



VANCOUVER CIVIC THEATRES BOARD

MINUTES

NOVEMBER 25, 2021

A meeting of the Vancouver Civic Theatres Board was held on Thursday, November 25, 2021, at 12:10 pm, in the Queen Elizabeth Theatre Salon, 630 Hamilton Street, Vancouver, BC.

PRESENT: Ann-Marie Copping, Chair
Diane Brown (*participation via webex*)
Wendy Soobis, Vice-Chair (*participation via webex*)
Donna Wong-Juliani
Janice Wu (*participation via webex*)

ABSENT: Adrian Fischer (Leave of Absence)
Alex Read (Leave of Absence)
Paul Sihota
Mike Vulgaris

ALSO PRESENT: Councillor Lisa Dominato, Council Liaison
Branislav Henselmann, Managing Director of Cultural Services
Natalie Lue, Director, Vancouver Civic Theatres (Staff Liaison)
Guy Leroux, Associate Director, Vancouver Civic Theatres

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE: Tina Hildebrandt, Meeting Coordinator

WELCOME

The Chair acknowledged we are on the unceded homelands of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh People. We thank them for having cared for this land and look forward to working with them in partnership as we continue to build this great city together.

Leave of Absence Requests

MOVED by Donna Wong-Juliani
SECONDED by Wendy Soobis

THAT the Vancouver Civic Theatres Board approve a leave of absence for Alex Read for this meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOVED by Donna Wong-Juliani
SECONDED by Diane Brown

THAT the Vancouver Civic Theatres Board approve a leave of absence for Janice Wu for the December 16, 2021, meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Note: A leave of absence for Adrian Fischer was approved at the October 21, 2021, meeting.

Approval of Minutes – October 21, 2021

MOVED by Wendy Soobis
SECONDED by Janice Wu

THAT the Vancouver Civic Theatres Board approve the Minutes from the meeting of Thursday, October 21, 2021, as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

1. Chair's Comments

The Chair acknowledged VCT staff for a successful beginning to the Restart Plan and provided a brief update on the Anti-oppression training provided by the City last week.

2. Council Liaison's Comments

Councillor Dominato commented on the following and responded to questions:

- Council is transitioning back to in-person participation at meetings;
- Council's main focus has been on:
 - Housing - a number of Public Hearings with housing-related applications are underway and/or approaching;
 - 2022 Budget – Council will receive public feedback on December 1 and make a final decision on December 7; Board members were encouraged to provide [feedback](#);
- Council recently approved \$2.25 million in arts and cultural grants; and
- a Development Application has been received for the Imperial Theatre site at 305 Main Street; Chris Ball, former Board Chair, reached out for details of the development which will include social housing and maintain theatre space; Board members were encouraged to submit comments at: <https://shapeyourcity.ca/305-main-st>.

3. Guest Presentation: Vancouver Opera Association

Tom Wright, General Director, Vancouver Opera Association (VOA), provided an update on how the VOA has managed through the pandemic, reviewed productions in the current season (*December, February, April*) and responded to questions.

4. Cultural Services Update

The Managing Director of Cultural Services provided updates on the following and responded to questions:

- 2021 arts and cultural grants - Council approved the final report;
- Development Applications involving potential loss of arts and cultural infrastructure; and
- Eastside Culture Crawl.

In discussion, concern was expressed about the loss of arts and cultural space in the city. Staff suggested the Board provide input at upcoming public hearings on development applications, which could negatively affect arts and cultural space.

5. Arts & Culture Advisory Committee (ACAC) Report

As Paul Sihota was absent, this item was postponed.

6. Finance Report

The Associate Director, Vancouver Civic Theatres, reviewed the financials and responded to questions.

7. Director's Report

The Director, Vancouver Civic Theatres, reviewed the report and responded to questions.

8. 2022 Meeting Schedule

The Board considered the proposed 2022 Meeting Schedule.

MOVED by Donna Wong-Juliani
SECONDED by Wendy Soobis

THAT the Vancouver Civic Theatres Board approve the 2022 Meeting Schedule as set out below.

DATE (<i>Thursdays</i>):
January 20
February 17
March 17
April 21
May 19
June 16
July 21

AUGUST – NO MEETING
September 15
October 20
November 17
December 15
TIME: 12 to 2 pm
PLACE: Queen Elizabeth Theatre Salon 630 Hamilton Street, Vancouver, BC

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9. New Business

a) December meeting

The Chair encouraged Board members to participate in-person and noted the agenda will include an overview of the Playhouse Feasibility Study and a guest from Dance House.

Note: Subsequently, the Playhouse Feasibility Study was postponed.

The Chair also extended well wishes and thanks to Janice Wu who did not seek reappointment to the Board.

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Donna Wong-Juliani
SECONDED by Diane Brown

THAT this meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Next Meeting:

DATE: Thursday, December 16, 2021
TIME: 12 pm
PLACE: Queen Elizabeth Theatre Salon
630 Hamilton Street, Vancouver, BC

The Board adjourned at 1:34 pm.

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