



Making a difference...together

Minutes of a Special Meeting of the ARTS COMMISSION
Held WEDNESDAY, JULY 28, 2021, in Room 488, 625 Fisgard St., Victoria, BC

EP = Electronic Participation

Present: Members: J. Loveday (Chair), (the following by EP) S. Epp, C. Green, L. Hundleby, C. Plant, K. Roessingh
Staff: Chris Gilpin, Co-Manager, James Lam, Co-Manager, Arts & Culture; V. Jeevanandam, Community Outreach Coordinator; N. More, Senior Administrative Secretary (recorder)
Also Present, Arts Advisory Council: C. Heiman, Chair (EP)
Absent: W. Gardner, D. Lajeunesse, G. Lemon

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm.

1 Territorial Acknowledgement

2 Approval of Agenda

MOVED by Member Plant, **SECONDED** by Member Roessingh,
That the agenda be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

3 Presentations/Delegations

There were none.

Chair Loveday introduced Chris Gilpin, new Manager, Arts & Culture Support Service.

4 Special Meeting Matters

4.1 Outcomes of Board Initiative 12a-1 to Explore Partnerships to Support 100% Participation in the CRD Arts Function

J. Lam provided highlights.

Chair Loveday opened the floor for questions. Clarification and Commission discussion included the following points:

- Staff recommendation to receive for information was based on Board request to report back to the Board on the outcome.
- This Commission could take a position of advocacy towards the Board if it chose to do so, then it would be the Board's decision on how to move forward toward the goal of 100% participation.
- Action to move this forward could be done properly in a motion arising.
- Appendix A, the simulation, was a representation of all 16 jurisdictions participating at the Group 1 level, but with the overall budget remaining the same.
- Another simulation, not provided, was run as a follow-up exercise, representing the growth in the overall budget to 4.1 million if all 16 jurisdictions participated at the Group 1 level, and the present participants stayed at the current contribution unit rate.
- Other simulations could be run to show a mix of levels.

- Only having Appendix A, people might assume that scenario was the plan, while the Commission might have a different plan. Additional information could be provided before the matter comes before the Board.
- In essence, the Alternative Approve Process (AAP) provides that if less than 10% of the total electorate respond in writing to say no, then the Board can decide to proceed with the matter, but if 10% or more write in to say no, then the Board can take it to referendum.
- The current bylaw contains a 2-year escape clause where a jurisdiction that chooses to join is able to withdraw; this would not be appropriate for a regional service.
- Staff can accommodate the changes directed by the Commission in a supplementary report to more fully inform the Board of factors to be considered.
- The Commission requested that staff provide alternative appendices with the report going forward to the Board, to suggest growth in the budget, not as in the simple simulation attached as Appendix A.
- The Commission requested that in the revised or additional appendices, the representation showing as “per capita” be clarified so readers can understand the numbers in terms of “per household.”
- If the Board approves going to an AAP for 100% participation, the process must be made clear to the public, and it would be important that the benefits of participation in the service were to be pointed out, so people can understand it as not simply a tax.

MOVED by Member Plant, **SECONDED** by Member Hundleby,

The Arts Commission recommends to the Capital Regional District Board:

That the Outcomes of Board initiative 12a-1 to Explore Partnerships to Support 100% Participation in the CRD Arts Function report be received for information.

CARRIED

The Commission discussed a motion arising. The discussion included the following points:

- This is defensible and equitable and will grow the arts service fairly.
- Members of the Arts Commission can educate and advocate for 100% participation.
- It would be beneficial to inform the arts advocates within the region of what is happening; to inform the artists who live in each non-participating jurisdiction so they can advocate to their local government for participation.
- Next step is a mature regional service with region-wide benefits.
- Arts Commission members could attend the Board meeting in Sept., for added impact.
- Confidence in a positive response to the proposal.

MOVED by Member Plant, **SECONDED** by Member Epp,

The Arts Commission recommends to the Capital Regional District Board:

1. That staff be directed to prepare amendments to the establishing bylaw to gain full regional participation in the Arts and Culture Support Service, with all electoral areas and municipalities added as Group 1 or Group 2 Participating Areas;
2. That the Board proceed by way of a regional alternative approval process; and
3. That staff include a report with the removal of the 2-year exit clause and include additional service requisition scenarios that reflect 30% participation for new members and a general increase to the service budget.

MOVED by Member Plant, **SECONDED** by Member Roessingh,
To amend the main motion by removing the words “Group 1 or”.

CARRIED

MOVED by Member Roessingh, **SECONDED** by Member Green,
To amend the main motion by replacing the word “all” with “non-participating”.

CARRIED

MOVED by Member Plant, **SECONDED** by Member Epp,

The Arts Commission recommends to the Capital Regional District Board:

1. That staff be directed to prepare amendments to the establishing bylaw to gain full regional participation in the Arts and Culture Support Service, with non-participating electoral areas and municipalities added as Group 2 Participating Areas;
2. That the Board proceed by way of a regional alternative approval process; and
3. That staff include a report with the removal of the 2-year exit clause and include additional service requisition scenarios that reflect 30% participation for new members and a general increase to the service budget.

CARRIED

4.2 Arts Summit Update (Verbal)

V. Jeevanandam reported that the summit would focus on equity. A consultant with expertise in equity has been hired and will be aiding in programming the Summit. To connect the community with funding, partnerships with provincial and federal arts funders are being explored. The Commission will be informed via calendar invitation once a venue and dates have been confirmed.

C. Green left the meeting at 4:53 pm

MOVED by Member Hundleby, **SECONDED** by Member Epp,
That the Arts Summit verbal update be received for information.

CARRIED

5 Adjournment

On behalf of the Commission, Chair Loveday expressed appreciation to James Lam, outgoing Manager, Arts & Culture.

MOVED by Member Hundleby, **SECONDED** by Member Roessingh,
That the meeting be adjourned at 4:54: p.m.

CARRIED

CHAIR

RECORDER