



***President's Report for AGM • November 29, 2023***

Congratulations to the Community Arts Council staff, board, volunteers and funders for some really great news and initiatives! So many positive things have been happening, and so many more residents, funders, and political figures have been interested in investing their time, energy and dollars to enriching our artistic capital.

- My heartfelt thanks to all of the board, staff and volunteers that made the 2023 Gourmet Festival and 2023 Studio Fair great successes this year. Both events were very popular, and vendors were very happy with the number of attendees and their sales. Our numbers were up for both events, and we expect that this growth will continue into 2024.
- The CAC provided more than \$15,000 in free booth space to our guilds, community groups and volunteer organizations for Studio Fair this year. This is positive for both the CAC through good will and for community groups that got to be part of this amazing and successful event.
- Special thanks to CAC staff Lisa Redpath, Christina Watts, Sue Johansen, Janet Riggs, Seth Phillips, Shelby Richardson, and of course, Eli Klasner, for pulling off another great event. Many thanks also go to Sheldon White and his staff with Central Display, and Glen Mikkelsen and all CN Centre Staff.
- CAC staff and executive have had many fruitful meetings with City staff regarding the status of Studio 2880's future land and buildings. We anticipate many more meetings with City staff and Council members as we work through logistics and planning as we move forward. We have also met with some potential developers who are very excited to work with us on our future plans, as well as help us navigate legal and financial challenges in the future.
- CAC staff and board members have also met with the City regarding the new management contract for the Prince George Playhouse. Discussions are ongoing and will be resolved in the new year.
- I would like to give a warm welcome to Shelby Richardson who has joined the CAC as the Performing Program Manager. Shelby has been successful in developing a robust and exciting series of concerts and shows with many rave reviews by our attendees. We are thrilled to move for the first time in many years, Prince George is now an active host positioning our city as an important cultural stop along the Northern touring circuit.
- Welcome also to Rob Hall who has taken on the role of Facilities Manager – no small task with our aging and outdated buildings!
- I wish you all a great holiday season and hope to see you in the next coming weeks.

Karen Heathman  
President, CAC