

Mayoral Candidates and EC3 Board 2022



What is EC3?

History and Background



Background



- EC3 is the city's “arm's-length, municipal arts council”. We serve the arts and culture sector in Peterborough and “the surrounding region” (the County).
- Creating such a not-for-profit arts service organization was the signature recommendation of Peterborough's Municipal Cultural Plan, approved by City Council in 2012. This is our tenth anniversary.
- There are currently about 45 similar arts service organizations in the province, varying in size and scope.
- Our organization (like those in Toronto, Kingston, and London, Ontario, for example) provides the final, complementing “third tier,” in the “double-sided” (ministry/city hall + arm's-length) public funding model at the federal and provincial level across Canada and in many other democratic countries in the Western World.

EC3 Mandate



- Provide strategic leadership, research, advocacy, funding/granting programs, professional development, forums for discussion and debate, awards, residencies, mentorships etc. Convene the community and develop capacity.
- Build partnerships, collaborations and any other support initiatives that recognize and encourage the arts, create opportunities for artists to make art, to strengthen arts organizations and connect arts and audiences.
- In late 2014 we were asked to take on responsibility for producing Artsweek.
- We are proud to say we now design, deliver and manage at least a dozen programs and services every year, maintain an A rating at the OAC and work with dozens of colleagues and other organizations across multiple sectors.

EC3 Mandate



- As an arm's-length agency with a highly skilled professional staff and community-based Board of Directors, EC3 efficiently and effectively provides essential programs and services, demonstrating we are responsive, responsible, creative, innovative, flexible and resilient. The value of our work has been recognized by ACHAC, the media and consultants hired to review our performance.
- Since 2015, as the Board and staff stabilized and our community network and broader reputation grew, EC3 has raised an additional \$600,000 (approx., NOT including funding from the City) for the arts and culture sector from other levels of government, private donors, corporate sponsors and foundations. That is all new money invested in the sector. More support for artists and access for audiences.



Peterborough Poet Laureate 2021-22
Sarah Lewis

Mayoral candidates asked to meet with the EC3 Board to have “a conversation about the needs of EC3, those of your sector, and how City Hall can better serve you.”



3 Key Goals

And Specific Strategies to Achieve Them



3 Key Goals



- 1) Build Capacity and Resiliency for Arts and Culture in Peterborough
- 2) Strengthen the Relationship Between Arts and Culture and the City of Peterborough
- 3) Deliver Long-Term Sustainability for the Sector Through Best-Practice City Granting Processes and Policy Directions



Peterborough Arts Awards 2019 winners

#1: Build Capacity and Resiliency for Arts and Culture in Peterborough



- Approve our request for a 2-year, \$100,000 EC3 service grant contract. Continue to find the financial resources and implement regular increases in our other program and service funding contracts
- Meet best practice models, policies and approaches to AC programs and program delivery ASAP
- Insist on longer-term planning, transparency and cooperation with ACH Department
- Provide clear initiatives to help EC3 to better connect with and develop projects with city-related partners such as PK Economic Development, Tourism etc.
- Actively explore the possibility of financial support from the County as EC3 supports many artists and arts organizations in the County



#2: Strengthen the Relationship Between Arts and Culture and the City of Peterborough



- Work together more cooperatively and collaboratively with City staff
- Listen, learn and consult regularly, instinctually
- Ensure follow-up and action on/with ACHAC recommendations
- Ensure ACH/Community services staff act as our advocates within City Hall at the management level, and with other departments to advance exchange of ideas, information and knowledge sharing, break down silos, enhance educational crossover between ACH staff, community experts, and stakeholders

#2: Strengthen the Relationship Between Arts and Culture and the City of Peterborough



- Provide regular accessibility to the Mayor, schedule of meetings
- Include orientation, training and information on the value and importance of the arts for new councillors and city staff
- Encourage councillors to get involved in the arts
- Encourage staff to come to events and activities to expand knowledge, understanding, and build relationships with the community they serve
- Assess and improve impact of ACHAC
- Create Public Art Advisory Committee

Bethany LeBlonc, "A New Hive" (2020). Post-Code Tour, Artsweek SHIFT.



#3: Deliver Long-Term Sustainability for the Sector Through Best-Practice City Granting Processes and Policy Directions



- Act immediately on the two Reports requested by Councillor Pappas on working in collaboration with EC3 to review and sever the ACH component of the Community Investment and Projects Grants program with an eye to transferring their design, management and delivery to EC3 ASAP, and ensuring peer assessment and other best practice standards.
- Approve the Grants to Individual Artists Program as permanent program and plan for expansion and EDI initiatives
- Ensure rapid follow-up on Council requests for reports on ACH issues
- Review and revise the eligibility criteria and assessment process for ACH Service Grant recipients, ensure best practice standards

#3: Deliver Long-Term Sustainability for the Sector Through Best-Practice City Granting Processes and Policy Directions



- Allot one-time funding to adjust and rationalize CIG/CIPG with service grants
- Have a coherent and well-reasoned budget planning process for annual increases for budgets for both those programs
- Take action on EC3 recommendations for community land trusts, need for downtown rehearsal, studio, presentation and performance space (manage gentrification), live work studios etc.
- Consult on arts-positive initiatives in development charges and community development plans

#3: Deliver Long-Term Sustainability for the Sector Through Best-Practice City Granting Processes and Policy Directions



- Address negative impact of gentrification (ensure access to affordable rehearsal, studio, presentation and performance space in the downtown)
- Appoint knowledgeable arts professionals to Community Investment and Project Grant assessment committee
- Include peer/professional review of ACH Service Grant recipients and Capital Grant recipients
- Integrate equity, diversity, and inclusion criteria into granting programs



"The Flying Canoe," Artsweek 2018.

Key Points Summary



- Provide consistent, indexed to tax rate or COL at a minimum, operational support to local arts organizations
- Recognize and reduce precarious income levels of individual professional artists through grant programs etc.
- Advance capacity of the sector through modernization of investment policy and programs for organizational support. Improve communication and collaboration
- Address negative impact of gentrification
- Invest in equity, diversity and inclusion initiatives
- Deliver effective short- and long-term planning for the arts

Any questions?

