



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

David Kim Cragg
Green Party of Canada
Carlton Trail-Eagle Creek

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: The Green Party will increase funding to all of Canada's arts and culture organizations including the Canada Council for the Arts, the National Film Board and Telefilm Canada.

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: The Green Party's platform states that a Green government would review tax incentives for film production to ensure all parts of Canada are competitive and attractive to the industry, with incentives rising when Canadian artistic and technical talent are employed

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: We would implement a federal income tax credit for restoration expenditures to encourage private involvement in preserving Canada's built heritage.

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: The following steps would be taken under a Green government to safe guard the arts and the arts community in Canada -

- support Canadian Broadcasting and make sure media conglomerates work within fair parameters
- provide incentives to make it easier for artists to make a living in the arts
- increase funding for the arts