



DWV Arts & Culture Strategy – Steering Committee

MEETING NOTES – August 29, 2017, 3:30 -5:00 p.m.

Present: Graham Nicholls (Co-Chair), Tracey Tarling, Stephen Mikichich, Don Vaughan, Stephanie Jones, Paddy McLeod, Corinne Ambor. Staff: Doti Niedermayer, Imran Mitha

Via Skype: MDB Insight: Greg Baeker

Regrets: Anne Mooi, Jacquie Gijssen (Co-Chair), Meichen Waxer, Chief Janice George, Terry Pask, Jackie Wong, Rob Gloor.

AGENDA:

1. Welcome
 2. Research Summary & SOAR Assessment - Review
 3. Intercept Surveys – how to integrate into other research
 4. Facilities Assessment - status
 5. Other business
 6. Next steps and SC meeting schedule
-

MEETING NOTES:

1. Welcome: G. Nicholls (Co-Chair) welcomed members and Greg Baeker of MDB.

2. Research Summary & SOAR Assessment:

- The report is a synthesis of the feedback from on-line surveys and World Café sessions in May. Steering Committee members were asked to provide feedback from their own observations from attending community meetings in case anything was missed.
- The document will not be shared publicly at this time as it is a synthesis of feedback and not a draft outline or draft strategy that is ready for public review or consultation.

Comments included:

- Small edits to be made to the document.
- Section 1: State of the Sector to be moved to the back of the document. While this information may not be relevant for everyone, sector trends and statistics are important to understand the overall state of arts & culture in West Vancouver.
- Section 2.2.3: A New System Model: The Strategy will need to identify how the “Model or approach to supporting arts & culture development” can be overhauled to increase efficiency, functionality and support.
- Identifying West Vancouver’s character and identity is a large task and will be a challenge for the Strategy to articulate.
- Questions arose whether arts and culture in West Vancouver (and the Strategy) can develop to become a destination that combines natural and cultural experiences and support economic sustainability or is only for residents (professional or community?). Arts & culture can be both: the destination cultural experiences will support arts for residents and can contribute to economic initiatives. (Eg Harmony Arts Festival). This will also align with and create connections to the Visitor Strategy.

- Members requested a more comprehensive introduction to each section or to the Engagement Results to clarify how the content was gathered and how the chapter headings were established and arranged.
- Members requested that MDB categorize the emerging themes that will begin to create an outline for the Arts & Culture Strategy.
- Members found the document to be comprehensive and that much of the content lends itself for incorporation into the draft strategy.

3. Intercept Surveys:

- Completed just under 200 intercept surveys, mostly at the WV Community Centre targeting residents of diverse age demographics and cultural background.
- The results have been compiled by DWV Communications and sent to MDB. MDB to review results and incorporate into the Research Summary as an Appendix.
- There are differences in the feedback received through intercept surveys than what was received through the on-line survey and World Cafes. This is due to the fact that the on-line survey and World Café sessions attracted a larger stakeholder group than the random selection of residents in the intercept surveys. To that end, the intercept surveys should provide interesting information reflecting a broader range of WV residents.

4. Facilities Assessment:

- The survey is on-line and invitations sent to specific facility owners/operators to complete. Since this survey is complex and will require more time and effort to complete, staff will connect personally with key facility operators to work on the survey together.
- The Facility Assessment is important for a clear understanding of the state and capacity of the key cultural facilities in West Vancouver.
- The Arts & Culture Strategy will not make final recommendations for any new Arts Centre/facility. However, the condition and size of West Vancouver cultural facilities are a key factor in the health of the sector overall and will need to be addressed in the Strategy in identifying gaps.
- This will need to be linked to/cognizant of the District's financial situation given the recent introduction of an asset levy and state of many DWV assets.

5. Next steps:

- MDB to meet with staff to confirm work plan and timeline as well as schedule for Steering Committee meetings for input.
- MDB to reformat document with changes as discussed.
- MDB to draft table of contents/outline of Strategy to start to shape the Strategy.
- **Steering Committee to flag 3-4 key strategic directions interpreted from the document and send to staff by Wednesday, September 13th. These will be reviewed by MDB and incorporated into a "cluster of issues" for the Strategy.**

Meeting adjourned at 5:00PM