Aurora Cultural Centre

**AGENDA**

**Board of Directors Meeting #7 2021**

**7 pm**

**Wednesday September 15th, 2021** **Eric Acker, Chair**

Join Zoom Meeting

Find your local number: https://us02web.zoom.us/u/ki6nOr5B8

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **1** (1 min) | Agenda<br>**MOTION** to Approve the Agenda | Eric Acker |
| **2** (1 min) | Previous Minutes<br>**MOTION** to Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting (July 14th, 2021) | Eric Acker |
| **3** (1 min) | **Statements of Conflict of Interest** | ALL |
| **4** (10 min) | **Executive Director Report**<br>• Monthly Report<br>• Q2 Compliance Statement<br>• Q2 Complaints Statement<br><br>**MOTION** to Approve the Managerial Commentary for Q2 2021, AND that Q2 Commentary be sent to Town of Aurora, AND that Q2 Commentary be made available for public release.<br><br>**MOTION** to Receive the Q2 Compliance and Complaints Statements<br><br>**MOTION** to Receive the Executive Director Report | Suzanne Haines |
| **5** (60 min) | **Finance & Audit**<br><br>Report from the committee<br>• Board Financial Literacy professional development<br>• Interim Financial Statements to June 30, 2021<br>• 2022 Budget<br><br>**MOTION** to Approve the Interim Financial Statements to June 30, 2021<br><br>**MOTION** to Approve the unaudited interim financial statements for the 6 months ended at June 30, 2021 (the Q2 Report) and to approve the filing of the Q2 Report with the Town of Aurora as per the Provision of Cultural Services Agreement. | Laura Hostick |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | **MOTION** to Approve the 2022 Budget allocation request to the Town of Aurora for 2022<br><br>**MOTION** to Accept the Finance & Audit Committee Report | |
| **6** (20 min) | **Governance & Nominating**<br>Report from the committee<br>• Review of Governance Policy # 4<br>• Review of Executive Committee TOR<br>• Review of Board of Directors TOR<br>• Quarterly Risk Assessment<br><br>**MOTION** to approve the revised Governance Policy # 4 as presented<br><br>**MOTION** to approve the revised Executive Committee Terms of Reference as presented<br><br>**MOTION** to approve the revised Board of Director Terms of Reference as presented<br><br>**MOTION** to accept the Quarterly Risk Assessment as presented<br><br>**MOTION** to Receive the Governance & Nominating Committee Report | Parisa Sabat |
| **7** (10 min) | **Outreach**<br>Report from the committee<br><br>**MOTION** to Receive the Outreach Committee Report | Nitin Bagga |
| **8** (10 min) | **Fund Development**<br>Report from the committee<br>• 2021 YTD numbers<br>• KITS crowdfunding: KITS4kids<br><br>**MOTION** to Receive the Fund Development Committee Report | John De Faveri |
| **9** (10 min) | **Facility Task Force**<br>Report from the committee<br><br>**MOTION** to Receive the Facility Task Force Report | Eric Acker |
| **10** (10 min) | **Executive Committee**<br>Report from the committee<br><br>**MOTION** to Receive the Executive Committee Report | Eric Acker |
| **11** | **New Business** | ALL |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **12** | **Confirmation of next Meeting**<br>October 13th at 7pm via ZOOM | ALL |
| **13** | **MOTION** to Adjourn Meeting | ALL |

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**Aurora Cultural Centre Board of Directors**
**Meeting # 7**

In Attendance: Eric Acker (President), Nitin Bagga, Andrea Chan, John De Faveri, Cllr Rachel Gilliland, Laura Hostick, Christina Kerr, Mandana Gholami Mobarakabadi, Parisa Sabat
Regrets: Nicole Asquith Damien Chan, Cllr Wendy Gaertner, Sharon Kelly
Recording Secretary: Parisa Sabat
Staff: Suzanne Haines (Executive Director)

**Start time:** 7:00pm

**1. Approval of the Agenda:**
Moved by: Nitin Bagga
Seconded by: Andrea Chan
CARRIED

**2. Approval of Previous Minutes from July 14, 2021:**
Moved by: John De Faveri
Seconded by: Laura Hostick
CARRIED

**3. Statements of Conflict of Interest:** None

**4. Executive Director Report:**
Executive Director presented the monthly report and compliance and complaint reports.

MOTION to Approve the Managerial Commentary for Q2 2021, AND that Q2 Commentary be sent to Town of Aurora, AND that Q2 Commentary be made available for public release.
Moved by: Nitin Bagga
Seconded by: Andrea Chan
CARRIED

MOTION to Receive the Q2 Compliance and Complaints Statements
Moved by: Parisa Sabat
Seconded by: Laura Hostick
CARRIED

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MOTION to Receive the Executive Director Report
Moved by: Nitin Bagga
Seconded by: Andrea Chan
CARRIED

**5. Finance & Audit Committee Report**

Laura asked for feedback on the Financial Literacy presentation she prepared for the Board. The video is available to all Board members to view and ask questions. Feedback was very positive.

MOTION to Approve the Interim Financial Statements to June 30, 2021
Moved by: Nitin Bagga
Seconded by: Christina Kerr
CARRIED

MOTION to Approve the unaudited interim financial statements for the 6 months ended at June 30, 2021 (the Q2 Report) and to approve the filing of the Q2 Report with the Town of Aurora as per the Provision of Cultural Services Agreement.
Moved by: John De Faveri
Seconded by: Christina Kerr
CARRIED

MOTION to Approve the 2022 Budget allocation request to the Town of Aurora for 2022
Moved by: Parisa Sabat
Seconded by: Nitin Bagga
CARRIED

MOTION to Accept the Finance & Audit Committee Report
Moved by: Parisa Sabat
Seconded by: Mandana Gholami Mobarakabadi
CARRIED

**6. Governance & Nominating Committee Report**

Parisa presented the updated policy and quarterly risk assessment that the committee had reviewed.

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MOTION to approve the revised Governance Policy # 4 as Presented
Moved by: Laura Hostick
Seconded by: Christina Kerr
CARRIED

MOTION to approve the revised Executive Committee Terms of Reference as presented
Moved by: Nitin Bagga
Seconded by: John De Faveri
CARRIED

MOTION to approve the revised Board of Director Terms of Reference as presented
Moved by: John De Faveri
Seconded by: Christina Kerr
CARRIED

MOTION to accept the Quarterly Risk Assessment as presented
Moved by: Mandana Gholami Mobarakabadi
Seconded by: Christina Kerr
CARRIED

MOTION to Receive the Governance & Nominating Committee Report
Moved by: Laura Hostick
Seconded by: Nitin Bagga
CARRIED

**7. Outreach Committee Report**

An additional event for the National Day of Truth & Reconciliation happening on September 30, 2021 from 4 – 6pm in Town Park was presented to the Board. Board members were asked to promote the event once we have a link and attend if possible.

MOTION to Receive the Outreach Committee Report
Moved by: Mandana Gholami Mobarakabadi
Seconded by: Andrea Chan
CARRIED

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**8. Fund Development Committee Report**

The KITS crowdfunding campaign has been delayed to January 2022 due to the current pandemic related impact on schools.

MOTION to Receive the Fund Development Committee Report
Moved by: Christina Kerr
Seconded by: Nitin Bagga
CARRIED

**9. Facility Task Force Report**

There is a report to Council on September 21, 2021 that will outline the work the Town has advanced on the space allocation policy, booking policy, and the fact that the ACC lease and Provision of Cultural Services Agreements need to be updated. The Facility Task Force has asked Bonnie Kraft and Craig Mather to act as representatives alongside Suzanne Haines in the next stage of conversations with the Town on the changes to these agreements. These documents will come to the full Board as well.

MOTION to Receive the Facility Task Force Report
Moved by: John De Faveri
Seconded by: Andrea Chan
CARRIED

**10. Executive Committee Report**

The current strategic plan goals to be reviewed and a document of extension based on goals that can be advanced in 2022. Strategic planning for 2023 onwards will commence in Q2 2022 once the PCSA agreement negotiation with the Town has been completed.

MOTION to Receive the Executive Committee Report
Moved by: Andrea Chan
Seconded by: John De Faveri
CARRIED

**11. New Business: None**

**12. Confirmation of next Meeting**

October 13th at 7pm via ZOOM

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**13. Adjournment**

MOTION to Adjourn the meeting
Moved by: John De Faveri
Seconded by: Laura Hostick

Meeting adjourned at 9:05pm

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# Board of Directors – September 2021
# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

## July/August 2021

## Special Events

### Arts Talk Series #2
### From an Artist's Viewpoint: Art during - and emerging from - COVID
### July 20, 2021

The world pandemic stopped live performing and visual artists from meeting their public in person. This has been the largest crisis to hit a particular sector, and one that is reeling without clarity on when things will fully reopen. The Aurora Cultural Centre hosted a panel of artists to hear about their careers, how they changed during COVID-19 and what they see as the next steps to rebuild their career and place in the world's stage. Questions and insights were welcomed after the presentation. Moderated by Jane Taylor, Communications & Events Manager with Barbra Lica, Jazz Artist, Charles Richard-Hamelin, Classical Pianist, and Salman Khattak, Visual Artist and Instructor. Offered over Zoom.

### Arts Talk Series #3
### Lifting the Voices of Emerging Diverse Artists
### August 17, 2021

We live in a very diverse world, particularly in Canada, and there is a disparity and inequity in access for artists as they move through their career. Patrons joined us in speaking with an emerging diverse artist as we discover the opportunities and challenges moving from local high school education to post secondary, and what they perceive they will need to emerge into the professional art landscape. We open the conversation to what post secondary institutions are doing to welcome these students and how funders look for ways to lift up the voices of these artists through their programs. Moderated by Glenn Marais, Artistic Outreach Coordinator with Mary Anne Garcia, Admissions & Recruitment, OCAD and Sarah Cole, Emerging Artist. Offered over Zoom.

## Live Events Programming

### Signature Series
### Kobo Town
### July 24, 2021

Kobo Town is a Juno Award-winning Canadian-Caribbean music group, lead by singer songwriter Drew Gonsalves. A potent blend of calypso, wrapped up with influences ranging from ska, reggae, dub and rapso, this fan-favourite band brings an irrepressible energy to their live shows. What better way to celebrate the return to live music, surrounded by the beauty of Aurora Town Park on a Friday night!

**Heather Bambrick Quintet**
**August 20, 2021**
Heather Bambrick's live performances have been described as "what happens when Ella Fitzgerald meets Carol Burnett at a Newfoundland Kitchen Party!" A fan favourite of Aurora Cultural Centre audiences, her wide repertoire includes everything from jazz standards and re-imagined pop tunes, to Newfoundland folk songs. A born-and-raised Newfoundlander, her East Coast charm, incredible vocals and outstanding stage presence welcome the audience to an evening filled with laughter, stories, song – and true entertainment.

Heather Bambrick is a Juno-nominated artist who has collaborated with a Fred Hirsch, Guido Basso, Rob McConnell, Peter Appleyard, the Toronto Symphony, and others. Awarded Canada's National Jazz Award for Vocalist of the Year, she has three solo recordings to her name, including *You'll Never Know* in 2017. An accomplished voice actor as well, she voices characters including the Emmy-nominated Wild Kratts. She is also a beloved broadcaster on JAZZFM91.

## Kaleidoscope Family Series

**Njacko Backo & Kalimbas at Work**
**July 24, 2021 (rescheduled to September 25 at 11am)**
We had planned to offer this program on July 24th but were rained out. We have rescheduled to the Culture Days Kickoff headliner.
Njacko Backo is a singer, songwriter, storyteller and percussionist originally from Cameroon. Nominated for a 2021 Juno for Best Children's Album, Njacko's concerts are filled with energy designed to get children – and their adults! – up on their feet and grooving to the music. Join him with his quartet "Kalimbas at Work" for a lively family-friendly show geared to ages 2+. Filled with positive song, this concert will inspire audiences to take pride in the tremendous diversity of Canada – from coast to coast to coast! You'll discover a range of African instruments – from the kalimba and ngoni, to percussion instruments all kinds.

**KUNE – A Global Musical Experience**
**August 21, 2021**
Celebrate sounds from across the globe with a quartet from KUNÉ, Canada's Global Orchestra in this family show! Patrons discovered music from Latin America, Africa and the African Diaspora, the Middle East, Asia and North America in this 1-hour show, perfect for all ages.

KUNÉ was developed from a major initiative by The Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto to explore and celebrate Canada's cultural diversity and pluralism. The ensemble seeks to communicate in ways that words, politicians, and spiritual leaders cannot, and help to find a common language through music. The musicians hail from all corners of the globe—from Peru, Burkina Faso, Cuba, Ukraine, and beyond—and play instruments as diverse as they are, from the tar of Iran to the bouzouki of Greece to the sitar of Pakistan.

KUNÉ (which means "together" in Esperanto) released their debut Album on Universal Music Canada in April 2018 and will embark on their first US tour in the 19-20 Season.

## Aurora Pops Up!

APU concerts will continue through to October 2nd. Here are the performances in July and August. We are so pleased to be able to offer this free programming for the community, funded in full from Canadian Heritage's Support Live Art and Cultural Workers grant.

| | Dates: | Time: | Organization/Space: | Artist: | Discipline: |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Wed July 21st | 12:00PM | Prime Data Warehouse | James Brown | Guitarist |
| 2 | Wed July 21st | 2:30PM | Kingsway Arms Aurora | James Brown | Guitarist |
| 3 | Fri July 30th | 10:15AM | Chartwell Aurora Long Term Care Facility | George St. Kitts | Singer/Band |
| 4 | Fri July 30th | 3:00PM | Chartwell Park Place Retirement Residence | George St. Kitts | Singer/Band |
| 5 | Sat Jul 31st | 9:00AM | Aurora United Church - Rise 'N Shine! Breakfast | George St. Kitts | Singer/Band |
| 6 | Sat Jul 31st | 11:30AM | Coconut Village Spa | George St. Kitts | Singer/Band |
| 7 | Fri Aug 6th | 3:00 PM | Sunrise of Aurora | Jay Dee | Singer/Band |
| 8 | Fri Aug 6th | 6:00 PM | Machell's Alley | Jay Dee | Singer/Band |
| 9 | Sat Aug 7th | 11:30AM | Thomas Coates Park | Roy McRae | Steel Drummer |
| 10 | Sat Aug 7th | 1:30 PM | Coconut Village Spa | Roy McRae | Steel Drummer |
| 11 | Mon Aug 9th | 10:30AM | Kingsway Arms Aurora | Mimi O'Bonsawin | Singer |
| 12 | Mon Aug 9th | 12:30PM | Edward Coltham Park | Mimi O'Bonsawin | Singer |
| 13 | Tues Aug 10th | 9:30AM | Tuesday Breakfast | Mimi O'Bonsawin | Singer |
| 14 | Tues Aug 10th | 12:00PM | Machell's Alley | Mimi O'Bonsawin | Singer |
| 15 | Thurs Aug 19th | 3:30PM | Stewart Burnett Park | Justin Massey | Saxophone/Piano |
| 16 | Thurs Aug 19th | 6:00PM | Machell's Alley | Justin Massey | Saxophone/Piano |
| 17 | Sat Aug 21st | 10:00AM | Farmer's Market | Justin Massey | Saxophone/Piano |
| 18 | Thurs Aug 26th | 7:00PM | Machell's Alley | Aubrey McGhee | Saxophone/Band |
| 19 | Fri Aug 27th | 12:30PM | Hurst Bakery | Aubrey McGhee | Saxophone/Band |
| 20 | Fri Aug 27th | 3:00PM | Stewart Burnett Park | Aubrey McGhee | Saxophone/Band |

## Gallery Program

***Sangmin Lee: Flowers in the Park***

**Sat May 15 – Sat July 24, 2021**

This exhibition was online only as Town Hall is closed to the public. It is easily accessible online through our website and features a 360 clickable virtual tour, high resolution photographs of all the works, friendly didactics unpacking the two primary artworks, and accompanying Art Bytes videos released throughout the duration of the exhibition.

***THE CONVERSATION Group Exhibition and Sale***

**Sat July 31 – Sat Oct 23, 2021**

The Conversation, group exhibition and sale of 17 artists working in a variety of mediums. Artists share their creative gifts, thought processes that inspire their artwork and, the connections to the materials with which they work. An exhibit intended to build comfort in engaging with art and bring forth shared conversations with artists, it is filled with many mediums to ignite curiosities: wood, metal, clay, glass, textiles, oil, acrylic, and encaustic painting, drawing and photography.

Artists:

Lynn Bishop with Tom Loach, Lillian Michiko Blakey, Carmel Brennan, Ann Cummings, D. Ahsén:nase Douglas, Jean Eng, Fly Freeman, Dorsey James, Bert Liverance, Lynne McIlvride, Francis Muscat, Christl Niemuller, Mark Puigmarti, Saundra Reiner, Ernestine Tahedl, Gayle Temple, and Judith Tinkl

Note from Curator and participating artist, Carmel Brennan:
As artists, we have a gift that allows us to create our artwork, limited only by the materials we use and our physical environments. As the poet, essayist, translator, and cultural critic Lewis Hyde said, "A gift is something we do not get by our own efforts. We cannot buy it; we cannot acquire it through an act of will. It is bestowed upon us." He continues to say that the gift "is supposed to be given away…" (it) "must stay in motion". (Artists) thank you all for agreeing to participate in this upcoming exhibition, "The Conversation". It is not a commercial venture though maybe for some of you, sales will be a by-product. My aim in organizing this group exhibition is to encourage and allow you to share your gifts with viewers. I am organizing this program, but I am definitely not directing you in your paths. The sharing is encouraged but optional.

https://auroraculturalcentre.ca/the-conversation/

## Education Programs

***Summer Camps***

Camps started virtual in July and opened to in-person at the end of July. The room at the Armoury could house a maximum of 12 students. While all in person classes were filled immediately, there were some who had to withdrawal due to COVID related symptoms or anxiety. We provided refunds to these families. A full suite of programming is planned for the fall starting late September at the Aurora Armoury.

| Class | Ages offered | Dates | Enrollment |
|---|---|---|---|
| VIRTUAL – Artistic Imaginations | Ages 4-6, 7-12 | July 5-9 | 10 |
| VIRTUAL– Faces & Places | Ages 4-6, 7-12 | July 12-16 | 13 |
| VIRTUAL – Art & Media | Ages 4-6, 7-12 | July 19-23 | 7 |
| VIRTUAL – Colour Around Us | Ages 4-6, 7-12 | July 26-30 | 9 |
| IN PERSON – Colour Around Us | Ages 7-12 | July 26-30 | 10 |
| VIRTUAL – Art Olympics | Ages 4-6, 7-12 | August 3-6 | 6 |
| IN PERSON – Art Olympics | Ages 7-12 | August 3-6 | 11 |
| VIRTUAL – Famous Artists & Their Styles | Ages 4-6, 7-12 | August 9-13 | 6 |
| IN PERSON – Famous Artists & Their Styles | Ages 7-12 | August 9-13 | 12 |
| VIRTUAL – Art Through the Ages | Ages 4-6, 7-12 | August 16-20 | 6 |
| IN PERSON – Art Through the Ages | Ages 7-12 | August 16-20 | 12 |
| VIRTUAL- The Wonderful World of Nature & Animals | Ages 4-6, 7-12 | August 23-27 | 6 |
| IN PERSON – The Wonderful World of Nature & Animals | Ages 7-12 | August 23-27 | 12 |

***Kaleidoscope in the Schools***

We offered KITS professional development sessions in August for teachers. Discussions continue about professional development in fall 2021 and performances January – June 2021 in Aurora, depending on the school response to COVID-19.

**Administration**

- We have engaged Selam Debs, an anti-racist activist on September 16th from 9am – 10:30am. All Board members are welcome to attend this seminar on foundational understanding of about antiracism language & the framework in building an antiracism lens, looking at our history, unconscious bias, systemic racism and white supremacy in order to continue our diversity, equity and inclusion work, and build an antiracist workplace for our team. All staff will be in attendance.
- We continue to be eligible for the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS). The CEWS is meant to support keeping staff on payroll through this pandemic.
- Staff held Board consultations on ACC diversity, equity and inclusion initiative. This project continues into September. Those unable to speak live will be offered a survey to

complete.
- We have a new resource to encourage artists to self identify their interest in working with the Aurora Cultural Centre as both a

**Human Resources**
- Staff meet weekly via Zoom to check in, build future ACC programming and support programming initiatives
- Staff continue to work from home during the Town Hall office closure due to the Coronavirus Pandemic. There is no indication when Town Hall will reopen for our staff. Program staff can access our supplies when needed.
- Kalaisan Kalaichelvan joins us as our Performing Arts Producer from September 7 – June 30, 2022. He will be responsible for setting our live events for the 2021-2022 season and beyond.

**Facilities**
- We continue to have access to Town Hall for installation of the Gallery Program on the 2nd floor, and to access program supplies for online/offsite programming.

**Board Activities**
Executive Committee Meeting: August 16
Finance & Audit Committee Meeting: July 23, August 18
Governance & Nominating Committee Meeting: September 7
Outreach Committee Meeting: August 9, September 13
Fund Development Committee Meeting: August 16
Facility Task Force Meeting: September 13

**Community Connections/Artistic Events**
- Ontario Presents provincial presenting network bi-weekly meetings
- Monthly meeting with Director of Community Services
- Ontario Contact ONTOUR Professional Conference (September 8 – 16)

Respectfully Submitted by

Suzanne Haines
Executive Director