

**From:** "Johnston, Sadhu" <Sadhu.Johnston@vancouver.ca>  
**To:** "Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"  
**CC:** "City Manager's Correspondence Group - DL"  
"Singh, Sandra" <Sandra.Singh@vancouver.ca>  
**Date:** 2/21/2019 7:26:28 PM  
**Subject:** Open Letter from Canadian BDS Coalition to Government of Canada, Cities of Vancouver and Montreal

Hello Mayor and Council,

Staff were recently made aware of an open letter from the BDS Coalition to Mayor Stewart and Council regarding Ballet BC's January 2019 tour of Israel with another Vancouver-based arts organization, Shay Kuebler Radical System Art. Ballet BC and Shay Kuebler Radical System Art are part of the Government of Canada sponsored CanaDanse Festival, hosted by the Canadian Embassy in Israel.

Please note that the City was not a sponsor of the CanaDanse Festival in Israel. The letter suggests that the City sponsored a segment of the performances at the festival. This was not the case. If the Festival's materials suggested such a sponsor relationship to the performances in Israel, this was erroneous information.

As a municipal funder, we support the creation, development and production of work presented in the City of Vancouver, through civic cultural grants. We do not influence the artistic direction or mandate of organizations, or where and how they choose to produce and perform their artistic work. We do not fund touring or productions outside the City of Vancouver for non-Indigenous not-for-profit organizations. (The exception to this is cultural grants to support productions and projects that take place on Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh reserve land and in local Indigenous communities outside City limits).

The City of Vancouver is a longtime supporter of Ballet BC through annual operating and theatre rental grants and they are a grant recipient in good standing. The City also funds Shay Keubler (see table below) through project grants from Cultural Services.

Year	Typ	Request	Approve	Shay Keubler Project Details
2019	Project	10,000	0	Epilogos premiere at Vancouver International Dance Festival 2020 - <i>not yet</i>
2018	Project	10,000	6,000	Production of Budoetry in late Jan 2018 at Kokoro Woodward's production la
2017	Project	7,500	6,000	Research phase throughout winter 2017/18 of Budoetry: the company's 5th
2016	Project	6,000	5,000	Production Feasting on Famine premiere at the Firehall in September 2017
2015	Project	6,000	3,000	Production of Glory world premiere at 2015 Chutzpah! Festival

It is possible that both Ballet BC and Shay Keubler performed works in Israel and around the world that were developed in Vancouver for Vancouver audiences. Usually, City of Vancouver will be noted as a supporter of that particular work. This does not denote a sponsorship of this, or any other national or international Festival.

If you have any further questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Sandra Singh directly.

Sadhu

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