

2022 annual report

central cariboo arts
and culture society

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how we started

ESTABLISHMENT

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.

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.

who we are



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.

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

our society

CCACS Staff

C. Melissa Normandin
Executive Director

Emily Clearwater
Arts Centre Administrator (*on leave*)

Kelsey Smith
Arts Centre Administrator

2022 CCACS Board of Directors

Harry Jennings
Thomas Schoen
Erich Zirnhelt
Fawn Wiebe
Lindsey Brise
Stacey Poirier
Matt Granlund

The Society's Governance, Staffing, and Programs

The Society is a BC registered non-profit society governed by a seven-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.



president's message

Well, we made it through the last year of Covid, and arts and culture demonstrated even more its importance in our community to bring people together, share experiences, lift spirits and encourage even more creativity. Keeping with tradition, I'd say last year's theme song was "Keep On Truckin".

It was another "interesting" year and once again CCACS passed the test for resiliency and maintaining our prime objective of developing arts and culture in the Central Cariboo.

I'd like to make special mention of our newest director, Matt Granlund, musician and local entrepreneur, along with continuing Board members Thomas Schoen, Erich Zirnhelt, Fawn Wiebe, Stacey Poirier and Lindsey Brise.

In these times of uncertainty and challenge, our magnificent staff, Melissa Normandin, very successfully filling some big shoes, and Kelsey Smith, stepping in for Emily Clearwater on a leave, have been outstanding in carrying on and meeting every situation with professionalism, and presenting two very helpful faces to our Board and the public. Our great thanks to them!

As for achievements, we launched a new website design to improve accessibility to arts and culture events, funding opportunities, and educational experiences, continued with efficiency upgrades to the Arts Centre (notice the old fire truck is GONE!), saw an increase in rentals to pre-Covid levels, completed the 3-year Fee For Service engagement and renewal with the City/CRD and finally executed a new 3-year contract to deliver Performances In The Park.

To paraphrase a famous line I will have forever etched in my mind "You CAN handle the truth", and it's pretty good. Bring on 2023!

**Harry Jennings, President
CCACS**





a note from the executive director

Hello to our arts and culture community!

Thank you to our CCACS Board members, community supporters, tenants, staff, and arts and culture advocates! Every one of us contributes to the vibrancy and vigour of the local arts and culture community!

Through 2022, I have been encouraged by the slow and steady return to activities and offerings in our community. The stark increases in our grant applications and arts centre rentals in 2022, show us that our organizations and associations are getting back to those benefits of art activities and finding new ways to participate in creative pursuits.


Leaning in on the key principles of our vision and mandate, we have worked hard in 2022 to better identify and promote the offerings of the arts centre, improve access to art opportunities, and support artistic and cultural endeavours in the Cariboo in several ways. The work of the Central Cariboo Arts and Culture Society and the Arts Centre itself is such a special place for our community, functioning to support, facilitate, and educate those in the region and beyond.

The beauty of the Cariboo reminds me that there is always something to learn, something new to explore, and some new exciting programs to participate in. We hope that our community can see the value of the behind-the-scenes work we engage in: from Fee-For-Service funding to grant opportunities to provide creative space for art groups and activities. We champion offerings and opportunities in our community that fortify our connections and our collective creativeness.

Moving forward in 2023, I look forward to strengthening our relationships with partners, supporters, and participants. We continue the work to re-establish our footing following the pandemic and continue to evaluate both current and future needs. I am so proud of the work of the Board, proud of the work of the staff, and proud to see the results of this work materialize in our community in several ways. I faithfully look forward to thriving with this work into 2023!

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, warm and wonderful!

C Melissa Normandin
Executive Director



2022 highlights

The Central Cariboo Arts and Culture Society completed many goals and achievements to be proud of this year, here are a few of our favourites:

1 Reviewed, renewed and carried out new Fee-For-Service agreements for 2023-25

2 Completed a website re-design project and launch

3 Engaged in successful temporary staffing of Arts Centre Administrator position

5 With the City of Williams Lake, completed interior building efficiency upgrades and external beautification projects

4 Reviewed and renewed a new three year agreement to deliver Performances in the Park for 2023-25



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



arts centre administrator

This year in June, the building, particularly the entrance, received a facelift! The entrance is glassed in and has new doors. The ventilation and heating system were also replaced. Finally, and possibly more notably, the historic fire engine was moved to the new Fire Hall on South Lakeside and the deteriorating building was demolished, making room for lovely lunch benches and flower planters.

Ms. Emily Clearwater departed on leave in the fall, creating a short term vacancy in the Arts Centre Administrator role. Filling in her large and capable shoes from October 2022 – March 2024 is me: Kelsey Smith, a local music teacher. Having finally read through much of the reports written over the years by the individuals who have shaped and contributed to making this building and society what it is (Leah Selk, Brandon Hoffman, Graham Kelsey, Harry Jennings, and the current board and Executive Director, to name a few), I can appreciate the work that it has taken to make the Arts Centre and CCACS what they are today.

I am excited by the opportunities provided by this space and the municipal and regional support it enjoys. Together with the tenants, Melissa and I, and the Board, continue dreaming (and scheming!) about what is possible here for all the creative minds of the Cariboo.

Kelsey Smith
Arts Centre Administrator





arts centre operations

A home for arts and culture....

If you are creative yourself or appreciate the arts of others and haven't been to visit our facility yet, we've been missing out! Come visit us for a tour (our halls and walls have information about upcoming events, inspiration, and art works) or to attend an event. Find out more on our website - <https://www.centralcaribooarts.com/> .

Year-round, we host four tenants and their creative hives – The Spinners and Weavers, The Potters, The Painters, and the Community Arts Council. Although they don't have their own studios, we have a few groups that practically live here– The Piecemakers, Williams Lake Studio Theatre, Elder College, Bobbie Crane Classes, WL Writers' Group, and the Camera Club. Many of these groups run weekly/monthly workshops for their members and meetings as well as sales and shows.

For those who aren't lucky enough to be a part of one of these groups, we have two room rental spaces for events, series, rehearsals, or classes. Upstairs, the GK room is a fantastic space with natural light and kitchen access. On the main floor, the Open Studio is a smaller space but with high ceilings that make it feel expansive. This past year, both rental rooms saw a wide variety of user groups and events, from senior's ukulele and pottery classes to heavy metal music shows.

267

arts centre
rentals in
2022

11

new groups and
organizations
rented at the
arts centre in
2022

385%

increase in
arts centre
usage from
2021 (increase
due to Covid
closures)

**As awareness of the Arts
Centre increases in the
area, and continues to
grow, more diverse users
are drawn to the central
location and inclusive
inviting spaces.**

ccacs programs

CCACS GRANT FUNDING

Four grant streams are available for existing non-profit organizations or community groups in Williams Lake and the Central Cariboo (CRD Areas D, E, and F) to support and develop arts and culture initiatives within this region. The funding for these grants is courtesy of the City of Williams Lake and the Cariboo Regional District (Central Cariboo Arts & Culture function), subject to the availability of funds.

The Central Cariboo Arts and Culture Society was pleased to see a year of quality applicants and increased applications that expressed requests for diverse projects from both new and returning applicants. We were very pleased to fund projects and purchases that contribute to the arts and culture experience in our region and support practicing artists through those initiatives. Successful applicants presented and carried out several different activities and offerings: support for the purchase of public art and operational equipment; historical projects and public concerts; for art classes and initiative awareness through art.

*Cariboo Potters' Guild
2022 grant funded workshop*



\$20,000

**In arts and
culture grants
awarded in
2022**

12

**groups and orgs
engaged in
projects, series
offerings, events
or purchases**

33%

**increase in
approved
applications
from 2021**



*2022 Art Walk
Opening Reception*

ccacs programs

2023-25 Fee-For Service Organizations

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

150 Mile Greenbelt, Trail and Heritage Society: 150 Mile
Schoolhouse

Scout Island Nature Centre: Art in Nature/Nature in Art

Women's Contact Society: Children's Festival

Cariboo Festival Society

Williams Lake Studio Theatre

FEE-FOR-SERVICE

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.

Through the summer of 2022, the Fee-For -Service Committee met to establish a renewal season process and affirm the procedures. Representatives from the City of Williams Lake, the Cariboo Regional District, and the Central Cariboo Arts and Culture Society reviewed both current and new agreement applicants. Through this process, **10 organizations** were approved to receive this funding totalling **\$84,500** annually to provide quality offerings in the Cariboo Chilcotin.

A new renewal season undertaking is set to occur in 2024. For more information about all of our funding programming, please visit our website at **centralcaribooarts.com**.

performances in the park

A return to Boitano Park...

And we are back! In 2022, we returned to our regular 8-week concert series in Boitano Park. Performances in the Park have been delivered via the Central Cariboo Arts and Culture Society and its contractors for over a decade. We've offered a consistent and quality event through the years, once a week for the months of July and August, even delivering high-quality videos during the pandemic, providing the artists and the community with a solid and beautiful product that showcases what we have to offer.

With the excellent management of the Community Arts Council and Venta Rutkauskas, 2022 was another successful year! We were able to host nearly all of the scheduled shows in the Park, with some accommodation made in the Cariboo Memorial Recreation Centre Arena when needed (which we very much appreciate!) Our event showcased a variety of quality performances, comprised of both local artists and those from away.

In 2022, the CCACS and the CACWL successfully renewed a three-year agreement with the Cariboo Regional District to deliver Performances in the Park in 2023-25.

Our biggest thanks extend to our event sponsors that support our event and to our municipal partners (Cariboo Regional District and the City of Williams Lake) that provide several aids beyond our core funding. A special round of applause for our event patrons coming to our beautiful park on Thursday nights in the summer to share the sounds and joy of creative live performance and community! The CCACS also wishes to thank the Community Arts Council of Williams Lake for their continued professionalism, innovation, and outstanding efforts that are instrumental in Performances in the Park!



***2022 Performances
in the Park***

Photos By V Rutkauskas

performances in the park



Presented by the Central Cariboo Arts and Culture Society, with the financial support of the City of Williams Lake and the Cariboo Regional District, the series is managed and financially supported by the Community Arts Council of Williams Lake.

2022 Performances
in the Park

Photos By V Rutkauskas





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*Our Society and our work are only possible with
financial support from the Cariboo Regional District
and the City of Williams Lake*

