

FORT ST. JOHN COMMUNITY ARTS COUNCIL

January 20, 2016

Call to Order: 12:11 pm

In Attendance: Lilia Hansen, Sue Popesku, Lisa Rowbotham, Rosemary Landry, Margaret May, Denise Cornet-Cooper, Shannon Balog, Sheen Gosling, Eliza Stanford, Karla King, Monica Best

Approval of Agenda: Moved by Shannon to approve the agenda

Approval of Minutes: Moved by Sue, seconded by Monica, to approve the minutes from December 16, 2015

Special Presentation: Lilia Hansen, Chamber of Commerce. The Love Fort St. John program, funded by Northern Development Initiative Trusts supports local non-franchise businesses and non profit groups, creating a professional on-line presence. This is an opportunity to promote the community and people with things to sell, including non-profit groups and artisans. There is a one time \$100 fee to participate in the program. A professional photographer and writer will go to group or business. They will create a presentation which will be included on the website. There will be information separate workshops to explain the program at City Hall; Thursday, Jan 27 at 12:00 - 1:00 pm, and at 6:30 – 7:30 pm and on Friday, Jan 28, 8:00 – 9:00 am at City Hall.

Correspondence: Art Avenue, Societies Act information

GROUP REPORTS

Irish Dance: January started off with a competition on the 9th and 10th, in Portland for several of the dancers. It was a wonderful competition and the dancers all placed excellently, taking several 1st and 2nd place trophies. Back at class they are practicing for the upcoming Calgary Winter Feis, ISSS Rince Championships and All Scottlands....all happening in the next month. We have concluded our mega lottery ticket selling and a recycle battery drive. We are currently selling Kernels Popcorn.

Music Teachers: Recital dates to be announced

FSJ Dance Society: Dancers are working towards competitions in Quesnel, Fort St. John, Dawson Creek (optional) and Edmonton. On February 13 the society will present the fundraiser "Galantines Day" at Lido Theatre featuring Twin Peaks and 56th Collective. Doors opens at 7:00 and tickets are \$50, available at Whole Wheat & Honey and at the Lido.

Northern Dance: NDTs is starting the new year with the focus on our upcoming competitions. The first one is in Quesnel at the end of February for the older girls. This past weekend we participated in the City's Christmas Tree pick up and starting this week we will be selling Panago coupons for \$10.

North Peace Potters Guild: New classes are beginning with registration open for children grades 4-9. Classes will be on Wednesday afternoon.

Tapping Into Talent: Show has been growing very quickly. December show has more than 100 in audience. Twin Peaks performed this month and has asked to come back.

Writers of the Peace: Pat Ferris introduced new writers' group. This group represents writers from around the region where there are 15 current writers who have printed books. Writers meet to exchange information and ideas. All experience levels are welcome. The group meets at library every second Friday, next meeting on January 22. See Writers of the Peace facebook for more information.

Flying Colours: Meeting every second Saturday. Membership is growing

Peace River Chapter Federation of Canadian Artists: Show on at Dawson Creek Gallery. Workshop in Acrylic coming up with David Lagevin.

North Peace Spinners & Weavers Guild: They will hold their annual retreat in February. This year it will be in town rather than a camp, so sessions will be during the day at the Artspost.

Ecole Central School: Our parents' advisory council did approve the request to match funds for the SD 60 Artist in Residency Program. We will, therefore, have Ashley Campbell in our school for a number of months. 4 classes of students will travel to The Move dance studio throughout the week to receive instruction from her. The intention of the program is to provide in-depth

instruction to a smaller number of students and hopefully offer some transferable skills to the teachers as well. There will be a performance in the upcoming months. We will be using our entire 2015 grant from the Arts Council to cover her fee. SD 60 will also be contributing \$1500.

We have started our Art Card fundraiser. Mme Suzon will be completing the cards with most of our students. We will be selecting some cards to print and sell to the general public as sets.

Stage North Theatre Society: Director Ted Sloan is rehearsing the cast for the opening of *12 Angry Jurors* Mar 4 which will continue Mar 5, 10, 11, 12 at the NPCC. Get your tickets now. Stage North plans to do *Unnecessary Farce* in the Spring and take part in the Peace River Zone Theatre Festival.

Peace River Zone Theatre BC: Karla Pratt is the Zone Chairperson and the representative to Theatre BC from our region. The Peace River Zone Theatre Festival is scheduled for May 24-29, 2016 at NPCC. Community theatre groups from NE BC will compete for the opportunity to go to Mainstage, the provincial theatre competition in July. Ted Sloan is the Festival Chair for the Peace River Zone.

Peace River North Festival: Planning is underway for both the local festival and the Provincial Festival. The Peace River North Festival will run from April 10-17 with the Honours Concert on the evening of April 17. The Provincials will be May 31-June 4 at 10 different venues around town. We will need more than 100 volunteers to host the event. Anyone interested should contact Margaret at mecaversmay@shaw.ca.

City of Fort St. John: City has increased recreational programming by 100%. High on Ice is coming up on Family Day long weekend. Organizing has started for Mosaic 150. Meetings will be on the 3rd Monday of each month at noon. Painting of tiles will be in October. There will be three days of workshops at the Cultural Centre with someone from the organizing committee. Next meeting will have more details on painting project. Will put out a call for entry for possible designs; theme to be Alaska Highway. Mural will be made up of 750 tiles, painted by individual artists. It will create overall image which will represent the Alaska Highway in the shape of a train car.

BUSINESS

50th Anniversary: The Arts Council plans to invite back everyone who has been involved in the Arts Council over the last 50 years. We are asking for up to 10 photos from each group that represents the history of the Arts council over the last 50 years.

Flower Pot restoration: We will restore old pots that have been sold by the Arts Council over the years: \$50 for touch up, \$75 for a full re-paint

Constitution review: The board will start working on reviewing the Arts Council constitution and by-laws in preparation for the implementation of the new act next year.

Scholarships: We have raised the amount of the Lindsay Dumaine scholarship to 2 at \$1000 for North Peace graduating students who plan to go on to post-secondary study in the arts.

PROGRAM REPORTS:

Banners: Alan White will design banners again this year. The theme will be "High Performance", to publicize the Provincial Performing Arts Festival. Tote bags have been made from some of last year's banners. 50 will be sold to the Airport.

Art Advocacy: Requests are being sent out. Advocacy will be linked to banners to support the cost of that program. The city does not contribute any money to the banner program. City works installs them and takes them down.

Meeting Adjourned: 1:05 pm

Next Meeting: February 17, 2016 at 12:00 noon at the ArtsPost

**Fort St John Community Arts Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
February 17, 2016**

Call to order: 12:05 pm February 17, 2016 by Rosemary Landry

In Attendance: Rosemary Landry (Flying Colours, PRFCA, Potter's Guild, Director), Deb Bowyer (Deb's Accidental Art), Denise Cornet-Cooper (Tapping Into Talent), Sue Popesku (Theatre Festival/Stage North, Director), Eliza Stanford, Heather Hannaford (NPPG), Jodi McNiven (FSJ Dance Society), Barry Moss (NPCC/PAGS), Brandie Towns (NDTS), Connie Surerus (NPCC, Director), Monica Best (NP Music Teachers), Karyn Guy (FSJ Film Society), Margaret May (PRN Festival, Director), Shannon Bolog (FSJ Irish Dance), Sheryl Wilmot (NPSW)

Approval of the Agenda: No further additions. Moved by Eliza.

Approval of Minutes: Correction of January 20, 2016, Heather Hannaford was present and gave report. Moved by Eliza, seconded by Monica Best. Carried.

Guest Speaker: Barry Moss, PAGS – Presentation on 2017 Celebrations at NPCC. July 1, 2017 – Official Birthday of the NPCC (25 yrs) and 150 years of Canada. Asking all the arts groups to put on a display on July 1, 2017 – weavers, artists, potters'. Looking for commitments from the arts groups – looking for people to sit on the 2017 Celebration Committee. Please contact Barry Moss if group wants to participate. Eliza mentioned the City wants arts groups at the Canada Day Celebrations. City may provide tents. If we get commitments now, we can apply for grants. Discussion took place. Anniversaries of NPCC, Alaska Highway, Stage North, Arts Council. Public art to be displayed on the outside of the Cultural Centre, plan of having a mural (picture of the Peace River) done by local artists, high school students. Papier mache figures (elk) do it with the kids and paint them in bright colours – hot pink, purple, lime green and mounted on the outside of the building. Looking for people that would be able to assist, technical aspect of mounting the elk. Improve the outside of the Cultural Centre. Grant funds available specifically for celebrations. Show the arts community, gets the whole community involved and we have a sense of humour. Gallery@npcc.bc.ca

Financial Report – comes out every second month. Grant application deadline is February 29, 2016. Adjudication March 9th. Request for 2016 Patrons and support for the banners. We need 40 sponsors @ \$100. Asking patrons (corporate) to give \$250 to be part of the banner program. Corporate sponsorships are down. Please support the banner program.

Correspondence:

Letter of Support sent to City for NEAT sculpture during Performing Arts BC Festival. Letter of support sent to Taylor Council to support Bizzybody taking over SAND 2017. Nomination sent to City for Cultural Award 2016. Arts Council received BC Arts Council Grant of \$20,000+.

**Fort St John Community Arts Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
February 17, 2016**

LOVEFortStJohn – For service organizations and businesses. Through Arts Council can apply, get professional photographer and professional write up and it is another website promoting your business/organization. It is associated with the City of Fort St John and the Chamber of Commerce. One time \$50 charge. If your business is an independently owned, non-franchise business located in the FSJ region, apply online at www.LoveFortStJohn.com or contact Lilia at (250) 785-6037 for more information.

Group Reports:

North Peace Spinners & Weavers Guild – Sheryl Wilmot - They are having an in town retreat at the Artspost this week.

FSJ Irish Dance Society – Shannon Bolog - All competitive dancers traveled to Edmonton for the RINCE ISSS Championships February 6-7th. It was a good competition for the Watt dancers with three first place finishes, four second place and at least twelve other dancers placing in their age categories. Congratulations to one of the dancers won her championship trophy both days and has moved up into the Open dancer category. We currently have three dancers away at All Scotland's in Glasgow. There are also dancers attending competitions in Calgary this weekend. For fundraising, we have completed our Kernels Popcorn fundraiser and currently selling Panago Pizza coupons.

North Peace Music Teachers – Monica Best - Recital dates: March 13th at NL College at 2pm and April 9th at NPCC at 2pm.

Tapping into Talent – Denise – new show this month, it continues to grow.

North Peace Potters Guild – Heather Hannaford - Halfway through winter term classes for both adults and children. Please forward any info to Heather to her email. Have been commissioned to make 12 personal salad bowls for the Health and Wellness conference. They have the first 4 bowls made. Mug wall is open every Saturday. Guild is at capacity and squished in and need more space. Leanna Carlson and Jane Anderson have been members of the guild and have gone on with their pottery careers. Rosemary & Heather went to PG last weekend.

FSJ Film Society – Karyn Guy - Halfway through winter-spring season. Movies are every 2nd Monday, independent films, thru Landmark or Lionsgate. Feb.29th James White next film. We have doubled our sales over last year.

FSJ Dance Society – Jodie McNiven – We had our Valentine's Day Event on Saturday. Girls are getting ready for competition Feb. 25th in Quesnel.

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Eliza Stanford – “Flotsam - Oil paintings inspired by a lifetime of finding and collecting beach debris” show opening reception Friday, Mar 11th from 7 to 9pm at the Peace Gallery North in the NPCC and the show runs from March 11th to 26th.

NDTS/Studio2Stage – Brandie Towns – We are getting ready for a competition in Quesnel. This weekend the girls will have a 12 hour practice at the NPCC. Did Safe Rides for Crystal Cup and concession for High on Ice as fundraisers.

Deb's Accidental Art – Deb Bowyer - usable art – recyclable art – just on Facebook.

NPCC – Connie Surerus – We need new dimmer rack, which will cost \$50,000 and we are currently applying for grants and reaching out to the corporate community for donations. We will also approach the City, Taylor and PRRD with a special request for funds for the dimmer rack.

Peace River North Festival – Margaret May - entries close for dance in March – Provincials – venues and locations are booked. The Peace River North Festival will run from April 10-17 with the Honours Concert on the evening of April 17. WE NEED VOLUNTEERS – for the whole festival – May 31 – June 4th. Info on festival website or contact Margaret to get people. Need between 100 to 120 people. Provincial Performing Arts Festival is not the full BC Festival of the Arts, that no longer happens. Need to support the arts – volunteer time or make a cash donation.

Juried Art Show – Sue Popesku - entries are due March 11th. Regional Juried Art Show opens April 1st in Chetwynd. Visual – paint, pottery - \$1000 for top award, \$500 for next. Heather noted not happy with adjudicators for clay. Sue will be going down to Chetwynd this Saturday for Regional Arts Show.

Stage North – Sue Popesku – Director Ted Sloan is getting the cast ready for the opening of *12 Angry Jurors* on March 4th, which will continue March 5, 10, 11, 12 at the NPCC. Get your tickets now. Stage North plans to do *Unnecessary Farce* in the Spring and take part in the Peace River Zone Theatre Festival.

Flying Colours/Fed of Cdn Artists – plans to have a retreat to Sikanni lodge in July and another retreat to Cache Creek in the fall.

Challenging Issue: Recognition of Arts, Culture and Heritage as valued by the City of Fort St John and demonstrated through their actions and support. Possible dusting off of Arts Cultural Plan/Draft Policy completed by City consultant in 2009. Look at the Policy and tell your story. What does the arts mean to you? Why are you involved in the arts? What does it mean to your group and family? Put your story in a letter and bring your letter to the Arts Council and the FSJCAC will bring it to the City. Arts Council has produced a poster about the Arts, please take a copy.

**Fort St John Community Arts Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
February 17, 2016**

Business:

50th Anniversary of Arts Council in 2017 and 2017 Celebration – Arts Council needs to know if your group is planning an event in 2017, we need to know about it and promote your event. Send the Arts Council an email. Each group asked to list names of all past people and emails for CAC to ask back for June 2017 AND up to ten archive type photos with dates and names about your group.

SAND 2017 – Jocelyn Eisert of Bizzybody is exploring taking over SAND 2017. The CAC will lend the C-Can, wood forms and equipment. Met Taylor Council Feb 15.

Flower Pot Revitalization Project – Arts Council will do touch ups for flower pots, spread the word, \$50 touch up, \$75 new painting.

Arts Council Constitution Review – Societies Act has changed. Must make sure you are in compliance with the new act. Have 2 years to get this in place. Any changes need to happen at your AGM.

Website – Arts Council website has been hacked and it is under construction.

Program Reports:

Tote Bags from Banners – Tote Bags made from last summer's banners have been made and are on sale for \$20. The Airport purchased 50 bags made from the banners and their logo is getting printed now. They will pay \$15 per bag.

Celebrate Trucking (Sue) – 700 truckers have been given the notice all the way to Watson Lake thru Northern Trucking Association – truckers are very excited. Have a truck displayed on the Alaska Highway in white or blue lights.

Meeting Dates:

150 Canada Mural Mtg Apr 18th at 12 noon at City Hall. Contact Lisa at City 787-8150.

Regular CAC Meeting March 16, 2016 at 12 noon Artspost

Communities in Bloom Mtg Feb 24, 11 am Justice Office in Community Bridge Building.

Alaska Highway Community Society is trying to get the Alaska Highway declared a Heritage Site – they are very close. (Sue)

Meeting adjourned at 1 pm.

Next Meeting March 16, 2016 at 12 noon at the Artspost.

**Fort St John Community Arts Council
Adjudication Meeting March 9, 2016
7 PM, ArtsPost**

Fort St John Community Arts Council 2016/17 – Grant Adjudication Meeting
March 9, 2016

Attendance: Sandra Gunn (SD60 Band), Sheryl Wilmot (NPSW), Catie Haggstrom (NPCommChoir), Rosemary Landry (PRFCA/Flying Colours, Director), Barb Wagner (NPPG), Paul Swartz (Stage North), Leslie Lewington (NPSW), Connie Surerus (NPCC, Director), Monica Best (NP Music Teachers), Jodi McNiven (FSJ Dance), Sabrina Brooks (Northern Winds), Nadine Aulin (NLYC), Margaret May (PRNFA, Director), Connie Defosses (Treasurer)

Call to Order: 7:10 PM, by Rosemary Landry

Treasurer's Report – Discussed copy of grant distribution. FSJCAC received \$15,000.00 from the City of FSJ. There was no increase, again. Twenty member groups applied. The maximum a member group can request is 35% of their budget, Connie had to adjust each of the groups request by 35% so that it came under the \$15,000.00. Also adjusted based on info received, if financial statements and budgets were properly presented. The highest award is \$975. There is \$374 remaining that needs to be allocated. The member groups need to decide what to do with this amount. Discussion took place. Funds from the 2015 Grant awards still remaining to be distributed \$5,427.15. These funds need to be used by June 30, 2015.

Motion made by Rosemary give the extra money to PR North Festival, seconded by Sabrina. Carried.

Motion to accept the adjudication allocation as presented. Barb moved, Sabrina seconded. Carried.

Those groups with a Charitable Tax Number can just request their funds once they send their Charitable Tax Number to the Arts Council.

Any publications such as posters, brochures, etc must acknowledge the City of Fort St John's support. Please send the FSJCAC pictures and posters, etc and this information is used in the FSJCAC presentation to the City of Fort St John for next year's grant.

Connie pointed out the total budgets for all the member groups is \$580,000 and factoring a 2.5 CPI, over \$1.5 Million circulates in the community because of the member art groups and this doesn't take into account the NPCC and FSJCAC budgets. Neither the FSJCAC nor NPCC can apply for a grant. The NPCC receives funding directly from the City and the City has mandated the FSJCAC receive no funds, despite the fact they organize and administer the grant and grant allocation.

**Fort St John Community Arts Council
Adjudication Meeting March 9, 2016
7 PM, ArtsPost**

Sue asked the member groups to mention this to their members and other people in the community and impress upon the City the importance of the arts in this community and the arts generates revenue for this community.

With no more business to be discussed, the meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

**Fort St John Arts Community Arts Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
March 16, 2016 12 Noon at the Artspost**

Call to Order: Rosemary Landry, Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:06 pm.

In Attendance: Rosemary Landry (Director, PRFCA, NPPG, Flying Colours), Megan Singh (Director, FSJ Film Society), Christine Todd (NDTS), Eliza Stanford, Monica Best (NP Music Teachers), Sue Popesku (Director, Stage North, Festival), Margaret May (Director, PRNFA), Connie Defosses (Director), Karla King (NPS&W), Jennifer Decker (FSJ Dance), Connie Surerus (Director, NPCCS)

Approval of the Agenda: Sue made a motion to approve the agenda and Eliza seconded. Carried.

Approval of Minutes: Eliza made a motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of February 17, 2016, Connie D. seconded. Carried.

Financial Report – Connie Defosses, Treasurer – Adjudication Report and Grant allocations of March 9, 2016 – requests of \$25,000 from 20 member groups with \$15,000 to allocate from the City of Fort St John. There are still a few groups where grant money needs to be claimed from last year and used by June 30, 2016.

Request for funds from NPCC for dimmer rack replacement: CAC Board suggests \$500. Motion by Eliza and seconded by Megan for the FSJ CAC to donate \$500 to the NPCC for the dimmer rack. Discussion. Carried.

Correspondence:

1. Invitation to the Regional Juried Art Show opening in Chetwynd (same weekend as their Trade Show), opening reception Friday, April 1st 7-9pm at the Chetwynd Rec Centre and April 2, 10am-5pm, April 3 10am-4pm.
2. Received \$800 for Leadership Grant from Regional Arts Council for 2015 and 2016.

Group Reports:

Stage North – Sue Popesku - Doing *Outlaws* by Norm Foster, it's a comedy and will be staged at the end of May.

Eliza Stanford: *Flotsam* Show at Peace Gallery North in the Cultural Centre showing until March 26th. The opening was very successful.

North Peace Spinners & Weavers Guild – Karla King - In February, we held an in-town retreat, mostly at the Arts Post. We had about 10 people turn out for a tour of the museum, saw the exhibits and got to go in the back room and see some of the handmade articles that Marjo Wheat is researching. We had some people weaving

Fort St John Arts Community Arts Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
March 16, 2016 12 Noon at the Artspost

on the studio looms, a few were working on inkle looms, some spinning. We are in the early planning stages of a workshop for 2017, trying to get Caroline Sommerfield to come and do an art yarn workshop with us.

One of our members has been working with some local homeschooling families learning about fibre processing and knitting. There's been lots of interest in this and it's great to see. We even have interest from the Wonowon 4H.

Last year's Christmas Sale at the beginning of December was a great success and we're already talking about next year's sale and gearing up to create items for it.

Some of our members also volunteered at the Museum's Hands-On Day on March 5th.

Our next meeting will be Saturday, March 19th, at noon, here at the Arts Post.

North Peace Music Teachers – Monica Best – We had a fantastic recital at the College last Sunday. There were about 40 students playing. We have another recital planned for April 9th at the Cultural Centre from 2pm – 4pm. Then the festival starts on April 10 & 11th for piano.

FSJ Dance Society – Jennifer Decker – The dancers competed at a festival in Quesnel in February. There are upcoming competitions in Fort St John in April and in Edmonton in May. For fundraising, Valentine's Day was well received and currently doing a Purdy's Chocolate Easter fundraiser and scorekeeping at the Oilmen's Hockey Tournament.

Northern Dance Theatre Society – Christine Todd – At the end of February, dancers went to the Quesnel Dance Festival and did very well representing Fort St John. Currently dancers are in Prince George at the 40th Anniversary Dance Festival of the Arts. This dance festival is one week long. Dancers have been doing a wonderful job representing Fort St John. There has been media coverage. On Friday there will be a gala performance and various dancers/groups will be chosen to perform.

In May we will be holding a Gala at the Cultural Centre showcasing our graduating students and Festival performances. This will be a wonderful entertaining show. Please come out to watch and support NDTs.

Dancers have been participating in the local Tapping into Talent Shows. Ballet exams will be coming up after competitions.

Performing Arts Festival Assoc – Margaret May - Hard at work with both Festivals. The regional festival Apr 10-17 is the qualifier for Provincials May31- June 4th, also taking place in Fort St John this year. We still NEED VOLUNTEERS and still fundraising for this event. Please contact Margaret if you're able to help.

**Fort St John Arts Community Arts Council
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March 16, 2016 12 Noon at the Artspost**

FSJ Film Society – Megan Singh – The last film shown *Trumbo* on March 14th was well received as opposed to the previous 2 films, they were a bit more dark in nature. Still 3-4 more films on the schedule, 2 in April and one in May, trying to get a second film for May.

Federation of Canadian Artists/Flying Colours – Rosemary Landry - workshop with David Langevin on acrylics, took a different approach to the use of acrylics. Workshop on printmaking and bookmaking coming up.

North Peace Potters Guild – Rosemary Landry – The group is busy trying to get Chili bowls made well before the sale, Chili Bowl Bash in June.

North Peace Cultural Centre – Connie Surerus – The dimmer rack that controls the lighting in the theatre finally “died” and we have had to order a new one. The cost is \$50,000 so we are applying for grants and approaching businesses for donations. We will be making a special request to Taylor and PRRD as well and we are asking for support from the community and the user groups as well.

Challenging Issue: Arts Cultural Plan/Draft Policy completed by City consultant in 2009 was handed out last meeting. A suggestion was made to resubmit it again to the City because there are new people at the City who aren't aware of the plan. It was also suggested we provide an abbreviated version. Also bring children to do the presentation and say why they are participating in the various arts and why they love it.

Business:

- **The website** is back up and running and clear of “bugs”. Thanks to Margaret and GetMyGeek.com.
- **50th Anniversary of Arts Council in 2017** – Community 2017 April 4th at Pomeroy Hotel 9am-12noon. The Arts Council wants to invite everyone we can think of originally from FSJ to come to FSJ for 2017. Each group asked to list names of all past people and emails for CAC to ask back for June 2017 AND up to ten archive type photos with dates and names about your group. FSJ Rules is another place to get names. Pat Ferris is working on this too.
- **Constitution Review** – board has set up a committee and work will be starting soon.
- **Arts BC Conference** – May 5-7, Vancouver. Connie Surerus and Rosemary Landry attending at \$600 each. This is way under the expected budget.

Fort St John Arts Community Arts Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
March 16, 2016 12 Noon at the Artspost

Program Reports:

- **Banners** – Banners are in Vancouver being printed now – need to have \$5000, \$3000 has been raised + \$1000 from Urban Systems. Please consider a contribution to the Arts Council this year.
- **Flower Pot Revitalization Project** – spread the word \$50 touch up, \$75 new painting.
- **Artwalk 2016** – need artists and venues downtown deadline April 29 to register. It is well underway, new colour is blue, people are coming to the Arts Council asking to be part of the Artwalk. We matched brochures with the banners. If you know of any business downtown that would like to be a part of this, please let Sue Popesku know.

Meeting Dates:

- **Tourism Fort St John** meeting about 2017 April 4, Pomeroy Hotel 9am-12 noon.
- **150 Canada Mural Meeting** April 18th at 12 noon at City Hall. Contact Lisa at City 787-8150.
- **Regular CAC Meeting April 20, 2016** at 12 noon Artspost.
- **Communities in Bloom Meeting TBA** Justice Office in Community Bridge Building.

Affiliations:

- **Peace Liard Regional Arts Council** – Alaska Highway songs chosen and CD in the making.
- **Alaska Highway Trencher** now in transformation into an Art Exhibit.
- **Museums in NE BC** formed charitable society Northern Trails Heritage Society and making a 2017 Auto Circle Tour.
- **FSJ Hospital Art Committee** – Rosemary Landry
- **Alaska Highway Community Society** – Sue Popesku – Alaska Highway Acknowledgement as Heritage route Nomination pending.

Meeting adjourned at 12:35 pm. Next meeting April 20, 2016 at 12 noon Artspost.

Group Reports for April 20, 2016

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.

FSJ Community Arts Council – Board Meeting – August 9, 2016

Present: Tanya Shymko, Sue Popesku, Connie Surerus, Rosemary Landry, Margaret May, Connie Desfosses

Call to Order: 7:11 pm by Rosemary Landry

Accept Agenda: Sue moved, carried.

Financial: Audit may result in change in system of City Funds to Arts Groups. The way we issue charitable receipts for our member groups will be problematic. The auditor will discuss with colleagues and will prepare a letter will be 2-3 months out. Until letter is received will continue to do as before. Presentation to City next month. Clarification around gifts and in-kind donations.

Issues:

- Refreshing Artspost for next 10 years – need to have an agreement with Margaret May to have long-term lease – possibly get another grant for such things as fencing, gas kiln, paint and spruce up, other repairs, bay door, electrical outlets, downspout, exterior windows, back door, front door. FSJCAC has been in the Artspost for 10 years, possibly get another Creative Spaces Grant
- 2017 Celebration Action – invitations to those who moved away – 2016-2017 Planned Events ARTS LIST – June/17 is Arts month – Bright Nights/Chili Bowl – need email addresses/Facebook and design an invitation and get it out to everywhere – inviting people back for the 2 weeks and come to the NPCC Gala June 16th - Sue picked up banners from the Museum – fly these banners from years past dealing with the Arts and fly them in the Mall.
- Sign for Artspost – 50 years – 8' x 8' Sign – 50 years of the Arts council – possibly have up by October 17th
- Roundtable on Arts – September 6th send notice the meeting is Thursday, October 6th at the NPCC so can be brought forward to each groups AGM– Discussion regarding the future of the Arts in Fort St John, educational aspect, partner with NPCC, raise the voice of the Arts, potential funding opportunities (ie) BC Hydro community fund. Aim to get 60-100 people

Governance:

- Constitution Revamping (report in Nov 2016 – ratify at AGM 2017) – after August 29th can apply and have constitution sent to us free of charge. Tanya is reviewing the current constitution and by-laws
- All policies to be reviewed and updated, haven't been updated since 2012. After receive letter from Revenue Canada, update financial policy. Will try and work on one each month.

Project Updates:

- Artwalk 2017 – possibly expand – more artists are interested and businesses are interested – very few suggestions – businesses were delighted so many people came in during the Provincial Performing Arts Festival. It also gives people an opportunity to get people in to the stores. Planned for June 20-August 19, 2017 and goes hand in hand with the banners.
- Banner Project 1942 images/tote bags/letter to City, Alan White on the design for 92 banners – Sue wrote a letter to the City asking they invest in hardware so can hang more banners on the street and could expand this program. Airport wants to buy 48 tote bags, they will pay \$15/bag. Plan to do 4 Army images – used pictures from mural at NLC for the 50th Anniversary. We need to raise \$13,000+ for the banners. We had \$6500 in sponsorship donations, and possibly grant sources of \$3000.
- Flower pots – Airport 4 pots painted for them 2017 – will need to be brought back and store here, possibly paint another pot with Canada flag and then 2 more pots with the blue banners theme. We received \$200 for this. Need a few painters for the pots. Invested in new soil for all the pots this year.

On-Going:

- Regional Arts Council – next meeting – Tumbler Ridge – September 24th and Sue and Lydia will be doing a round table in TR for the South Peace area.
- Treasurer's - \$67,000 in capital and \$52,500 in general. Need to put in our minutes the capital funds are allocated to the Building Fund. \$11000 in gaming, \$24000 in scholarship fund, \$10,000 in membership grants.
- Pies – Margaret has submitted application for temp food permit – Aug 19, 20, 21st – need pie makers and workers for the booth.

General Meeting August 17th 12 noon at Artspost – general – planning for the coming year

AGM September 21, 2016 at 7pm - 14 days in advance in newspaper, nomination committee, president, treasurer, secretary, directors,

FSJCAC presentation for Base Budget Grant is September 19th and we have to have it in to the City by September 8th.

Meeting adjourned 8:50pm

Fort St John Community Arts Council Regular Meeting August 17, 2016

Call to Order: 12:05 by Rosemary Landry, Chair – And Rosemary welcomed new members too.

Attending: Rosemary Landry (Director, NPPG/FCA), Evelyn Sim (NP Historical Society), Sue Popesku (Stage North, Director), Monica Best (NP Music Teachers), Connie Desfosses (Treasurer), Lisa, Geilan Carnell (FSJ Dance Society), Lisa Babuick (FSJ Quilters), Heather Hannaford (NPPG), Megan Singh (FSJ Film Society, Director), Connie Surerus (NPCC, Director)

Approval of the Agenda: Motion to approve agenda. Evelyn moved. Carried.

Approval of Minutes: Motion to approve minutes of June 15, 2016 meeting. Moved by Megan, seconded by Connie D. Carried.

Financial Report: A full report every second month. Revenue Canada audited the books August 3 & 4, because of our charitable status, technically we are not supposed to be issuing receipts to non-profits that do not have charitable tax numbers, waiting for ruling and letter from the Auditor. Rosemary thanked Connie D, Margaret May and Sue P for attending to the audit. Received Gaming Grant of \$10,000, \$5,000 goes to banners

Correspondence:
Not much in correspondence

Group Reports:

NP Historical Society – This Friday, Aug 19th, holding 2nd cemetery tour, City cemetery, will start at 7:05 pm, last tour had 60 people. Heather will be giving the tour. Larry Evans did the last tour. It is a lot of fun. September will be taking part in the Block Party – September 10th – will have travel trailer there and Canada Works Students are doing up a display for the “Block Party”. Have 2017 Calendar available for sale for the Alaska Highway – Rudy Schubert photos, was the official photographer for the building of the Highway. In honour of Canada’s 150th, Home Hardware will be selling commemorative tulips, white & red, Museum plans to plant them. Orders can be placed in September. Another historic building coming in September – Allen 2 storey Homestead – still on Large’s farm presently near Baldonnel.

NP Music Teachers – nothing planned yet, had piano exams June 13th, results are in and everyone did well. Plan a recital end of November. Meeting in September.

Lisa – new to town – artist and filmmaker, university prof, still teaching parttime at SFU, artist in residence.

Fort St John Community Arts Council Regular Meeting August 17, 2016

FSJ Dance Society – The Move – Jennifer Decker has retired from the Society – Ladies Day Out this fall – actual date not known yet – no report at this time. Trying to find a place big enough to hold the event. Beginning of September doing a chocolate drive.

Stage North – Sue - All new season – exciting – Sept 22 –Evangel Chapel – God of Carnage, Buddy Holly October, Wizard of Oz and Dinner theatre in Feb/17

PRN Theatre Festival – definitely taking place this year, in May – all Canadian plays – winning play at Mainstage in Chilliwack

FSJ Country Quilters – Lisa – calendar of events – Sept 12th, 1st meeting of the year and all retreats can be signed up for at the NPCC at 7pm, 2nd and 4th Mondays of every month. Christmas retreat coming up. Quilters will be at the Fall Fair.

North Peace Potters Guild – Heather – Classes starting 2nd week in September, brochure will be out shortly. Beginners and extended classes for adults and childrens classes. Winter sale is December 3rd, 10-4pm, classes will start again in January. International potter coming in mid-March from the UK, “Soda firing”, not everything is blue, round and shiny. She will be in Shadbolt in Burnaby and then international conference in Seattle. Classes end in April. Chili Bowl bash in June 24th. Anyone interested in registering classes, need their emails, first come-first serve with paid registrations. Classes fill up very quickly.

PRN Festival – Connie – just wrapping up the Provincials financials and looks like it went well financially – Lot of work and a job well done! The adjudicators enjoyed FSJ and all the facilities. Members of the Provincial Board were impressed with the event being so well organized and the participation of the volunteers and the community.

FSJ Film Society – Megan - sent in requests for films and sent in dates, waiting to hear back from Landmark. Lots of input from members and people. Megan in discussion with the Short Film Festival in GP, planning on touring and would be looking to have Best of the Fest in June, 2017.

NPCC – Connie S. – quiet over the summer, provided arts classes in conjunction with the City’s camp program, preschool summer camp was last week of July and again will be last week of August. Finalizing fall Artspace classes and preschool registration for fall classes, running 5 days/week morning & afternoon classes. Board working on policies and beginning work on updating strategic plan, constitution & by-laws.

Flying Colours – Rosemary - Sandy Troudt has a show coming up at the PGN soon.

Business:

Fort St John Community Arts Council Regular Meeting August 17, 2016

1. **Communities in Bloom** – Sue - Judges came, saw, impressed. Canfor is making pellets, sold to Japan to keep their coal burning cleaner. They do history, food security, impressed with banners and flowers.
2. **Kids of the Library Day at Artspost** – August 10th – Sue – had a great day – 30 kids, pottery, painting, weaving, quilting – Lisa - imogee key rings – lots of fun – very loud and very busy! Thanks to Tanya S – chalk and wax painting – Suzon & Rosemary – clay owls, finger bowls – Heather suggests a bit more notice and planning for the future. Library gave us \$250 help pay for clay. Library has a budget for this, could pay honorarium.
3. **Best Pies in the World** – desperately need pies for Fall Fair – any pies can be dropped off at the Artspost on Friday or delivered to the Fall Fair booth. Sue will be here on Friday 9-12 and Saturday at 8am. Proceeds from pies help with costs to Artspost.. Or contact Margaret or Connie D. Also need volunteers for the booth.
4. **City Presentation** September 19th for Grant in aid, it would be good if member groups could attend and show support.
5. **Christmas ReUse, Recycle, Rejoice Sale** will open Nov 19th – drop off Christmas decorations at the Artspost. Suggest business cards to give at garage sales. Sale closes Dec. 10th
6. **AGM September 21st at 7pm** – looking for nominations for board members. Membership dues collected at the AGM Group is \$50, individual \$10

New Business:

2017

1. **Roundtable on Arts** – NPCC – refresh the building – downtown revite – banners – artwalk – business people are asking about downtown revite and events around the arts.
2. **Bright Nights Reunion June 11-24** – need names & addresses of everyone whose moved away for Gala
3. **List of 2017 events** – Is your event listed? Quilters Guild making 7 panel quilt, asked if it can tour Alaska Highway towns once its finished.
4. **Artwalk 2017** – June 20th – August 19th – 26 businesses and 25 artists this year - \$35/business, \$25/artists – expect more in 2017 – suggestion to have an evening kick-off for the artwalk – maybe musicians – maybe at the park – artists available. Heather suggested SurveyMonkey on the Artwalk prior to planning – give input – Are items for sale? What are the expectations of the

Fort St John Community Arts Council Regular Meeting August 17, 2016

businesses? What are the expectations of the artists? Looking for growth in arts in the community

5. **Banners 2017** – will be up in May, 2017 – depicting 1942 images – Alan White will be using these images – 92 banners – raise \$13,000 – BC Gaming received \$5000
6. **Update on Constitution review** – can apply for your society's constitution for free in September

Meeting adjourned at 1:15 pm by Rosemary Landry.

Call to Order: 12:06 by Sue Popesku

Present: Geilan Carnell (FSJ Dance Society), Evelyn Sim (NPHS), Sue Popesku (Stage North/TheatreFest), Marjo Wheat (NPSWG), Shannon Bolog (FSJ Irish Dance), Christine Taylor (NDTS), Tanya Shymko (Spectrum Art Studios), Eliza Stanford, Megan Singh (FSJ Film Society), Connie Desfosses (FSJCAC), Connie Surerus (NPCC/FSJCAC)

Approval of the Agenda – Eliza moved. Carried.

Approval of the Minutes of August 17, 2016 (September was the AGM), motion made by Geilan, second by Connie D. Carried.

Financial Report – Connie D., general bank account \$23,361.06, permissive tax exemption from City of FSJ for \$10,321.11 per year for the next 3 years has been approved. Member grants still to be disbursed for 2015/16 of \$7,363.55. Revenue Canada has given us a grace period to June 30, 2018 to finish the disbursements on the grants. This gives us some time to negotiate with the City on how to proceed. FSJCAC is not allowed to payout monies to organizations that do not have a charitable tax number, otherwise risk losing our charitable tax status. FSJCAC will no longer be able to accept donations on behalf of member groups.

Correspondence: no correspondence

Group Reports

NDTS – Christine - we've collected mittens for Women's Resource Society, working on Mega Lotto and just started selling Christmas wreaths, tea, coffees, Mom's pantry (food & spices) Nutcracker will be Dec 15-17.

FSJ Dance Society – Geilan - Ladies Day out Nov 5&6 at NPSS, 11-4pm over 80 vendors, accepting donations for Womens Resource Society. Planning a Lido theatre event soon.

NP Historical Society – Evelyn – Nov 18th documentary night – Rudy Schubert films, will find out if they are ready in DVD form. Annual Christmas Tea December 7th, will be looking for goodies for the tea. Kids night on the Friday after the Tea, well attended and maybe Santa will be there Dec 9th. Spent 2 days at the annual antique sale at the Legion but not well attended, GP was the same weekend, not too many vendors. Calendars are for sale at the Art Gallery, may take them to Coles and are for sale at the museum \$15 each. Original photos taken by Rudy. He was the official photographer for the US Army

NPSWG – Marjo – the next meeting of the Guild will be on November 12, at the Artspost. Plans for 2017 include hosting a 3 to 5 day workshop for all members of Spinners' and Weavers' Guilds in the BC and Alberta Peace River areas in

Fort St John Community Arts Council
Regular Meeting – October 19, 2016

September. Studio days continue to be held each Thursday morning. The Guild also has monthly "Spinning Days" where the members and anyone interested get together and spin or do other fibre related handwork. Plans are also underway to have Inkle Weaving and Felting workshops and a retreat at Camp Sagitawa in the New Year. For any information, contact Rene at 250-261-5541.

FSJ Irish Dance Society – Shannon – 4 day workshop in September, have a school in Vancouver as well and dancers came up. Sold apples, Kernels, wreaths. Mandatory competition in Calgary Thanksgiving weekend. We had good results at North American Irish Dance Championships with one dancer placing 5th, she also placed 15th at Worlds and 5th, another dancer placed 8th. Lots of classes getting ready for the Oireachtas (World Qualifiers) in Calgary in November.

Stage North – Sue - Buddy Holly opens tomorrow night at NPCC, this weekend and next weekend. Working with S2S with Nutcracker. Theatre Festival is happening in May.

North Peace Community Choir – Evelyn – no concert this year but still practicing Sunday Dec 4th at Lutheran Church 2 performances afternoon and evening ChoirFest. Looking at singing at the Care Home too.

Spectrum Art – Tanya – all classes are full except a few spaces open in the adult class. This week just started daytime – mommy & me 1-5 year olds. Have a lot of requests for adult daytime classes too.

PRN Festival – Margaret is at the AGM now and dropping off the binders from the Provincials.

FSJ Film Society – Reel Shorts Film Festival in GP to have a week in collaboration with GP, just talking with NPCC about getting a week there and talking to SD60 to have children attend the festival. Will be happening in 2017, if it's a success will have other festivals come to FSJ. Maybe able to have the film directors/film makers come to FSJ and possibly do a workshop. There is the educational aspect for different age groups. Very excited with this news and GP is excited too.

Business:

- Conversations About the Arts – Open House at NPCC October 22nd 1 – 3pm – Handout – Arts, Culture and Heritage – followup about all the conversations about the CC, downtown revite, ArtWalk and the downtown businesses, hope the businesses come too. Need input from everyone.
- Recycled Christmas Sale – Nov 19 – Dec 10th – go through your Christmas stuff and donate items you don't use – hours M-T 10am – 1pm, will be open on Saturday 10am-2pm during the sale. FSJCAC received lots of new items. Need to share on Facebook. Need volunteers to take from 10am-1pm on Nov

Fort St John Community Arts Council
Regular Meeting – October 19, 2016

21/22 and 28/29 and Sat Nov 26 from 10am to 2pm. Sue is in Vancouver from Nov 20 to Nov 29th.

- Constitution reviewed – committee will make changes and follow the regulations, Tanya reviewed – there are things in the constitution that need to be changed and then brought forward and passed at the next AGM.
- New Logo design and sign for the building – Megan working on it and will need to run the ideas by the Board. Hoping to have new sign up by October 29.

2017

- Bright Nights Dates changed. Must confirm before inviting back all arts people for 50th Anniversary
- List of 2017 – Is your event listed? Make sure your event is listed.

Next meeting November 16, 2016.

Meeting adjourned at 12:55 pm.

Notes on "Conversations about the Arts" Sat, Oct 22 1-3pm NPCC

Attending: Connie Surerus, Rosemary Landry, ~~Margaret May~~ *Elizabeth Sturges*, Sue Popesku, Ev Sim, Jessica Harrison and Moira Green

Information from the City:

- The City staff has been asked by Council to draft a Public Art Policy.
- City staff has no mandate to include arts, culture, heritage as a priority
- A Notice of Motion will put Arts, Culture, and Heritage on the list of priorities for next year.

Community Arts Policy of 2008 was discussed and Moira and Jessica will look back in City records as to what happened to that survey, consultation and recommendations.

Steps to Move toward a "Notice of Motion":

- Talk with City Counsellors on making a Notice of Motion
- Circulating the 2008 Recommendations for developing a City Arts and Cultural Policy
- Explore comparable communities for their Cultural Policies, City has comparable communities listing on the City website.
- Do quarterly reports to the City about the Arts
- Enlist the support of the BIA (if it gets organized), Chamber of Commerce, Rotary, Clients interest in art, dance, theatre, PACS

Words and phrases to help: Sustainability, recruit and retain, vibrant, walkability, year round, festivals, winter cities plan in OCP, Downtown Strategy

Suggestions for more Activities:

- Art rental program Potential clients: Businesses, companies offices, passive house (A committee to explore the potential set up of a Rental Program)
- Pop-Up Gallery
- Resident Artists in Art Walk (possible for the City to be a venue for resident artist for next Artwalk)
- Chamber/Business Love BC Marketing

Meeting Adjourned at 3:05pm