



**2019 Federal Election
Arts and Creative Industries
Policy Questionnaire**

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1. **Investing in the arts is an investment in the economy:** Statistics Canada reports that the direct economic impact of culture products was \$53.1 billion in Canada in 2017 or 2.3% of the national GDP. There were 666,474 culture jobs. ([Stats Canada](#))

How will you work to protect and increase funding for arts and culture agencies? Critical to this question is funding of central federal agencies such as the Canada Council for the Arts, CBC, Canada Media Fund, and others.

A: First I think it's important to specify between investing and tax funding because they are two different things. I believe that culture is strongest when the economy is strongest and people are most able to engage in the arts when they have the means to do so. The PPC will lower personal taxes to two flat tax brackets and raise the exemption to 15K. 15k-100k will be taxed at 15% and any amount above 100K taxed at 25%. The PPC believes that Canadians now what to do with their money more than the government does. With Canadians keeping more of their own money, they will be able to support the arts and culture to a greater extent than if they were taxed at a higher rate, and I believe that they will choose to do so without it being a government mandate, because people genuinely want to have the arts a part of their lives and support it if they are able to.

2. **Remuneration for artists and creators** has not evolved as technology has, for example illegal file-sharing software and the advent of online streaming platforms have disrupted the creative industries. The Standing Committee on Canadian Heritage's report "[Shifting Paradigms](#)" (May 2019), makes recommendations for copyright reform. Many of the recommendations, such as Artist's Resale Right, are essential to the ability of artists and creators to be recognized and compensated for their creative work.

Will you work to implement copyright reform to modernize remuneration models and level the playing field for artists and creative industries?

A: I personally support intellectual property rights and see the issue mentioned as one of the extent to which existing laws are administered and applied within our judicial system, more so than new legislation being required.

3. **Artists and cultural workers** are an important and dynamic component of the Canadian creative economy. Yet, they typically contend with precarious working conditions, working from contract to contract and without pensions, benefits or job

security. According to Statistics Canada (2016), 52% of artists are self-employed, compared with only 12% of all Canadian workers. ([Hill Strategies Research](#))

What is your plan to improve the precarious situation of artists and cultural workers, including any changes to Income Tax, Employment Insurance, or adding initiatives such as basic income and the like to make work-life more predictable and secure?

A: Creating an economic environment conducive to economic growth would be the most important thing a government could do in this area I believe. I do not support universal basic income because it conflicts with the principles of the PPC of personal responsibility and freedom, and would make it even more difficult for job creation to address the same problems described by the volatility of temporary work and low pay. The bold tax reforms of the PPC will decrease the burden on both self-employed and employed Canadians. On the employed side, corporate and small business taxes will be decreased from 15% to 10%, as well as eliminating capital gains tax, increasing capital cost allowance rates for bigger faster right offs, and abolishing corporate welfare so that artificial competition is not created through tax handouts to corporations that are affiliated with whatever corporate lobbyist is most successful with lobbying government. When tax payers are forced by the government to hand out taxes to corporate welfare recipients, significant market distortions create unfairness and hurt our economy, including self-employed artists and cultural workers.

Respecting provincial jurisdiction is also important, to end the constant transfer payment abuse of taxpayers in Sask, to eastern Canada. more fiscal room at the provincial level while lowering federal taxes which have been used as a lever by the centralized Kingdom of Ottawa to abuse western Canadian taxpayers, would be a good thing for culture and arts in Sask. while incentivizing eastern Canadian provinces to develop their own resources.

4. **Canadians recognize arts and culture as important** to a shared sense of place, community cohesiveness, economy, innovation, formal and informal education, cultural diversity and development, as well as an understanding of human behaviour and the world around us. ([Canadian Heritage](#))

How will you acknowledge and work to support the important role of arts and culture in the well-being of all aspects of society?

A: I agree with the statements in this question. I will acknowledge and work to support it by continuing to be honest about what the optimal role of government is relative to the goal of creating an environment conducive to economic growth, which I believe goes hand in hand with strong arts and culture.