

**Fort St. John Community Arts Council  
Special Meeting-Finances  
November 9, 2010 Artspost**

*The purpose of the meeting is to work toward the immediate steps the Arts Council must take to have enough funds to meet its obligations .*

**PRESENT:** Pam Clemen, Richelle Gauvin, Lisa Bush, Dayna Manning, Sonja Butts, Margaret May, Aleisha Hendry, Rosemary Landry, Henry See , Brent Hodson      **FACILITATOR:** Sue Popesku  
**ABSENT:** Shannon Brash, Sonja Wilson, Melody Soychuk      **RESIGNED:** Daria Dolson

**Current bank situation:**

Bank balance \$4215

- 800 owing to member groups for 2009 grants

+2000 due from the High On Ice for wages paid out for HOI Coordinator

Total of \$5415 funds remaining. *This is about 2 month expenses (\$2600 each month) for the Arts Council*

All expenses are paid for November. Next funds to arrive are BC Gov't fund \$7657 in March and \$9500 from the City of FSJ in April.

**Current crisis:** Funds are available to pay expenses for Dec. and Jan. But no funds will be available for February/March/ April . When BC Govt and City pay the grants, money will only be enough to cover 5 months with no other known funds coming in after that.

**Options for the Arts Council:**

- Rent out part of the Artspost building
- Lease Artspost building to someone else
- Break lease/negotiate end to lease
- Open gift shop
- Fundraise \$6000 for crisis but needs plan for sustainable fundraising
- As of Dec 1, use the remaining funds for a professional consultant for strategic planning.
- Do a major event
- Get immediate sponsors
- Get the annual donor to pay right away

**Additional Observations:**

- Long term is important but relevant, immediate action is necessary at this time. Strategic planning is required for long term.
- Artspost is draining the funds- hard to get sponsors when perception is that Artspost is for one group only
- Artspost was developed in partnership with the Potters and Potters needed time to develop programs to bring in more money.

- Mandate of the arts council is to provide creative opportunities in the community. This was questioned and then referred to the Constitution.
- Using the work space in the Artspost and renting it out was not established enough.

### Three Options the Arts Council could take:

#### A) THE BUILDING

1. Sub lease the building
2. Leave building to Potters

**Pros**  
 3 different spaces  
 money coming in  
 they keep space  
 CAC breathes easier  
 History/effort sustained

**Cons**  
 hard to sell  
 need more renovations  
 Office of CAC to go elsewhere  
 event preparation HOI/Flower  
 pots to go elsewhere

3. Everyone moves out

**ACTION TO BE TAKEN:** Sonja B. to discuss with owners of the building the costs and timing for subleasing and for breaking the lease. Brent H. is to check on rent costs and space available for NPCC, Visitors info centre, Res Centre (Rotary Building), Remax Building, Enerplex.

#### B) FUNDRAISING

1. Immediate fundraising to bridge the crisis of the 3 months missing expenses

**Pros**  
 we would have money

**Cons**  
 nothing to sell to sponsors  
 board is not labour active  
 no sustainable plan with that  
 hard to get \$

**ACTION TO BE TAKEN:** Pam C. to look into Casino event. Margaret M and Rosemary L to brainstorm fundraising ideas that are minimal labour and cost effective.

#### C) CURRENT FUNDS TO CONSULTANT

1. Immediately hire a professional consultant for strategic planning

**Pros**  
 would have a plan  
 board would do action

**Cons**  
 leave a bad image  
 self indulgent

**ACTION TO BE TAKEN:** Dayna M to get fees and timing of professional consultants and who might be available for the work.

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#### MISSING BOARD MEMBERS:

**ACTION TO BE TAKEN:** Lisa B. will contact all missing Board members and ask about their status on the Board. If they are no longer serving on the Board, she will ask for a letter of resignation in writing.

#### NEXT MEETING:

***The Arts Council Board of Directors will meet on November 17 at 7pm at the Artspost to bring all information to the table and a course of action will be outlined to move the Arts Council toward a solution.***

Submitted by Sue Popesku Facilitator Nov 10, 2010  
 250-785-6214 spopesku@shaw.ca