



VANCOUVER CIVIC THEATRES BOARD

MINUTES

APRIL 21, 2022

A meeting of the Vancouver Civic Theatres Board was held on Thursday, April 21, 2022, at 12:06 pm, in Queen Elizabeth Theatre Salon, 630 Hamilton Street, Vancouver BC, and by electronic means.

PRESENT: Ann-Marie Copping, Chair
Alex Read
Paul Sihota (*via webex*)
Wendy Soobis, Vice-Chair (*via webex*)
Mike Vulgaris (*via webex*)
Donna Wong-Juliani

ABSENT: Diane Brown (Leave of Absence)
Adrian Fischer (Leave of Absence)
Anna Hagan (Leave of Absence)

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 Wendy Soobis
SECONDED by Alex Read

THAT the Vancouver Civic Theatres Board approve leaves of absence for Diane Brown and Anna Hagan.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Note: Adrian Fischer was granted Leave of Absence at the February 17, 2022, meeting.

Approval of Minutes – March 17, 2022

MOVED by Donna Wong-Juliani
SECONDED by Alex Read

THAT the Vancouver Civic Theatres Board approve the Minutes from the meeting of Thursday, March 17, 2022, as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

VARY AGENDA

MOVED by Wendy Soobis
SECONDED by Donna Wong-Juliani

THAT the Vancouver Civic Theatres Board vary the agenda in order to meet In Camera prior to considering Item 5 on the agenda.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

IN CAMERA MEETING

MOVED by Alex Read
SECONDED by Wendy Soobis

THAT the Vancouver Civic Theatres Board will go into a meeting later today that is closed to the public, pursuant to Section 165.2(1) of the *Vancouver Charter*, to discuss matters related to paragraph:

(e) the acquisition, disposition or expropriation of land or improvements, if the Council considers that disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the city.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

1. Chair's Comments

The Chair commented on the return of live shows and how great it is to see the theatres busy again. The Chair also commended VCT staff for their excellent work.

2. Council Liaison's Comments

Councillor Dominato encouraged the Board to provide input to Council on the following and responded to questions:

- [Draft 2023-2026 Capital Plan](#) scheduled for review by Council on April 26, 2022; and
- [Vancouver Plan](#).

3. Cultural Services Update

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

- The Board is encouraged to provide input on the following:
 - [Draft 2023-2026 Capital Plan](#);
 - [Vancouver Plan](#);

Broadway Plan: Cultural Services has a keen interest on the plan as there is the potential for inclusion of artist/rehearsal space;

Other projects of interest to the Board with further details to be presented in future:

Chinatown Plan;

Heritage Plan;

Commemoration Policy;

Operating grants;

Music Officer: Cultural Services is currently advertising to fill the position; and

Granville Island Visioning Strategy: Council is about to release its vision.

4. Arts & Culture Advisory Committee (ACAC) Report

Paul Sihota, VCTB Representative to the ACAC, provided an update, noting the ACAC will be submitting input to Council on the draft Capital Plan via letter, and responded to questions.

In discussion, the Chair asked Paul to forward a copy of the ACAC's letter to the Board for information. The Director of VCT noted there is time for the Board to submit their respective input.

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The Board recessed at 1:07 pm and reconvened at 1:45 pm.

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5. Visioning Motion

The Board considered the revised draft 2021 Visioning Road Map and draft replacement motion.

In discussion, the Chair suggested the Board could consider rescinding the initial motion passed May 13, 2021, and instead moving the replacement motion, which was drafted this spring. Board members expressed general agreement.

MOVED by Donna Wong-Juliani
SECONDED by Alex Read

THAT the Vancouver Civic Theatres Board rescind the Visioning motion passed at its Special Board Meeting on May 13, 2021.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOVED by Donna Wong-Juliani
SECONDED by Wendy Soobis

WHEREAS the Vancouver Civic Theatres Board is committed to supporting the vitality, accessibility and financial health of Vancouver's largest suite of city-owned live performance venues as well as its vibrant arts scene;

WHEREAS Vancouver Civic Theatres' operations and revenues have been severely impacted by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, as has the entire cultural community and downtown core;

WHEREAS the Vancouver Civic Theatres Board has embarked on a significant internal visioning process to review and re-imagine the future of these venues;

WHEREAS the Vancouver Civic Theatres Board has produced a summary document, "Vancouver Civic Theatres 2021 Visioning Road Map," which outlines the results of this process and presents a preliminary plan for potential next steps for its realization;

WHEREAS the Vancouver Civic Theatres Board recognizes this plan reflects an internal visioning process intended to spark dialogue among stakeholders that now needs to be shared with the broader community for input. Further, that this critical stakeholder engagement process is not within the Vancouver Civic Theatres Board's purview;

WHEREAS the City's cultural ecology and cultural community are evolving and undergoing major changes, many of which are presently under review and/or being addressed by City policies and programs; and

WHEREAS Downtown Vancouver has faced unprecedented challenges as a result of the coronavirus pandemic, which call for a revitalization that renews the City Centre as a compelling area to work, live, and visit, regenerating economic activity and reinforcing our cultural vibrancy;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Vancouver Civic Theatres Board recommends:

- Vancouver City Council reviews and considers the ideas and projects proposed in "Vancouver Civic Theatres 2021 Visioning Road Map" document produced by the VCT Board;
- Vancouver City Council requests that City Management and Cultural Services review the Vancouver Civic Theatres 2021 Visioning Road Map to assess how these projects align with current and future strategies outlined in the City's *Culture | Shift* plan, and that they develop a budget for initial seed funding to address next steps, including initial stakeholder consultation, feasibility studies, preliminary business planning, and relevant research. These funds could potentially be repaid through funding sources outlined in the Visioning Road Map; and
- Once the above-noted staff review has been completed, Vancouver City Council appoints a steering committee to explore and lead major performing arts capital projects congruent with the goals outlined in the Vancouver Civic Theatres 2021 Visioning Road Map.

Suggested committee membership would include representation from City management, Cultural Services, City Planning, Vancouver Civic Theatres, key performing arts stakeholders, and other members at large with skills and experience in theatre/cultural management, fundraising and development, urban planning and architecture.

CARRIED
(Paul Sihota opposed)

The Chair will meet with Councillor Dominato to discuss next steps in delivering the replacement motion to Council for consideration.

6. Finance Report

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

7. Director's Report

The Director of VCT reviewed the report and responded to questions.

8. New Business

None.

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Alex Read
SECONDED by Mike Vulgaris

THAT this meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Next Meeting:

DATE: Thursday, May 19, 2022
TIME: 12 pm
PLACE: Queen Elizabeth Theatre Salon
630 Hamilton Street, Vancouver, BC

The Board adjourned at 2:15 pm.

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