



June 29th, 2015

To Whom It May Concern:

It was with significant disappointment our Society board of directors received news that our free, 3 day festival is being denied the opportunity of moving forward and applying for project grant funding for our 2016 season. With collaboration with the Intercultural Association, this year we reached out to various local ethnic communities where kite flying has rich traditions which included the presentation of special kites, activities and food.

Our intention is to further establish an inclusive event that not only provides a weekend of great outdoor activity for families across our region but one that also presents a large multicultural component that celebrates our many ethnic communities. The enthusiasm for this initiative has been overwhelmingly positive from all concerned.

We remain hopeful the CRD Arts will be receptive to any project funding applications particularly as it is our understanding we would meet all funding criteria as presented. Building large free public events on behalf of families across the Capital Region requires our community working together.

Sincerely,

John Vickers
Executive Director
Victoria International Kite Festival Society

To: CRO Arts Dept Staff.

RECEIVED

AUG 13 2015

Thanks very much, (again!) for your support of Victoria's arts community and the Victoria Philharmonic Choir.

You help us exceed our expectations of bringing high quality music making to our community!

Best regards,
Rebecca John,
VPC Board Member

8.2

**Victoria
Brain Injury
Society**



EST. 1983

June 23, 2015

James Lam
CRD Arts Development Service
625 Fisgard Street PO Box 1000
Victoria
BC V8W 2S6

Thank you to all those on the Arts Committee and the Arts Advisory Council,

Thank you so much for your generous contribution to our non-profit organization, the Victoria Brain Injury Society, for \$2000 to help fund The Forget-Me-Notes, our band of brain injury survivors. We extend our sincere gratitude for your support of brain injury survivors through your grant making activity.

This grant will be used to support The Forget-Me-Notes to take their music to the next level and to write, perform and record their own original works about their brain injuries. We look forward to being able to share their music of hope with others in the form of CDs and music at community events and will gratefully acknowledge your support on our website and all materials associated with this project.

The Society, our staff and those we advocate for are greatly appreciative of your continued support.

With gratitude,

Krissi Spinoza
Executive Director
Victoria Brain Injury Society

"We can only be said to be alive in those moments when our hearts are conscious of our treasures"
~Thornton Wilder

RECEIVED

JUL 07 2015

the Other Guys
theatre company

June 30, 2015

Mr. James Lam, Manager
CRD Arts Development Service
625 Fisgard Street, PO Box 1000
Victoria, V8W 2S6

Dear James,

On behalf of everyone involved with the Other Guys Theatre, please accept and express our sincere thanks for the support approved by the Arts Committee and Advisory Council. We appreciate that there is a great deal of need for public investment within the growing arts community and we are very appreciative of the resources allocated to OGT.

With this commitment in place we are excited to be moving forward with the *Creating Legends: BC In Song* premiere. We are completing discussions with TheatreOne, Nanaimo and Presentation House, North Vancouver, in terms of finalizing the production schedules and with Royal BC Museum in terms of continued access to archival imagery. In addition, discussions with the Canadian Heritage 150th Anniversary Fund folks in Vancouver have been very positive with respect to a 2017 tour, and that application is in process. Once the timelines have been confirmed we will be certain to invite the Committee and Council members and staff to attend the premiere.

In addition, please find enclosed a copy of the *Good Timber* DVD, hot off the press (!) Should you need additional copies for viewing or file, please let me know. We are grateful to show the support from the CRD Arts Development office with logo acknowledgement in the credits and hope you enjoy the songs and stories of the western logger.

Again, our thanks for the support for *Creating Legends: BC In Song*. New work always carries a risk and we are very grateful for the faith that is shown in our artists and company through this financial commitment.

Best,

Mary Desprez
Company Manager
Other Guys Theatre

From: Patrick Fleck [<mailto:PatrickFleck@shaw.ca>]
Sent: Saturday, August 08, 2015 12:42 PM
To: Screech David; Screech David
Cc: James Lam; Sing Marilyn
Subject: Operating Grant Adjudications

To David Screech, Chair, CRD Arts Committee

Dear David,

I recently noticed Item 4 of the Draft Minutes of the Arts Committee (AC) for June 10th posted to the CRD Arts website in which Marilyn Sing, Chair of the Arts Advisory Council (AAC) reports that the Council was removing the interview component of the Operating Grant adjudication process on a trial basis.

It is not clear from this Minute item when the trial is to be implemented, but it seems that it is to be implemented immediately for the Fall round this year of adjudicating applications for the 2016 Operating Grants.

Based on my eight years of experience adjudicating Operating Grant applications as an AAC member, including two years as Funding Chair and two years as Council Chair, I can say categorically that I believe this to be an ill-advised decision.

Here are a few of my reasons:

1. It is human nature to put ones best foot forward as an individual or an organization when making application for any benefit. The total "real" picture can remain hidden. Thus, it takes a face to face discussion to draw out the total picture which can be quite different.
2. Interviews are not intended to be confrontational, but rather a conversation with the applicant to more effectively elucidate information already given, especially with respect to the organizations future plans.
3. In many interviews that I conducted, in partnership with another AAC member, facts emerged that were not evident in the application. As well, we were in a position to suggest possible solutions to organizations to some of their challenges, which later feedback indicated had been helpful to them.
4. A valuable addition to the adjudication process several years ago was the development of the RANC scoring system which assigned points for an organization's level of success in meeting the three categories of criteria that are used. It is a useful tool for differentiating between organizations as to their overall success in meeting the criteria. But, it is only one measurement, and cannot take the place of a qualitative evaluation. The arts by their very nature, and in all their forms, are a qualitative process, and you cannot use a quantitative measuring stick to assess the quality of the organization's activities. Removing the interview component, will remove the opportunity to obtain a qualitative sense of what the organization is doing, and its plans for the future.
5. Past practice has been for CRD Arts Development Staff to study the written applications and to send questions by e-mail to the organization, asking them to explain anomalies or parts of the application lacking clarity. Answers, when received, were incorporated into staff notes forwarded to AAC members, and questions not yet answered were highlighted to be asked in the interviews. With no interviews, this opportunity would be lost.
6. It has been argued in the past that since most other public arts granting agencies do not conduct interviews, the CRD as well, should base its adjudication process solely on written applications. However, I would argue that those other agencies most likely do not have the resources to organize an interview process even if it adds to the integrity of the process.

It is good practice for the AAC to periodically review its adjudication procedures and implement improvements. But removing the interview component of the Operating Grant adjudication is a major change that warrants careful consideration as to its potential impact before undertaking even a trial cancellation. For example, has anyone thought to ask the applicant organizations for their views on the various components of the Operating Grant adjudications? Some of their responses might be quite constructive, and possibly surprising.

I apologize, David, for the length of this note. I am proud of my eight years of service on the AAC and believe that the Council does excellent work. But the added value of the interviews in the Operating Grant adjudication process, is an issue about which I hold strong feelings.

With best regards,

Patrick

1040 Moss Street T 250.384.4171
Victoria, BC F 250.361.3995
Canada V8V 4P1 aggv.ca

August 12, 2015

James Lam
Manager, CRD Arts Development Service
625 Fisgard Street
PO Box 1000
Victoria, BC V8W 2S6

Dear James,

Re: CRD 2015 Operating Grant

I write to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated August 1, 2015 and the cheque in the amount of \$438,000 representing full payment of our CRD 2015 operating grant. Please accept my thanks and that of the Board of Directors to the Arts Development Service and CRD for these greatly appreciated funds.

This grant allows us to continue to present high caliber exhibitions, further expand and develop programming for our communities, and enhance our stewardship of the permanent collection.

The CRD Arts Development Service will continue to be recognized in our print materials and on our website for the Art Gallery's support by regional government.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions concerning our programming initiatives or our operations.

Sincerely,



Jon Tupper
Director



TOWN OF SIDNEY

2440 Sidney Avenue, Sidney, British Columbia V8L 1Y7
Phone: 250-656-1184 Fax: 250-655-4508
Email: admin@sidney.ca Website: www.sidney.ca

September 30, 2015

VIA EMAIL: artsdevelopment@crd.bc.ca

David Screech, Chair
CRD Arts Committee
Capital Regional District
625 Fisgard Street
Victoria, BC V8W 2S6

Dear Mr. Screech:

Subject: Request for Increased Funding - Arts Development Service

Thank you for your letter, dated March 30, 2015, and presentation to Council requesting their consideration to increase the Town's contribution to the CRD Arts Development Service.

Please be advised that Council, at a meeting held on September 28, 2015, resolved to maintain the Town's current funding contribution of \$15,000, and not to increase to the 30% level, at this time.

The Town remains a participant in the CRD Arts Service and is committed to supporting regional arts.

Yours truly,



Sandi Dunic
Deputy Clerk



September 9, 2015

CRD ARTS DEVELOPMENT SERVICE
Attention: Mr. David Screech, Chair, Arts Committee
c/o 625 Fisgard Street, PO Box 1000
Victoria, B.C. V8W 2S6

Dear Mr. Screech:

I am writing on behalf of the Victoria Baroque Players' Artistic Director Soile Stratkauskas and the board of directors of the Victoria Baroque Music Society to thank the CRD Arts Advisory Council and the CRD Arts Committee for the recent award of \$3,500.00 towards our June 2016 performance of "Exultant Spring" in collaboration with St John's Chamber Singers.

We look forward to welcoming members of the Arts Advisory Council and the Arts Committee to this event as well as to other concerts in our 2015-2016 series, and we are sure that the music they hear will justify their confidence in us. We very much appreciate your support.

Yours sincerely,

Vanessa M. Dingley
Secretary, Victoria Baroque Music Society

cc: Mr. James Lam, Manager