



City of
Peterborough

To: Members of the Arts, Culture & Heritage Advisory Committee

From: Karen Rennie, Manager of Arts, Culture and Heritage Division

Meeting Date: April 11, 2019

Subject: Report ACHAC19-008
Electric City Culture Council Overview and 2019 Events

Purpose

A report to recommend that the ACHAC receive a presentation on activities of the Electric City Culture Council (EC3) for 2019.

Recommendation

That the Arts, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee approve the recommendation outlined in Report ACHAC19-008, dated April 11, 2019 of the Manager of the Arts, Culture and Heritage Division, as follows:

That the presentation by Su Ditta, Executive Director of the Electric City Culture Council, be received for information.

Budget and Financial Implications

There are no budgetary or financial implications associated with the recommendation.

Background

The Electric City Culture Council (EC3) is an independent, arms-length, not-for-profit organization serving the arts, culture and heritage (ACH) sector in Peterborough and

the surrounding region by connecting individuals and organizations and by providing the leadership, advocacy, professional development, information, research, networking, programming and collaborative partnerships that strengthen and build the capacity of the local arts, culture and heritage community.

In September 2010, the City of Peterborough began work on a Municipal Cultural Plan. More than 500 stakeholders were consulted as part of this process and they identified multiple challenges facing the ACH sector as well as invaluable opportunities that could advance the work of this community. Participants called for greater coordination, leadership and concrete services to enhance the profile of the arts and develop the work of the sector.

A signature strategy recommended in the Municipal Cultural Plan was the creation of an arts, culture and heritage council to coordinate resources, raise the profile of and build capacity in the sector. The City of Peterborough approved the Plan in April 2012 and acted on this recommendation by organizing an initial community meeting, providing funding for incorporation and allocating operating funds to support the start-up phase of the Council. In May of 2012, volunteers from the arts, culture and heritage sector met and formed the Interim Steering Committee for the Council. Through this initiative, the Electric City Culture Council (EC3) was created and incorporated in November 2012.

The City of Peterborough continues to support EC3 through an annual grant for the implementation of programs and initiatives in the Municipal Cultural Plan such as partnerships and collaboration building, strategic leadership, Artsweek (a biennial city-wide arts festival), the Peterborough Arts Awards, professional development workshops and arts awareness programs.

Established in 2018, The Peterborough Arts Awards are annual awards that honour and recognize the excellence and outstanding achievements of professional artists, art organizations, and art supporters living and working in our city and county. There are six awards of \$2,000 each and professionals working in any artistic discipline are eligible for nomination. EC3 raises funding for the Awards from the private sector. Members of the public make nominations and winners are selected by an arms-length, peer assessment jury. The Awards will be presented at the Mayor's Luncheon for the Arts on Friday, May 24, 2019 at the McDonnell St. Activity Centre. The event is organized by EC3 and includes the presentation of the Bierk Art Fund Bursary winners. Other ongoing programs include the Electric City Culture Cast, the Kawartha Youth Orchestra Commissioning Program, CULTURE LAB, FUSE and the Cultural Incubators series. EC3 represents the ACH sector at/on multiple consultations and committees.

Submitted by,

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