



Sunshine Coast Arts Council



ANNUAL REPORT 2025

July 1st, 2024 - June 30th, 2025

IMAGE CREDIT: EQUINOX RAVEN, SECHELT ARTS FESTIVAL, MICHAEL GURNEY

For thousands of years the shíshálh and Skwxwú7mesh people have stewarded this land, their own (unceded) traditional territory. The SCAC is grateful to gather uninvited on these lands and waters, and we do so from a place of respect and responsibility to this privilege.



SUNDAY NOVEMBER 30, 2025: 11AM - 12PM
IN PERSON, SUNSHINE COAST ARTS CENTER

AGENDA

1. Call to Order and Approval of Agenda
2. Approval of Minutes from November 30, 2024
3. Chair/Director's Report
4. Financial Report for last fiscal year:
July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025
5. Election for the Board of Directors
6. Motion to set the date for the next AGM
7. Adjournment

Sunshine Coast Arts Council Annual General Meeting Minutes

Sunday November 30, 2024 at 10:30AM (In-person at the Arts Centre)

Attending:

Catherine Nicholls, David Alexander, Andrea Pratt, Wendy Harford, Teryl Mullock, Eleanor Mae, Brett Jasch, Janice Talbott, John Down, Gladys McPherson (Lindholm), Linda Williams, Laetitia Piccin, Vanessa Tomada, Ross Harry, Sheila Page, M. Simon Levin, Megan Dewar, Keely Halward, Giorgio Magnanensi, Ray Niebergall (zoom), Sadira Rodrigues, Candace Elder.

Call to Order and Approval of Agenda 10:30AM

- BJ motion, GM second. All in favour

Approval of Minutes from December 3, 2023

- GM motion, CN second. All in favour

Chair's Report

- BJ motion, JD second. All in favour.

Director's Report

- CN motion, GM second. All in favour. No discussion

Financial Report for last fiscal year: July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024

- GM motion, CN second. Janice reported surplus the result of accounting correction for a SC Community Forest Fund Grant received in a previous fiscal.

Election for the Board of Directors

Slate of 5 continuing and 3 new members. 3 not standing for election. Slate below for nomination

- GM motion, Sheila Page second. All in favour.
- New slate approved.

Motion to set the date for the next AGM

- October 28, 2025

EM motion, CN second. All in favour

- Adjournment 11:30AM

CHAIR REPORT

The Sunshine Coast Arts Council has actively supported creative and insightful exploration within our communities since its inception in the 1960s. The SCAC Board of Directors continue to benefit from the participation of a diverse and engaged group of people who offer their skills and enthusiasm, participating in regular board meetings and committee activities. It is time for a few valued members of the board to move on, and we celebrate their efforts as we welcome new members who plan to join us this year. We are grateful for the contributions of John Down and Andrea Pratt who have stepped down from the Board earlier this year. Teryl Mullock and Brett Jasch are also stepping down, having served 6 years on the Board of Directors. We welcome the return of Ray Niebergall and Nell Burns who bring a wealth of experience from their service to the SC Arts Council in past years.

The Board has again been thrilled to see continued growth in staffing, including an ongoing youth position, and programming activities. These have been made possible by the successful grant writing efforts of SCAC staff. We have witnessed the excellent service of a very capable SCAC team, running ongoing operations while delivering an increasingly diverse level of arts programming, and expanding support and co-operation with other arts groups in the community. The Arts Council was awarded a contract to host the Sechelt Arts Festival, and the first year was a wonderful success. The Arts Centre building continues to serve the arts community well, with significant public gallery space, a music studio in support of up-and-coming musicians, studio space for art and craft activities. The gallery space increasingly serves as a venue for community cultural events.

However, there are a few notable technical challenges with the arts centre building. The main gallery space is now almost 50 years old, the studio wing 32 years old, and the office kitchen block about 28 years old.

- In December of 2023 and May of 2025 2 substantial leaks were detected in the main water supply pipe. Repairs to the floor and rerouting of plumbing lines have resolved the issue. Such problems are quite unusual for a building of this vintage and highlight the challenges of owning and operating a building that may not have been constructed to proper standards.
- A re-roofing project that had been initiated in 2020, with engineering design completed and ready to go, still has not been able to proceed. In addition to replacement of all roofing, the project would also involve replacement of skylights and the addition of insulation where possible to improve thermal efficiency and reduce operating costs. Despite annual efforts by staff, grant funding has not been forthcoming.
- There have been some efforts to explore upgrading of the heating system to provide better energy efficiency, and to eliminate base board heating at the gallery space to avoid potential damage to art works.

The Board welcomes the participation of others to be active with committee work or working groups, be they SCAC members or skilled and interested members of the community at large. Please reach out to us or to the staff at SCAC if you would like to be involved, or if you could recommend someone.

Teryl Mullock
Chair, SCAC Board

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

One thing that I have come to know in my time at the Arts Council, is that time is not a linear thing, but a set of beautiful foldings with the past, present and future. While we may approach each year as a distinct and finite thing – driven mostly by external and fiduciary responsibilities – each year is also a rich compost of things that have always happened, things that we are trying for now, and hopes that we carry for the future.

I write this thinking about the threading of endings and beginnings, and the ongoing cycles at the Arts Council that have been unfolding for almost 50 years. Last year, I ended my report by sharing some of the big questions that we were ready to start to become curious about. Questions that get to the core of who we are as an organisation, and what our role is in the community, and for those we serve. What is the Arts Council known for historically, and what is the Arts Council known for now? Is there a need to distinguish the work of the Arts Council from the work of the Arts Center? How do we address sectoral needs across the Coast, when our work is bound by a physical location in Sechelt? More importantly, in an ever-shifting cultural landscape, what do we want to be known for?

Over the last year, we have begun to lean into these questions, and some exciting new opportunities and projects have given us the space to move beyond thinking to doing. Board and Staff gathered together for our bi-annual retreat, and we centered our discussion on understanding what we are doing now, and the distribution of our programs, capacities and resources across the various areas of work. We considered our programs and activities through the lens of infrastructures. We described three: The Arts Center, the Sechelt Arts Festival, and Offsite Programs/Projects. Each of these infrastructures encompassed an equitable distribution of revenues (broadly). We then looked at the actual distribution of activities and capacities (expenses) across these infrastructures, and began to see opportunities for realignment and sustainability. How can we balance the needs of the Arts Center with the opportunities for programming and activities that will move us into other spaces and communities on the Coast?

We have begun to explore this more concretely with our offsite work. KIOSK: A Tiny Mobile Artist Studio is a multi-year partnership with Persephone Brewing, and the result of a gift from Click Homes. Through a rich collaboration with The Only Animal Theatre Company, KIOSK has emerged as a vibrant new program area, providing studio space in Gibsons to artists who are interested in sharing their work to a broader audience and marketplace. We have begun to expand on this partnership, developing Fibre Farm, an Indigenous-led, disability-justice centered textile and fibre project on the same site that will unfold over the next few years. These long-term off-site projects will begin to re-shape the work of the Arts Council, and expand our ability to offer programs in other communities along the Lower Coast. Over the next year, we will invite our community into shaping and imagining our future, helping us see and plan together.

There have been so many important and exciting things that have unfolded this year, and the rest of this report gives you a glimpse into this. But I end this with acknowledging our most important resource – our people. My colleagues and the staff of the Arts Council – Candace, Keely, Megan, Keith, Nana, London, Olivia, Daniel, Serena and Jinian who have been tremendous in the face of so many challenges. I am so grateful for all that you have stepped up and into over this last year. To the Board who have seen some unexpected transitions and have leaned into giving us stability, care and patience. To our community – from the audiences who show up for our programs, the advisory committees that guide our activities, the visitors who stop by for tea and a chat, and the artists who give us a reason to exist – thank you.

As I complete my seventh year in this role, I am grateful for our community, for the spirit of care and sharing, and for the tremendous gift and responsibility that we hold in living on the shísháhl swiya. I hold this as central to the work that we do – whether in our support of Indigenous artists and ways of knowing, or the consideration of a changing local climate and the need to protect our precious ecologies, or to remembering that without our young people actively participating in our work, we will not be able to rethink our ways of doing and being, so that we center the audiences and administrators and artists who will be the Arts Council for the next 50.

Sadira Rodrigues
Director/Curator

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SCAC BOARD OF DIRECTORS (For Election November 30, 2025)

Standing for Election	Profession	Director Since
Giorgio Magnanesi	Sound Artist/Teacher	2021
Catherine Nicholls	Textile Artist/Teacher	2023
Vanessa Tomada	Artist	2024
David Alexander	Artist	2024
Ray Niebergall	Artist	2025
Nell Burns	Artist	2025
Cadence Dean - Chen	Educator	2025
Not standing for re-election		
Teryl Mullock	Architect/Artist	2019
Brett Jasch	Artist/Educator	2019
John Down	Artist/Chocolatier	2023
Andrea Pratt	Artist	2024

EXHIBITIONS

18 EXHIBITIONS, 350+ ARTISTS

\$11,000+ ARTIST FEES PAID



HACKETT PARK ARTISAN FAIR

61 VENDORS, 4084 ATTENDEES

15+ MUSICIANS + PERFORMERS

PARTNERSHIP WITH COAST ROGUE SOCIETY



SECHELT ARTS FESTIVAL

25 VOLUNTEERS, 45+ ARTISTS

7 EVENTS, 4,200 VISITORS

PARTNERSHIP WITH THE DISTRICT OF SECHELT



KIOSK: A TINY MOBILE STUDIO

THE ONLY ANIMAL'S GROWING SEASON

WEAVING, DYEING, DISABILITY JUSTICE AND MOSAIC MENDING; POETICS OF THE COLOUR BLUE; PATCHWORK FORESTS AND WILDFIRE; EARTH PIGMENTS AND GEOLOGICAL TIME.



INDIGENOUS LED PROGRAMS

HOUSE OF SONGS, MAPPING SWIYA, FIELD SCHOOL, SYIYAYA DAYS

LEADS: JESSICA SILVEY, BRENDA MENARD



YOUTH PROGRAMS

**PLAY SECHELT, THE ART PARTY,
EMERGING ARTIST CORNER**

75+ YOUTH ENGAGED, 2 YOUTH STAFF POSITIONS



MEMBERSHIP

227 ACTIVE MEMBERS

83 COMMUNITY RENTALS

6 COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS



IMAGE CREDIT: FRIENDS OF THE GALLERY OPENING



IMAGE CREDIT: SCAC STAFF, AUGUST 2025, WAYNE DUNKLEY