



**Annual General Meeting
MINUTES**

Wednesday June 22 at 6:30 p.m.

**West Shore Arts Council
Annual General Meeting
Wednesday June 22, 6:30 pm, Zoom**

Attending WSAC Board Members: Chris Bhopalsingh (President of WSAC and Chair,) Stephen Green (Director at Large), Tara Fenwick (Director and Secretary), Shoni Robertson (Director and Treasurer), Laura-Beth Keane (Director-at-Large), Steffen Preusser (Ex-officio).

Attending WSAC members: Judith Cullington, David Stock, Araceli Smart.

1. **Call to Order** at 18:40 pm.
2. **Recognition of today as National Indigenous Day:** In recognition of the unceded territories upon which all WSAC settler members live, work and play, each person present shared the specific name of the Indigenous group/s to which they are grateful for being guests on this land.
3. **Approval of Agenda:** Agenda was approved as circulated. Moved by Laura-Beth, seconded by Stephen, carried.
4. **Approval of Minutes of WSAC AGM 2021:** Minutes were approved as circulated, with one change from Steffen to Stephen as seconder of the 2021 agenda. Moved with amendment by Chris, seconded by Laura-Beth, carried.
5. **Review of the WSAC year 2021-2022:** Chris Bhopalsingh provided an oral overview of highlights of the year's events, activities, challenges with the Covid context, and the purposes and mission of the WSAC. Her notes are attached to these Minutes.
6. **Financial statements:** Steffen Preusser provided members with a summary of the Financial Statements for the 2021-2022 year using a slide show presentation. The financial statements were circulated to all members prior to the meeting. Total revenue received was \$136, 559.
7. **WSAC Board of Directors nominations:**
Three existing Board members were nominated to be reappointed for an additional 2-year term: Tara Fenwick, Stephen Green, and Chris Bhopalsingh. For each person, three calls were given for any further nominations, and none were received. Acceptance of all three nominations was moved by WSAC member David Stock, seconded by WSAC Board member Laura-Beth Keane, and carried.

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8. Any further business:

WSAC member Judith Cullington gave an update on traction achieved with Colwood City Council for approval to move forward with plans for a performing arts centre in Colwood centre. Judith mentioned the current feasibility study into an arts centre, and the need to communicate the overall initiative and its urgency to the wider community. She also shared the new logo for the Performing Arts Centre. She noted that although Langford is talking about a theatre, that Colwood's project is complementary, not competitive. David Stock reported a presentation about the initiative to Legislature which was received positively. Araceli Smart noted that the JdF PFAC society was also keen to reciprocate with WSAC in providing mutual support and promotion.

9. Adjournment at 7:16 pm.

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President's Report – AGM June 22, 2022

Over the past 3 decades + our dedicated volunteer-administrated organization has truly blossomed and fulfilled our mandate to develop widespread appreciation and support for the arts in our community.

Our WSAC team is the best team and I am honored to be a part of this fun, professional and enriching group.

Here is a brief synopsis of what we have been up to over the past year:

Newsletter: We continue to publish quarterly newsletters and encourage Membership participation, to spread the news on community events & activities.

Social Media: We continue our presence on Facebook and via our website. In the near future we will be revamping our social media presence and encourage anyone interested in helping to step forward.

Our continued activities include - our Concert series, highlighted performances at Retirement residences, employing a variety of local talent.

School Scholarships – This program offers graduates entering a Fine Arts degree program, to submit their applications. We are still in the process of adjudicating for scholarships and hope to award at least 3 awards in the near future.

Light Up the Hill – The September 2021 Light up the Hills Festival continued again, as we started to emerge from the Pandemic. It was well attended by community members & has become a staple in the Langford municipality. Showcasing local artists, musicians and performers.

Global Mural Mosaic – Students & members from various municipalities participated in this effort. The final outcome was the unveiling of the Canadian Western Mural in Langford, next to the Public library & Conservatory of Music. While mother nature delayed the official unveiling, several artists & the producers travelled to Langford and met ad hoc to celebrate.

Art & Music Safari pilot– We partnered with the Conservatory of Music for The Art & Music Safari. These arts-based workshops involved both music and visual art instruction on Saturdays, as we bring together groups of students to create & explore their artistic talent. This pilot has been well received & extended to workshops in summer camps offering all day instruction & creativity.

Virtual Gallery – has gained momentum in its 2nd year and invites students from middle school & high schools to submit their artwork this year this event gained in momentum. More students

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submitted entries from various schools and as a result, we gave honorable mention prizes to many of the students.

Mary Lake Sanctuary partnership – Greater Victoria Greenbelt Society – our planned Artist studio has been postponed due to the Atmospheric River. Plans are getting back on track, and we hope to finalize this project by December 2023. We continue in reconciliation efforts & a Kinship project, to map indigenous flora & it's uses in traditional ways.

We Wish to Thank:

All of funding bodies, participating Students & community members who continually support the arts.

We thank Shoni Robertson and bid her farewell, as she moves on to other adventures in her career & personal life.

Our loyal executive, and volunteers whose dedication and passion make our Arts Council flourish.

On a personal note: I wish to thank all the WSAC executive and friends for their continued support.

We are truly blessed.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Bhopalsingh President