quality of life. Orléans is home to many excellent arts organizations. As a professional unionized musician, I know how hard it is for artists to make a living and turn their talents into a sustainable business. I will promote organizations like Ottawa's Cultural Alliance and other programs to help artists from all genres and disciplines learn how to think like a business owner.

Consider how much more culturally vibrant Orléans (and all of Ottawa) would be if more people in the Arts were able to turn their hobby or passion into a viable business. Jarrold has the transferable skills in experience, knowledge and connections to help make that happen at City Hall.

3. If elected, will you support the new Cultural Roadmap now in development by the local cultural community?

YES. I am looking forward to working with all stakeholders and the public to promote the revised Cultural Roadmap in development. I will work hard to make a real difference for all the Arts as a council member.

Miranda Gray:

Yes, I will support it. In general, I think it is good to have a short conversation with elected officials before starting a project of this nature (as I am certain was done) and then discuss it again as the plan develops. Overall, I am in favour of community organizations coming together in groups to present a united voice for the ward or the Eastern Bloc Wards. It is more powerful to be able to list a long group of organizations asking for support / funding from the city than to ask for each organization.

Matthew Luloff:

Yes. As a member of the local arts community, I support community-based initiatives such as the Cultural Roadmap. As the City Councillor for Orléans, I would want to be a part of the continued development of that plan to ensure that it is both realistic and achievable, and takes into account the richness of the diversity of our ward.

Supporting our local arts and culture is a major priority in my platform

Qamar Masood:

Yes

Kevin Tetreault:

Yes, I would be interested in reviewing this plan and working with stakeholders to see how I can best support it as your councillor.

Don Yetman

Due to my total lack of talent, I restrict my involvement in the Arts to that of an audience member. My wife and I enjoy life music in the area, and the occasional comedy show or play.

I have included in part of my platform to increase the venues for enjoying the arts in Orleans, specifically I would love to see an outdoor venue for music and plays in the St. Joseph Blvd area. So, it is a priority.

I would support any cultural Roadmap being developed by the Local Cultural Community as I feel that the promotion of the Arts is very important to the fabric of a community. In my platform, I have indicated the need in Orleans for more Community Arts locations, particularly in areas where we could create a “go to” community hub (perhaps St. Joseph Blvd). Also in my platform I discuss issues related to innovative methods of reducing vandalism and crime sometimes attributed to the young people. I think engaging youth in the Arts thru programs and opportunity is important.

Thanks

Ward 2 Innes

Tammy Lynch

1. How are you involved in the arts in your ward?

Both my boys are very musically inclined (one plays drums, one plays guitar), they both were in the high school band, I feel music is important for children. I attend various productions at the Shenkman Arts Centre. My neighbour is an artist (Dave William Turner) and many of his paintings are landscapes of the wooded area in our backyard.

2. If elected, will you make arts and culture a priority for the next term of City Council?
ABSOLUTELY.
3. If elected, will you support the new Cultural Roadmap now in development by the local cultural community? YES

François Trépanier

1. How are you involved in the arts in your ward? I attend several shows every year and I am a Member on Vintage Stock Theatre Board of Directors.
2. If elected, will you make arts and culture a priority for the next term of City Council? Yes. Our family makes arts and culture a priority and we will continue as a family and I also as a Counsellor.
3. If elected, will you support the new Cultural Roadmap now in development by the local cultural community? Yes in principle; however, since the document is in development, I will have to read it and familiarize my self with it, before I can fully (and blindly) support it.

Ward 4 – Kanata North

Philip Bloedow

Reply but did not answer the questions.

Ward 8 - College

Ryan Kennery

1. How are you involved in the arts in your ward?
As an audience member, I enjoy seeing performances at Centrepointe Theatres and the Algonquin Commons Theatre. As a performer, I'm actually a former improviser and have trained at the Improv Embassy and the Ottawa Acting Company.
2. If elected, will you make arts and culture a priority for the next term of City Council?
When the City sets long-term plans, it should ensure that those plans will be funded. We need to bring those working in the industry to the table to identify the ways that City Hall can support them.
3. If elected, will you support the new Cultural Roadmap now in development by the local cultural community?

Of course!

Ward 9 - Knoxdale-Merivale

Keith Egli

Thanks for the questions and your engagement in the election.

1. In my ward I work quite a bit with the very vibrant art faculty and students at Merivale HS. Additionally, every year at my annual volunteer recognition night we provide uniquely designed pottery crafted by a local resident. I am also a long time supporter of the Young at Art event and sponsor a prize for the participants. I have also worked with my community associations in attracting and promoting Shakespeare in the park with the Company of Fools over the last number of summers.

2. Yes I will continue to support the arts if re-elected. I consider one of the finest things that this Council accomplished was the opening of the new art gallery.

3. I am very open to working with the arts community on the new Cultural Roadmap.

Happy to discuss further.

Ward 10- Gloucester-Southgate

Perry Sabourin

1) How are you involved in the arts in your ward?

I'm not involved with anything at the moment.

2) If elected, will you make arts and culture a priority for the next term of City Council?

I'll do my best.

3) If elected, will you support the new Cultural Roadmap now in development by the local cultural community?

I'll say a tentative yes because I have not seen it, so I don't want to fully commit to something I have not seen.

Ward 14 - Somerset

Catherine McKenney

Thank you for your questionnaire about Ottawa's arts and culture scene. I have been a strong friend to the arts in my first term, ensuring that public art is an important aspect of our complete streets development and advocating in favour of arts and cultural festival funding.

To answer your questions:

1. How are you involved in the arts in your ward?

My family and I enjoy going to paint parties, including the ones organized at the Arts Café on Somerset. We also enjoy our local theatres such as the Gladstone. I have attended a number of openings, and both supported and attended arts festivals such as Chinatown Remixed.

2. If elected, will you make arts and culture a priority for the next term of City Council?

I have always considered arts and culture a priority and I am proud to say I will continue to do so next term.

3. If elected, will you support the new Cultural Roadmap now in development by the local cultural community?

Yes and advocate for adequate funding.

Ward 15 - Kitchissippi

Jeff Leiper

1. How are you involved in the arts in your ward?

I consider that the arts in Kitchissippi are one of the key reasons why people wish to live here. From the grassroots to major institutions, our neighbourhoods are vibrant with theatre, music, the visual arts, dance and the written word. I consider myself to have been a champion for all of them. That takes various forms including supporting funding for capital facilities such as the Great Canadian Theatre company, sponsoring events such as Porchfest and Westfest, spreading word using my channels about arts events happening in Kitchissippi, and doing my best to address red tape to ensure the arts thrive whether as street festivals or murals. The single biggest accomplishment of which I am proud is having worked with Mayor Watson on a new recognition of the importance of music in our community and strategy for its promotion. I consider that the arts community in Kitchissippi is one of the stakeholder groups that I have made a priority in this term.

1. If elected, will you make arts and culture a priority for the next term of City Council?

I believe strongly that we need to shift gears on arts and culture to begin supporting to a greater extent our artists and festivals more directly. With many of the capital facilities that were the focus of the previous term now built and open, operational funding should be our next priority.

1. If elected, will you support the new Cultural Roadmap now in development by the local cultural community?

Without having seen it, it's tough to say whether I will be a supporter or not. However, given my strong record of advocacy for the arts, I am likely to approach the roadmap with a very sympathetic approach.

Ward 16 River

Riley Brockington

1. How are you involved in the arts in your ward?

* I support and sponsor community mural projects, promote the Carlington Arts Initiative, promote and attend art, music and drama events at local schools. I also host a Christmas card design contest every

year for local students. As a child growing up, I was in drama school for many years and appreciate the value of arts, arts education and arts in a vibrant society.

2. If elected, will you make arts and culture a priority for the next term of City Council?

* Yes, without hesitation.

3. If elected, will you support the new Cultural Roadmap now in development by the local cultural community?

* Generally yes, but I want to see the details before a firm commitment, but highly likely yes

Ward 17 - Capital

David Chernushenko

1. How are you involved in the arts in your ward?

Helping sponsor and attending a wide range of artistic and cultural events and festivals. Notably live theatre of all kinds, from home grown plays to Shakespeare in the park. Also GNAG productions, vernissage events for various artists, promoting murals, giving tours of the public art on Bank Street and on Main. Acting as a patron of music festivals, and attending some of the many concerts at Southminster United. Book launches, film premieres... I could go on, but won't. Oh, I make my own films too, and I'm writing a novel.

2. If elected, will you make arts and culture a priority for the next term of City Council?

I always have, and always will!

3. If elected, will you support the new Cultural Roadmap now in development by the local cultural community?

Definitely.

Ward 20 - Osgoode

Mark Scharfe

Thank you very kindly for this information, and your questions on culture. Although I am a farmer and former police officer, I am aware of the value of culture, especially, for our youth and seniors. I had occasion to attend the medeavil festival this summer in the village of Osgoode.....and had occasion to speak with the many volunteers and tourists.....I even seen a licence plate from "New York".

I understand that this was the last year of the festival in the village of Osgoode because of the amount of work, volunteers, etc.....and this is a constant effort.

That being said, I certainly will be supporting your efforts when (if) I am elected, and maybe our paths will cross again.

Kim Sheldrick

I will admit that I am not heavily involved in the Arts. While I do appreciate the Arts, it is not my strongest area.

While I find the Arts are important to create a balanced life and culture, my priority for the city is the individuals most in need. My focus is improving our situation with people experiencing homelessness, addiction, mental health issues, and those that insufficiently or precariously housed. When we have these issues taken care of, it creates a healthier city.

That being said, I would be supportive of the Cultural Roadmap that is being developed.

Ward 23 Kanata South**Steve Anderson**

With less than three weeks to go before election day I will be unable to now devote adequate time to your questions. In general, I support the arts and culture. I would appreciate this response being included as my survey answer instead of just "declined to participate".