



## VANCOUVER CIVIC THEATRES BOARD

### MINUTES

DECEMBER 16, 2021

A meeting of the Vancouver Civic Theatres Board was held on Thursday, December 16, 2021, at 12:12 pm, in the Queen Elizabeth Theatre Salon, 630 Hamilton Street, Vancouver, BC, and via Webex.

**PRESENT:** Ann-Marie Copping, Chair  
Wendy Soobis, Vice-Chair  
Diane Brown  
Adrian Fischer  
Anna Hagen  
Alex Read  
Paul Sihota\*  
Mike Vulgaris  
Donna Wong-Juliani

**ALSO PRESENT:** Natalie Lue, Director, Vancouver Civic Theatres (Staff Liaison)  
Guy Leroux, Associate Director, Vancouver Civic Theatres  
Krista Edwardson, Senior Manager of Sales and Marketing, Vancouver Civic Theatres

**CITY CLERK'S OFFICE:** Ana Denissenko, Committee Clerk

\* Denotes absence for a portion of the meeting.

### 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

None.

### Approval of Minutes – November 25, 2021

MOVED by Donna Wong-Juliani  
SECONDED by Diane Brown

THAT the Vancouver Civic Theatres Board approve the Minutes from the meeting of Thursday, November 25, 2021, as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY  
(Paul Sihota absent for the vote)

**1. Chair's Comments**

The Chair noted that members are invited for a tour of the new audio/video system at the Queen Elizabeth and Playhouse Theatres.

**2. Council Liaison's Comments**

The Chair acknowledged that Councillor Dominato sent her regrets as she could not attend the meeting. The Chair updated the Committee that she spoke with Councillor Dominato earlier in the week and Councillor will prepare a draft motion introducing the VCT Board Visioning Document to Council in the New Year. She will share the draft motion with the Committee for comments before the motion goes to Council, likely in February.

**3. Cultural Services Update**

None.

**4. Arts & Culture Advisory Committee (ACAC) Report**

None.

**5. Finance Report**

The Associate Director shared the Financial Report and indicated trends since the theatres have been able to re-open, including:

- An increase in average amount spent in the theatres over the past year
- A decrease in average attendance over the past year, due to mandated reduced capacities and the gradual return of patrons to the theatre after the venues were closed for much of the year
- An almost 200% increase in parking usage, suggesting a gradual return to pre-pandemic numbers

**6. Director's Report**

The Director reviewed the report and subsequently responded to comments and questions, highlighting the following:

- Staff are paying close attention to PHO advisories regarding COVID and working closely with clients to prepare for any restrictions
- Recruitment continues to be the biggest priority in preparation for a return to pre-pandemic operations at the Theatres

- Occupational Health and Safety Committee meets regularly and ensures workspace safety checks
- Reminded Board members of the programming and community engagement procedure regarding theatre tickets

## 7. 2021 Wrap Up

The Senior Manager of Sales and Marketing shared a presentation on 2021 accomplishments, including the following:

- Welcoming audiences for TaiwanFest and VSO for the first time in the season
- Return of Ballet BC and Vancouver Opera at Queen Elizabeth Theatre
- Theatre Rental Grant program highlights
- Vancouver Civic Theatres continue aligning with Culture|Shift
- Vancouver Civic Theatres welcomed over 1500 patrons to outdoor gathering space during Summer on ʂxʷʌxən Xwtl'a7shn
- Shared the 2022 line-up
- Launch and software training is expected to start in Q1 2022

## 8. New Business

The Chair inquired about leave of absence requests for the next meeting. There were none.

## ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Adrian Fischer  
SECONDED by Anna Hagan

THAT this meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## Next Meeting:

DATE: Thursday, January 20, 2022  
TIME: 12 pm  
PLACE: Webex Online

The Board adjourned at 1:05 pm.

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