

**RESPONSE BY: JACK ZANGARI Ward 3 Council Candidate
Town of Newmarket**

COMMUNITY / PROMOTION / ACCESS:

What will you do to ensure the general public has greater access to experience and enjoy the arts in your municipality?

There is currently not enough promotion of The Arts happening in Newmarket, where I am running, and the surrounding communities. As an elected member of Newmarket Council I will do my very best to get the municipality to certainly do as much as possible to promote The Arts -- and all this includes -- in all future communications, whether it be newsletters to residents (which I plan); on the Town's advertising page in The Era; and generally advise the Town's Communications Department, it needs to do more to promote The Arts, including Social Media. I am firmly committed to The Arts.

What is one small concrete example of supporting the arts that you can do on a monthly basis?

As I said earlier, when elected the first step I will positively take, is to form an Advisory Committee, comprised of residents who support The Arts and also business leaders and owners in my Ward. I will look for people who support my vision of promoting The Arts. Secondly, I will be sending out a regular newsletter to Ward 3 constituents and will certainly promote The Arts in my monthly newsletter.

With many jobs being developed in media arts related fields, what are your plans to ensure talent stays in the region instead of moving to innovative hubs like Waterloo, Vancouver and Silicon Valley?

Every municipality needs jobs to survive. This is one my main aims -- is to bring more jobs and of greater depth to Newmarket. The main aim is so that talented young people, who grow up in Newmarket, will be able to find work here, or close by in York Region. As mentioned, I fully support The Arts and would welcome any jobs that deal with enhanced arts or culture. One way to retain these talented, artistic young people is through a Recognition Program, which I will bring forward at council. This will help in retaining talent in the community.

How will you contribute to growth of the arts in the future for the next generation of artists?

As mentioned, we need to not only promote The Arts, we need to recognize those heavily involved in it. We need more recognition of artistic and culturally-enhanced peoples in our community and if we do this, it will already be in place for the younger generation as it moves forward. The key is promote arts and culture at every turn and the younger people, as they grow up, will see what is in place and want to be part of it.

INTRINSIC VALUE:

What municipal arts and culture events/programming do you attend and support, and have you purchased work created by local artists?

I am a former President and Senator for the new defunct Newmarket Jaycees, who through the years of existence, heavily supported the Arts. More recently, I was a Newmarket Kinsman, and again this club heavily supported The Arts. For the past two years, I have served on the Board of the Very Useful Theatre Company, which last year presented The Newmarket Festival of One-Act Plays at the Old Town Hall over the Thanksgiving Weekend and this year is planning the York Region Festival of One-Act Plays over this coming Thanksgiving Weekend. As you can see, I have always supported The Arts and will continue to do so!

PLATFORM:

In your list of the ten top priorities of your platform, where would supporting the arts place on your list? Why there?

In a list of the top 10 priorities, I would place Arts and Culture in the top five. Arts and Culture are what a community is all about -- it's not only good for the economy, it's good for the well-being of residents and actually has been proven to make people happier and more socially-committed.

Arts and culture are a barometer of the health of a community, town, or city. How will you profile/give a place to arts and culture in your municipal structure, strategic planning, marketing and reporting of achievements?

I feel in all my answers given, I have already addressed this.

What kind of municipal policy would you propose to encourage artists to be able to work and live in your municipality?

On top of the Celebration of the Arts Annual Grants, I would propose a separate grant scheme just for young, aspiring artists in the community of Newmarket -- a grant, somewhat like a scholarship to enable them to pursue their art for at least one year (a sizeable amount would be given each year to enable this).

SPACE:

How will you ensure that artists in your municipality receive affordable space to create and showcase their work?

As mentioned the NDDS supplies arts groups and individuals with monies for rental of municipal space. Also, art is displayed at not only the Old Town Hall (major gallery space) but also the Town of Newmarket offices and also in various coffee shops on Main Street. We need to promote more businesses that see a great number of the public, to view local artisans works. We also need more commercial art stores in Newmarket that offer local works for sale, to support these struggling artisans.

Would you support the development of a creative space for artists in Newmarket? If so, how?

I support a new, small, intimate theatre in Newmarket. The Old Firehall has been recommended, so smaller theatre groups can put on their performances. In the lobby of such a

theatre, I'm planning an art gallery, where the work of our many local, fine artist's works can be displayed and sold.

How do you envision the inclusion of local art in the public realm?

In my opinion, anywhere the public in Newmarket is present, art should be front and centre. The Artisans Festival at Fairy Lake each summer is very popular and should certainly be continued each year from here on in.

Would you support the creation of an arts pod with local artists work similar to the reading pod in the Newmarket Riverwalk Commons/Fairy Lake area? If so, how would you help implement this?

The Arts Pod is a brilliant idea. If elected, I will work to find funding for such an endeavour as the Town has done with the Reading Pod at Newmarket Riverwalk Commons.

EDUCATION:

Where do you see arts education fitting into your electoral platform - in school programming, health programs and/or community programs?

I see it in community programming -- but more than that! A lot of arts and culture events are volunteer-driven. It's these people -- these volunteers -- who need the support of the Town, both financially and spiritually. This is not discounting the valuable community programming, but the whole umbrella of arts and culture must be better supported in the Town of Newmarket.

FUNDING:

Do you believe that it's vital to have municipal granting programs to fund local artists and arts organizations to create and present work in your municipality? If so, how will you advocate for this funding?

Newmarket has the Celebration of the Arts grants, offered each year to promote Arts and Culture in the Town of Newmarket. I plan to see that this grant structure remain in place for all arts groups. Also, the Newmarket Downtown Development SubCommittee offers grants for arts groups needing to rent town facilities, which I will see remains in place, and finally the Newmarket Main Street BIA offers arts groups grants for putting on something to do with arts and culture that also promote Main Street. So there are many avenues to explore for funding in Town already in place!

There is a noticeable gap between arts spaces (studio, exhibition, performing, etc.) for emerging and professional artists in York Region, making it challenging for artists to stay in the area while growing their professions. What do you think the municipality's role is in funding spaces for emerging to mid-career artists?

As I said above the Town of Newmarket has many committee rooms and meeting rooms and buildings that can be rented relatively cheap and if you need financial assistance, the NDDS will

provide funding, as long as you apply for it, as I have successfully done for the Very Useful Theatre company.

If approached, how would you support Newmarket arts organizations/artists with sourcing sponsorships from local businesses?

I would do my best as a Councillor for the Town of Newmarket. If, in my duties, I can attain sponsorships, I will certainly do so.

How would you actively support arts and culture in the Town of Newmarket to ensure adequate funding and resources are easily available for Newmarket-based artists?

I have already answered this question with my answers above? As mentioned, I fully support funding and resources be available to all arts and culture events in the Town of Newmarket!