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Additional Circulation: C. Gilpin T. Robbins N. Chan R. Lachance J. Verano S. Donaldson
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## ARTS COMMISSION

Notice of Meeting on **Wednesday, June 28, at 4pm.**  
Room 488, 4th Floor, 625 Fisgard Street, Victoria, BC; and Electronic Participation

M. Alto (Chair)	D. Cavens	D. Lajeunesse	C. Plant	C. Smart
P. Brent	S. Epp	G. Lemon	K. Roessingh	

Delegations will have the option to participate in-person or electronically. Please complete the online application at [www.crd.bc.ca/address](http://www.crd.bc.ca/address) no later than 4:30 pm two days before the meeting.

### AGENDA

1. Territorial Acknowledgement
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Adoption of Minutes of May 19, 2023

**Recommendation:** That the May 19, 2023, minutes of the Arts Commission be adopted.

4. Chair's Remarks
5. Presentations/Delegations
6. Commission Business
  - 6.1 Arts Advisory Council Update
    - 6.1.1. Arts Advisory Council Chair's Report
    - 6.1.2. Arts Advisory Council Minutes - June 13, 2023
    - 6.1.3. Arts Advisory Council ABCs - June 13, 2023
  - 6.2. Manager's Report (verbal)
  - 6.3 2023 April Project Grants Recommendations

**Recommendation:** The Arts Advisory Council recommends to the Arts Commission:  
That the 2023 April Project Grant recommendations be approved as presented.

**Attachments:** Staff Report: 2023 April Project Grant Recommendations

Appendix A: Project Grant Recommendation List and Summaries

- 6.4 Strategic Plan – Draft Mission and Vision Statements

**Recommendation:** That the updated Mission and Vision statements be approved as presented.

**Attachments:** Staff Report: Draft Mission and Vision Statements for the 2024-2027 Strategic Plan of the Arts and Culture Support Service

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Commissioners: To ensure quorum, please advise Heather Heywood ([hheywood@crd.bc.ca](mailto:hheywood@crd.bc.ca)) if you or your alternate cannot attend.

Appendix A: Updated Timeline for the Arts & Culture Strategic Plan (2024-2027)

Appendix B: Draft Mission and Vision Statements for the 2024-2027 Arts & Culture  
Strategic Plan

Appendix C: CRD Arts & Culture Strategic Planning - Mission and Vision

7. New Business

8. Correspondence - none

9. Adjournment

(Next Meeting: July 26, 2023)



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**Minutes of a Meeting of the ARTS COMMISSION  
Held May 19, 2023, in Room 488, 625 Fisgard St., Victoria, BC**

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EP = Electronic Participation

**Members Present:** M. Alto (Chair); D. Cavens, D. Lajeunesse, G. Lemon

**EP:** P. Brent, S. Epp, K. Roessingh, C. Smart

**Staff:** Chris Gilpin, Manager, Arts & Culture Service; H. Heywood, Administrative Assistant (recorder)

**Also present:** S. Donaldson, Arts Advisory Council Funding Chair

**Regrets:** C. Plant

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 pm.

**1 Territorial Acknowledgement**

Chair Alto provided a Territorial Acknowledgement.

**2 Approval of Agenda**

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

**3 Adoption of Minutes**

**MOVED by Member Cavens, SECONDED by Member Smart,  
That the minutes of the March 29, 2023, Arts Commission meeting be adopted.**

**CARRIED**

**4 Chair's Remarks**

Chair Alto commented on the recent Arts Champions Summit, saying it was an amazing event and profoundly thanked staff, the event planner, and the volunteers who made the event possible. Input from the community will be very helpful to the Arts Commission in determining a direction for the future. Feedback will be gathered and, to ensure that it is fully considered, the What We Heard report will be pushed back from June to a July meeting of the Arts Commission.

**5 Presentations/Delegations – None**

**6. Commission Business**

**6.1 Arts Advisory Council (AAC) Update**

**6.1.1 Arts Advisory Council Chair's Report**

The AAC Chair provided a written report which was received for information.

**6.1.2 Arts Advisory Council Minutes and ABCs, May 9, 2023, were received for information.**

**6.2 Manager's Report**

C. Gilpin thanked all those who were able to attend the Summit noting feedback received so far has been positive. A post-Summit evaluation form will be sent to all attendees.

The second project grant application deadline was April 20<sup>th</sup>. Recommendations will come forward at the June meeting.

V. Jeevanandam has left the CRD for a new position but did leave us very well organized for the Arts Summit and for the Impact Report. We are currently in the process of hiring a new Community Outreach Coordinator.

After discussion with the Chair of the Arts Commission, it was recommended to push back the delivery of the Impact Report and What We Heard Report by one month. The Arts Commission will now receive these reports in July.

### **6.3 2023 Incubator and Equity Grants Recommendations**

C. Gilpin provided an overview of the Incubator and Equity reports, noting one Equity application was deemed ineligible. Two Incubator applications and 14 Equity applications were assessed by an adjudication team that included two external adjudicators. Recommendations were reviewed by the Arts Advisory Council on May 9<sup>th</sup>.

S. Donaldson, AAC Funding Chair, noted the two Incubator applicants are both new organizations. She thanked the jury and commented that the AAC appreciated the input from the external adjudicators. Some grants were scaled to enable funding to as many organizations as possible.

Chair Alto thanked staff for the extensive report and support material.

**MOVED by Member Roessingh, SECONDED by Member Lajeunesse,  
That The Arts Advisory Council recommends to the Arts Commission:**

- 1. That the 2023 Incubator Grant recommendations be approved as presented.**
- 2. That the 2023 Equity Grant recommendations be approved as presented.**

**CARRIED**

### **6.4 2023 IDEA Grant Recommendations**

C. Gilpin highlighted the staff report noting fourteen applications were received however one application was deemed ineligible; eleven organizations are recommended for funding. As a result of the recommendations, \$2400 would be re-allocated to the April Project Grant budget. Recommendations were reviewed by the Arts Advisory Council on May 9<sup>th</sup>.

Commission members discussed the IDEA grant program and asked staff to conduct a review and to consider the maximum grant limit prior to the next deadline.

**MOVED by Member Lemon, SECONDED by Member Cavens,  
The Arts Advisory Council recommends to the Arts Commission:  
That the 2023 IDEA Grant recommendations be approved as presented.**

**CARRIED**

*Member Smart left the meeting at 12:25 pm*

### **6.5 Greater Victoria Regional Arts Awards Funding Request from ProArt Alliance**

C. Gilpin provided an overview of the staff report advising members that this request cannot be funded through a current grant program.

Members reviewed the request from ProArt Alliance of Greater Victoria (dated May 4, 2023) for \$6,000 to support the 2023 Greater Victoria Regional Arts Awards and the CRD Arts Commission Regional Impact Award.

**MOVED by D. Cavens, SECONDED by G. Lemon,**  
That \$6,000 be provided from the Arts and Culture Support Service operating budget, using the operating reserve, if necessary, to ProArt Alliance of Greater Victoria to support the 2023 Greater Victoria Regional Arts Awards to convene and celebrate the CRD arts community with \$5,000 dedicated to funding the CRD Arts Commission Regional Impact Award and \$1,000 dedicated to supporting the production of the event.

**CARRIED**

**6.6 CreativeMornings Funding Request from Victoria Arts Council**

C. Gilpin referred to the report noting the speaker series came about due to feedback from the 2018 Arts Summit. Initially in partnership with the City of Victoria, the series was launched in 2020 to continue offering the arts community opportunities to convene and make connections.

Members discussed the request from the Victoria Arts Council noting the return to in-person events.

**MOVED by Member Brent, SECONDED by Member Lajeunesse,**  
That \$8,000 be provided from the Arts and Culture Support Service operating budget, using the operating reserve, if necessary, to Victoria Arts Council to support the CreativeMornings series to assist networking, capacity-building and professional development in the CRD arts community for a monthly event from July 2023 to June 2024.

**CARRIED**

**6.7 CRD Corporate Plan**

C. Gilpin provided an update of the 2023-2026 CRD Strategic Plan, advising there are three arts-related items in the plan. Members discussed opportunities to connect with non-participating jurisdictions.

**MOVED by Member Cavens, SECONDED by Member Lemon,**  
That staff be directed to work with the Chair of the Arts Commission to send letters to non-participating jurisdictions, providing a summary of the value proposition of supporting the arts through a regional approach, and arranging a time to present to their councils or electoral area directors on the costs and benefits of joining the Arts and Culture Support Service.

**CARRIED**

7. **New Business** - none

8. **Correspondence** - none

9. **Adjournment**

**MOVED by Member Lajeunesse, SECONDED by Member Roessingh**  
That the meeting be adjourned at 12:45 pm.

**CARRIED**

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CHAIR

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RECORDER



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## ARTS ADVISORY COUNCIL

### Minutes of a Meeting of the CRD Arts Advisory Council

Tuesday, June 13, 2023 at 5:00 – 6:00 pm

Via Video Conference

**AAC Members:** D. Clark, R. Ditor, R. Gale, W. Greaves, C. Haska, A. Hershberg, J. Verano (Chair)

**Arts & Culture Staff:** C. Gilpin, Manager, H. Heywood, Admin Assistant (recorder)

**Regrets:** C. Caravaca, S. Donaldson, S. Reid

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#### 1. Territorial Acknowledgement

C. Haska provided a territorial acknowledgement.

#### 2. Approval of Agenda

**MOVED** by R. Gale, **SECONDED** by W. Greaves, to approve the agenda as circulated.

**CARRIED**

#### 3. Minutes:

##### 4.1 Adoption: 2023/05/09 Arts Advisory Council (AAC)

**MOVED** by C. Haska, **SECONDED** by R. Ditor, that the May 9, 2023 minutes of the Arts Advisory Council be approved as presented.

**CARRIED**

##### 4.2 Arts Commission (AC) Minutes of 2023/03/29 - received for information

#### 4. Chair's Report

Chair Verano thanked AAC members and staff for their work during the recent adjudications. This work has contributed to the success of many organizations. Please continue to attend events as opportunities arise over the summer.

Congratulations on the Arts Champions Summit which was well attended, had interesting speakers, and enjoyed a high level of enthusiasm from participants.

S. Donaldson presented the Equity, Incubator and IDEA grant recommendations at the May Arts Commission meeting. The AAC was asked to review the maximum grant amount for IDEA grants

#### 5. Manager's Report

C. Gilpin provided highlights from the May Arts Commission meeting noting the project-based grants were approved. As requested by the AC, the IDEA grant maximum amount will be reviewed and considered as part of the strategic planning process.

The AC also approved funding to ProArt Alliance for the upcoming Regional Arts Awards, to support the Greater Victoria Regional Arts Awards with \$5,000 dedicated to fund the CRD Arts Commission Regional Impact Award and \$1,000 to support the production of the event. Also approved is \$8,000 to support of Creative Mornings Victoria which is now managed by the Victoria Arts Council.

The CRD Corporate Plan includes items specific to the Arts & Culture Service. Work is ongoing to meet the goals of developing and implementing a revised strategic plan for the Arts & Culture Service, and to scale up participation in the Service. A draft strategic plan will be presented to the Arts Commission in September. AAC members are welcome to provide any further feedback for the strategic plan over the summer, directly to C. Gilpin.

The Arts Champions Summit had over 100 participants, including in-person and online. For the first time, Southern Gulf Island participants were able to access a \$50 travel subsidy and blind attendees were able to participate fully online with the assistance of a dedicated facilitator. Comments received via the event evaluation forms were generally positive; people appreciated being able to meet in person and make new connections.

Engagement activities, including the Summit, focus groups, and a public survey, are now complete. Feedback will be compiled for the What We Heard report and at the suggestion of the AC Chair, this report will be presented to the Arts Commission in July to ensure there is time to fully consider all the feedback.

V. Jeevanandam has left the CRD for a new position. The hiring process for a Community Outreach Coordinator is almost complete.

## **6. Grant Recommendations**

### **6.1 2023 April Project Grant Recommendations**

C. Gilpin noted the application in-take went smoothly and there was a larger budget available over last year, resulting in a higher success rate and higher median grant.

R. Gale, Chair for the adjudication, provided rationale for the recommendations. Discussion included the quality of applications in relation to EDI and resources available to organizations, including CRD grant information sessions.

**MOVED by R. Gale, SECONDED by A. Hershberg,**

The Arts Advisory Council recommends to the Arts Commission:

That the April 2023 Project Grant recommendations be approved as presented.

**CARRIED**

## **7. ABCs (Activity By Council Summary)**

Received for information.

## **8. Correspondence - none**

## **9. New Business**

### **9.1 Discussion: Project Grant intakes - allowing one or two applications per year**

C. Gilpin provided background for the discussion. Discussion included a review of past policy, pre-Covid application statistics, and the objective of the program. General consensus is to allow non-successful January applicants to apply again in April, with either the same project or a new project. Absent members will have an opportunity to contribute to the discussion in September. A report based on AAC recommendations will be presented to the AC in the fall.

## **10. Adjournment**

**MOVED** by R. Gale, that the meeting be adjourned at 6:03 pm.

**CARRIED**

**Arts Advisory Council Meeting – Tuesday, June 13, 2023 ABC'S**

**(Activities by Council Summary)**

AAC members recently attended the following events in the region:

Atomic Vaudeville - *Wyrd*

Ballet Victoria - *Resurrection*

Belfry Theatre - *Old Stock*

Blue Bridge Theatre - *Miss Julie*

Canadian College of Performing Arts - *Joseph & the Technicolour Dreamcoat*

Royal Theatre - *Come from Away*

St. Michael's University School - *School of Rock The Musical; Disney's The  
Descendants The Musical*

Theatre Inconnu - *Witch, Shoemaker's Son*

**REPORT TO ARTS ADVISORY COUNCIL  
MEETING OF TUESDAY, JUNE 13, 2023**

**SUBJECT     April 2023 Project Grant Recommendations**

**ISSUE SUMMARY**

The adjudication committee for the April 2023 Project Grant program has completed its work and made its recommendations for approval by the Arts Advisory Council and Arts Commission.

**BACKGROUND**

As per Bylaw No. 2973, the Arts Advisory Council is responsible for adjudicating funding programs for the Arts and Culture Support Service. Section 5 of the Bylaw states: “The Council shall act as an arm’s length adjudicating body for the Arts Development Funding Programs<sup>1</sup>.” The Arts Advisory Council fulfills this role through its adjudication committees, which are composed of Council members and, if necessary, external appointees to the adjudication committee who bring perspectives or expertise that meet certain adjudication needs.

The Projects, Series & Extended Programming Grants (commonly known as “Project Grants”) provide support for organizations to produce or present one-time projects, a short series of events, or extended programming taking place over 12 months or less.

At the April 2023 deadline of Project Grants, 22 applications were received, lower than the 4-year average (see Table 1). One application was ruled ineligible by staff due to an unbalanced project budget. The total request from eligible applications of \$196,552 was lower than the 4-year average. The applicant success rate of 95% and median award amount are both significantly higher than last year due to fewer applications and a larger budget.

**Table 1. Project Grant Program: Recent Funding History**

Year	Intake	# Eligible Applications	# Awards	Success Rate	Total Request	Total Awarded	Median Request	Median Award
2020	Jan	39	25	64%	\$338,682	\$125,500	\$7,000	\$4,000
2020	Apr	22	20	91%	\$167,095	\$104,500	\$7,000	\$5,250
2021	Jan	17	14	82%	\$154,700	\$120,000	\$10,000	\$7,725
2021	Apr	21	17	81%	\$199,210	\$120,000	\$8,200	\$7,000
2022	Jan	27	18	67%	\$259,732	\$120,000	\$10,000	\$6,600
2022	Apr	36	22	61%	\$285,212	\$120,000	\$7,807	\$5,000
2023	Jan	28	20	71%	\$231,335	\$140,000	\$8,150	\$6,513
2023	Apr	21	20	95%	\$196,552	\$142,400	\$9,300	\$8,000
<b>Average</b>		<b>26.4</b>	<b>19.5</b>	<b>77%</b>	<b>\$229,065</b>	<b>\$124,050</b>	<b>\$8,432</b>	<b>\$6,261</b>

An adjudication committee of three Council members met in May 2023 to consider 21 applications. The adjudicators’ scores were averaged in a comparative assessment of each organization’s proposal. Applications were discussed to ensure the scores reflected the information provided.

<sup>1</sup> The Arts and Culture Support Service was originally known as the Arts Development Service.

The adjudicators assessed and scored each of the applications using a matrix that reflects the desired outcomes of the program in the areas of:

- payment of artists (new emphasis in this intake)
- the benefit to the art form and to the arts in the region
- knowledge of the target audience
- accessibility (physical, financial, cultural, and other)
- benefits to the community, including to equity-seeking groups and underrepresented arts and cultural practices
- reasonableness of the budget and of projected expenses and revenues

The scoring methodology provided a comparative assessment of the merits of each proposal relative to the program's published goals and intended outcomes.

Twenty organizations are recommended for funding. One organization is not recommended for funding. This application scored in the bottom group of all applications and did not contribute to regional distribution (i.e. activating projects outside of the urban core) as the project activity is all located in Victoria where significant activity had already been funded in similar areas of practice (see Appendix A).

## **ALTERNATIVES**

### *Alternative 1*

The Arts Advisory Council recommends to the Arts Commission:  
That the April 2023 Project Grant recommendations be approved as presented.

### *Alternative 2*

That this report be referred to staff for additional information.

## **IMPLICATIONS**

### *Financial Implications*

Ratification and approval of these recommendations will allocate \$142,400 to the 2023 Project Grant program, which is slightly higher than the amount in the preliminary 2023 budget for this intake (see Table 2). This is due to \$2,400 of leftover funding from IDEA Grants that was allocated to this intake.

Organizations that have applied to Operating Grants have been notified about their funding amount as approved by the Arts Commission at its meeting on April 25, 2023. Operating Grant recipients that requested advances on their grant were paid in April 2023. The majority of Operating Grants will be paid immediately following August 1, when CRD receives its annual allocation of tax revenue.

**Table 2. Update on Arts Granting Budget for the CRD Arts and Culture Support Service**

Granting Program	2023 Budget	2023 Allocated	2023 Paid Out
Operating Grants	\$2,306,270	\$2,306,270	\$284,180
Project Grants	\$280,000	\$282,400	\$140,000
Equity Grants	\$50,000	\$55,000	\$55,000
Incubator Grants	\$15,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
IDEA Grants	\$33,400	\$31,000	\$31,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,684,670</b>	<b>\$2,684,670</b>	<b>\$520,180</b>

April Project Grants will be paid out in early July 2023 and remaining Operating Grants will be paid out in August 2023.

**CONCLUSION**

The adjudication committee has assessed 21 applications received at the April 2023 Project Grant deadline. The 20 projects recommended for a grant will fulfil the Arts & Culture Support Service’s purpose to provide benefits to the community through its funding programs and will support a range of organizations to produce arts programming for audiences in the capital region.

**RECOMMENDATION**

The Arts Advisory Council recommends to the Arts Commission:  
That the April 2023 Project Grant recommendations be approved as presented.

Submitted by:	Chris Gilpin, MPA, Manager, Arts & Culture Support Service
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**ATTACHMENT(S)**

Appendix A: April 2023 Project Grant Recommendations and Summaries

	<b>Org's Location:</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Project category:</b>	<b>REQUEST</b>	<b>GRANT Recm'd</b>
	Saanich	BC Accordion and Tango Society	One time project	<b>\$8,500</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>
	Victoria	Bounce Performance Works	One-time project	<b>\$9,363</b>	<b>\$9,000</b>
	Saanich	Broken Rhythms Victoria Society	Extended	<b>\$12,500</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>
New	Saanich	Convergence Contemporary Ballet	One-time project	<b>\$10,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>
	Victoria	Embrace Arts Foundation	One time project	<b>\$9,250</b>	<b>\$9,250</b>
	Metchosin	Emily Carr String Quartet	Short Series	<b>\$3,750</b>	<b>\$0</b>
New	SGL	Galiano Island Literary Festival	One time project	<b>\$9,300</b>	<b>\$8,000</b>
	Saanich	India Canada Cultural Assn of	Short Series	<b>\$8,000</b>	<b>\$8,000</b>
	Victoria	Integrate Art Society	Short Series	<b>\$10,000</b>	<b>\$8,000</b>
	Victoria	Ministry of Casual Living	Extended Programming	<b>\$13,000</b>	<b>\$12,000</b>
	Oak Bay	Sing Your Joy	One time project	<b>\$4,000</b>	<b>\$3,500</b>
	Sooke	Sooke Arts Council	One time project	<b>\$10,000</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>
	Sooke	Sooke Community Choir	Short Series	<b>\$2,389</b>	<b>\$2,075</b>
	Victoria	The Other Guise Theatre Company	Short Series	<b>\$20,000</b>	<b>\$10,000</b>
	Victoria	Veselka Ukrainian Dance Assn.	Short Series	<b>\$2,500</b>	<b>\$2,000</b>
	Victoria	Victoria Choral Society	One time project	<b>\$6,000</b>	<b>\$6,000</b>
	Victoria	Victoria Philharmonic Choir Society	Short Series	<b>\$15,000</b>	<b>\$8,000</b>
	Victoria	Victoria Poetry Project Society	Extended Programming	<b>\$7,500</b>	<b>\$7,500</b>
New	Metchosin	Westshore Community Concert	Short Series	<b>\$2,500</b>	<b>\$2,075</b>
	Metchosin	William Head on Stage	One time project	<b>\$23,000</b>	<b>\$12,000</b>
	Victoria	XChanges Gallery and Studios	Extended Programming	<b>\$10,000</b>	<b>\$10,000</b>
	SGL	Yellowhouse Arts Centre	Extended Programming	<b>\$10,000</b>	<b>\$10,000</b>

**Totals:           \$206,552           \$142,400**

**Organization: BC Accordion and Tango Society**

**Org Location:** Saanich

**Project:** 17th World Accordion & Tango Festival

**Start Date:** Nov 15, 2023 **End date:** Nov 19, 2023

**Event Location:** Saanich, Victoria,

REQUEST

GRANT  
Recm'd

**Project category:** One time project

8,500

5,000

**Previous Funding:**

May 2011, \$4000; Jan 2012, \$4000; Jan 2013, \$10,000; May 2014, \$5000; Jan 2015, \$5000; Jan 2016, \$2500; Jan 2017, \$3000; Apr 2020, \$7,000; Apr 2021, \$6000; Apr 2022, \$7500

**Mandate**

The purpose of the organization is to promote the accordion and tango music by organizing various community events, coordinate different accordion and tango clubs throughout British Columbia, and to provide financial aid to young accordion students in achieving their career goals.

**Project Summary**

The 17th World Accordion and Tango Festival will present internationally acclaimed performers as well as local artists and will include free and ticketed events.

**Notes for Committee Report**

This application scored above the level required to fulfill the goals and intended outcomes of the Project Grant program. The recommendation is for funding support at an amount lower than their full request based on similar reductions to other applicants that scored in the same tier.

**Organization: Bounce Performance Works Society**

**Org Location:** Victoria

**Project:** Dracula - A Trilogy of Terror

**Start Date:** Aug 28, 2023 **End date:** Sep 02, 2023

**Event Location:** Saanich, Oak Bay

REQUEST

GRANT  
Recm'd

**Project category:** One-time project

9,363

9,000

**Previous Funding:**

May 2012, \$8,000; May 2013, \$7,000; Jan 2015, \$8000; Jan 2016, \$8,000

**Mandate**

Bounce Performance Works Society (BPW) was incorporated in 2009 with a mandate to create and perform original theatrical productions, adapt existing texts, and to make use of the forms of dance, theatre, music, poetry, visual art and other art forms in multidisciplinary productions.

**Project Summary**

Dracula - A Trilogy Of Terror is Brian Richmond's seven part adaptation of Bram Stoker's 19th century classic gothic novel, with all seven parts being presented at 12 noon, then 4 and 8 pm.

**Notes for Committee Report**

This application scored above the level required to fulfill the goals and intended outcomes of the Project Grant program. The recommendation is for funding support at an amount lower than their full request based on similar reductions to other applicants that scored in the same tier.

## April 2023 Project Grant - Recommendation Summary

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**Organization: Broken Rhythms Victoria Society**

**Org Location:** Saanich

**Project:** Chiaroscuro Fringe and Knotted

**Start Date:** Aug 23, 2023 **End date:** Apr 06, 2024

**Event Location:** Victoria

**REQUEST**

**GRANT  
Recm'd**

**Project category:** Extended

**12,500**

**5,000**

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**Previous Funding:**

May 2016, \$5,500; April 2017, \$7500; May 2018, \$7350; May 2019, \$10,000; April 2020, \$7,500; Apr 2021, \$10,000; Apr 2022, \$9,000

**Mandate**

Broken Rhythms is a Victoria-based dance company that was founded in 2011 under the artistic direction of Dyana Sonik-Henderson.

Broken Rhythms Victoria Society's overarching vision is:

- To create a society in Victoria, BC in which dancers are able to study and perform
- To support and encourage the local Victoria dance community
- To create opportunities for other local companies to showcase their work within Broken Rhythms shows
- To be involved with choreography mentorship programs with local high schools
- To be involved in community events (ie. pride parade, spoken word festival) supporting both the arts and overall Victoria community
- To partner with and collaborate with local theatre and dance groups on projects and performance opportunities
- To make dance accessible to the broader community in Victoria by making it affordable and by incorporating storylines that are relatable
- To showcase the unique style of Rhythmical Contemporary

**Project Summary**

Chiaro:Scuro will have a 5 show run at Victoria's Fringe Festival, Aug 23 - Sept 3.

'Knotted' is a Broken Rhythms original work inspired by the art of knot making and the multiple ways 'knots' appear in everyday life.

**Notes for Committee Report**

This application scored above the level required to fulfill the goals and intended outcomes of the Project Grant program. The recommendation is for funding support at an amount lower than their full request based on similar reductions to other applicants that scored in the same tier.

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## April 2023 Project Grant - Recommendation Summary

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**Organization: Convergence Contemporary Ballet**

**Org Location:** Saanich

**Project:** Program 7

**Start Date:** Nov 01, 2023 **End date:** Nov 30, 2023

**Event Location:** Oak Bay

**REQUEST**

**GRANT  
Recm'd**

**10,000**

**0**

**Project category:** One-time project

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**Previous Funding:**

New-withdrawn

**Mandate**

To facilitate and create innovative new choreography, perform creations for audiences and inspire the next generation of dancers and choreographers.

**Project Summary**

Creation and production of a dance performance featuring two new dance works and hosting of up to 5 other professional dance works from the Victoria community by invitation.

**Notes for Committee Report**

This application submitted an unbalanced budget. Staff followed up with the applicant, explaining that the program guidelines require a balanced budget that demonstrates a need for funding. The applicant did not submit an updated budget. Thus, this application was not eligible for adjudication.

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## April 2023 Project Grant - Recommendation Summary

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**Organization: Embrace Arts Foundation**

**Org Location:** Victoria

**Project:** Briny

**Start Date:** Oct 01, 2023 **End date:** Mar 30, 2024

**Event Location:** Victoria

**REQUEST**

**GRANT  
Recm'd**

**Project category:** One time project

**9,250**

**9,250**

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**Previous Funding:**

Jan 2018, \$9500; April 2020, \$9,340; Apr 2021, \$6425; Apr 2022, \$7,600

**Mandate**

Embrace's core aim is create meaningful artistic opportunities for individuals of all abilities.

The specific objectives and purpose of Embrace shall be:

- a. to provide arts and recreation programming for individuals of all abilities;
- b. to work with other actors to facilitate opportunities for individuals of all abilities to meaningfully engage in arts, recreational, cultural or other programming;
- c. to provide facilities, equipment, and training for individuals of all abilities to participate in arts and recreation (ex. dance, theatre, fitness);
- d. to sponsor, host and/or participate in events and activities that promote inclusive arts, recreation, and community;
- e. to promote the ongoing development of inclusive and accessible communities through programming, public education and/or advocacy initiatives.

**Project Summary**

We are applying for funding for the public presentation phase for our newest show: Briny, a multi-sensory, multidisciplinary piece, designed for disabled and neuro-divergent children and youth audiences.

**Notes for Committee Report**

This application scored above the level required to fulfill the goals and intended outcomes of the Project Grant program. The recommendation is for the full amount of the grant request.

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## April 2023 Project Grant - Recommendation Summary

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**Organization: Emily Carr String Quartet**

**Org Location:** Metchosin

**Project:** Portraits

**Start Date:** Oct 13, 2023 **End date:** May 17, 2024

**Event Location:** Christ Church

**REQUEST**

**GRANT  
Recm'd**

**Project category:** Short Series

**3,750**

**0**

---

**Previous Funding:**

May 2013, \$3,400; Jan 2014, \$3745; Jan 2015, \$3100; May 2015, \$0; Jan 2016, \$2,600; Jan 2017, \$2000; May 2018, \$3150; May 2019, \$4,000; Apr 2022, \$4125

**Mandate**

The mandate of the Emily Carr String Quartet Society is to support the Emily Carr String Quartet in the promotion, performance and recording of the string quartet repertoire from classical to contemporary. The ECSQ Society also provides assistance with the commissioning of new Canadian compositions and collaborations with distinguished artists.

**Project Summary**

A chamber music series entitled Portraits, featuring three concerts at Christ Church Cathedral.

**Notes for Committee Report**

This application scored below a satisfactory level in payment of artists and benefits to the region. Also, there was not enough detail in the application for the assessment team to conduct its necessary due diligence. As a note of clarification, although the contact address for this organization is in Metchosin, all the activities for the proposed project are in Victoria. This application is not recommended for support at this time.

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## April 2023 Project Grant - Recommendation Summary

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**Organization:** Galiano Island Literary Festival

**Org Location:** SGI

**Project:** Island to Island Festival

**Start Date:** Oct 07, 2023 **End date:** Oct 07, 2023

**Event Location:** SGI

**REQUEST**

**GRANT  
Recm'd**

**9,300**

**8,000**

**Project category:** One time project

---

### **Previous Funding:**

New

### **Mandate**

- a) To preserve and promote the literary arts industry in British Columbia and Canada, and to maintain high standards in that industry by exhibiting to the public examples of high-quality works and by providing workshops, forums and master classes where writers share their experiences.
- b) To advance the public's appreciation of and engagement with the literary arts by producing an annual festival for readers and writers.
- c) To advance education in the field of literary arts by organizing and producing forums for the presentation of works of literature.
- d) To undertake activities ancillary and incidental to the attainment of the above charitable purposes.

### **Project Summary**

Island to Island, is an online event in partnership with Aotea Great Barrier Island's Festival Small Island, Big Ideas in New Zealand for writers and environmentalists to share ideas and creative work.

### **Notes for Committee Report**

This application scored above the level required to fulfill the goals and intended outcomes of the Project Grant program. The recommendation is for funding support at an amount lower than their full request based on similar reductions to other applicants that scored in the same tier.

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## April 2023 Project Grant - Recommendation Summary

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**Organization: India Canada Cultural Assn of Victoria**

**Org Location:** Saanich

**Project:** 11th India Mela Victoria

**Start Date:** Aug 12, 2023 **End date:** Aug 13, 2023

**Event Location:** Victoria

**REQUEST**

**GRANT  
Recm'd**

**Project category:** Short Series

**8,000**

**8,000**

---

**Previous Funding:**

May 2011, \$6,500; May 2013, \$6,500; Jan 2015, \$5000; May 2016, \$5,000; April 2017, \$0; May 2018, \$5000; May 2019, \$5,000

**Mandate**

The vision of the ICCA is to plan, manage and deliver 100% volunteer-led, community-driven social, cultural and educational projects, programs and services that create a stronger, more unified, multi-cultural Greater Victoria area. The ICCA is involved in a number of activities including:

- organizing social, cultural, and educational activities;
  - cooperating with and assisting other organizations with a similar purpose;
  - creating and supporting opportunities for youth to participate in, as well as initiatives focused on youth within the community;
  - identifying the specialized needs of isolated and marginalized members of the Victoria Indo Canadian community (i.e. seniors), and creating services that improve their quality of life and allow them to participate in the community.
- ICCA is an established organizer and supporter of the Capital region's arts and heritage community festivals and events. ICCA also plans and delivers various arts and culture projects from all cultures. ICCA's mandate requires that every venue for its various projects is based in the Capital Region. ICCA strives to create new projects every year, alongside its flagship events, in an effort to develop programs that meet changing needs of the area.

**Project Summary**

The 11th Mela, August 12-13, 2023, will be held at Market Square featuring dance troupes, artists, and musicians from Indian culture as well as First Nations, Chinese, Japanese, Spanish, Greek, Polynesian, Arabian, Philipino, and Mexican.

**Notes for Committee Report**

This application scored above the level required to fulfill the goals and intended outcomes of the Project Grant program. The recommendation is for the full amount of the grant request.

---

## April 2023 Project Grant - Recommendation Summary

---

**Organization: Integrate Art Society**

**Org Location:** Victoria

**Project:** Institute of Counting Sheep

**Start Date:** Sep 01, 2023 **End date:** Mar 30, 2024

**Event Location:** Victoria and online

**REQUEST**

**GRANT  
Recm'd**

**10,000**

**8,000**

**Project category:** Short Series

---

**Previous Funding:**

May 2013, \$4,500; May 2014, \$5000; May 2015, \$3,000; May 2016, \$5,000; Apr 2017, \$2,090; May 2018, \$5,500; May 2019, \$5,000; Jan 2021, \$6000; Apr 2022, \$0

**Mandate**

The mandate of the Integrate Art Society is to strengthen the presence of the arts on Vancouver Island through public awareness and advocacy for regional artists, curators, arts organizations, and art spaces. The society aims to deliver this by creating accessible and interactive arts programming for the general public, showcasing multidisciplinary art practices, and equipping art practitioners with opportunities for knowledge transfer and skill development.

Our mission, as a volunteer organization run by art enthusiasts, artists, researchers and curators, is to build a sustainable future for local artistic communities, with a vision of bringing cultural, social, and economic advancement to Vancouver Island.

**Project Summary**

The Institute of Counting Sheep is a two-part project that will include a series of podcasts and three public gatherings, one to launch the podcast series and two sleep over events.

**Notes for Committee Report**

This application scored above the level required to fulfill the goals and intended outcomes of the Project Grant program. The recommendation is for funding support at an amount lower than their full request based on similar reductions to other applicants that scored in the same tier.

---

## April 2023 Project Grant - Recommendation Summary

---

### Organization: Ministry of Casual Living

**Org Location:** Victoria

**Project:** 2023-24 Extended Programming

**Start Date:** Jul 01, 2023 **End date:** Jan 30, 2024

**Event Location:** Esquimalt; Victoria

REQUEST

GRANT  
Recm'd

**Project category:** Extended Programming

13,000

12,000

---

### Previous Funding:

January 2005, \$1600; May 2007, \$1000; Jan 2010, \$1700; Jan 2011, \$3,000; Jan 2013, \$0; May 2013, \$0; May 2014, \$3,000; May 2015, \$0; Jan 2016, \$2,000; Jan 2017, \$2000; May 2018, \$3000; May 2019, \$4,000; April 2020, \$7,000; Apr 2021, \$7000; Apr 2022, \$0

### Mandate

The Ministry of Casual Living (MoCL) is an artist-run centre located at 858 Devonshire Road in Esquimalt, and Odeon Ally in Victoria. We provide artists from all disciplines with venues for experimentation, production and presentation. MoCL is committed to promoting critical, self-reflective discourse, and integrating the artistic process into all aspects of everyday life.

### Project Summary

Support to produce an extended program of exhibitions and presentations in their galleries and support for a Program Coordinator role.

### Notes for Committee Report

This application scored above the level required to fulfill the goals and intended outcomes of the Project Grant program. The recommendation is for funding support at an amount lower than their full request based on similar reductions to other applicants that scored in the same tier.

---

### Organization: Sing Your Joy

**Org Location:** Oak Bay

**Project:** Spread the Joy

**Start Date:** Nov 01, 2023 **End date:** Nov 30, 2023

**Event Location:** Victoria, Saanich,

REQUEST

GRANT  
Recm'd

**Project category:** One time project

4,000

3,500

---

### Previous Funding:

May 2018, \$0; May 2019, \$3,850

### Mandate

Victoria's only non-auditioned, accessible, no-cost performing chorus for youth and young adults ages 16-29, to provide a supportive musical community for young people who might face financial and social challenges, to perform a broad repertoire of contemporary music for community audiences, and to promote life-long musical options for young people post high school.

### Project Summary

Three small-scale choir performances for residents of nursing homes or seniors' residences in Saanich, Victoria or Oak Bay during November 2023.

### Notes for Committee Report

This application scored above the level required to fulfill the goals and intended outcomes of the Project Grant program. The recommendation is for funding support at an amount lower than their full request based on similar reductions to other applicants that scored in the same tier.

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## April 2023 Project Grant - Recommendation Summary

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**Organization: Sooke Arts Council**

**Org Location:** Sooke

**Project:** Community Arts Mural

**Start Date:** Aug 01, 2023 **End date:** Aug 31, 2023

**Event Location:** Sooke

REQUEST

GRANT  
Recm'd

10,000

5,000

---

**Previous Funding:**

April 2020, \$7,000

**Mandate**

To encourage creative participation in and excellence in the arts:

- To encourage the development of opportunities to perform and exhibit the arts
- To act as a clearing house for information on the arts
- To bring to the attention of local, regional, provincial and federal authorities the artistic needs of the community

**Project Summary**

Painting of a community mural that will incorporate representation of participating groups: Indigenous, youth, theatre, music and visual arts.

**Notes for Committee Report**

This application scored above the level required to fulfill the goals and intended outcomes of the Project Grant program. The recommendation is for funding support at an amount lower than their full request based on similar reductions to other applicants that scored in the same tier.

---

**Organization: Sooke Community Choir**

**Org Location:** Sooke

**Project:** Sooke Community Concerts

**Start Date:** Nov 11, 2023 **End date:** May 11, 2024

**Event Location:** Sooke

REQUEST

GRANT  
Recm'd

2,389

2,075

---

**Previous Funding:**

Jan 2019, \$2000; Jan 2020, \$0

**Mandate**

The purpose of the society is to promote, develop and enhance the artistic life of the community through music in a welcoming and inclusive environment.

**Project Summary**

A series of choir concerts in various venues in Sooke.

**Notes for Committee Report**

This application scored above the level required to fulfill the goals and intended outcomes of the Project Grant program. The recommendation is for funding support at an amount lower than their full request based on similar reductions to other applicants that scored in the same tier.

---

## April 2023 Project Grant - Recommendation Summary

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### Organization: The Other Guise Theatre Company

Org Location: Victoria

Project: Labyrinth and Music in the Parks

Start Date: Jul 10, 2023 End date: Nov 12, 2023

Event Location: Victoria

REQUEST

GRANT  
Recm'd

Project category: Short Series

20,000

10,000

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#### Previous Funding:

June 2000, \$1550; June 2001, \$2000; Jan 2002, \$2500; May 2003, \$7500; May 2004, \$5000; Jan 2006 \$7500 deferred to May 2006; May 2007, \$7500; May 2008, \$4000; Jan 2010, \$7000; Jan 2011, \$4,000; Jan 2012, \$7,000; Jan 2013, \$8,000; May 2014, \$12,000; May 2015, \$12,000; April 2017, \$11,250; May 2018, \$10,000; May 2019, \$0; April 2020, \$8,000

#### Mandate

The Other Guise Theatre Company is committed to developing theatrical presentations reflecting the history and culture of our community while supporting the livelihoods of local professional and emerging artists. Our work reflects our community and our stories have strong musical ties within them. We employ artists from a wide range of backgrounds.

#### Project Summary

Labyrinth is a large-scale, follow-the-path show. Entering one at a time, audience pass by incredible visual art pieces, interacting and conversing with performers who have intimate personal conversations unique to each guest.

Music in Parks program is a summer event designed to provide professional entertainment to audiences in parks located throughout the CRD.

#### Notes for Committee Report

This application scored above the level required to fulfill the goals and intended outcomes of the Project Grant program. The recommendation is for funding support at an amount lower than their full request based on similar reductions to other applicants that scored in the same tier.

---

### Organization: Veselka Ukrainian Dance Assn.

Org Location: Victoria

Project: Ukrainian Dance Public Outreach Program

Start Date: Feb 01, 2024 End date: Feb 28, 2024

Event Location: Victoria, Saanich,

REQUEST

GRANT  
Recm'd

Project category: Short Series

2,500

2,000

---

#### Previous Funding:

May 2012, \$5,000; Jan 2016, \$0; May 2019, \$1,300; April 2020, \$2,600; Apr 2022, \$5,500

#### Mandate

The purposes of Veselka are to (a) Encourage the quality instruction, practice and advancement of the art of Ukrainian dance and (b) Promote, protect and preserve Ukrainian culture, customs and traditions.

#### Project Summary

A series of free dance performances in schools in the Greater Victoria Area, to promote Ukrainian dance as an art form and encourage new dancers.

#### Notes for Committee Report

This application scored above the level required to fulfill the goals and intended outcomes of the Project Grant program. The recommendation is for funding support at an amount lower than their full request based on similar reductions to other applicants that scored in the same tier.

---

## April 2023 Project Grant - Recommendation Summary

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### Organization: Victoria Choral Society

Org Location: Victoria

Project: Accessibility and Inclusivity through Choral Music

Start Date: May 19, 2024 End date: May 19, 2024

Event Location: Saanich

REQUEST

GRANT  
Recm'd

6,000

6,000

Project category: One time project

---

### Previous Funding:

May 2009, \$8020, Jan 2011 \$7,500; Jan 2013, \$0; May 2014, \$7,500; May 2015, \$6,500; May 2016, \$6,500; Jan 2017, \$4000; April 2017, \$0; May 2018, \$1000; Jan 2020, \$0; Apr 2021, \$0

### Mandate

The Victoria Choral Society (VCS), now in its 86th year, is an important part of Victoria's musical history and choral music tradition. VCS performs the choral masterworks of western civilization and has built a long-standing reputation for excellence. By working closely with local musicians and collaborating with other arts organizations in the CRD, we provide the opportunity for both amateur and professional musicians to engage the community in experiences that foster and create interest, love, and passion for choral music.

The purpose of the Society, as stated in our constitution, is to advance the public's appreciation of the arts by providing high quality performances of choral works. To this end, we strive to:

1. excel in the performance of classical and contemporary choral works;
2. promote a high standard of musical performance;
3. provide innovative development opportunities to emerging artists; and
4. inspire joy and passion for choral music in our community.

### Project Summary

A choral-orchestral project that reflects their commitment to build an increasingly inclusive community, through the preparation and presentation of an ambitious concert dedicated to the experiences of immigrants and refugees.

### Notes for Committee Report

This application scored above the level required to fulfill the goals and intended outcomes of the Project Grant program. The recommendation is for the full amount of the grant request.

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## April 2023 Project Grant - Recommendation Summary

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### Organization: Victoria Philharmonic Choir Society

Org Location: Victoria

Project: Series-VPC 2023/24 Concert Season

Start Date: Sep 01, 2023 End date: Jul 01, 2024

Event Location: Victoria, Oak Bay

REQUEST

GRANT  
Recm'd

15,000

8,000

Project category: Short Series

---

#### Previous Funding:

Jan 2007, \$10,000; Jan 2011, \$0; Jan 2012, \$7000; Jan 2013, \$6000, Jan 2014, \$4000; Jan 2015, \$6500; Jan 2016, \$5,000; April 2017, \$1500; May 2018, \$3000; May 2019, \$4,000; Apr 2020, \$5,000; Apr 2022, \$4125

#### Mandate

The Victoria Philharmonic Choir's (VPC) mandate is to: provide Victoria and Vancouver Island with live performances of choral music of the highest attainable standard; support the choral needs of our musical community and mount independent choral productions; develop and educate future generations of choral singers and choral audiences; nurture a life-long relationship with the rewards of musical arts and raise the public's knowledge and appreciation of choral arts; attract to the choir serious amateur singers who are eager to continually develop their vocal talent with a commitment to choral excellence; create fulfilling concert seasons and summer festivals; coordinate and deliver educational programs, workshops and seminars on vocal technique and choral music; and collaborate with other arts organization in Victoria to mutually beneficial ends.

#### Project Summary

The 2023/24 season's presentation of a series of four self-produced concerts, with a variety of pieces requiring soloists and professional orchestra players.

#### Notes for Committee Report

This application scored above the level required to fulfill the goals and intended outcomes of the Project Grant program. The recommendation is for funding support at an amount lower than their full request based on similar reductions to other applicants that scored in the same tier.

---

### Organization: Victoria Poetry Project Society

Org Location: Victoria

Project: 2023-24 Spoken Word Programming

Start Date: Sep 14, 2023 End date: May 23, 2024

Event Location: Victoria

REQUEST

GRANT  
Recm'd

7,500

7,500

Project category: Extended Programming

---

#### Previous Funding:

Jan 2016, \$1,500; Jan 2017, \$2500; Jan 2018, \$3000; May 2019, \$3,500; Apr 2020, \$2545; Apr 2022, \$3,500

#### Mandate

To advance education in all forms of poetry through sponsoring readings, competitions, festivals and school & community outreach programs.

#### Project Summary

The 19th consecutive season of Tongues of Fire events in 2023-24, with a series of 27 events from September to May.

#### Notes for Committee Report

This application scored above the level required to fulfill the goals and intended outcomes of the Project Grant program. The recommendation is for the full amount of the grant request.

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## April 2023 Project Grant - Recommendation Summary

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### Organization: Westshore Community Concert Band

Org Location: Metchosin

Project: Young People's Series

Start Date: Nov 01, 2023 End date: May 30, 2024

Event Location: Metchosin

REQUEST

GRANT  
Recm'd

Project category: Short Series

2,500

2,075

---

#### Previous Funding:

New

#### Mandate

To provide an area where musicians can gather to enjoy playing music, and to endeavour to better the musical capabilities of the members, and to provide a band representative of the Westshore area, available for civic and charitable functions.

#### Project Summary

A series of concerts for young musicians in our community.

#### Notes for Committee Report

This application scored above the level required to fulfill the goals and intended outcomes of the Project Grant program. The recommendation is for funding support at an amount lower than their full request based on similar reductions to other applicants that scored in the same tier.

---

### Organization: William Head on Stage

Org Location: Metchosin

Project: Departure Points

Start Date: Jul 01, 2023 End date: Nov 30, 2023

Event Location: Metchosin

REQUEST

GRANT  
Recm'd

Project category: One time project

23,000

12,000

---

#### Previous Funding:

May 2002, \$2000; Jan 2006, \$3000; May 2013, \$8,000; May 2014, \$8,000; May 2015, \$10,000; May 2016, \$15,500; April 2017, \$5000; May 2018, \$12,000; May 2019, \$13,000, April 2020, \$13,000; Apr 2021, \$16,810; Apr 2022, \$11,250

#### Mandate

To operate a not-for-profit theatre company at William Head Institution.

To provide education and training to William Head residents in all aspects of theatre arts programming;

To produce captivating performances for the enjoyment of William Head residents and the surrounding municipal communities;

To organize annual theatre productions led by theatre professionals from the community that have artistic, educational, and therapeutic benefits for all involved.

#### Project Summary

Departure Points - an original dramatic comedy based around the idea of overhearing conversations in a cafe.

#### Notes for Committee Report

This application scored above the level required to fulfill the goals and intended outcomes of the Project Grant program. The recommendation is for funding support at an amount lower than their full request based on similar reductions to other applicants that scored in the same tier.

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## April 2023 Project Grant - Recommendation Summary

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**Organization: XChanges Gallery and Studios**

**Org Location:** Victoria

**Project:** XChanges Gallery Programming

**Start Date:** Jul 01, 2023 **End date:** Jun 30, 2023

**Event Location:** Victoria

**REQUEST**

**GRANT  
Recm'd**

**10,000**

**10,000**

**Project category:** Extended Programming

---

**Previous Funding:**

OP 2021, \$8500; Apr 2022, \$7,500

**Mandate**

- 1) To operate, maintain, and manage a cooperatively maintained artist-run centre for the following purposes:
- 2) To promote and support the endeavours of the local artistic community for the benefit of the public at large, within the resources available to the Society.
- 3) To provide a public gallery for local and regional artists for solo, group and curated exhibitions and other art-related programming opportunities
- 4) To provide studios to practicing visual artists at affordable rents

**Project Summary**

Annual Gallery Exhibition programming which includes 9 exhibitions, September to June  
Community life-drawing program (2 days/week)

**Notes for Committee Report**

This application scored above the level required to fulfill the goals and intended outcomes of the Project Grant program. The recommendation is for the full amount of the grant request.

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## April 2023 Project Grant - Recommendation Summary

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**Organization:** Yellowhouse Arts Centre

**Org Location:** SGI

**Project:** Yellowhouse Arts

**Start Date:** Jul 12, 2023 **End date:** Jan 31, 2024

**Event Location:** SGI

**REQUEST**

**GRANT  
Recm'd**

**10,000**

**10,000**

**Project category:** Extended Programming

---

### **Previous Funding:**

March 2019 Incubator, \$5000, April 2020, \$7,000; Apr 2021, \$0; Jan 2022, \$0; Apr 2022, \$5,000

### **Mandate**

Our vision is to inspire creative interactions, to see the creative community in action. Our purpose is to help inspire and facilitate creativity in our community and beyond. This involves encouraging access to space and creating opportunities for innovative, interdisciplinary and collaborative creativity. We provide a safe space for free expression, materials and build skills towards facilitating a multitude of creative processes for everyone. We offer an introduction to arts through educational programming for all ages and help further explorations of artistic practices with ongoing courses, residencies and workshops. We support beginner, emerging and established artists to showcase their work through bi-weekly or monthly exhibitions and live performances. We promote connection, culture, stimulation and healing through art for all members and visitors of an isolated community. We support artistic appreciation and development of the community. We support environmental awareness and activities towards equity, decolonization and climate justice.

### **Project Summary**

Year-round multidisciplinary arts programming, including: facilitating weekly art sessions with adults and youth, one-off workshops with all grades of the Galiano Community School, a series of art workshops with Galiano preschoolers, three exhibitions featuring local and guest artists, six performances, as well as an artist in residency program at the Yellowhouse venue.

### **Notes for Committee Report**

This application scored above the level required to fulfill the goals and intended outcomes of the Project Grant program. The recommendation is for the full amount of the grant request.

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## REPORT TO ARTS COMMISSION MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28, 2023

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**SUBJECT**     **Draft Mission and Vision Statements for the 2024-27 Strategic Plan of the Arts and Culture Support Service**

### **ISSUE SUMMARY**

As part of the strategic planning process, updates to the mission and vision statements have been drafted in alignment with stakeholder feedback for review by the Arts Commission.

### **BACKGROUND**

On February 22, 2023, the Arts Commission approved a process to generate a new strategic plan for 2024-27.

On May 19, 2023, the Arts Commission received an update that the What We Heard report from the engagement phase of the strategic planning would be pushed back one month to the Arts Commission meeting in July 2023. The final strategic plan document will still be presented to the Arts Commission in September 2023, as originally planned (see Appendix A for updated strategic planning timeline).

The consultation and engagement phase of the strategic planning concluded at the end of May 2023. Arts and Culture staff are working with CRD staff in the planning division to analyze results of the engagement. Feedback from the Arts Commission and key takeaways from the engagement phase have indicated that updates to the mission and vision statements, as well as guiding principles, would be helpful to clarify the focus of the Arts Service and to align with stakeholder feedback (see Appendix B for draft Mission and Vision statements).

### **ALTERNATIVES**

#### *Alternative 1*

That the updated Mission and Vision statements be approved as presented.

#### *Alternative 2*

That this report be referred to staff for additional information.

### **IMPLICATIONS**

#### *Alignment with Board & Corporate Priorities*

In the CRD 2023-26 Corporate Plan, initiative 10a-1 is “[d]evelop and implement a revised Arts & Culture Support Service Strategic Plan”. These updates to the mission and vision statements are one part of the process to develop a new strategic plan.

The overall desired outcome for the Arts and Recreation section in the CRD Corporate Plan is that “[r]esidents have access to appropriate and affordable arts and recreation opportunities that enhance quality of life”. The proposed vision statement connects to that outcome.

*Alignment with Existing Plans and Strategies*

By adopting updated mission and vision statements, as well as guiding principles, the CRD Arts Commission clarifies the focus and aspirations of the Arts Service, which is useful as a lens to determine goals and initiatives for the 2024-27 Strategic Plan.

**CONCLUSION**

The strategic planning process for the Arts and Culture Support Service is underway. As part of that process, CRD staff have synthesized preliminary feedback from the Arts Commission and engagement process into key takeaways which, in turn, have resulted in proposed updates to the mission and vision statements as well as guiding principles. These updates would inform the next steps of the strategic planning process.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the updated Mission and Vision statements be approved as presented.

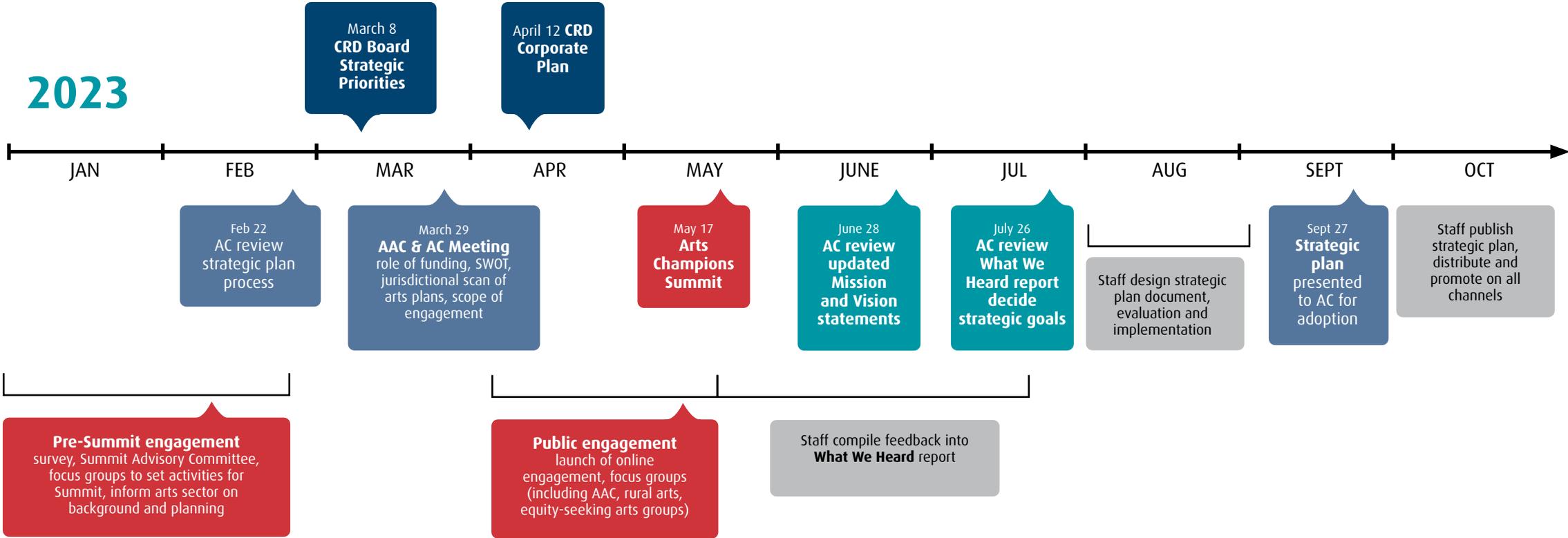
Submitted by:	Chris Gilpin, MPA, Manager, Arts & Culture
Concurrence:	Nelson Chan, MBA, FCPA, FCMA, Chief Financial Officer

**ATTACHMENTS**

- Appendix A: Updated Timeline for Development of CRD Arts & Culture Strategic Plan (2024-27)
- Appendix B: Draft Mission and Vision Statements
- Appendix C: Presentation on Draft Mission and Vision Statements

# Appendix A: Updated Timeline for Development of CRD Arts & Culture Strategic Plan (2024-2027)

Public engagement	AC- Arts Commission AAC- Arts Advisory Council
Arts Commission direction	CRD Board
Decision point	Staff Action



# Mission and Vision

## 2024-27 Arts & Culture Strategic Plan



Capital Regional District | June 28, 2023

By updating the mission and vision statements for the Arts & Culture Support Service, the CRD Arts Commission sets its direction for its next four years, both in terms of what the service does and what it aspires to achieve. Additionally, the mission, vision, and guiding principles will inform the Arts & Culture Strategic Plan development as a strategic lens that can provide focus on key goals and initiatives.

### Background

The current strategic plan for the Arts & Culture Support Service expires at the end of 2023. A new strategic plan is required to guide the service over the upcoming four-year term of the CRD Arts Commission.

On February 22, 2023, the Arts Commission approved a process to generate a new strategic plan for 2024-27. This process involves community consultation with the arts sector and arts audiences as necessary to ensure that the strategic planning process is informed by community knowledge of needs, challenges, and opportunities.

### Engagement Plan Update

The consultation phase of the engagement plan concluded at the end of May 2023.

The engagement plan included multiple consultation methods with interest holders at all levels. A joint meeting of the Arts Commission and Arts Advisory Council reviewed situational analysis. Focus groups were held with rural arts leaders and the Arts Advisory Council. The online survey received over 300 responses. The Arts Champions Summit included over 100 participants in-person and online. This generated substantial valuable community feedback in several key topic areas.

The next stage is to gather, analyze, and synthesize community feedback, along with situational analysis, into the What We Heard report and to apply an initiatives matrix to all the feedback gathered. Draft strategic goals and priorities will be reviewed at the July meeting of the Arts Commission and a new Strategic Plan document for 2024-27 will be presented for approval by the Arts Commission in September 2023. Then, in the next four years, the aim will be to achieve those strategic goals.

## Mission Statement

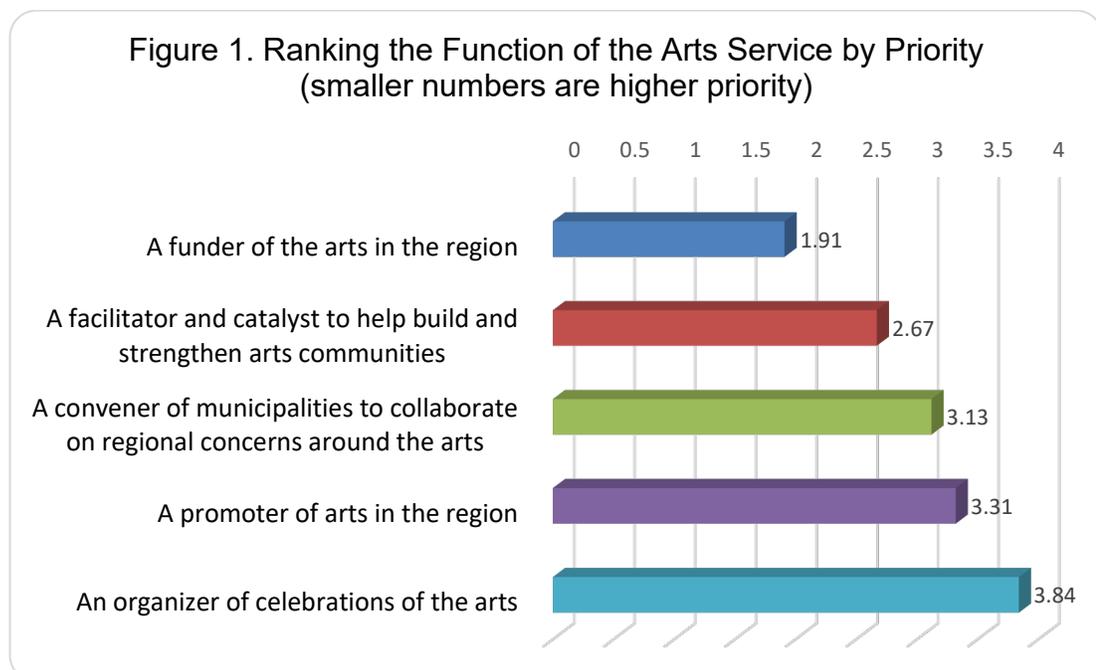
- Current:  
*Support, promote, and celebrate the arts.*
- Proposed:  
*Support, champion, and develop the arts.*
- Rationale:

Feedback from the engagement process clearly indicates that funding support is the primary function of the service, and that the secondary function is as a facilitator and catalyst to build arts communities. The promotion or celebration of arts activities is not seen as a key government function (see Figure 1 below). The Arts Commission, in this term, has emphasized its focus on championing the arts sector and the CRD Board has added a goal in the 2024-27 CRD Corporate Plan “to scale up regional participation in the CRD Arts and Culture Support Service”, which requires advocacy (i.e. championing).

By changing Promote to Champion, the mission clarifies the focus on raising awareness about the value of the arts and arts funding as an advocate to increase participation in the service. Also, the service already convenes the Arts *Champions* Summit.

By changing Celebrate to Develop, the mission prioritizes arts development across the region, as a facilitator and catalyst, to build and strengthen arts in communities.

From the online survey conducted in Spring 2023:



## Vision Statement

- Current:

*The arts are central to life in the region.*

- Proposed:

*The arts are key drivers of community vitality, economic sustainability, and quality of life across the region. Artists and arts organizations are thriving, resilient, and well-supported to reach their full potential under principles of equity, diversity, inclusion, and accessibility.*

- Rationale:

The Arts Commission indicated the current vision could be improved upon by expanding and specifying how the arts make a major contribution to the region in many respects. Also, at the joint meeting of the Arts Commission and Arts Advisory Council in March 2023, feedback was that the vision should reflect the shared understanding that this work will be advanced through the lenses of equity, diversity, inclusion, and accessibility. All vision statements are aspirational and this proposed vision outlines what the arts service is aiming for as its ideal outcome.

## Guiding Principles

Guiding principles augment a strategic plan by facilitating a shared understanding among stakeholders about the ways in which the strategic plan will be implemented. The Mission tells us *What We Do*; the Vision tells us *Where We Are Going*, and the Guiding Principles tell us *How We Will Get There*.

- Current: None (included in program guidelines, but not strategic plan).

- Proposed:

### *Commitment to Equity*

*The CRD Arts and Culture Support Service is committed to supporting the development of equity in the region's arts sector. We are taking action to embed values of equity, diversity, inclusion, access, and cultural self-determination into our processes and policies, understanding that these concepts are not a static set of goals, but rather an evolving journey.*

*The aim of our commitment and these actions is to support the full diversity of artistic and cultural expression in the region. Recognizing that persistent and systemic discrimination has prevented equity-seeking groups from accessing resources, we continue to expand access and remove barriers to our funding. Equity-seeking groups include, but are not limited to, First Nations, Inuit and Métis people, those who are racialized, Deaf people, LGBTQ2+ people, and those with disabilities.*

- Rationale:

Community feedback indicates that equity in the arts continues to be a top concern and priority for the arts sector. Equity and Social Justice was the third most-discussed topic in the empathy mapping engagement activity at the Arts Champions Summit (after Spaces for Creation/Production and Community Engagement). Also, this is not new. Equity, diversity, inclusion, and accessibility have been recurring priorities for the arts sector for the last thirty years; however, a shared understanding of the urgency of these principles has accelerated due to the resurgence of social justice movements during the pandemic.

The proposed Vision includes the phrase “under principles of equity, diversity, inclusion, and accessibility”. This Commitment to Equity explains more about what that means to this service. The CRD Arts Commission made substantial progress on this commitment through the EDI Framework applied in 2022, and also committed to the arts sector that this was not a one-time fix, but instead an evolving and continuing journey.

## Next Steps

The Mission and Vision Statements, as well as the Commitment to Equity, will be considered as lenses to apply as part of an initiatives matrix in the selection of goals and initiatives for the 2024-27 Strategic Plan for the Arts and Culture Support Service. Draft goals and initiatives will be presented to the CRD Arts Commission at the July 2023 meeting, along with the What We Heard Report, summarizing the results of the engagement process.

The Mission and Vision Statements and Commitment to Equity will appear in the final Strategic Plan document to be presented to the CRD Arts Commission for approval in September 2023. This plan would guide the operations, outreach, and policy development initiatives of the service for the next four years.

# CRD Arts & Culture Strategic Planning

Mission & Vision  
June 28, 2023

# Overview

- Update on Engagement Process
- Mission (the What)
- Vision (the Where)
- Commitment to Equity (the How)
- Next Steps

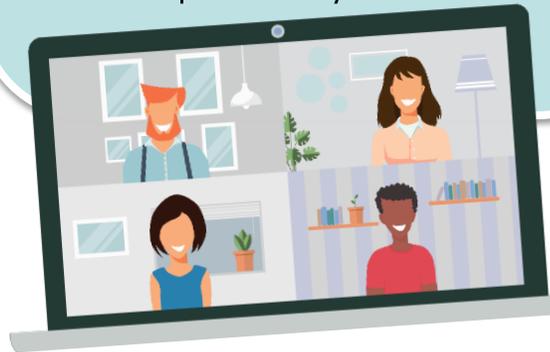
# Engagement Process

Stakeholder Group	Engagement	Objectives	Status
Arts Commission	Visioning session (February), Joint meeting (March)	Review mission and vision, Review engagement, Determine strategic priorities & actions	Completed
Arts Advisory Council	Joint meeting (March), Special discussion (May)	Review mission and vision, Review engagement, Provide policy advice and expertise	Completed
Other Arts Funders	Trilevel meeting (April)	Provide information on funding alignments or duplications	Completed
Municipal Arts Staff	Municipal roundtable (May)	Provide information and advice on local government arts plans	Completed
Artists and Arts Administrators	Online survey (April-May), Arts Champions Summit (May)	Provide community knowledge on arts sector needs, issues, trends, and opportunities	Completed
Rural Arts Leaders	Focus Group (April)	Provide community knowledge on the context of arts in rural areas	Completed
Arts Audiences / General Public	Online survey (April-May)	Gauge the impact of arts activities on arts audiences, possible gaps, and level of community benefit	Completed

# Planning Process

**Launch** public engagement in April 2023

**Multiple Engagement Methods** including online survey, focus groups, and Arts Champions Summit April-May 2023



**Review of updated Mission & Vision** based on stakeholder feedback, clarify purpose & focus June 2023

**What We Heard report** containing key takeaways as well as goals & initiatives for strategic plan July 2023

# What makes a good mission statement?

- Clarifies purpose
- Short and direct
- Plain language



# Stakeholder Feedback on Service Function

## Primary Function:

- Support the arts through funding

## Secondary Functions:

- Develop arts communities
- Convene the region

## Not a Core Function:

- Promotion of arts
- Celebration organizer

Ranking the Function of the Arts Service by Priority  
(smaller numbers are higher priority)



## Stakeholder Feedback

Arts sector & Audiences:

- Support through funding
- Develop arts communities as catalyst and facilitator
- Convene the region

Arts Commission & CRD Board:

- Advocate for funding / participation
- Scale up participation in Arts Service

## Current Mission

Support, promote, and celebrate the arts.

## Proposed Mission

**Support, champion, and develop the arts.**

# What makes a good vision statement?

- ✓ Sets direction
- ✓ Aspirational
- ✓ Paints a picture of the ideal outcome



## Stakeholder Feedback

Arts Commission and Arts Advisory Council:

- Current vision is too vague, not inspiring
- The arts has substantial economic and social impact
- Include equity, diversity, inclusion and accessibility as key elements of the way forward

## Current Vision

The arts are central to life in the region.

## Proposed Vision

**The arts are key drivers of community vitality, economic sustainability, and quality of life across the region. Artists and arts organizations are thriving, resilient, and well-supported to reach their full potential under principles of equity, diversity, inclusion, and accessibility.**

# What makes good guiding principles?

- ☑ Builds on Vision
- ☑ Explains key considerations
- ☑ Guides how we move forward



## Commitment to Equity\*

The CRD Arts and Culture Support Service is committed to supporting the development of equity in the region's arts sector. We are taking action to embed values of equity, diversity, inclusion, access, and cultural self-determination into our processes and policies, understanding that these concepts are not a static set of goals, but rather an evolving journey.

The aim of our commitment and these actions is to support the full diversity of artistic and cultural expression in the region. Recognizing that persistent and systemic discrimination has prevented equity-seeking groups from accessing resources, we continue to expand access and remove barriers to our funding. Equity-seeking groups include, but are not limited to, First Nations, Inuit and Métis people, those who are racialized, Deaf people, LGBTQ2+ people, and those with disabilities.

\*Already included in all program guidelines

## Recommendation:

That the Mission and Vision statements, and the Commitment to Equity, be approved as presented and included in the 2024-27 Strategic Plan for the Arts & Culture Support Service.