

Fort St John

2017 Planned Events

Planned by Feb 2016
MORE TO COME

January

FSJ Museum

- Alaska Highway Documentary Night- Gus Hedin?

February

City of FSJ

- February 10-13- High on Ice Celebrations

FSJ Museum

- Feb. 10- Presentations on African American Soldiers (Black History Month)

Pan African Caribbean Association

- Feb. 4- Movie Lido Theatre
- Feb. 11- Soccer competition between PACA and NPSS at North Peace Senior Secondary gym.
- Feb. 18- Story telling at the FSJ Library
- Feb. 25- Black History Month main event at Immaculata Hall (the winners of the essay contest among Junior and Secondary schools in School District 60 and enrolled in the 2016/17 academic year will be announced)

March

FSJ Museum

- March 18- Night at the Museum- Alaska Highway Edition
- March 24- Night at the Museum- Alaska Highway Edition

FSJ Arts Council

- Launch of the Auto Circle Tour of Northeast Museums and Historical sites with the Northern Trails Society and Peace Liard Regional Arts Council- Dawson Creek/FSJ/Fort Nelson

Child Development Centre

- March 3- Annual Talent Show- possible 1942 theme

April

FSJ Museum

- April 7- Kids night at the Museum: the construction of the Alaska Highway from the perspective of a mosquito.

- Arts & Crafts Fair

Child Development Centre

- Family picnics with 1940's theme. This will be closed event

July

City of FSJ

- July 1- Annual Canada Day parade and celebrations

FSJ Museum

- July 7- Cemetery Tour- Alaska Highway Edition
- July 21- Travel & Tourism throughout the Alaska Highway's History presentations
- July- August - Western Command Convoy- Exhibition of Vehicles/BBQ

FSJ Arts Council

- July 8, 2017 "Stories of the Alaska Highway" a multi-media journey with professional storyteller Kathy Jessup, musician Bill Dolan, artist Allison Tubman. Launching in Edmonton, through Grande Prairie, Dawson Creek and up to Alaska - FSJ time and location TBA

FSJ Airshow

- Two day airshow late in July- dates to be confirmed

Paddle for the Peace TBA

- This is typically organized by PVEA, West Moberly & Halfway River First Nations and T8TA plays a supporting role to the event.

August

FSJ Museum

- August 20- November 30- Rudy Schubert's Alaska Highway Photos Exhibit

District of Taylor

- Annual Gold Panning- Dates to be confirmed

September

FSJ Arts Council

- Sept. 29 & 30- Oct. 5, 6, 7, 2017 "The Alcan Craze II" Local playwright Debra Butler brings back the flavour of 1942 along the famous Alaska Highway first seen on stage in 1992. 7pm NPCC

at Mile Zero of the Alaska Highway. We have confirmed the 3 co-curators for the project - Emilie Mattson and Karl Mattson of Rolla, and Adrienne Greyeyes of Fort St. John along with advisor Brian Jungen. Together they will create the conceptual drawing of the art sculpture, and, where appropriate, will involve interested regional artists in various design aspects of the art piece. We have held one meeting in Fort St. John and the co-curators have all visited the trencher. It has been decided that the trencher will be moved to Rolla where the creation of the sculpture will take place. Brian Jungen will be visiting the sculpture in March.

- Auto Circle Tour Map - Sue Popesku has been working with museums and tourism in the region toward the creation of a map that will identify the public museum collections along the Alaska Highway corridor. The flyer will also include promotion of the major events taking place in 2017.
- Storytelling - the Peace Liard Regional Arts Council is assisting Kathy Jessup, Alison Tubman, and Bill Dolan in securing venues for their Alaska Highway Road Show in 2017.

FSJ Arts Council

- Special Open Houses for the following: dates TBA
- 10th Anniversary of the Artspost
- 25th Anniversary of the NPCC
- 40th Anniversary of Stage North Theatre Society
- 50th Anniversary of the Fort St. John Arts Council
- 60th Anniversary of the Lido Theatre
- 70th Anniversary of the North Pine Fall Fair

- Additional: The Fort St. John Quilters are doing a second Alaska Highway Quilt with input from all along the highway. Completion date and unveiling TBA. Heather Truscott of Sew It Yourself shop is coordinating this.
- Studio to Stage and Northern Dance Society are planning a 1942 dance music performance. Date TBA

FORT ST. JOHN COMMUNITY ARTS COUNCIL

Annual General Meeting

September 20, 2017

Call to Order: 7:10 pm

In Attendance: Lisa Babuick, Christine Taylor (NDTS), Dave Price (SD60 Band), Niki Hedges (Film Society), Rosemary Landry (PRCFCA), Barb Wagner (Potters Guild), Alex Neilson, (Flying Colours), Marjo Wheat (Spinners & Weavers, Eliza Stanford, Sue Popesku (Stage North), Lisa Maclean (Peace Gallery North), Margaret May (PRNFA), Jean McFadden (Scrapbooking), Kendra Delichte (Central PAC, PAGS), Rhonda Scott (NP Choir), Connie Desfosses, Tanya Shymko (Spectrum Art)

Approval of Agenda: Moved by Marjo to accept the agenda.

Introduction of Board Members

Guest Speaker: Lisa MacLean. Lisa was hired as the new curator for Peace Gallery North and has been making connections with community. One or two artists each week have participated in the Artist in Residence program at the gallery. Visitors have enjoyed meeting the artists and watching the creative process. The gallery is looking to connect artists in multiple disciplines. There is a book launch with Ronnie Robersts on September 22. Ronnie Roberts and Pat Ferris on October 20. Evening will feature musical entertainment. Exhibits have ben booked into 2019. Lisa will bring in outside exhibits as well as showing local artists. The artisan market will be held in December.

Approval of Minutes: Moved by Lisa, seconded by Eliza, to accept the minutes from the AGM of September 21, 2016.

Financial Report: Last year we had surplus of \$7,909. The auditor has given us a grace period to pay out city grants since the funds are already in our account so 2017/2018 grants will be paid out at this meeting. In future groups will get their cheques directly from the city.

Moved by Connie, to accept report.

Moved by Margaret to approve the transfer of \$10,000 into the Capital Reserve fund and to internally restrict these funds with the future goal to build or purchase a permanent creative space for the arts. Seconded by Sue. Carried.

Moved by Margaret, to continue to maintain the funds donated in memory of Lindsay Dumaine, Helen Smith and Heather Hannaford in a term deposit, the proceeds of which will be used to help fund our scholarship and bursary program. Seconded by Lisa B. Carried

President's Report: Submitted by Rosemary Landry

ArtsPost Report: Submitted by Sue Popesku. The ArtsPost continues to be full to, and beyond, capacity. The Potters and Spinners & Weavers have outgrown their spaces and the demand for the multi-purpose room is growing.

NEW BUSINESS

New Society Act: Working to have Constitution and by-law revisions ready to present at the October meeting.

Issue for discussion: Support for reinstating Art Courses at NLC. Have had recent discussions with new management of college and there is a possibility of having the program reinstated if we can demonstrate a demand within the community.

Can it be a dual credit program with the high school? This would gain the support of the school board.

There was a problem with dropping enrollment possibly caused by a lack of promotion of the program on all sides.

Gathering Statistics: Arts Council plans to compile statistics to demonstrate the impact of the arts in the community.

Election of Officers: Eliza Stanford presiding
Positions of President, secretary, treasurer and two directors are in the middle of a two year. Megan has resigned from the board as she is moving away from Fort St. John. Tanya Shymko has been appointed to the position of vice-president

Director positions:

1. Sue Popesku: Elected by Acclamation
2. Lisa Babuick: Elected by Acclamation
3. Alex Neilson: Elected by Acclamation

The signing authority will remain unchanged: Rosemary Landry, Connie Desfosses, Margaret May and Sue Popesku.

Marjo moved, Lisa seconded, to retain the firm of Sandor Rose Bone and Grindle as out accountants.

GROUP REPORTS

Northern Dance Theatre Society: Sixty-one troupe dancers completed a two week summer school with visiting instructors Regular classes started September 5. The Studio 2 Stage Christmas recital is Dec.17. The NDTs Gala is planned for May 10 and the spring recital is May 12, 2018

Scrapbooking Group: Meets Friday mornings at the ArtsPost and is looking for new members.

Fort St. John Film Society: First showing of the season is *Churchill*. Two reps from the Film Society attended TIFF, networking and sharing with other societies. There is a great line up of films for the fall.

North Peace Potters Guild: Guild had a very busy year. Many extra classes. Loss of Heather left a big void that needs to be filled. Beginner classes are full for this fall. Extension class and children's class are also full. There are now 32 guild members.

North Peace Spinners & Weavers: Had less general meetings through the year and held workshops every month instead. Membership is up to 18. Held a successful dying retreat in July and did sheep to shawl demonstrations at the fall fair. The guild held a 40th anniversary celebration on September 4 at the ArtsPost.

Hosting regional workshop (Nuno felting) on October 21 and a regional conference October 13-15. Mentorship for new members with a library and equipment available. New junior group to teach skills to young members. Have connected with Girl Guides.

Dec. 2 – annual Christmas sale

November 18 workshop – chicken pin cushions.

First Thursday of each month, starting October 5, will be Fibre Night with the studio open from 5:00 – 9:00 pm.

All looms at the ArtsPost are currently in use making blankets, tea towels and towels.

Flying Colours Artist Group: Workshops posted on website. Moody Hughes juried show in Grande Prairie. Mary Parslow print show in GP. Sandy Troudt – Tableau noir, October 14 at NPCC. Lino Cut workshop at NPCC. Planning workshop with Barbara Swale. Points of View show in spring of 2018. En Plein air painting sessions through summer. Drop in sessions for members. Members have participated in artist in residence program at the gallery. Launching a gallery slide show on the group website and also printmaking specific website.

School District 60 Band: Last year was a successful year at festivals. Concert band performed at contando festival in Edmonton. Senior band won their category at Grande Prairie festival.

Band just starting up for the year with “Squeak & Squawk” this week.

October 13 – Taylor retreat

May – Concert band will go to nationals

March – Senior band will go to Cuba

November 30, May 3 – Band recitals

North Peace Community Choir: Vivaldi concert in May with choir and orchestra was a great success. Canada 150 concert featuring Canadian folk songs is on November 18, 7:00. Northern Winds, adult & junior choirs will participate along with guest soloist from Grande Prairie. Will also have a workshop with guest.

Just started practices for November concert.

In spring the choir will collaborate with GP college choir to perform Schubert mass.

Peace Art Gallery Society: Lets Art, a free program for children was started last year and was very successful. Art Camp was held in summer for a month. Sept. 30 – Art Auction, featuring live music with Twin Peaks.

Chocolate festival – February. This year focus will be more culinary.

Ecole Central School PAC: Rick Lief will come again to create a musical video. Will hold a holiday bazaar at the school for which students will create projects in their art classes. Other programs include Art Cards, musical (Aladdin), Artist in Residence (dance with Ashley Campbell).

Stage North: Alcan Craze will be showing at the end of September and the first week in October. Regional Arts Council selling songs about the Alaska Highway. Cooperating with Rotary to put on *Tina & Tony's Wedding* in January. *Mary's Wedding* will be in the spring and the Peace River Zone Theatre Festival will be in May.

Peace River North Festival Association: Organization has started for 2018 festival which will be held April 4-27, 2018.

Fort St. John Country Quilters: 34,000 quilt block submitted for the Canada 150 project from across the country and from all over the world. 1700 quilts donated to Ronald MacDonald Houses with more to come. Local guild donated 137 blocks. Sew it Yourself collect almost 600 blocks from community at large.

Spectrum Arts Studios: Holding art classes at the ArtsPost. Weekly classes run September to June. Partnered with pottery instructor to do art camps in the summer; 15 children participated. Hoping to do program again next summer. Enrollments are up this year and pro-D day classes are already full.

Peace River Chapter Federation of Canadian Artists: Workshops, juried arts shows were held across region. Planning for spring juried show.

Adjournment: 8:47 pm

Rosemary Landry Chair

Margaret May Secretary

Fort St. John Community Arts Council

Annual General Meeting, September 20, 2017

President's Report

Reporting Period July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017

Let's celebrate! 2017 is a "banner" year for the Arts with the 50th Anniversary of the Arts Council, 40th Anniversary of Stage North Theater Society and the 25th Anniversary of the North Peace Cultural Centre along with the 75th Anniversary of the Building of the Alaska Highway.

It's Canada's 150th Birthday and the Community Arts Council (CAC) has been celebrating the many exciting community events with our member groups. Here at the Artspost, celebrating 10 years of operation, we planted 50 of Canada's 150th Celebration tulips, painted the flower pots red and white with a maple leaf theme and positioned Canada Day painted flower pots at the airport to welcome home returning artist and visitors.

Invitations were sent out to welcome back as many people as possible, who had been involved with the local arts in our community over the past 50 years, to celebrate with us during the North Peace Cultural Centres Bright Nights in June.

Bright coloured street banners were designed by Allen White depicting Alaska Highway images from 1942. The Arts Council funded through our Advocacy Program and produced 92 banners to adorn 100th Street and had the previous Festival banners placed along 100th Avenue. The annual Art Walk through the summer months provided an interest for visitors and great exposure for artists and venues. The acclaimed "Best Pies in the World" sold out at the Fall Fair and our Christmas 'Reduce, Reuse, Recycle' sale was a success. As an affiliate member of the Peace Liard Regional Arts Council's (PLRAC), our members participated in the "Trencher" art project now on public display in Dawson Creek.

During the year Revenue Canada conducted an Audit which has impacted the way the grants to our member groups are managed and required several meetings with City Council for their support. In October the Directors held a public Round Table on the Arts and the importance of growing the arts through the display of Public Art. Directors also attended the City wide discussions on revisiting the Revitalization Plans, made grant presentations before City Council on behalf of our member groups, continued to manage the Scholarship and Bursary program providing awards to students excelling in Visual, Musical and Theater Arts at the High School level.

In addition, the Arts Council has involved our Member Groups in monthly meetings featuring guest speakers, advertized special arts events under "Take Part in the Arts" in the local

newspaper and on the CAC Website. With the support of our Member Groups we have maintained an Art Display Case at the Airport promoting a variety of art forms. For our 50th year, we are especially pleased to have rebranded the Community Arts Council logo and to have developed a brand new logo for the Artspost, soon to be launched. Four Directors attended the BC Arts Conference in Tofino and reported back on the Arts scene and events around the province. To date the Board members continue to work on revising the Constitution and Bylaws required by the Societies Act.

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.

For the past 10 years the Fort St. John Community Arts Council has worked diligently to develop the Artspost as a community creative centre providing studios for pottery, spinning and weaving and painting. The Artspost has remained very active, hosting children from the Library, the School District and the Kids Summer Art Camps. In addition to office and meeting rooms, it provides a permanent working space for the North Peace Potters' Guild, the North Peace Spinners & Weavers and Spectrum Art Studios offering classes to all age groups.

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.

In closing, I would like to thank the Board, Member Groups, and the City of Fort St. John for their continued support and dedication to the promotion of the arts in our community and look forward to someday having a permanent Community Creative Arts Centre in Fort St. John.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosemary E. Landry

FSJ CAC President

Artspost 2017 Annual Report

For Fort St. John Community Arts Council AGM

September 20, 2017

The Artspost has successfully completed its tenth year of operation at 10230 94 Avenue. Operated by the Arts Council, the Artspost is a community space for arts studios for classes for adults and children. The building is leased from Dean and Margaret May. The City of Fort St. John has supplied a tax exemption each year and the rest of the required funds have some from user groups, fundraising projects and the Arts Council. The cost of operations each year is \$50,000.

Financials

The Arts Council was able to successfully finance the operations thanks to the support of dedicated donors and volunteers. *PLEASE SEE ATTACHED 3 Year Projection*

Events that help to Support the Artspost operations:

- The Fall Fair World's Best Pies Sale in August has brought in over \$3000 this year. Thanks Margaret, Connie S and Connie D and Rosemary plus all the volunteers and pie makers.
- The Christmas Recycled Decorations Sale in November adds to the sources of funds for the Artspost.
- The Multi-purpose room has been rented by various groups and meetings.
- The Spinners and Weavers, Potters and Spectrum Studio pay as much rent as they can.

Tax Exemption: The City of Fort St. John has supplied the taxes each year through tax-exemption. The City will now alter the delivery of the taxes and grant the tax funds to the Arts Council to pay those taxes to the landlord in the future.

Improvements:

The main bay door has been replaced due to a vehicle mishap a couple of years ago and the cold is sealed out better than before. The bay door in the back requires insulation.

The landlord continues to maintain the building. The gas lines have been examined and some electrical work has been done.

The flower pots and the flower garden continue to blossom under the knowledgeable and hard work of Rosemary Landry.

The Spinners and Weavers maintain the front room (lobby) of the building as their workspace.

Space Crunch: **"THE ARTSPOST HAS BECOME TOO SMALL"**

- The Spinners and Weavers are growing at a rapid pace. The small lobby area is cramped and crowded with the added loams and other equipment they require to function with

their increasing number of members and activities. The Artspost has no other room for them to expand. **No solution is available at this time.**

- The activities and responsibilities of the Arts Council has revealed that the multi-use space in the Artspost is also too small. Various projects of the Arts Council no longer have work space in the multi-purpose room due to the demand from classes and meetings. The painting classes have increased and the numbers of registrants has risen. The Scrapbooking Club has regular weekly hours. The Spinners and Weavers require the space for workshops and meetings. Various Arts Council groups are booking the space for meetings. Evening meetings are often overlapping. **No solution is available at this time.**
- The Potters Guild has increased the number of adult and children classes requiring more working space, wheel space and working space which is not available to them in the space they currently occupy. Membership in the guild has increased putting more demand on the existing kilns they have. A much needed- gas kiln is still in the dreams of the guild. **No solution is available at this time.**
- The Artspost has a C-Can and a shed for storage which are both filled to capacity. The Potters have a C-Can as well for their storage. **There is no more space for more storage in the yard.**

Board Members Responsible for the Artspost:

The current situation where specific board members of the Arts Council are responsible for the Artspost has been a good working model for ten years. Rosemary Landry, Margaret May and Sue Popesku work together as the “responsible board members” and keep the doors open from 10am to 1pm Mon through Thurs. Sue and Rosemary have received and acted on issues concerning the Artspost, assured the financial viability of the Artspost, and recommended actions to the Board by reporting to the Arts Council. Margaret May, along with Arts Council Treasurer Connie Desfosses, have prepared budgets and financial information. Everyone is a volunteer and plays a vital role in the health and welfare of the Artspost and the Arts Council.

Respectfully submitted

Sue Popesku 1-250-785-6214 spopesku@shaw.ca