



*Our Mission: To elevate local arts and culture through advocacy, and by offering accessible events, programs and services to all community members.*

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## Acknowledging the Land

We are privileged to work and play on the unceded ancestral territory of the L'heidli T'enneh, to whom we give our deepest thanks.

## Towards achieving our Mission

Elevating arts and culture in Prince George would not be possible without the participation of our members, staff, and volunteers. With more than 50 years of experience in supporting the arts and cultural sector across Prince George, the Community Arts Council (CAC) brings together the vision of community leaders, the commitment of dedicated staff, and the compassion of volunteers as the leading voice for the arts in Prince George.

We are well positioned to enhance the quality of life of all community members as we constantly seek to achieve our mission.

## Growth and Change

This year has been a year of growth and change for the CAC. Highlights of our current year include: our signature event, Studio Fair, celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> year! We hosted performance events and workshops in partnership with the Knox Performance Centre, as well events held in the Prince George Playhouse, Feature gallery exhibits, an innovative new 'Behind the Canvas' series, and of course Art Battle, Seniors' paint classes, and Children's programs. These activities and events reflect the many ways in which we touch the lives of citizens across our community and beyond!

We are approaching the end of our current Strategic Plan and will be consulting with members in the new year in the development of our Strategic Plan for 2026 and beyond. To this end, the Leadership Team are continuing to work with City officials towards the goal of a new, vibrant facility serving the community on our current site. In addition to the redevelopment project, our Board and staff are participating in Civic Core discussions with the City, so that performing arts are given a venue that will provide us with world-class audio/visual experiences.



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## Our Economic Impact

Recent statistics tell us that BC's arts, culture, and heritage sector represents nearly 40,000 artists and over 1.4% of the total provincial labour force, the highest proportion of artists in the labour force than any other Canadian jurisdiction!

Prince George is home to artists practicing in all areas, including visual, tactile, and performing arts. Membership in the CAC reaches over 250 individuals annually with participation in facilitated workshops reaching hundreds more citizens.

There is no doubt that arts and culture drive tourism, community enhancement, and economic development. This year the Board worked to identify our unique selling proposition (USP), with the resulting statement: *CREATE local. PLAY local. BUY local.* This tagline now appears in all our communication and is intended to reaffirm our commitment to community arts and culture.

## In Gratitude

It has been an honour to serve as CAC President for the past year, alongside an incredible Board of Directors: Christine Sullivan, Jeff Elder, Karen Heathman and Philomena Hughes. Special thanks also to CAC staff Anna Oh, Jon Model, Lisa Redpath, Seth Phillips, Sue Johansson, and Rob Hall. Thank you to our former Board members, Cliff Mann and Diane Levesque, as well as to our former Executive Director, Eli Klasner. And last but not least, on behalf of the Board of Directors of the CAC, please join us in welcoming Shelby Richardson to the role of Acting Executive Director.

Yours in arts and culture,  
*Margaret Jones-Bricker, Board President*

*P.S. Dr. Jeremy Nobel, author of Project UnLonely: Healing Our Crisis of Disconnection, has researched imaging studies of the brain that demonstrate how making, hearing, and viewing art can help us make sense of our environment and can generate positive emotions. We knew that!*

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