aurora cultural centre

AGENDA

Board of Directors Meeting # 6 A /2019

Library Room

June 12, 2019 | 6:00 – 7:00PM | Craig Mather, Chair

1	**MOTION** to Approve Agenda	All
2	**MOTION** to Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting (May 8th 2019)	All
3	Statements of Conflict of Interest	All
4	Presentation of Q1 2019 Managerial Commentary **MOTION:** To approve the Managerial Commentary for Q1 2019, AND that Q1 Commentary be sent to Town of Aurora, AND that Q1 Commentary be made available for public release. Presentation of the monthly ED report and Compliance Certificate and Complaints Statement. **MOTION:** To approve the monthly ED report and approve	Suzanne Haines
5	Fund Development Committee Update **MOTION:** To receive the Fund Development Update	Damien Chan
6	Finance Committee Report **MOTION:** To approve the unaudited interim financial statements for the 3 months ended at March 31, 2019 (the Q1 Report) and to approve the filing of the Q1 Report with the Town of Aurora as per the Provision of Cultural Services Agreement. Review and adopt Finance T3010 report MOTION: To approve the auditors T3010 report and direct the release to the CRA	Eric Acker
7	Governance Committee Update Board Self Evaluation Nominating Slate Facility Task Force Terms Of Reference **MOTION:** To receive the Governance Committee Update	Mike Kennedy Eric Acker
8	Directors to move to Red Gallery **MOTION** To Adjourn Board of Directors' Meeting #6A/2019 Directors move to 2019 Public Meeting #6B; the Annual General Meeting of Members.	All

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June 12, 2019

To: The Directors of the Church Street School Cultural Centre

This is to advise the Board of Directors that to the best of my knowledge I can state to you that we did not receive any material complaints from stakeholders or the general public during Q1 of 2019.

Suzanne Haines
Executive Director

2018

ANNUAL REPORT

aurora cultural centre

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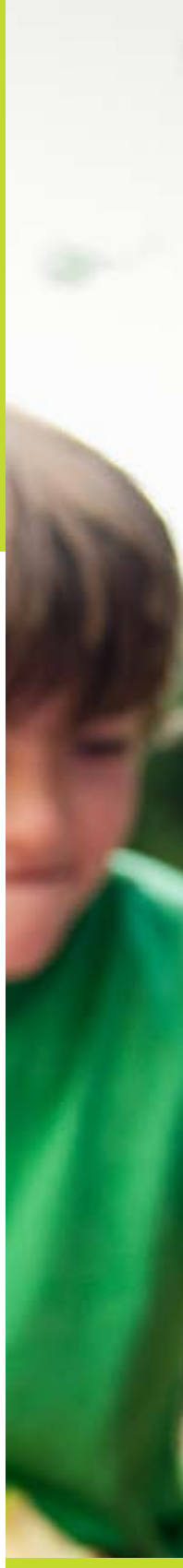
Our Vision & Mission



Vision

Strengthening the social fabric of our community through the transformative power of arts and culture.

Mission

As a cultural leader we bring vitality to the heart of Aurora through

- Excellent and innovative professional visual and performing arts programs and educational opportunities;
- Opportunities for meaningful social interactions and artistic community arts programs in our welcoming and inspiring venue and beyond; and
- Inclusivity by reaching out into our diverse community, recognizing that the arts are both universal and unifying.

As a partner of the Town of Aurora, we play a leading role in the realization of the Town's cultural objectives.

Core values were purposely chosen as integral elements for every day decision making by staff, volunteers and the Board. They are **Excellence**, **Collaboration** and **Accountability.**

2018 Highlights

- 222 artists exhibited in the galleries in 9 exhibitions, 16 artist talks, and 9 artist receptions
- 24 curated tours with 302 participants
- 19 Live Professional Performing Arts Events
- 25 artists engaged as instructors
- 69 educational programs surpassed budgeted participation by 11% with 766 students from ages 4+
- Exceeded 2017 fundraising by 140% from corporate and individual gifts
- Partnered with Aurora Historical Society and Town of Aurora Museum & Archives for 100th Anniversary of Armistice
- Partnered with Aurora Historical Society for Culture Days and Doors Open
- Partnered with the Aurora Museum & Archives for Doors Open
- 14% increase in rental revenue
- 901 activations of the building
- 28,577 visitors to the Centre
- Reaccredited with Imagine Canada at Level 2
- 5 high school co-op students mentored with long-term placements at Centre
- Increased summer student employment opportunities

Snapshot of ongoing activities

PROGRAMS

- Professional music concerts
- Professional children's and family theatre
- Professional visual art exhibitions
- Student visual art exhibitions
- Educational arts classes for all ages with professional artists
- Summer visual and performing art camps
- Educational lectures, talks and demonstrations with professional artists
- Special community events
- Free community programs
- Multi-cultural events & showcases
- Host site for community fundraisers and marketplaces
- Collaborate, host and facilitate programs with community partners
- Volunteer opportunities
- Community facility rentals

ADMINISTRATION

- In-house management of all facility rentals, activities and events
- Bookkeeping, accounting, and external audit
- In-house marketing and communications
- Customer service
- Maintain active website and all social media platforms

GOVERNANCE

- Board of Directors assume fiduciary responsibility for the governance of the Centre and provide broad oversight of the Centre's operations
- Create, review and administer policies and procedures
- Develop & review Strategic Plans
- Oversee all aspects of the organization
- Oversee compliance, legal and reporting protocols
- Ensure compliance with Canada Revenue Agency, Imagine Canada Standards, Provision of Cultural Services Agreement (PCSA), Strategic Plan, Ontario Corporations Act
- Serve as a resource to Town of Aurora for various cultural studies, committees etc.

Accountability and Transparency

In 2018, we reapplied for accreditation with the trustmark of Imagine Canada, a National standards program for not-for-profit governance in Canada. The Aurora Cultural Centre was one of the first organizations to be accredited and we continue to hold this trustmark for our operations. The standards test the Board of Directors' integrity in Governance, Financial accountability and transparency, Fundraising policies, practices and transparency, Human Resource Management, Volunteer Management. The Aurora Cultural Centre achieved a level 2 accreditation in 2018, which is for organizations with up to 50 FTE workforce and a $10 million budget

- As a Registered Charity and a party to the Provision for Cultural Services Agreement (PCSA), the Centre maintains high standards of accountability and transparency.
- Reporting to Federal and Provincial governments (e.g. Canada Revenue Agency, Ontario Charities Directorate, OnCorp)
- Reporting to Town of Aurora Council (quarterly reports, annual budget presentation)
- External third party audit
- Continuous oversight of Finance Committee & Treasurer
- 11 Aurora residents volunteer as the Centre's Board of Directors
- Liaising, reporting and collaborating with the Town CAO and Director of Community Services
- Documents and operational information widely available to public on Centre's website
- Two Councillors on Centre's Board of Directors
- Quarterly Public Meetings
- Compliance with PCSA reporting and submissions
- Accountability and reporting to our individual and corporate donors as well as grant providers (Ontario Arts Council, Canadian Heritage etc.)

	KPI (reference to PCSA)	How Calculated	Measure
1a	**Customer satisfaction with Program mix**	Question in Annual customer satisfaction survey	91.6 % satisfied or extremely satisfied
1b	**Customer Satisfaction with Quality Level**	Question in Annual customer satisfaction survey	In 2018 we asked about each program to see how those using them found their quality (ranked satisfied or extremely satisfied)
	1. Educational Programs		92%
	2. Gallery Programs		94%
	3. Live Performing Arts Programs		93%
	4. Special Events		90%
	5. Volunteer Program		68%
1c	**Customer Satisfaction with overall Governance**	Question in Annual customer satisfaction survey	85% satisfied or extremely satisfied
1d	**Customer Recognition and Awareness of Centre**	Question in Annual customer satisfaction survey	On a scale of 1-5 the participants rated their perception of how well the Centre is known at 74.2% on a weighted average.
2	**Programming spending vs. total spending**	Programming Spend / Total Spend	81%
3	**Programming hours per capita**	Programming hours / population	5.2%
4	**Town Grant as % of Total Revenue**	Town Grant / Total Revenue	55%
5	**Town Grant per capita**	Town Grant/ Population	$6.81
6	**Number of Partnerships**	Current year partners	81
7	**Volunteer hours as a % of total hours to operate the Centre annually**	Volunteer Hours / (Paid + Volunteer Hours)	48%
8	**Number of Visits Annually**	Current year visits	28,577

I am so pleased to have access to the Aurora Cultural Centre and all it represents. Art classes have been great and we have enjoyed concerts and the gallery displays immensely!

Programming Vision for the Inspire, Engage & Transform 2018-2021 Strategic Plan

The Aurora Cultural Centre is a vibrant cultural hub that brings communities together. It is a gathering space for creative energy and expression. We believe the arts have the power to engage, inspire, and transform each and every person who experiences it. The arts spark creative thought, transforms perception, and provides a catalyst for conversation. It engages the mind and body, awakens the senses, and calms the spirit.

We welcome, share, and celebrate diversity. We champion the extraordinary, praise innovation and honour history. We look for truth, beauty and delight while allowing darkness, struggle and deep affectations to be present and consumed, knowing, that as we care for each other in moments of response, we create social inclusion and stimulate memories.

We believe music is a universal language that bridges cultures and is a fundamental necessity for our spirits as social beings. We invite the sounds of voice and instruments loud and soft, large and small, fast and slow, precise, moving, and excellent to wash over us, allowing us to feel every human emotion.

We welcome visual art from all cultures, in all its forms, colours, ideas, and sizes. We believe there is spiritual value to what the artist chooses to communicate to others as everyone has a deeply personal response to art. We seek out the highest quality in order to inspire the community.

We believe theatre reflects the stories of the exquisite joy, comedy, and anguish of what it means to live in this world. It is cathartic to have a shared intimate arts experience. We believe in building, telling and preserving the stories of our lives to illustrate our similarities and our differences. We engage in difficult conversations and in doing so bring communities together.

We invite new ideas, new voices, new cultures and new language into our space. As we remember our past, we stimulate the minds of our youth to build more for the future. We foster imagination as we build creative humans. We encourage all to try, and if they fail, to learn and try again.

We bring families together to discuss, celebrate, enjoy, grow, discover passions, understand each other, and inspire new outcomes. We build alliances and unique partnerships to deliver more to the community. We provide a meaningful, open, and welcoming environment for residents to give back to the community.

We seek excellence and offer collaboration. We are accountable, always.

Programs at the Aurora Cultural Centre

Live Performing Arts

Brevik Hall Presents features concerts from a diversity of genres outside classical music. We host jazz, blues, holiday, country, pop, rock, calypso, culturally specific music, and beyond. John Sheard, past music director for Stuart McLean's Vinyl Café on CBC, brings us three themed concerts annually which introduce new artists and show off some established artists in our intimate Brevik Hall setting.

Great Artist Music Series was born from the inspired programming of Grammy award winners Bonnie & Norbert Kraft. With a carefully chosen Yamaha C7 piano, the co-artistic direction team has been programming exceptional classical concerts that leave the audience spellbound and breathless as the music washes over them. The series has evolved from piano concerts to include a diversity of solo artists and chamber ensembles that bring a diversity of classical repertoire to the acoustically charming Brevik Hall. In 2018, we introduced pre-show talks and demonstrations made possible by individual donors to our Fortissimo! fundraising campaign.

Kaleidoscope Family Series took our family series and rebranded it to reflect the diversity of experiences we wanted to bring to school-aged children and their families. Primarily a theatrical series, the series continued to grow audiences with pre and post show refreshments and artistic activities related to the themes in the show.

Meridian Magic Carpet Series began in 2018 with the first of three performing arts experiences in the season to introduce toddlers (and up!) to the collective joy and wonder of live performance. Born due to the generosity from Meridian Credit Union, the program was created especially for our youngest audience with shows spanning music, theatre, dance and puppetry. We invite youngsters to take flight on our wondrous magic carpet, where wiggling, wonder and laughter is encouraged.

Live Performing Arts

John Sheard presents a Tribute to Stuart McLean	January 26	Brevik Hall Presents
Ken Whiteley & Freedom Blues	February 15	Brevik Hall Presents
Stewart Goodyear	February 22	Great Artist Music Series
Jillian Jiggs	March 15	Kaleidoscope Family Series
John Sheard Presents Wendall Ferguson	March 23	Brevik Hall Presents
Vlad Soloviev	April 13	Great Artist Music Series
The Ennis Sisters	April 20	Brevik Hall Presents
James Campbell & Friends	May 5	Great Artist Music Series
The Pick Brothers Band	May 11	Brevik Hall Presents
John Sheard Presents the British Invasion	June 8	Brevik Hall Presents
Alysha Brilla	October 12	Brevik Hall Presents
Tristan Teo	November 9	Great Artist Music Series
Heather Bambrick Jazz Quartet	November 16	Brevik Hall Presents
Old Man & The River	December 1	Meridian Magic Carpet
Robinson Crusoe + Friday	December 8	Kaleidoscope Family Series
Georgian Bay	December 13	Brevik Hall Presents

> **We are very fortunate to have this caliber of entertainment.**

> **Keep up the great work in addressing the diversity of our community!**

> **There is a special ambience that is welcoming and inviting!**

Gallery Exhibitions

SOYRA Showcase 2018 Group Exhibition	January 6 - 28
Mayor's Celebration of Youth Arts Youth Exhibition	February 3 - March 3
Hooked on Tradition Exhibition of works by the Newmarket Rug Hooking Guild	March 10 - April 28
Botanica Julia Hacker	March 17 - May 12
Purely Pastel Pastel Artists Canada 27th Annual Open Juried Exhibition and Sale	May 10 - August 4
(through) Thick & Thin Janine Wheeler	August 11 - November 24
Cassandra's garden; tracing shifted ground Rebecca Last	August 17 - September 29
Apparitions Troy Hourie	October 6 - November 10
Why Do I Paint Flowers? Helen Lucas	December 1 – 29

Educational Classes

WINTER

- Famous Artists and Their Styles - Ages 4-6
- Art in Stories and Pictures - Ages 7-10
- Abstract Ideas and Mixed Media - Ages 11-15
- Drawing, Sketching Pen & Ink
- Wood Carving
- Beginning Guitar
- Beyond Beginning Guitar
- Start Painting Now with Acrylics!
- Expand Your Horizons in Acrylics Level 2
- Exploring Watercolours
- Watercolours: Basics & Beyond
- A Winter Walk in Watercolours
- Introduction to Glaze Oil Painting
- Whiteline Watercolour Woodblock Printing
- Silver Wire Jewellery
- The Art of Celtic Knotwork
- Open Studio
- March Break: Painting the Colours of Spring - Ages 4-6
- March Break: Create Your Own Flipbook Animation - Ages 7-12

Educational Classes

SPRING

- Faces and Places - Ages 4-6
- Abstract Ideas and Mixed Media - Ages 7-10
- Art Through the Ages - Ages 11-15
- Drawing, Sketching Pen & Ink
- Wood Carving
- Beginning Guitar
- Beyond Beginning Guitar
- Start Painting Now with Acrylics!
- Expand Your Horizons in Acrylics Level 2
- Exploring Watercolours
- Watercolours: Basics & Beyond
- Creative Photography
- The Art of Celtic Knotwork
- Introduction to Glaze Oil Painting
- Florals Up Close - Watercolours
- The Art of Botanical Drawing
- Crepe Paper Garden Roses
- Open Studio

Educational Classes

SUMMER

Visual Art Camps

- Young Artist Studio – Ages 4-6 (7 camps)
- Mixed Media Mashup – Ages 7-12 (8 camps)
- Themes for visual art camps below:
    - A Journey Through Art & Time
    - Comics, Cartoons & Superheroes!
    - Art Around the World
    - Me, Myself & Art
    - Colour Around Us – full day camp for older students only
    - Outer Space & Art Exploration
    - The Art Lab
    - The Wonderful World of Nature & Animals

Performing Arts Camp

Musical Theatre – Ages 6-10 (1 camp)

Act It Out! – Ages 6-10 (1 camp)

Educational Classes

FALL

- Abstract Ideas and Mixed Media - Ages 4-6
- Art Through the Ages - Ages 7-10
- Colour Around Us - Ages 11-15
- You Can Uke It! - Ages 8+
- Drawing, Sketching Pen & Ink
- Wood Carving
- Beginning Guitar
- Start Painting Now with Acrylics!
- Expand Your Horizons in Acrylics Level 2
- Exploring Watercolours
- Watercolours: Basics & Beyond
- The Process of Portraiture
- Traditional Glaze Oil Painting
- Magic of Pastels
- Brilliant Botanicals of Fall
- The Art of Japanese Ink Painting
- Watercolour Birds
- Open Studio

Free Community Special Events

We hosted 5 free community events in 2018.

Doors Open

Culture Days

March Break ‘Crafternoon’

100th Anniversary of Armistice

We’ll Meet Again sing-a-long

Wonderful venue... and wonderful staff!

Community Rental Partners

Addiction Services of York Region
AIDS Committee of York Region
Aurora Community Band
Aurora Farmers Market
Aurora High School
Aurora Music Academy
Aurora Winter Blues Fest
Bahai Community
Borealis Big Band
Bouchard - Music Teacher
Camphill Communities
Canadian Mental Health Association
Catulpa Community Support Services
CFUW
Children's Aid Society York Region
Chris Ballard MPP
CIBC
Community Living
Dr. G.W. Williams Secondary School
Edward Jones Investments
Family Services of York Region
Gran Aurora
Harrison- Music Teacher
ImprovAbility
Kerry's Place
Krasman Centre
Lynham - Music Teacher
Mastermind Montessori
Ontario Dental Hygienists
Ontario Trillium Foundation
Ontario Water Centre
OPSEU
ORMTA Newmarket & Area
ORMTA Stouffville
Paskke Quartet
Pastel Association of Canada
Pine Tree Potters - Empty Bowls
Pine Tree Potters - May
Poljakova - Music Teacher
PRIVATE Birthday Celebration
PRIVATE Birthday Celebration
PRIVATE Birthday Celebration
PRIVATE Birthday Celebration
PRIVATE Birthday Celebration
PRIVATE Celebration of Life
PRIVATE Celebration of Life
RBC Royal Bank
Redemption House

Sandgate

Scotiabank

Society of York Region Artists

Soroptimist Intl Yr

Successmap

Third Age Learning York Region

Town of Aurora Museum & Archives

Watsons Family Karate School

Windfall Ecology

Women's Support Network York Region

York Region Community & Health

York Region Corporate Services

York Region District School Board

York Region Environmental Services

York Region Transportation Services

Volunteer Program

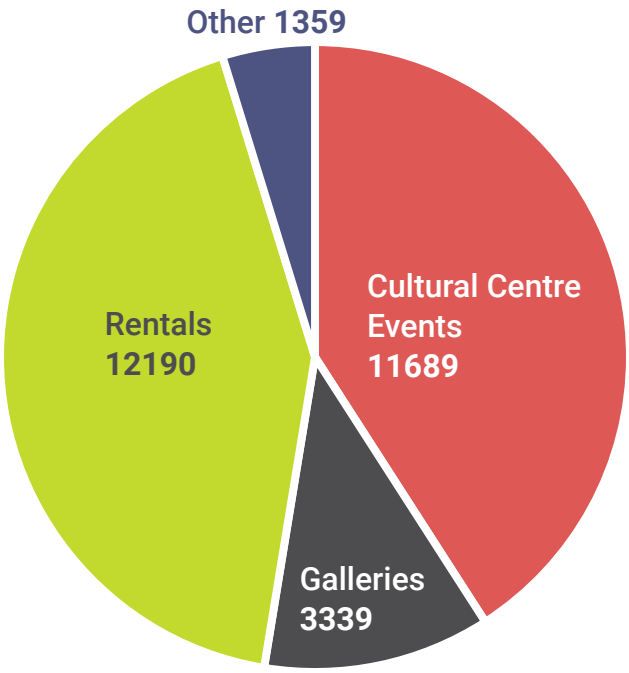
The volunteer program is a significant part of our operations. We rely on the support of community members who donate their time to help us with administrative and event related activities.

Assist with

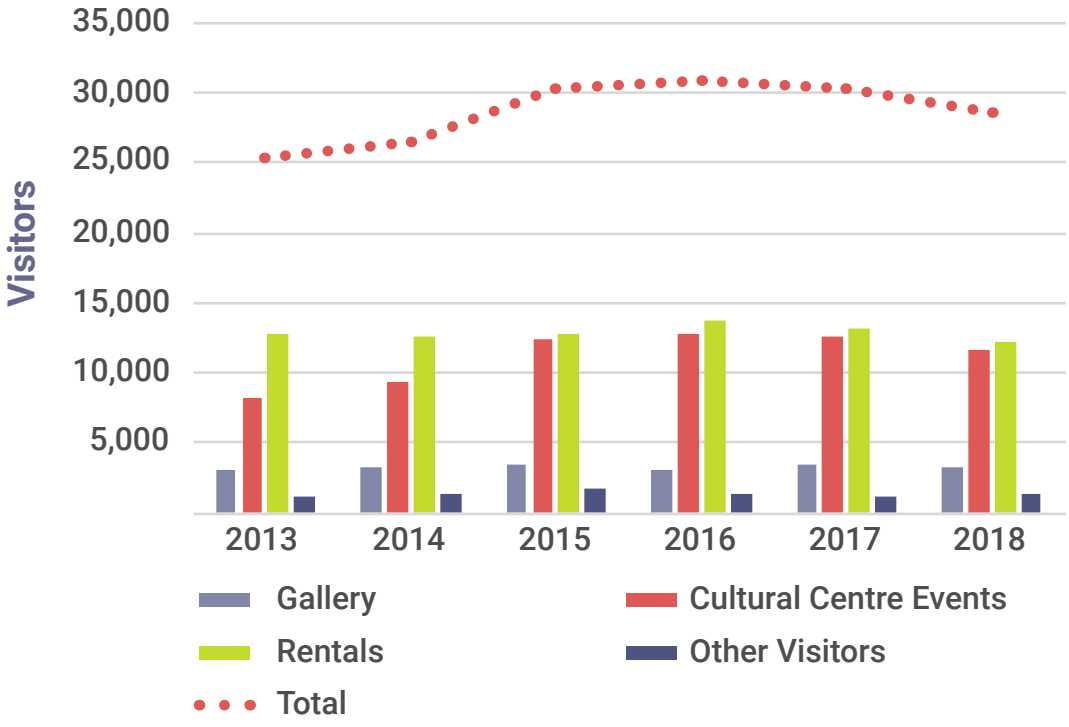
- Wayfinding
- Ticket taking
- Ushering
- Special event setups
- Board Governance duties
- Administrative support
- Reception support
- Processing registrations and sales
- Planning and supporting events
- Marshalling audience
- Supporting children/youth programs
- Concession ticket sales
- Fundraising
- As Cultural Ambassadors in our community

2018 Patron Base

2018 Patron Visits

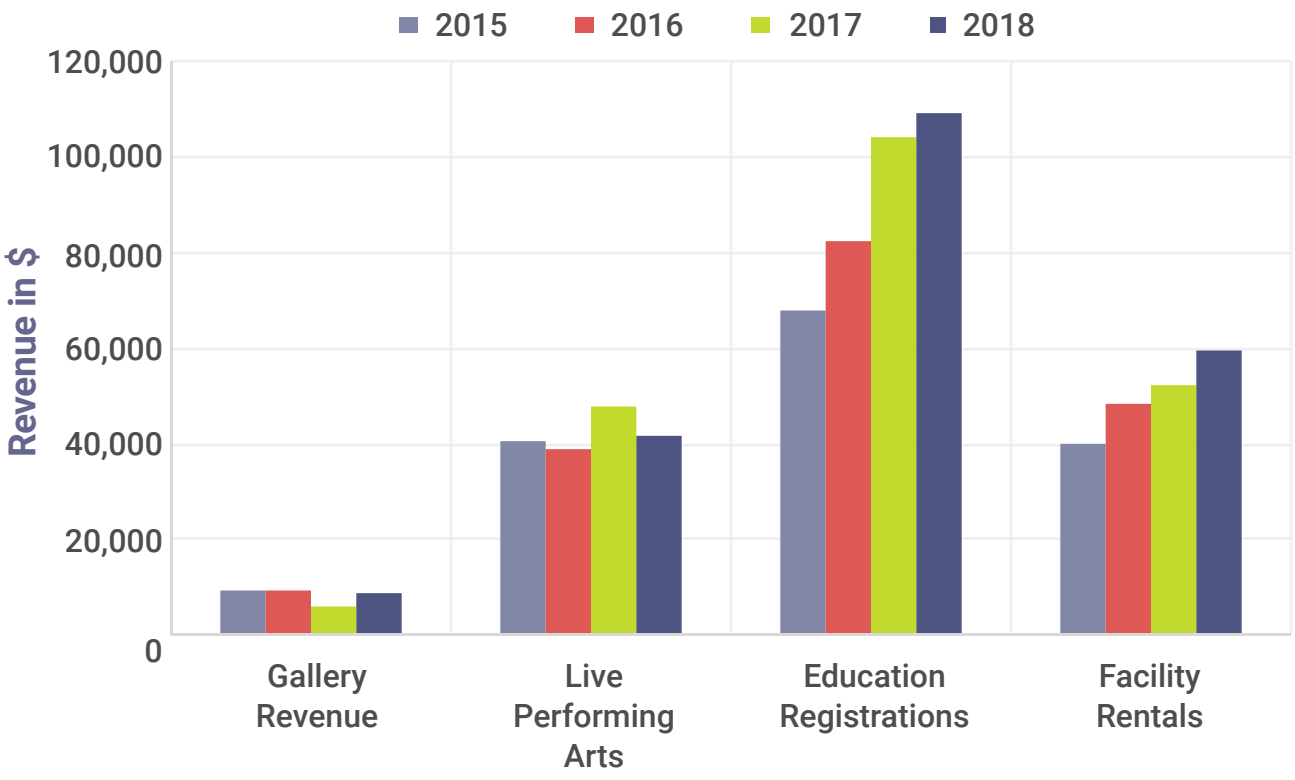


Why People Visited The Aurora Cultural Centre



Program Growth

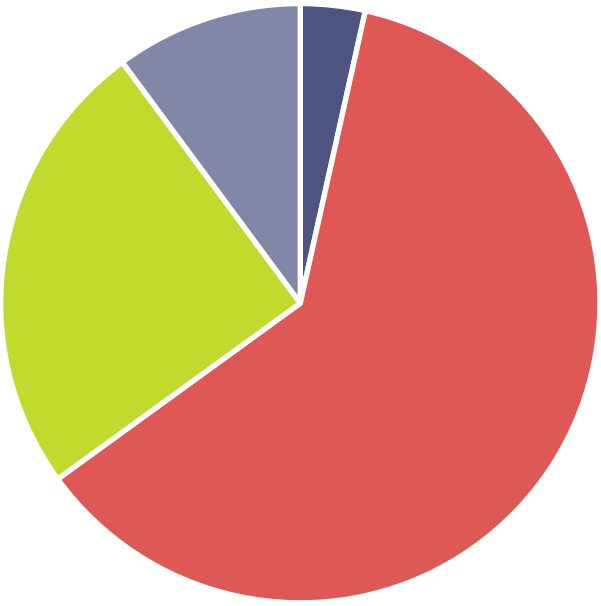
Program Revenue Growth



2018 Program Statistics

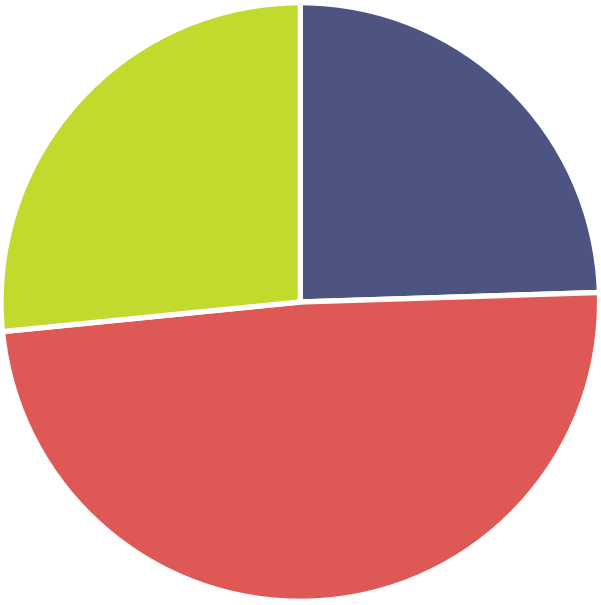
901 uses of the venue for events, classes and rentals.

Type of Venue Activation



- Live Performing Events
- Educational Art Classes
- Community Rentals
- Gallery

Direct Revenue ($)*

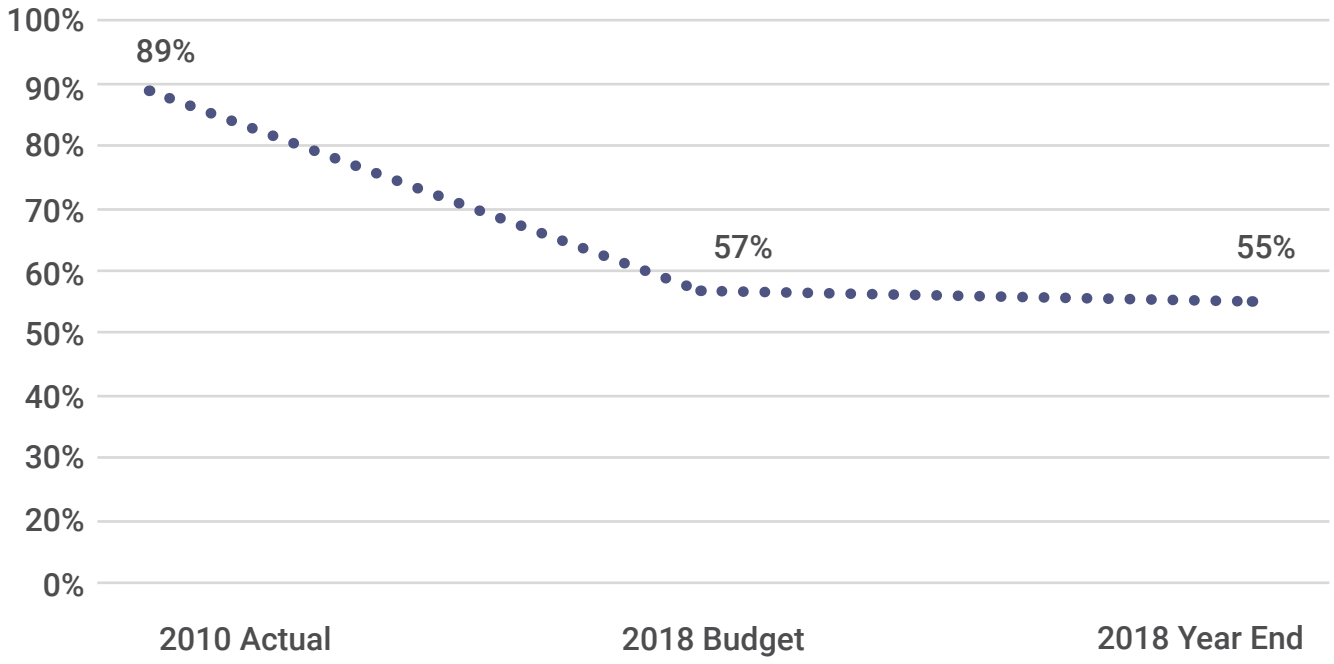


- Live Performing Events
- Educational Art Classes
- Community Rentals

*Not Including Fundraising

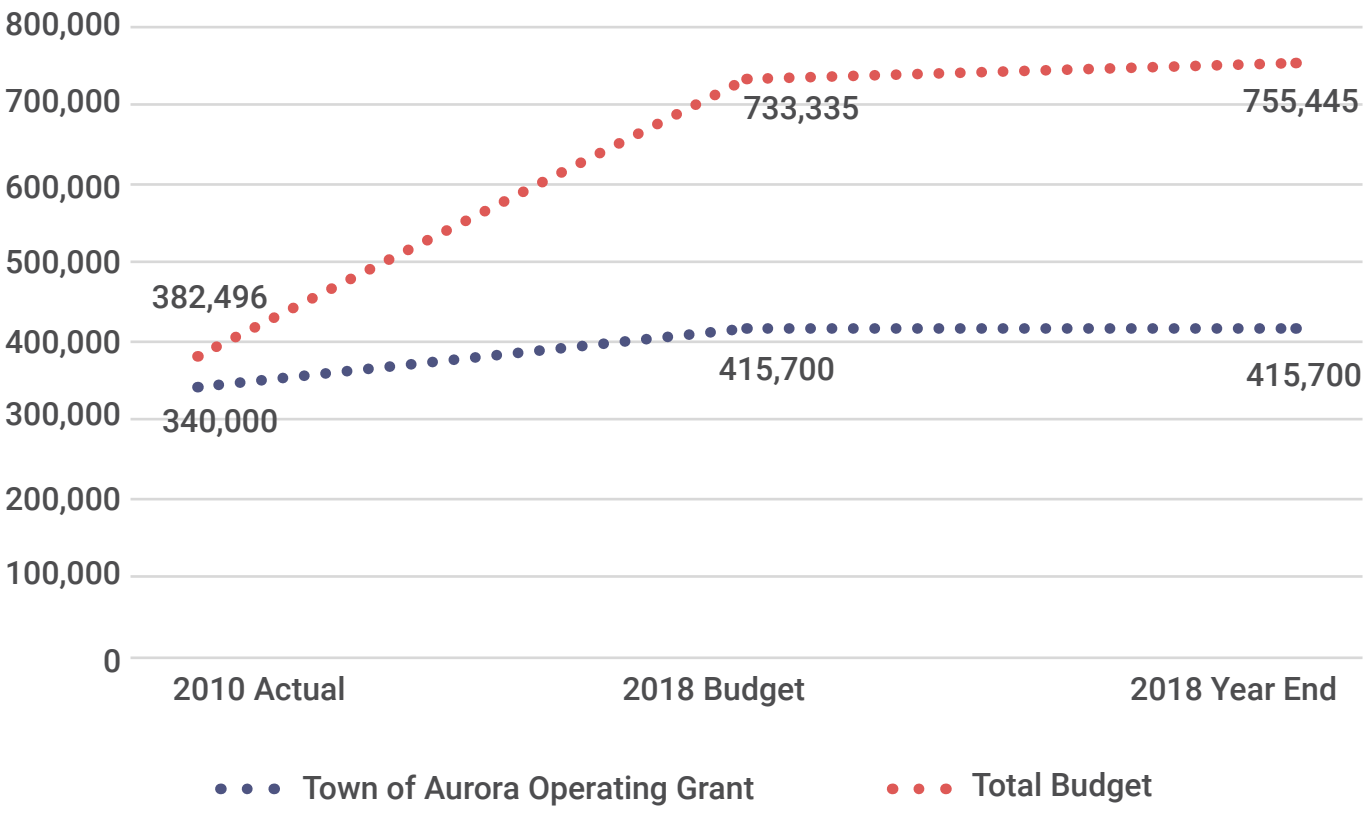
Town Grant Dependency

Town Grant as a % of Total Revenue (Dependency on Town Funding)



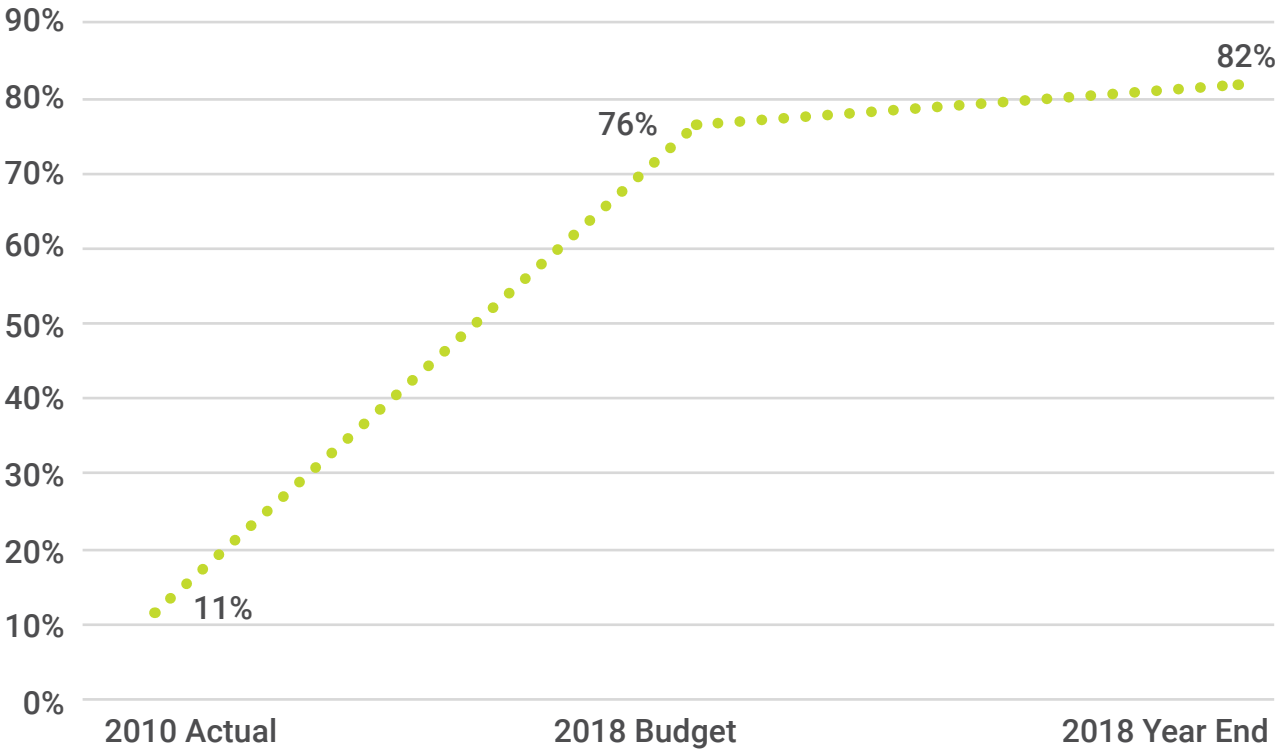
Town Grant to Total Budget

Town Grant to Total Budget



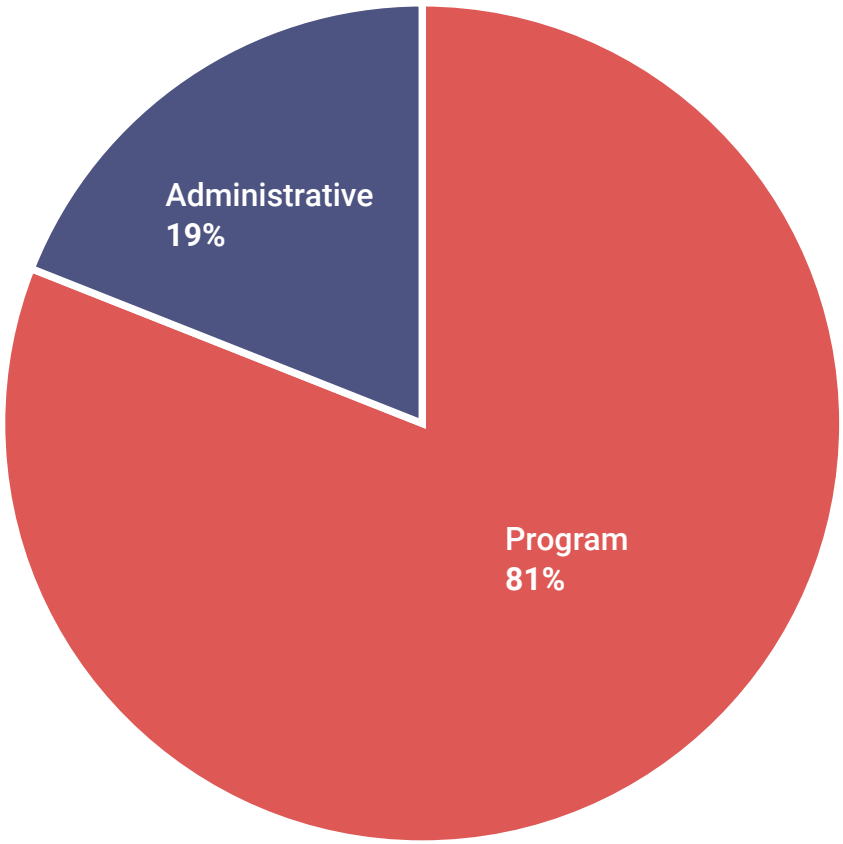
Earned Revenue to Town Grant

Earned Revenue as a % of Town Grant



Program and Administrative Expenses

2018 Expense Breakdown



2018 Financial Snapshot

Revenue	2018 Year End	% of total
Town of Aurora Operating Grant	415,700	55%
Fundraising: Grants, Donations and Sponsorships	114,009	15%
Programs	225,736	30%
Total Income	**755,445**	

Expenses		
Salaries and benefits	505,266	70%
Programs	147,926	20%
Professional fees	19,770	3%
Fundraising	2,893	0%
OTHER (Office, phone, equip lease, bank, insurance etc.)	46,739	6%
Total Expense	**722,594**	
Excess/-Deficiency of Revenues over Expenditures	32,851	
Amortization	(6,772)	
Program Surplus (Deficit)	26,079	
Great Artist Music Series Program Surplus: Transfer to Classical Music Fund	(3,450)	
Contingency Reserve Transfer	(22,000)	
Net Surplus (Deficit)	629	

2018 Reserves	
Contingency Reserve Fund	147,000
Classical Music Reserve Fund	71,991
Special Project Reserve Fund	20,000

Individual Donors

Anne & David Rosevear
Arthur & Judy Craig
Becky Haggith
Bonnie & Norbert Kraft
Camille Anderson
Carol Mather
Colin Guenther
Craig Mather
Damien Chan
Dave Rheaume
David & Dierdre Tomlinson
Doug & Linda Zack
Elizabeth Maynard-Gregg
Elizabeth Ramsell
Eric Acker
Eric Stangl
Frank Pulumbarit
Fred & Marlene Ash
Gay King
Geri Adam
Heidi Franken
Dr. Isobel M. Ralston & Dr. Jan Oudenes
James & Sharon Bradley
James & Carol Campbell
Jan Freedman
Jane Taylor
Jo Anne Richardson
Joao Canhoto & Suzanne Haines
John Cooper
John Gallo
Karen Johnston
Katalin Frohlinger
Laura Lawrence
Lorraine Hill
Mary Bastedo
Mary Jeanne Oliver
Mary Smith
Marylou Kumagawa
Maureen Campbell
Mike Kennedy
Mukhlis Mutlag
Paskel Boettcher
Patricia Crawford
Patricia Murray
Patricia Wallace
Phyllis & Dale Mitchell
Ron & Maggie Haines
Rosalyn Gonsalves
Sandra Leonard
Sandra Smith
Sharon Kelly
Stan & Mary Neal
Sue Miller
Susan Bright
Victor Davis

Corporate Donors

CIBC

Fidelity Investments Canada ULC

RBC Foundation

Hurst Bakery

VP Carpets

Corporate Sponors

Sustaining Partner

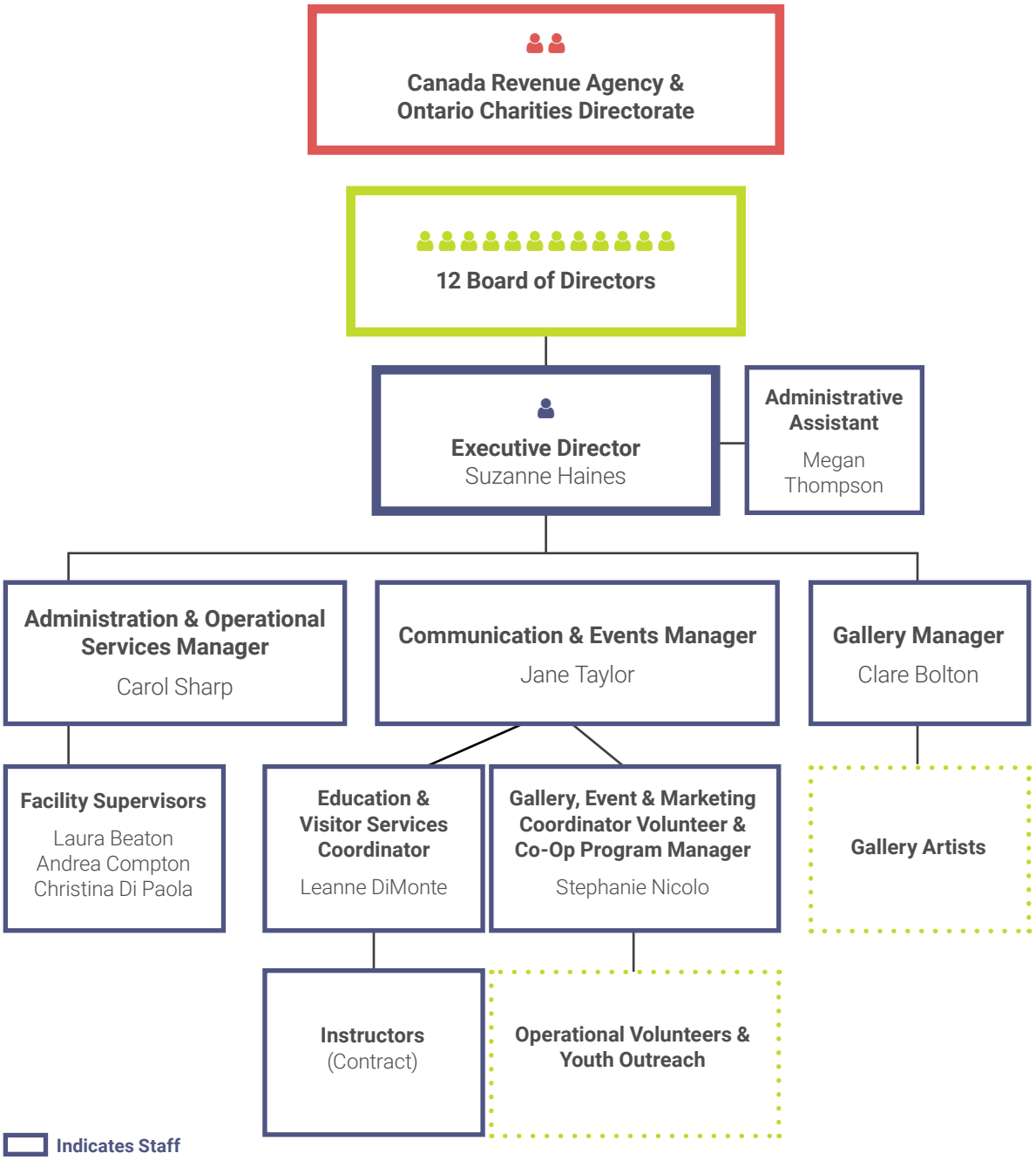
Facility Naming Sponsor

Program Naming Sponsor

Program Sponsors

Hospitality Sponsors

Organizational Leadership



Board of Directors

President	Craig Mather	Served as the CAO for the Toronto & Region Conservation Authority from 1992 to 2003 with a staff of 250. The Province of Ontario appointee to the International Joint Commission's Water Quality Board, former National Director of the Canadian Water Resource Association, and former Director on the Board of the Toronto Centre for the Arts.
Vice President	Eric Acker	His professional career began in the early 1970s in the political milieu of Ottawa. He then spent sixteen years in the aerospace industry followed by fourteen years in the health sector. Eric retired after serving as President of one of Canada's largest behavioural health companies where his focus was on operations including human resources, information technology, finance, customer relations, and service delivery. Born and educated in Nova Scotia, Eric made Aurora his home in 1989.
Treasurer	Laura Hostick	Laura Hostick is the owner of a local Accounting and Bookkeeping firm, LMH Professional Corporation. Laura founded LMH in 2013 with the goal of making a larger impact to her clients while being more client facing. Her team has since expanded to include a number of accounting and bookkeeping professionals. Laura has been in the accounting business since 2007 and has always worked with small to medium sized businesses, working with business owners to teach them about accounting, taxes and how to see beyond the numbers. You can always strike up a conversation with Laura about running, wellness and her two daughters, Isla and Maren.
Secretary	Karen Johnston	A marketing professional with significant experience in creating and executing strategic plans that deliver exceptional business results. A leader who fosters an environment of creativity and works to inspire the team to solve business issues with creative yet cost effective solutions. Experience gained in corporate and not for profit sectors.
Director	Damien Chan	VP Personal and Small Business Technology at CIBC with responsibility to transform the client experience in the Banking Centres. Prior to this, Damien was a Client Director at HP Enterprises and IBM Canada. Damien is also a mentor at Futurpreneur Canada for young entrepreneurs.
Treasurer	Heidi Franken	A Senior Forensic Accountant in the Enforcement Branch of the Ontario Securities Commission, she has also worked in the Corporate Finance Branch and Office of the Chief Accountant at the OSC. Prior to joining the OSC, she managed assurance engagements for both corporate and non-profit clients at PWC. She holds an Honours Bachelor of Business Administration from Brock University. Heidi joined the Board in October 2010 and has lived in Aurora for 14 years.

Director	Sharon Kelly	Educator with 42 years of experience with the Toronto Catholic District School Board. Served in a variety of roles: elementary and secondary teacher, department head, consultant, program designer and administrator. Spent 10 years at Covenant House developing in-house school, Chair of Project Work and a variety of board committees with the focus of integration for students with developmental and/or physical disabilities. Member of the community colleges' advisory committees.
Director	Mike Kennedy	Currently Partner and Principal, arc Health Management. Active volunteer as coach and trainer in Aurora Minor Hockey Association and Newmarket Ball Hockey Association.
Director	Amy Lane	Amy Lane manages Marketing, Communications and Proposal Development for the Ontario Clean Water Agency, where she has led many community outreach/educational initiatives over the past decade. Previously she worked with the broadcast division of Alliance Atlantis in various communications roles. She holds a B.A. from Ryerson University (Radio and Television Arts), as well as a post-grad certificate (Public Relations) from Humber College. Originally from Montreal, she has been a proud Auroran since 2011. She encourages everyone who will listen to ditch the plastic and drink tap!
Director	Victoria Kinniburgh	A resident of Newmarket for over 40 years, she has worked in the public sector as an HR professional for over 17 years. Currently employed as an HR Consultant at the Regional Municipality of York. She has previously served on the Hemophilia Ontario Board and the Toronto and Central Ontario Hemophilia Board.
Ex Officio Director	Councillor Wendy Gaertner	Wendy Gaertner has been a resident of Aurora since 1987. She has served on Aurora Council since 2003. Councillor Gaertner sat on the Cultural Centre Board last Term. She is currently one of the two Councillor Representatives on the Centre's Board. Wendy has been a strong supporter of the Church Street School since its inception. She was also Chair of the Culture Committee which provided Recommendations to Council on the formation of the Centre. Wendy Gaertner has a history of service to the Community including providing a drop in for Youth, HOT SPOT, for 18 years.
Ex Officio Director	Councillor John Gallo	Resident of Aurora since 1996. Member of Aurora Council - 2007-2014, 2018-present. Director at Aurora Cultural Centre since 2015. Past chair of Central York Fire, Environmental Advisory Committee, Trails and Active Transportation Committee. Director at Aurora Soccer Club. Vice Chair, St. Jerome Catholic Parent Council. Principal in a Property Management since 2005. Bachelor of Arts Degree from U of T, Architectural Technologist from Humber College.

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AURORA CULTURAL CENTRE • 2018 ANNUAL REPORT

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Board of Directors – June 12, 2019

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S UPDATE May 2019

Live Performance Series

Date	Artist/Event	Series	Audience
May 3	The Rolston String Quartet with James Campbell	Great Artist Music Series	95
May 24	Digging Roots (cancelled by artist)	Brevik Hall Presents	n/a
June 1	Flying Hearts	Meridian Magic Carpet Series	36
June 7	John Sheard: Simon & Garfunkel	Brevik Hall Presents	SOLD OUT

Gallery & Exhibitions
In May we hosted:

Running Forward
Daniel St-Amant
March 9 - May 25, 2019

Pine Tree Potters had their Spring Sale from May 2-5, 2019

We Are Still Here
Deron Ahsén:nase Douglas
May 9-August 3, 2019
An exhibition consisting of 35 portraits and characterisations of the Onkwehón:we of Turtle Island. In a humble attempt to depict their strength, beauty and spirit, the artist utilizes bold colors, thoughtful design and in some cases, a touch of humor to shout out to history – "*We Are Still Here!*" The exhibition includes a specially-created film "Voices from the Indigenous Community," streaming in the Blue Gallery, with five participants discussing questions on contemporary Indigenous issues.

Informed by the artist's Mohawk culture and interest with Indigenous issues, the artist brings to the general public a glance at contemporary Indigenous people which he hopes will dispel colonial stereotypes. Deron describes his solo exhibition, stating: "Our Elders tell us that our feet have walked upon the back of Turtle Island for time immemorial. Our resiliency has been proven time and time again, we have faced genocide both physical and cultural, betrayal at the hands of our allies, residential schools, and the murder of our women and girls. Despite this… *We Are Still Here!*"

In the artist's own words he would like to "take the *Indian* out of the history books and to present them, not as assimilated ghosts of what they once were or thought to be, but rather indigenous people with a vibrant and living culture all their own."
Ways of Seeing educational events:
Artist's Reception – May 25, 1 – 4 pm
The Artist in Conversation – June 5, 6 – 7:30 pm
Alla Prima Portrait Painting Demo – July 10, 6 – 7:30 pm

PORTLAND

Jon Oelrichs
June 1 – August 24, 2019
Oil paintings inspired by a post industrial space form this exhibition that considers the ambiguities of solidity and transition, the nuanced qualities of light and the opportunities of ageing.

The idea of this exhibition started with an emotional response to a large physical space, the industrial space known as the Portlands of Toronto, which was originally a coal-fired power generating station. When Jon encountered the building it was being used as a setting for art projects, and he experienced a profound sense of the glory of the old building in that particular moment. This is captured in his paintings, where you will find the perspective is "slightly off" and the colours imagined more vividly. Share the experience.

Ways of Seeing educational events:
Artist Reception – June 22, 1-4pm
Jon Oelrichs in Conversation - July 17, 1:30-3pm
Guided Tour with Curator – August 14, 1:30pm

Educational Programs
Spring programs started April 2nd listed below. Summer programs open for registration also

2019 Spring/Summer Educational Programs

Class Name	Date Range
Art in Stories; Ages 4-6	Apr 6 - Jun 8
Famous Artists & Their Styles; Ages 7-10	Apr 6 - Jun 8
Faces & Places; Ages 11-15	Apr 6 - Jun 8
PA Day; Ages 4-12	03-Jun
Drawing & Sketching	Apr 1 - Jun 3
Ukulele for Beginners	Apr 2 - May 21
Beginning Guitar	Apr 2 - May 21
Start Painting now with Acrylics	Apr 2 - May 21
Watercolours: Basics & Beyond	Mar 28 - May 23
Exploring Watercolours - Morning	Mar 21 - May 9
Exploring Watercolours - Afternoon	Mar 21 - May 9
Smartphone Photography	Apr 11 - May 16

Negative Floral Painting	Apr 2 & 9
Monogram Wood Sign	06-Apr
Pressed Flower Projects	27-Apr
Magnificent Florals in Coloured Pencil	25-May
Open Studio - FREE	Apr 2 - May 21
A, Bee, C's of Art; Ages 4-6	Jul 2 - 5
A, Bee, C's of Art; Ages 7-12	Jul 2 - 5
Art & I; Ages 4-6	Jul 8 - 12
Art & I; Ages 7-12	Jul 8 - 12
Art Time Travel; Ages 7-12	Jul 15 - 19
Animation Exploration; Ages 4-6	Jul 22 - 26
Animation Exploration; Ages 7-12	Jul 22 - 26
Globetrotting with Art; Ages 7-12	Jul 29 - Aug 2
Art Experiments; Ages 4-6	Aug 6 - 9
Art Experiments; Ages 7-12	Aug 6 - 9
Outer Space & Art Exploration; Ages 4-6	Aug 12 - 16
Outer Space & Art Exploration; Ages 7-12	Aug 12 - 16
Colour Around Us	Aug 19 - 23
Musical Theatre; Ages 6-10	Jul 2 - 12
Act It Out! Ages 6-10	Jul 22 - 26
Act It Out! Ages 6-10	Aug 12 - 23

Kaleidoscope in the Schools

A joint program of professional performing arts and education, this program update most aptly lands in education as it will be facilitated by our Education & Outreach Manager.

The programming for the curated season has all been contracted, save one show coming from Quebec in October. To date, we have (see attached for more details):

Yamo! Yamo! Greetings from West Africa! / Yamo! Yamo! Une aventure culturelle en Côte d'Ivoire (November)
Fana Soro, performer
Music & Dance Performance
West African Drumming & Dance Workshops

From Handel to Hip Hop (February)
Infinitus String Trio
Participatory Music Performance
Collaborative Music Performance Workshops

The Incredible Adventures of Mary Jane Mosquito (April)
Thompson Highway, Produced by Carousel Players
Theatre Performance
Play Links Facilitated Workshops

The following schools have confirmed participation and they have chosen their first and second choice of production:
YCDSB:
Holy Spirit CES
Light of Christ CES
Our Lady of Grace CES
St. Jerome CES
St. Joseph CES

YRDSB:
Devins Drive PS
Regency Acres PS

We are in talks with Lester B Pearson and Northern Lights public schools to find a date to meet. Hartman public school declined participation however a Board member has a connection and will be following up. Aurora Grove public school has asked us to come in September. Their choice of programming will be limited to what is remaining at that time. We have yet to hear from Aurora Heights, Highview, Rick Hansen and Wellington.

Aurora Preparatory Academy is looking to participate in some way if we can find a good fit.

Rental Program

The following rental clients joined us in May:

Paskke Quartet	Brevik	Saturday, May 4	Saturday evening classical concert
York Region Community & Health	Brevik w/ AV	Thursday, May 7	Nursing Practice Team. Breakfast sessions/acknowledgments to celebrate Nursing Week.
Pine Tree Potters - May	Red & Blue	May Show and Sale	Spring Show and Sale - one day load-in, four days of sale
Third Age Learning	Brevik w/ AV	Six dates in April/May 2019	Two Monday morning seminar sessions
York Region Transportation	Library Room	Thursday, May 9	Senior staff offsite. Next meeting booked for Friday, December 6.
Immigration Canada	Library Room	Tuesday, May 21	Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada / Government of Canada. Parliamentary Secretary Matthew DeCourcey and a number of community stakeholders.
SOYRA	Brevik & LR	May Schedule	One Exec Mtg in LR; One General Mtg in Brevik

Aurora Community Band	Brevik	May Schedule	Three Sunday evening rehearsals
Soroptimists	Brevik w/ AV	Wednesday, May 22	Lunafest - Film Festival
Aurora Music Academy	Brevik Hall w/piano	Sunday, May 26	Three sessions of students for music recitals for all instruments, including piano
York Region Children's Aid Society	Brevik w/ AV	Tuesday, May 28	"One Vision One Voice" Board Event. www.oacas.org/what-we-do/onevisiononevoice/

Administration

- Project to transition to the Town IT infrastructure continues. Due to Town staff illness, the project will need new leadership to move forward. Estimated completion keeps moving as resources change for the Town. We will be able to cancel our Internet Service contract when we are all connected.

Human Resources

- Summer staff include: Amanda Roy, Summer Camp Supervisor; Summer Camp Senior Councillors are: Cassandra Tremblay, Nicole Basso and Emma Kakush, Summer Camp Junior Councillor is Emma Cavaliere.
- Katie Epp, Volunteer & Visitor Services Coordinator started full-time on May 29, 2019
- Julie Geering will join us as the new Administrative Assistant June 7, 2019
- We have engaged a new firm, Heming & Heming CPA, to take on bookkeeping duties. Onboarding occurred on May 29th. The firm has three CPAs and a certified bookkeeper on staff. They are responsible for ongoing bookkeeping and payroll.
- I was at jury duty selection on Monday May 13th. I was excused from serving at this time due to the duration of the trail (4-6 weeks) and the impact that would have on the organization.

Facilities

- Temporary outdoor sign: The sign design was communicated and will be installed when completed. ACC Staff have asked the Town for two vinyl versions to be put on the North glass doors
- Library Square construction impact update: I continue to work with Robin McDougall on finding a suitable location for our programming during construction. Moving and cost to rent space for relocation will be borne by the Library Square operating funding approved by council ($240k/year additional investment). Messaging for the lack of access to the facility is being carefully managed as there has already been miscommunication about the Aurora Cultural Centre NFP closing. We have had a number of community members approaching us wanting to know what is happening. There will be an article in the

Auroran and social media support for the positive messaging of 'Taking our programming on the road' while construction occurs. Please see the attached messaging.

Board Activities

- Governance & Nominating Committee Meeting: May 28, Interviews May 28 and 31
- Fund Development Meeting: May 29

Community Connections/Artistic Events

- Attended Curator and Professional Artist networking with professional/municipal galleries on May 15th
- Attended Wee Festival programming on May 18
- Met with Bob McRoberts, Trustee of YRDSB regarding KITS
- Attended Aurora Street Festival, June 2

Respectfully Submitted by
Suzanne Haines, Executive Director

Aurora Cultural Centre

Kaleidoscope in the Schools

2019-20

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Yamo! Yamo! Greetings from West Africa! / Yamo! Yamo! Une aventure culturelle en Côte d'Ivoire

Fana Soro
Music & Dance Performance
Available in English or French, or as a bilingual performance

"Yamo! Yamo!" ("Hello! How are you doing!" in *Baoulé*) from the charismatic ambassador of West African culture! In this dynamic and interactive performance, Fana Soro, a hereditary master musician of the Senoufo people, shares the musical traditions of his home country to showcase the soaring melodies, driving rhythms and spirited dances of ancient West African performing arts. A spirited and interactive performance, Yamo! Yamo! involves call-and-response and audience participation.

Fana Soro is a musician, dancer and educator from the Ivory Coast, where he was a member of the prestigious Ballet National de Côte d'Ivoire. He is the creative director of the performance group Masabo in Vancouver. Since 1997, Fana has been a cultural ambassador for West Africa, bringing his vast experience of engaging students to over a hundred Canadian schools every year. Fana Soro lives with his family in Ottawa.

Curriculum Connections

- Music, dance and percussion instruments of West Africa
- French cultures around the world

Afternoon Workshop

- Fana Soro's workshop in West African Music & Dance offers a flexible structure which can be tailored to school needs (all dance, all music, or a combination of the two to give the students a taste of everything.) As a master percussionist, Fana will introduce traditional playing techniques of the *djembé*, West Africa's most popular drum, as well as other hand-held percussion instruments. Fana will share call and response in various languages native to northern Ivory Coast.
- Workshops can be adapted for grades JK – 4.

From Handel to Hip Hop

Infinitus
Beatboxing String Trio

Vancouver-based beat-boxing string trio features a repertoire ranging from classical standards to original jazz/hip-hop arrangements. An original performance that focuses on the differences between listening and hearing skills to illustrate various elements of classical music.

This dynamic trio engages every audience member with music ranging from familiar classics to classic rock, and from TV theme songs to hip-hop beatboxing. Drawing on their vast repertoire, the group tailors each performance to the age range of their audience while engaging students with their easygoing stage presence.

Infinitus was formed in 2008 by violist Anthony Cheung, cellist Alex Cheung, and violinist John "Adidam" Littlejohn. Collectively, the members hold degrees from the University of Michigan and the Peabody Conservatory and have won awards at the local, national, and international level. They have performed extensively throughout North America presenting community performances, soloing with orchestras, and conducting masterclasses, workshops, and seminars. The trio has captivated over 900 schools throughout Canada and the United States with their polished, upbeat introduction to instrumental music.

Curriculum Connections

- Music, Music Appreciation, Feelings

Afternoon Workshop

- Infinitus offers a variety of workshops tailored to the needs around each school community. Designed to enhance students' skills and abilities as young musicians, programs can be adapted around performance, composition or collaboration. Workshops are ideally suited for grades 3 & 4.

The Incredible Adventures of Mary Jane Mosquito

Carousel Players
Theatre Performance

In this story of a misfit searching for her place in the world, Mary Jane is a mosquito who doesn't have wings. At home in Petit Petit Le Paw she is teased by the other mosquitos, who won't be friends with her. She is sent off to school, and then to live with her auntie in the city, as she searches for a place where she can fit in and make friends. After many adventures, Mary Jane learns to make friends sharing her language, her kind heart, and her songs with the world.

This musical show explores themes of feeling like an outsider, dealing with bullying, moving to a new place, and feeling different from what is considered normal. As Mary Jane tells her tale through song and story, Tomson Highway has woven in Cree words and phrases that are taught to the audience through playful interaction. With live music throughout, and supported with puppetry and fanciful costumes, this is an engaging piece for younger audiences.

About the Playwright Tomson Highway, award-winning playwright and the author, was born in a tent near Maria Lake, Manitoba in 1951. A member of the Cree Nation, he is a registered member of the Barren Lands First Nation, the village for which is called Brochet. He grew up in the spectacularly beautiful natural landscape that is Canada's sub-Arctic, an un-peopled region of hundreds of lakes, endless forests of spruce and pine, and great herds of caribou. His parents, with no access to books, TV or radio, would tell their children stories, and Tomson fell in love with the oral tradition of storytelling. Internationally recognized and beloved for his play *The Rez Sisters*, Tomson Highway was made a Member of the Order of Canada in 1994.

Carousel Players is an award-winning professional theatre company for young audiences based in the Niagara. Guided by their mandate: "We believe live theatre develops artistic awareness, learning skills and a sense of well-being in children," their work is committed to ensuring that young people engage with theatre, and how it transfers into their everyday lives

Curriculum Connections

- First Nations languages, visual arts, storytelling,

Afternoon Workshop

- Carousel Players, together with their Play Links arts facilitator, offer adaptable school workshops around the themes of Indigenous languages, visual arts and social studies.
- Workshops can be adapted for grades JK – 4.

The ~~Good~~ GREAT! News at 22 Church Street

The Town of Aurora is building a new expansion to the Church Street School - that's the ~~good~~ GREAT! news. The Aurora Cultural Centre has worked alongside our Town partners during the development of this vibrant new cultural hub that will consist of an outside public square and expansion of the Centre's home at 22 Church Street. The resulting addition will consist of a Performance Hall, Performing and Visual Arts studios, as well as a Multi-Purpose Studio, programming rooms, archival and artefact storage for the museum, and a cafe/multi-purpose area. This is a significant investment in the cultural landscape of our town.

But construction dust, noise and disruption during the building phase - that's the not-so-great news. While this part of the project isn't imminent - it's currently slated to start in mid-2020 - we want to let you in on what's in store for the Aurora Cultural Centre while this building phase is underway.

More GREAT news - this means that we're "taking the show on the road." During the major construction phase, we won't have access to the building at 22 Church Street, which is at this point anticipated to last about 18 months. But that doesn't mean that we'll stop programming. On the contrary! We're taking this opportunity to bring our programming out into the many corners of Aurora. These plans are in the formation stage, so we don't have all the details to bring to you just yet. But rest assured, our high-quality arts classes, gallery exhibitions, concerts and special events will continue to draw our Aurora community together. Think of this as you would any major renovation project. The boxes will get packed up (or in our case, the desks, art studio equipment, stage, lights, etc.) and find new temporary homes during the construction. The GREAT news (you likely see the theme emerging here!) - is that we'll then be moving back into snazzy new digs at 22 Church Street that marries the best of Aurora's heritage with a state-of-the-art facility.

We want to keep you informed as we have information at every step of the way. Please subscribe to our e-newsletter for updates, location information and other plans.