

**MINUTES**  
**ARTS, CULTURE AND HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
Held at Saanich Municipal Hall, Committee Room No. 2  
**Thursday, February 23, 2017 at 9:30 am**

Present: Councillor Brice (Chair), Lyris Agarat, John Crawford, Ken Johnson, Anne Lansdell, Leanna Rathkelly, Michele Sealey, Katherine Whitworth, Bill Williamson, Diane McNally (School District 61, non-voting liaison)

Staff: Kelli-Ann Armstrong, Senior Manager, Recreation Services; Evelyn Wolfe, Archivist; Kerri Ward, Archives Specialist; Carole Ireland, Manager, Cedar Hill Recreation Centre; Brenda Weatherston, Community Arts Specialist; Tania Douglas, Senior Committee Clerk

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**Minutes**

**MOVED by M. Sealey and Seconded by B. Williamson: "That the Minutes of the Arts, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee meeting held January 24, 2017, be adopted as circulated."**

**CARRIED**

**ARCHIVES**

The Archivist and Archives Specialist were present to propose an alternative to the annual heritage bus tour. It was noted that over the last few years there have been tours provided by other groups that compete with the Saanich Heritage Bus Tour; accessibility of a large tour bus has been a challenge in some areas; the bus tour is not fully accessible to those with mobility issues; it is difficult to find homeowners who will open their homes for tours of their heritage homes; and, last year only 70% of the seats were sold, indicating it may be time for a change.

The proposal is to hold a historical fashion show and lecture at Cedar Hill golf course on October 22, 2017. Historian Ivan Sayers (previous Curator of History at the Vancouver Museum) would present 150 years of fashionable clothing from circa 1860s to 2010s. The clothes would be worn by live models. Archives would also display 150 years of Saanich clothing with the 15 centennial exhibit panels and additional panels with photographs. Estimated budget information was provided. The cost of the show would be similar to last year's fee of \$35 per person, for approximately 64 people, and would include minimal refreshments.

Committee members discussed this idea and staff responded to questions. The following was noted:

- There used to be a collection of dresses kept locally but they were sent to Winnipeg and to Vancouver as it became too costly to rent space here.
- Ivan has a general show, but would cater this event to Saanich. The show would help develop awareness (maybe help find more collections), and to promote history.
- Funding that is traditionally provided for the bus tour would be reallocated to this event.
- The 15 centennial panels would contain some photographs of First Nations clothing, as actual First Nations clothing is almost non-existent.

- A suggestion was made that the current Council could dress up in period clothing, as they did in 1967.
- In terms of audience appeal, people interested in history, costume design, and clothing would be interested in this event
- A suggestion was made to videotape the show.

**Motion: MOVED by K. Whitworth and Seconded by B. Williamson, “That the Arts, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee supports the idea of holding a historical fashion show, facilitated by Ivan Sayers, in place of the annual heritage bus tour.”**

**CARRIED**

The heritage fashion show will be promoted as a Canada 150 event by the Canada 150 Ambassadors.

## **HERITAGE**

### Lighting in Municipal Hall

The Manager of Facility Operations provided an update on the lighting in municipal hall. The goal was to preserve the existing lenses; staff worked with the lighting manufacturers on retrofits and feel that they have something that works well. It is felt that a balance between green technology and heritage preservation was achieved. Staff anticipate about a 50% - 60% energy savings as a result of these improvements.

After adjournment some committee members will join the Manager of Facility Operations on the third floor of the Municipal Hall to view the lighting improvements.

### Webcasting in Council Chambers

The Senior Manager of Recreation Services informed members that this project is going through the purchasing process and is currently out to Tender.

### Canada 150 Ambassadors Report

An example of the Canada 150 Brochure was provided, along with a work plan, budget, and a summary of activities to date. The work plan is fluid and will develop as events are identified. The Ambassadors will publicize any other Canada 150 events they hear about. Volunteers are needed for some events. Regular updates will be provided.

The Senior Manager of Recreation Services informed members that she spoke with the Communications department and they are working on facilitating a web page on the Saanich website for community members to post their Canada 150 event information. She also displayed a sample banner for committee member's information.

**Motion: MOVED by B. Williamson and Seconded by L. Rathkelly, “That the Arts, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee approves the February 10, 2017, ‘Canada 150 Community Leaders Ambassadors Budget’, with the expectation that the Ambassadors will continue to provide regular updates of their activities.”**

**CARRIED**

### Heritage Foundation Report

Hallmark Society is hosting a Music of 1967 event at Alix Goolden Hall on April 25<sup>th</sup> to commemorate the music of the summer of 1967. Victoria was the location of Canada's first love-in.

The schoolhouse taxation issue is apparently being taken care of by either Saanich municipality or by the provincial Heritage Branch; it is not known at this time which of these two will provide assistance.

Insulation will be installed into the Craigflower Schoolhouse walls next week. The schoolhouse has been regularly used by First Nations students and enrollment has increased to about 25 children. The First Nations teacher will make a presentation at an event on March 10<sup>th</sup> from 10:30 – noon at the First Nations Ceremonial Hall at UVic.

The Canada 150 Ambassadors will reach out to the Victoria Native Friendship Centre and the Tsawout and Tsartlip Bands in Central Saanich to see how they would like to celebrate Aboriginal week in June, as their guidance would be appreciated.

## **ARTS**

The Manager of Cedar Hill Recreation Centre along with the Arts Specialist, provided committee members with a copy the Cedar Hill Arts Centre Council Bulletin, which summarizes the statistics of formal registration numbers, exhibits, dance attendance and various programs of the centre. It was noted that parking is sometimes an issue. An oral history project will be hosted along with the Intercultural Society to explore when newcomers feel like they are a part of this nation.

The Family Arts Festival was successful and it was nice to see so many different cultures participating at the event. The event was promoted via marketing, social media, programming, and word of mouth.

It was noted that there is not enough court space or fitness space and that planning for growth is needed. The Strategic Plan anticipates high growth and staff want to start thinking about planning for growth with the community.

The Community Arts Council of Greater Victoria has moved to Victoria; they previously leased gallery and office space within the Cedar Hill Arts Centre. Saanich will resume control of the gallery at the end of July and will look at making the spaces more cohesive as it is felt that there is a disconnect between the arts centre, the gallery, and the café.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 am

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Councillor Brice, Chair

I hereby certify these Minutes are accurate.

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Committee Secretary