

## **Q. 11. - Comments with regards to ARTS or CULTURAL opportunities in Strathcona County facilities**

\* All comments are verbatim, with the exception of any personal / identifying information. Comments regarding multiple themes are repeated in under each relevant heading.

### **Festival Place**

- More events at festival place would be nice
- Festival Place is wonderful! The sound is great from every seat, and the variety of performances offered is fantastic!
- More bands and performers at festival place.
- I have attended festival place regularly in the past. Currently it's just personal demand keeping me from these places.
- Would love to see more children's music and concert programming at Festival Place or the library.
- I love the Arts and Cultural offerings of Strathcona County, but there needs to be upgrades to the facilities these are held in, specifically Festival Place. The concerts are fantastic but there needs to be space for more!
- I would like to see more indoor family friendly entertainment at festival place. Shows/plays extra.
- Get younger Artist shows at Festival Place
- Festival Place is a great facility!
- appreciate the new sound system at FP
- Access to information as to what is going on at Festival Place is very hard to try and access.
- The seats at Festival place need a shampoo. Last Decembers event was very unpleasant, as the seat I was sitting in had obviously had a urine odor. Front row balcony.
- Festival Place is too small a venue. Another example of building for now not future planning.
- Festival Place is great.
- Festival Place is a little known first class facility.
- Festival Place is not equipped to handle people with walking disabilities. Elevator needed to help those get into seats in balcony as not always able to have main floor seating.
- I loved the Wed Patio Performance program
- Festival place: The website is hard to navigate sometimes. Finding out about auditions are not always clear for their theater shows.
- Love the Canada Day and New Year's Eve activities the county puts on at Festival Place every year!!
- I think that Festival Place is an amazing area to have some great events such as Canada Day! It's not only bringing the whole family together, but the whole community!

- My daughter is currently taking a wonderful beginner ballet class at Festival Place - great facility!
- Love the programs and the instructors re: clay hut. Festival place, simple but nice and very affordable...a hidden gem
- Excellent assortment of performances offered at Festival Place. We're so proud of what the County offers in this way of entertainment.
- I'm the conductor of the Wye String Ensemble and we thank everyone at Festival Place for a lot of our rehearsal venues. People at the Agora have also been great.
- would like festival place to advertise when high schools do shows there, via their email network, I often have to search the web or newspapers to find out what is playing by the high schools
- Like theatre opportunities at Festival Place that are appropriate for families. Like the Christmas show but didn't think West Side Story was the best pic. I'd love the school plays that are put on there to be advertised more. They are great to do with kids but we often miss them.
- Don't have the opportunity to go, but see many ads for concerts and performances at Festival Place and think it's great to have these in our community.
- I love the Arts and Cultural offerings of Strathcona County, but there needs to be upgrades to the facilities these are held in, specifically Festival Place. The concerts are fantastic but there needs to be space for more!
- live theatre/open theater-Festival Place/Bring back Medieval days
- more amateur community performance experiences
- theater concerts
- more theatre presentations, more amateur community performance experiences
- festival place when they offer concerts
- more theater programs
- comedy performances
- amateur performance/to boost self confidence
- more theatre presentations
- performing arts
- more theatre performances
- more amateur performances
- performing arts
- more performances a festival place
- dinner theatre would be nice
- dinner theater
- amateur theatre
- we should have dinner theatre

- like the performing arts Professional place
- more amateur performance experiences
- dinner theaters and just theater
- more plays
- amateur Canadian performance
- more theatre presentations
- more theater
- live theater
- more plays
- musicals
- festival place offers a lot
- I would like to see more theater
- Better people coming to the theatre. Hard to get.

### **Gallery@501**

- great gallery
- family programs at gallery 501 are excellent value for the money paid
- Love the gallery space and want to continue seeing the local talent displayed at the community center
- Appreciate the Art Gallery.
- The art shows at Gallery@501 are excellent and it's wonderful to see that level of professional artwork in the county.
- We need a larger art gallery that can hold multiple installations
- Lack of daytime arts and culture classes at reasonable cost. Daytime adult 501 classes are too short (due to parking issues?) and need to be more focused on building specific skills e.g. watercolor and have instructors who specialize in that skill (not generalists) Plus they should give participants homework so they improve their skills
- 501 gallery is excellent
- I'd like to see more about volunteering with Gallery@501.
- The Canada 55+games exhibit was great. Have gone to a couple others but they don't interest me
- More social/art networking at the Gallery for young people.
- Nice to have an art gallery in Sherwood Park!
- went to the art display during the Canada 55+ Games

- anything to do with arts and galleries

### **Smeltzer House**

- For the first time I have registered for the Monday night Studio Time at the Clay Hut and am really enjoying it. Will definitely register again. I have been taking pottery classes for many years now. It would be nice to have a bigger space. When the classes are full it's hard to maneuver around especially at glazing time.
- We have wonderful facilities and great staff. The workshop at Smeltzer House this summer was amazing, and I would love to see more workshops from outside presenters offered.
- Love the programs and the instructors re: clay hut. Festival place, simple but nice and very affordable...a hidden gem

### **Program-Specific**

- Looks very boring in the guide this area should have more pizzazz and more intro workshops for adults
- It would be nice to have the parent be free again for the kids art class.
- Garage band was an awesome motivator for my teen to practice his instrument. More dance classes for school age kids. Dance studios are too expensive and too competitive.
- Would love to "sing for fun".
- Lack of daytime arts and culture classes at reasonable cost. Daytime adult 501 classes are too short (due to parking issues?) and need to be more focused on building specific skills e.g. watercolor and have instructors who specialize in that skill (not generalists) Plus they should give participants homework so they improve their skills
- Better waiting areas for parents that are required to stay while their little ones dance. The hallway waiting area doesn't cut it.
- Arts needs to be an option.
- More arts classes that are only 1 or 2 sessions would be great.
- My daughter is currently taking a wonderful beginner ballet class at Festival Place - great facility!
- The homeschool classes are too expensive for the amount of instruction time.
- more family drop-in program times other than Sunday
- Wider range of art classes, my teenage daughter was interested in learning more advanced art drawing/painting but classes offered were either for adults or too childlike. Nothing in between.
- Love the programs and the instructors re: clay hut. Festival place, simple but nice and very affordable...a hidden gem
- Hours of for arts and cultural activities for children are only convenient for stay at home parents and not the average family. I would be nice if there were classes and programs for children in the evenings as well to benefit all children

- There are very little arts activities designed to attract teens, i.e., my boys would love to have advanced continuance drawing lessons/program, we had to go to Edmonton.
- a college here to take arts
- parent and child art classes
- Outdoor arts program
- music programs
- more outdoor arts programs
- more variety for small kids in the arts
- someone teaching painting
- outdoor art programs
- outdoor arts
- Art lessons and wood art classes
- pottery classes/ visual arts such as dance performances
- more performing arts programs
- more drop in art pottery and painting type things
- more children's program for art
- photography
- More arts programs
- outdoor arts programs
- cooking class for 55+ language class

## **Marketing**

- looks very boring in the guide this area should have more pizzazz and more into workshops for adults
- Better advertisement. We should be boastful about our arts and culture! There are amazing pieces in the community center but who sees it?
- would like festival place to advertise when high schools do shows there, via their email network, I often have to search the web or newspapers to find out what is playing by the high schools
- Don't have the opportunity to go, but see many ads for concerts and performances at Festival Place and think it's great to have these in our community.
- want pamphlets with historical monuments/sites to walk or bike by with history in the pamphlets
- think there is everything you could want it is just a matter of doing it with the country stuff if I don't read the paper I don't hear about it until after it has happened

## Great Job!

- We attend them all. Love the art shows.
- no - there's lots
- Great job with the programs.
- They are getting better and better. Keep at it
- Doing a great job!
- I've lived here for 50 years and am sooo happy to see such a variety of arts and cultural opportunities
- I really appreciate the increased cultural opportunities now being offered by the County -- not just sports.
- Keep up the great programming!
- They are fabulous, growing year by year. Thank you to RPC and all the volunteers who help with the many tasks required.
- keep up the good work
- I think that arts and culture have very good facilities. We have used them in the past.
- Nothing, we're good.
- Keep bringing good shows in. I didn't know that festival place was part of Strathcona County...
- nothing-my quality of life is great
- I am satisfied with what they have
- It is pretty good
- very satisfied
- pretty well serviced
- quite happy with what there is
- I think it's pretty good the way it is
- I am happy we have what we do

## Other

- I'm not really aware of the opportunities. I'm not sure if I'm intrigued
- Additional craft sales
- NEED LESS PUBLIC \$\$ GOING TO THIS
- No
- More shows for the middle age (20-45 Years) more notification for upcoming events. This is an areas that is great, but seems to get lost when it's compared to the rest of the RPC facilities and events

- I think they are underutilized - would be great to be able to rent them for meetings.
- I hope to use these more once my children get bigger.
- Just wondering where Farmer's Markets fit in? I would say they are part of the County's culture.
- no
- I feel like an art festival at festival place would be a great thing for Sherwood Park since we have so many artistically talented people. Dancing, music, painting, acting etc.
- Clay Hut, Smeltzer House, Festival Place
- We utilize external organizations for these cultural activities.
- Festival Place
- This is part of the evolution of a community. Art facilities reflect and are part of the culture.
- Didn't know those existed
- No
- These activities are very important, as many people do not fit into many recreation programs, and if they do, cultural activities make individuals more well-rounded.
- in the past we would we regularly make use of these venues but have not due to other fitness type activities and time constraints.
- live theatre/open theater-Festival Place/Bring back Medieval days
- secular choirs, a seniors band,
- We are into sports.
- heritage/history find interesting
- more opportunities for writers and for visual artists
- more amateur art/more theater presentations/performing arts programs
- seniors dance
- respondent has very little free time/
- Heritage and history
- head south for winter
- public arts would be nice
- anything to do with arts and galleries
- More art activity
- Japanese dancers
- More sculptures in park areas
- Art galleries
- heritage history and performing groups

- public arts throughout the community/
- heritage/history
- heritage history
- has a lot and no time to take part
- heritage history
- Art ceremonies for Remembrance Day and other historical dates
- not into the arts
- too busy working on acreage and working full time
- more heritage and history on display in the community
- don't attend cultural experiences
- need more multicultural stuff, and a movie festival a film festival
- visual arts
- shopping mall Christmas decorations and performances like the musical ride and first nations cultural enrichment programs
- not into those items/do more active things/don't need to be entertained
- probably not because it just isn't our thing
- Some more heritage/history.
- like to see more heritage/history also art within the community
- art gallery and education for the arts through high school/
- more public art throughout the community
- more plays and well-known performers and comedians
- there already is a huge selection
- public art around the community would be nice/both indoor and outdoor
- strathcona community band
- We go to the city for some activities
- into outdoor activities
- I am here just in summer
- we already have everything needed
- there needs to be more for people with disabilities
- more concert places
- everything is here already
- outdoor family activities for families with teenagers
- museum hours extended would be nice



- outdoor arts and more festivals
- more public art/more theatre presentations
- theater and art
- local history programs/local performances by local artists musical
- arts
- Just wondering where Farmer's Markets fit in? I would say they are part of the County's culture.
- Golf is declining. Cost to get into this is expensive for many. This isn't used by many people of the public 20 years like they did 20 years ago Programs should be more for younger people.
- sparing for boxing
- fitness facilities
- better and improved running tracks/more training stairs