

AGENDA
Board of Directors Meeting #6 2024
HYBRID (in person and virtual)
Tannery Room, Aurora Town Hall
Wednesday July 17, 2024 @ 7pm

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 223 950 659 626

Passcode: Yd3QVN

[Download Teams](#) | [Join on the web](#)

Morry Patoka, Chair

1 (1 min)	Agenda MOTION to Approve the Agenda	Morry Patoka
2 (2 min)	Previous Minutes MOTION to approve the minutes for the Board meetings 5A and 5C on June 24, 2024 as presented	Morry Patoka
3 (1 min)	Statements of Conflict of Interest	ALL
4 (60 min)	Finance & Audit Committee - In Camera with the Auditor MOTION to Move In Camera with the Auditor - Interim Financial Statement - First presentation of the Draft 2025-2026 Budget MOTION to Approve the Interim Financial Statements to May 31, 2024 MOTION to Accept the Finance & Audit Committee Report	Morry Patoka Guest: Linda Thibault
5 (10 min)	Development Committee Report from the Committee - YTD campaigns and projections 2025-2026 Budget MOTION to Accept the Development Committee Report	Morry Patoka

6 (5 min)	Executive Director Report July ED Report – reporting on June activity MOTION to Receive the Executive Director Report	Suzanne Haines
7 (15 min)	Governance & Nominating Committee Report from the Committee - TOR 1 Finance & Audit Committee Terms of Reference - F2. Investment Policy - Quarterly Risk Assessment MOTION to approve the updated TOR 1 Finance & Audit Committee Terms of Reference as presented MOTION to approve the updated F2. Investment Policy as presented MOTION to receive the Quarterly Risk Assessment as presented MOTION to Accept the Governance & Nominating Committee Report	Edlene Antonio
8 (15 min)	Outreach Committee Report Report from the committee MOTION to Accept the Outreach Committee Report	Anita Townsend
9	New Business Board Resignation Board Secretary position	ALL
10	Next Meeting 6:30pm – Public Meeting (Virtual) September 18, 2024 7:00pm – Regular Board Meeting – Aurora Town Square Schoolhouse Meeting Room We are confirming location as we will be moved to Aurora Town Square but it will not yet be open to the Public.	
11	MOTION to Adjourn Meeting	ALL

MINUTES
Board of Directors Meeting #6 2024
HYBRID (in person and virtual)
Tannery Room, Aurora Town Hall
Wednesday July 17, 2024 @ 7pm

Attendance: Morry Patoka (Chair), Edlene Antonio, Phiona Durrant, Mandana Gholami Mobarakabadi, Sharon Kelly, Mary Ann McConkey, Sharmilee Patel, Anita Townsend

Regrets: John de Faveri (President), Stephen Lusk, Parisa Sabet, Cllr Michael Thompson, Michelle Lockie, Cllr Harold Kim

Staff: Suzanne Haines (ED)

Recording Secretary: Anita Townsend

Morry Patoka, Chair

1 (1 min)	Agenda MOTION to Approve the Agenda MOVED: Phiona Durrant 2nd by: Sharon Kelly Carried	Morry Patoka
2 (2 min)	Previous Minutes MOTION to approve the minutes for the Board meetings 5A and 5C on June 24,2024 as presented MOVED: Sharon Kelly 2nd by: Edlene Antonio Carried	Morry Patoka
3 (1 min)	Statements of Conflict of Interest None	ALL
4 (60 min)	Finance & Audit Committee - In Camera with the Auditor MOTION to Move In Camera with the Auditor MOVED: Mary Ann McConkey 2nd by: Edlene Antonio Carried - Interim Financial Statement - First presentation of the Draft 2025-2026 Budget	Morry Patoka Guest: Linda Thibault

	MOTION to Approve the Interim Financial Statements to May 31, 2024 MOVED: Sharon Kelly 2nd by: Fiona Durrant Carried MOTION to Accept the Finance & Audit Committee Report MOVED: Mandana Gholami Mobarakabadi 2nd by: Fiona Durrant Carried	
5 (10 min)	Development Committee Report from the Committee • YTD campaigns and projections • 2025-2026 Budget MOTION to Accept the Development Committee Report MOVED: Sharon Kelly 2nd by: Edlene Antonio Carried	Morry Patoka
6 (5 min)	Executive Director Report • July ED Report – reporting on June activity MOTION to Receive the Executive Director Report MOVED: Sharmilee Patel 2nd by: Mary Ann McConkey Carried	Suzanne Haines
7 (15 min)	Governance & Nominating Committee Report from the Committee • TOR 1 Finance & Audit Committee Terms of Reference • F2. Investment Policy • Quarterly Risk Assessment MOTION to approve the updated TOR 1 Finance & Audit Committee Terms of Reference as presented MOVED: Sharon Kelly 2nd by: Edlene Antonio Carried MOTION to approve the updated F2. Investment Policy as presented MOVED: Edlene Antonio 2nd by: Mary Ann McConkey Carried	Edlene Antonio

	MOTION to receive the Quarterly Risk Assessment as presented MOVED: Mandana Gholami Mobarakabadi 2nd by: Edlene Antonio Carried MOTION to Accept the Governance & Nominating Committee Report MOVED: Anita Townsend 2nd by: Edlene Antonio Carried	
8 (15 min)	Outreach Committee Report Report from the committee MOTION to Accept the Outreach Committee Report MOVED: Sharon Kelly 2nd by: Edlene Antonio Carried	Anita Townsend
9	New Business • Board resignation: Parisa Sabet has submitted her resignation as of this meeting. • New Secretary Motion: To appoint Anita Townsend as Secretary to the Board MOVED: Edlene Antonio 2nd by: Mary Ann McConkey Carried	ALL
10	Next Meeting • 6:30pm – Public Meeting (Virtual) September 18, 2024 • 7:00pm – Regular Board Meeting – Aurora Town Square Schoolhouse Meeting Room	
11	MOTION to Adjourn Meeting MOVED: Sharon Kelly 2nd by: Edlene Antonio Carried Adjourned 9:10 pm	ALL

Signed: Anita Townsend, Secretary

June 2024

Special Events

Supper Club

June 5, 2024

It was an evening of sophistication and artistry at the Aurora Cultural Supper Club on June 5, 2024, held at the iconic Niagara College Aurora Armory. This event showcased keynote speaker Denise Donlon, one of Canada's most innovative broadcasters and respected corporate leaders. She is renowned for incorporating music, journalism, social issues, and human rights advocacy in her work. Limited to an intimate gathering of 10 tables, attendees enjoyed a fusion of fine dining, art, and insightful discourse, in support of the transformative arts education program, Kaleidoscope in the Schools.



Glenn Coulson welcomes guests to Supper Club.

Visit from Dawn Gallagher-Murphy

June 18, 2024

It was such a pleasure to welcome MPP for Newmarket-Aurora Dawn Gallagher Murphy to the Gallery for an in-depth tour of Early Bird Gets the Worm. Curator Samantha Jones spoke about the origins of this vibrant group show, a meditation of the sentimental relationship that humans have with the objects that they choose to collect, keep and/or discard throughout the timeline of their life.



MPP Dawn Gallagher-Murphy and Curator Samantha Jones

Metrolinx Outreach

June 19, 2024

Aurora Cultural Centre's Outreach staff greeted commuters heading for the train on June 19th to share information about the Centre, including summer camps and other programming. A \$100 gift card draw and cookies from Aurora-based Cookie It Up were also on offer to engage with GO riders.



Commuters were greeted with a display featuring summer camp information and Cookie It Up cookies.

Aurora Farmer's Market

June 22, 2024

Staff & volunteers had a lot of fun interactions at the Aurora Farmer's Market, promoting our summer camps starting in July and engaging with the community through beading and coloring art activities. This is the first of several engagements at the Farmer's Market this summer.



Connecting with the community at the Aurora Farmer's Market

Performing Arts Programs

Mimi O'Bonsawin Family Presentation

June 2, 2024 at 11:00am

Yonge Street, at Church Street

<https://auroraculturalcentre.ca/event/mimi-obonsawin-family-presentation-2024/>

A Free Family Performance at the Aurora Chamber Street Festival!

Hot off a busy year, including the release of her latest album "Live In Concert", touring France and a couple nominations at the Northern Ontario Music and Film Awards, we welcomed the return of her storytelling in song, informed by her Abenaki and Franco-Ontarian roots. Accompanied by her drummer husband Ryan Schurman, Aurora enjoyed sounds from the forest, uplifting melodies and introspective lyrics woven with pop sensibilities and acoustic instruments.



Mimi O'Bonsawin performs at the Aurora Chamber Street Festival

A presentation of the Aurora Cultural Centre on the Aurora Chamber Street Festival Stage.

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/mimiobonsawin/?hl=en>

Gryphon Trio

June 7, 2024 at 7:00pm

Trinity Anglican Church

Attendance: 113 (255 Capacity)

<https://auroraculturalcentre.ca/event/gryphon-trio/>

ANNALEE PATIPATANAKOON, violin
ROMAN BORYS, cello
JAMES PARKER, piano

With a third JUNO win this year, the Gryphon Trio has firmly established itself as one of the world's preeminent piano trios, garnering acclaim and impressing international audiences with its highly refined, dynamic and memorable performances. With a repertoire that ranges from traditional to contemporary and from European classicism to modern-day multimedia, the Gryphons are committed to redefining chamber music for the 21st century.



Gryphon Trio performing at Trinity Anglican Church

The artists began the evening with a pre-concert conversation discussing the evening's repertoire.

Creative innovators with an appetite for discovery and new ideas, Gryphon Trio has commissioned over 85 new works and frequently collaborates on projects that push the boundaries of Classical music. Christos Hatzis' multimedia work Constantinople – produced by the Gryphon Trio in partnership with Banff Centre, Tapestry New Opera, Ex Machina, and Music Toronto – continues to enrapture audiences in venues such the Royal Opera House, Linbury Studio.

Gryphon cellist Roman Borys is Artistic and Executive Director of the Ottawa Chamber Music Society. Annalee Patipatanakoon and Jamie Parker serve as OCMS' Artistic Advisors in addition to their responsibilities at the University of Toronto's Faculty of Music, where Mr. Parker is the Rupert E. Edwards Chair in Piano Performance and Ms. Patipatanakoon is Associate Professor of Violin and Head of Strings.

Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/gryphon_trio/

Mia Sheard – “Songs Are Like Tattoos” Joni Mitchell Tribute

June 14 at 7:30pm

NC Aurora Armoury

Attendance: 135 (175 Capacity)

<https://auroraculturalcentre.ca/event/mia-sheard-joni-mitchell-tribute>

Is there a better time to celebrate Saskatchewan's iconic Goddess of Song? **Mia Sheard** and guest singers walked through one of the greatest songbooks of all time; Lori Cullen, Jennifer Foster and Brian MacMillan, the latter joining a band featuring Chris Gartner (bass) and Ryan Granville-Martin (drums).



Mia Sheard pays tribute to iconic singer Joni Mitchell.

Mia Sheard received classical training in music from the Royal Conservatory of Music. The pop singer-songwriter has released four albums over her career, including *With Love and Squalor*, and 2013's *Curse of the Vorus*. Fans of John Sheard Presents will recognize Mia Sheard from the many times she fronted vocals for this popular series. This show has its roots as early as 2008 when she organized a Joni Mitchell tribute at Hugh's Room in Toronto.

Upcoming Performing Arts Events

We're thrilled to announce our 2024-2025 season – "Up Close & Musical" – marking our 15th anniversary! Our inaugural Aurora Town Square season features a mix of familiar favourites and exciting new genres and artists.

July 11 at 11 am, all tickets and subscription sales went live! We're pleased to announce that almost all shows will now be reserved seating at Aurora Town Square. In the meantime, enjoy planning the upcoming year of concerts, events and family performances. Put together your own subscription of 3 shows or more, and receive a 15% discount.

[Watch the launch video.](#)

Gallery Programs

Early Bird Gets The Worm

Featuring Phuong Nguyen, Carrie Perreault, Joejene C. Santos, Jonah Strub, and David Trotter
In person: May 16 – August 10

Online: May 23 – August 30, 2024

Temporary Gallery Location: Aurora Town Hall, Second Floor

<https://auroraculturalcentre.ca/early-bird-gets-the-worm/>

Early Bird Gets the Worm focuses on the annual re-awakening of yard-sale season through a curation of kitschy, curious, and questionable works by artists of varying practices, cultures, and identities.

Throughout the Spring-Summer season, homes across the region open their doors for an annual purge of personal goods. Driving through the town of Aurora on a crisp, Saturday morning, one may find streets and boulevards painted with neon Bristol board signs, scribbled with arrows and addresses in permanent marker – directions to nearby sales. Beneath the sun at first light, neighbours that may be friends, acquaintances, or strangers spill contents of their interior life out the front of their home in hopes for a quick profit from passersby or seasoned bargain hunters.



The Barn at Mitchell Corners (2012) by David Trotter.
Photo credit: Oh Canada Creative

Early Bird Gets the Worm meditates on the sentimental relationship that humans have with the objects that they choose to collect, keep, and/or discard throughout the timeline of their life. Pulling together a collection of object-orientated works by five artists, this exhibition is a deep-dive into what compels us to our inanimate counterparts. Featured artworks span across a diverse range of media, and include paintings, a 240+ piece drystone installation, ceramics, and leatherwork amongst other explorations.

Featured Artists:

Phuong Nguyen, Carrie Perreault, Joejene C. Santos, Jonah Strub, and David Trotter

Build Your Alter-Ego with Jonah Strub

Exhibition Activation

Saturday, June 1, 11:00 am

Temporary Gallery Location: Aurora Town Hall, Second Floor

<https://auroraculturalcentre.ca/event/build-your-alter-ego/>

Bring your fabulous alter ego to life with exhibition-featured sculptor and ceramicist, Jonah Strub!

Pride month is all about being your most authentic self. For Jonah, that most authentic self is *Loxanne Creamcheese*, a giant, hairy, sparkly superstar with a big blonde bouffant. With plasticine, glitter, feathers, and a sprinkle of creativity, this workshop brought participants' inner Queen/King/Anything in-between into this world. Jonah provided guidance on how to design, create a base, mold, and embellish a plasticine bust or sculpture of your extraordinary characters and celebrate Pride month with glamour.

Fool's Gold

A pop-up installation by Laura Fedynyszyn
In person: June 11 – August 21, 2024
Location: Front Foyer, Aurora Family Leisure Complex
<https://auroraculturalcentre.ca/fools-gold/>

We are thrilled to announce *Fool's Gold* by Laura Fedynyszyn as our third offsite art installation at the Aurora Family Leisure Complex.

Fool's Gold calls attention to the increasing population of invasive goldfish in Ontario's fresh waters, and particularly within Aurora.



Fool's Gold at the Aurora Family Leisure Complex

A public reception and Q&A with artist Laura Fedynyszyn was held on June 12 from 6:30-8:30pm.

Art Bytes

Art Bytes are an ongoing online series that accompanies our exhibitions and give viewers an opportunity to deepen their understanding about the art and artists. Art Bytes are available for viewing through our YouTube channel during and after gallery exhibitions. Art Bytes can be found here: [Gallery Art Bytes link](#)

Art Byte Topic	Exhibition	Link
Fool's Gold at Aurora Family Leisure Complex	Fool's Gold	https://youtu.be/6aHudWDKCHw?si=X07sTiOrCFRgJnRA

Upcoming Gallery Events

Artist Talk + Leatherwork Demo with David Trotter

Exhibition Activation
Wednesday, July 10, 6:00 pm
Temporary Gallery Location: Aurora Town Hall, Second Floor
<https://auroraculturalcentre.ca/event/david-trotter-talk/>

The Gallery program will move to Aurora Town Square in September with 4 exhibits opening on September 21, 2024.

Education Programs

Term Classes, Workshops and Short Courses

The spring term education programs, most of which began in April, wrapped up in June, with multi-week classes, weekend workshops and PA Day programs. In June, we offered 6 youth classes, and 9 adult classes. Our commitment to providing a vibrant and inclusive learning environment is evident in the range of classes offered and the positive feedback received from

participants. Below is a listing of the programs running in June and their target age group. Registration for all Aurora Cultural Centre educational programs is now on the Town of Aurora's e-PLAY website. We look forward to welcoming our summer campers start in early July. To see full descriptions of current educational offerings, please visit: <https://auroraculturalcentre.ca/adult-classes/> or <https://auroraculturalcentre.ca/childrens-classes/>

Program	Dates	Age
Watercolours: The Basics (55+)	April 8 – June 24	55+
[After School] Comic Drawing	April 8 – June 3	7 - 10
Watercolours: Level 1 (55+)	April 9 – June 11	55+
Watercolours: Level 2 (55+)	April 9 – June 11	55+
Watercolours: Intermediate/ Advanced	April 10 – June 5	16+
Drawing Fundamentals (55+)	April 10 – June 19	55+
Watercolours: Basics & Beyond	April 11 – June 6	16+
Acrylic Paint – Beginner (55+)	April 11 – June 20	55+
Acrylic Paint – Intermediate (55+)	April 11 – June 20	55+
Children's Visual Art 1	April 13 – June 15	4 - 6
Children's Visual Art 2	April 13 – June 15	7 - 10
Youth Visual Art	April 13 – June 15	11 – 15
PA Day Program	June 7	4 - 12
Creative Artistry of Bookmaking	June 12 – July 3	16+
PA Day Program	June 28	4 - 12

Kaleidoscope in the Schools (KITS)

The KITS 2023-2024 season, which concluded for this season at the end of May, was available to 52 elementary schools. Each production had its own voice and vision for performing arts excellence with young audiences within the overall programming ethos of voices from Black, Indigenous, and racialized communities, with French and English offerings across several performing arts disciplines. School principals make their show selections through our website: <https://auroraculturalcentre.ca/kaleidoscope-in-the-schools/>

While no performances ran in June, programming for the 2024-2025 season has been launched with registrations and preparations well underway.

Administration

- Our 2024-2025 Performing Arts Season launched digitally on June 20th at 11am. Tickets went on sale on July 11, 2024. <https://auroraculturalcentre.ca/performing-arts/>
<https://www.aurora.ca/en/town-square/whats-on.aspx>
- Received Canadian Heritage Commemorative Grant for a National Day of Truth & Reconciliation event on September 30
- Temporary Amending Agreement is being prepared by Town staff for signing in July/August to enable our move back into Aurora Town Square in August.

Human Resources

- Many staff will be taking their vacation during the summer as we are prioritizing their work time to the fall months to support Aurora Town Square. I will be away from the office July

19-August 5 inclusive.

- Renewing all job descriptions for full and part time staff in preparation for move back into Aurora Town Square. These are being rolled out in one-on-one meetings with me over the month.
- Collaborative positions that support Aurora Town Square are in place in preparation for audience development through registrations and ticket sales, and supporting recruitment and onboarding of staff for September activations.
- Hosted a summer staff pot-luck in the Aurora Arboretum on July 5

Facilities

- Gallery in person visits continue Monday – Saturday from 8:30 – 4:30pm at Aurora Town Hall on the 2nd floor. Monday – Friday patrons enter through the main front door. Patrons are welcomed through the 3rd floor entrance on Saturdays and for after hours special events.
- Health & safety information for the Aurora Town Square Program Rooms and Aurora Town Hall from Town – we have not yet received policies from Town staff.
- Tentative move in dates for mid-August. Moving production gear, furniture and piano to take place late-August to early September.
- New office furniture ordered – to be installed mid-August
- As we decrease our activity in Town Hall, we will ramp up activity in Aurora Town Square.

Aurora Town Square

- Our staff are hosting hard hat tours with staff, Board members, Board committee members, donors, sponsors, instructors, patrons, and volunteers. We will continue to offer dates for those still wishing to see the space.
- Brevik Hall equipment is now in final quote with the preferred vendor. The Town contractor has completed the installation of the house lights portion of the project.
- Red61 (Town ticketing software) launched July 11, 2024 for our on sale date. Training and feedback continues with our team.
- ACC staff work with Town CSR staff to support positive outcomes. We look forward to more opportunities to work with our Town colleagues to help promote everyone's success.
- Hosted a consultation with the Jewish Community Centre, Prosserman Hall, which has the same vendor for their bleachers.
- In conversation with Town staff about Grand Opening plans and our participation.
- Discussion regarding security in Aurora Town Square as it relates to 22 Church Street side and our gallery exhibits.

Board Activities

Development Committee Meetings: July 4

Finance & Audit Committee Meeting: July 11

Governance & Nominating Committee Meeting: July 12

Outreach Committee Meeting: July 8

Community Connections/Artistic Events

- Monthly meeting with Director of Community Services
- Cultural Partners monthly meeting
- Union Summer opening reception with TD on June 25
- Amanda Martinez at Koerner Hall on June 26

Respectfully Submitted by

Suzanne Haines
Executive Director