



President's Report for BOD Meeting • November 15, 2022 @ 1pm

2022 has been a stellar year for the Community Arts Council and our whole community. It has been a long time since we felt such a buzz about the arts and how they strengthen the fabric of our city. 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.

We wanted to come out of our pandemic restrictions bigger and better than ever and that has certainly been the case. The initiatives of our 240 members, staff, and volunteers have proven that the arts are a strong and vital economic driver for our city. While COVID restrictions hit our artists and arts organizations very hard, there are many and varied ways that this has turned around, and we see positive opportunities for all sectors in our future. Some highlights and things of note:

- The CAC just hosted the largest juried art fair that the north has ever seen with Studio Fair 2022. There were more than 300 vendors and 14,000 attendees over three days. Combined with the BC Gourmet Festival in June, these two events alone are an enormous economic driver for our city;
- The Arts and Culture Action Committee has met with stakeholders and presented their report to the groups and their boards. Feedback on their findings and recommendations has been resoundingly positive;
- We have a new mayor and Council who are keenly interested in the success of the Community Arts Council and all arts organizations in our city;
- Trinity United Church has made great progress towards becoming a performance centre. We are expecting an inaugural concert in March 2023;
- Thank you to our funding partners:
 - The City of Prince George for being our ongoing champion and partner;
 - The BC Arts Council for funding initiatives to rural and remote groups our region;
 - Tourism BC for funding the CAC and NIAC to promote upcoming events;
 - The PG Community Foundation for their longstanding and avid partnership;
 - The Province of BC for their contributions to all of our diverse and vital community groups.
- Before the AGM, I would like to thank you to each and every board member for your guidance, input and lively discussion. Thank you also to Eli, Lisa, Christina, Seth, Sue, and Janet for steering us in the right direction.
- Thanks again to all of our artists, crafters, guilds and other members of the Community Arts Council for joining us in this great endeavor. We could not do any of this without you!

Karen Heathman
President, CAC