

**RESPONSE BY: NIRMALA ARMSTRONG, INCUMBENT REGIONAL COUNCILLOR,
MARKHAM**

As the Past Chair of the Markham Arts Council, I am well aware of the importance of promoting and developing arts within our communities. As a Regional Councillor in the City of Markham, I continue to work alongside the Markham Arts Council as well as the York Region Arts Council to help develop a platform and opportunities for artists all across the board. Within the City of Markham, we are focused on creating new opportunities, providing funding for new artists and have also created opportunities for artists from other countries to come to Canada and perform here. This cross-cultural exchange within the arts is integral to promote diversity and the understanding of different cultures and traditions.

I hope to have the honour to continue to serve you as a Regional Councillor in the next 4 years and in doing so, I will continue to promote and expand the reach of the arts within our communities.