

**AGM Chairperson Report
Peace Liard Regional Arts Council**

January 31, 2009

The past year, 2008, has been exciting and productive for the Peace Liard Regional Arts Council. A few of the accomplishments are:

- The Regional Juried Show held in Fort St. John had more entries than ever before celebrating the 150 anniversary of British Columbia. Barb Daley conducted an educational school program which involved hundreds of school children during the Juried Show Exhibit. We are pleased to have Donna Ony of Chetwynd working on the next Juried Show in Tumbler Ridge.
- Once again, many Peace Country representatives attended the BC Assembly Conference in Maple Ridge. Lisa Bush has been an excellent representative on the Assembly for the region.
- The Regional Arts Council has responded to various requests and attended arts consultation meetings throughout the Peace Region and Northern BC on arts, cultural, and heritage development. The most recent meeting was in Prince George with BC Cultural Services where Yvonne Elden of Chetwynd, Tara O'Donnell and Lisa Bush of Fort St. John attended.
- The Regional Arts Council has supported the Art of the Peace Symposium and the Peace River Zone Theatre Festival both in Dawson Creek along with the our on-going programs of leadership, communication, and facilitation.
- A regional community theatre position has been added to the Board of the Regional Arts Council.
- The BC Touring Council representative Heidi Kux-Kardos has kept touring of professional performers in the region alive and well.
- Rotating the meetings throughout the region has proven to be beneficial to each of the communities. In Fort Nelson, we were able to involve more people and raise awareness by inviting arts related individuals to a luncheon. Both in Tumbler Ridge and Fort Nelson, additional people from those communities attended the meetings since they did not have far to travel.
- Arts Councils in every community are adjusting to the changes in their municipal government representatives after the recent elections. Five of the six communities had a change in Mayor as well as some councillors.
- Our Coordinator Ellen Corea has provided well organized management and direction for the Regional Arts Council keeping all grant applications and correspondence up to date. An average of eight to ten members have traveled extensive distances to attend each meeting during the year.

I have had the privilege of serving on the Peace Liard Regional Arts Council as a founding member since 1982, a director, a representative of BC Touring Council and the BC Arts Board and, for the past many years, as Chairperson. I will continue to support the goals of the Regional Arts Council though I am stepping down as Chairperson.

Thank you to all of the hard working and dedicated people who have worked to make the Peace Liard Regional Arts Council what it is today. Each Arts Council in the region is richer and more productive having the Regional Arts Council to assist in building arts capacity within the region.

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