

# Rachel Notley. Fighting for you

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**LETHBRIDGE – EAST**

## **1) What is your vision for the arts in your riding?**

Lethbridge has a tremendous local arts and culture scene. Whether it's getting to take in a play, visit our local galleries and venues, or being able to book local live music for my events, I see the positive impact of the arts everywhere in our community. The Alberta NDP know that the arts sector is a source of pride for Albertans and contributes to a strong economy and vibrant community. That is why over the last four years, we increased funding for the Alberta Foundation for the Arts and will continue that support over the next four years if we are re-elected.

## **2) What do you believe the Province's role is in fostering the arts in small urban centres and rural communities?**

Rachel Notley and the Alberta NDP believe in supporting the arts in communities large and small across the province. We know that our funding for the Alberta Foundation for the Arts is helping to grow and sustain the arts sector. This funding also shares the creations of Alberta artists with other Albertans and our visitors. We also know that initiatives like Alberta Culture Days allowed over 145,000 Albertans to celebrate our arts, heritage and cultural diversity. If re-elected Rachel Notley and the NDP will continue to foster and support the arts in communities small and large, across the province.

## **3) What will you do to maintain or improve support for the arts in our city?**

Rachel Notley and the Alberta NDP believe in the important of the arts in our communities. That is why in the last four years, despite the worst down turn in two generations, we have continued to support the arts in the province. The NDP government increased funding for the Alberta Foundation for the Arts. This funding has allowed the AFA to provide 700 grants for operational and project funding in addition to 280 individual grants to support artists activities.

If re-elected, Rachel Notley and the NDP will continue working to support the arts and will work with professional artists to address the precarious, feast or famine nature of their work by exploring options to smooth out artistic income, that may include income averaging, income annuities or refundable tax credits.

## **4) The City of Lethbridge has undertaken initiatives to improve arts facilities in Lethbridge that have received provincial funding (such as the new community arts centre, Casa). How would you actively promote support for provincial funding of a new, regional Performing Arts Centre in Lethbridge?**

We believe in the importance of supporting municipalities so they are able to support local infrastructure projects like the new Casa centre. That is why, if re-elected, we will get right back to the table with small and medium sized municipalities to negotiate a new funding agreement that will provide municipalities with stable and predictable infrastructure support. We also know that in communities across the province there are aging community rinks, swimming pools and recreational centres that are badly in need of

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renovations. In order to help communities address these needs, we will introduce a new Hometown Alberta grant that will support communities to upgrade these community fixtures.

Rachel Notley and the Alberta NDP will keep investing in projects large and small across the province and will work with municipalities to consider potential investments, like in a new Performing Arts Centre in Lethbridge.

## **5) Any additional comments?**

To all our artists, creators, and supports and patrons of the arts in Lethbridge: thank you for everything you do to make our community a more vibrant and creative city.