

**MINUTES**  
**ARTS, CULTURE AND HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
Held at Saanich Municipal Hall, Committee Room No. 2  
**Thursday, February 25, 2016 at 9:30 a.m.**

Present: Councillor Sanders (Chair), Lyris Agarat, John Crawford, Ken Johnson, Anne Lansdell, Roger Love, Ann Whiteaker, School District 61 liaison (non-voting)

Staff: Kelli-Ann Armstrong, Senior Manager, Recreation Services; Cameron Scott, Manager of Community Planning; Caroline Duncan, Archivist; Brenda Weatherston, Community Arts Specialist; Tania Douglas, Senior Committee Clerk

Guest: James Lam, CRD

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### Minutes

**MOVED by A. Lansdell and Seconded by J. Crawford: "That the Minutes of the Arts, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee meeting held January 28, 2016 be adopted as circulated."**

**CARRIED**

### CRD ARTS UPDATE

James Lam, Arts Manager CRD, was present to provide information regarding the CRD Arts Development Service. The following was noted:

- The CRD Arts Service was established in 2001 to provide assistance to not-for-profit organizations in relation to arts and culture that is of benefit to the community.
- An Arts Advisory Council is appointed by the Arts Committee with a mandate to provide advice on policies that foster and promote: the support of the arts in the community, public awareness of and involvement in the arts, the creation, exhibition and performance of artistic works, the development of artistic and other requisite skills, and shall advise the CRD Arts Committee. They also act as the adjudicative body for Arts Development Service arts funding programs.
- The CRD Arts Development Service provides funding support to arts organizations on behalf of 8 municipalities in the capital region: Victoria, Saanich, Oak Bay, Esquimalt, View Royal, (who provide full funding) and Metchosin, Highlands and Sidney (who provide partial funding).
- The Arts Service has three funding programs:
  - Operating Grants provide annual financial assistance to established arts organizations for ongoing programming and administrative expenses.
  - Project Grants support emerging or established arts organizations for new, recurring or developmental initiative.
  - IDEA Grants (Innovate, Develop, Experiment, Access) support non-arts mandated organizations for arts related programming initiatives. This is run with reserve funds, and they will be looking at whether to keep this program.
- Landmarks, a searchable public art website program that is a cooperative effort of the municipalities who support the CRD Arts Development Service, can be found at [landmarkspublicart.ca](http://landmarkspublicart.ca).
- The last arts plan for the region was done in 2005; they will be posting an RFP for a consultant to make a new strategy for regional goals.

In response to questions, Mr. Lam noted:

- Because they are a regional service, they do not generally track or collect data on how much funding goes out or the number of arts organizations in each municipality.
- In terms of future participation from other municipalities, it depends upon the Council of the day and whether there is interest in joining; the Royal Conservatory is located in the West Shore but that municipality is not interested in joining in at this time.
- The Landmarks website is designed to be self-administered; Saanich staff responsible for updating the arts information on the website can contact Mr. Lam for admin access.

\*\*\* Cameron Scott joined the meeting at 10:00 a.m. \*\*\*

## **ARCHIVES**

The Archivist circulated the latest Archives newsletter and noted that Saanich turns 110 next week. She provided information to the School District 61 Trustee liaison about the school lending kit and the History Pin resource. She will be attending the Pacific Coast Seminar where she will provide an update on the Saanich Remembers World War One project.

## **HERITAGE**

### **2016 Heritage Bus Tour Update**

The Archivist gave the following update:

- Ken Johnson will be the tour leader again this year. Positive feedback was received about the architectural and construction knowledge he has about heritage buildings.
- George McRae house will be added to the tour and Saanich Volunteer services will be involved.
- Twin Oaks will be on the route as well, it is presently in the middle of restoration.
- The tea will be held at the Cedar Hill Golf Course.
- A theme needs to be attached to the tour.

### **Heritage Week Update**

- Saanich Archives hosted a successful heritage week presentation at the Saanich Centennial Library in partnership with the GVPL. Architectural historian and author Dorothy Mindenhall talked about “Unbuilt Saanich”, a look at Saanich’s distinctive destinations that never were built.

### **Canada’s 150<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration**

- Archives pulled information that they found on the 1967 Centennial celebration; this may be more of a regional event as opposed to a municipal event.
- Some national organizations have advertised that they can be hired to help plan and organize the 150<sup>th</sup> event.
- It is not known if other municipalities are doing an event. An inventory of what is being done in the region would be good.
- The Trustee Liaison will bring this up with the Board and the Teachers’ Association as there is opportunity for project based lessons.

### **Heritage Properties Maintenance Standards Bylaw**

- The Manager of Community Planning stated that due to the number of items on the work plan, Council will be asked to prioritize workload items. Balancing workload and priorities is a challenge.
- Some initial work has been done on the bylaw, and there is an existing minimum standards Bylaw that may be useful in the meantime.
- Committee suggested that those standards are too weak and more stringent wording is needed to protect heritage designated buildings. Demolition by neglect occurs because there are no tools to protect older buildings.
- Staff will provide a future update on the Council priorities list.

### **Bicycle Festival – April 2016**

- Volunteers from the ACH Committee are needed to attend the event and to help showcase the new sign that was installed in December. The event will be held on Sunday, April 17<sup>th</sup>.
- If weather is nice, some panels can be displayed.
- It is hoped that some heritage bicycles can be put on display.

### **Heritage Designation Bylaw for Municipal Hall Interior and Exterior Elements**

- The Bylaw was approved and the ponds are now protected; applicable departments should be informed especially since there has been talk about repairing the ponds.

## **ARTS**

### **Craigflower Bridge Ribbing Cutting**

- This event was held last December and was well-attended. Artist Blake Williams was present, and the Hallmark Society opened the Craigflower Schoolhouse to the public. This is a very popular piece of artwork as it is in a travel corridor.

### **Public Art on the Website / Landmarks site**

- Staff can contact Mr. Lam at the CRD to obtain admin access to the Landmarks website.
- The Saanich website is going through an overall redesign process; the new version is scheduled to be active in July 2016.
- Online mapping can be done for public arts in the same way as is done for heritage buildings.

### **Family Arts Festival / Arts Update**

- The 1<sup>st</sup> Family Arts Festival was held on Family Day (was previously Carnival of the Arts). The event was a great success and Minister Peter Fassbender was present, as was the Mayor and some Council members. Over 2000 people attended and Torquay Elementary School and Reynolds Secondary School were thanked for their participation.
- A pop-up art show just ended at Tillicum Mall.
- Recreation is gearing up for the Limelight Youth Festival (April 28-May 10). An invitation is going out to teachers next week.

### **Arts Awards**

- To be discussed at the next meeting

### **GOAL SETTING**

- Comprehensive Arts Policy still needs to be clarified and updated.
- How to best inform the community about the CRD Arts support (eg. IDEAS grant).
- How to track the completed/incomplete items in the Strategic Plan. Items need to be in the Strategic Plan if they are to have funds attached to them.

### **HERITAGE FOUNDATION UPDATE**

- February was busy with Heritage Week events; Hallmark Heritage Society held three events at the Craigflower Schoolhouse. On Heritage Day Caroline Adderson talked about the large amounts of heritage demolition going on in Vancouver and surrounding areas.
- The 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Christ Church passed; a film “When a City Falls” was shown.
- Jennifer Barr will lecture on “How to Research your Old House” on February 24<sup>th</sup>.
- Dennis Minaker will talk about the History of the Gorge in March.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Trustee Whiteaker provided a brief background and thanked members for the warm welcome; she is excited to have the School District involved in this committee.

Councillor Sanders reported that Council has appointed three new members to the committee.

The meeting adjourned at 11:03 a.m.

### **NEXT MEETING**

Next meeting is Thursday, March 24, 2016

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Councillor Sanders, Chair

I hereby certify these Minutes are accurate.

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Committee Secretary