

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

NOVEMBER 2022

BC Gourmet Arts Festival 2022 & 2023

- Held a successful, new three-day event at the CN Centre with approximately 50 vendors and presenters, plus outdoor engagement including live music produced by Danny Bell, the PG Potters' Guild Chili Cook-Off, Junk in the Trunk, Top Taste Challenge, and a car show. The event brought visitors to the City and we saw upwards of 10,000 attendees over the duration of the event. We have received funding from the Province of BC Tourism Events Program to help us forge ahead with the event again in 2023, running June 9 to 11th. Booth sales are now available online at <https://www.bcgourmet.ca> and there is a limited time offer of 10% off rental fees by using the code 10OFF2023.

Studio Fair 2022

- Studio Fair was the largest and most successful ever. We are pleased to have seen so many of our local artists, artisans and arts groups present. Thank you to all our amazing volunteers and supporters – the CN Centre staff were incredible in helping us welcome over 14,000 people to this three-day event featuring 300 vendors and presenters.

Feature Gallery & Gift Shop

Numerous initiatives and enhancements including:

- Pop-up markets and new night markets
- Online gift shop launched in September – already sales from out of province and country.
- Satellite box office for Theatre NorthWest
- Online e-commerce for many services, room bookings, memberships, booth rentals, market registrations, class registrations etc.
- Several successful gallery exhibits and opening events
- Announced 2022-2023 Artist in Residence (Frances Gobbi)

Facilities – Studio 2880

- Studio 2880 repairs to start this winter
- Expanded PG Potter's Guild footprint
- Installing a new alarm system in both facilities

Facilities – Knox Performance Space

- Successfully applied for NDIT grant, \$137K for renovations, high quality sound and light equipment, furniture
- Exploring other funding sources for additional equipment for live streaming, recording, post-production
- CAC has joined the BC Touring Council and will be working with local performing arts groups to develop new concerts and live events series
- Planning an exciting inaugural event for March 9th – a solo recital by one of the world's most acclaimed concert pianists – MARK THE DATE!

Arts North

- Production studio now available
- Fall classes underway – STAY TUNED FOR ANNOUNCEMENT ON WINTER COURSES!

New: Collaboration with Prince George Public Library

- The CAC and PGPL have commenced an exciting collaborative process to develop an in-depth Library Art Plan that will see this vital facility enhance its art installations, exhibits, programming, and arts engagement activities. We will aim to have a public facing report ready by summer 2023. Thank you to the staff and board of the library for bringing the CAC into this exciting initiative!

New: The Prince George Citizens' Action Committee on Civic Core Planning

- A group of individuals undertook consultation over the summer to develop a concept with supporting research on the proposed Civic Core Planning process that will be undertaken shortly. This concept includes a new Convention and Cultural Centre that will be a multi-feature space for conventions and meetings, live arts, hockey and ice activities, trade shows, visual arts, and retail and restaurant spaces. A copy of the report findings of this group is part of this AGM document package. Thank you to Margaret Jones-Bricker, Les Waldie, Noreen Rustad, Steve Henderson and Cameron Stolz for the amazing effort put into this work!

New: The Prince George Community Foundation Arts Video

- The PGCF produced a lovely video highlighting that organization's relationship with the local arts community, featuring yours truly (Eli Klasner) and Diane Levesque, President of the Northern Indigenous Arts Council. To view, click here: <https://youtu.be/Prc6JvzZFUl>

General

Keep your eyes posted for the return of:

- Teen Art Workshop (January 2023)
- Art Battle (April 2023)
- Pro D Art Classes (Check our website)

THANK YOU TO AN AMAZING BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR ALL YOUR GREAT SUPPORT, IDEAS, INNOVATIONS & GOVERNANCE!

Karen Heathman, Margaret Jones-Bricker, Penny Fahlman, Andrea Fredeen, Diane Levesque, Philomena Hughes, Juri Sudo-Rustad, Michael Kast, Manmeet Kaur, Jeff Elder

THANK YOU TO THE CAC STAFF TEAM – ALWAYS STRIVING TO PRODUCE THE BEST!

Lisa Redpath, Christina Watts, Seth Phillips, Sue Johansson, Janet Riggs, Jon Model

THANK YOU TO OUR CORE FUNDERS FOR ALWAYS BELIEVING IN OUR MISSION!

City of Prince George, BC Arts Council, Province of BC, PG Community Foundation, Heritage Canada

THANK YOU TO OUR MANY, MANY VOLUNTEERS – WE CAN'T DO WHAT WE DO WITHOUT YOUR PASSION, TIME, AND ENERGY!