

**April 4, 2017**

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**2017 BC ELECTION SURVEY - FACT SHEET**  
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At the end of March Equity sent out a survey to BC members, in order to learn which live performance-based issues are of most concern to them as the province heads into its next election on May 9.

Equity is extremely grateful to all members who took time to complete the survey. Their responses have been instrumental in helping Executive Director Arden R. Ryshpan to present candidates with our members' position on key issues affecting the live performance community, during meetings being held from April 3 to 5 in Vancouver and Victoria.

**QUICK FACTS: SURVEY**

The survey drew 127 responses.

- 66.93% of respondents were performers.
- 50.93% of respondents had been members for over 20 years.
- 71.65% of respondents were located in Southwest BC.

The issue of greatest concern was arts education, whether in elementary and secondary schools, or via post-secondary training programs. Research has shown that BC artists are noted for their commitment to this topic.

**SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

- adequate financial support for individual artists, whether through project and operating grants, or initiatives (such as tax credits and benefit programs) to elevate their standard of living
- making the arts more affordable and inclusive for audiences.

**To a lesser but still strong degree, respondents also cited the following:**

- inclusivity for all artists, regardless of background
- attention to the needs of Indigenous creators
- availability of housing and rehearsal spaces
- equality of opportunity for rural artists.

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Equity is the voice of professional artists working in live performance in English Canada. It is a national artists' association representing almost 6,000 performers, directors, choreographers, fight directors and stage managers working in theatre, opera and dance.  
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