

SHERRI ROLLINS

For City Councillor
Fort Rouge – East Fort Garry



MANITOBANS FOR THE ARTS QUESTIONNAIRE

Q: Do you support this investment strategy for per capita funding increases? [Increase by \$1 per capita funding in each budget cycle for the next five years, until a \$12 per capita value (indexed to inflation) is provided to the Winnipeg Arts Council annually.]

A: Yes

Q: Do you support this investment strategy for Public Art? [Earmark 1% of the City's annual capital budget for Public Art, to ensure the current City of Winnipeg Public Art Policy can be carried out.]

A: Yes

Q: Do you have any additional feedback for us on these proposals?

A: Winnipeg's arts and culture community has always performed well beyond the support they've been given by the city. I support increasing the per capita spending for the arts and cultural sector through the Winnipeg Art Council to expand their reach and ability to support new creative work. It's time that Winnipeg city hall provided better supports and supported a vision to make Winnipeg a Music and Film City.

Q: Do you support the development of an arms-length capital fund? [Establish an arms-length capital fund for arts and heritage facility renewal, rehabilitation and development. Upon completion of the City's historic \$5-million capital investment over five years to the Inuit Art Centre (ending 2020), reallocate the \$1 million annually to this fund in perpetuity.]

A: Yes

Q: Do you support cultural municipal tax incentives for property owners? [Identify hubs of arts and creative activities, and support them through municipal tax incentives and concessions for property owners who encourage sustainable creative space development.]

A: Yes

Q: Do you have any additional feedback for us on these proposals?

A: The physical infrastructure and backdrop of Winnipeg has provided our arts and culture community places of inspiration, performance, and production. We need to make sure that existing spaces stay in good repair, and that groups looking to establish new spaces have access to dedicated supports and a program that understands their needs. This idea is an affordable and innovative way to support arts and culture in our city.

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Q: Manitobans for the Arts recognizes that City Hall has been a facilitator to marquee events in Winnipeg – from Folklorama to the Fringe, Jazz Fest to ManyFest, Nuit Blanche to night markets – but recommends that to support and foster the creation of more events, the City could:

1. Direct the permitting process for events specifically to the Film and Special Events Office, and establish an online portal application process.
2. Establish a database of annual events, and experienced event organizers, and provide a priority streamlined application process for these events and organizers.

Do you support these recommendations on City processes?

A: Yes

Q: Do you have any additional feedback for us on these proposals?

A: Creativity is key to economic driver in our city and the creative sector deserves a City Councillor with the energy to keep up with their lofty ambitions. City hall should put the right structures in place to support our arts and cultural sector, and streamline processes that were not designed for creative purposes. By making it easier to work in the arts, we can let our creative residents focus on doing what they do best: create.

Q: Manitobans for the Arts welcomes you to articulate ways you have demonstrated support of the cultural sector. Some examples might be: attendance, appreciation, volunteerism, financial commitment and personal passions.

A: As an elected trustee I have protected students arts funding, including ensuring students do not have to pay for band equipment. Collaboratively with other trustees I ensured equitable arts allocations were being made through supporting motions to examine equitable art funding including art equipment and supplies.

I supported and celebrated through attendance (and love on social media) student achievement in the arts of all types including visual, dramatic, creative writing, dance, and music, by attending all forms of events including in historically important Winnipeg art spaces like Pantages, Centennial Concert Hall, The Forks, and of course, plenty of school gymnasiums.

I love all forms of art. I think my arts platform reflects this love and the need to support the arts. I always want more live theatre, and live music. My friends and I have seasons tickets to the Tom Hendry Warehouse.

In my twenties while at the University of Winnipeg I toured and did marketing with multiracial casting of King Lear with Toronto dynamo, and friend, Kay Valley. Multiracial casting remains important to me as a theatre goer. This is why I am really excited to see Vietgone, a play my high-school pal Raoul Bhanaja is producing. Representation matters!