

Present:

Councillor Kooner, Chairperson
Councillor Stutt, Vice-Chair
K. Cheung
C. Girardi
R. Pandher

Absent:

C. Henry

Staff Present:

R. Gallagher, Manager of Culture
K. Drabyk, Manager, Community Arts
A. Sodha, Administrative Assistant

A. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**1. Adoption of the Agenda**

It was Moved by K. Cheung
Seconded by C. Girardi
That the agenda of the Arts and Culture
Advisory Committee meeting of June 20, 2023, be adopted.
Carried

2. Adoption of May 16, 2023 Minutes

It was Moved by C. Girardi
Seconded by K. Cheung
That the minutes of the Arts and Culture
Advisory Committee meeting held on May 16, 2023, be adopted.
Carried

B. DELEGATIONS**1. Rebecca Bair, Co-Director of Administration and Arshi Chadha, Co-Director of Media, The Black Arts Centre**

Rebecca Bair and Arshi Chadha the Co-Directors for The Black Arts Centre, provided a PowerPoint presentation providing an overview of their organization.

- The motivation behind the Black Art Centre's creation, rooted in personal experiences of isolation and the lack of black community in the Lower Mainland.
- The primary goals encompass facilitating black representation in art, establishing a safe and equitable environment, fostering collaborative learning, and embracing a decolonial perspective in the creative process.
- The guiding principles encompass care, reciprocity, respect, joy, community, learning, representation, and agency.

- The Black Art Centre is the first black-owned and operated artist-run centre in British Columbia, located in Surrey. The grand opening was on May 27 and was very successful with attendees coming from across the Lower Mainland and as far away as Toronto.
- The team has organized art shows, workshops, artist talks, an artist directory, and other programming to engage with the community and showcase black art.
- Collaboration with PCI Developments led to art projects in the King George hub, bringing life and color to the area.
- The team acknowledges that they are doing well but still require significant support, both financial and in terms of materials, to continue their work and maintain their physical space.
- The co-director's express gratitude to the City of Surrey for providing cultural grants to support the Black Art Centre's projects.

2. Ellen Farrugia, President, Surrey City Orchestra

Ellen Farrugia the president for The Surrey City Orchestra, provided a PowerPoint presentation providing an overview of its operations and activities. In addition, she noted some relevant points from the recently completed Surrey Music Strategy that could support Surrey City Orchestra, articulated some barriers faced by the organization and focused on their desire for an additional performing arts venue in Surrey. A couple of videos showcasing the work of the Orchestra were also shown.

In response to questions from the Committee, staff provided the following information:

- A performing arts venue was identified as a long-term initiative of the Parks, Rec & Culture 10 Year Strategic Plan. Major capital projects, such as building a major performing arts centre, take a long time to complete. No immediate plans or timeframe available currently.
- Staff would be pleased to meet with the Orchestra to discuss potential collaborations and venue challenges.

C. STAFF PRESENTATIONS

1. Public Art Updates

Ryan Gallagher, Manager of Culture, City of Surrey

Provided a PowerPoint presentation on Public Art Updates highlighting the following:

- An update was provided about the 2023 public art street banners, which have been installed throughout the city, near cultural facilities in both North and South Surrey.
- The Nicomekl Riverfront Park project was discussed, which involves building a three-kilometer living waterfront park along the South Bank of the Nicola Mackle River. Indigenous artists have been included in the

design team to integrate cultural elements and values into the park's design. Three artists are part of this effort.

- The Newton Parklet project, a temporary parklet structure near Studio 73, a glass studio supporting artists with developmental disabilities, will feature a piece of public artwork designed by five artists from Studio 73.
- An update was provided about the 20th Ave. overpass public artwork. A slight modification was made to one of the panels, as discussed at the previous meeting.
- A new mural will be coming to the expanded Blackie Spit Washroom facility. The site, Crescent Beach, is culturally significant to the Semiahmoo First Nation, and Semiahmoo First Nation artist Roxanne Charles was selected to create the mural, which celebrates Semiahmoo culture and their connection to nature.

It was

Moved by K. Cheung

Seconded by C. Girardi

That the Arts and Culture Advisory

Committee recommend that the General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture, prepare a Corporate Report to Council recommending that staff undertake a contract with Silvana Kulyk to implement a public artwork at the 20 Ave Overpass.

Carried

It was

Moved by K. Cheung

Seconded by C. Girardi

That the Arts and Culture Advisory

Committee recommend that the General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture, prepare a Corporate Report to Council recommending that staff undertake a contract with Roxanne Charles to implement a public artwork at the Blackie Spit Park Washroom.

Carried

- The Dignity Project led by the Community Services Department includes a mural called "CARES" by artist Paige Jung. It will be installed at the Guildford Recreation Centre and Central City Shopping Centre to raise awareness about homelessness and promote respect for everyone in Surrey.

It was

Moved by K. Cheung

Seconded by Councillor Stutt

That the Arts and Culture Advisory

Committee recommend that the General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture, prepare a Corporate Report to Council recommending the approval of the CARES mural at the Guildford Recreation Centre and the Central City Mall.

Carried

- TransLink's R6 bus line project will feature public art along the line, with the first installation planned north of 72nd Ave. on Scott Rd. The tile mosaic design by Keerat Kaur draws inspiration from Punjabi floor daris.

- TransLink's King George Station project will include murals by local three Indigenous artists: Roxanne Charles, Rain Pierre and Natache Gabriel. Murals will be painted on columns within King George Station.

2. **Cultural Grants Program**

Kim Drabyk, Community Arts Manager, City of Surrey

In attendance to provide an overview of the Cultural Grants Program.

The Cultural Grants program in Surrey supports a diverse range of arts and cultural activities, including music, dance, theatre, literature, visual arts, media, and heritage celebrations. The program is open to both registered and non-registered non-profit organizations that propose arts and cultural initiatives. The program distributes \$500,000 annually to support community-led arts and cultural initiatives in the City.

There are three streams of funding offered through the Cultural Grants program, including Cultural Celebrations, Project Funding and Operating Funding.

The main intake for cultural grants occurs each fall. Applications are then reviewed by committee, and a corporate report to Council for approval early each year. Successful organizations are required to submit a detailed final report outlining their cultural initiative.

The following administrative housekeeping changes were presented to committee for its review:

1. **Permanent Inclusion of Civic Theatres Subsidy:** The Civic Theatres Subsidy, initially introduced as a pilot project, is now being incorporated permanently into the Cultural Grants program. This initiative is aimed at supporting organizations that use the city's theatres and venues for their events. The decision to make this a permanent offering indicates its successful implementation and its importance in supporting arts and culture in Surrey.
2. **Permanent Inclusion of Enhanced Operating Funding:** A pilot program was in place to enhance operating funding for up to \$25,000. Staff recommendation to make permanent.
3. **Reporting Timelines:** Cultural grants recipients currently required to submit a final report within 30 days of project completion. Staff recommendation to increase to 60 days.

Staff noted that the additional funds required for the proposed housekeeping changes would be sourced from the limits of the overall Cultural Grants program budget, rather than creating new funds. This approach aims to manage the funding more effectively while still supporting various initiatives within the program.

It was

Moved by K. Cheung
Seconded by C. Girardi
That the Arts and Culture Advisory

Committee support the Surrey Civic Theatre subsidy as a permanent part of the Cultural Grants Program.

Carried

It was

Moved by C. Girardi

Seconded by Councillor Stutt

That the Arts and Culture Advisory Committee support the enhanced operating amount of \$25,000 as a permanent part of the Cultural Grants Program.

Carried

It was

Moved by K. Cheung

Seconded by Councillor Stutt

That the Arts and Culture Advisory Committee accept the proposed change that final reports are due within 60 days following the completion of Cultural Grant funded activities as stated in the original application or as approved by Cultural Grants staff.

Carried

D. REPORTS

1. Surrey Art Gallery Summer Exhibitions

Alison Rajah, Surrey Art Gallery Manager, City of Surrey

File:0330-01

The opening event for the Gallery's summer exhibitions is scheduled for July 8th. Committee members are encouraged to attend, especially given the annual partnership exhibition with the Surrey Arts Council. The summer exhibition opening is a popular event, offering a great opportunity to experience the gallery, connect with local residents and artists, and enjoy the fun atmosphere.

It was

Moved by C. Girardi

Seconded by R. Pandher

That the Arts and Culture Advisory

Committee receive the report dated June 12, 2023 regarding the Surrey Art Gallery Summer Exhibitions for information.

Carried

2. 2023 Sounds of Summer Live Music Series

Dan Nielson, Landscape Operations and Park Partnerships Manager, City of Surrey

File:0360-06

The program will be returning this year with nine performances scheduled in various Surrey parks throughout the summer. The performances will take place in locations such as Surrey Civic Plaza, Bear Creek Park, Museum of Surrey, Clayton Community Centre, Historic Stewart Farm, Holland Park, and others. This program aims to bring live, free music to the community, offering a diverse range

of performances. The series will run from July 5th to August 30th, featuring a variety of musical genres and styles. The program is in line with the Surrey Music Strategy and there is interest in potentially expanding the program in the future to accommodate more performances.

It was

Moved by K. Cheung

Seconded by R. Pandher

That the Arts and Culture Advisory

Committee receive the report dated June 12, 2023 regarding the 2023 Sounds of Summer Live Music Series for information.

Carried

3. Surrey Stories Gallery Renewal and Interpretive Plan

Lynn Saffery, Museum Manager, City of Surrey

File:0360-06

The Museum of Surrey is planning a comprehensive renewal of its Surrey Stories Gallery. This gallery serves as a primary exhibition space at the museum and is particularly popular among school-aged children who visit for field trips. The renewal aims to update and refresh the gallery, ensuring that it continues to reflect the values and perspectives of Surrey citizens. While the gallery has undergone partial renovations in the past, a complete renewal is now deemed necessary. The original opening of the gallery dates back to 2005, and the upcoming renewal project will address the need for a more comprehensive update to this important space.

It was

Moved by Councillor Stutt

Seconded by R. Pandher

That the Arts and Culture Advisory

Committee receive the report dated June 12, 2023 regarding Surrey Stories Gallery Renewal and Interpretive Plan for information.

Carried

E. OTHER BUSINESS

1. Verbal Updates

The Committee was provided the following verbal updates:

- The Museum of Surrey recently hosted Quirk-E spoken word performances to commemorate Pride Month. Collaborating with local elders, the event was well-received.
- On June 24th from 1:00 to 4:00, the museum is organizing the "Senses Family Kickoff" event. Geared towards participants with autism, it will feature partners like the Canucks Autism Network.
- The Surrey Art Gallery is gearing up for its summer opening on July 8th. Additionally, they are hosting a "Family Summer Art Party" on July 15th, providing an opportunity for families to engage in artistic creation together.
- Surrey Civic Theatres is presenting an intriguing show called, "La Bulle," on

July 5. The one-man show is set inside a bubble at Glades Woodland Garden.

- Surrey Canada Day is set to take place on July 1st at the Bill Reid Millennium Amphitheatre. The event will run from 10:00am to 10:30pm, promising a day filled with numerous family-friendly festivities.
- The grand opening of Totest Aleng: Indigenous Learning House took place on June 17. It was a great community celebration.
- In the field of Community Arts, the Clayton Visual Arts Summer Camps have gained immense popularity, being fully booked. The artworks created during these camps will be displayed at the Clayton Community Centre at the end of the summer.
- Community Arts will be piloting an art camp and silk-screening programming this summer at Guildford Recreation Centre, enriching the range of artistic opportunities for the community.
- The much-anticipated Surrey Fusion Festival is set to take place on July 22nd and 23rd. A vibrant celebration of diversity, it promises to be a highlight in Surrey's cultural calendar.

F. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Arts and Culture Advisory Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, September 13, 2023.

G. ADJOURNMENT

It was

Moved by K. Cheung
Seconded by R. Pandher
That the Arts and Culture Advisory

Committee meeting be adjourned.

Carried

The Arts and Culture Advisory Committee adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

Jennifer Ficocelli, City Clerk

Councillor Kooner, Chairperson