

Arts Council Group Report

May 18, 2016

IRISH DANCE

A special workshop started off the month with the Watt Vancouver dancers flying up to participate. The girls were all taught their new dance steps that they will be performing at Nationals in July and all competitions next year. Those who qualified for Nationals will be focusing on polishing those steps and they are all working on dance routines for the upcoming recital, June 8th.

We have finished fundraising for this year and the fundraising committee is working on plans for next year.

Shannon Bolog

POTTER'S GUILD



Report to the May 2016 Arts Council monthly meeting.

Please welcome newer Guild member Lorna Penner who is representing the Guild this month

Bowls and all the associated bits and pieces are coming together well. Tickets for the Chili Bowl Bash will be available June 1st at the Hair Bin. This is our 9th year. We are very proud of this annual event. A lot of work but it is our major fund raiser. June 25th. Saturday, here at the studio.

Classes are finished for the summer. Electronic brochure for fall classes will be available in August. For Adults and children. There was a record number of children enrolled during the last year.

A work bee a couple of weeks ago saw all the kiln furniture, posts and shelves, cleaned, ground smooth and protected with a new layer of wash. About 10 members took on the job one Saturday.

On another Saturday a guild member organized a fund raising "garage" sale.

We're just finishing up a commission for a company wellness programme. We were asked to make salad plates for a lunch time event.

The mug wall is of course open every Saturday morning until 1.00 pm.

We are very much looking forward to, and are privileged to be able to host a renowned British Potter, Ruthanne Tudball, in late Feb or early March 2017. Ruthanne's forte is soda glazing. While we don't have a suitable kiln in Fort St. John there is one in Prince George with whose owner we will possibly collaborate. Meanwhile, kiln or no kiln there will be lots to absorb.

Over the summer we will get together, no doubt, for some outdoor firing. Last year we pit firing, horse hair work and obvara firing. Haven't yet decided on the format for this year.

The Guild held its Annual General meeting at the beginning of May. We are embarking on some succession planning for the organization. Meanwhile the Executive and Board of directors looks essentially the same as 2015/16. There will be changes in personnel and make up next year. The executive is also working on the constitution in order that we comply with the new Societies Act that comes into effect this fall.

Submitted. May 18th 2016.

FSJ Dance Society:

The dancers just competed at Dare 2 Dream in Edmonton this past weekend. They did very well – lots of gold standings and placings for both groups and solos. They definitely held their own!

That was the final competition for this year – next up are the year end recitals on June 5 and 6 – tickets are now on sale through the Cultural Centre. In June, the dancers will be doing tap, jazz and ballet exams. Plans for summer school are in the works.

Fundraisers are being organized for next year –stay tuned! ☺

Jennifer Decker

Public Relations Director

Stage North

Stage North's last show of the season was *Outlaw* by Norm Foster which ran this past weekend. It was a very good show. Stage North is taking submissions from potential directors and producers for the next season starting tonight and tomorrow night at The SPACE. They conducted a Lighting Workshop for members last night with a technician from Ballet BC. Stage North may do some summer programs with Ted Sloan before he goes back to school in the Fall. Ted plans to get his Educ degree now that he has a theatre degree. We hope he will return to FSJ after that. The Board added Teela Gould and Bronwyn Hall and Paul Swartz is Acting Pres, Matt Preprost and Kevin Smith are on the Board and Sue Popesku has returned to help with the bookkeeping.

Peace River Zone Theatre

The committee for the Zone plans to have a theatre festival in May 2017. There has not been a Zone theatre festival for 3 years now due to a lack of interest from other communities in the Northeast.

PEACE GALLERY NORTH

Tel: 250 787-0993

Email: gallery@npcc.bc.ca

Facebook: peacegallerynorth

Website: http://npcc.bc.ca/peace-gallery-north

May 2016: "The Long and the Short of It" - a group show from the Peace River Chapter of the Federation of Canadian Artists. The show runs from Friday, May 6 to 21, 2016.

June 2016: "Ravens" - work in a variety of media by artists from across the Peace region. The exhibit runs from Friday, June 3 to 25, 2016

FORT ST. JOHN COMMUNITY ARTS COUNCIL

Regular Meeting: April 20, 2016

Call to Order: 12:07 pm

Approval of Agenda: Moved by Tanya, seconded by Shannon to approve the agenda

Approval of Minutes: Moved by Shannon, seconded by Megan, to approve the minutes from March 16, 2016.

GROUP REPORTS

Fort St. John Film Society: Our February/March films were *Sleeping Giant*, *James White*, *Trumbo*. The first two films were slightly controversial and dealt with difficult real life subject matter which definitely got people talking about them (good and bad). We on the film society board are still talking about *Sleeping Giant* and love that it was made and set in Canada!

Everyone was excited about *Trumbo* and actor Bryan Cranston was a draw.

April films

The Legend of Barney Thomson and *Carol*: Emma Thomson in the 'Legend of Barney Thomson' was a hit and Cate Blanchett was wonderful in 'Carol'.

Last movie of the season: Maggie Smith stars in *The Lady In The Van* and we hope to see everyone at the movies!

We will be inviting people to have input into the films we bring in next season. Keep an eye on your email and Facebook

The Move Dance Centre: Just finished the North Peace Festival – dancers did well, three chosen to attend Provincials.

- Will be attending Dare to Dream in Edmonton May 12 – 15.
- Year end recitals will be held June 5 with afternoon and evening shows. The Move Dance Centre Company Showcase will be held June 6.
- Dancers will be taking ballet, tap and jazz exams in June.
 - Planning for summer school has begun.

Most fundraisers for this year are wrapped up. Planning has started for next year's fundraisers

The North Peace Community Choir, Northern Winds Community Band and Northern Lights Youth Choir will present *Spring Soirée: a celebration of music and community* on May 6 at the North Peace Cultural Centre. Soirée is defined as "an evening party or gathering, typically in a private house, for conversation or music." The North Peace Cultural Centre, the touchstone of the arts, is like home to many of the artists in the North Peace region, which is why we choose to celebrate our musical season there. The music will be diverse in theme and style. Come join us and hear Mozart, Star Trek, Ozzy Osbourne, Gustav Holst, Newfie Folk Songs, original Canadian compositions and more all in one evening, under one roof.

Tickets are \$15 for Adults and \$10 for Children/Seniors. Doors open at 6:30 and the show starts at 7pm. We encourage you to come early and stay late to converse with Fort St. John's energetic musicians and music lovers! We would also like to extend a big thank you to the North Peace Cultural Centre, FSJ Arts Council and the City of Fort St. John for making this event possible.

The Community Band and the two choirs also participated in the Peace River North Festival.

Peace River North Festival: The festival was held from April 10 – 17 and was a success overall, although we are starting to find the 8 days barely enough to fit in all classes. Students in the piano and strings division benefitted from an adjudicator who spent time working with every participant. In band, we were pleased to have all our School District 60 bands participating in the festival along with three terrific bands from Fort Nelson.

Dance entries were up this year with dancers coming from Dawson Creek, Fort Nelson, Beaverlodge, Quesnel and Grande Prairie and the level of performance was very high.

We will have a full slate of provincial delegates participating in dance at our home provincials as well as one delegate and three observers from piano and strings. See the website for full results of the festival

Our focus will now be on the Provincials (May 31-June 4), particularly in recruiting volunteers and fundraising. We will also be starting a drive to sell festival passes, as a fundraiser and also to encourage people to come out and enjoy the provincial performances. Passes are only \$10 and get you into every festival session except the highlights concerts. If you would like to help out by selling a few passes to your friends and family, contact Dena Mora at dmora@prn.bc.ca.

Fort St. John Irish Dance: This past month the four qualifying dancers traveled to Ireland for World's. They all did well and we are very proud of them!

This last week, all of the competitive dancers traveled to Edmonton for the last mandatory competition of the year. This is the competition that the new competitors go to, so it was a pleasure to watch the eight young ones dance on a stage for the first time. They placed well, taking many 1st and 2nd place medals and will be moving up into the Advanced Beginner group.

With local competitions done for the year the focus is now on the Nationals coming up in July and learning new steps for that, as well as the spring recital in June.

For fundraising, we have completed another bottle drive, and are currently doing a special Mother's Day combo of Gold Canyon Candles and Gladiola bulbs.

Spectrum Art: Classes will be starting again at the Artspost on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

North Peace Cultural Centre: The Peace River North Festival was held at the Centre over 8 days and the new dimmer rack worked perfectly. There are many recitals coming up through the next two months. Bright Nights in June will feature the evening gala on June 24th and the free art day on the 25th. Any group who would like to set up a promotion booth is welcome to do so. Sue will set at a table for the Arts Council and groups who cannot man a booth can add promotional material to the Arts Council display.

North Peace Music Teachers Association: Students performed at a recital on April 9, followed by the Peace River North Festival. Piano and violin students received some wonderful feedback from adjudicator, Maria Medlow.

Stage North: The play, *Outlaw*, will be playing on May 12, 13 and 14 at the Cultural Centre. Ted Sloan will be collaborating with the School District to present "Sneezes".

Deb Bowyer: Will start offering classes in Zentangle. Watch the website for more information.

North Peace Potters Guild: Classes are winding down. Guild members are busy preparing for the Chili Bowl bash in June.

Flying Colours Artists Society: Exhibit now on display at the Arts Gallery.

Federation of Canadian Artists Peace River Chapter: A juried show will open at Peace Gallery North on May 6th and will run until May 21st.

School District 60 Band: Band will hold a "drive-a-thon" fundraiser on April 30 in cooperation with Fort Motors. The year-end band recital will be held on May 5 at the Cultural Centre.

BUSINESS

Constitution Review: Tanya will do the initial review to prepare for the new Societies Act.

Love BC: The Arts Council will participate in the Love Fort St. John project. We will have a photo shoot and an article written to be included on the website.

New School: The Art Council was invited to participate in planning sessions for the design of the new elementary school.

Gaming Grant Applications: Margaret is working on our application for Arts Awareness, Scholarships and the Banner program. Applications are due by the end of May.

Chamber Magazine: Sue is preparing articles on the arts for the Chamber magazine and the Visitor Guide.

PROGRAM REPORTS

Banners: The banners are in and they will go up on the city streets in time for the Provincial Festival and the Artwalk. Four banners will be hung in the Cultural Centre. We have made enough money through the patron program to pay for the banners. All of the tote bags made from last year's banners have been sold to the Airport and they will take the bags made from the rest of the banners next year.

Flower Pots: Communities in Bloom will use 10 of our flower pots for the duration of the project. NEAT is looking for artists to paint at the community garden.

ArtsPost: Moved by Tanya, seconded by Jennifer to spend up to \$200 on the gardens and flowerpots at the ArtsPost.

Artwalk 2016: Artists and venues have until April 29 to register to participate in the Artwalk. Registration fee is \$20 for artists and \$35 for businesses. 28 artists have already signed up and we need a few more businesses to display the work. Mark Bodnar has designed the brochure and Ideal OS is doing the printing.

Meeting Adjourned: 12:42 pm

Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 18, 2016 at noon at the ArtsPost.