

Creative City

Office of Cultural Affairs: City of Vancouver



A PROFILE



Creative City







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City Cultural Objectives

To ensure our future as a creative city, open and accessible to artists, to the broadest range of artistic expression, and to the widest participation.

City Cultural Goals

- To promote a high level of creativity and excellence in the cultural life of Vancouver.
- To promote diversity in the artistic life of the community, including both the professional and non-professional, the traditional and the innovative, the established and the aspiring.
- To encourage financial and managerial efficiency in the operation of Vancouver's cultural organizations.
- To ensure the existence of adequate facilities for the creation and presentation of the arts in Vancouver.
- To ensure that all Vancouver residents and visitors, including senior citizens, youth, low-income people, members of ethnic minorities and other distinct groups, have opportunities to enjoy and participate in cultural activities.

—Adopted by Council on October 27, 1987

Front cover: Public Dreams Society's *Illuminares*. Photo: Dolly Hopkins.

Previous pages: Vancouver Folk Music Festival. Photo: Glen Erikson.

Left: Lola MacLaughlin Dance, Kathleen McDonagh (left) and Susan Elliott (right) in *Folio*. Photo: David Cooper.



MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

A truly creative city is a work in progress—innovative, unique, and constantly evolving. As the first major Canadian city designated a Cultural Capital of Canada, and with a well-deserved reputation as one of the world's most livable cities, Vancouver is just that kind of enterprising and dynamic community. And the city's arts and culture play a crucial role in making us so.

Vancouver's extraordinary creative sector strengthens our city while helping make our reputation. The richness of the arts enhances our quality of life as well as our economy. The arts animate the city for residents and create attractions for visitors.

Our cultural diversity brings exceptional variety and vibrancy to our arts and culture sector, and stimulates ideas and dialogue in every area of civic life. Diversity fuels our worldview, and gives us a distinct perspective on global as well as local issues and events.

In order to sustain the important contributions of arts and culture to our community, the City of Vancouver actively supports the cultural sector through a range of programs, policies, and

resources, as you will discover in the following pages. In the companion report, *Annual Review*, you will see that a wealth of artistic and cultural experiences is available for the choosing.

Whether you continue to enjoy and support your favourites or try something new, my colleagues on Vancouver City Council and I look forward to seeing you in the city's theatres and art galleries, museums and concert halls, and at festivals and community celebrations. We invite everyone to experience the city's unique culture and creative vitality.

Larry W. Campbell
Mayor

Councillors

Fred Bass
David Cadman
Jim Green
Peter Ladner
Raymond Louie

Tim Louis
Anne Roberts
Tim Stevenson
Sam Sullivan
Ellen Woodsworth



Left: New Government of Canada award recognizing excellence in arts and cultural development.

Right: Jabulani performing in Global Vibrations, a World Music Day Celebration at the Commodore, produced by Caravan World Rhythms. Photo: Vincent Wong.





MUDFLATS EXPO
INDY BUSHLAND
"HOLE IN BOTTOM"
IS "SKYWACHAYS"
STURGEON SOLE
BEEHIVE BURNER
SLOP & SHALLOW
HARBOUR SEALS
CANNON & VIEW
WOODPIPE TANK
CRAB SHIPWORM
SMELT FLOUNDER
SLEEPING CARS
ROUNDHOUSE
A RED CABOOSE



DIRECTOR'S INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the second edition of *Creative City*. This profile of the City of Vancouver's ongoing commitment to arts and culture in our community may well surprise you with the range of partners and projects it reveals.

As you will see, Vancouver's multi-faceted involvement with the cultural sector is not confined to cultural planners in the Office of Cultural Affairs (OCA). It begins with the Mayor and Council, and includes our fine civic theatres and public library. Even beyond that, cultural interests are a part of almost every department's mandate, from City managers and engineers, to planners and park staff. The City's real understanding of how important the arts and artists are to daily life is reflected in the scope of this activity.

In *Creative City* you will find an overview of the activities of the OCA and our civic partners. This report, published every three years, provides the big picture of strategic directions, policies, and programs that are the core of what we do. The programs themselves illustrate our commitment

to creativity, diversity, quality, and accessibility. They also reflect the OCA's mandate for cultural development. Fundamental to all this is our belief that art and culture make essential connections within our complex society.

Tucked inside the back cover is the *Annual Review*, a companion report providing timely news on recent initiatives, including a listing of the latest cultural investments by the City of Vancouver. Our office also publishes various program-specific brochures, a few of which may be enclosed.

I invite you to get to know the work of the OCA through these publications and by visiting our web site: www.city.vancouver.bc.ca/oca. And if you haven't already, I encourage you to discover how truly creative a city Vancouver is through firsthand experience of the artistic and cultural events that enliven and enlighten our city all year round.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Burke Taylor". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Burke Taylor
Director



Headlines Theatre's *Don't Say a Word*. Qing Jian Zeng in foreground with (from left to right) Iliana Bonilla, Derek Kwon, Shaun Omaid, Patricia Alducin, and John Walker. Photo: David Cooper.



Boca Del Lupa Theatre. Jay Dodge in *The Last Stand*. Photo: Mima Preston.

ARTS AND CULTURE IN VANCOUVER

Vancouver's broad range of cultural activities provides a vigorous expression of people and place. Throughout the city, performances and exhibitions celebrate the diversity of those who live within our constantly evolving urban environment and give our art its unique identity. Chinese martial arts inform modern dance and Japanese taiko drumming finds common ground with Spanish flamenco. As artists explore connections and make commitments to the multi-faceted communities where they live and work, their art resonates more deeply and strengthens the bonds between citizens.

Some Vancouver artists are able to bring attention and insight to important local and global issues. Through workshops and interactive performances conducted in secondary schools, Headlines Theatre has helped young people

consider the problem of bullying and explore possible solutions. Through a series of public events, Opera Speaks, Vancouver Opera has encouraged community dialogue about social issues. "Women and War" was the theme of a discussion arising out of their presentation of Verdi's *Aida*.

Art animates the city and brings citizens together in a shared experience. Public Dreams Society creates large-scale, outdoor celebrations, such as *Illuminares*, that attract Vancouverites from different neighbourhoods. SWARM, an evening of co-ordinated art gallery openings hosted by the city's artist-run centres, is an example of the outreach activities that encourage everyone—including young people, senior citizens, and those new to the arts—to attend a wide range of cultural events.



Ghazal-Persian and Indian Improvisations at the Vogue Theatre, produced by Caravan World Rhythms. Photo: Vincent Wong.

BUILDING AND REFLECTING A SENSE OF COMMUNITY

Undoubtedly, Vancouver's global reputation is greatly enhanced by its not-for-profit arts and cultural organizations. The Vancouver International Children's Festival has been copied around the world. The Holy Body Tattoo, a local modern dance company, tours internationally. The Vancouver Chamber Choir and Elektra Women's Choir are two widely acknowledged leaders in the field of choral music.

Our artists also serve us well when they create knowledge of and passion for the city's past. In False Creek, the *Coopers Mews* public art project provides tangible evidence of earlier times with an installation honouring the cooperage once found in the area. Residents and visitors alike enjoy the five wooden barrels that artist Alan Storey has transformed into an unusual musical instrument.

Sometimes, art and the city come together in surprising ways. Bard on the Beach manages to combine the world of theatre with the world of natural beauty Vancouver is known for, presenting Shakespeare in an open-ended tent that gives audiences a glimpse of our stunning North Shore mountains.

As much as the city shapes the arts and culture that are created within it, arts and culture contribute to the essence of the city. Quality of life is a key civic asset, with the "people climate" as crucial as the "business climate" in achieving an energetic, attractive, and exciting place to live, work, and visit. Art that builds relationships between people from different communities contributes to the health and vitality of all.

THE OFFICE OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS

The Office of Cultural Affairs (OCA) advises Vancouver City Council on issues, policies, and strategies related to arts and culture in the city. OCA develops and manages cultural support programs, participates in city planning and development processes, and undertakes special initiatives approved by Council. These activities are informed by research and analysis of trends in Vancouver's cultural sector and best practices in other cities.

On behalf of City Council, OCA co-ordinates civic grant programs that assist large and small not-for-profit cultural organizations with the costs of operations, projects, organizational development, and capital expenditures. Cultural Affairs staff also manage the City's Public Art Program, which includes community projects as well as large-scale public and private development initiatives. Working with other civic departments, OCA participates in the development and upgrading of City-owned and other cultural facilities through zoning incentives and capital funding.

The office promotes a healthy environment for the arts by co-ordinating efforts with neighbouring municipalities and senior levels of government, undertaking joint projects and funding partnerships. OCA staff also work closely with members of Vancouver's arts community and the public it serves, disseminating information and consulting on policy, programs, and new initiatives.

CIVIC CULTURAL PARTNERS

In working to provide a full range of cultural services and opportunities for artists, residents, and visitors to Vancouver, the Office of Cultural Affairs shares responsibilities with a number of civic partners: the Civic Theatres, Vancouver Park Board, Vancouver Public Library, and Engineering Services (which co-ordinates services to special events and film shoots, as well as the street banners program). City-owned facilities and public spaces support a wide range of arts and cultural activities, including festivals in the parks, workshops in community centres, and events in civic theatres.

Vancouver Civic Theatres

The City of Vancouver owns and operates three well-equipped performing arts facilities: the Queen Elizabeth Theatre (2,929 seats), the Vancouver Playhouse (673 seats), and the Orpheum concert hall (2,788 seats). For further information, contact Vancouver Civic Theatres at 604-665-3050 or visit their web site at www.city.vancouver.bc.ca/theatres.

Queen Elizabeth Theatre

Built by the City in 1959, the Queen Elizabeth Theatre (QET) is home to Vancouver Opera and Ballet British Columbia, and is the City's premier venue for Broadway shows, pop and rock concerts, opera, and dance, as well as live-broadcast gala award ceremonies.

Vancouver Playhouse

The Vancouver Playhouse, adjacent to the QET, is home to the Vancouver Playhouse Theatre Company, Friends of Chamber Music, and the Vancouver Recital Society. The facility often hosts concerts, dance performances, and other events by performing arts groups from diverse communities.



Vancouver Art Gallery. *Carr, O'Keeffe, Kahlo: Places of Their Own*, June 15 to September 15, 2002. Photo: Courtesy of VAG.

Orpheum

Originally opened as a vaudeville house on November 8, 1927, the Orpheum was, for many years, the largest and most opulent theatre on the Pacific coast. The City of Vancouver bought the theatre on March 19, 1974, and, with widespread community support, undertook a complete restoration of the theatre's interior. The Orpheum re-opened on April 2, 1977, as the permanent home of the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra and hosts a variety of pop, classical, choral, and chamber recitals.

Major Exhibiting Institutions

The City of Vancouver supports several major exhibiting institutions that are housed in City-owned or leased facilities and managed by independent not-for-profit societies. These

institutions have combined operating budgets in excess of \$20 million and receive more than one million visitors annually. Some of these organizations exhibit and hold in trust for the citizens of Vancouver the City's significant collections of art and artifacts.

Vancouver Art Gallery

Founded in 1931, Canada's fourth largest public art gallery maintains and exhibits the City of Vancouver's considerable fine art collection of over 7,600 works. Extensive public and education programming complement a year-round program of exhibitions. From leading-edge contemporary to traditional and historical, from local exhibitions to international touring shows, the VAG presents art from diverse artistic practices and cultural perspectives.



Top: H.R. MacMillan Space Centre/Vancouver Museum. Photo: Lam Wong.

Bottom: Science World. Photo: Courtesy of ASTC Science World.



Vancouver Museum

Canada's largest civic museum tells the story of Vancouver's past, present, and future. Founded in 1894, the museum serves as custodian of the City's extensive collections in natural history, archaeology, ethnology, and Asian arts. The museum is engaged in a major revitalization project and has recently opened the Joyce Walley Learning Centre and the 1950s Gallery. The museum also has an active temporary exhibitions program and public programs for adults and children of all ages.

Vancouver Maritime Museum

The principal maritime museum on the Pacific coast of Canada, the VMM has operated in its current location at Kits Point since 1958. In addition to its permanent exhibitions of maritime art and artifacts, the museum presents temporary exhibits and provides a variety of activities in the Children's Discovery Centre. The *St. Roch* National Historic Site is one of the museum's key attractions along with Heritage Harbour, which is home to several resident vessels and host to visiting ships of historical interest.

H.R. MacMillan Space Centre

The Space Centre presents exhibits and provides education and outreach programs in the areas of astronomy, space science, space technology, remote sensing, and earth management. The facility includes a planetarium, the Gordon Southam Observatory, the multimedia theatre GroundStation Canada, an interactive exhibition gallery, and Virtual Voyages, a motion simulator. The permanent exhibits and galleries are housed in a City-owned building shared with the Vancouver Museum.

Arts, Science and Technology Centre: Science World

ASTC Science World hosts exhibits, theatre presentations, and public programs that often combine science and the arts by using art and artists to present creative learning experiences. Exhibits and programming also focus upon interactive, hands-on family education. Science World's ReGeneration plan to renew the facility and exhibits continues with the opening of the new permanent exhibition galleries—Kidspace, Our World, and Eureka!—as well as the high-definition Weyerhaeuser Science Theatre.



Karen Jamieson Dance. Henry Daniel and Olivia Thorvaldson in *Percy* at the Dancing on the Edge Festival. Fabric design: Clayton Gladstone. Photo: Chris Randal.



Chio-Tian Puppet Dance Troupe at the Taiwanese Cultural Festival. Photo: Vicky Lin.

Board of Parks and Recreation

The Park Board supports cultural activities and provides a number of arts facilities, including the Roundhouse. The Roundhouse is the first Community Arts and Recreation Centre in Vancouver, providing purpose-built performance and exhibition spaces, specialized program staff, and a dedicated arts budget, as well as the social and recreational programs available in most community centres. The Roundhouse achieves its unique mission of finding creative ways to integrate the arts, community culture, and sports through collaborations and residencies with dance, theatre, and music companies, and with an extensive exhibition program. It is also an important venue for festivals and professional performing arts presentations that serve a city-wide audience.

The Park Board also provides a range of smaller arts facilities to the community, such as the Moberly and Jericho Arts Centres, Kitsilano Showboat, Malkin Bowl, and Haywood Bandstand. The extensive parks system offers spectacular settings for major arts festivals, many community celebrations, and both temporary and permanent public art installations.

The Artist in Residence Program is funded by the Park Board and community centre associations to support artists working in community contexts.

Short-term projects are designed to provide a lasting legacy—whether new understandings of creative processes or an artwork that remains in the community. In keeping with the Board's arts policy to further community cultural development, additional projects with community groups and agencies are initiated and supported annually. For more information on Park Board programs, contact staff at 604-257-8496, or visit the recreation division web site at www.city.vancouver.bc.ca/parks.

Vancouver Public Library

With its landmark Central Library and its 21 neighbourhood branches, the Vancouver Public Library is the second largest public library system in Canada. Close to 65% of city residents are cardholders and more than 9.1 million items are borrowed annually. The library is a well used cultural resource: the Literature Division has an outstanding Canadian collection in addition to world prose, poetry, and drama publications; the Fine Arts and Music Division has extensive materials to serve musicians, artists, dramatists, and other professionals as well as the public. The Central Library hosts free author readings, exhibits art in the Moat Gallery, attracts 30,000 visitors to the Word on the Street book fair, and brings the entire city together to read and discuss a single book in its "One Book, One Vancouver" initiative.



FACILITY DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING INITIATIVES

Appropriate cultural facilities are essential to any community and key to the economic health of any city. These facilities serve residents, attract tourists, maintain businesses, and enhance our quality of life. However, ensuring access to appropriate and affordable facilities is challenging, especially in Vancouver's rapidly developing real estate market.

To ensure that our artists and arts organizations can afford to remain part of our city, the Office of Cultural Affairs works to sustain and enhance Vancouver's cultural and social infrastructure through the following:

- The three civic theatres already mentioned in this report
- City-owned land and buildings (the Firehall Arts Centre, Heritage Hall, Vancouver East Cultural Centre, and Pacific Cinecentre, among others), which are leased at nominal rent
- Live/work studio spaces for individual artists, including the 30-unit CORE Artists Live/Work Co-op and the studios for the City's artist residency awards
- A capital grants program that allows not-for-profit social service and cultural organizations to purchase facilities or to renovate and refurbish facilities not owned by the City
- Facility development and project management

The Office of Cultural Affairs also participates in City planning processes to secure access to facilities through Community Use Agreements. These include agreements that provide access at minimal cost to indoor facilities such as UBC at Robson Square and to outdoor spaces such as the Plaza of Nations and the Wall Centre Plaza. In addition, the office finds creative ways to address cultural and social needs through innovative



Above: Vancouver New Music. Jin Hi Kim with komungo at the Vancouver New Music Festival in October 2002. Photo: Camilla Van Zuylen.

Left: Urban Ink Productions. Patricia Idlette in *Rare Earth Arias*. Photo: Tim Matheson.

zoning incentives for new developments. This includes a density bonus program that allows the City, in partnership with private developers, to create affordable cultural or social service facilities at no cost to taxpayers.

Major projects currently in development with support from the City include the Vancouver International Film Centre, the Vancouver Museum Revitalization Project, the Coal Harbour Arts Complex, the Vancouver East Cultural Centre Upgrade, and the Inter-urban Arts Project.

PUBLIC ART PROGRAMS

Since 1986, City Council has been providing citizens with an experience of art in public places. Today, a variety of policies and programs give contemporary visual artists a role in planning and development projects that are initiated or reviewed by the City. Artists are encouraged to create artworks in three general contexts that express the spirit, values, vision, and poetry of place that collectively define Vancouver:

- Civic parks, buildings, and engineering works
- Major new private-sector developments
- Residential and neighbourhood settings

Civic Public Art

The Civic Public Art Program typically pursues artist commissions that humanize the built environment, reinforce civic values, acknowledge community histories, and animate public space. Artists undertake projects for civic buildings, parks, public open spaces, or infrastructure elements (streets, bridges, retaining walls). For example, artworks incorporated into the new City works yard on National Avenue in Strathcona offer insights into the day-to-day workings of civic infrastructure and the workers who maintain it.

Private Development Public Art

The Private Development Public Art Program seeks artist commissions that add distinction, identity, artistic profile, and a marketing edge to new developments. Major new private developments pursuing rezoning are required to allocate funds to public art in publicly accessible areas. In recent years, major commissions have transformed public areas of Coal Harbour and the north shore of False Creek. Two recent additions are Clay Ellis's sculptures on West

Pender Street, *Curtained Skies*, and noted American artist Diana Thater's new light work on the Shaw Tower in Coal Harbour.

Community Public Art

The Community Public Art Program fosters collaborations between artists and communities on projects that build community pride, cohesion, and identity. Community members contribute their ideas, their issues, and their favourite sites; artists contribute their design skills, their art-making experience, and their intuitive connection to place. Notable examples include *Community Voices/Community Walls*, a large, multi-layered mosaic work mounted on the retaining wall at the east end of Clark Park, and *Renfrew Ravine Sanctuary*, a welcoming pathway, garden, and stone labyrinth enhancing the entrance to the ravine.

Public Art

The Public Art Program is managed by the Office of Cultural Affairs in partnership with other City departments. A Council-appointed volunteer Public Art Committee, consisting of artists, curators, urban designers, and community representatives, gives policy direction as well as practical advice on program implementation to City Council, staff, artists, and citizens. Juries of artists and community representatives select artists for specific projects. More information about this and other programs, as well as artist opportunities, project updates, walking tours, and a registry of new and historic works, can be found at www.city.vancouver.bc.ca/publicart.

Right: Vancouver Recital Society: The Musical Instrument Petting Zoo at the Vancouver Chamber Music Festival. Photo: Chick Rice.



AWARDS

City of Vancouver Artist Studio Awards

Two unique civic awards are designed to recognize professional artists for their work, while providing them with appropriate and affordable spaces for its creation. Established in 1996, the City of Vancouver Artist Residency Studio Award provides rent-free occupancy of a City-owned artist live/work studio for a period of three years. The City of Vancouver Artist Live/Work Rental Studio Award, set up several years later, provides a low-income professional artist with low-cost live/work studio accommodation for a three-year term.

Artist Residency Studio Award

1996–1999 Teresa Marshall
1999–2002 Steven Shearer
2002–2005 Myfanwy MacLeod

Artist Live/Work Rental Studio Award

1999–2002 Alison McTaggart
2002–2005 Alex Morrison

City of Vancouver Book Award

In recognition of Vancouver's vibrant publishing scene and abundance of writing talent, the City presents an annual cash award to the author of an outstanding book that contributes to an appreciation and understanding of Vancouver, its history, and the achievements of its residents. City Council established the award in co-operation with members of Vancouver's book community in 1989. Works of fiction and non-fiction published anywhere in the world are eligible, and annually appointed juries select the winners. Award recipients have addressed many aspects of Vancouver, including its trees, landmarks, and personalities, and the stories of its diverse communities.

Right: *Community Walls/Community Voices* by Richard Tetrault, with Dan Bushnell and Jerry Whitehead. Photo: Barbara Cole.



I took the Interurban to a



Electric Company's *The One That Got Away*. Performers: Kendra Fanconi, Jonathon Young, Marvin Kaye, Courtenay Dobie, Tracey Smith, Alan Zinyk, Judi Closkey, and Jan Kudelka. Photo: Tim Matheson.

CULTURAL GRANTS PROGRAMS

Since the City of Vancouver's first grant for a summer concert series in 1893, it has recognized that a thriving not-for-profit cultural sector—including theatres, concert halls, alternate cinemas, museums, and galleries—is a cornerstone of a vital, sustainable, and creative city. A healthy not-for-profit sector also plays a key role in the overall cultural ecosystem, nurturing the talents of individual artists and supporting the artistic innovation that benefits commercial cultural enterprises and industries such as sound recording, filmmaking, publishing, and new media.

The City's grant programs contribute over \$6.8 million annually to local arts and cultural organizations. Taken together, these programs help ensure that people of all ages, backgrounds,

and walks of life can enjoy a broad spectrum of activities in the performing, exhibiting, media, and literary arts.

Operating Assistance

Three civic grant programs help sustain and develop the established organizations that provide the infrastructure and stability needed for a healthy arts community. Annual Operating Grants are available to large and small organizations that create, produce, or display artists' work, or provide services to those organizations. Assistance to the major exhibiting institutions described earlier in this report takes the form of grants for operating expenses and the provision of City-owned or leased land and buildings at a nominal rent. Theatre Rental



Full Circle: First Nations Performance Society. Beverly Hungry Wolf at the Talking Stick Festival. Photo: Claudia Katz.

Grants contribute ongoing support to performing arts groups that regularly use the civic theatres, among them Ballet British Columbia, the Vancouver Youth Symphony Orchestra, and the Vancouver Playhouse Theatre Company.

Project Assistance

Project Grants are the City's main form of assistance for new and developing groups, as well as for those that work on a project-by-project basis. Civic funding in this category is primarily for artistic initiatives that break new ground. This includes experimenting with new art forms and creative processes, introducing work from various cultures, and reaching out to diverse audiences in our pluralistic city.

Diversity Initiatives

This ground-breaking program was established in 1998 in response to community consultations that indicated a need for more resources to build artistic capacity in Vancouver's distinct communities, especially those defined by race, ethnicity, and disability. Focusing on the performing and visual arts, Diversity Initiatives Grants support mentorships and internships that foster artistic leadership, developmental projects by arts groups from distinct communities, and cross-cultural artistic projects and residencies.

Organizational Development

Organizational change and renewal have become increasingly important for the not-for-profit cultural sector as it responds to many challenges, including demographic shifts, rising costs, and the difficulty of finding and keeping skilled administrators. To help arts and cultural organizations assess organizational needs and develop strategies for addressing them, the City partners with other funding agencies in the Arts Partners in Organizational Development (Arts POD) grant program. Grants are also available directly from the City for upgrading management skills and for the start-up costs of innovative and collaborative audience development projects.

Transit Shelter Advertising

In keeping with its mandate to support broad community access to the arts in Vancouver, the City helps arts and cultural organizations through the Transit Shelter Advertising Program, which offers 10% of all bus shelter advertising panels to local not-for-profit arts organizations at no cost.

COLLABORATIONS

Art and Engineering

Thanks to civic government's involvement in everything from parks to bridges, the Office of Cultural Affairs can participate in partnerships that bring the arts into some unlikely places. A new 10-acre City works yard in Strathcona has become the site of the Public Art Program's most extensive collaboration with another City department, Engineering Services. Project architect Scott Kemp wanted to involve artists in the development of the handsome new facility, and Engineering Services staff were eager to participate. The partners agreed that the artworks should promote pride and ownership in the new facility, enhance the work environment, draw on the creativity of staff, and reveal the workings of the City to the public.

Five artists were invited to develop proposals for the site, which houses the equipment and crews responsible for civic roadworks, lighting, signage, and parking. For the first project, a photographer encouraged works yard staffers to capture simple, everyday scenes and objects in an artistic light. The results were overwhelming: more than 600 new and historic images of City crews, sites, and services—images that will eventually move from their temporary home on fencing at the old works yard to become a feature at the new yard.

Other projects at the new works yard will see City crews and artists collaborating to define the boundaries of the new facility. Richard Prince's work based on an ancient road roller will mark one corner, and Greg Snider's "slice" of underground workings—sewer and water lines, a fire hydrant, an electrical conduit—will mark another.

Canadian Municipalities Connect

Some of the most useful collaborations for the Office of Cultural Affairs have been with public-sector and private-sector agencies that share the office's arts and culture mandate. These kinds of collaborations have resulted in various initiatives, including joint funding programs such as the Arts Partners in Organizational Development program. Most recently, the City has taken a leading role in the development of the Creative City Network of Canada/Réseau des villes créatives du Canada. This dynamic new partnership connects municipal employees working on arts, cultural, and heritage policy, planning, and development across the country, enabling them to work more effectively in their communities.

Launched at a national conference in Vancouver in 2002, the network builds on the success of the Culture-L listserv, which the Office of Cultural Affairs managed from its inception in 1998. The new Creative City Network allows municipal cultural staff across Canada to work together on issues of common concern and to share advice and knowledge. While meetings and professional development sessions allow members to explore comparative practices in face-to-face settings, the on-line "digital hub" supports various activities, including the work of intermunicipal project teams. The digital hub also facilitates information sharing by providing:

- A growing resource centre of municipal cultural plans, policies, program guidelines, reports, studies, and comparative data and statistics
- A searchable expertise database that can be used as a first point of access to individuals who can help with an issue or situation
- Active and flexible communication channels designed to address both the ongoing and variable needs of municipal cultural staff

For more information about this growing intermunicipal partnership, visit the Creative City Network web site, www.creativecity.ca.



Above: *Untitled* by Al McWilliams.
Photo: Al McWilliams.

Following pages: Stan Douglas, *Every Building on 100 West Hastings* (2001). C-print, 486.5 x 119.5 cm. Collection of the Vancouver Art Gallery (VAG Acquisition Fund with the financial assistance of the Louis Comtois Trust). Photo courtesy of Stan Douglas and David Zwirner, NYC. Stan Douglas's exhibition "Journey into Fear" was held between September 12 and November 3, 2002, at the Contemporary Art Gallery.

Back cover: Rumble Productions in association with Urban Ink Productions, Erin Wells (left) and Hiro Kanagawa (right) in *Burning Vision*. Photo: Tim Matheson.

Translations

This report describes the activities of the Office of Cultural Affairs in the City of Vancouver

Ce dépliant décrit les activités de l'Office des Affaires Culturelles de la Ville de Vancouver

Este folleto describe las actividades de la Oficina de Asuntos Culturales de la Municipalidad de Vancouver

Tài liệu này liệt kê những chương trình do Phòng Văn Hóa Thành Phố Vancouver thực hiện

ਇਹ ਖਿਤਬਾ ਵੇਨਕੂਵਰ ਸ਼ਹਿਰ ਦੇ ਸੱਭਿਆਚਾਰਕ ਕਾਰਵਿਹਾਰ ਏਵਰਰ ਦੀ ਸਰਕਾਰੀ ਵਾਰੇ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਦਿੰਦਾ ਹੈ.

本單張介紹溫哥華市政府屬下文化事務部的活動與工作。

Thank you to all the organizations that provided photographs to help illustrate this report.





How to Reach Us

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