

# Rachel Notley. Fighting for you

**SHANNON PHILLIPS**

**NDP**

**LETHBRIDGE - WEST**

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

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. I have always been a proud supporter of arts in Lethbridge both personally and in my role as MLA for Lethbridge West.

## **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 importance of the arts in our communities. That is why in the last four years, despite the worst downturn 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?**

I support a new Performing Arts Centre in Lethbridge. I have been actively engaged with all partners including the City of Lethbridge, the Government of Canada, and the Lethbridge arts community on a new Performing Arts Centre and am hopeful that a positive outcome can be achieved.

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

Authorized by Alberta's NDP  
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