



City of  
**Peterborough**

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

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

**Meeting Date:** March 11, 2021

**Subject:** Report ACHAC21-007  
Presentation by Music Ensembles Collective

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## **Purpose**

A report to advise the Arts Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee (ACHAC) of a presentation by Music Ensemble Collective.

## **Recommendation**

That the Arts, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee approve the recommendation outlined in Report ACHAC21-007, dated March 11, 2021 of the Manager of Arts, Culture and Heritage, as follows:

That the presentation from the Music Ensembles Collective be received for information.

## **Budget and Financial Implications**

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

## Background

This presentation follows ACHAC's 2021 workplan as decided by Committee. The arts community has been particularly hard hit by the pandemic. These presentations are intended to help ACHAC keep abreast of the local impact of the pandemic, as well as pandemic responses.

The Music Ensembles Collective is a grassroots consortium of the region's largest music performance ensembles to enhance Communication, Share Best Practices and move forward on Common Issues together. The current configuration of the group includes: Kawartha Youth Orchestra, Peterborough Symphony Orchestra, Peterborough New Horizons Bands, Peterborough Concert Band, Peterborough Children's Chorus, Peterborough Singers, Friends In Music, and Liftlock Bands. Together they represent a constituency of over 750 local musicians backed by an exponentially larger community audience. Maggie Goldsmith, President of the Kawartha Youth Orchestra will make the presentation on behalf of consortium.

During the COVID-19 crisis, it became clear that each organization would be stronger if they worked together. The goal is to keep the very rich musical culture alive and vibrant in Peterborough. Music affects people's lives dramatically - allowing for skills development and socializing for people of all ages, from very young children to retired adults. These groups have a significant economic impact through employment of teachers/coaches, instrument purchases, space rentals etc. Furthermore, they each amplify significant mental health benefits for players and audiences.

The first project was the sharing of the COVID-19 return to live-rehearsal criteria and ideas on how to keep operating during COVID-19.

In addition to sharing the COVID-19 return to live-rehearsal criteria, they have identified two further major priorities:

1. The development of a musical arts space to house musicians together in a common, purpose-built musical hub. They all require accessible, affordable rehearsal space.
2. Enhancing their profile to ensure the community is aware of what they offer for potential audiences, musicians, partners, and donors.

The presentation is to provide information for the ACHAC and share their priorities with Peterborough community.

Submitted by,

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