



## Artist in Communities Project - 2022

Marpole-Oakridge Community Centre Association (MOCA)  
990 West 59<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Vancouver, BC

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**MOCA:** The Marpole-Oakridge Community Centre is located on the unceded traditional territories of the xʷməθkʷəyəm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səliwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations. We are grateful to live, work, and play on these unceded lands and are committed to continued relationship development and respectful partnership.

Jointly operated by the Marpole-Oakridge Community Association (MOCA) and the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation, Marpole-Oakridge Community Centre is one of Vancouver's oldest community centres. MOCA works with other community organizations to balance opportunities and resources in order to encourage individuals and groups to participate in recreational activities that satisfy and improve the quality of everyday life.

**MOCA Vision & Mission:** Our mission is to offer accessible and diverse leisure opportunities to enhance the well-being of individuals, and strengthen a sense of community in a safe and welcoming environment.

### **MOCA Goals:**

- Assist, develop and foster community spirit throughout the community;
- Promote the educational, social, cultural and athletic endeavours of the community;
- Assist any organization, group, company or individual whose sole aim is to promote the educational, social, cultural or athletic well-being of the people of the community;
- Accept donations, or do such things as may be necessary to raise funds, to carry out the objectives; and
- Carry on the operations of the Association principally in the Marpole Oakridge community.

For further information, refer to our website: [www.marpoleoakridge.org](http://www.marpoleoakridge.org)

**Neighbourhood description:**

The current Marpole-Oakridge Community Centre opened in 1949; it is a vital part of the Marpole neighbourhood along with other service-orientated organization such as the Vancouver Public Library, Marpole Family Place and the Marpole Neighborhood House. For over seventy years, the Community Centre has supported and strengthened the community by offering recreation through physical fitness, arts and social activities. The current building, located in Oak Park at 59th and Oak, is at the end of its building life. A Needs Assessment was conducted in 2018, Vancouver Parks Board commissioners approved the project to build a new Community Centre in 2019 and Diamond Schmitt design firm was contracted in 2020. The new Centre will include space for recreation, athletics, multipurpose spaces supporting arts, culture, youth, seniors. A performance stage, large dining space and commercial kitchen is estimated to be completed in 2026.

**Goals for the Artist in Communities Project:**

This community, along with the world, have been through a Global Pandemic since March 2020, struggling with social isolation, mental health, job loss etc. Now is the time for communities to safely come back together and heal.

Working closely with Park Board Programming staff and the MOCA Board of Directors, the artist(s) will work towards the following goals:

- Attract new people to come to the Community Centre to participate in this project.
- Provide a creative art project for all ages, demographics, and abilities.
- Engage and enlighten current participants in our centre who wouldn't normally consider themselves artists.
- Consideration of the historical and artistic area we are located in.
- Physical Legacy - have (permanent/semi-permanent) artwork to display in the community centre.
- Social legacy - an art project that allows people to learn new skills, build relationships and community, and cultivate an interest in the arts.
- Foster individuals' sense of creativity, expression, and celebration through a collaborative art project.