



CULTURAL ROUNDTABLE AGENDA

JANUARY 18, 2018

MICHAEL WRIGHT ART GALLERY, 5PM – 7PM
Gathering Place #200 – 2253 Leigh Square, Port Coquitlam, BC

Attendees: **Susann Sigmund** – City of Pitt Meadows, **Jen Chang** – Cutie Circle Ukulele, **Bruno Schneider** – Salmon Hatchery, **Counsellor Glenn Pollock** – City of Port Coquitlam, **Julie Schmidt** – Port Coquitlam Heritage and Cultural Society, **Kimberley Constable** - Terry Fox Library, **Teri Shaw** – Sound Waves Drumming, **Sherry Carroll**, **Lesley Perrie** – City of Pitt Meadows, **Johanne Dumas**, **Brad Nickason**, **Kelly Brown** – Port Coquitlam Heritage and Cultural Society, **David Sawchuck** – Theatrix, **Geoff Scott** - Tri-City Community TV, **Zohreh Hamraz**, **Jacob McGill** - Poco Youth Crew, **Jay Peachy** – Artist, **Roger Loubert** – Minnekhada Park Association, **George Lukach** – Honeycombers Wilson Seniors, **Yolanda Weeks** – Artist, Alternatives Creations Studio, **Christine Malone** – Art Focus, **Tony Kosta** – Polonez Tri-City Polish Association, **Carrie Nimmo** – Cultural Development and Community Services Manager, **Nikki Hillman** – Recreation Program Assistant, Arts and Culture, **Zach Lundrie** - Recreation Program Assistant, Arts & Culture, Klara Manhal – Arts and Culture Coordinator, Chris Thornley – Thornley Creative, Andi Douglas – Thornley Creative, **Ronald Boersen** – Artist, **Nina Buddhdev** – Culture, Heritage Arts Projects.

Note Taker: Nikki Hillman

Theme for this meeting: Marketing and Communications

Cultural Roundtable Goals:

1. Share information and resources
2. Work together to develop new cultural initiatives

Topics:

1. Introducing Klara Manhal, Coordinator of Arts and Culture
2. Cultural Plan Update
 - a. Community Cultural Development Investment Program – Project Category Updated Application, deadline January 31
 - b. Free Grant Writing Workshop, Saturday, 1-3pm
3. *Marketing Plan – Recreation, Arts and Culture*

Agenda:

1. 5:00 - 5:10pm: Welcome and sign in

2. 5:10 – 5:20pm: Cultural Plan Update
3. 5:20 – 5:50pm Roundtable – Introduce yourself and what is coming up for you or your organization
4. 5:50 – 6:00pm: Break: refresh and network
5. 6:00 – 6:30pm: *Marketing Plan: Recreation, Arts and Culture*
6. 6:30 – 7:00pm: Cultural Roundtable Feedback
7. Next Meeting: **February 15, 5-7pm**

Carrie Nimmo – Welcome Klara Manhal to the position of Coordinator of Arts and Culture. She is a:

- curator and cultural worker with a career spanning over 13 years including work in the public, private and not-for-profit sectors.
- holds a masters of art history in critical curatorial studies from UBC.

Recent work:

- leading the Canada 150 public art project for the City of St Albert
- assisting in the consultation of over 30 major private sector public art projects in Metro Vancouver
- establishing the Guided Tour for the Vancouver Mural Festival.

Klara will be working out of the Gathering Place as well as the Outlet and will support the Arts and Culture team to implement the Cultural Plan and develop arts and culture programs, cultural festivals, events, exhibitions, public art as well as a marketing strategy. Klara will also be the liaison with the Farmer's Market, PoCo Heritage as well as many of our cultural partners. Klara brings a wealth of experience to our department. We are currently working on updating the marketing plan for Recreation within the City and this will include Arts & Culture.

Our workshop coming up this Saturday, January 20, will provide information regarding our Community Cultural Development Investment Program (CCD Program) grant.

The CCD Investment Program – Project Category Application deadlines:

Project Category: January 31, April 30 and September 30.

Development Category: April 30 and September 30.

Organization Category: April 30

There is a free Grant Writing Workshop, Saturday, January 20, 1-3pm.

Roundtable Portion:

Nikki Hillman: I'd like to inform you of our upcoming Sunday Coffee Concerts. Many of you are aware of these performances. We have done something a little different this

year. On Feb 4, our first performance will be Mind of a Snail's "Caws and Effect". This is a shadow puppet show. Our next few performances will be with Kim Sato, a local Hip Hop artist who will perform "THE ROUTES" with the group Project Soul. Next we will have an Improv theatre performance with local theatre group Second Storey Theatre and our last show will be with the bluegrass group 5 on a String. I have brochures and posters available for you here.

Carrie Nimmo: We are extending the deadline for the Street Banner Contest. This is so we can add a new category "Diversity and Inclusion". Please stay tuned for the update. Nikki will be working on this program.

Zach Lundrie: Our art programs begin this Saturday. We have an exciting new opportunity for people. Teri Shaw, who currently runs Drumming for Vitality, is running a drop in Drumming program on Saturdays. Everyone is welcome; we just ask that you pay a \$5 drop-in fee at the front desk at the Outlet. The drumming circle will happen in the Michael Wright Art Gallery here in the Gathering Place. Teri has run two sessions of this program already and they've been well attended.

Julie Schmidt: Heritage is beginning a new series of Poco Stories. At the end of January we will be opening the latest exhibit. The community has donated a lot of artifacts to the exhibit. The museum is currently closed as we set up this next exhibit.

Kelly Brown: We have been tasked with programming the glass cabinets in the City Hall lobby. Currently, we have community art from local school. Next week the exhibit will change and be replaced with "My PoCo Place" by the students of James Park Elementary School. Equipped with their choice of medium (paint, pencil, crayon, cardboard, felts and more) the students expressed their creativity and created this collection of drawings and sculptures based on their favourite places in Port Coquitlam. Heritage has also partnered with select kindergarten classes from Irvine Elementary to decorate the Little Free Library posts that Avenues of Change have purchased. Heritage was approached as a partner because they wanted to include an element of heritage and history to the Little Libraries. The children will be provided heritage photographs to colour and decorate for the posts.

Jen Chang: Cutie Circle has been very busy and active lately. Again this spring, they will be offering their 4th free 7 week ukulele workshop. This will run every Saturday in April in the Michael Wright Art Gallery. You will get a textbook and can borrow a ukulele. We are still offering a ukulele drop in once a month at Evergreen Cultural Centre. We were invited to perform at the Polynesian Festival Day and at the Hyde Creek Hatchery.

Jacob McGill: part of the Poco Youth Crew. Port Moody will be holding Youth Reach where you can nominate a youth. This begins Feb 1 – Apr. The awards will occur on May 7 or 9.

Christine Malone: Art Focus is celebrating their 25th year anniversary with a month long exhibit in the Michael Wright Art Gallery. The opening reception is Feb 1, 7-9pm

Suzann Sigmund: City of Pitt Meadows.

Lesley Perrie: Programmer and Film Coordinator. Right now, they are accepting submissions for their gallery and reviewing their film policies.

Tony Kosta: They had 70 volunteers at their Polish festival and they've thought of a way to thank them. They will have a contest for Mr. Polonius. Anyone over 40 is eligible. This year the festival will end with a band and dancing on February 11 at the PoCo in and Suites. This will begin at 5:30pm; tickets are \$55 each with dinner included.

Jay Peachy: A multi-disciplinary artist. Runs pop-up programming with the Salmon Van. He also has a mobile café. He's worked with creative mental health, environmental themes and groups, and indigenous people. He's looking for activations.

Klara Manhal: excited to work with the community.

Ronald Boersen: Current Artist in Residence in the AIR in the Outlet. He's originally from Holland, lived in Israel for a time and has now moved to Canada. He works in clay but also does sound installations.

Sherry Carroll: She's working on photo collages. It might be good to reach out to the Blue Mountain Quilters Guild regarding the CCD grant. Coquitlam District Music Festival has moved to Trinity United Church. They offer programs for piano, speech and voice.

Kimberley Constable: Nice that the pile driving has finally finished around the Terry Fox Library. Have exciting programming coming up. They will have a STEAM program starting through Playground. There will be a Virtual Reality launch on Feb 3; March will offer Kilo Planks, Apr Animation, Spiro Bots and Green Screens.

David Sawchuk: He's lived in Poco for 24 years. He works with performing arts groups. He was invited to the roundtable by Deb Solberg from Theatrix.

Roger Loubert: FOLSS needs an AGM. History of the group is important to this community. He is chair of the Minnehada Park Association. They've hired a contractor Natasha Beuregard to take care of social media as the administrative assistant. The next Creative Café is in February. Contact Natasha if you'd like to be involved in the programming. Arts Connect recently held their AGM.

Johanne Dumas: Francophone Societe. Invited by Roger. Culture is important. The Festival Du Bois has been running for 22 years. This festival will run in March. She is a visual artist and is involved with a public art mosaic for the new francophone school on Wellington. Excited about great things in Poco, wants to be more involved.

Counsellor Glenn Pollock: Chair of Healthy Communities Commission. He loves the work that community groups like Art Focus and the Polish festival do in Port Coquitlam. He will report the information about the community groups at this meeting to the HCC.

Andi Douglas: part of the Thornley Creative Group.

Chris Thornley: president of the Thornley Creative Group. He's also an artist/musician and will be performing this Saturday at a concert in Surrey for the foodbank. Show is called Blues for the Bank.

Geoff Scott: socially responsible film school. They train people and give them access to the film equipment. They promote Tri-city programs and post these on YouTube. They are applying for a community cable network.

Zohreh Hamraz: ESP instructor, photographer, researcher and environmentalist. She's motivated by Roger.

Brad Nickason: art enthusiast.

Teri Shaw: Workshop facilitator offering drop in drumming on Saturdays in the Michael Wright Art Gallery. Also offers programs at Dogwood on Wed, the Outlet on Mon, and Glen Pine in Coquitlam.

George Lukach: Wilson Centre 55+. Holding a Poco's Got Talent in April. Looking for auditions from ages 5-100. Ask for Toshi Jackson.

Nina Buddhdev: Asian Heritage Arts launched in 2015. She's on the BC Arts Alliance board.

1. 6:01pm break: refresh and network (10 min)
2. Thornley Creative – Chris Thornley and Andi Douglas are here to facilitate the group and obtain feedback from the community.

Chris poses the question **“What are the challenges for Arts, Culture and Heritage in Port Coquitlam?”**

- Because Poco is part of the tri-cities, there is close competition for events, etc.
- Leigh Square and the Michael Wright Art Gallery is closed on Sundays so the community does not have access to the Gallery. It would be nice to visit on Sundays, especially for the condo dwellers nearby;
- if a group services the Tri-Cities, it's difficult to get funding from each municipality.
- Visual and performing arts are underfunded.
- Arts and Culture is under the Recreation banner.

What are the improvements?

- Tri-City Newspaper has expanded their arts and culture section. Before, there were only 2 paragraphs devoted to Arts and Culture, now there are 2 pages.

Thoughts on Social Media. How do we communicate? Ex. Facebook

- Good way to communicate with youth, media and platforms like Facebook are more accessible to youth.
- Minnekhada hired social media person for that reason.
- Decentralize the communication. Refine the narratives you want to propagate, push and spin it.

Leisure guide, do you like it? What do you think of it?

- Its excellent
- It's got everything in it – easy to find what you want
- One person commented they prefer to use the print version vs. online: it's not mobile friendly
- They don't do a good job of increasing registration
- Arts is lumped in a the back with crafts. No room for updating any programs once it's printed. Have it online and target your audience.
- Need a search function so smaller events are more noticeable. You have to search schedule of events is hard to promote your program on web site.

The Brand for Recreation, what do you think?

- Trees or people carrying a load. (Like laundry)It's not achieving the message.
- It's governance type of branding (government led) doesn't reflect the cultural precinct,

the buildings. The Leigh Square logo is more artistic. Overarching brand but need the department.

- Run of the mill, not descriptive enough.
- It says nothing about PoCo.
- What does it stand for? What's it about?
- I like the colours. I see trees
- Lots of people don't recognize Arts and Culture under Recreation.
- It's outdated.
- ARC or RAC a possible idea
- Why Rec? Is it the funding?
- Art and Culture is within Recreation. Maybe we need to include Culture?
- Needs to be more inclusive of the arts.

The new Recreation Centre Logo – Thoughts?

- I like it
- More descriptive, more detail about what Poco has to offer
- More inclusive

Call to action tagline “Experience It”, what do we think of this?

- Too old, font is dated
- Vague
- “Live your passion” was suggested
- “Connecting, Creativity, Community” was suggested
- It has nothing to do with anything, bland
- Pick top 3 words of the community for the rule of thirds idea was suggested
- Do it. Don't be passive, more active.
- whatever we do has to be inclusive of all ages, etc.
- of the tri-cities, Poco is the luckiest.
- think long and hard about what you're trying to achieve as an organization.

Adjourned – 7:10 pm

Next Cultural Roundtable Meeting: February 15, 2018