

**CALL TO ACTION: Write your MLA to remind them the arts are still here and that they matter**

COVID-19 has hit the arts hard. Among the first to close and projected to be one of the last to reopen, the arts are struggling to cope with the COVID-19 crises.

The Saskatchewan Arts Alliance continues to remind the provincial government that the arts are still here and that the arts matter! We need a strong and sustainable arts community in an emerging new normal.

**This is a call to action.** Please write your MLA, the Premier, and/or the Minister of Parks, Culture, and Sport about the critical role the arts / arts organizations have in our province – economically and socially. The arts need additional support to help address the financial challenges brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic.

For example, write about:

- How arts organizations are a cornerstone of our provincial identity.
- The importance of arts organizations in engaging the community and improving overall personal wellbeing and mental health ([Hill Strategies Research, 2021](#)).
- The direct impact arts organizations have on local businesses (live events contracting sound companies, renting hotel spaces, hiring caterers and local artists, etc.).

By writing letters, you will make a bold statement that arts and creativity are integral to our way of life and the lives of our children – that arts matter to the people of Saskatchewan - that through such organizations as [list your organization if applicable] arts are made and remain accessible to all of us.

**The more letters mailed to our elected officials the better.**

You can find your local MLA constituency's contact information here:

<https://www.legassembly.sk.ca/mlas/>.

Link to SK Facts here: [http://www.artsalliance.sk.ca/rsu\\_docs/documents/fyi-arts-facts.pdf](http://www.artsalliance.sk.ca/rsu_docs/documents/fyi-arts-facts.pdf).

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One in four arts, entertainment and recreation workers lost their job in 2020, compared to 2019 – our sector is struggling. Please write your elected officials today and share your love of the arts.