



## VANCOUVER CIVIC THEATRES BOARD

### MINUTES

NOVEMBER 17, 2022

A meeting of the Vancouver Civic Theatres Board was held on Thursday, November 17, 2022, at 12:06 pm, in the Queen Elizabeth Theatre Salon, 630 Hamilton Street.

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

**ABSENT:** Alex Read (Leave of Absence)

**ALSO PRESENT:** Councillor Peter Meiszner, Council Liaison  
Branislav Henselmann, Managing Director of Cultural Services  
Guy Leroux, Associate Director, Vancouver Civic Theatres

**CITY CLERK'S OFFICE:** Tina Hildebrandt, Meeting Coordinator

\* 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

MOVED by Anna Hagan  
SECONDED by Diane Brown

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **Approval of Minutes – October 20, 2022**

MOVED by Donna Wong-Juliani

SECONDED by Wendy Soobis

THAT the Vancouver Civic Theatres Board approve the Minutes from the meeting of Thursday, October 20, 2022, as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

### **1. Guest Speaker: Debi Wong, Founding Artistic Director, re:Naissance Opera**

Donna Wong-Juliani introduced Debi Wong, Founding Artistic Director, re:Naissance Opera, who provided introductory remarks and an overview on re:Naissance Opera. Debi noted the positive impacts VCT has had on the organization and responded to questions.

### **2. Chair's Comments**

On behalf of the Board, the Chair:

- extended thanks to Councillor Dominato for serving as VCTB's Council Liaison last term;
- congratulated and welcomed Councillor Meiszner, VCTB's new Council Liaison, and looked forward to working together; and
- provided a brief update on recent shows.

### **3. Council Liaison's Comments**

Councillor Meiszner provided introductory remarks and commented on recently approved arts and cultural grants.

The Chair noted that the Board's Visioning document was shared with Councillor Meiszner.

### **4. Cultural Services Update**

Branislav Henselmann, Managing Director of Cultural Services, commented on the following:

- recently approved arts and culture grants;
- 2023 arts and culture grant application intake;
- 2023 theatre rental grants considerations for VCT users; and
- a recently approved Motion requesting staff to report back with a draft action plan to support urgent measures to uplift Chinatown.

Branislav noted staff are seeking new peers to become jury members for the arts and culture grants program and encouraged Board members to submit names of potential candidates. In response to a question, the intake form for Peer Jury was forwarded to the Board.

## **5. Arts & Culture Advisory Committee (ACAC) Report**

Staff noted Type A advisory committees, including ACAC, have dissolved due to 2022 being an election year.

## **6. Partnerships**

There were no comments on partnerships.

## **7. Finance Report**

Guy Leroux, Associate Director, Vancouver Civic Theatres, reviewed the October 2022 financials and responded to questions.

The Board had a brief discussion on the grant program as it relates to VCT users.

## **8. Director's Report**

The Board reviewed the Director's Report and the Chair acknowledged VCT staff for successfully handling recent incidents.

## **9. New Business**

### **a) Guest for January**

Donna Wong-Juliani confirmed that David Pay, Artistic Director, Music on Main, will be the guest speaker for January.

Board members suggested inviting City staff from the UNDRIP Task Force or Music and Spaces program to meetings in the new year.

### **b) December meeting**

The Board agreed to cancel the December meeting.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

MOVED by Diane Brown  
SECONDED by Paul Sihota

THAT this meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY  
(Wendy Soobis absent for the vote)

**Next Meeting:**

DATE: Thursday, January 19, 2023  
TIME: 12 pm  
PLACE: Queen Elizabeth Theatre Salon  
630 Hamilton Street, Vancouver, BC /  
Webex Online

The Board adjourned at 1:50 pm.

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