

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Guelph Arts Council Invites Community Input

Guelph, ON – March 8, 2022 – Guelph Arts Council is planning for the future and invites all Guelph-Wellington residents to have their say on the organization’s programs, services, and strategic direction. Everyone who is interested in Guelph’s cultural sector and its role in our community’s well-being is invited to complete a [short online survey](#) by **March 28 at 5 pm**, and to share the [survey link](#) broadly with their local networks.

As a thank-you for this critical input, respondents may enter an optional and confidential prize draw for Wyndham Art Supplies gift cards, Downtown Theatre Project tickets, and more.

In announcing the survey, GAC President Laurel McKellar says: "As we emerge from the pandemic into a more digital world and embrace a future for our organization that is more diverse, equitable, accessible, and inclusive, it is critical that we engage in a future-proofing and resilience-planning process. Through this process’s community engagement, we will also learn about artists’ and arts groups’ changing needs, particularly in pandemic recovery, and how GAC, as the leading resource and voice for the arts in Guelph-Wellington, can best serve them through our advocacy and programming."

GAC is grateful for project support from the **City of Guelph**’s Emergency Fund in contracting Laridae to facilitate its strategic planning process. Laridae is a management consulting and training firm and certified B Corporation that serves only non-profit organizations. Guided by Laridae and informed by research and community engagement, including this survey, GAC’s strategic planning team, which includes Board members, staff, and key volunteers, will define the organization’s strategic priorities. The result of the process will be a shared vision and clear roadmap for the next four years.

About Guelph Arts Council:

GAC is a community resource, a registered charity, and a cultural hub for artists, arts groups, and audiences. Founded in 1975, GAC was one of Ontario’s first community arts councils. GAC has worked to build the cultural heart of Guelph by helping new cultural initiatives take flight, and by collaborating to create a thriving creative city. It supports Guelph’s creative community, engages Guelph’s residents and visitors with the arts, and promotes the benefits of the arts for individuals and communities.

Guelph Arts Council is funded in part by **The Guelph Community Foundation** and **City of Guelph**. We also acknowledge the support of the **Ontario Arts Council**, an agency of the Government of Ontario.

The Guelph Arts Council office is located on the ancestral lands of the First Peoples and the treaty lands of the Mississaugas of the Credit.

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