CULTURAL ROUNDTABLE MINUTES
MAY 18, 2017
MICHAEL WRIGHT ART GALLERY, 5-7PM
Gathering Place #200 – 2253 Leigh Square, Port Coquitlam, BC


Note Taker: Zach Lundrie

Goal of Cultural Roundtable: share information and resources and work together to develop new cultural initiatives. Theme for this meeting: Canada 150: heritage as a tool for connection.

1. Roundtable

- Christina M: Art Focus exhibit and children’s book
- Julie Schmidt: BC Museum Week – high school students sculpture display in City Hall integrating their portrait with an element of their heritage
- Kelly Brown: Inviting the use of hashtag #bcmuseums for international Museum’s Day – Heritage is collecting “what stories are not being told?” (hidden or contested history). 100th anniversary of Vimy Ridge and the internment of Japanese war heroes during 2nd World War
- Sherry Carrol: Invite to Coquitlam Watershed Round Table AGM, Sat June 10, 2017 from 9am-2pm in The Outlet
- Meredith Seeton: the Downtown Action Plan is being finalized
- Deborah Solberg: Theatrix play June 1 at the Inlet Theatre
- Fred Hulbert: KWN is bringing back their heritage and sharing stories about the importance of the river, the canoe and cultural heritage of this place
2. Cultural Plan Update:
   Carrie Nimmo presented on Cultural Plan Update.

   • Festival Development Work Plan and $60,000 budget approved by Council
     • City staff interviewed organizers of nine festivals taking place in the Port Coquitlam to gain a better understanding of the support needed. Four key issues emerged. Festivals organizing volunteer groups require:
       1. Expertise and skill development
       2. Access to venues and public spaces;
       3. Funding and in-kind support and
       4. A streamlined event permit application process.
   • The main actions proposed in the Work Plan are:
     1. Select a Festival Development Contractor to
        a. Develop a 3-year Festival Strategy
        b. Provide festival information and resources such as a PoCo Events and Festival Tool Kit
        c. Produce festival development workshops
     2. Create a Festival Work Group
        a. Role is to be the voice of the community and guide the contractor and Festival Strategy with community relevant initiatives
     3. Provide funding for festivals by expanding the Community Cultural Development Funding to include a category for festivals
     4. Streamline Event Permit Process
        a. Develop new online event guidelines with one city staff person to shepard the application process for event permits
     5. Promote Festival Funding and Calendar of City Festivals
     6. Deliver two Festival Development Workshops in Fall 2017 for festival organizers
     7. Create a Festival Tool Kit that includes
        a. event permit checklist
b. information about grant opportunities
c. list of community resources
d. sources for equipment rental

- **Overall Expected Outcomes include:**
  o Increase the capacity of local organizations to produce events and festivals;
  o Animate public spaces and maximize facility use;
  o Increase the number of visitors and the amount that visitors spend, specifically in the downtown core;
  o Attract new festivals and events to Port Coquitlam; and
  o Develop key performance indicators to measure the success of festivals and events.

- **Call to Action:** Create a Festival Work Group
  o Send resume and letter of interest to Manager of Cultural Development and Community Services
  o Deadline: June 15th
  o Festival Development Work Plan and $60,000 budget approved by Council

- Hall of Fame for new Recreation Centre
  - Awarded $75,000 grant from BC Canada 150, City contribute $20,000 from Arts and Culture Reserve
  - Celebrate Port Coquitlam Heroes through interactive digital exhibit
  - Partners: Sport Alliance and PoCo Heritage

- **August 26:** *Port Coquitlam Canada 150: Celebrate our Journey*
  - Supported by $48,500 Canadian Heritage grant
  - Lions Park celebrating Rivers and Trails with hands on activities led by environmental stewards and entertainment
  - Leigh Square celebrating music, stories, history and art including
    1. *Journey and Connections* with PoCo Heritage
    2. Kwikwetlem Canoe Stories
    3. paint a square on the *Canada 150 Mosaic*

- Community Cultural Development Grants
  - 5 eligible applications in the project and development categories
  - Healthy Community Committee recommendation to Council for funding approval on May 23rd

3. **Heritage: Journeys and Connections**
   - What is heritage?
     o Many different perspectives from Cultural Roundtable participants including heritage as ancestral roots, language, legacy, natural and cultural environment and values and knowledge past down from elders
     o ICOMOS, defines heritage as a “broad concept and includes the natural as well as the cultural environment. It encompasses landscapes, historic places, sites and built environments, as well bio-
diversity, collections, past and continuing cultural practices, knowledge and living experiences.”

- Julie Schmidt from PoCo Heritage shared one of her *Rhymes of Times* poems, “My Journey to Canada” and then led a small group activity sharing our personal heritage
  - Where are you from? Where is your home? Tell your journey – write it on a leaf or contribute at [www.pocoheritage.org](http://www.pocoheritage.org)

Next Meeting: June 15, 5-7pm – NOTE NEW TIME!
Leigh Square Community Arts Village
Michael Wright Gallery, The Gathering Place
200-2252 Leigh Square