



2021/2022

BC ARTS COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT



BRITISH COLUMBIA
ARTS COUNCIL



BRITISH
COLUMBIA

TERRITORY ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The BC Arts Council acknowledges it carries out its work on the traditional territories of Indigenous nations throughout what is now called British Columbia. We pay our respects to the Elders and Knowledge Keepers, past and present, descendants and custodians of these lands and waters. We are grateful for the continuing relationships with Indigenous peoples in B.C. that develop through our work together. We are grateful to the ɫəkw̓əŋən (Songhees) and Xwsepsum (Esquimalt) ancestors and families, on whose ancestral lands we operate our main offices.



STORY MONEY IMPACT, ISKUT, Film still from the documentary *The Klabona Keepers* following a group of elders from the village of Iskut in Northwestern B.C. who are dedicated to the protection of their homelands. In this photo: elders (left to right) Jenny Quock, Rita Louie, Bertha Louie, Mary Quock singing. Photo by Hannah Campbell.

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JOINT MESSAGE



On behalf of the Government of British Columbia and the BC Arts Council, we want to thank the arts and culture community for its tireless advocacy and unwavering commitment to get us to where we are today. Together, we are pleased and proud to share the BC Arts Council's 2021/22 Annual Report, detailing the council's work in the arts and culture sector from April 2021 to March 2022.

In last year's annual report, we acknowledged the importance and value of listening to each other and working together. We navigated the storms of 2021/22 by working collaboratively and placing trust at the centre of our efforts. To illustrate our continued commitment to work together, we are proud this year to provide a shared introduction to this annual report as we acknowledge the achievements and challenges of 2021/22.

At the close of last year, we were looking forward to emerging from the pandemic and anticipating the resurgence of arts and culture in the public realm and the return of in-person experiences. Subsequent waves of the pandemic resulted in continued uncertainty, disappointment and adjustments throughout 2021/22 as we continued to navigate the challenges of COVID-19 and re-imagine what recovery and the future might look like.

Through StrongerBC, the Province responded to calls to action by providing \$12.5 million in critical support through the BC Arts Council this year. This response delivered \$7.9 million in resilience supplements to organizations across the province and augmented the BC Arts Council's new Arts Impact Grant with a \$4.5 million injection. The response provided critical support to the sector that was timely, responsive and flexible through 621 additional grants to the sector.

This was a transformative year for council, guided by the leadership of BC Arts Council Chair Sae-Hoon Stan Chung and Vice Chair Dana Claxton, who were appointed in March 2021. Together, we acknowledge the work and contributions of outgoing council members Norman Armour and Lindsay Bailey, and welcome new members Jules André-Brown, Judy Darcy, and Miranda Huron.

While most of what is presented in this report addresses the work council has done through programs and funding, we also need to acknowledge council's work behind the scenes over the past year. Council worked internally and with government and staff to develop strategies and actions to address some of the leading challenges of our time. That work was deeply informed by the feedback collected through the Parliamentary Secretary's series of regional roundtables in Summer 2021, as well as ongoing consultation and conversations through council's peer assessment process and connections across the arts and culture sector.

While officially taking place just outside the scope of this report, on April 8, 2022, together we announced *Extending Foundations: Action Plan 2022-2024*. In last year's annual report, we committed to creating systemic, concrete change, and *Extending Foundations* is both the culmination of this work and the signal of more to come.

We look forward to sharing further actions and activities with you over the coming 18 months and to our further work together to create a shared vision for arts and culture in this province.

This includes opportunities for the BC Arts Council to uphold the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act. The Act establishes the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as the Province's framework for reconciliation through the implementation of the Province's Declaration Act Action Plan, which was announced on March 30, 2022. The Declaration Act Action Plan, developed in consultation and co-operation with Indigenous Peoples, outlines 89 specific actions across every ministry in government to create a better province for Indigenous Peoples in B.C.

As we reflect on the past year and look toward the future, we are inspired by the collaboration with the sector, and between government and the BC Arts Council. There is an alignment amongst us like never before. We must continue with this momentum to ensure our shared values reach the people who rely on us most. We got through this storm paddling together, we will make things brighter by paddling together.

Sincerely,
Melanie Mark
Melanie Mark
HLI HAYKWHL WII
XSGAAK
Minister of Tourism,
Arts, Culture and
Sport

Bob D'Eith
Bob D'Eith
Parliamentary
Secretary for
Arts and Film

Dr. Sae-Hoon Stan Chung
Dr. Sae-Hoon Stan Chung
Chair,
BC Arts Council

Dana Claxton
Dana Claxton,
Vice Chair,
BC Arts Council



ALTERNATOR CENTRE FOR CONTEMPORARY ART, KELOWNA *Legroom for Daydreaming*, Levi Glass.



CANADIAN MUSIC CENTRE, VANCOUVER Video still from *Unaccompanied. Five diversions for xylophone* by Arsenio Giron; Julia Chien, xylophone. Photo by Jordan Nobles.



SHUSWAP DISTRICT ARTS COUNCIL, SALMON ARM Salmon Arm Pride Project's Pride on the Trails with Wren Rathbone, Shelley Desautels, Amy Witt, Daylene Fleming and Kate Fagervik. Photo by Kristal Burgess.



MONOVA MUSEUM OF NORTH VANCOUVER, NORTH VANCOUVER The Coast Salish Welcome Circle anchors the new exhibit galleries. Photo by Alison Boulter.

Mandate, Vision, and Values

OUR MANDATE

The BC Arts Council was created in 1995 as an agency of the Province of British Columbia under the Arts Council Act for the purposes of:

- Providing support for arts and culture in British Columbia;
- Providing people and organizations with the opportunity to participate in arts and culture in British Columbia; and
- Providing an open, accountable and neutrally administered process for managing funds for arts and culture in British Columbia.

OUR VALUES

Our values guide our decisions and activities, from program design to the peer review process. We strive for constant improvement under these values in how we serve artists and cultural organizations throughout B.C.

OUR VISION

The BC Arts Council has set its course toward an aspirational vision where:

- Artists and cultural organizations in British Columbia are well-supported, thriving and able to reach their full potential under principles of equity, diversity, accessibility and reconciliation; and
- Arts and culture are seen as fundamental to developing vibrant and resilient communities, where the people of British Columbia are highly engaged in the province's unique arts and culture sector and are recognized for their innovation and leadership in Canada and abroad.



Cultural Data

Between January and December 2020 (the last year we have figures for) B.C. generated \$8.0 billion in cultural gross domestic product (GDP). This figure includes the film industry. There was an approximate 30% decrease in live performance activity and 3.5% decrease in audio-visual and interactive sectors from the previous year.

As a proportion of B.C.'s total GDP, culture accounted for 2.8% in 2020. Jobs in the culture sector accounted for 4.2% of all jobs in the province. There were 102,579 culture jobs in British Columbia in 2020, 9.2% lower than the previous year.*

* This section highlights the most recent data available from Statistics Canada's Canadian Culture Satellite Account, which at time of going to print was 2020.

Status of the Arts in B.C.

The great pause on live experiences of arts and culture continued in 2021 due to the global COVID-19 pandemic. A significant reduction in regular programming in the sector was accompanied by workers experiencing increased stress and the effects of existing social inequities. The BC Arts Council recognizes that the arts and culture sector was among the hardest hit by the pandemic and the required health orders to keep communities safe.



Investment, Resilience and Innovation

In 2021/22, the BC Arts Council offered the Arts Impact Grant. This grant was created to respond to critical feedback and calls to action from the sector and built on the significant investments distributed through StrongerBC. The investments ensured survival, enabling people to find innovative ways to share creative works and keep the lights on.

Explorations of new ways of monetizing the delivery of digital programming, accompanied by new production processes and partnerships, signaled next steps towards longer-term change and resilience. Audiences benefited from these efforts. Research by the Alliance for Arts and Culture into British Columbians' creative activities during the COVID-19 pandemic, funded in part by the BC Arts Council, found that B.C. residents spent more time engaged in creative activities during the pandemic, frequently citing it as support for their mental health.

Equity and Access

Strategies to address equity, access, anti-racism, and diversity were identified as needing greater support across the sector. Existing systemic issues were exacerbated by the pandemic and related economic inequities and challenges of affordability, with research released in 2021 identifying stress and burnout as higher among artists and arts workers who identified as equity-deserving.¹ Equity issues related to regional and demographic disparities was also evident in roundtable discussions and consultation, as the arts and culture sector continued to grapple with organizational and systemic challenges and access to resources, infrastructure and amenities.

WORKING ACROSS GOVERNMENT

Accessible British Columbia Regulation

The *Accessible British Columbia Act* came into effect in June 2021. Through this regulation, government is helping organizations become more accessible for the benefit of their employees and the people they serve. The BC Arts Council is committed to meeting accessibility standards and regulations as they are rolled out to ensure people with disabilities can fully participate in their communities and our programs.

1. Results of National Arts and Culture Impact Survey Published. (2021). Professional Sound, 32(1), 12–12

VISCERAL VISIONS, VANCOUVER *In the Shadow of the Mountains* by Valerie Sing Turner Back row (left to right) June Fukumura, Angela Chu, Lauren Preissl, Sharon Crandall, Odessa Shuquaya; Front row (left to right) Donna Soares, Jordan Waunch, Ray Koh, Evan Adams, Raugi Yu. Directed by Valerie Sing Turner, stage directions read by C.E. Gatchalian, Photo by C.E. Gatchalian.



GALLERY 2 – GRAND FORKS ART GALLERY, GRAND FORKS Students placing flags on the exterior fence at Gallery 2 for National Indigenous Peoples Day, Photo courtesy Gallery 2 – Grand Forks Art Gallery

Reconciliation and Healing

Confirmation of evidence of the unmarked graves of children who attended the former Indian residential school at Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc in May 2021 adds a new depth of public awareness and understanding to the urgency of calls to action for meaningful reconciliation and healing. As awareness of the need for reconciliation becomes more prevalent across the arts and culture sector, Indigenous artists and organizations continue to assert self-determination and bear the cultural labour of truth, healing and representation in order to share Indigenous histories, rights, cultures, and languages.



MODERN BIOLOGY, SALTSRING ISLAND Tarun Nayar conducts fieldwork in the Gulf Islands. Photo by Mark Vonesh.

Climate Emergency

Unprecedented weather events including heat waves, flooding, and significant forest fires posed serious risks for communities – including many Indigenous communities – across the province in 2021/22. These events resulted in hundreds of sudden heat-related deaths, loss of homes, and damage to infrastructure including cultural facilities. These climate emergencies have highlighted the need for appropriate archiving, protection and documenting of tangible cultural heritage, as well as the transmission of traditional knowledge and intangible heritage within Indigenous communities. Many traditional sites are being impacted by climate change, rendering resources and materials scarce, while organizations across the sector are grappling with challenges to protect their collections and assets and keep artists, staff, volunteers, and audiences safe and healthy.

WORKING ACROSS GOVERNMENT

The Declaration Act Action Plan

The Province worked with Indigenous partners in the development of an action plan for the implementation of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (Declaration Act), which became law in 2019. The Declaration Act Action Plan outlines actions every ministry in government can undertake to create a better province for Indigenous People in B.C. British Columbia was the first province to release an action plan dedicated to implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People.

The BC Arts Council will collaborate in the advancement of specific actions within the Action Plan identified for arts and culture. These actions include providing resources to Indigenous organizations to help improve public understanding of Indigenous histories, rights, cultures, languages and the negative impacts of Indigenous-specific racism. These actions also include supporting repatriation.

Recovery and the Role of Arts and Culture

As the sector recovers and restarts, buoyed by significant emergency government intervention and investments, it has begun to further reflect on the unique value proposition and enduring benefits of arts and culture – its ability to lift our spirits, bring us together, and make sense of our collective experiences. At the core of this is the essential role of artists and culture in a post-pandemic world. Supporting a spirit of adaptation will strengthen the sector to collectively address equity, access and the stabilization of the sector while planting the seeds for a new paradigm of innovation and leadership.



VANCOUVER MURAL FESTIVAL, VANCOUVER Artist Diamond Point. Photo by Mavreen David.

The Second Year of COVID-19 IN REVIEW

April — June

July — September

October — December

January — March

What Was Happening

In April, the vaccine roll out begins for the general population.

In May, evidence of unmarked graves of children who attended Indian residential schools on the former Indian residential school site at Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc is confirmed.

Government launches BC's Restart plan: a 4-step plan for a gradual return to a more normal life starting with Step 1 on May 9 and Step 2 in June.

Accessible British Columbia Act comes into effect in June.

The COVID-19 provincial state of emergency ends on June 30.

From late June through mid-July, much of the province is engulfed in an extreme heat wave. In July, a Provincial state of emergency is declared in response to ongoing wildfires.

Mask mandates and restrictions on group size, restaurants, liquor service and bars continue to roll out, including regional variations.

As of September 27, the BC Vaccine Card is the only acceptable proof of vaccination to enjoy certain businesses and recreational events safely.



The arts and culture community is affected by the heatwave and wildfires and rallies along with the rest of the province to support those facing devastating losses, including the village of Lytton.

A majority of arts organizations continue offering both virtual and in-person programming. Summer events and festivals struggle with the ability to plan in the face of ongoing restrictions.

Arts & Culture Context

The pandemic and resulting Public Health orders limiting travel and gatherings impact the arts and culture sector through reduction of regular programming and loss of cultural jobs.

Response for the Sector

\$14 million in StrongerBC resilience supplements was announced in March 2021 to assist organizations in navigating the ongoing impacts of COVID-19 through 2021/22.

The BC Arts Council affirms and renews the longstanding partnership with the First Peoples' Cultural Council.

Accessibility supports for BC Arts Council grants are developed and piloted.

In June and July, Parliamentary Secretary for Arts and Film, Bob D'Eith hosts a series of roundtables with B.C. arts and culture organizations to support sector recovery.

In August, the \$29.95 million Fairs, Festivals and Events Recovery Fund is offered in one-time grants through the Tourism Branch.

In 2021/22 the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic continued to significantly impact the province's arts and culture sector. The state of emergency that was declared in B.C. in March 2020 due to the pandemic ended in June 2021. However, policies to maintain people's safety, including mask mandates and limitations to public gatherings and events, were in place for the majority of the period covered by this annual report.

The precarity of artists and arts organizations became more acutely felt during the pandemic and disproportionately affected underserved individuals, organizations and communities. On top of the pandemic, 2021/22 saw unprecedented weather events and natural disasters that amplified the climate emergency while tragic moments of reckoning for the province and entire country brought home the realities of history and reconciliation.

On October 29, the indoor mask mandate is extended.

Extreme rain and weather create severe flooding and landslides causing widespread damage and cutting off transportation routes; on November 17, a provincial state of emergency is declared to support the response and recovery from flooding.

Emergence of the Omicron variant prompts further federal and provincial responses. Additional travel measures and border restrictions are introduced to reduce transmission.

In December, the Provincial Health Officer issues revised orders limiting organized gatherings and events over holiday season.

Many arts and culture organizations prepare for restarting operations.

Localized impacts and the ongoing state of emergency continue to hinder operations for some organizations.

The Omicron variant and subsequent restrictions curtail and prompt further pivots within plans for re-opening and holiday activities.

On November 12, the expanded Arts Infrastructure Program is launched with an increased budget of \$4 million.

On November 29, the Arts Impact Grant program is launched in response to feedback from the sector, allowing applicants to prioritize their most pressing artistic and strategic needs.

Staff begin hosting a regular series of virtual information sessions for all program offerings.

In January, a delayed return to school for students is ordered to implement enhanced safety plans and adapt to the impacts of the Omicron variant.

By February, 91% of adult B.C. residents had received a second dose of the COVID-19 vaccine.

On February 16, the COVID-19 restrictions are eased including lifting restrictions on organized gatherings and events, with capacity limits returning to normal.

On March 15, additional restrictions are lifted including the indoor mask order.

The Declaration Act Action Plan is released in March.

Arts and culture organizations and events begin to welcome back audiences, but many struggle with a return to normal levels of capacity as audiences' comfort levels remain impacted by pandemic realities.



Extending Foundations is developed to extend the timeframe of the New Foundations strategic plan, and supports the need for stability, rebalancing, and renewal across the sector.

The Professional Development program returned after a temporary suspension due to the pandemic.

The BC Arts Council delivered \$12.5 million in one time funding from the Province. These funds support the sector as it works towards recovery and renewal.

Strategic Plan — Renewed Foundations

The BC Art’s Council’s *New Foundations Strategic Plan 2018-2022* outlined the council’s four strategic directions and aimed to increase the accessibility of our programs, shift our approach to arts funding, to achieve greater equity in supporting arts and culture in B.C. To realize the strategic plan, we committed to working in collaboration with artists, cultural practitioners, arts organizations, Indigenous communities and every region of the province to ensure our programs are more responsive to the creative and cultural needs of the people we serve.

DIRECTIONS & COMMITMENTS

Sustainability & Creative Development

We will build on our programs, bolstering support in much-needed funding areas to ensure that a diversity of artists and organizations are resilient, relevant and well supported to build capacity and create.

Indigenous Arts & Culture

We will deepen our engagement with the processes of decolonization and reconciliation, taking our lead from Indigenous artists, organizations and communities and respecting the principle of self-determination.

Equity, Diversity & Access

We will improve access to our programs, building principles of equity throughout the organization at every level to better support meaningful and genuine forms of diversity. We will do this through collaboration and co-creation with underserved communities.

Regional Arts & Community Arts

We will focus on the diversity of both professional and community arts practices throughout the province, improving the accessibility and relevance of our programs.

Reflecting on New Foundations

A third-party evaluation of the progress made on the Strategic Plan was conducted to inform the BC Arts Council’s next round of strategic visioning. The evaluation provided reflections on how progress has been perceived by the arts and culture community, where gaps remain and recommendations for addressing barriers.

Key Findings

- *New Foundations* provided a positive new lens for understanding BC Arts Council priorities and vision.
- There is a continuing need to further awareness and provide access for new applicants.
- Priority areas include maintaining stability through pandemic recovery and renewal and accelerating meaningful action on the most important issues facing the sector.

Extending Foundations Action Plan for 2022-2024

On April 8, 2022, the BC Arts Council announced the extension of its current strategic plan to 2024 and the launch of *Extending Foundations: Action Plan 2022-2024*. While the announcement fell outside of the timeline of this annual report, the development occurred throughout 2021/22. The plan is intended to support the arts and cultural community as it emerges from the health, economic, social, and cultural impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and address the sector’s calls for social justice. The actions will support the sector navigate through a period of renewal and recovery. Key actions of *Extending Foundations* were already being implemented in 2021/22, including the launch of Arts Impact Grant program, expansion of the Arts Infrastructure program, and implementation of accessibility supports.

Priorities

The Action Plan has a time-line of two years to make key changes and provides a road map for the next round of strategic visioning for the BC Arts Council.

As we make progress on actions we will maintain transparency and accountability. We invite you to read the Action Plan and check back for updates as we track success.



Action Areas

Measures to support reconciliation, equity, diversity, inclusion and access are at the centre of *Extending Foundations*. The Action Plan expands the vision, directions and commitments of the BC Arts Council through seven action areas:

Renew Strategic Visioning and Planning

- Extension of the current strategic plan
- Develop a strategic vision for 2024

Establish Diversity, Equity, and Access Program Supports

- Targeted investment in underserved and equity-deserving organizations
- Equity support initiatives

Implement Process and Procedure Improvements

- Reduce barriers to funding programs
- Increased access to services

Modernize Peer Assessment

- Transparent, accountable peer assessment process

Rebalance Funding Distribution

- Funding redistribution within existing budget to support equity

Deliver Arts Impact Grants

- Flexible strategic development program

Expand Arts Infrastructure Program

- Spaces that support the work of B.C.’s arts and culture practitioners

Strategic Plan Progress — This Year

The Arts Impact Program

The Arts Impact Program is flexible funding designed to support projects that provide necessary and meaningful impact to the applicant’s organization, practice, or community. In 2021/22, over \$8, million was delivered through the program, of which \$4,540,000 was supported through StrongerBC. Delivering the Arts Impact Program is a pillar of the *Extending Foundations* Action Plan.



VANCOUVER ARTS COLLOQUIUM SOCIETY, VANCOUVER Opening of *MemoryGami* exhibition. Storytelling participants: Beth Coleman, Keiko Honda (Producer), Jill Edgar, Barb Mikulec, Yukiko Tosa. Filming and editing Inanna Cusi. Photo courtesy CZarina Lobo.



Direction 1: Sustainability & Creative Development

- Supported over 600 organizations with \$12,478,000 in COVID-19 relief and resilience funding.
- Developed and delivered Arts Impact Grant to 309 organizations across every region of the province.
- Ensured stable funding for 312 Operating Assistance clients.
- Expanded the Arts Infrastructure program to deliver \$4 million to 84 organizations to develop cultural spaces and support the work of B.C.'s arts and culture practitioners.
- Invested in sector-led initiatives to support sustainability and capacity in the sector including:
 - \$39,860 to support access to legal advice for arts and culture organizations on pandemic issues through the Pacific Legal Education Outreach society.
 - \$180,000 to support a joint venture between 221A and BC Arts Council to address space-related challenges facing the arts and culture community.
- Continued to adapt to travel and gathering restrictions in program criteria and re-allocations, and maintained the use of the peer-assessment process through online assessment meetings.
- Re-established the Professional Development program.



Direction 2: Indigenous Arts & Culture

- Provided \$1.725 million to the First Peoples' Cultural Council's Indigenous Arts Awards program through our long-standing partnership – supporting 182 organizations and practitioners.
- The investment of \$225,000 into the First Peoples' Cultural Council's Indigenous Arts Scholarship program supported 24 Indigenous arts and culture practitioners embarking on both formal education and mentorships.
- Initiated joint virtual outreach sessions with the arts program staff at First Peoples' Cultural Council.
- Continued to build relationships with Indigenous organizations across B.C. including an engagement session for Métis Nation British Columbia.



Direction 3: Equity, Diversity & Access

- Piloted two accessibility programs for arts and culture practitioners who are Deaf or have a disability and for Deaf or disability-serving organizations:
 - Application Assistance: funding to hire a service provider to assist with the application process and with submitting a final report to the BC Arts Council.
 - Access Support: funds to contribute to the costs of the disability-related services required to carry out an associated project funded by the BC Arts Council.
- Created an Accessibility Coordinator role on the team of Program Advisors.
- Conducted consultation with arts and culture practitioners who are Deaf or have a disability to inform accessibility policies.
- Equity criteria established within the Arts Impact, Early Career Development and Arts Infrastructure programs.
- Invested in sector-led equity initiatives including:
 - \$15,000 to support for the Greater Vancouver Professional Theatre Alliance to co-host the national online conference: Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion in the Cultural Sector intended to foster information sharing and research across arts and culture and academic sectors.
- Developed and launched inaugural information sessions, hosted by BC Arts Council, to improve access to programs by increasing and diversifying staff outreach and engagement.



Direction 4: Regional Arts & Community Arts

- Informed the development of *Extending Foundations* with feedback from the Parliamentary Secretary's Virtual Regional Roundtables held in July 2021.
- Included regional priority criteria for applicants in BC Arts Council grant programs such as the Early Career Development, Arts Infrastructure, and Arts Impact Grant programs.
- Provided two regionally-focused information sessions dedicated to Northeastern B.C. and the Columbia Valley regions.

The Arts Infrastructure Program

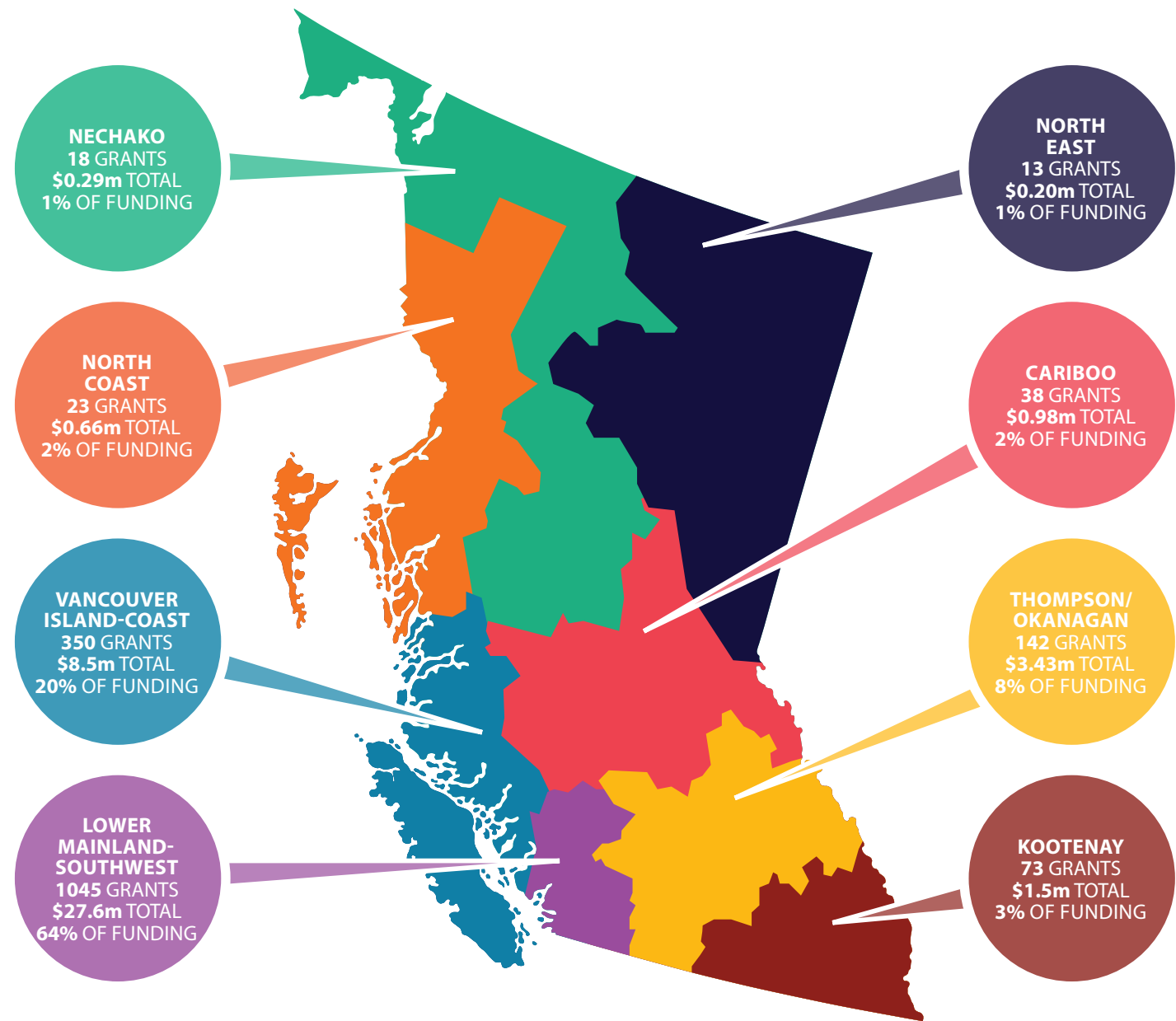
The Arts Infrastructure program received an increased budget of \$6 million over three years to include broader applicant eligibility, a higher maximum grant amount of \$250,000, and support for project planning. Expanding the Arts Infrastructure Program is a pillar of the *Extending Foundations* Action Plan.

MUSEUM OF NORTHERN BC, PRINCE RUPERT Exhibition opening. Small Fish Big Landscape by Suzo Hickey. The museum received an Arts Infrastructure grant for the purchase and installation of a backup power generator to ensure the safety of the collection and the facility.



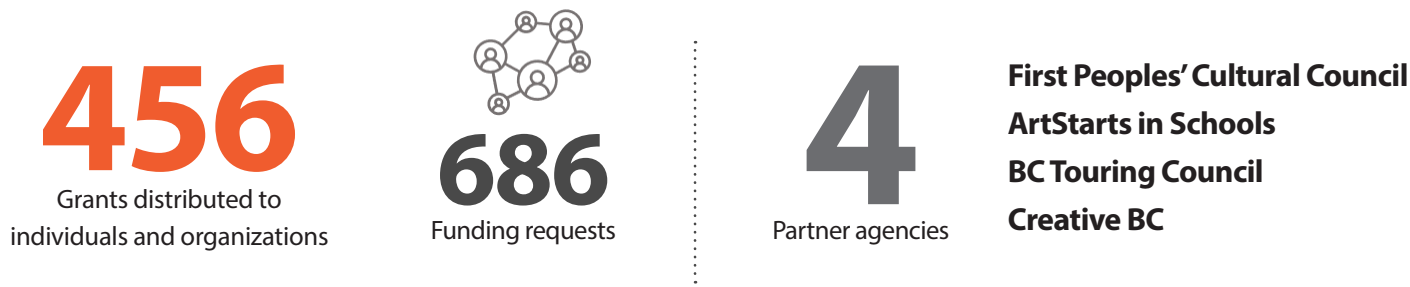
At a Glance: BC Arts Council Funding Across the Province 2021/22

Funding distributed in fiscal year 2021/22 through the BC Arts Council's base budget and StrongerBC.*

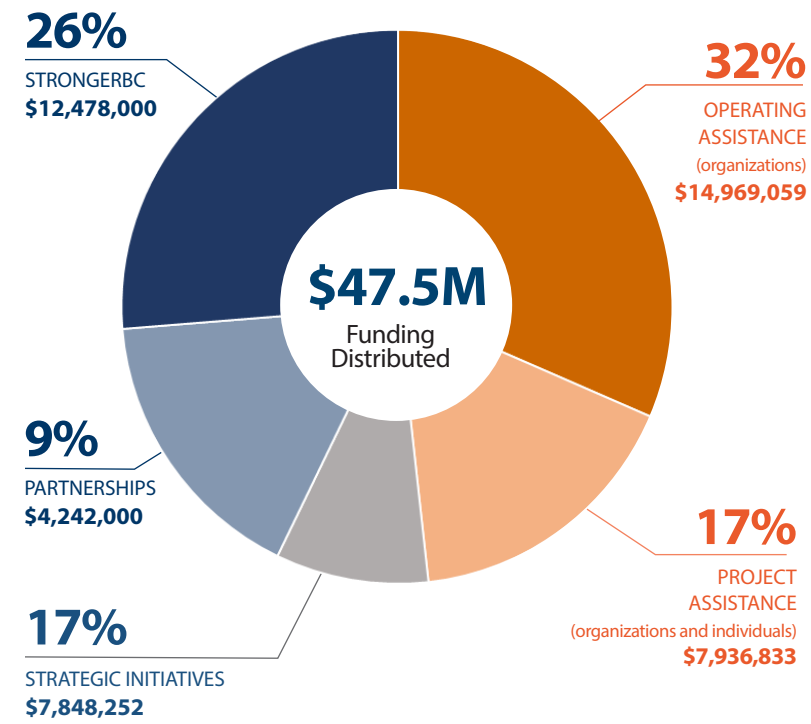


*Map and figures do not include distribution of funding delivered through partner agencies.

Funding delivered through partner agencies in 2021/22



Funding Distribution



1702
Approved grants

1246
Grants to organizations and collectives

2522
Funding requests

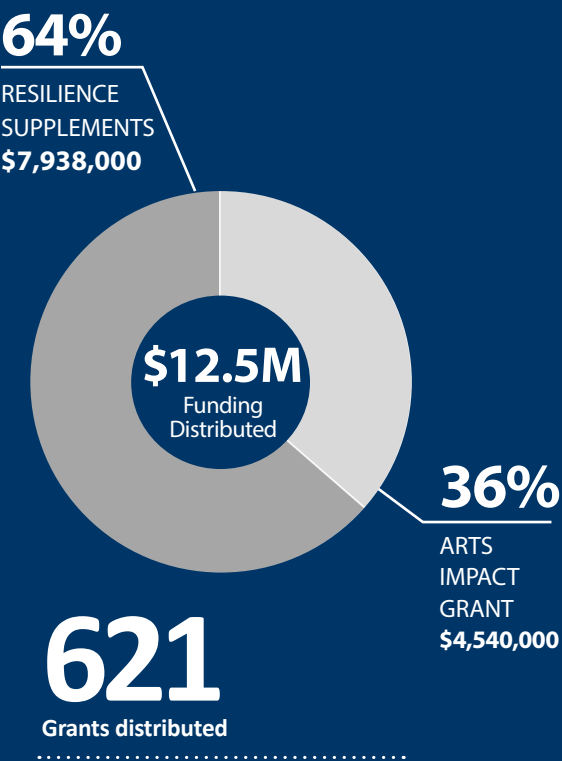
456
Grants to individuals



StrongerBC

The BC Arts Council distributed \$12.5 million in one-time year-end funding from the Province to support the arts and culture sector as it worked towards recovery and renewal.

The \$12.5 million was divided between resilience supplements and a top up for the highly subscribed Arts Impact Grant.



FLAMENCO ROSARIO, VANCOUVER Mozaico Flamenco Ensemble, performed at the Waterfront Theatre as part of Vancouver International Flamenco Festival
Photo by Luciana Freire D'Anunciação.

Key Figures

	2020/21	2021/22
PROFESSIONAL ARTS FUNDING Supporting professional arts activity		
Operating Assistance	\$13,519,571	\$13,519,575
Professional Projects	\$3,259,901	\$3,272,466
Individual Arts Awards (includes Pivot for Individuals for 2020/21)	\$1,894,110	\$2,456,749
Scholarship Awards	\$903,000	\$988,000
SUBTOTAL	\$19,576,582	\$20,236,790
STRATEGIC INITIATIVES FUNDING Supporting time-limited or strategic development programs		
Arts Infrastructure Program	\$3,966,345	\$4,001,017
Strategic Investments	\$663,455	\$353,825
COVID-19 Supports	\$5,192,705	—
Arts Impact Grants	—	\$3,493,410
SUBTOTAL	\$9,822,505	\$7,848,252
COMMUNITY ARTS FUNDING Supporting community arts activity		
Arts-Based Community Development	\$484,000	\$526,815
Community Arts Organizations Operating Assistance	\$1,449,484	\$1,449,484
Community Arts Development Projects	\$122,240	\$324,673
Community Festivals	\$348,500	\$368,130
SUBTOTAL	\$2,404,224	\$2,669,102
PARTNERSHIPS FUNDING Supporting programs delivered by partners that meet specific priorities of Council		
Creative BC - Interactive Fund	\$665,000	\$680,000
ArtStarts in Schools - Artists in Education & Artists in the Classroom	\$931,628	\$1,300,000
First Peoples' Cultural Council – Indigenous Arts Programs	\$1,500,000	\$1,725,000
BC Touring Council – Community Presenter Assistance	\$880,00	\$537,000
SUBTOTAL	\$3,976,628	\$4,242,000
TOTAL BC ARTS COUNCIL FUNDING	\$35,779,939	\$34,996,114

	2020/21	2021/22
RECOVERY FUNDING StrongerBC Funding to support COVID-19 recovery		
StrongerBC Resilience Supplements (November 2020)	\$15,700,000	—
Pivot Program	\$5,299,370	—
StrongerBC March Resilience Supplements (March 2021)	\$13,989,750	—
Arts Impact Grants	—	\$4,540,000
StrongerBC Resilience Supplement (March 2022)	—	\$7,938,000
SUBTOTAL	\$34,989,120	\$12,478,000
TOTAL FUNDING DELIVERED	\$70,769,059	\$47,474,114
OPERATIONS	\$2,022,714*	\$2,187,130*
*External to the grants budget – staff salaries, benefits and all operating expenses.		

BC Arts Council Budget

	2020/21	2021/22
BUDGET		
BC Arts Council – Budget	\$33,706,270	\$35,815,000
BC 150 Cultural Fund	\$3,795,000	\$1,540,000
Recoveries	\$324,466	\$0
StrongerBC – COVID Recovery Funds	\$34,989,120	\$12,478,000
TOTAL	\$72,814,856	\$49,833,000
EXPENSES		
Grants to organizations, individuals, and partnerships	\$70,769,059	\$47,474,144
Operations – staff salaries, benefits and all operating expenses	\$2,022,714	\$2,187,130
TOTAL	\$72,791,773	\$ 49,661,274



PITHEATRE, VANCOUVER (left to right): Melissa Oei, Richard Meen, Ivy Charles, and Tracy Jennissen in *Beautiful Man* by Erin Shields, directed by Keltie Forsyth. A Pit Theatre Production, presented by the Cultch. Set by Lauchlin Johnston, Lighting by Jeff Harrison, and Costumes by Alaia Hamer. Photo by Sarah Race.



MORTAL COIL PERFORMANCE SOCIETY, VANCOUVER Sijye'yu (Friends, Relatives). Grand Acts of Great Hope, commission by the National Arts Centre. Produced by Mortal Coil Performance Society with Tsatsu Stalqayu (Coastal Wolfpack). Performer: Joseph Paul. Photo by Sarah Race.

Council Members

REPRESENTATIVES FOR BC ARTS COUNCIL

The Arts Council Act provides for up to 15 government-appointed representatives to support the work of the BC Arts Council as council members. Collectively, they broadly represent the cultural and regional diversity of the province as well as a range of artistic practices.

In 2021/22, we were pleased to welcome new members:

Jules André-Brown
Judy Darcy
Miranda Huron

We would like to thank the following outgoing members for their contributions and service:

Norman Armour
Lindsay Bailey

APPOINTED MEMBERS FY2021/ 2022

SAE-HOON STAN CHUNG, CHAIR Cranbrook

DANA CLAXTON, VICE CHAIR Vancouver

JULES ANDRÉ-BROWN Victoria**

NORMAN ARMOUR Vancouver*

LINDSAY BAILEY Vancouver*

IAN CASE Victoria

JUDY DARCY New Westminster**

KIRANDEEP DHALIWAL Vancouver

JAI DJWA Vancouver

PATRICIA HENMAN Nelson

DEAN HERON Victoria

MIRANDA HURON New Westminster**

EVAN KLASSEN Kamloops

PAULA MARTIN Vancouver

MIKE MURRAY Maple Ridge

SIMONE ORLANDO Kelowna

ROY HENRY VICKERS Hazelton

*until June 2021

**as of December 2021

For member biographies please refer to the BC Arts Council website www.bcartscouncil.ca

Staff

SPECIAL THANKS

Our work and this report would not be possible without the support of the dedicated staff within the Arts and Culture Branch of the Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport.*

KRIS ANDERSEN Senior Policy Analyst, Cultural Services

CLAYTON BARANIUK Program Advisor: Professional Development; Accessibility Coordinator

MICHELLE BENJAMIN Program Advisor: Arts Periodicals; Book Publishers; Literary Organizations; Early Career Development

KEELY BLAND Policy Analyst, BC Arts Council

ALLISON BOTTOMLEY Senior Director, BC Arts Council Secretariat and Strategic Engagement

NADINE CAREW Program Advisor: Dance; Music; Theatre Organizations, Individuals, and Collectives

ALEX DENIS Senior Policy Analyst, Cultural Services

BRIAN DESJARLAIS Senior Policy Analyst, Cultural Services

DARB ERICKSON Senior Director, BC Arts Council Programs

VANESSA GAINS Grant Program Administrator

KENDRA HULL Assistant to the Executive Director

SHERYL JONES Program Advisor: Media Arts Organizations; Visual Arts Organizations; Touring Initiatives

BRIAN JONKER Executive Director

JULIE KING Team Lead, Finance & Administration

ERIN MACKLEM Program Advisor: Early Career Development; Outreach Coordinator

JENNIFER NICHOLS Senior Policy Analyst, BC Arts Council

KRISTA PATTERSON Program Advisor: Community Arts Organizations; Community Arts Festivals; Arts-Based Community Development; Leon and Thea Koerner Award

JULIA PAUSLIUS Program Advisor: Visual Arts

ANISSA PAULSEN Program Advisor: Indigenous Cultural Centres; Museums; Scholarships

SARVENAZ RIDLEY Finance and Contracts Administrator

HOLLY ROMANOW Senior Policy Analyst, Cultural Services

JUSTINE SHORE Program Advisor: Community Arts Festivals; Performing Arts; Scholarship Awards

INGMARIE THUNANDER Manager, BC Arts Council Operations

SARAH TODD Program Advisor: Media Artists; Visual Artists; Arts Infrastructure

SHELAGH VAUX Grant Program Administrator

NIK WHITE Director, Cultural Services

Thank you to staff both past and present for contributing to a thriving arts and culture sector in B.C.

*This list represents staffing as of March 2022.



ZEE ZEE THEATRE, VANCOUVER Munish Sharma, Ishan Sandhu and Quinn Churchill in *Men Express Their Feelings*. Photo by Tina Krueger Kulic.

Grant Assessment

PEER REVIEW

The peer review and assessment of grant applications is used to uphold the BC Arts Council’s purpose under the *Arts Council Act* to provide an open, accountable, and neutrally administered process. The peer assessment process provides for transparency and is fundamental to the work of the BC Arts Council.

Panels of three to five artists and arts practitioners are brought together to review applications for each relevant program. Based on how effectively applicants address the program criteria outlined in the guidelines, the panel determines or recommends funding amounts.

When identifying potential assessors, consideration is given to the diversity of artistic and cultural practice (representation of different artistic styles and philosophies); the range of professional specialization (representation of different roles within the arts, such as creators, interpreters, administrators, directors, independent artists); geographic and regional representation; Indigenous perspectives; cultural perspectives; and stage of career. The goal is to have a panel of assessors who, through their diversity of experience and background, can evaluate the range of applications for each program intake.

The peer assessment panels also provide the opportunity for ongoing consultation on policy and program development. Discussions cover the structure, intent and outcomes of individual programs; application and assessment processes; the Council’s strategic plan; and ongoing and emerging issues in the sector. These consultations are essential to facilitate continuous improvement, address changing needs, research new initiatives, and maintain a high degree of responsiveness to important trends as they emerge.

Thank you to those who served as advisors for our programs and also for the programs offered through partnership with ArtStarts in Schools, BC Touring Council, Creative BC, and the First Peoples’ Cultural Council.

A full list of BC Arts Council panel members for 2021/22 is available on the BC Arts Council website www.bcartscouncil.ca.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

We are always looking for individuals with discipline and sector knowledge, open-mindedness, generosity of spirit, and the ability to work collaboratively through the assessment process.

Serving on a peer assessment panel provides a unique learning experience, valuable insight into how the funding process operates, and a broader understanding of the sector. By providing this support, assessors are participating in cultural policy in action. Peer assessors are remunerated for their time, expertise and labour.

Individuals can easily register their interest in becoming an assessor through our online grant management system.

140

Number of Assessors

39

Assessment Meetings

10

Number of Program Advisors

BC Arts Council

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COVER IMAGES

BC MOVEMENT ARTS SOCIETY, SOINTULA Rebecca Margolick and Livona Ellis rehearsing their new work *Fortress* in the Finnish Athletic Hall during a BC Movement Arts Residency. Photo by Faviola Perez.

URBAN INK, VANCOUVER Image featuring actor Chelsea Rose from *Stories That Transform Us* directed by Corey Payette, director of photography Ryan McDonald, and design by Marshall McMahan and Jay Havens.

ARTS REVELSTOKE, REVELSTOKE Shred Kelly performance at *REVV.Live* at the Revelstoke Performing Arts Centre. Photo by Christine Love Hewitt.

THE POLYGON GALLERY, NORTH VANCOUVER Guests of The Polygon Gallery enjoy a performance by House of Rice. Photo by Ester Tóthová.