

NOTES OF THE REGULAR CULTURAL COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN
BOWEN PARK CONFERENCE ROOM ON WEDNESDAY, 2008-MAY-07
COMMENCING AT 4:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Commissioner S. Lance, Chair

Members:

Commissioner L. Fraser
Commissioner L. Avis
Commissioner D. Johnstone
Ms. E. O'Rourke
Ms. J. Husband
Ms. M. Pettitt
Ms. J. McGladrey
Mr. M. Harmes

Staff: B. Kuhn S. Samborski
H. Richardson (recording)

1. CALL THE OPEN MEETING TO ORDER:

The Regular Meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

It was moved and seconded that the Agenda be adopted as circulated. The motion carried unanimously.

3. ADOPTION OF MEETING NOTES

(a) Meeting Notes of the Regular Cultural Committee Meeting held Wednesday, 2008-APR-02 at 4:00 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Bowen Park Complex.

It was moved and seconded that the Meeting Notes be adopted as circulated. The motion carried unanimously.

5. CHAIR'S REPORT

At their meeting of 2008-APR-23, the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission was invited to attend the Cultural Committee meeting to review the Cultural Strategy document with the Cultural Committee.

It was moved and seconded that the Chair's Report be received. The motion carried unanimously.

4. REPORTS ON ADVISORY BODIES

(a) Art In Public Places Project Committee.

- (i) Harbourfront Plaza. The name of the Harbourfront Plaza has officially been changed to "Diana Krall Plaza".
- (ii) Port Theatre Marquee. Bruce Halliday will be invited to the June Cultural Committee Meeting for an update.

(b) Cultural Strategy Review Project Committee – B. Kuhn. Commissioner Phil Field attended the meeting to offer feedback on the Cultural Strategy document. Suggestions for change included not having any dates or amounts in the document, but rather including specifics as implementation plans and addendums to the Cultural Strategy. It was suggested that the use of broad terminology allows for greater flexibility. The definition of public art should be consistent throughout the document and reflect the language from both the Public Art Process and future Community Plan for Public Art. The Community Plan for Public Art should be referenced as an implementation strategy. The request for \$100,000 for an Arts and Cultural Manager should not be in the document, but be included in the 2009 budget as a Higher Service Level request. There is no rush to have the document completed but there is a rush for the Arts and Cultural Manager.

Committee's Recommendation: It was moved and seconded that the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission direct Staff to submit a Higher Service Level request for the 2009 Budget for an Arts and Cultural Manager. The motion carried unanimously.

Staff will work on re-structuring the Cultural Strategy and follow up with the Project Team. The Strategy identifies and drives various priorities and should give tangible benchmarks to reach. Many arts and cultural organizations draw from the Strategy, and if too many things are cut out, the stakeholders will lose out. The Cultural Strategy reorganization will capture all the information in the current draft while creating a more simplified flow and implementation plans.

The Cultural Committee is relatively young in comparison to other committees of the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission. The Commission has asked staff to review the roles and responsibilities of all Commission Committees.

(c) Cultural Awards Presentations Project Committee – E. O'Rourke. Applications will be available in the spring for the 2008 Cultural Awards.

It was moved and seconded that the Project Committee Reports be received. The motion carried unanimously.

5. STAFF REPORTS:

(a) Cultural Capitals of Canada (CCC) – B. Kuhn. The Vancouver Ensemble of Jazz Improvisation held a Student Workshop on 2008-APR-22, with music students from Nanaimo, Ladysmith and Malaspina invited to attend. The Ensemble

mentored the students, and chose a rep band to play at the Port Theatre that evening in a concert. 400 were in attendance at the Port.

The next CCC program being held is Alive with the Arts of Many Cultures from 2008-JUN-21 to JUL-01.

Street banners are now being displayed on Mostar Road and Third Street. Nanaimo News Bulletin is providing a supplement for CCC free of charge.

It was moved and seconded that the Staff Reports be received. The motion carried unanimously.

6. OTHER BUSINESS:

- (a) Public Art Discussion. The Nanaimo Arts Council was featured in an article in the Nanaimo News Bulletin, criticizing the Cultural Committee for not choosing local artists for public art projects in Nanaimo. The Arts Council and the Bulletin should have done more research before publishing this article. The Cultural Committee has the option to advertise in locations of their choosing and artists have the freedom to apply for jobs where available.

Staff will draft a letter to the Arts Council asking for clarification around the Arts Council's mandate and to provide the Arts Council with information regarding the Public Arts Process.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- (a) Cultural Workshops/Forum 2008. The Cultural Forum will be held the morning of Wednesday, 2008-OCT-01 at Beban Park.
- (b) Cultural Grant Criteria Review for 2008 Cultural Fund Grants and Arts and Cultural Events Grants. A meeting will be held the week of 2008-MAY-12.

8. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded at 5:20 p.m. that the meeting terminate, with the next Meeting of the Cultural Committee to be held on Wednesday, 2008-JUN-04 at 4:00 p.m., if required, or at the discretion of the Cultural Committee Chair.

The motion carried unanimously.

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

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S. Lance, Chair
Cultural Committee

R. Harding, Director
Parks, Recreation and Culture