

**RESPONSE BY: SANDRA YEUNG RACCO, INCUMBENT CANDIDATE FOR COUNCILLOR,
WARD 4 VAUGHAN**

COMMUNITY / PROMOTION / ACCESS:

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

Continue to support the current arts and cultural programming and initiatives the City offers annually which includes opportunities to not only for residents and visitors to enjoy, but also allows local cultural organizations, artists and performers to partner with City, showcase our local talent, and celebrate the arts and heritage that exists within the diverse cultures represented by residents and businesses who choose Vaughan as their home or as city to grow their business.

Listen to our community members and share their comments, needs with our corporation to find solutions or support more opportunities for all to offer a variety of experiences that address the community's ongoing needs and stay current with changing trends.

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

Provide a dedicated section within my monthly newsletter to residents, where I can highlight the current and upcoming news and opportunities dedicated to inform the arts and culture community people citywide, and within my ward. Possibly, showcase and champion a local talents in the arts with profile bio etc.

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?

Feasibility study for cultural and performing arts centre along with Economic Development Strategy , and growth of VMC will work to provide a progressive approach to provide a place for innovation, a vision of a future city with growing opportunities for creative industries and offer recognition of unique value profile

My strong advocacy supporting and the arts and culture in Vaughan for over the past 15 years.

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

Performing arts centre, cultural leaders, champion the essential role arts and cultural plays in everyone's lives that cannot be replaced.

Support youth talent, showcase rising talent, provide support and opportunities, ensure city offers place for creative innovation, **partnerships and growth with international delegations etc**

INTRINSIC VALUE:

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

Attend if not all, but most arts and cultural events, programming, exhibits, performances, cultural heritage celebrations,

Support and connect local artists and cultural orgs to appropriate City depts or City staff leaders with expertise to offer any potential support or relevant info to assist

- Arts and Culture Representation / lead with CoV
- Peace Tree Day Citywide
- Lunar New Year Celebration
- Arts Advisory Committee/arts awards
- Vaughan Arts Festival
- Canada 150 community program
- Mayors lunar new year
- etc

PLATFORM:

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

Priorities include securing a Performing Arts/Culture/Innovation Campus into the City of Vaughan, along with securing programs that complement these investments.

Essential to future generation, eco growth and essential to sense of place for those who work, live and choose Cov as their residence.

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?

Already included in all goals – from Master Plan, VMC strategy, public art and cultural framework strategy, eco development strategy esp. w creative economy, and currently with study conducted for Cultural arts and performing arts centre....

As well as plans for expanding cultural opportunities in the new VMC with transit square, PWC space, Edgely Pond, and new central park.

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

Ideally to allocate new developments to dedicate % of space to be affordable and accessible to disenfranchised artists or entrepreneurs

SPACE:

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

Negotiate terms with new developments...where possible

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

Providing a place for events, participation, public art, and innovation

New upcoming projects for public art and integration for innovation opportunities have already been presented and meet objectives guided and directed by public art and culture framework report

EDUCATION:

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

City of Vaughan recreation department has many programs for all ages, eco and culture dev has programs and initiatives to help support and grow new talent and innovation

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?

Provide support from within corp divisions to assist with grant applications and letters of support.

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?

Develop a user friendly list of available existing spaces arts and cultural activators can access affordably