

Arts and Culture

Context

There is an active and vibrant arts and culture community in the DTES with new opportunities emerging. However some cultural organizations and artists are challenged by limited resources. New development and rising costs are affecting the supply and affordability of space in the neighbourhood, thereby limiting growth in the creative sector. The DTES Local Area Plan will give direction for supporting a sustainable and growing creative sector that provides opportunities for low-income artists.



Emerging Directions

Help to create multi-use, affordable and accessible neighbourhood facilities that create, produce and present arts and culture, including:

- Studios with or without associated residential uses
- Flexible performance events space for both cultural and non cultural uses
- Outdoor gathering spaces to support community events with infrastructure (e.g. water power, lighting, greywater disposal, storage)
- Cultural non-profit office space and associated ancillary spaces such as storage
- Creative commercial neighbourhood spaces (e.g. small cinemas, galleries, bookstores)
- Conduct culture-based workshops as part of the planning process to seek high-level directions for neighbourhood-specific targets (participants may include creative commercial manufacturers and suppliers to artists and culture-makers)
- Support institutions that serve the city or region (these may be large (e.g. Firehall Arts Centre) or small (e.g. Centre A) and include galleries, theatres, museums, important studio or production facilities, and other related cultural facilities)
- Encourage opportunities for public art to engage with and reflect the neighbourhood, and promote opportunities for neighbourhood-based artists
- Respond to new and evolving needs of the arts community

QUICK-START ACTIONS

- Enable the development of affordable and accessible community cultural spaces in both private and publicly owned facilities
- Pursue opportunities for co-location or shared cultural spaces (Hub model) and for shared resources and services (one-stop resource centre)
- Work in partnership with resource centres and training organizations to strengthen artists' entrepreneurial capacity and skills
- Explore enhanced opportunities for artists to sell their artwork on City and Park Board property