

**THE CORPORATION OF THE DISTRICT OF WEST VANCOUVER
ARTS & CULTURE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
RAVEN ROOM, MUNICIPAL HALL
THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 2025**

Committee Members: S. Swan (Chair), K. Hall, S. Johnson, S. Liu, F. Pagani, and A. Repstock attended the meeting in the Raven Room, Municipal Hall. Absent: S. Price and M. Wilberg.

Non-Voting Committee Members: A. Krawczyk (West Vancouver Memorial Library Board), C. Schachtel (West Vancouver Community Arts Council Board of Directors), and Councillors N. Gambioli and L. Watt attended the meeting in the Raven Room, Municipal Hall. Absent: N. Brown (West Vancouver Board of Education), and V. Mendes (Kay Meek Arts Centre Board of Directors).

Staff: D. Niedermayer, Senior Manager, Cultural Services (Staff Representative); C. Rosta, Cultural Services Manager; and A. Nomura, Cultural Services Department Secretary (Committee Clerk) attended the meeting in the Raven Room, Municipal Hall.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:15 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was Moved and Seconded:

THAT the April 10, 2025 Arts & Culture Advisory Committee meeting agenda be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

It was Moved and Seconded:

THAT the March 13, 2025 Arts & Culture Advisory Committee meeting minutes be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

REPORTS / ITEMS

4. Community Grants Program 2025 Funding Recommendations Review

The Community Grants Advisory Panel (CGAP) completed their review of the 2025 Community Grants Applications and are seeking endorsement from the Arts & Culture Advisory Committee (ACAC). The recommendations will then be brought forward to Council for final approval.

Any members of the ACAC with a conflict of interest were requested to leave the room including: Kay Meek Arts Centre staff; the West Vancouver Historical Society; and the West Vancouver Community Arts Council representative.

The budget for the 2025 Community Grants Program as approved by Council is \$343,765. In 2025, 33% of the Program budget was allocated to the Arts, Culture & Heritage funding stream, totalling \$111,462. The Community and Social Services funding stream received 67% of the Program budget allocated, totalling \$226,303. The allocation of funds is based on the number of applications received for each funding stream. Funding for the Local to Global Youth Initiatives grants was increased to \$6,000 from \$3,400 in 2024.

It was Moved and Seconded:

THAT the funding recommendations for the 2025 Community Grants Program as proposed by the Community Grants Advisory Panel be endorsed for Council consideration.

CARRIED

5. Work Plan 2025 Status Update Discussion

F. Pagani provided an update on behalf of the ACAC members researching an umbrella arts organization. The group is waiting for the West Vancouver Community Arts Council (WVCAC) who is surveying members on a gap analysis of services and reviewing the Arts & Culture Strategy Update (2025-2029) to determine which of the priorities the WVCAC could deliver in a new capacity. The ACAC has decided not to meet with other community groups to determine if there are other groups who might want to take on the role of an umbrella group feeling that the WVCAC could be in the best position to expand its mandate and services.

S. Johnson provided an update on behalf of the ACAC members working on implementation of the Arts & Culture Strategy. The group is deferring their work to see what course of action the umbrella arts organization group will take.

The Committee briefly discussed ongoing concerns related to community messaging around the potential use of the Horseshoe Bay Boathouse as a new interim home for the West Vancouver Art Museum. Members expressed a need for clearer communication from Council, particularly regarding the current process of determining who will be in the building and how the community is kept apprised of progress.

It was Moved and Seconded:

THAT the Work Plan 2025 Status Update Discussion be received for information.

CARRIED

6. Horseshoe Bay Boathouse Update

K. Hall provided an update on the Art Museum Advisory Panel (AMAP) which has created a sub-panel whose work it will be to conduct a high-level space planning

review to assess what would be required for the building to function as an interim new home for the Art Museum. While the panel does not have technical expertise, it aims to identify the necessary elements (e.g. HVAC requirements) to determine the suitability of the facility. The AMAP will present their recommendation at the May ACAC meeting. Council will determine the final decision on how the Boathouse will be used. Members discussed:

- The importance of clarifying that AMAP is not recommending the Boathouse for an art museum use but identifying what would be required if it were to be used as an art museum.
- Concerns about miscommunication in the media and the resulting community confusion, including misconceptions that the facility is already confirmed as an art museum.
- The need for a consistent communications strategy and the role of Council and staff in delivering aligned messaging.
- Uncertainty around project timelines, and the importance of reporting progress to Council at appropriate intervals.
- Ensuring any recommendations include cost considerations, programming needs, and long-term sustainability.

The Chair invited members of the public who were present at the meeting to comment on the topic.

M. Beckerman expressed appreciation for the new arts and culture strategy and the focus on arts infrastructure. Concerns were raised about past confusion in public messaging, and the Committee was urged to carefully assess whether the Boathouse is a financially sound and sustainable interim solution, or if efforts should focus on a long-term, purpose-built facility.

E. McHarg emphasized the need for clear messaging focused on the Committee's role and suggested a separate document for Mayor and Council to clarify responsibilities and next steps.

It was Moved and Seconded:

THAT the Arts & Culture Advisory Committee requests of Council to ask the Planning Department to designate a potential site or potential sites for a purpose-built arts facility within the Ambleside Local Commercial Area Plan.

CARRIED

It was Moved and Seconded:

THAT the discussion regarding the Horseshoe Bay Boathouse Update be received for information.

CARRIED

7. Updates from Committee Members

A. Krawczyk, West Vancouver Memorial Library: members were updated on upcoming community events at the library.

C. Schachtel, West Vancouver Community Arts Council: The WVCAC sent out a survey to their subscribers to gain feedback on their workshop programs. The responses are guiding the development of the Arts Council's 2025-26 workshop program. The WVCAC is also working on a member's survey to gauge member opinion around the possibility of becoming the umbrella arts organization for West Vancouver.

A. Repstock, Public Art Advisory Panel: There was a call to artists for a mural in the Ambleside Skatepark which received 48 applications. A review panel reviewed submissions and brought forward a shortlist. The District is still in conversation with Martha Sturdy regarding a public artwork in Horseshoe Bay.

K. Hall, Art Museum Advisory Panel: The West Vancouver Art Museum recently tested holding an exhibition opening on a Saturday afternoon to gauge attendance. The opening was well attended.

F. Pagani, Ferry Building Gallery Advisory Panel: An update was provided about upcoming exhibitions. The Advisory Panel was considering holding a fundraising event but has determined it is not feasible at this time. The Advisory Panel is considering a membership program for the Ferry Building Gallery.

S. Liu, Youth Advisory Committee: The Youth Advisory Committee is currently planning Youth Week and developing a presentation to Mayor and Council regarding the needs of youth in West Vancouver.

M. Duchak, on behalf of V. Mendes: M. Duchak provided an update on the Kay Meek Arts Centre's upcoming calendar of events.

It was Moved and Seconded:

THAT the verbal report regarding Updates from Committee Members be received for information.

CARRIED

8. Council Representative Update

Councillor Gambioli provided the following updates:

- Council has purchased the final property on the waterfront.
- The District has dedicated 262 acres of the Eagleridge Lands to parkland.

It was Moved and Seconded:

THAT the verbal report regarding Council Representative Update be received for information.

CARRIED

9. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

There were no questions.

10. NEXT MEETING

It was Moved and Seconded:

THAT the next Arts & Culture Advisory Committee meeting be rescheduled to occur on May 22, 2025 at 4:15 p.m. and held in-person in the Raven Room at Municipal Hall.

CARRIED

11. ADJOURNMENT

It was Moved and Seconded:

THAT the April 10, 2025 Arts & Culture Advisory Committee meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 6 p.m.

Certified Correct:



Chair



Committee Clerk