CRD

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COVID-19 Update | April 3, 2020: CRD Arts & Culture Support Service

The CRD Arts & Culture Support Service recognizes how incredibly challenging the current situation is for the arts and culture sector. We are witnessing the enormous impact COVID-19 is having on an industry that relies on audience attendance, convening artists and traveling in order to fulfill their mandates and make an income. We are also seeing a rise in creative responses that make bold steps towards resiliency with through alternative presentation formats that follow the directives of the Provincial Health Officer.

We continue to administer grant programs, however convening events and in-person information sessions are on hold. Our office remains open and staff are available to answer your questions.

Support for Arts Organizations

CRD Arts Commission Approves Arts & Culture Project Grants for 25 Arts Organizations

The Capital Regional District (CRD) Arts Commission has approved $122,500 in funding for 25 local not for-profit arts organizations through the Arts & Culture Support Service. "Despite the challenges posed to presenters due to COVID-19, we are committed to supporting arts and cultural organizations," said CRD Arts Commission Chair Jeremy Loveday.

Read the media release >>

Event Planning for Grant Recipients and Grant Applicants

We recognize that the directive from the Provincial Health Officer to maintain social distancing during the COVID-19 pandemic creates uncertainty for organizations planning arts initiatives, preparing funding applications and managing grants. We are requesting that:

- Organizations preparing applications program their events well in advance using presentation formats that follow directives from the Provincial Health Officer.
- Organizations with successful grant proposals that have significant changes or are planning to reschedule, are required to inform our office.

Project Grants

CRD Arts & Culture will proceed with the upcoming deadline of April 30th 2020 for the Projects, Series and Extended Programming Grant program. Our purpose is to maintain predictability for applicants and stability in our support of the arts community. Apply for a grant if your arts and culture project will:

- Take into account current and anticipated directives from the Provincial Health Officer;
- Benefit the communities in the capital region;
- Positively impact the development of the arts in the capital region; and/or
- Contribute to the artistic development of artists, the art form and to your organization.

Steps to Apply

1. Contact us to confirm eligibility and request an application form.
2. Review our [FAQs](#) and the [guidelines.](#)
3. Complete the application and provide a digital copy by 4:30pm on the deadline.

Operating Grants

We want to provide assurance that the Arts Commission and the Arts & Culture Support Service continue to support the sector and that Operating Grant funding will be released on the usual schedule. As usual, organizations can request an early payment (generally up to 50%) beginning April 1. Early payments are subject to a carrying charge through July 30. If you have not requested an early payment and your situation has changed [please contact us](#). Organizations not requiring an early payment will receive full payment of their approved grant on August 1 as usual.

CRD Arts Operations

The Arts & Culture Support Service is currently open by appointment only. Although some staff are working remotely, we are available to answer questions by phone or email Monday to Friday between 8:30am and 4:30pm. If you have any further questions please contact us:

James Lam	Heather Heywood	Jennifer Nichols
Manager	Administrative Assistant	Community Outreach Coordinator
T: 250.360.3205	T: 250.360.3215	T: 250.360.3007
C: 250.216.5539	[Email](#)	C: 250.589.3120
[Email](#)		[Email](#)

Public updates

You are encouraged to follow our social media channels @FeedTheArtsYYJ on Twitter and Feed the Arts in the CRD on Facebook as well as visiting our website www.crd.bc.ca/arts and www.crd.bc.ca/covid to remain up to date on accurate information.

Tracking COVID-19 Impact on arts in the region.

The CRD Arts & Culture Support Service is very concerned about the impact that COVID-19 is having on the arts and culture sector. We have been receiving messages about postponed events and cancelled seasons. We admire your proactive actions to implement social distancing and protect the community. These are incredibly challenging times for artists and organizations relying on ticket sales.

We would like to hear from you

- Please send us a description of how your arts and cultural organization or project has been impacted by COVID-19 circumstances here.

Resources for Artists and Culture Workers

- **The BC Alliance for Arts + Culture** has prepared a list of resources related to COVID-19 for artists and arts and culture workers. The list continues to be updated. Find it here.
- **The Greater Vancouver Professional Theatre Alliance (GVPTA**) is collecting data on the impact of COVID-19 on BC arts and culture organizations. Take the GVPTA's COVID-19 Survey.
- **Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB**) The Government of Canada has introduced the CERB. This taxable benefit would provide $2,000 a month for up to four months for workers who lose their income as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Learn more here.
- **Canada Council for the Arts** Current information and FAQs on the Council's approach to supporting artists and arts organizations by addressing the shortfalls that arts organizations are experiencing since the cancellation of public events and halting of arts programming. Learn more here.
- **BC Arts Council:** The Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture and the BC Arts Council list updates to policies and programs help address the impacts of COVID-19 that support sustainability of arts and culture organizations and to support the continuation of projects and activities. Learn more.