



Making a difference...together

Additional Circulation:
J. Lam
R. Lapham
N. Chan
R. Lachance
P. Sullivan
C. Heiman

ARTS COMMISSION

Notice of Meeting on **Wednesday, January 22, 2020, at 4:00 p.m.**
Room 488, 4th Floor, 625 Fisgard Street, Victoria, BC

J. Loveday (Chair)	M. Brame	S. Epp	W. Gardner	
D. Lajeunesse	G. Lemon	C. Plant	T. Ney	K. Roessingh

AGENDA

1. Territorial Acknowledgement
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Adoption of Minutes of November 27, 2019
Recommendation: That the November 27, 2019, minutes of the Arts Commission be adopted as read.
4. Chair's Remarks
5. Presentations/Delegations
6. Commission Business
 - 6.1. Arts Advisory Council Update
 - 6.1.1. Arts Advisory Council Chair's Report (Verbal)
Recommendation: That the Arts Advisory Council Chair's verbal report be received for information.
 - 6.2. Review of Arts & Culture 2020 Annual Operating Grant Recommendations
Recommendation: That the Arts Commission approve the 2020 Annual Operating Grant recommendations as presented.
 - 6.3. 2015-2019 Strategic Plan Recap
Recommendation: That the Arts Commission receive the 2015-2019 Strategic Plan Recap for information.
 - 6.4. Correspondence
 - 6.4.1. Impulse Theatre, Nov. 2019, re: thank you
 - 6.4.2. Intrepid Theatre, Dec. 2019, re: thank you
 - 6.4.3. Victoria Children's Choir, Dec. 2019, re: thank you
Recommendation: That the Arts Commission receive the correspondence from Impulse Theatre, Intrepid Theatre and the Victoria Children's Choir for information.
7. New Business
8. Adjournment

Next Meeting: February 26, 2020

To ensure quorum, please advise Nancy More (nmore@crd.bc.ca) if you or your alternate cannot attend.



Making a difference...together

**Minutes of a Meeting of the ARTS COMMISSION
Held Wednesday, November 27, 2019, in Room 488, 625 Fisgard St., Victoria, BC**

Present: Members: J. Loveday (Chair), M. Brame, S. Epp, W. Gardner, T. Ney (4:12), C. Plant, J. Rogers

Staff: James Lam, Manager, Arts Development; J. Nichols, Community Outreach Coordinator, Arts Development; N. More, Senior Administrative Secretary (recorder)

Also Present: P. Sullivan, Chair, and C. Heiman, Funding Chair, Arts Advisory Council

Absent: K. Roessingh

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM.

Chair Loveday gave the Territorial Acknowledgement.

1 Approval of Agenda

MOVED by Member Rogers, **SECONDED** by Member Brame,
That the agenda be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

2 Adoption of Minutes

In reviewing the minutes from the previous meeting J. Lam provided clarification on the rules in the Procedures Bylaw surrounding electronic participation. Only one member can attend electronically at meetings. The rules also allow participating jurisdictions to appoint an alternate representative, who can attend if the regular member cannot.

MOVED by Member Brame, **SECONDED** by Member Rogers,
That the minutes of the October 2, 2019, Arts Commission meeting be adopted as previously circulated.

CARRIED

3 Chair's Remarks

Chair Loveday remarked on the first meeting of the Regional Arts Facilities Select Committee that occurred on November 27, 2019. He expressed his view that this is an exciting move for the Capital Regional District in examining the needs of the region as it relates to arts facilities. As well, the CRD Board has tasked the Arts Commission to report on the potential for full partnership in the Arts & Culture Support Service. Going forward, some of the work that had been taken on informally in the past towards increasing participation has now been made a formal task of the Commission. Another exciting area of work for the Committee will be to update the 2015-2019 Arts Strategic Plan.

T. Ney entered the meeting at 4:12 p.m.

4 Presentations/Delegations: There were none.

5 Commission Business

5.1 Arts Advisory Council Update

5.1.1 Arts Advisory Council Chair's Report (Verbal)

Chair Sullivan reported on the status of the adjudication process for operating grants.

MOVED by Member Plant, **SECONDED** by Member Rogers,
That the Arts Advisory Council Chair's verbal report be received for information.

CARRIED

5.1.2 Arts Advisory Council Minutes for Information

MOVED by Member Plant, **SECONDED** by Member Rogers,
That the Arts Advisory Council minutes of October 1, 2019, be received for information.

CARRIED

5.1.3 Arts Advisory Council *Activities by Council Summary*

MOVED by Member Plant, **SECONDED** by Member Rogers,
That the Arts Advisory Council *Activities by Council Summary* of October 1, 2019, be received for information.

CARRIED

5.2 Report on the Potential for Full Participation in the Arts & Culture Support Service

J. Lam provided highlights of the report. The Commission discussed the mandate and strategy for pursuing the full participation conversation.

The discussion included the following points:

- The arts sector is an eco-system
- The need to update existing data on the benefits of participation
- Funds provided in support of arts organizations and events provides benefits to communities in a variety of ways
- The benefits of supporting regional arts may become more visible because of the Regional Arts Facilities Select Committee's examination of arts facilities needs
- Formal participation in the service is required to enable organizations based in a given jurisdiction to be eligible to apply to funding programs
- In previous outreach initiatives arts organizations from non-participating jurisdictions have been effective advocates for participation
- The next Arts Summit may be an appropriate opportunity to provide advocacy
- Consideration could be given to efforts to make participation in the service mandatory
- The library system was put forward as a potential model for participation
- Whether there is data on attendees from non-participating jurisdictions attending funded events in participating jurisdictions
- There are two levels of participation provided in the Arts & Culture Service Bylaw

- Requisition is based on BC Assessments
- New participation in the service requires a bylaw amendment and would reasonably take six to eight months.

MOVED by Member Plant, **SECONDED** by Member Rogers,

1. That the Report on the Potential for Full Participation in the Arts & Culture Support Service be received for information; and
2. That staff be directed to work with Chair Loveday to create a presentation.

CARRIED

5.3 Arts Strategic Plan Update

J. Lam provided highlights of the report. The Commission discussed meeting for a half-day session in January.

MOVED by Member Plant, **SECONDED** by Member Rogers,

That staff be directed to schedule and engage a facilitator to guide a strategic planning session between the Arts Commission, Arts Advisory Council and Arts Service staff in early 2020 for the purpose of reviewing and updating the Arts & Culture Support Service Strategic Plan.

The Commission discussed the type of facilitator that would be required.

MOVED by Member Plant, **SECONDED** by Member Ney,

That the motion be amended to add the words “with an arts background” after the word “facilitator.”

CARRIED

MOVED by Member Loveday, **SECONDED** by Member Plant,

That the amendment be amended to add the words “if a facilitator with local knowledge is available” after the phrase “with an arts background”.

CARRIED

MOVED by Member Plant, **SECONDED** by Member Ney,

That the motion be amended to add the words “if possible” after the word “facilitator.”

CARRIED

The question was called on the main motion.

MOVED by Member Plant, **SECONDED** by Member Rogers,

That staff be directed to schedule and engage a facilitator with an arts background, if a facilitator with local knowledge is available, if possible, to guide a strategic planning session between the Arts Commission, Arts Advisory Council and Arts Service staff in early 2020 for the purpose of reviewing and updating the Arts & Culture Support Service Strategic Plan.

CARRIED

5.4 Amendment to Arts Advisory Council Member Eligibility Criteria

MOVED by Member Plant, **SECONDED** by Member Ney,
That the Arts Commission direct staff to draft an amendment to Bylaw 2973 to bring conflict of interest rules for the Arts Advisory Council in line with current CRD practice.

CARRIED

5.5 Arts Implementation Plan Update (Verbal)

J. Nichols reported that after the announcement of the grant name change to “Projects, Short Series and Extended Programming”, more grant applications were received in November than in the past.

MOVED by Member Gardner, **SECONDED** by Member Rogers,
That the Arts Implementation Plan Update (Verbal) be received for information.

CARRIED

6 New Business: Chair Loveday encouraged the members to have an alternate appointed.

7 Adjournment

MOVED by Member Plant, **SECONDED** by Member Gardner,
That the meeting be adjourned at 5:07 p.m.

CARRIED

CHAIR

RECORDER



Making a difference...together

REPORT TO ARTS COMMISSION MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22, 2020

SUBJECT **Review of Arts & Culture 2020 Annual Operating Grant Recommendations**

ISSUE SUMMARY

The Arts Advisory Council 2020 Annual Operating Grant Recommendations are being presented for review and approval.

BACKGROUND

Annual Operating Grants is the second largest funding program in the Arts & Culture suite of programs. Funding through operating grants recognizes the contribution arts organizations make to the quality of life in the Capital Regional District, the provincial and national visibility these organizations provide to the region, and their role in providing a wide range of arts activities for citizens and visitors.

Operating grant assistance acknowledges that, in order for the arts to remain accessible to the region's audiences and participants, they require an investment of public sector funds. Through an investment in arts organizations and their activities, the CRD contributes to the development of a healthy, diverse, and vibrant community.

On November 23, 2019, the Arts Advisory Council met to evaluate 22 applications received at the September deadline for 2020 Arts & Culture Annual Operating Grants. Twenty applications were from previous recipients and two were new applicants that met the criteria that included having successfully completed at least one project grant.

Operating grant adjudication assesses applications in 22 areas related to the broader categories of artistic merit, administrative competence, and community impact. The assessments are reviewed according to published guidelines and the overall purpose of the Arts & Culture Support Service, which is to provide assistance for the purpose of benefiting the community.

Unsatisfactory year to year performance is tracked by way of the Notice of Significant Concern (NOSC) policy. A NOSC is issued when shortfalls are noted in one or more areas of any of the three assessment categories noted above. A detailed written notice is provided and organizations are required to address and report on the amelioration of issues in subsequent applications. If an applicant does not adequately address the concerns funding may be reduced or conditions may be attached to future program eligibility. This year's adjudication identified isolated issues; however, it was notable that unlike in previous years no NOSCs were necessary.

One of the principles applied in making recommendations for operating grant support is that consistent performance year to year justifies, at minimum, funding equal to the previous year. Overall, applicants demonstrated stable performance in operations and programming. Regardless of merit, however, there was limited ability to support requests for increased funding given the small increase in the annual operating grant budget from the previous year.

Grant requests totaled \$778,000.00 versus available funding of 589,050.00, a difference of \$189,050.00. It is notable that the majority of the available 2020 budget increase was invested in the Project Grant program. This provided \$9050 in additional funding for 2020 annual operating grants compared to 2019.

Recommendations

Nineteen applicants that had received operating support in the previous year were assessed above the satisfactory level and warranted the application of the principle that consistent performance merited consistent funding. These organizations are therefore recommended for a level of funding equal to the previous year. The AAC determined that broadly speaking, distribution of the available funding among this cohort would be less impactful than supporting a new applicant.

Of the two new applicants the Victoria Baroque Players Society is recommended for operating support. \$9550 is a reasonable level of support relative to the organization's request of \$10,000.00. This support will signal to the community that the operating grant program is open to new, qualified organizations that have effectively used project support and that can present a strong operating grant application.

The other new applicant, Victoria BC SKA Festival Society, is not recommended for operating support at this time. Although it scored above the satisfactory level, the Advisory Council felt that the amount of available funds would be insufficient relative to the request. This application would also have benefited from additional descriptive and financial information that reflected the size and scope of its operations. This organization has been well supported through project grants and is well positioned for support through the extended programming aspect of that program in 2020.

Xchanges Artists Gallery was assessed as being below the satisfactory level and received a recommendation to decrease its annual support. Xchanges received a NOSC in the funding years 2015–2019. Their efforts to resolve capacity and programming concerns have been noted over time; however, they are assessed as the lowest performing organization in the annual operating grant cohort.

The minimum budget requirement for operating grants is \$50,000. This requirement was established prior to 2001 and an examination of this criteria in relation to the expectations of the program may be timely. With a budget of \$58,000 Xchanges struggles to compete with organizations with budgets from \$108,000–\$540,000. Although it currently meets the minimum criteria for operating grants, the Advisory Council feels that Xchanges should be encouraged to seek support for extended programming through project grants.

ALTERNATIVES

Alternative 1

That the Arts Commission approve the 2020 Annual Operating Grant recommendations as presented.

Alternative 2

That this report be referred back to staff for additional information.

IMPLICATIONS

Alignment with Existing Plans & Strategies

The 2020 annual operating grant recommendations align with the purpose of the Arts & Culture Service to provide a benefit to the community and to have accountable adjudication processes. Assessment is based on a standard application and scoring process. Adjudication is conducted by the Arts Advisory Council acting in their mandated role.

Financial Implications

At the Arts Commission meeting of January 23, 2019, nine multi-year operating grants totaling \$1,615,350.00 were approved through the 2021 funding year. Staff have reviewed multi-year interim reports for completeness and determined that no significant issues exist to preclude release of multi-year payments for 2020. Approval of the recommendations attached to this report will allocate the remaining \$589,050.00 from the 2020 operating grant budget.

Service Delivery Implications

The 2020 budget provided a nominal increase in annual operating funding that with approval of the 2020 recommendations will result in flat funding for most applicants. 2022 will likely see an increased level of request from the nine recipients currently receiving fixed multi-year operating support through 2021. Funding impacts the ability of organizations to deliver programming. In budget discussions for 2021 and 2022, the Commission may wish to consider the level of support allocated to these versus other programs.

CONCLUSION

Annual Operating Grants offer support to organizations that can provide a benefit to the community as assessed through a competitive application process. The Arts Advisory Council makes recommendations for operating grants in accordance with their mandate as laid out in Bylaw 2973. The assessment results in a set of recommendations that reflect a value statement on the goals of the operating grant program to support key organizations of regional significance that maintain annual, ongoing programming.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Arts Commission approve the 2020 Annual Operating Grant recommendations as presented.



Manager, Arts & Culture Support Service

ATTACHMENT(S)

Appendix A: 2020 Operating Grant Applicants & Recommendations

2020 Operating Grant Applicants & Recommendations

	2019 Grant	2020		% chg in grant	Recmd as % of proj. rev
		Request	Recom'd		
Atomic Vaudeville	25,000	31,500	25,000	0.0	8.3
Aventa Ensemble	22,930	28,000	22,930	0.0	13.5
CineVic	23,000	28,000	23,000	0.0	8.8
Deluge Contemporary Art	38,210	43,000	38,210	0.0	19.5
Early Music Society	12,000	15,000	12,000	0.0	7.3
Greater Victoria Performing Arts	8,000	8,000	8,000	0.0	4.0
Greater Victoria Youth Orchestra	8,000	8,000	8,000	0.0	3.4
Kaleidoscope Theatre	55,000	60,000	55,000	0.0	11.8
MediaNet	19,000	25,000	19,000	0.0	10.7
Open Space	87,930	105,000	87,930	0.0	10.5
Puente Theatre	31,000	35,000	31,000	0.0	16.8
Story Theatre	40,000	45,000	40,000	0.0	13.1
Theatre Inconnu	27,500	28,000	27,500	0.0	24.1
Theatre SKAM	39,000	80,000	39,000	0.0	5.6
Victoria Arts Council	24,000	30,000	24,000	0.0	9.1
Victoria Baroque Players		10,000	9,550	?	6.3
Victoria BC Ska & Reggae		20,000	0	?	0.0
Victoria Children's Choir	13,930	14,000	13,930	0.0	6.7
Victoria Conservatory of Music	55,000	75,000	55,000	0.0	15.5
Victoria Operatic Society	21,500	50,000	21,500	0.0	4.5
Victoria Shakespeare Society	20,000	25,000	20,000	0.0	16.2
Xchanges Artists' Gallery	9,000	15,000	8,500	-5.6	11.5

Total 580,000 778,500 589,050

	2019 Grant	2020 Request	2020 Grant Recommended
ATOMIC VAUDEVILLE	25,000	31,500	25,000

Background/description

Atomic Vaudeville is a Victoria-based performance theatre company founded by Jacob Richmond and Britt Small. It produces a four-show season of original theatre aimed at a younger demographic and presents locally as well as touring.

Artistic Producer: Britt Small
 Board: 8 members, Kathryn Popham, President

Physical address: 3A-1618 1/2 Government St V8W 1Z3

Comments on the Recommendation

This is one of nineteen applicants that have received operating support in the previous year and were assessed above the satisfactory level, warranting the application of the principle that consistent performance merited consistent funding. This organization is recommended for a level of funding equal to the previous year.

	2019 Grant	2020 Request	2020 Grant Recommended
AVENTA ENSEMBLE	22,930	28,000	22,930

Background/description

The Aventa Ensemble produces and performs a series of contemporary new music concerts locally and tours performances in BC, Canada and Europe. It also commissions and premieres performances of new works.

Founding Artistic Producer: Bill Linwood
 Board: 5 members, Emily Schudel, President

Comments on the Recommendation

This is one of nineteen applicants that have received operating support in the previous year and were assessed above the satisfactory level, warranting the application of the principle that consistent performance merited consistent funding. This organization is recommended for a level of funding equal to the previous year.

	2019 Grant	2020 Request	2020 Grant Recommended
CINEVIC	23,000	28,000	23,000

Background/description

CineVic began as an equipment co-op and filmmaker mutual aid society. It has evolved into a film and media production centre that produces events, commissions work, hosts visiting artists, and engages organizations and artists of other disciplines in collaborative projects. It is one of two funded organizations focussed on media arts, the other being MediaNet.

Executive Director: David Geiss
 Board: 9 members, Darlene Tait, President

Comments on the Recommendation

This is one of nineteen applicants that have received operating support in the previous year and were assessed above the satisfactory level, warranting the application of the principle that consistent performance merited consistent funding. This organization is recommended for a level of funding equal to the previous year.

	2019 Grant	2020 Request	2020 Grant Recommended
DELUGE CONTEMPORARY ART	38,210	43,000	38,210

Background/description

The Runnymede Enhancement Society (RES) is the society that directs programming of Deluge Contemporary Art that includes gallery exhibitions, The Antimatter Film Festival (festival of "underground" films) and Foreign Matter (selection of films from Antimatter) which tours to other countries.

The society first operated as the Rogue Gallery in Market Square, moving in 1995 to the Bay Center until 2005, when it then moved to 636 Yates St. with a name change to Deluge Contemporary Art. In 1998-99, Rogue Art produced the first ANTIMATTER FESTIVAL OF UNDERGROUND SHORT FILM AND VIDEO and became a major focus for future programming, along with FOREIGN MATTER.

Curator/Director: Deborah DeBoer
 Board: 8 members, Todd Eacrett, President

Comments on the Recommendation

This is one of nineteen applicants that have received operating support in the previous year and were assessed above the satisfactory level, warranting the application of the principle that consistent performance merited consistent funding. This organization is recommended for a level of funding equal to the previous year.

	2019 Grant	2020 Request	2020 Grant Recommended
EARLY MUSIC SOCIETY	12,000	15,000	12,000

Background/description

EMSI is a volunteer-run, presenter of early music. They present approximately 8 concerts annually, featuring original instruments, correct scores and soloists and ensembles from BC, Canada and around the world performing medieval, renaissance, baroque and early classical music. The society fosters the development of early musicianship through workshops, promotional assistance for Early Music soloists and ensembles and the sponsorship of an annual music scholarship/bursary.

Artistic Director: James Young
 Board: 8 members, Rondalyn Perras, President

Physical location:
 2719 Mt. Stephen Ave.
 Victoria BC V8T 3L7

Comments on the Recommendation

This is one of nineteen applicants that have received operating support in the previous year and were assessed above the satisfactory level, warranting the application of the principle that consistent performance merited consistent funding. This organization is recommended for a level of funding equal to the previous year.

	2019 Grant	2020 Request	2020 Grant Recommended
GREATER VICTORIA PERFORMING ARTS FESTIVAL	8,000	8,000	8,000

Background/description

The Greater Victoria Performing Arts Festival is held at various venues in the region for 6 weeks from March to May. It is one of 35 or so music festivals in BC that provide opportunities for music students in a range of disciplines to perform in a public venue and receive a verbal and written critique by music professionals. Adjudicators select performers to advance to "highlights" concerts in various categories of skill including provincial and national levels, and some receive awards (e.g. scholarships).

The organization experienced significant operational difficulties about 10 years ago but has, under a restructured board, increased fundraising and stricter financial oversight of day-to-day operations and appears to have streamlined much of its previous administration which was paper and volunteer heavy. Much of the programming involves adjudicated performances which are not supported under operating grants. Supported activities includes administration and highlight concerts.

Office Administrator: Fuchsia Shier
 Board: 12 members, John Sterk, president

Comments on the Recommendation

This is one of nineteen applicants that have received operating support in the previous year and were assessed above the satisfactory level, warranting the application of the principle that consistent performance merited consistent funding.

note: This organization did not request an increase in support from the previous year.

	2019 Grant	2020 Request	2020 Grant Recommended
GREATER VICTORIA YOUTH ORCHESTRA	8,000	8,000	8,000

Background/description

The GVYO presents 3 concerts per year at the Farquar Auditorium. The organization provides young musicians with opportunities to participate in an orchestra under the direction of professional conductors and musicians. Sectional instruction is provided by 13 local professional musicians who coach and mentor the players.

Music Director: Yariv Aloni
 General Manager: Sheila Redhead
 Board: 14 members, Rebecca Hissen, President

Comments on the Recommendation

This is one of nineteen applicants that have received operating support in the previous year and were assessed above the satisfactory level, warranting the application of the principle that consistent performance merited consistent funding.

note: This organization did not request an increase in support from the previous year.

	2019 Grant	2020 Request	2020 Grant Recommended
KALEIDOSCOPE THEATRE	55,000	60,000	55,000

Background/description

Kaleidoscope Theatre presents a series of productions focussed on Theatre for Young People. It also runs a theatre school focussed on the the same demographic. In the early 1990s the company opened a renovated facility on Herald Street in downtown Victoria but closed it after several years due to financial difficulties. It has had combined office and studio/rehearsal space in its present location since 2010. Starting in 2011 there were several management changes until October 2016 when Marcus Handman former ED of the Victoria Symphony and other organizations was hired. Pat Rundell replaced Handman as ED in August 2018.

Artistic Director: Roderick Glanville
 Executive Director: Pat Rundell
 Board: 9 members, Bethany Wilson, President

Comments on the Recommendation

This is one of nineteen applicants that have received operating support in the previous year and were assessed above the satisfactory level, warranting the application of the principle that consistent performance merited consistent funding. This organization is recommended for a level of funding equal to the previous year.

Theatre for young adults tend to have higher costs relative to the potential for revenue due to its target audience. Such programming is often the earliest exposure to the arts for many young people.

	2019 Grant	2020 Request	2020 Grant Recommended
MEDIANET	19,000	25,000	19,000

Background/description

MediaNet's original focus was the production of socially relevant documentaries. In 1999 it expanded to include experimental and narrative works, and it's equipment roster has grown from 1 camera to 12 for use by members, and from 1 to 6 computers for editing and has upgraded its equipment to accommodate High Definition. MediaNet hosts presentations, screenings and artists talks and in 2010 absorbed OPEN CINEMA as the means through which to present screenings and talks on topics of social relevance. It is one of two funded organizations focussed on media arts, the other being Cinevic. It has recently moved into an autonomous space providing both office and exhibition areas.

Executive Director: Peter Sandmark
 Board: 9 members, Justin Love, President

Comments on the Recommendation

This is one of nineteen applicants that have received operating support in the previous year and were assessed above the satisfactory level, warranting the application of the principle that consistent performance merited consistent funding. This organization is recommended for a level of funding equal to the previous year.

	2019 Grant	2020 Request	2020 Grant Recommended
OPEN SPACE	87,930	105,000	87,930

Background/description

Open Space is one of Canada’s earliest established artist-run centres presenting and producing exhibitions and events by local, Canadian and international contemporary artists. Programming includes performance, installations, symposia, concerts, residencies, workshops, partnerships, lectures, readings and off-site projects. It owns a two-story building at 510 Fort Street with a revenue tenant on street level. The second-floor has 2,500-square foot multi-use space, for exhibitions, public performances and contains a resource centre.

Acting Executive Director: Raj Sen
 Board: 10 members, Charles Campbell, President

Comments on the Recommendation

This is one of nineteen applicants that have received operating support in the previous year and were assessed above the satisfactory level, warranting the application of the principle that consistent performance merited consistent funding. This organization is recommended for a level of funding equal to the previous year.

In Canada, artist-run centres function as the research and development arm for contemporary visual arts and typically have less ability to generate revenues through admissions. Artist-run centres serve a key role in providing opportunities for the dissemination of the work of early and mid-career artists.

	2019 Grant	2020 Request	2020 Grant Recommended
PUENTE THEATRE	31,000	35,000	31,000

Background/description

Puente Theatre was founded in Victoria in 1988 by Chilean-born director Lina de Guevara, who remained Artistic Director until she retired in 2011. It explores social issues including, but not limited to, those relating to race and culture and expresses the immigrant experience to Victoria audiences through plays, workshops, theatrical readings and ‘forum’ performances. It also works to create a multi-ethnic network of immigrant artists and resources designed to attract and engage newcomers, and provides opportunities for work and training for immigrant artists and is the only theatre company on Vancouver island with a mandate for culturally diverse programming.

Artistic Director (part-time): Mercedes Batiz-Benet
 General Manager (part-time): Judd Palmer
 Board: 9 members, Treena Stubel, President

Comments on the Recommendation

This is one of nineteen applicants that have received operating support in the previous year and were assessed above the satisfactory level, warranting the application of the principle that consistent performance merited consistent funding. This organization is recommended for a level of funding equal to the previous year.

	2019 Grant	2020 Request	2020 Grant Recommended
STORY THEATRE	40,000	45,000	40,000

Background/description

Story Theatre originated in 1980/81 as a Kaleidoscope Theatre summer program in Victoria libraries. The company performs narrative theatre for young people, primarily in schools in BC as well as other parts of Canada. The performers are, for the most part, emerging or young artists, many are graduates of the University of Victoria Theatre program or the Canadian College of the Performing Arts.

Artistic Director: David MacPherson
 General Manager: Erica Petty
 Board: 6 members, Brian Losie, Chair

Comments on the Recommendation

This is one of nineteen applicants that have received operating support in the previous year and were assessed above the satisfactory level, warranting the application of the principle that consistent performance merited consistent funding. This organization is recommended for a level of funding equal to the previous year.

	2019 Grant	2020 Request	2020 Grant Recommended
THEATRE INCONNU	27,500	28,000	27,500

Background/description

Theatre Inconnu was co-founded in 1978 and presented productions in a variety of genres in a 50-seat theatre in Market Square until 1996. From 1997-2002, the company’s main activity was presenting an annual summer Shakespeare festival. In 2003 and 2004 the company lost CRD and other funding due to operational deficiencies. It returned to its “original mandate of producing alternative theatre” and in spring 2004 established itself as the resident theatre company at the Fernwood (Community Association) Little Hall producing 5-7 plays per season. CRD Operating funding was reinstated in 2005. They focus on local production often employing graduating and current students from UVic or the Canadian College Of Performing Arts.

Founding Artistic Director and General Manager: Clayton Jevne
 Board: 9 members, Laurie Rubin, President

Comments on the Recommendation

This is one of nineteen applicants that have received operating support in the previous year and were assessed above the satisfactory level, warranting the application of the principle that consistent performance merited consistent funding. This organization is recommended for a level of funding equal to the previous year.

	2019 Grant	2020 Request	2020 Grant Recommended
THEATRE SKAM	39,000	80,000	39,000

Background/description

Theatre SKAM began as a collective of Victoria artists creating new work and presented its first production in 1995, incorporating two years later. The company presents alternative, contemporary theatre and is known for its use of unusual performance spaces which have included a café, a loading dock, a pick-up truck, Esquimalt's Macaulay Point Park and the Galloping Goose Trail. It's most recent success is the Pop-Up Theatre, an 8 to 10 seat theatre house in a truck that can accommodate live performance or projections. Its primary focus is presenting to Greater Victoria audiences using local artists, and have toured to Vancouver, the BC interior and Toronto.

Artistic Producer: Matthew Payne
 Operations manager: Kate Wallace
 Board: 9 members, Robin Toszczak, President

Physical address: 1030 North Park, V8T 1C6

Comments on the Recommendation

This is one of nineteen applicants that have received operating support in the previous year and were assessed above the satisfactory level, warranting the application of the principle that consistent performance merited consistent funding. This organization is recommended for a level of funding equal to the previous year.

	2019 Grant	2020 Request	2020 Grant Recommended
VICTORIA ARTS COUNCIL	24,000	30,000	24,000

Background/description

The VAC is one of about 70 community arts councils in BC that are funded through the BC Arts Council to support the arts (particularly in rural communities). Many community arts councils receive BCAC funding based on a per capita formula. Originally based in Victoria and known as the Greater Victoria Community Arts Council, moved and based its operations in the Cedar Hill rec Centre for a number of years. The organization rebranded as the Victoria Arts Council two years ago and is now based back in Victoria on Store Street.

Executive Director: Kegan McFadden
 Board: 9 members, Paul McNair, President

Comments on the Recommendation

This is one of nineteen applicants that have received operating support in the previous year and were assessed above the satisfactory level, warranting the application of the principle that consistent performance merited consistent funding. This organization is recommended for a level of funding equal to the previous year.

	2019 Grant	2020 Request	2020 Grant Recommended
VICTORIA BAROQUE PLAYERS		10,000	9,550

Background/description

The Victoria Baroque Music Society supports the activities of the Victoria Baroque Players who provide performances of music from the Baroque to classical periods, played on period instruments. The organization produces about five main stage performances per year throughout, and outside of, the CRD. The organization differs from the Early Music Society, currently funded through CRD operating grants, in that it is an ensemble whose core members live on Vancouver Island. The organization also provides workshops for local students and adults.

VBMS has received CRD project funding regularly since May 2013

Artistic Director: Soile Stratkauskas
 Board: 9 members, John McLaren

Comments on the Recommendation

New applicant. The Victoria Baroque Players Society, is recommended for operating support. \$9550 is a reasonable level of support relative to the organization’s request of \$10,000.00. This support will signal to the community that the operating grant program is open to new, qualified organizations that have been effective using project support and that can present a strong operating grant application.

	2019 Grant	2020 Request	2020 Grant Recommended
VICTORIA BC SKA & REGGAE		20,000	0

Background/description

Victoria BC Ska Society was incorporated in 2003 but has presented Victoria's Ska & Reggae Festival for 20 years. The festival features 40 bands from 7 – 9 different countries including regional and national talent. There is free programming and ticketed presentations at Ship Point as well as at smaller cabarets and halls throughout Victoria.

Artistic/Executive Director: Dane Roberts
 Board: 8 members; Renee Marchuck, President

Comments on the Recommendation

New applicant. Victoria BC SKA Festival Society is not recommended for operating support at this time. Although it scored above the satisfactory level the Advisory Council felt that the amount of available funds would be insufficient relative to the request. This application would also have benefited from additional descriptive and financial information that reflected the size and scope of its operations.

This organization has been well supported through project grants and is well positioned for support through the extended programming aspect of that program in 2020.

	2019 Grant	2020 Request	2020 Grant Recommended
VICTORIA CHILDREN'S CHOIR	13,930	14,000	13,930

Background/description

The organization provides choral training and performance opportunities for children between the ages of 9 and 16. There are 3 choirs providing training in musical theory, ear training and sight reading:

- 1) The Recital Choir (ages 10 to 12) auditioned ensemble builds on existing vocal interests and talents.
- 2) The Concert Choir (12 and older) for those with a practiced understanding and love of choral music, students study challenging pieces as they master their vocal abilities. Concert Choir instruction is designed to achieve an international-standard of singing.
- 3) The Prelude Choir (ages 7-9) non-auditioned, introduction and development of early singing skills

Artistic Director: Madeleine Humer

Music Directors: David Stratkauskas, Teodora Georgieva

Executive Director: Carla Tadla

Board: 6 members plus two ex officio, Catherine Fouracre, President

Comments on the Recommendation

This is one of nineteen applicants that have received operating support in the previous year and were assessed above the satisfactory level, warranting the application of the principle that consistent performance merited consistent funding. This organization is recommended for a level of funding equal to the previous year.

VICTORIA CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC	2019 Grant	2020 Request	2020 Grant Recommended
	55,000	75,000	55,000

Background/description

The Victoria Conservatory of Music is housed in a renovated church with 50,000-square-feet of offices, classrooms, studios and two concert halls used for public presentations. They also have agreements for use of the Metro Theatre which is a space leased to and managed by Intrepid Theatre. VCM has five inter-related, distinct enterprises – a community school, a professional music school, a summer school, a music therapy centre, and a public presentation enterprise (“VCM Presents”). The latter is the only aspect of VCM operations that is eligible for CRD Operating support.

CEO: Jane Butler McGregor
 Dean and Chief Artistic Officer: Stephen Green
 Board: 17 members, Roy Cullen, Chair

Comments on the Recommendation

This is one of nineteen applicants that have received operating support in the previous year and were assessed above the satisfactory level, warranting the application of the principle that consistent performance merited consistent funding. This organization is recommended for a level of funding equal to the previous year.

The VCM's educational programming is not supported under the operating grant program however its presentation program "VCM Presents" is. It is also supported for the two performance venues it owns and manages that are important spaces for the performing arts organizations in the region.

	2019 Grant	2020 Request	2020 Grant Recommended
VICTORIA OPERATIC SOCIETY	21,500	50,000	21,500

Background/description

A community-based, volunteer organization that has produced and presented a range of musical theatre, focussing in recent years on popular musical theatre including Broadway shows and Gilbert and Sullivan. It began at the Royal Theatre but moved to the McPherson Playhouse in 1965. It presents two musical theatre productions per year. The organization owns a warehouse space that functions as rehearsal hall, office, storage and scene shop.

General Manager: Rebecca Marchand
 Board: 8 members, Francesca Bitonti, President

Comments on the Recommendation

This is one of nineteen applicants that have received operating support in the previous year and were assessed above the satisfactory level, warranting the application of the principle that consistent performance merited consistent funding. This organization is recommended for a level of funding equal to the previous year.

	2019 Grant	2020 Request	2020 Grant Recommended
VICTORIA SHAKESPEARE SOCIETY	20,000	25,000	20,000

Background/description

The GVSF launched in 2003 with one production in Centennial Square. In 2004 it moved to St. Ann’s Academy with two productions and in 2005 moved to the grounds of Camosun College. In 2007, after the resignation of several founding board members and the artistic director, it returned to one production. Since then the Society has returned to a two play season and now also performs one of the plays over one weekend in Esquimalt at Saxe Point Park, in cooperation with the Township Community Arts Council.

Artistic Director: Karen Lee Pickett
 Board: 5 members, Cam Culham, President
 (there is an additional 4 member Advisory Board)

Comments on the Recommendation

This is one of nineteen applicants that have received operating support in the previous year and were assessed above the satisfactory level, warranting the application of the principle that consistent performance merited consistent funding. This organization is recommended for a level of funding equal to the previous year.

	2019 Grant	2020 Request	2020 Grant Recommended
XCHANGES ARTISTS' GALLERY	9,000	15,000	8,500

Background/description

Xchanges is an artist run organization, originally the Signal Hill Arts Centre, and renamed Xchanges in 1979 when it relocated to a space on North Park Street. In 1998 it relocated to a 16,000-square-foot building on William Street in Victoria West and then in February 2009 to 2333 Government Street. The previous facility, by virtue of its collective membership, had gallery space and a multi-purpose annex, a workshop with power tools, indoor and outdoor kilns, 18 studios and storage. The new venue is eight individual studios and one group studio (a photography darkroom). Xchanges has a submission process for monthly exhibitions and generates some income through offering art classes and venue rentals. XChanges is volunteer run; all operations are managed by the Board.

Board: 7 members; Heidi Bergstrom, President

Comments on the Recommendation

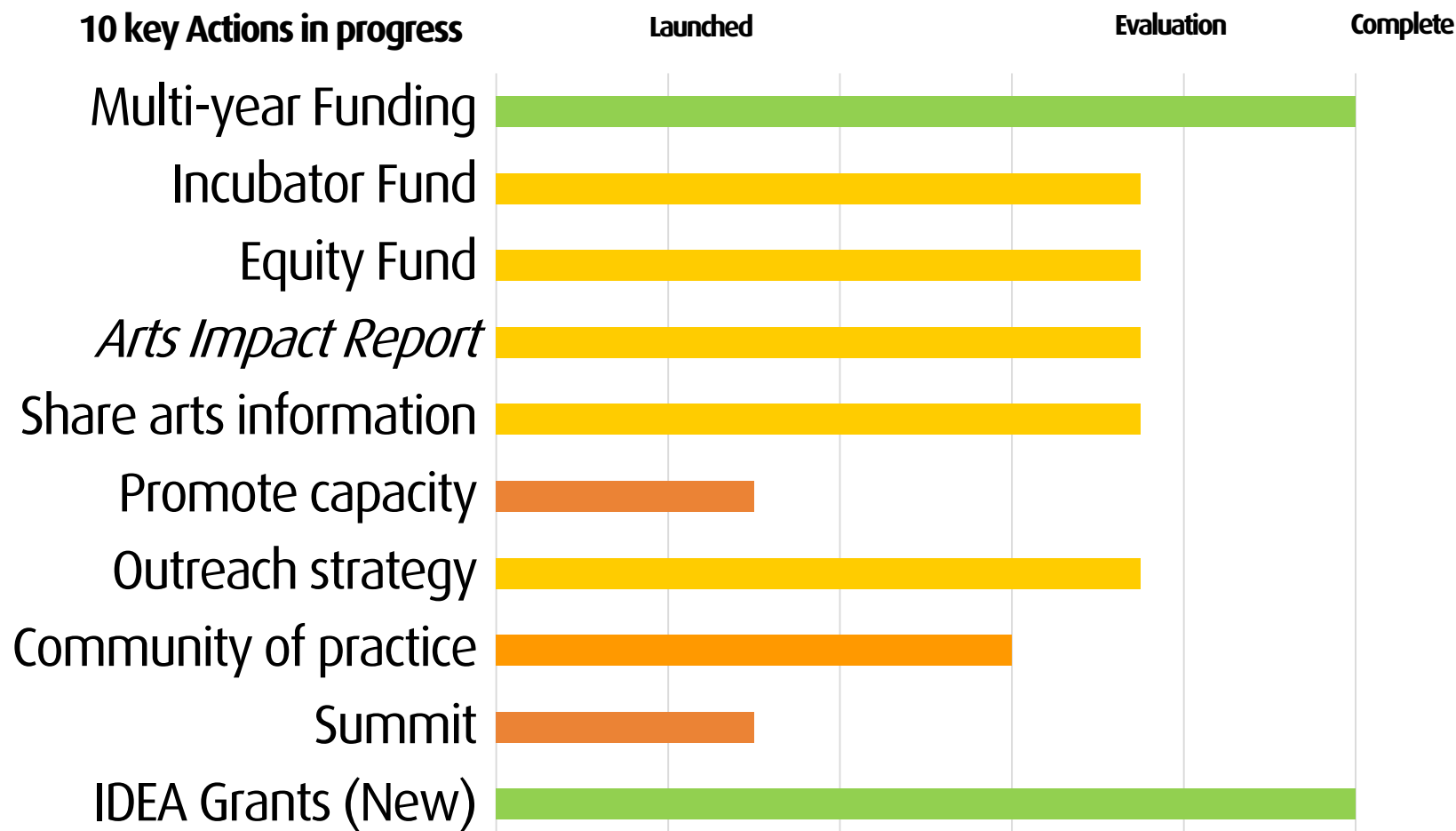
Xchanges Artists' Gallery was assessed as being below the satisfactory level and received a recommendation to decrease its annual support. Xchanges is an organization that has received a NOSC on multiple issues in the funding years 2015 - 2019. Their efforts to resolve capacity and programming concerns have been noted over time however they are assessed as the lowest performing organization in the annual operating grant cohort.

The minimum budget requirement for operating grants \$50,000. This requirement was established prior to 2001 and an examination of this criteria in relation to the expectations of the program may be timely. With a budget of \$58,000 Xchanges struggles to compete with organizations with budgets from \$108,000 - \$540,000. Although it currently meets the minimum criteria for operating grants the Advisory Council feels that Xchanges should be encouraged to seek support for extended programming through project grants.



- Goals Established in 2015
- Plan Adopted 2016
- Implementation Starts 2017

Building #ArtsFuture Strategy underway



Strategic Actions Progress

CRD

Arts Strategic Plan
2015

Implementation
2017

Evaluation
Now

Strategic Goals

Awareness
Funding
Access
Growth
Granting

Key Actions

4 New grant programs
Impact reporting
Outreach activities
Roundtable
Summit

Impact

Collaborative Governance
Community Participation
Creativity
Equity & Inclusion
Economy

RECEIVED

NOV 2 2019

Nov. 2019

Thank you to the members of the Arts
Advisory Council and Arts Commission, James,
Heather, and Jen for your continued support.

Your generosity has granted us significant growth
over the past three years and has a deep
impact on the scope of our programming and
engagement.

Sincerely,

Andrew and Impulse Theatre's
Board of Directors.

Dear James,

Hope thanks to you and the CRD Arts team for all your support of Intrepid Theatre and the Victoria Fringe.

We are so grateful for the CRD's belief in and investment in the Victoria Fringe. The festival was a great success this year, in no small part because of ongoing operational support from the CRD.

With heartfelt thanks,
Sammie and the Intrepid team

Dear CRD Arts Advisory Council,

*May the wonder and beauty
of this holiday season
bring a world of joy to you.*

On behalf of the choirmasters, staff and Board of the Victoria Children's Choir, thank you so much for your generous support. We hope you will be able to attend our Christmas concert as our guest - a small token of our gratitude and appreciation. Happy Holidays from all of us!