



AGENDA
Board of Directors Meeting #10 2024
HYBRID (in person and virtual)
Aurora Town Square Schoolhouse Meeting Room
Wednesday October 16, 2024 @ 7pm

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 223 950 659 626

Passcode: Yd3QVN

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

John De Faveri, Chair

1 (1 min)	Agenda MOTION to Approve the Agenda	John De Faveri
2 (1 min)	Statements of Conflict of Interest	ALL
3 (30 min)	Insurance Presentation Board orientation to insurance coverage by Mike King of Acera Insurance (insurance policy available in Board meeting folder) MOTION to acknowledge receipt of orientation to Insurance program	Guest: Mike King
4 (10 min)	Previous Minutes MOTION to approve the minutes for the Board meetings on September 18, 2024, September 30, 2024 and October 2, 2024 as presented	John De Faveri
5 (10 min)	Executive Director Report October ED Report – reporting on September activity MOTION to Receive the Executive Director Report	Suzanne Haines
6 (20 min)	Finance & Audit Committee Report from the committee - Interim Statements to August 31, 2024; updated financial year end 2025/2026 Budget Presentation to the Town – November 16 at 6pm	Michelle Lockie

	MOTION to Approve the Interim Financial Statements to August 31, 2024 MOTION to Accept the Finance & Audit Committee Report	
7 (10 min)	Development Committee • Report from the Committee • Action items for the Board/Committee MOTION to Accept the Development Committee Report	Morry Patoka
8 (10 min)	Governance & Nominating Committee • Report from the Committee • Imagine Canada reaccreditation workplan MOTION to Accept the Governance & Nominating Committee Report	Edlene Antonio
9	New Business	ALL
10	Next Meeting • November 13, 2024 at 7pm All meetings will take place at Aurora Town Square, Schoolhouse Meeting Room and be available in hybrid formats. Please let staff know in advance if you would like a tour prior to or after the meeting.	
11	MOTION to Adjourn Meeting	ALL



BOARD MINUTES
Board of Directors Meeting #10 2024
HYBRID (in person and virtual)
Aurora Town Square Schoolhouse Meeting Room
Wednesday October 16, 2024 @ 7pm

Chair – Morry Patoka

Present: Morry Patoka (Chair), Edlene Antonio, Sharon Kelly (online) Michelle Lockie, Stephen Lusk, Mary Ann McConkey (online), Anita Townsend

Regrets: John De Faveri (President), Phiona Durrant, Councillor Harold Kim, Mandana Gholami Mobarakabadi, Councillor Michael Thompson

Staff: Suzanne Haines (Executive Director)

1 (1 min)	Agenda MOTION to Approve the Agenda MOVED: Michele Lockie 2 nd by: Steve Lusk CARRIED	Morry Patoka
2 (1 min)	Statements of Conflict of Interest None	ALL
3 (30 min)	Insurance Presentation - Board orientation to insurance coverage by Mike King of Acera Insurance (insurance policy available in Board meeting folder) - Note - to research and review Aurora Cultural Centre's needs for cybersecurity insurance coverage MOTION to acknowledge receipt of orientation to Insurance program MOVED: Michelle Lockie 2 nd by: Edlene Antonio CARRIED	Guest: Mike King
4 (2 min)	Previous Minutes MOTION to approve the minutes for the Board meetings on September 18, 2024, September 30, 2024, and October 2, 2024 as presented	Morry Patoka

	MOVED: Steve Lusk 2nd by: Anita Townsend CARRIED	
5 (10 min)	Executive Director Report October ED Report – reporting on September activity MOTION to Receive the Executive Director Report MOVED: Edlene Antonio 2nd by: Michelle Lockie CARRIED	Suzanne Haines
6 (20 min)	Finance & Audit Committee Report from the committee - Interim Statements to August 31, 2024; updated financial year end 2025/2026 Budget Presentation to the Town – November 16 at 6pm MOTION to Approve the Interim Financial Statements to August 31, 2024 MOVED: Steve Lusk 2nd by: Edlene Antonio CARRIED MOTION to Accept the Finance & Audit Committee Report MOVED: Anita Townsend 2nd by: Edlene Antonio CARRIED	Michelle Lockie
7 (10 min)	Development Committee - Report from the Committee - Action items for the Board/Committee MOTION to Accept the Development Committee Report MOVED: Michelle Lockie 2nd by: Mary Ann McConkey CARRIED	Morry Patoka
8 (10 min)	Governance & Nominating Committee - Report from the Committee - Review Imagine Canada reaccreditation workplan MOTION to Accept the Governance & Nominating Committee Report	Edlene Antonio

	MOVED: Steve Lusk 2nd by: Michelle Lockie CARRIED	
9	New Business • Work on our Vision and Mission statements to start in November, continue in January and conclude in February • A reflection on recent issues will be part of our work to determine how we shape our way forward • Board meeting, Wednesday December 18, will include a seasonal social for staff and Board members starting at 5:00, food and refreshments will be provided	ALL
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11	MOTION to Adjourn Meeting MOVED: Michelle Lockie 2nd by: Steve Lusk CARRIED Meeting Adjourned – 8:30 pm	ALL

Submitted by: Anita Townsend
Secretary of the Board

Anita Townsend

September 2024

Special Events

Aurora Town Square Re-opening

September 21, 2024

Aurora Town Square

After 4.5 years, we were delighted to return home to the incredibly beautiful arts hub of Aurora Town Square. Festivities included the Town of Aurora's official ribbon-cutting in the outdoor square, a Summer Camp Reunion party in Brevik Hall celebrating the opening of our Camp Retrospective, and the unveiling of our fall exhibitions.



Aurora's Town Crier heralded the opening of Aurora Town Square

Galleries Launch

September 21, 2024

Homeroom Galleries

Members of the public joined us in celebration on Saturday, September 21 for our long-anticipated return home to our galleries within the beloved heritage location of Church Street School; now within the larger, vibrant cultural ecosystem of Aurora Town Square.

Starting with a summer camp drop in reunion in Brevik Hall for parents and children who built the art in our camp retrospective installation in Great Hall gallery from 2-3pm.

Festivities run in partnership with the Aurora Museum & Archives started at 4 pm with a Land Acknowledgement and welcome in Homeroom Galleries. Lauri Hoeg, Anishinaabe visual artist and member of the Chippewas of Georgina artist led us through a song and welcome to the galleries. Artist talks were programmed throughout the event to 7pm. Light refreshments were available, as well as music between scheduled events. This event welcomed participants of all ages.

Discovery Days

September 21 – 28, 2024

Aurora Town Square

The 2024 Discovery Days offered free, bite-sized introductions to various arts classes! Participants met the artist-educators for a brief intro & demo and opportunity to give classes a try! All classes are offered in the Fall program.

2024/25 Up Close & Musical Season Launch

September 25, 2024

Performance Hall

The Aurora Cultural Centre was proud to invite VIPs and special guests to attend the launch of our Up Close & Musical 2024-25 Performing Arts Season. This special evening was hosted by comedian Martha Chaves and singer Steven Taetz, and featured live musical performances by singer/trombonist Charlotte McAfee-Brunner. Prior to the show, guests enjoyed refreshments while exploring Aurora Town Square, dropped in on a Discovery Days Printmaking Class Demo, and strolled through our new Gallery exhibitions.



Guests mixed and mingled in the new Aurora Town Square spaces prior to the launch event.

A Concert for Truth & Reconciliation

September 30, 2024

Performance Hall

The Aurora Cultural Centre was honoured to commemorate the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation through the power of music. Attendees joined Indigenous musicians and leaders for an evening which featured reflections in song. Indigenous talent for the concert was curated by Elaine Bomberry (Anishinaabe/Cayuga, Six Nations of the Grand River). This event welcomed all ages, who were encouraged to wear orange to honour thousands of Survivors of residential schools.



Indigenous leader Dr. Cynthia Wesley-Esquiaux was the host and emcee.

Performing Arts Programs

The 2024-25 Season – “Up Close & Musical” – marks our 15th anniversary! Our inaugural Aurora Town Square season features a mix of familiar favourites and exciting new genres and artists. Our first performance took place at the end of September.

Barbra Lica + Charlotte McAfee-Brunner

September 27, 2024 at 7:30pm

Aurora Town Square Performance Hall

Attendance: 113

<https://auroraculturalcentre.ca/event/2024-25-barbra-lica/>

Barbra Lica is a Canadian JUNO-nominated singer-songwriter who has performed her songs around the world, from New York City's legendary Birdland to international music festivals in North America and Japan. Her music – a blend of folk, jazz, and country – spans 5 full-length albums and has amassed millions of streams worldwide. Her debut album *That's What I Do* (2012) landed her on CBC Radio's Top 5 Jazz Singers list. She toured with her band to Japan for a debut at the Tokyo International Jazz Festival in 2015, winning thousands of new fans. Follow-up albums including *I'm Still Learning* (2016) and *You're Fine* continued to push on the edges of jazz along with folk and Americana elements. In 2023 Barbra was awarded the CMRRA Song of the Year for *The Ghost of Me* (2022) and was earlier this year nominated for two Canadian Folk Music Awards (2024). In addition to performing, Barbra writes for artists including Matt Dusk, rising K-Pop star Harumi and Taiwanese pop recording artist Morrison Ma. A vocalist and songwriter of exceptional talent, receiving accolades for her unique vocal ability that stresses subtlety, grace, and expression combined with her genuine warmth and engaging stage presence.



Barbra Lica

"Lica smiles when she sings. You can hear it. When you see her in concert, you'll see it too. In a word, refreshing." Tim Tamashiro , CBC Radio.

Charlotte McAfee-Brunner

"Trombone Charlotte" is the upstart discovery of the Toronto jazz and roots music scene who has a voice and poise that is arresting crowds. Her charm and passion was infectious and her trio showcased the venue.

Upcoming Performing Arts Events

Martha Chaves "I Got My Papers!" hosted by Ali Hassan

October 5, 2024 at 7:30pm

Aurora Town Square Performance Hall

<https://auroraculturalcentre.ca/event/2024-25-martha-chaves-papers/>

Pop! Pop! (Family Show)

October 26, 2024 at 11:00pm

Aurora Town Square Performance Hall

<https://auroraculturalcentre.ca/event/2024-25-pop-pop/>

Gallery Programs

Saturday, September 21 marked our long-anticipated return home to our galleries within the beloved heritage location of Church Street School; now within the larger, vibrant cultural ecosystem of Aurora Town Square. The Aurora Cultural Centre celebrated the event with the launch of three new exhibits.

Camp Retrospective: A Journey Through Young Artistry

In person: September 21 – October 14, 2024

Upper Hall Gallery

<https://auroraculturalcentre.ca/camp-retrospective-2024/>

Camp Retrospective returned as part of Grand Opening and Culture Days 2024.

Focusing on the young, creative minds in our community, this exhibition features over 100 artworks made by children (ages 4-12) from our 2024 Summer Camps. Involving the young artists early in their summer camp days, they play an integral role in forming the exhibition by selecting their proudest pieces to include in the show.

The Aurora Cultural Centre would like to thank our Summer Camp Staff for their dedication to the young artists in our programs, and for their role in organizing work for this important exhibition celebrating creativity in our younger generation.



Expressions of Critical Thought

Curated by Carousel Collective

In person: September 21

Homeroom Galleries

We wish to acknowledge and express deep thank yous to the artists for their work:

Curators: Chantal Hassard, Megan Hassard, Chafic Mouharam

Artists: Hala Alsalman, Alberto Castillo, Vridhhi Chaudry, Chantal Hassard, Renaissance, and Emeral Repard-Denniston

This exhibit has been closed.

Future Grounds

In partnership with Oddside Arts

Supported by the Town of Aurora

In person Beginning September 21, 2024

Aurora Town Square (multiple sites) and digitally on the Artivive app

<https://auroraculturalcentre.ca/future-grounds/>

In collaboration with the Town of Aurora and Oddside Arts, we were excited to unveil Future Grounds: a series of eight larger-than-life augmented reality (AR) activated artworks scattered across Aurora Town Square.

Each of the eight artworks within this project was designed by a youth artist, developed over months of creative mentorship and collaboration with GTA/Durham-based art collective, Oddside Arts. Featured youth artists include Sydney Achtermeier, Niya Ahmed Abdullahi, Justina Kandiotis, Narmin Khurram, Madison Kwok, Nazia Munir, Joycelyn Ng, and Luna Quijano-Barraza.

AR was incorporated into each of the artworks, viewable through the Artivive app, which is downloaded for free through any App store. When scanned through the app, each artwork becomes animated, revealing imagery and hidden meaning beyond what is visible upon the surface.

Opening and Artist Panel

Exhibit Activation

Sunday, September 22

Brevik Hall

Nico Taylor and Queen Kukoyi (Oddside Arts), Luna Quijano-Barraza, Narmin Khurram, and Joycelyn Ng discussed their creative ideas and process behind their work in *Future Grounds*. A public Q&A and reception followed.



Future Grounds' Artist Panel

The Living Corridor

A temporary mural by Annwin Arts and Joaquin Varela

In person: September 21 – January 19, 2025

Lower Hall Gallery

<https://auroraculturalcentre.ca/lower-hall-mural/>

This mural brings together the creative minds of Annwin Arts and Joaquin Varela, two artist collaborators from our 2022 Aurora Bell Box Murals Project. Responding to Call to Action #83 of the TRC report, the project brought together indigenous and non-indigenous artists to conceptualize and paint nine murals on Bell utility boxes across Aurora.

Over 80 ft in length, The Living Corridor wraps around the lower hall gallery of the Cultural Centre as a sentiment of reconciliation as we re-opened our doors to Church Street School for the first time in five years.



The Living Corridor

Featured Artists:

Annwin Arts and Joaquin Varela

Annwin Arts & Joaquin Varela Artist Talk

Exhibit Activation

Saturday, September 21

Lower Hall Gallery

Audiences of all ages were welcomed to a family-friendly public gathering including an artist talk with the team behind The Living Corridor.

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
No new Art Bytes in September		

Upcoming Gallery Events

Artist Space

Weekly on Wednesdays from October 9, 2024 through December 18, 2024

10am – 4 pm

Art Activity Room

<https://auroraculturalcentre.ca/events-for-artists/>

Crit Club

October 24, 2024

7pm – 9pm

Art Activity Room

<https://auroraculturalcentre.ca/events-for-artists/>

Congruent by Definition

October 24, 2024 – January 26, 2025

Upper Hall Gallery

Education Programs

Term Classes, Workshops and Short Courses

The Fall term education programs begin in September and run into November, including workshops and PA Day programs. For classes started in September, we offered 23 programs across multiple artistic disciplines including visual arts and music. Our commitment to providing a vibrant and inclusive learning environment was evident in the range of classes offered and the positive feedback received from participants. Below is a listing of those programs and their target age group. To see current educational offerings please visit:

<https://auroraculturalcentre.ca/adult-classes/> or <https://auroraculturalcentre.ca/childrens-classes/>

Program	Dates	Age
Watercolours: The Basics	September 23 – November 25	55+
Comic Drawing for Children	September 23 – November 25	7 - 13
Acrylic & Oil Paint Pouring	September 23 – November 12	16+
Wood Carving	September 23 – November 25	16+
Watercolours: Level 1 (55+)	September 24 – November 12	55+
Watercolours: Level 2 (55+)	September 23 – November 25	55+
Expand Your Horizons in Acrylics Level 2	September 24 – November 12	16+

You Can Uke It! Beginner & Novice	September 25 – November 13	16+
Ukulele – Beginner & Intermediate (2 sessions running)	September 25 – November 13	16+
Guitar – Beginner & Intermediate	September 25 – November 13	16+
Watercolours: Intermediate & Advanced	September 25 – November 13	16+
Drawing Fundamentals (55+)	September 26 – November 28	55+
Watercolours: Basics & Beyond	September 16 – November 14	16+
Acrylic Painting Intermediate (55+)	September 26 – November 28	55+
Acrylic Painting Beginner (55+)	September 26 – November 28	55+
PA Day 4 to 7 years	September 27	4 - 7
PA Day 7 to 12 years	September 27	7 - 12
Lil' Jammers Caregiver & Child	September 28 - November 23	1 - 3
Rhythm Kids	September 28 – November 23	3 - 6
Children's Visual Art 1	September 28 – November 30	4 – 7
Children's Visual Art 2	September 28 – November 30	7 - 13
Crepe Paper Flowers	September 29	16+

Kaleidoscope in the Schools (KITS)

No activity

Administration

- Material complaints were received about the Expression of Critical Thought exhibit resulting in the closure of the exhibit.
- We have a number of grants due this month: OAC music presenting (Oct 2), Canada Council Sector Innovation (Oct 16), OAC Touring & Circulation (Oct 17), Ontario Creates (Oct 17), OAC Visual Arts Projects (Oct 23).
- Applied for TD Ready Commitment grant October 2
- Attended Folk Music Ontario/Canada conference with our Performing Arts Manager Oct 3-4. This conference is looking at the possibility of coming to Aurora Town Square in 2026. We are stewarding the conversation with Town staff.
- Approved for funding for Queens Masters of Arts Leadership - Practicum for Jan - April 2025

Human Resources

- Please welcome Alyssa Spear, Audience Services Manager who started on Monday September 30th
- We have offered to onboard Aurora Public Library staff to act as Front of House Managers

for their events at Aurora Town Square.

- We continue to recruit part time and contract technicians to support our production services. We expect to need a roster of 20-25 part-time technicians to fulfill the production requirements in Aurora Town Square.

Facilities/Aurora Town Square

- We are moved in and continue to work with Town staff on required services and support. A huge thank you to facilities, booking and customer service staff as we create these much-needed relationships!
- HVAC systems are still not fully operational in 22 Church Street facility affecting ACC office spaces and ACC galleries. Town staff are aware and working on a solution.
- Internet/WIFI services are sometimes challenged in our office space. IT Town staff are aware and working on a solution.
- Office setup continues as furniture, wiring, lighting, locks, and print services are installed and completed.
- Art Activity Room is now organized and ready for programming.
- Brevik Hall install is now complete. Reporting to the Ontario Trillium Foundation is due December 1 2024.
- We are aware there are sound tuning challenges for some setups in the Performance Hall and are working with the production team to learn/adapt/prepare a plan for equipment adjustment with SME and the Town.
- Rental booking information is now flowing well to the team. Roles and responsibilities are being clarified and policies in place
- Parking policies are in place. ACC staff and regular contractors are not authorized to park in the adjacent lot however have the ability to park on Town streets adjacent to Aurora Town Square with no time limits.

Board Activities

Development Committee Meetings: October 10

Outreach Committee Meeting: no activity this month

Governance & Nominating Committee Meeting: October 8

Facility Task Force: no activity this month

Finance & Audit Committee Meeting: October 15

Emergency Board Meetings: September 30 and October 2

Community Connections/Artistic Events

- Monthly meeting with Director of Community Services
- Town Grand Opening – September 20
- Town Ribbon Cutting – September 21

Respectfully Submitted by

Suzanne Haines
Executive Director