



SEPTEMBER 2018: ARTS, CULTURE AND THE PROVINCIAL ELECTION

ArtsLink NB represents the interests, concerns, and contributions of professional anglophone artists and other culture workers in New Brunswick. The **cultural sector employs 8,500 people** and had a direct **economic impact of \$543 million** in New Brunswick in 2016.

We know that arts and culture generate a sense of identity and a richer quality of life. The arts teach us about ourselves and empathy for others. The arts create a sense of belonging and bring people together across channels of diversity. They illuminate our lives through exciting performances, amazing music, and they enhance our communities.

In concert with artsnb and the Association des Artistes Acadien(ne)s, we encourage our members to **attend candidate meetings** and ask for commitments of support.

Not sure what to say? Feel free to use these talking points:

CREATIVE FUTURES:

New Brunswick's provincial cultural policy, *Creative Futures*, aims to secure the place of arts and culture in our everyday lives by supporting creation, preservation, and celebration of present and past cultural heritage and the development of our cultural future. **An investment of \$5 million is needed** to complete this policy and its ambitions to increase market and career access for artists, support Arts Organizations of all sizes, increase artsnb's capacity and funding, and to bring down barriers to access for the arts so that they may be enjoyed by *all* New Brunswickers.



DO YOU SUPPORT A VIBRANT AND HEALTHY ARTS AND CULTURE SECTOR?

- Our Cultural Policy, *Creative Futures*, has identified goals integral to the success of this vital sector. **Will you support \$5 million in additional funding for the ongoing implementation of the path laid out by the cultural policy?**
- Arts organizations, large and small, drive this sector forward. These organizations need an injection of funding to support productions at national levels of excellence, create jobs, and to support the work of NB based artists. **Of the \$5 million increase, at least \$2 million must be directed towards supporting arts organizations.**
- We know that population decline and youth out-migration are an urgent challenge to New Brunswick. **What do you consider to be the most important role for arts and culture in addressing the challenge? Would you support new cultural funding aimed at attracting new populations and retaining our youth?**
- Arts, heritage and culture attract tourists, support the provincial economy, and are fundamental threads of our social fabric. **Would you support the creation of a Department of Culture, Arts, and Heritage that reflects the role played by this sector in so many facets of New Brunswick life?**
- The New Brunswick Arts Board (artsnb) is the provincial arts council providing funding to artists and thus encouraging them to live and create in New Brunswick. **Would you increase the funding allocated to artsnb to provide adequate funding to artists?**
- Evidence-based research demonstrates that arts education encourages creative problem-solving, collaboration, adaptability, and successful learning in other subjects such as math and science. **What measures will you support to enable an outstanding K-12 arts education program?**
- The contribution of arts and culture to provincial tourism is widely recognized. **Would you leverage the larger tourism budget to develop cultural tourism in NB?**
- The New Brunswick Arts Board (artsnb) is funded partially by the Atlantic Lottery Fund, but has not had a legislated increase since 1998. **Would you support a percentage based disbursement or increase from the Atlantic Lottery Fund committed to funding artsnb?**

Members of **ArtsLink NB** together with the Association Acadienne des Artistes Professionnel.les du Nouveau Brunswick (AAAPNB), and artsnb await your response. We will be vigilant to ensure that commitments made during the campaign are commitments kept by our political representatives.