



City of
Peterborough

To: Members of the Arts and Culture Advisory Committee

From: Karen Rennie, Arts, Culture and Heritage Director

Meeting Date: May 30, 2023

Subject: Arts, Culture and Heritage Division Update, Report ACAC23-007

Purpose

A report to provide the Arts and Culture Advisory Committee (ACAC) with an update on the current and upcoming activities of staff and division projects.

Recommendation

That the ACAC approve the recommendation outlined in Report ACAC23-007, dated May 30, 2023 of the Director of the Arts, Culture and Heritage Division, as follows:

That the Arts, Culture and Heritage Division update report be received for information.

Budget and Financial Implications

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

Background

Municipal Cultural Plan (MCP) Update: The next steps for the plan have been delayed due to a reassignment of the funding in the 2023 budget as supported by the following recommendation:

Moved by Jeannine Taylor: That ACAC reaffirm its endorsement of the Individual Artist Grant Program and express its support for the transfer of \$50,000 from the Municipal Cultural Plan budget to fund the Program, if necessary. Carried

Refer to report ACAC23-008 for details regarding next steps for the MCP planning process.

New initiatives supporting the MCP

Performance Art and Public Art: Following the discussion at the April ACAC meeting staff initiated a gathering on Wednesday, May 24, 2023, in the Peterborough Public Library Board Room. After a successful first skating season, and on the heels of another brilliant Artsweek by EC3, the Arts, Culture, and Heritage (ACH) Division would like to open a dialogue about how to infuse the square with vitality throughout the year. The goal of this small group gathering is to generate ideas for performing arts pilot projects that may be produced in partnership with the Public Arts Program. A short term and long-term plan are being investigated.

Trail College Amphitheatre officially opens on May 31 and as a funder, the City is working with staff to support groups wishing to use this new outdoor community space. This space is part of a discussion for an overall performance strategy in the downtown.

Cultural Groups: Staff have initiated discussion with the New Canadian Centre and First Nations. The ACH Division is sponsoring an event during the Multicultural celebrations coming up this summer.

Peterborough Museum and Archives: To Honor and Respect: Gifts from the Michi Saagig Women to the Prince of Wales, 1860, feature 13 birch bark makakoons (baskets) that were gifted to Prince Albert Edward during his official Royal Tour of Canada in 1860, on loan from the Royal Collection Trust. The exhibit runs until November 19, 2023.

Since 1860 the makakoons have been part of the Royal Collection Trust and house at Osborne House on the Isle of Wight. They are on loan for exhibition by His Majesty King Charles III. The "To Honour and Respect" curators and the Planning committee have worked closely with the Royal Trust to facilitate the unique loan. During the exhibition there will be associated programming including workshops on quilling. Please visit the Peterborough Museum and Archives website for up-to-date information.

Summer discovery camps are returning for their 36th season with new weekly themes and a focus on education. Junior Discovery (4-6 years), Summer Discovery (7-11 years) and Youth Discovery (10-14 years). Eights weeks of summer camp run July 5 to August 26, 2023.

Peterborough Public Library

On Saturday, May 27, the Peterborough Public Library and its funding partners officially launched the Gord Downie & Chanie Wenjack Fund Legacy Space for Nogojiwanong-Peterborough.

Peterborough's first Poet Laureate Sarah Lewis as well as award-winning playwright, author and film maker Drew Hayden Taylor shared some of their work during the launch.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion statement for Arts, Culture and Heritage Division

Staff continue to work with the City's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Advisor to establish a DEI statement and seek input from the Arts and Culture Advisory Committee after the DEI presentation at April's meeting.

Public Art Projects:

For the past two years, the Renaissance on Hunter program has called upon local artists to transform expanded patio space and pedestrian spaces in the café district on Hunter street into a dynamic network of road murals and artists gardens.

For 2023 the goal of the Renaissance on Hunter Road Mural Mentorship Program is to build capacity within the local arts community for future Renaissance on Hunter programs. City Council recently voted in favor of having the expanded patio space program as a recurring project in the warmer weather. The artists responsible for creating the 2022 murals will serve as mentors for 2023 and ten mentees will be selected for this paid mentorship opportunity.

In addition, the 2023 Poetry Garden Project vision is a meandering wildflower meadow with form the backdrop for a rotation of poetry from June to September. The project is being developed with our partners from Green Up and Peterborough's second Poet Laureate Ziysah von Bieberstein who will provide curatorial oversight and support.

Submitted by,

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