

Arts Centre funding 'frustrating'

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Members of the Arts Centre Committee met for their regular meeting Thursday night.

Roy Blackwood, committee treasurer, told the meeting they had almost enough funds for the architect to proceed with the designs for phase II.

"I'm confident we're in the position to proceed with the architect," Blackwood told the committee.

He also informed the committee that they had received \$50,000, the last instalment of the federal Cultural Initiatives grant. The money was part of a \$500,000 grant handed out in 1987.

Sue Popesku, committee spokesperson, later said she was frustrated by the lack of federal participation in the project.

"If the provincial government could give a million dollars, you'd think the federal government could give a million."

Popesku and Mayor Pat Walsh are leaving for Vancouver and Calgary on April 23 in a search for more corporate sponsors.

They plan on meeting with executives from several corporations.

Popesku informed the meeting that the arts management consultant for the project will be in town April 25.

Jack Anderson has been developing a study that will make administrative recommendations for the centre. He hopes to meet with the various members of the com-

mittee to discuss plans for centre.

The committee was told that the art gallery's study had been completed. The study is the first step in receiving a \$100,000 grant from the National Gallery.

The study is to assure the National Gallery that the Arts Centre will comply with its standards. The National Gallery wants to be assured it can display its works in the new gallery.

Any funds the Arts Centre receives will go towards ventilation

and security.

The committee has already begun to plan its annual Radiothon. The event goes for six hours in October.

The committee plans to have major media celebrity present help with the pledges. A group will set up to organize the event.

The North Peace Art Society has planned an Art Auction to benefit the centre. It takes place this Friday.

Other committee projects are bingo and a booth at the trade show coming up later this year.