



Fort St. John
May 29th – June 3rd
2001

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Newsletter

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Welcome Aboard

Annabelle Kalina joined the BCFA staff in January as Office Assistant and effective February 19th, our personnel body will include five more positions to provide necessary support to committees. We welcome **Leslie Bitner**, Delegate Coordinator; **June Bradley**, Delegate Services Coordinator; **Candy Zsombor**, Volunteer Coordinator; **Duncan Banks**, Assistant Technical Director and **Lesla Bulach**, Transportation/Production Assistant.

Special Events

BCFA Open House

An Open House was held at the BC Festival of the Arts headquarters on February 7th, to officially open their new office. City councillor Karen Simpson and Mayor Steve Thorlakson were on hand for the ribbon cutting ceremony and a wine and cheese social followed. A

special thanks goes to the volunteers, committee members, businesses and organizations that made this exciting event happen. **"It was a great success"**.

Snow Art Snow Sculpture Competition

Due to the uncharacteristically Spring weather this year, the Snow Art event scheduled for February 16th to 18th at Jackfish Dundee's, Charlie Lake, had to be cancelled.



"Swing into Spring" Dance & Cabaret

A dance and cabaret with the 40 piece

Kiwanis Jazz Band has been organized by our Special Events committee for Friday, March 9th from 8:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. at the Northern Grand Hotel. For those of you that always wanted to learn, but were afraid to ask, there will be complimentary Swing Lessons from 8:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., midnight lunch, taxi service from 11:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. Tickets are available from the BCFA office or the Northern Grand at \$25.00 each. **Come out and join the fun....it will be a great time.** It will be entertaining to see Paula in the swing mode!

Upcoming Events

"Art Walk"

Mid May to Mid June

A tour of Fort St. John displaying fabulous works of art at various locations around town and a map to guide you.

"Communities in Bloom"

Beginning in April

A fund-raiser where artists contribute their talents by painting 100 large planters which will be filled with beautiful plants. The planters will then be sold to individual downtown businesses and displayed on city streets.



"Youth Delegate Dance"

May 31

A dance for the 18 and under crowd to welcome youth delegates to the Festival. A wonderful chance for young people to meet each other. It will be held at the arena from 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.

Music by Systems by Trail
Door Prizes

Loonie/Toonie Drive

March 9 – June 3

A fund-raiser for the BCFA. Donation banks will be placed at various locations around town asking for community support by donating a loonie or a toonie.



"Where is Gumby"

Radio Contest
April 1 – May 28

The purpose of this fun event is to promote awareness of the Festival and to involve the community. A Gumby figure will move around town to different participating locations. The radio station will host a program once a week where people will call in and say where Gumby is located that week. If the correct answer is given, that person will get his/her name entered in a final grand prize draw. The grand prize draw will be made at the Gala.

Report from the Chair

The chairs have been meeting with the Facilities, Fundraising, Hospitality, PASO, Publicity, Special Events, Souvenirs and Volunteer chairs of the Host Committee to review budgets, purchasing procedures, critical paths and other details pertinent to specific areas. Important strides are being made in all areas.

Providing the office staff have no allergies to cats, the BCFA office is contemplating adopting "Picatso" as resident artistic cat.

Tony Atkins helped to craft a computer proposal submitted to Sci Tech North for a 50% contribution towards the cost of 6 computers. The contract was awarded to Hamilton Stationers and the new systems are now in place.

Host Committee News

Accommodation Committee

The accommodations committee collaborated with the Chamber of Commerce to overcome the accommodations challenges. The committee is currently arranging for the Northern Lights College dorms in Dawson Creek. Mary Wade has joined the team as Billeting Chair with the hope to secure 200 homes.

Fundraising Committee

The Fundraising Committee is working in close liaison with Ellen Ostero, BCFA Art Director to prepare flyers for mail outs to approximately 8,000 Fort St. John homes.

Food Committee

The Food Committee is busy finding sponsors and organizers for a Pancake Breakfast during the Festival week.

Publicity Committee

In support of the BC Festival of the Arts a cheque for \$30,000 was gratefully accepted from the City Council to help fund Festival activities.

The Committee met with Wade Tymchuk to provide an orientation to the

Festival and to enhance public relations with the news media.

PASO Programs Liaison

It was brought up at the PASO meeting that some of the Programs Liaisons are having a problem understanding the different components of the festival and some clarification was required on the difference between PASO and Programs. Also when approaching volunteers it was found that the community does not yet understand the size of this enterprise or what it means to the City of Fort St. John. It was suggested that a series of articles be published in the local paper and some TV spots be used to promote awareness and understanding.

A Touch of Humour

Committee Meeting Rules

- ✓ Never arrive on time, or you will be stamped a beginner.
 - ✓ Don't say anything until the meeting is half over; this stamps you as being wise.
 - ✓ Be as vague as possible; this prevents irritating the others.
 - ✓ When in doubt, suggest that a subcommittee be appointed.
 - ✓ Be the first to move for adjournment; this will make you popular - it's what everyone is waiting for.
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