



Allied Arts Council of Lethbridge  
2021 Municipal Election  
Arts Survey: Candidate Response

**Candidate: Jeff Carlson**

*1. What is your vision for the arts sector within the City of Lethbridge?*

I think most people would agree that the pandemic made us all realize not only how important the arts are to our lives, but that the arts were one of the main resources we turned to in order to cope with all the struggles the pandemic exposed us all to.

My vision for the arts in Lethbridge is simple: I believe that all residents in our community should have access to participate in the arts of their choosing (either as a direct participant, or through observation and enjoyment) regardless of their abilities and means.

*2. What do you believe are the benefits of investing in the arts and how do you view the role of City of Lethbridge in arts investment.*

Investing in the arts makes a community more vibrant, more diverse and interesting, and more attractive to residents and business and investment.

The City can take multiple roles:

1. Advocating for arts groups to other orders of government for funding.
2. Providing adequate facilities for arts groups and residents.
3. Providing strategic municipal funding for appropriate arts groups/facilities to ensure community access.

*3. Please share your thoughts on public art and its role in our community.*

Public art creates a sense of place, and can create a distinct 'look and feel' for our City. Public Art also creates a more attractive and interesting public realm for our community and visitors.

*4. Lethbridge City Council has demonstrated their commitment to building a performing arts centre in their recent Capital Improvement Program. Do you support this commitment and if so what is your proposed strategy for completing the project?*

This project has been identified for 20 years as a needed and desired facility in our community, and I support the current project as identified in our CIP. A project of this magnitude will be difficult to achieve on our own, and a good advocacy strategy to our Provincial and Federal

governments will be required. As Council has now designated a specific site for this project in our Civic Commons, community fundraising and perhaps private sector sponsorship will likely be easier to accomplish.