

Culture Development Advisory Committee - Minutes

Present:

Councillor Villeneuve, Chair
Councillor Woods, Vice-Chair
A. Bowman
N. Chima
C. Girardi
M. Gollan
S. Krishna
U. Maxwell-Lewis
C. Thornley

Regrets:

J. Kearns
B. McMurray
F. McLafferty

Staff Present:

S. Bhogal, Chief Librarian
L. Cavan, General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture
L. Davison, Visual & Community Art Manager
K. Gallie, Performing Arts Manager
L. Saffery, Museum Manager
T. Ayotte, Cultural Development Coordinator, Parks,
Recreation and Culture
L. Anderson, Legislative Services

A. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

It was

Moved by U. Maxwell-Lewis
Seconded by C. Thornley
That the minutes of the Culture

Development Advisory Committee meeting of May 15, 2018, be adopted.

Carried

B. DELEGATIONS**C. STAFF PRESENTATIONS****1. Meghan Savage, Manager, Guildford and Port Kells Libraries and Renée Sarojini Saklikar, Poet Laureate for Surrey**

Meghan Savage, Manager, Guildford and Port Kells Libraries and Renée Sarojini Saklikar, Poet Laureate for Surrey, were in attendance to give a presentation on the Friends of the Poet Laureate Inaugural Program (the Program).

A PowerPoint presentation, including photos and a video, providing a summary of cultural and literal events that took place during the tenure of the Program and highlighting the two Legacy Projects undertaken by Ms. Sarojini Saklikar, was given.

The delegation informed that:

- With support of the Committee and community partners, the City and Surrey Libraries created a small program with a relatively small project that has had a large impact.

- Four years ago a call was put out for the City's first Poet Laureate, to serve as an ambassador for the City, advocating literacy and the literary arts and to raise the status of poetry, language and the arts in Surrey.
- The inaugural Poet Laureate term will end on October 31, 2018. As Surrey's first Poet Laureate, Ms. Sarojini Saklikar's vision not only provided two Legacy Projects to build upon, but also established many successful cultural and literary arts events, supportive and inclusive of all Surrey's diverse, multicultural and multigenerational citizens and communities.
- Ms. Sarojini Saklikar surpassed the requirement of 10-15 cultural and literary arts events per year with: 29 Writing Consults mentoring 110 people; 34 Writing Workshops helping over 400 youth and adult writers; and 160 additional events, programs and meetings with community partners. Many of the unique projects have been featured in TV, radio and news media.
- Two of the most successful events have been the Writing Consults and the Annual Open Mic Night, always a great turnout; demonstrates connections and provides an outlet to showcase the diversity of Surrey residents. The next Open Mic Night is scheduled for October 12th.
- Through Surrey Libraries and Friends of Poet Laureate the goal was to provide a practical, feasible program that would be a legacy project. Exceeding expectations, and through extra funding provided through the Surrey Cultural Grant program, there are two legacy projects:
 - **Surrey Stories Connect - Teens & Seniors Write Surrey:** Over 40 teens and seniors contributed stories to the anthology through workshops at Cloverdale Library, PICS Seniors' Housing and the Historic Stewart Farm. The book launched in the spring of 2017; PDF available on library website: <https://surreylibraries.ca/sites/default/files/SurreyStoriesConnect.pdf>
 - **Teen Chapbook Making Workshops and Exhibit:** In 2018, chapbook writing workshops were hosted, at 6 libraries for 42 teens (video shown). The workshops were very popular, and one of the students recently had his chapbook shortlisted for a national award.

[Note: Chapbook making is an old English tradition, representing small books (less than 48 pages), magazines, pamphlets, etc. that peddler men (commonly known as chapmen) distributed from their carts. It was one of the ways people had of organizing and building community. The distributed items became known as chapbooks.]
- One of the key components of a successful Poet Laureate program is that it connects with diverse communities and all ages to the literary arts and promotes literacy.
- Based on the success and positive impact of the inaugural Surrey Poet Laureate program in supporting the City's goals, a formal request and renewal of the program for the future is recommended.

On behalf of the Committee and the City, the Chair expressed appreciation to Ms. Sarojini Saklikar for her efforts throughout the Program in establishing tremendous outreach from the community, which has surpassed what was anticipated.

It was Moved by C. Thornley
Seconded by Councillor Woods
That the Culture Development Advisory
Committee request the General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture, and the
Chief Librarian, bring forward a detailed corporate report to Council that defines
further the benefits of a renewed Poet Laureate program and how to move
forward.

Carried

2. Lynn Adam Saffery, Museum Manager

Lynn Adam Saffery, Museum Manager, was in attendance to provide a presentation on the Museum of Surrey. grand opening and program offerings.

A PowerPoint presentation, providing an update of the construction, details of the grand opening and the exciting new exhibits and programs that will be offered, was given.

The following comments were made:

- All work is almost done in preparation of opening September 29th.
- The Museum of Surrey is about the people, communities, cultures, desires, wants, needs and activities, as represented in the large image displayed on the Surrey Stories Wall of the Nicomekl River, made up with thousands and thousands of photos of people of Surrey.
- Our Mission: To ignite imaginations and connect Surrey's diverse citizens and communities. Contribute to community life by celebrating Surrey's past, present and future through innovative, dynamic and delightful learning, storytelling and creating shared experiences.

Councillor Woods left the meeting at 3:09 pm

- In addition to the many new and exciting exhibits and events scheduled, stewardship is a value that is held near and dear and important to our identity and civic pride, as represented by the restoration of Anniedale School and City Hall; scheduled for completion in spring, 2019.

The General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture, noted that at the time of confirming the City's contribution for the addition, support was on the basis of delivering something that was dynamic and included the community. The Museum Manager and his team rose to the challenge and took on such a transformation that has far exceeded the expectations. This is a turning point for the Museum of Surrey which was made possible from the support of Council, subsequent incremental resources from the federal government and the dedication of everyone involved.

The Chair expressed appreciation in having a museum where the community can participate and get involved in a tactile way, especially considering the age group in Surrey. With the contemporary involvement and programs anticipated in the future, the Museum of Surrey is not only a wonderful place for preserving the arts, it will be a centre of exhibition.

The Chair thanked the Committee for continuing to lobby to Council; it was the number one project for the Committee to achieve and it is rewarding to see it come to fruition.

D. OUTSTANDING BUSINESS

E. NEW BUSINESS

1. Cultural Grants Program – Program Guideline Changes

File No. 7800-01

The report from the General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture, dated August 16, 2018, regarding the above subject line, was reviewed.

The following comments were made:

- 96 grants were awarded this year, with a balance of \$30,000 remaining that will carry forward for next year. Applications currently received will go to adjudication next year.
- Artists have expressed tremendous gratitude for the support received through the Cultural Grants Program. The grants, no matter how small, have been very well received and have had a significant impact for the recipients.
- Final recommendations for implementation were brought forward to Council for approval in July, 2018.
- Approved changes to be implemented in the 2019 granting cycle include the implementation of an Operating Grant funding stream and elimination of payment holdbacks on grants of \$1,500 or less.
- Developing the Cultural Grants toolkit to support the application process, specifically for those organizations that may have little or no experience in applying for grants, is an extremely helpful initiative.
- The pop-up art gallery in Crescent Beach has been very popular, supporting a range of community-led art activities, including exhibitions, workshops and community art projects. It is amazing how a small space can achieve so much.
- The City's website www.surrey.ca/culturalgrants provides photos of the Cultural Grant recipients; an interactive way for viewers to see the outcomes of the program.

Staff briefly noted the process in establishing the Cultural Grants Program and extended gratitude to the Committee for their assistance in identifying recommendations that really reflect the needs and wants of the community.

On behalf of the Committee, the Chair expressed appreciation to staff for their dedication and assistance in helping achieve one of the major goals of the Committee. With \$500,000 of cultural grants available, the Cultural Grant Program is a key foundational tool, supporting the growth and development of Surrey's cultural sector. A program everyone can be very proud of.

It was
Moved by M. Gollan
Seconded by S. Krishna
That the Culture Development Advisory Committee receive the report from the General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture, dated August 16, 2018, entitled "*Cultural Grants Program – Program Guideline Changes*", as information.

Carried

2. **Cultural Grant Program Evaluation Committee – CDAC Committee Representative**
File No. 7800-01

The report from the General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture, dated August 16, 2018, regarding the above subject line, was reviewed.

Staff provided information on the duties required to serve on the Cultural Grant Program Evaluation Committee (Evaluation Committee), key dates and an overview of the evaluation criteria.

The Culture Development Advisory Committee was requested to appoint a member of the Committee to serve on the Evaluation Committee.

The following comments were made:

- It is anticipated there will be approximately 90 Cultural Grant applications.
- Applications are generally three to five pages, with support material and budget and finance information also provided.
- It is important to recognize the commitment required to support the 2019 Cultural Grant intake process and to work together as a committee to evaluate the applications.

Committee members Arlene Bowman and Carol Girardi expressed their interest in serving on the Evaluation Committee and sharing the commitment. Staff noted the application review process cannot be split and that each Committee member would be responsible to review all of the applications, which was agreed.

It was Moved by C. Thornley
Seconded by M. Gollan
That the Culture Development Advisory
Committee (CDAC) appoint members Arlene Bowman and Carol Girardi as the
CDAC Committee representatives to serve on the Cultural Grant Program
Evaluation Committee to support the 2019 Cultural Grant application intake
process.

Carried

F. ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCIL

G. CORRESPONDENCE

H. INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Invite: Surrey Art Gallery Fall Exhibitions Opening Reception

File No. 0360-01

The memo from the Manager of Culture, with attached list of exhibitions, regarding the above subject line, was reviewed. Opening Reception details are as follows:

Date: Sunday, September 23, 2018
Time: 1:30 pm – 4:00 pm
- Panel Discussion 1:30 pm
- Formal Remarks and Opening Reception 2:30pm
Location: Surrey Art Gallery

2. Culture Days 2018

Invite: Arts and Heritage Service's Celebration of Culture Days

File No. 7800-01

The memo from the Manager, Performing Arts, regarding the above subject line, was reviewed. Details of the celebration event are as follows:

Date: Sunday, September 30, 2018
Time: 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm
Location: Guildford Town Centre Mall – Centre Court

3. **Invite: Annual Business and the Arts and Surrey Civic Treasure Awards Ceremony**
File No. 0330-01

The memo from the Manager, Performing Arts, regarding the above subject line, was reviewed, noting that it is the 15th anniversary of the Business and the Arts event and the 11th edition of the Civic Treasures awards. Details of the Business and the Arts reception and Surrey Civic Treasure Awards ceremony are as follows:

Date: Tuesday, October 2, 2018
Time: 5:30 pm – 8:00 pm
Ceremony: 6:30 pm
Location: Surrey Art Gallery

4. **Surrey Civic Theatres' 2018-19 Surrey Spectacular Season Invite: Opening Night Performance – The Piano Teacher**
File No. 0360-01

The memo from the Manager, Performing Arts, regarding the above subject line, was reviewed. Details of the opening night performance are as follows:

Date: Wednesday, October 10, 2018
Time: Curtain at 7:30 pm
Location: Main Stage - Surrey Arts Centre

5. **Fraser Region Aboriginal Friendship Centre Association (FRAFCA) FRAFCA Culture Night - Community Powwow**

The Manager of Culture reported there will be a gathering of healing and celebration of culture and people at the first Powwow Night. The FRAFCA Culture Night - Community Powwow details are as follows:

Date: Thursday, September 20, 2018
Time: 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Location: Chuck Bailey Recreation Centre

It was

Moved by S. Krishna
Seconded by C. Thornley
That the Culture Development Advisory

Committee receive the information items.

Carried

I. OTHER BUSINESS

1. Verbal Reports

Committee members discussed upcoming community events as follows:

- M. Gollan, President, Semiahmoo Arts Society, informed there will be a **Soup Bowl Fundraiser, Saturday, October 13, 2018, 6:30pm – 10:00 pm, at the South Surrey Recreation Centre**. Participants will choose a handmade pottery bowl and fill with a selection of soup made by local restaurants. Tickets are available at www.eventbrite.ca, all proceeds raise funds to purchase a pug mill; a piece of equipment desperately needed by the Pottery Studio.
- U. Maxwell-Lewis, Surrey Historical Society and Friends of the Surrey Museum and Archives Society, informed the **Surrey International Writers' Conference**, takes place October 19—21, 2018. It is the most comprehensive professional development conference of its kind in Canada, offering writers in all genres – from beginners to experts - the opportunity to hone their craft and to expose their work to the international literary marketplace. This event has been fully booked for some time and hotels are all booked as well.
- The Performing Arts Manager informed of a number of events happening throughout Culture Days at the **Arts4All Festival**, September 28 – 30, 2018, celebrating the cultural and artistic diversity to honour the City of Surrey's 25th Anniversary. The Surrey City Orchestra will perform at the Gala on September 28th, Main Stage, Surrey Arts Centre and various events will be happening around town at a number of city venues. Tickets to the Gala are \$25, with most other activities throughout the weekend free.
- The Manager of Culture reported that the Parks, Recreation & Culture Strategic Plan 2018 – 2027 has been adopted by Council and is available on the City's website. On May 31, 2018 the PRC Strategic Plan won Gold in the Excellence in Policy Planning – City & Urban Areas category of the Planning Institute of British Columbia's annual awards, and on September 7, 2018, won the Respect for Diversity, Inclusion and Culture category of the International Association of Public Participation's Core Value Awards.
- C. Girardi, President, Surrey Arts Council, informed they have partnered with the Fraser Valley Heritage Society for the first annual Pant the Train Competition. The Award Ceremony will be held September 18th at the Newton Cultural Centre. The work submitted was amazing, resulting in the top three prizes and nine that will receive an Honourable Mention.

The Arts Council has also partnered with Surrey's only winery, Vinoscenti Vineyards, in 'Three Seasons' Visual Arts Competition. In addition to the cash/prize awards, the first place recipient will receive the additional privilege of becoming a label for the winery.

On behalf of the Committee, the Chair thanked Nav Chima for his contribution to the Committee over the past 2+ years as the SFU Representative and noted his continued support to the City as a new member of the Social Policy Advisory Committee.

Committee members congratulated the Chair on her upcoming retirement and acknowledged her accomplishments throughout her tenure with the City, most importantly the legacy she leaves in the hard work and fortitude in establishing the many programs to benefit the residents and arts and culture organizations in the City of Surrey.

J. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Culture Development Advisory Committee to be determined.

K. ADJOURNMENT

It was

Moved by C. Thornley

Seconded by M. Gollan

That the Culture Development Advisory

Committee meeting do now adjourn.

Carried

The Culture Development Advisory Committee adjourned at 3:52 pm.

Jane Sullivan, City Clerk

Councillor Villeneuve, Chairperson
Culture Development Advisory Committee

Please note that these minutes have not been adopted as this Committee has been disbanded.