

ANNUAL REPORT 2021



**central cariboo
arts and culture
society**

**90 FOURTH AVENUE NORTH
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ABOUT US

Introduction

The Cariboo Regional District (CRD), in 2009, was the first rural BC Regional District to create an arts and culture function. In 2010, the Central Cariboo Arts and Culture Society (CCACS) was formed to administer this function. The CCACS also serves cultural organizations and events, and facilitates the development of arts and culture in the City of Williams Lake, and areas D,E and F of the CRD.

The notion of assisting the development of the arts is something the Society takes seriously—not simply supporting the status quo. The CCACS administers a biannual Grants Program, the CRD's Fee-for-Service Program, and oversees the annual Performances in the Park concert series.

In 2010, the City of Williams Lake, together with the Cariboo Regional District, redeveloped the old fire hall into the Central Cariboo Arts Centre. The Society manages this facility, which provides studio space to four tenant groups and provides performance and meeting spaces for the broader arts community.



CCACS Mandate

To support artistic and cultural organizations and events in the Central Cariboo

To facilitate, coordinate, and assist in the development of arts and culture in the Central Cariboo

To provide strategic advice on arts and culture to local governments and organizations

To educate the public with respect to arts and culture matters

CCACS Vision

CCACS acting as a fully functioning, effective, efficient and well-respected agent for the support, promotion, and development of arts and culture in the Central Cariboo

Sources of Funding

The Cariboo Regional District's Central Cariboo Arts and Culture function provides funding for the Society. This function was established by CRD bylaw #4420 (2009), and dedicates tax revenue to arts and culture in the Regional District Areas D, E and F and the City of Williams Lake. All allocations to the Society from this function must be approved by the Regional District Board, on the recommendation of the Central Cariboo Joint Committee. This committee is made up of councillors of the City of Williams Lake, and elected directors of the Central Cariboo areas of the CRD.

Two service agreements are in place. One requires the Society to manage the Central Cariboo Arts Centre. The second, and more comprehensive, requires the Society to administer the arts and culture function. The agreement sets out the expectation that the Society will be active in leveraging funds for arts and culture from other sources. This is not to say, however, that the Society is to engage in fund raising on its own behalf—to do so would be fund raising at the expense of the region's other arts and culture groups and hence contrary to the spirit of the mandate.

The Society's Governance, Staffing, and Programs

The Society is a BC registered non-profit society governed by a six-member Board of Directors. There is one full-time employee (the Executive Director), and one part-time employee (the Arts Centre Administrator).

The Central Cariboo Arts Centre is regularly used for meetings, rehearsals, workshops and performances. The Society continues to administer the grants program offering arts funding to groups and societies in the region, the CRD's Fee-for-Service Program, and the annual outdoor summer concert series Performances in the Park.

2021 Board of Directors

Harry Jennings
Jane Perry
Thomas Schoen
Erich Zirnhelt
Fawn Wiebe
Lindsey Brise

CCACS Volunteers

We would like to extend gratitude and sincere thanks to our anonymous volunteer grant adjudicators and to those individuals that keep our Arts Centre welcoming in our garden.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

A famous commercial once proclaimed, "Takes a licking and keeps on ticking". Well, the Cariboo Chilcotin arts and culture community has demonstrated that nothing can keep them down, they will be there being creative no matter the restrictions or problems. Pottery potted, paintings painted, musicians still making music, wool spun, wood carved, an adapted Medieval Market are just some examples. Proud to be part of this community that never gives up.

It was an interesting year to say the least. I think CCACS passed the test for resiliency and maintaining public service with flying colours in the face of severe public health issues. Particular praise is due to Leah Selk, our outgoing and only Executive Director since the inception of the CCACS in 2010, leaving a notable legacy of public service, now at home as an artist and gardener and doing a great job on anything she should pursue! A huge welcome to our new ED, Melissa Normandin, taking over a key community position for developing and facilitating arts and culture. Also, special recognition is due Emily Clearwater, our Arts Centre Manager, always friendly, creative, and the consummate organized professional through very challenging times.

I'd like to make a special mention of outgoing Board member and Past President Jane Perry. So much great experience and valued contributions in so many aspects of our dreams, goals and objectives for arts and culture in the Central Cariboo. Her valuable contributions will be missed. Also moving on was director Jane Bowser, taking on a challenging future in agriculture, while we welcomed Fawn Wiebe and Lindsey Brise, bringing new ideas and creative minds.

As for achievements, it was a year of survival and making-do and adapting. Performances In The Park continued as a very entertaining online video series as one example. Ongoing support from the Cariboo Regional District, notably Director Steve Forseth and Darron Campbell, and the City of Williams Lake, was greatly appreciated.

We collectively and creatively met the challenges of a difficult work and living environment, and we look forward to 2022 as a stronger and more resilient organization, with so much more to accomplish. Still ticking!

Harry Jennings, President
CCACS

A NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

2021 continued to challenge us in new and old ways, as the pandemic remained a big part of our lives. The effects of the pandemic persisted globally and locally, impacting how performers performed and how creatives created; how citizens found release and relief and how we all found outlets of expression and engagement. CCACS continued to deliver Performances in the Park through our online video YouTube series and our usually bustling Arts Centre remained quietly waiting for our hands and hearts to return to it. To spite these tests and trials, the CCACS continued to offer grant funding, continued to support fee-for-service organizations, and continued its part in our community's access to arts and culture. As we closed out the year, we gratefully began to see a gentle return to our spaces and to events.

2021 also revealed itself to be a year of endings and beginnings. We said good-bye to the outgoing Executive Director of over 10 years, Leah Selk and welcomed a new individual into the organization – me! I know my success in this role is because of Leah's dedication, her drive and commitment to the mandate of CCACS and her personal enthusiasm for the vigorous health of arts and culture in our community. I look forward to further fostering that strong foundation she had built before me. I thank her and appreciate her, the CCACS Board gratefully acknowledges her work, and I know the arts and culture community recognizes her outstanding contributions while with the Society.

Like many of you, I look forward to 2022, and the promise it holds. The Central Cariboo Arts and Culture Society hopes to continue in its role as a nurturing space and resource to help our community use arts and culture for the betterment of ourselves and each other.

*The CCACS respectfully
acknowledges the traditional and
ancestral territories of the
Secwepemc and Tsilhqot'in on
whose land we live, work and play.*



CCACS Staff

Leah Selk

Outgoing Executive Director

C. Melissa Normandin

Incoming Executive Director

Emily Clearwater

Arts Centre Administrator

CENTRAL CARIBOO ARTS CENTRE

Arts Centre Operations and Rentals

The Arts Centre houses 4 arts groups as permanent tenants and offers two short term rental spaces for community use. The Arts Centre also plays host to a number of regular groups in our community, providing a regular meeting place for groups to gather, share skills and creative ideas.

Like many organizations and businesses, Covid had a large impact on the use of the Arts Centre by both our regular tenants and outside user groups planning and hosting events. CCACS saw a significant decrease in bookings and cancellations with rental arrangements, and facility tenants managed their spaces and membership with caring caution. With an important eye to provincial health requirements and restrictions, the Arts Centre was able to resume to somewhat regular business in September 2021. We look forward to a bustling, busy, and safe Centre in 2022.

2021 Operation Highlights

Hiring of new Executive Director, gratitude for the work of the outgoing Executive Director.

Return to events at Arts Centre, following impacts of pandemic

New 5-year agreement for the Society with Cariboo Regional District and City of Williams Lake completed.

1 year agreement established with CACWL to deliver Performances in the Park for 2022.

Generous donation from Gibraltar Mines received by Society.

Efficiency upgrades for Arts Centre facility in coordination with the City of Williams Lake.



FUNDING PROGRAMS

CCACS Grants Program in 2021

2021 continued to be a challenging year for arts and culture groups and orgs to plan for and offer programming to the community. Many orgs used this time to reserve their energies, build capacity and make capital purchases. As we moved into the latter part of the year we did see increases in offerings, and as such, the return to the need of grant supports through the CCACS. We awarded a number of projects and purchases for arts and culture in the Central Cariboo in 2021, totalling \$18,250.

Fee For Service Agreements

The CCACS continues to administer the Fee-For-Service agreements that provide stable, multi-year funding to groups and organizations with a proven track record in our community for providing well-established, quality events and offerings of arts and culture to our region. 9 organizations receive this funding totalling \$84,500 annually to provide quality offerings in the Cariboo Chilcotin. Our agreements holders are:

- Museum of the Cariboo Chilcotin Society
- Station House Gallery & Studio Society
- Community Arts Council of Williams Lake
- Horsefly Historical Society - Horsefly Pioneer Museum
- Likely Chamber of Commerce - Cedar City Museum
- Arts on the Fly Festival Society
- 150 Mile Greenbelt, Trail and Heritage Society - 150 Mile Schoolhouse
- Williams Lake Field Naturalists / Scout Island Nature Centre - Art in Nature/Nature in Art
- Cariboo Festival Society

New Fee-For-Service Agreements will be reviewed and renewed in 2022.

For more information about our funding programming, please visit our website at **centralcaribooarts.com**.



PERFORMANCES IN THE PARK

With the exceptional organization and management of the CACWL and Venta Rutkauskas, 2021 Performances in the Park was again delivered with the 'Listen Live' format developed as a result of the pandemic in 2020. We introduced the 'Play Your Part' campaign to encourage public donations to support the event series. Once again, a series of professional video showcases outlining our outstanding local talent and stunning Central Cariboo locations were prepared for our community and launched on YouTube. This year's programming planning included a commitment to reconciliation and diversity of performance. We continue to be grateful for the support of our generous sponsors and our dedicated community – keeping our premiere summer event going strong!

PERFORMANCES IN THE PARK 2021 LISTEN LIVE ONLINE CONCERT SERIES

Find us on Facebook @Performancesinthepark and YouTube at youtube.com/performancesinthepark to tune in! Video premiers begin at 7pm. Don't worry if you miss it – the concerts will live forever on our YouTube channel.

JULY 8	PHARIS AND JASON ROMERO
JULY 15	MELAWMEN COLLECTIVE
JULY 22	THE THOMPSON BROTHERS
JULY 29	FRANCIS JOHNSON
AUG. 5	NO BIG D
AUG. 12	SHANNON O'DONOVAN, BEN LAMB-YORSKI, AND CLAYTON CHARLEYBOY
AUG. 19	EBONY
AUG. 26	BATS AND DAO

'Listen Live' here:

**[www.youtube.com/
performancesinthepark](https://www.youtube.com/performancesinthepark)**

PERFORMANCES IN THE PARK 2021 LISTEN LIVE ONLINE CONCERT SERIES

PRESENTED BY



MANAGED BY



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