

Fort St. John Community



**ARTS
COUNCIL**

"Shaping Today, Inspiring Tomorrow"

Box 6474, Fort St. John, BC V1J 4H9

www.fsjarts.org

info@fsjarts.org

250-787-2781 phone 250-787-9781 fax

Feb 3, 2016

ACTIVE ARTS IN FORT ST. JOHN- 30 Groups

The following list is a work in progress and includes most of the member groups (of which there are 34) of the Arts Council plus some businesses and groups that provide cultural activities to the community. This is not a complete list of groups nor businesses involved in arts and culture but it is a beginning of an understanding about how many facets of arts and cultural are working in this community.

AT THE ARTPOST:

The Artspost is the office of the Fort St. John Arts Council and the studios for the North Peace Potter's Guild, the Peace Country Spinners and Weavers and Spectrum Painting Studio. The Artspost is a work space for Arts Council programs such as the annual Recycled Christmas Decorations sale, street banners program and various arts projects and fundraising programs. The multi-purpose area is available to member groups for meetings and activities. The Artspost is supported through fundraising by the member groups of the Arts Council and the City of Fort St. John supports the centre through exemption of taxes.

Location: Artspost 10320 94 Ave Contact: Rosemary Landry Chairman Phone 250-787-2781 Email: info@fsjarts.org

North Peace Spinners and Weavers' Guild The Guild is a non-profit organization dedicated to education and activity in the fiber arts; specifically spinning, weaving and dyeing. The Spinners and Weavers have a small studio in the lobby of the Artspost at 10320 94 Avenue. The studio is open to members and new members are always welcome. As a member of the Peace River Spinners and Weavers of Alberta/BC, they attend workshops, create exhibits and share information on traditional and new techniques in the art. Check out their website at www.npswg.ca

Location: Artspost: Contact: President: Karla King President Email: karlaking76@gmail.com

North Peace Potters' Guild The Guild was established in 1969 to provide space for work in clay, to raise awareness of ceramics, and to provide educational opportunities in the community. The guild operates a members' studio in the Artspost. Classes are offered regularly for adults for instruction in hand-building (with some sculpture), wheel throwing, and glaze discovery. The Guild features a Mug Wall open every Saturday 10am-1pm. Mugs hand made by potters, novice and more experienced potters, are priced for sale. The number of classes for children are increasing with the growing demand. The guild welcomes interested, adult individuals to the regular (non studio use) membership. Studio membership is available when established criteria are met. The annual "Summer Solstice Chili Bowl Bash", workshops and other activities keep the pottery studio busy.

Location: ArtsPost: Contact: Heather Hannaford, Guild Leader – Phone: 785-5550. Email: scarab@explornet.com

Spectrum Studios Painting Classes and workshops in oil, watercolour, pencil drawing, and chalk for young and not-so-young are taught by Tanya Shymko in the Artspost each week. Registrations for classes are in the Fall, Winter and Spring and workshops are held on the weekends.

Contact: Tanya Shymko shymkotg@netscape.net 250-794-1383

INDEPENDENT GROUPS:

FSJ Country Quilters' Guild The FSJ Country Quilters' Guild has 60 members and meets the second and fourth Monday of the month at the Salvation Army on 100 Avenue. Annual group projects include block exchange, row robin, round robin, mystery quilt, technique classes, and secret sister. The group has no permanent home and is searching for a large space to put up quilting loams for group work, hold workshops, and teach the fine art of quilting. Members work individually in their homes and come together as a group for meetings and workshops.

Contact: Heather Truscott Phone: 250-785-0706 Email: espan@shaw.ca

FSJ Film Society The Fort St. John Film Society brings to the community films the community might not otherwise have access to. Through its affiliation with the Toronto International Film Circuit, a division of the Toronto International Film Festival, the Fort St. John Film Society is able to present current and international independent films at the Aurora Cinema. Fort St. John is one of 185 communities across Canada that is on the Film Circuit. The Society meets twice a year, at meetings open to viewers, to select films from a listing provided by Film Circuit. At least 10 films are selected annually. Brochures are available at the public library and on film night.

Contact Email: filmsociety.president@gmail.com Megan Singh 250-264-7838

Flying Colours Artists' Association Flying Colours Artists' Association provides support and educational opportunities for practicing artists through the sponsorship of art workshops, artist retreats and mentoring. The Association has obtained a printing press and artists are now using a wide variety of printmaking approaches to create diverse original hand-pulled prints. Member's work may be viewed on a year 'round basis at Peace Gallery North in the North Peace Cultural Centre. Look for their annual show in the spring. Many of the members are also members of the Peace River Chapter of the Federation of Canadian Artists.

Contact: Miep Burgerjon mburgerj@pris.ca Barb Daley President barbarajdaley@gmail.com Sandy Trout sttroutd@gmail.com or view the website www.flyingcolours.com

Federation of Canadian Artists, Peace River Chapter A number of Fort St. John artists have been juried into the Federation of Canadian Artists and exhibit their work locally, regionally and provincially. Many members of the chapter have had their work juried into national shows at the Federation Gallery where they have received awards of distinction. The Peace River Chapter of the FCA is recognized by this 75 year-old national organization for the diversity of style, range of media and approaches used by its members. The Chapter is committed to on-going learning and professional development.

Contact: Charlie Parslow cparslow@pris.ca or Sandy Trout sttroutd@gmail.com View the website www.prfca.com

North Peace Historical Society The North Peace Historical Society has been informally established since September 1963 and became an officially registered society 1965. It aims to collect, preserve, store and display items relating to the history of the North Peace River area for the education and enjoyment of present and future generations. The Fort St. John North Peace Museum at 9323-100th St was opened in 1984 and has recently expanded their premises to include more office and exhibit space. They host travelling exhibits and feature speakers/film/activity evenings focusing on the history of the area.

Contact: Curator Heather Sjoblom Curator Phone: 250-787-0430. Email: fsjnpmuseum@fsjmail.com
www.fsjmuseum.com

North Peace Gymnastics Assoc. The North Peace Gymnastics Association aims to promote the sport of gymnastics throughout the Peace River region. It is a member group of the Arts Council as an active art form which incorporates choreography and performance in their work. The coaches work with young people as early as 18 months old up to eighteen years old in 3 sessions each year. The annual Doetzel Invitational in May welcomes competitors from other communities. They also have an adult drop-in on Wednesday evening .

Contact: Matthew Donovan 250-263-8533 Phone: 250-787-5327 Jen Janes Administrator
npga@telus.net

Northeast Aboriginal Artworks Society This group focuses on building capacity for administration of cultural programs for Aboriginal artists in the Northeast BC as well as identifying and assisting in the development of community artists and emerging artists. The Aboriginal Arts group assists in project management and production of new Aboriginal artworks.

Contact: Gary Oker Phone: 250-785-5207 oker@awink.com

FSJ Literacy Society The Fort St. John Literacy Society is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting literacy for all individuals and groups throughout the local area. Classes in English as a second Language (ESL) and family literacy are conducted in the offices at 10142-101st Ave. The Literacy Society works closely with S.U.C.C.E.S.S.(newcomers to Canadian) and Settlement Workers in Schools. An Outreach Class at Wonowon is held every week.

Contact: Ken Matthews Phone: 250-785-2110. Email: info@fsjliteracy.ca www.fsjliteracy.ca

Fort St. John Women's Resource Society The Fort St. John Women's Resource Society has been in existence for over 25 years. They provide a supportive environment in which all women are encouraged and enabled to achieve their fullest potential. The Society promotes awareness regarding violence against women with rigorous campaigns and events as well as community workshops and information sessions, free of charge, on various issues pertinent to low-income residents. The Poverty Law Advocacy Program offers legal assistance for issues related to income for both women and men. Each year they stage the well-known *Vagina Monologues* which draws full audiences to each performance.

Contact: Phone: 250-787-1121. Website: www.fsjwrs.ca Executive Director sherri.williams@gmail.com

Ecole Central School PAC The Ecole Central School Parent Advisory Council, or PAC, is a non-profit society, the members of which are parents of children in our school and other people interested in school matters. Ecole Central is known as the arts and cultural school and has many unique creative programs for students of all class levels. The PAC meets the first Thursday of each month at the school at 6:30 p.m. The PAC encourages learning and activities in drama and musicals, painting, heritage and other cultural activities and helps to provide clay for student pottery projects.

Contact: Ecole Central School 10215 99 Avenue Phone 250- 262-1958 Sarah Parsons
centeralschoolpac@gmail.com

NEAT Eco Kids create art and fun with recycled products with an environmental component in their works. Eco Kids is a division of NEAT (Northern Environmental Action Team). Eco-Kids makes the Community Gardens come alive with fairies and fun wind wheels and has a variety of drama, arts and music events with children outdoors in the summer and indoors during inclement weather.

Contact: Sue McGarvey susan@neat.ca or Karen Mason Bennett karen@neat.ca 250-785-6328

AT THE NORTH PEACE CULTURAL CENTRE:

North Peace Cultural Centre The North Peace Cultural Centre opened its doors in June of 1992 and is the centre of performance of the arts & cultural in the community.. The 413 theatre, public Art Gallery, Public Library and Artspace area for classes and events makes this centre a lively place for arts activities. Its unique lobby and concourse stretches for nearly a full city block. The North Peace Cultural Centre's mission is to endeavor to support, promote, and present artistic and cultural activities that benefit the residents, entertain visitors and enhance the reputation of the North Peace.

Contact: Phone: 250-785-1992. Fax: 250-785-1510 Email: reception@npcc.bc.ca www.npcc.bc.ca
Location: 10015 100 Avenue, Fort St. John, BC, V1J 1Y7

The ArtSpace The ArtSpace is located in the North Peace Cultural Centre at 10015 100 Street. The Artspace holds classes for children and adults in arts and other areas of community interest. Programs in development are focusing on curriculums for children and youth drama, art, and filming making. An active Play-Arts Preschool currently offers an annual program. A variety of classes for children, youth and adults register in Sept., Jan., and Apr.

Contact: ArtSpace Coordinator Phone 250-785-1992 artspace@npcc.bc.ca

Peace Arts Gallery Society The Peace Arts Gallery Society (PAGS) supports visual arts programming and a variety of other artistic endeavors in our community. PAGS offers children the opportunity to participate in the Fine Arts with the free Kids Art Camp each summer. PAGS also awards student bursaries. The Society lends support to local artists by co-sponsoring adult art workshops on an annual basis. All year long, the society promotes many quality exhibitions at Peace Gallery North. All of the initiatives that PAGS pursues are supported by volunteer fundraising efforts through the Annual Chocolate Festival and Art Auction, now in its 32th year.

Contact: Alan White, Curator at Peace Gallery North, Phone: 250-787-0993 or Barry Moss President

THEATRE GROUPS

The Peace River Theatre Zone organizes the Peace River Zone Theatre Festival in May each year which attracts community theatre groups from Northeast BC to compete in an adjudicated theatre festival. A selected play represents the Peace River Zone at Theatre BC's Mainstage, the provincial theatre competition held in Kamloops in July. For over 75 years old, Theatre BC is has been one of Canada's liveliest grassroots arts organizations in British Columbia. Theatre BC aims to promote and encourage the development of community theatre in British Columbia by providing leadership and shared opportunities for participation in, education about, and the enjoyment of diverse theatre experiences. The Peace River Zone holds theatre workshops throughout the region focusing on various levels of acting and directing. Peace River Zone B0x 6474, Fort St. John, BC V1J 4H9

Contact: Karma Pratt Representative to Theatre BC Phone 250-262-8147 Email: karmapratt@gmail.com

Stage North Theatre Society Stage North is non-profit theatre society in Fort St. John dedicated to providing quality live theatre for the North Peace area. Stage North has opportunities in training and

experience for youth and adults interested in acting, directing and technical backstage work. Stage North performs a wide range of dramatic arts including comedy, drama, and improvisation. Stage North is a volunteer organization and has 120 individuals and families members who take part in 4-6 productions each year and attend various educational workshops. . New rehearsal space on the East Bypass Road has opened up new ventures in experimental theatre and collaborative events along with the major productions featured at the North Peace Cultural Centre each year. Box 33 Fort St. John, BC V1J 0K9

Contact: Dawn Ljuden. President 250-262-9846 Email: stagenorth@stagenorth.ca
Website: www.stagenorth.ca. or 250-785-6214.

DANCE GROUPS

The Fort St. John Dance Society The FSJ Dance Society is a non-profit organization of parents and friends of dancers who dance at The Move Dance Centre. The parents have their children (3 to 18 years old) taking ballet, jazz, tap, hip-hop, lyrical and contemporary classes. The Dance Society assists approximately 200-250 dancers. Forty three of these dancers are in the troop dance company and compete in Edmonton, Grande Prairie and Quesnel. The troop has 20 classes per week and the recreational classes have 25 classes per week for 10 months of the year. Some of the dancers have made a career of dancing on cruise ships and professional dance companies and one has even worked as Calgary cheerleader. Location: 99 Avenue and 102 Street

Contact: Jennifer Decker jbdecker@shaw.ca 250-264-8981

Northern Dance Theatre Society Northern Dance Theatre Society is a non-profit parent organization which supports the competitive dancers in the full time program at Studio 2 Stage Dance Academy. The group holds an annual summer school and several workshops through the year as well as assists dancers with festival entry fees and provides costumes for dancers in the troupe as well as for the recreational dancers at the Studio. They perform at the NPCC and collaborate with Stage North every second year in producing *The Nutcracker*.

Contact: Paulette Kindrat paulettekindrat@gmail.com or Denise Bahm

Fort St John Irish Dance Society and Watt School of Irish Dance was formed in 1994 to promote an interest in the study of the art of Irish Dance in and around Fort St John, BC. They provide a support structure to assist studying amateur dancers with the Watt School of Irish Dance in achieving their individual and collective goals in solo and group dancing at local, regional, national and world levels. The NPCC is their practice and rehearsal space.

Contact: Hailey McGuire wattirishdance@outlook.com or Shannon Bolog jbol18@hotmail.com or 250-793-9231

Dhara Middle-Eastern Dance Alice Daoust is the instructor of this recreational group that practices classic Egyptian, middle-eastern dance and incorporates gypsy fusion. Alice has been dancing 8 years and has continued learning new movements and choreography. The troop practices regularly and classes are held periodically for new people to get involved.

Contact: Alice Daoust meandhim@telus.net Phone 250-785-5191

Mystik Borealis Belly Dance Suzon Anne Tremblay is the instructor of this tribal-fusion belly dancing group who performs at regional community events and organizational functions. The troupe has 5 performers who rehearse on a regular basis and continue their training by attending out-of-town workshops. Beginners are welcome to take classes in basic Egyptian belly dance to get a solid foundation before continuing in fusion style.

Contact: Suzon Ann Tremblay suzon@awink.com or stremblay@prn.bc.ca

Scottish Country Dancing is a social event with a skills training component meets each week where anyone can learn the fine steps of Scottish Country Dancing. The group welcomes new comers, visitors and friends. All ages are welcome and families often join in on the fun and pick up new skills in this ethnic dance form.

Contact: Oliver Mott 250-785-9508 ogmott@hotmail.com

Peace Country Craftsman's Association The Craftman's Association has a huge Christmas sale each year. This accomplished group of 16 or more welcomes artisans in woodworking, painting, quilting, crocheting, jewelery making, soaps, and more. Contact them now and prepare for Christmas sales. Box 6474, Fort St. John B.C. V1J 4H9

Contact: Judy Torrie 250-787-0460 judytorrie@telus.net

Scrapbooking Group Anyone interested in scrapbooking is welcome to join this group on Friday mornings from 9:30am -1pm at the Artspost (10320 94 Avenue).

Contact Jean McFadden djmcfadden59@gmail.com

MUSIC GROUPS

North Peace Community Choir This adult choir has 75 community vocal enthusiasts. They rehearse each week on Tuesday at the North Peace Cultural Centre from 7-9pm. The choir works closely with the Northern Lights Youth Choir and often performs with the Northern Winds Band as well. They are singing Handel's Messiah for Christmas 2014. The choir has recently taken on hosting touring choirs to perform in Fort St. John. The choir is open to anyone who wishes to join and fees are \$50 per semester.

Contact: Carol Bell cbell@nlc.bc.ca

Northern Lights Youth Choir Students aged 7 to 18 years old are part of the choir that meets once a week at Bert Bowes Middle School to learn singing techniques and various musical genres. The choir performs for seasonal events as well as other community special occasions throughout the year. The choir has two registration dates, one in September and one in January. Registration can be completed in person or on our website www.thenlyc.com. Come sing with us.

Contact: Rheanna Morris-Richert (Communications Director) or Nadine Aulin (Choir Director) info@thenlyc.com

Northern Winds Community Band is open to anyone over 18 with 3 or more years playing experience in a concert band setting, and is continuously looking for new members. The band rehearses Thursdays from 7-9pm in the Bert Bowes Band Room. They perform regularly in the community at a variety of events and put on a winter and summer concert each year as well. The band welcomes invitations to perform at any event, large or small.

Contact: Sabrina Brooks B.Ed. sbrooks@prn.bc.ca 250-663-8773 hm or 250-793-2862 cel
www.northernwinds.ca

SD #60 Band Program School District 60 Band is a program that teaches kids in grades 6 -12 the essentials of music and playing in a band. They have four levels of band: Beginning, Advanced, Junior and Senior. Concerts are performed for various functions throughout the year with a major concert at the end of the year. The SD60 band program wishes for all students to be able to experience the joy of making music as a part of a dynamic and supporting community. Through this dynamic community of students, staff, and parents, the SD60 band program works toward providing meaningful musical experiences for all interested students. The Grade 8/9 band traveled to Vancouver to perform in nationals at the prestigious Music Fest Canada 2014. They have over 120 on the waiting list to join band.

Contact: Website: www.band.prn.bc.ca/band

Bert Bowes: Joan Montgomery – Phone: 250-785-6717 Email: jmontgomery@prn.bc.ca

Dr. Kearney: Sandra Gunn – Phone: 250-785-8378 Email: sgunn@prn.bc.ca

NP Secondary: Sabrina Brooks B.Ed. sbrooks@prn.bc.ca 250-663-8773 hm or 250-793-2862 cel

Peace River North Festival Association The Peace River North Performing Arts Festival features young performing artists from Northeast BC, Prince George and Grand Prairie in dance, piano, bands and instruments, strings, voice and choir and speech arts. The Festival is held in April each year at the North Peace Cultural Centre in Fort St. John. Participants receive feedback from professional adjudicators. Scholarships and awards donated by sponsors are presented. The best performances of the festival, as selected by the adjudicators, are invited to perform at the “Best of the Fest” Honours Concert at the end of the three week festival. Qualified performers may be recommended for provincial competitions in their various talents. Fort St. John will host the Performing Arts BC Festival for 2016 May 30-June 4.

Contact: Margaret Cavers May Phone: 250-785-2001 Email: mecaversmay@shaw.ca

North Peace Music Teachers Association The North Peace Music Teachers Association is a group of music teachers who provide piano and theory instruction to interested students throughout the area. The Music Teachers organize student recitals, take part in organizing the music section of the Performing Arts Festival, and have workshops on teaching.

Contact: Monica Best, Treasurer - Phone: 250-787-2378. Email: monica.best@shaw.ca

Tapping Into Talent taps into Fort St. John’s talent and encourages them to volunteer their skills as a way of giving back to our community. Tapping into Talent consists of all levels of talent, all ages, and all types of entertainment. We put on monthly show at the North Peace Seniors Housing for our senior community. Our group is always looking for new members to join the fun!

Contact: Denise Cornet-Cooper (Group Organizer) 250-263-1492 or 250- 785-2466 dazoo@xplornet.com

BUSINESSES

Not eligible for annual grants which are funds provided through the City of FSJ for arts groups.

Town Wall.ca aims to get people connected and informed of all activities and events in Fort St. John and around the North Peace Region. Town Wall is active website of current events and the organizations that produce events. Everyone has access to posting on Town Wall. The newly created Local Know program will welcome visitors as well as inform local residents.

Contact: Russell Eggleston 250-663-8851 Website: www.Townwall.ca

Email: Russelleggleston@russeleggleston.com

Kilnhouse Studio Ceramic artist Shannon Butler creates hand-built porcelain objects both sculptural and functional. Her studio is located at 10510 101 Avenue, Fort St. John, BC. Shannon’s unique designs are one-of-a-kind and completely handmade. Shannon has a degree in ceramics from Alberta College of Art and Design and has owned and operated Kilnhouse Studio since 2009. The studio is open on Fridays and Saturdays (10am -6pm) or by appointment.

Contact: Phone: 250-271-0066. email: Shannon@kilnhouse.ca www.kilnhouse.ca

Cheryl Peebles Studio and Gallery Cheryl owns and operates a working fibre arts studio and supplies fine yarns and related equipment to customers. She offers lessons in a variety of fibre arts methods and creates unique fibre arts products in the studio. Opened in November 2012, the studio is a popular place for those interested in fibre arts. Fibre Frolic Friday is a free drop-in every third Friday of the month from 7-9pm.

Contact: Cheryl Peebles 250-261-1157 Location: 10244 99 Ave www.cherylpeeblesstudio.ca

Oil Painters of the Peace This local group of Oil Painters and Certified Instructors focuses on the "Wet on Wet" oil painting method as well as the "Traditional" style. Each painter has the opportunity to advance their training and will receive certificates for each level completed by certified instructors. The leader of this groups is Donna Folk with the following credentials: Certified BOB ROSS Floral Instructor, Certified Alexander Art Instructor, Walt Burger Registered Instructor. Donna is the only Certified Instructor to teach both "Wet on Wet", "Traditional", and "Floral" oil painting in western Canada. Landscape, Seascape, Portrait, Floral and Animal classes are available at her Studio year around.

Contact : Phone: 250-785-6595. Website: donnafolk.com.

ADDITIONAL ARTS RELATED BUSINESS *Not members of the Arts Council.*

Simply Music	Systems by Trail	Piece by Peace Quilt Shop
Sew It Yourself Shop	Masterpiece Framing Gallery	Unforgettable Memories
Ballroom Dance Club	Whole Wheat and Honey Café	
East Indian Dancing (jovellu_r@yahoo.co.in)	This And That Antiques and Gifts	



Report to the Peace Liard Regional Arts Council AGM

February 20, 2016 Dawson Creek Calvin Kruk Arts Centre

The Fort St. John Arts Council had a very successful year in 2015 and the activity has not slacked off even though the economy in Fort St. John seems to have taken a downturn as has the rest of Canada. In 2016 Fort St. John is hosting the Performing Arts BC Festival May 27-June 4. In 2017, we are looking forward to celebrating 50 years of the Arts Council, 25 Years of the NPCC, 40 years of Stage North, 60 years of the Lido Theatre, 70 years of the Fall Fair along with the 75th Anniversary of the Building of the Highway and the 150 year of Canada.

2015:

Initiated the street banner program to coordinate with the 3rd Annual Artwalk which the Arts Council organized on the request of the Peace Gallery North. The airport purchased some of the street banners to hang in the customs holding at the airport.

Took part in The NPCC Bright Nights in June to celebrate the Arts in June.

Conducted the Salsa Herbal Pot painting, planting and sale plus continued selling the BEST PIES IN THE WORLD at the Fall Fair.

Began the planning for the Fort St. John Arts celebrations for 2017 Alaska Highway.

Decided not to continue SAND SENSATIONS BC for 2014 due to limited resources for other CAC programs

Continued the very successful Recycled Christmas Decorations Sale and with the overload of donated Christmas trees and lights, we lit up the airport this year with the help of 5 community groups.

Assisted in the re-organization of the North Peace Cultural Centre Society with 3 of our Board on the NPCC Board of Directors.

Hosted the Cultural Roundtable with the BC Arts Alliance

Assisted the Fort St. John Hospital Art Committee in their work with their art.

Increased the scholarship program for NPSS graduates.

We continue to provide all arts events and provide the write up for all the arts in the Chamber of Commerce magazine. We submit monthly events to the newspaper and provide the music events list for the entire region every 2 months to BC Magazine

2016

Made tote bags from some of the street banners and the airport purchased 50 of them with their logo to use as promotional items.

Continued the street banner program with new images for "High Performance" to welcome the province for the Performing Arts BC Festival.

Cooperate with the Fort St. John Tourism Board in listing all the events planned for 2017 in the community.

Initiated a number of events and plans for the 50th anniversary of the Arts Council for 2017 and for the Alaska Highway 75th anniversary.

Organizing the "Celebrate Trucking on the Alaska Highway" program for the entire Northeast BC.

And continue to conduct the events and activities listed in 2015...

2017:

Please see the attached listing for Fort St. John.

Rosemary Landry President

Fort St. John Arts Council

Box 6474, Fort St. John, BC V1J 4H9

www.fsjart.org 250-787-2718 info@fsjarts.org

FSJ Community Arts Council
Annual General Meeting
September 21, 2016

Call to Order: 7:10 pm by Rosemary Landry, Chair

Present: Rosemary Landry (CAC Director/Chair), Christine Taylor (NDTS), Eliza Stanford, Sabrina Brooks (Northern Winds Comm Band/SD60 Band), Sue Popesku (Stage North/PRZTF/Director), Melissa Paakkonen (NPCS), Oliver Hachmeister (NPCS), Barb Daley (Flying Colours), Lorraine Babuick (Quilters), Lisa Babuick (FSJ Quilters Guild), Judy Templeton (PRCFCA), Karla King (NPSW), Jean McFadden (Scrapbook Group), Connie Surerus (NPCS/Director), Margaret May (PRNPFA/Director), Connie Desfosses (Director), Geilan Carnell (FSJ Dance Society), Lisa Rowbotham (City of FSJ), Tanya Shymko (Spectrum Art Studios/Director), Rhonda Scott (NP Comm Choir), Monica Best (NP Music Teachers) 1 non-voting member, 20 voting members

Approval of the Agenda – Eliza moved.

Introduction of Board Members: Rosemary Landry – President, Connie Surerus – Secretary, Sue Popesku – Director of Advocacy, Connie Desfosses - Treasurer, Margaret May – Director-at-large, Tanya Shymko, Director-at-large, Megan Singh – Vice-President

Guest Speaker: Lisa Rowbotham, Community Services City of Fort St John “Canada 150 Fort St John Mural and Public Art Initiative – Sue gave an introduction – discussed Mosaic Mural, passed out images similar to what is planned for the City. 750 tiles, with smaller images make larger image – train car as homage to the Alaska Highway – call out to all local artists to paint a tile as well as community members – October 25 to 29 at NPCC, City provides paints and materials, mosaic will be unveiled at Centennial Park at Canada Day July 1st, 2017 and then on display permanently at the Airport. Tiles can be picked up in advance from Lisa, need to be back by October 28th. Inside the tile can do what FSJ means to you. City of FSJ – Public Art Policy – receive many requests to have public art displayed, staff have looked at other communities by similar size. Council recognized importance of having a policy, create RFP process, back to Council. Need lots of community input, stakeholder engagement, once the process starts to go through, planned to start in 2017. Sue asked about street banners – just have to wait for approval from Mayor & Council. Rosemary thanked Lisa Rowbotham for her presentation

Approval of Minutes dated September 16, 2015 – Sue moved, Tanya seconded. Carried.

Reports:

Financial Report – Memberships due \$50 group, \$10 individual. Connie Desfosses presented, just received the Notice to Reader Statements for June 30, 2016,

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prepared by Sander Rose Bone Grindle LLP. Copies of Financial Statements prepared by SRBG available upon request. We transferred \$10,000.00 from surplus into the reserve account bringing the balance to \$67,010.61 Capital Reserve Account Fund, which in turn is transferred to the Restricted Building Fund. The estimated cost of a new building is \$2 Million. Motion: Capital Reserve account is internally restricted as a building fund for a planned building. Scholarship Fund is an internally restricted fund for scholarships. Only use the interest earned from this account. Motion made by Connie Desfosses, seconded Judy Templeton. Motion carried.

Member grants 2014/2015 has \$2.10, 2015/2016 is \$10,093.60. We hadn't paid the scholarships at June 30th. Morgan Mora (dance) and Jayna Kassian (acting stage & screen/Capilano U) are the recipients, \$1000 each. Motion: Connie D. moved to have the treasurer's report accepted as presented. Seconded by Eliza. Carried.

President's Report – Rosemary Landry – Rosemary gave an overview of the year July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016. The Community Arts Council (CAC) Mission is dedicated to developing Arts and Culture activities and events in our community and to supporting individual artists in their creative endeavours to become self-sustaining. During this past year the Arts Council has worked diligently with our group members and the community in promoting and planning for exciting events to occur during not only Canada's 150th Birthday in 2017, but, also significant local anniversaries including 75th Alaska Highway, 50th FSJ Arts Council, 40th Stage North, 25th North Peace Cultural Centre, 10th Artspost, plus 60th of the Lido Theatre and 70th for the Fall Fair. The possibilities for celebration are endless.

The CAC supported the Peace Liard Regional Arts Council's (PLRAC) exciting Alaska Highway Song project and send congratulations to all the participants and winner Jody Peck. The Alaska Highway Song CD will be released before Christmas. The Council also supported the PLRAC "Trencher" art project to be on public display in Dawson Creek for 2017. As an Arts Council we have taken the initiative to invite back to our community anyone who has been involved in the local arts for the past 50 years to celebrate with us during the North Peace Cultural Centre's Bright Nights in June 2017.

During the year the CAC sponsored a very successful Art Walk from May through July where for the first time artists and venues paid to participate. Beautiful bright coloured street banners designed by Alan White depicting "High Performance" were created and displayed in support of the Provincial Arts Festival hosted in Fort St John. Last year's banners were converted in to tote bags for promotional initiatives at the Airport and next year's banners will honour the Alaska Highway.

The Council and Member Groups were thrilled to participate in the Chamber of Commerce's "Love Fort St John" project and now have links on their website. Directors attended the City wide discussions on revisiting Revitalization Plans and

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Annual General Meeting
September 21, 2016

participated in the City's planning for the 150 Canada Mural project. Members attended the Peace Regional District presentations on the new Societies Act that comes into effect on November 28, 2016 and groups enjoyed decorating Christmas trees at the Airport and planting flower pots to welcome visitors.

It is not hard to guess that the CAC has a keen interest to grow the arts in Fort St John through Public Art. A couple of the disappointments experienced this year were when the granting process turned down the "Art Bike Rack" project and due to the downturn in the economy there was little financial support for the resurrection of the "Sand Sensations" event for 2017. The importance of Public Art will be a topic for discussion with the Arts community during a Forum to be held on October 22, 2016.

The CAC remains committed to serving our membership, to maintaining our community affiliations and programs and to supporting the art initiatives at the Artspost located at 10320 – 94th Avenue. Through the Scholarship and Bursary program, which was increased this year, awards will continue to be presented to individual artists excelling in Visual, Musical and Theatre Arts at the High School.

In closing, I would like to thank the Board and Group Members for their continued support and dedication to the promotion of the arts in our community and look forward to the exciting celebration events of 2017.

Rosemary Landry moved to have her report accepted as presented. Oliver seconded. Carried.

Artspost Report for 2016 – Sue Popesku

The Artspost serves as the office of the Fort St John Community Arts Council and is the community arts studio space for the North Peace Potters Guild, the North Peace Spinners & Weavers and the painting studio for art classes with Spectrum Art Studio. The multi-purpose room can be booked by member groups for meetings on a first come, first serve basis. Member groups such as the Performing Arts Festival, Stage North and Peace River Theatre Zone use the space for meetings and the Scrapbooking Club meets every Friday morning for a small fee.

THE BUDGET

The Artspost has covered the cost of operations for another year thanks to the active participation of the members of the Arts Council pitching in for fundraising projects. The Advocacy Donations with the Street Banner program, painted flower pots for the airport, the Recycled Christmas Sale and the Best Pies Sale at the Fall Fair have all helped to keep the doors open at the Artspost.

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The Potters and Spinners and Weavers continue to pay monthly rent and the Spectrum Studios painting classes and Scapbooking group have been consistent users of the multi-purpose room, paying for each individual evening. We pay considerably lower rent than other buildings of similar structure and size, thanks to our community-minded landlord. The City of Fort St John has granted us tax-exemption of \$7860 each year for which we are grateful. This year again we are applying for tax-exemption for the next 3 years. The annual budget requires \$48,000 to keep the Artspost doors open.

THE OFFICE

We keep the office open Mon-Thurs from 10-1pm with volunteer help. Sue Popesku opens for Mon and Tues, Margaret May for Wed and Rosemary for Thurs. We all have our responsibilities while at the Artspost. Margaret does the grants/reports/tax-receipts/website. Sue does the fundraising and administration. Rosemary does the cleaning/organizing and moving. We still have no guaranteed source of funds to employ (part-time nor full-time) a coordinator for the Arts Council and Artspost.

NEED FOR MORE SPACE

In our 11th year, we find the expanding activities and the demand for more meeting time has emphasized the need for more space. C-Cans for additional storage space have been placed in the parking lot but there is limited space for additional C-Cans on the property. The need for a larger space for activities and various community arts studios is becoming more and more pronounced. The pottery and spinning and weaving studios classes and workshops are attracting more and more people and the space is too small for the increasing demand by children and adults in the community. The need for a permanent "Exploration Place" is required for our rapidly expanding population.

ACTIVITIES

The Arts Council supplied painted flower pots with flowers to the airport and will continue for next year with custom painted pots to celebrate Canada 150. Rosemary continues to do magic with the flowers and the flower pots in front of the Artspost.

The Artspost is the venue for the Recycled Christmas Decoration Sale, Annual Chili Bowl Bash and the staging point for the Best Pies Sale for the Fall Fair.

The communications for all the arts in the community flows through the Artspost to radio and print media, facebook and direct contact plus arts information from outside sources is distributed to various groups in the community.

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The Street Banners that are hung downtown during the summer are funded and organized through the Artspost. The theme for 2017 will be the Alaska Highway 75th Celebration.

Sue Popesku moved her report be accepted as presented. Seconded by Lisa. Carried.

New Business:

New Society Act – Constitution renewal schedule – need to redo constitution & bylaws for every society. Can now order an up-to-date copy from the Society's registrar. After November 28, 2016 can transition the constitution & by-laws can make changes at no cost, otherwise cost is \$50 for changes. Have 2 years to complete this.

Election of Officers:

Nominations Committee Report – Eliza Stanford – Sue Popesku, director of advocacy, one year remaining. All other positions have completed 2 year terms and open for election. Rosemary Landry, president – letting name stand, no other names from the floor, Megan Singh, vice-president – letting name stand, no names from the floor, Connie Desfosses – treasurer – letting name stand, no names from the floor, Connie Surerus – secretary – letting name stand, no names from the floor, Margaret May and Tanya Shymko, directors at large, letting names stand. Working board, all pull together.

Call for Nominations from the floor – Lisa Babuick – director at large
Hearing no other names from the floor. Eliza Stanford moved, Barb Daley seconded all the directors let their names stand by acclamation. Carried.

Signing Authorities – Rosemary Landry, Connie Desfosses, Sue Popesku

Appointment of Auditor – Connie D made motion to have Sander Rose Bone Grindle LLP as firm for 2017, Margaret seconded. Carried.

2017 Celebration Year – Sue discussed the 2016-2017 Planned Events Arts List – need to promote events – give info to FSJCAC and promote on Social media

Group Reports:

North Peace Spinners & Weavers – Karla King– had many activities over the summer, AGM is October 15, 2016 11 am at the Artspost, December 3rd is annual Christmas sale.

Flying Colours Artists Association – Barb Daley – Flying Colours Artists Association continues to flourish with several new members joining us, every other weekend at Miep's Atelier, where idea sharing, camaraderie and potluck food are in good supply.

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In the Fall of 2015, two separate Abstract Painting workshops were given, in conjunction with Federation of Canadian Artists; Nicoletta Baumeister, and Suzanne Northcott.

In late March of 2016, Flying Colours hosted Kathy Guthrie for a 3 day watercolour, mixed media, printmaking, calligraphy and bookmaking workshop. In August, Darlene Dautel taught "Batik Painting on Japanese Rice Paper".

Our main exhibit, "Points of View 3" was very well received in March, at Peace Gallery North. Next year's Points of View 4, in March 2017, will be inspired solely by the photography of Miep Burgerjon, and promises to be excellent. The public AND the artists love seeing the diversity of interpretation around photo references agreed at the outset.

Many PRFCA members are also members of the local/regional art group, Flying Colours. There is a great deal of overlap between the two groups which is a real benefit and something to be proud of. Some members also entered and earned Juror's Choice honours at the PLRJ Show in Chetwynd.

Three Flying Colours members, Barb Daley, Mary Parslow and Sandy Troutt will be delivering workshops at NPCC this fall. (Barb "Cultivating Gratitude Through Art Journaling", Mary - Various printmaking processes and Sandy - Tableau Noir: Painting on a Black-Toned Canvas). These sessions are offered to the community.

New initiative: PrintArtists.ca

This website is linked directly to FC's, but since most of these members are also PRFCA members, this should be reported here at the AGM. Much more information about this exciting initiative, which will link printmakers to other national and international groups to be coming out soon! Look for a "Launch Event" in early 2017.

Federation of Canadian Artists - Judy Templeton - The FCA is now celebrating its 75th year! Our chapter is 6 years old. PRFCA has had 11 shows since the chapter's inception and, at the moment has about 31 members, up from 21 when we began. Our chapter is very active in the Federation, many members have been juried into a wide variety of exhibitions in the Federation Gallery on Granville Island in Vancouver. Members are active in chapter shows as well as in community and regional arts events. Its members are very diverse and creative and have earned a variety of awards in a wide variety of events.

PRFCA Shows

- January 8, in Dawson Creek, "Artist's Choice"

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- October 2, Beaverlodge, "Bright Ideas" with accompanying workshop with Jim Stokes from Grande Prairie (Many PRFCA members are also members of FCs. There is a great deal of overlap between the two groups...a real benefit and something to be proud of. Some members also participated in "Points of View", FC's exhibition in March and entered the PLRJ Show in Chetwynd.

Workshops: Open to members and non-members

- Well-known painters: David Langevin, Transparent Glazes & Veils, Acrylics, as per our commitment to have a workshop connected to every show, "Artists Choice"
- Dominik Modlinski, Oil Painting, En Plein Air
- Did Mary give us a printmaking workshop during this last year?
- Kathie Guthrie, FCs or Joint?
- Darlene Dautel, PRFCA, FCs or Joint?
- PRFCA members, Mary Parslow and Sandy Troudt will be delivering workshops at NPCC this fall. (Mary - Printmaking, Sandy - Tableau Noir: painting on a Black-Toned Canvas)

New initiative: PrintArtists.ca

Linked to FC's, but since most of these members are also PRFCA members, should be reported at the AGM, I believe.

Much more information about this exciting initiative to be coming out soon!

Look for a "Launch Event" in early 2017.

FSJ Irish Dance Society - The Watt School of Irish Dance started off the dance season with a four day workshop Sept 1-4. It was a full four days with the dancers learning new steps and working on their technique. The Fort St John Watt school was joined by the Vancouver Watt School for this workshop. The competitive dancers are getting ready for the first competition of the year, which is October 8th and 9th in Calgary. We have several fundraisers running currently. We are selling boxes of apples from Davidson Orchards in the Okanagan, as well as Kernels Popcorn and Mega Lottery tickets.

Scrapbooking - Jean McFadden - fall of 2015 started, 6 members, working on various projects - heritage, vacations, club books - meet on Fridays 9am-1pm at Artspost

Northern Winds Community Band - Sabrina Brooks - running for 5 years now - most successful year this past year, core group and a few new members - amazing adjudicator at PRN Festival - positive experience - have to disband because a few members are doing "Wizard of Oz", possibly doing something with the DC band, Alaska Highway trip.

SD#60 Band - Sabrina Brooks - started getting invited to Nationals - took 50 kids to Ottawa, received silver medal. They are invited back to Nationals - every 2 years.

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Beginner band was having a bit of a rough start -150 kids and on waitlist, lost 40 kids, people moving, lack of funds. Christmas Band Concert November 24th, 2016 at NPCC.

NP Community Choir – Rhonda Scott - transition year, had 70+ members, losing several members and director, Meryl Flewelling performed in May community band, first rehearsal last night – 32 came, recruit more members, Rhonda Scott assuming directorship. Making available choir to any church that doesn't have a choir and will work with the ministerial to help provide choir concerts at Christmas. Carolfest is held at the Lutheran church. Youth choir – Nadine Ohland, Jennifer Jones started Hallelujah Children's Chorus – practicing at the Evangelical Free church – 40 registered.

NP Music Teachers – Monica Best – We had a Recital in November, 2015 theory exams in December, 2015, recitals in March and April, 2016 and competed at local performing arts festival and volunteered at BC Provincials Performing Arts Festival in June, 2016.

NPCC – Oliver - good year – in the black – getting the word out , bringing back people who left, bringing new people. Jim Byrnes Oct. 3, MGT Nov 3, Ballet Kelowna Feb, fundraised for dimmer rack and new LED lighting. Gallery has Sandy Troutt, Art Auction October 15 masquerade theme, offering workshops and classes thru Artspace. Card players, Magic the Gathering/Pokemon

NDTS – Christine Taylor - 66 dancers, 2 week summer school, competed at festivals in PG, FSJ, DC, fundraising – Fall Fair, Canola Fest, Movie in the Park – Nutcracker happening December 15-17, 2016 at NPCC.

FSJ Quilters – Lisa Babuick - 35 quilters, quilts for dialysis centre, newborns, pregnancy care centre, fire victims, Miope House – about 60 quilts are donated. Ruffled 3 quilts made about \$2000, located at the NPCC – trying to get teachers to come in, have small budget, share expenses with other groups. Display quilts at the fall fair. Starting new program, next Monday – anybody can do blocks – goal is 1000 quilts to be distributed amongst the Ronald McDonald Houses – asking guilds across the country, promote Canadian Heritage. Local guild is trying to make as many blocks as possible. Planning event for November.

FSJ Dance Society – Geilan Carnell – The Move Dance Centre – Ladies Day Out event has been set for November 5&6th 10am – 4pm at NPSS \$3 entry fee, children free. Donations to the Women's Resource Centre will be accepted at the door. We are looking at a Lido event possibly in February, no date to report as of yet. We are also looking at a Christmas fundraiser at Whole Wheat & Honey, no date set yet. We are selling Mega Lottery tickets.

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Stage North – God of Carnage – at Evangel Chapel September 22, 23, 24th, Buddy Holly “Musical” get tickets quick, will sell out, opens October 20, 21, 22, 27, 28, 29, 2016 at NPCC and partnering with Studio 2 Stage and Northern Dance Theatre Society for “Nutcracker” at NPCC in December.

Theatre Festival is in May – must be all Canadian plays

NP Historical Society – antique sale and cemetery tours

PRNFA – Margaret May - busy year with regular festival in April and Provincial Festival May 31-June 4, big success, good feedback from local businesses, more than 400 entries, over 1000 people visiting the city in 4 days. Positive feedback from the provincial organizers. Big success overall. Should be left with a bit of a legacy. Festival April 20-27th, 2017, AGM next week, Sept 27th at 7pm at Artspost. Will be a transition for the next few years, fresh faces.

Spectrum Art Studios – Tanya Shymko - kids classes – Wednesdays starting September 21 to October 12 4-5:30 pm drawing and painting starting October 19th – tween and teen classes are full on Thursdays 4-5:30 pm, adult classes on Thursday nights almost full 7-9pm – lot of requests from homeschooling students. Classes are held at the Artspost. Spectrum also does childrens birthday parties, corporate team building events, crafternoons, etc.

North Peace Potters Guild – Chili bowl bash in June was a huge success, fall classes include 2 childrens classes and adults classes, annual Christmas sale December 3rd.

FSJ Film Society – Megan Singh – slate of 8 films from TIFF Film Circuit every 2nd Monday night at Aurora Cinemas at 7pm started with *Love and Friendship* September 12th showed to a sold-out audience, next show is *Sing Street* September 26th. Membership growing and large audiences at most shows.

Adjournment – adjourned meeting at 8:30 pm by Barb Daley