

**ORGANIZATION OF SASKATCHEWAN ARTS COUNCILS
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2024
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2024
Michealangelo B & C, Delta Hotel by Marriott, Saskatoon**

ATTENDANCE:

Board of Directors

Marc Holt (Chair, Biggar & District Arts Council), Treena Redman (Past Chair, Leader & District Arts Council), Fran Karakochuk (Quill Plains Regional Arts Council), Robyn Lang (Melville Arts Council), Tasha Hill (Weyburn Arts Council), Kali Weber (Dekker Centre, North Battleford), Gladys McCarthy (Kindersley & District Arts Council), Jacqueline Ferraton (Quill Plains Regional Arts Council), Caron Dubnick (La Ronge Arts Council)

Members:

Assiniboia & District Arts Council: Alison Lewis, Darlene Kowalchuk, Marni Chadwick, Sheri Herbert

Biggar & District Arts Council: Annette Fecht, Katelyn Fecht, Kristy Smith, Amelia Smith, Stephen Hadden, Oleg Ilyasov, Dausha Ilyasov

Canora Arts Council: Steve Merriam, Denise Leslie, Anita Milavanov

E.A. Rawlinson Centre, Prince Albert: Dannyll Challis

Eastend Arts Council: Katherine Ruschiensky, Anne Howell

Estevan Arts Council: Wilma Mantei, Nancy Samoluk

Hudson Bay Allied Arts Council: John Daisley, Rosalie Daisley, Trina Stull, Sarah Johnson, Madison McLeod, Erin Mendel, Tracey Knihnitski, Nancy Steinbachs, Michelle Sprackman

Indian Head Theatre and Community Arts Inc: Jenn Litzenberger, Lisa Horsman, Jennifer Huntington, Sheryl Brown

Kindersley & District Arts Council: Keith Jamieson, Devan Coles, Sam Motier, Mike Reece, Adina Coles

Kipling & District Arts Council: Matty O'Connell, Valerie Bell, Kelly Lohner

Langenburg Arts Council: Jay Layh, Adam Zwick, Lara Carlson, Veronica Haavelange

La Ronge Arts Council: Connie Haugen, Lori Ulriksen, Kristjanna Bergsveinson, Joree Delaney, Deanna Belhumeur

Leader & District Arts Council: Angela Materi, Katherine Salberg

Lloydminster Allied Arts Council: Brian Stevenson, Sydney Stevenson, Taylor Stevenson, Gwen Mottram, Don Newlin, Jim McArdle

Luseland Arts Council: Debra Scholer, Mary Kloster, Dina Reiber, Caitlin Jahner

Macklin Arts Council: Donna Burningham, Kevin Burningham, Trudy Loerzel, Terry Loerzel

Melfort Arts Council: Joanne Bolen, Anna Bolen, Syndel Thomas Kozar, Karen Eckhart

Melville Arts Council: Jeannette Clouthier, Jean Dales

Moosomin & District Arts Council: Jennifer Gray, Murray Gray, Terry Grant, Jen Grant, Kate Chegwin, Roxanne MacPherson

Nipawin Performing Arts Group: Joan Baxter, Celia Schreiner

Outlook & District Arts Council: Suzanne Hebert

Quill Plains Regional Arts Council: Val Franks-Sather, Don Tait, Eugene McKenzie, Marilyn Fredsberg, Alice McCaw

Shellbrook & District Arts Council: Janelle Gosselin, Angela Storry, Mary Anne Kennedy, Tracy Azevedo, Lorraine Adamson

Station Arts Centre Cooperative, Rosthern: Rebecca Kennel, Brenda Kramarchuk, Todd Hanson,

Jacquie Thiessen, Sarah Warkentin, Nicole Thiessen, Lyle Shwetz, Alex Tiessen, Paulo Flieg

Swift Current Arts Council: Helen Arnold, Corinne Hanson, Glenna Switzer, Ries Strik, Gail Wesolowski, Deb Fletcher

Tisdale Arts Council: Carol Hayward, Diana Martinson, Donna Hainstock, Kathy Kehrig, Donald Kehrig

Warman Arts Centre: Ray Keighley

Watrous Area Arts Council: Kelly Stein, Lety Schalm, Linda Kessler, Lynn Merrifield, Maria Vanderbie

Weyburn Arts Council: Regan Lanning, Stephanie Lang

Weyburn Concert Series: Bonnie Adacsi-Cooke, Linda Aitken, Stephanie Lang, Bonnie Lillijord, Judy Van Betuw

Yorkton Arts Council: Karen Muir, Abanti Banerjee, Taynika Walker

Staff: Kevin Korchinski (Executive Director), Catherine Tomczak (Operations & Events Manager), Marianne Woods (Performing Arts-School Tours & Membership Liaison Manager - Recorder), Zoë Schneider (Visual Arts Manager) and Skip Taylor (Performing Arts Manager - Stars for Saskatchewan/Konzerts for Kids), Jaecy Bells, Administrative and Programs Assistant.

Other Organizations: **SaskCulture:** Alex Rogalski, **Arts Touring Alliance of Alberta (ATAA):** Kennedy Jenson, Kelsey Waddle, Don Waddle, **Molly's Comedy Cabaret:** Robert Wilson, Molly Wilson, Debbie Wilson, **Travis Dolter Music:** Shelley Dolter, **Prairie Debut:** Po Yeh, **Ollee Owens:** Julie Cahoon

CALL TO ORDER

The Annual General Meeting was called to order by Chair Marc Holt at 8:23 am with 30 full members (arts councils) and one affiliate member (Weyburn Concert Series) in attendance. Chair Marc Holt asked members to sign the sign-up sheets on each table, so we have a complete list of those attending.

1. Approval of Agenda

**01-24/10M HUDSON BAY ALLIED ARTS COUNCIL/
SWIFT CURRENT ARTS COUNCIL
THAT THE AGENDA BE APPROVED AS WRITTEN.**

CARRIED.

2. Approval of the Minutes – October 14, 2023 Annual General Meeting

**02-24/10M CANORA ARTS COUNCIL/BIGGAR & DISTRICT ARTS COUNCIL
THAT THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 14, 2023 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING BE
APPROVED.**

CARRIED.

3. Business Arising

None

4. Program Reports

Performing Arts (Stars for Saskatchewan/Konzerts for Kids) – Skip Taylor

Skip greeted everyone and indicated that his report can be found on page 10 of the Annual Report. You can read up on the Performing Arts programs there in greater detail, but here are the highlights. I'm pleased to report that the 2023/2024 season marked a return to a slightly more stable financial position for many of our arts councils. Financial support for the sector remains crucial. While we've made significant strides these are still uncertain times.

In the 2023/2024 season, OSAC Arts Councils presented 170 performances by 39 artists across 35 Saskatchewan communities, reaching a total audience of 27,151 patrons. This was a remarkable increase from the previous season. Notably, we set a record during my tenure, with a total expenditure of \$605,220 in artist fees. This success was underscored by standout performances from artists such as Jake Vaadeland and the Sturgeon River Boys, who performed 22 shows across Saskatchewan, and Kinjo & Young, who completed 19 shows with exceptional feedback.

Our annual showcase event was also a success, resulting in 132 booked performances by 14 showcasing artists. This included additional performances by artists such as Diyet & the Love Soldiers, Piano Heist, Andrea Superstein, Andrew Allen, and the Andrew Collins Trio. Prairie Debut continued its tradition of excellence, with the Brass Quintet Buzz Brass delivering 16 performances, bringing world-class brass music to a wide audience.

This season, we continued to utilize the Iwanttoshowcase.ca platform to accept artist applications. Applications were up slightly this year, with 123 applicants, and our new artist directory for members was also launched, using data collected from showcase applications.

OSAC was fortunate to access \$55,000 as part of the Canadian Arts Presentation Fund (CAPF), administered by the Department of Canadian Heritage. This funding continues to support our programming and annual showcase conference. Additionally, in response to sector advocacy, the federal government has indicated supplemental funding for 2024/2025 in the amount of \$7500. Moving forward into the 2024/2025 season, we have 170 bookings with a diverse lineup of artists. Highlights include a 7-show tour for Susan Aglukark, celebrating the 30th anniversary of her landmark recording, "This Child." Additionally, the theatre piece "Every Brilliant Thing" will be performing in 19 communities, including school shows.

As we continue to navigate these times, OSAC remains committed to providing support for our members. Through initiatives like Entandem Central Reporting and our ongoing contributions to the ArtsData Project, we aim to enhance the visibility and accessibility of arts events across the country. Our SPARK program is finally being fully accessed with many councils bringing youth members to showcase and including them in their planning for current and upcoming seasons.

These achievements demonstrate our resilience and dedication to the arts. However, challenges remain, including concerning declines in season ticket sales and the uncertain economic environment including flat or decreasing funding from our main funders for the next few years while facing steep inflationary pressures. We will continue to monitor market conditions and engage in conversations about the future of performing arts with our funders, our members and our colleagues across the country. Skip asked if there were any questions.

Performing Arts (School Tours) & Membership Liaison Manager– Marianne Woods

Marianne welcomed everyone and indicated that her report can be found on page 20 of the Annual Report. Please take a moment to read the testimonials and feedback provided on the program as well as the impact page for not only the school touring program but for Showcase and our Visual and Performing Arts Programs. For those of you attending Showcase for the first time – a warm welcome.

The OSAC School Touring program engages professional performing artists, representing a variety of disciplines, to perform for schools throughout the province. Member arts councils and schools from rural, urban, reserve schools and school divisions are all eligible to book. Block booking helps to lower the performance fee as travel expenses are amortized over two or more weeks. At present, school members pay an annual membership fee of \$30 when they book, and a \$10 booking fee is added to the price of each performance. OSAC becomes the liaison between the school and the performer. Between 4 and 5 tours are presented in the fall and spring of each fiscal year.

In July, the OSAC School Jury, comprised of teachers, arts educators and youth jury members, met to review performer applications and support material for the 2025/26 touring season. Artists were selected based on their quality of performance, ability to connect with young audiences, educational content, curriculum connections, diversity and inclusion. I would like to acknowledge Marni Chadwick, Assiniboia and District Arts Council, Jodie Hendry, Ecole Palliser Elementary, Moose Jaw and Sarah Baumgartner, Indian Head Elementary as well as our youth jurors Georgia and Savvy for their expertise and assistance in choosing 5 outstanding tours for the 2025/26 school touring season. OSAC contracts the performer, develop and distribute brochure and booking information sent to schools, school divisions and arts council members across the province. One contact person means significant savings in expense and time. OSAC provides the artists and school membership with the following services: tour routing, media release to provincial and local media and MLA's, distribution of schedule, study guide, technical requirements, performance evaluation and payment information.

In 2023/24, the School Touring Program offered in-person presentations involving the following disciplines: Music with a Science Component, Cultural Diversity and Awareness, Hoop Dance and Storytelling. The total audience numbers were approximately 25,568 students and teachers. There were four tours, involving 74 schools and travelling to 52 communities throughout the province. Lead teachers in each school contributed approximately 107 non-classroom hours to coordinate these presentations. It was a joy to present the artists who toured this past year and celebrate their diversity and talents. It was a full circle moment for me to again tour Jamie Oliviero, who I have worked with several times over the years. Jamie toured in the 2004/05 touring season, which was my first year managing the program, 20 years ago.

Out of the 52 communities where performances were presented during 2023/24, 21 were in member communities, which is the same number as 2022/23. I would like to express my thanks to those OSAC members who have supported schools in your community. Your financial support has made it possible for these students to experience storytelling, dance and performances that they would not otherwise be exposed to. Please come and visit the OSAC table in the Exhibitor Exchange and peruse the booking information for our Spring 2025 tours – Candy Bones Theatre's "Oopsie" featuring Candice Roberts from BC and the always popular Speed Control from the Yukon. Both artists are touring with us next May and June.

Information on 2025/26 Tours is listed in the Showcase Program Guide and these artists will be discussed at the Performing Arts Booking Meeting tomorrow. Special thanks to Zoë who assisted me at the Jury meeting. As Membership Liaison, my responsibilities include management and delivery of administrative services by

working with OSAC's membership. Good communication has continued by phone and e-mail with the OSAC membership. In Fall 2023, I visited schools in Moose Jaw to see Andy the Musical Scientist and Wilbur Sargunaraj, and in Spring 2024 visited Milestone School, Ecole Centennial in Regina and Riverview Collegiate in Moose Jaw to see Jamie Oliviero's and Dallas Arcand's performances. I attended school conferences in Regina and Swift Current in Fall 2023, promoting OSAC and its programs. Thank you to the membership, and the artists I have had the pleasure of working with this past year, and as always, the OSAC Board and her staff mates – Kevin, Zoë, Rosemary, Catherine, Skip and Jaecy. To quote Eleanor Roosevelt: "The purpose of life is to live it, to taste experience to the utmost, to reach out eagerly and without fear for newer and richer experiences." Thank you for giving me experiences that she will always cherish! Enjoy Showcase!

Visual Arts – Zoë Schneider

Zoë welcomed everyone and introduced herself. She serves as the Visual Arts Manager at OSAC. Today, it is her privilege to present the Visual Arts Program's Annual Report for the 2023/2024 fiscal year, which can be found on page 14 of the annual report. This past year has been one of growth, creativity, and community engagement, and I'm excited to share our achievements with you. Over the past year, we curated and toured 15 visual and media arts exhibitions, which visited 57 venues throughout the province. These exhibitions were viewed by over 42,000 people, with approximately 590 guided tours. Out of the total number of viewers, around 1,710 individuals engaged directly with our programming through artist talks, workshops, gallery receptions, and other events.

Impact Statement from Annual Report: Page 38 - From an Inspire-Led Workshop and Adjudication with Leah Dorion in Melfort. The Melfort Arts Council utilized Inspire funding to host this event. Quote "Leah's approach was positive and encouraging during both the adjudication and workshop. The atmosphere was relaxed and inspirational. Everyone participated and supported each other. Participating artists commented that they appreciated Leah's insight and feedback about their work. Many mentioned that they felt inspired and encouraged to keep producing art. Learning from a professional artist and networking with other creative people contributed to their own growth and artistic development." Brenda Mellon, Melfort Arts Council

Last year we launched 4 new touring exhibitions.

1.Omentum by John Brady McDonald is a powerful exhibition that featured ten paintings that delve into significant experiences faced by Indigenous peoples in Canada. Influenced by Norval Morrisseau and Pablo Picasso, McDonald's work addresses topics such as Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Cultural Appropriation, the legacy of Residential Schools, and the Rise of Two-Spirited people within the LGBTQ+ community. Each painting in this series was uniquely named by prominent Indigenous or Métis artists, activists, or leaders, adding another layer of meaning to these works.

2.A Selection of Specimens by Kristin Teetaert is a whimsical and bright exhibition which combined Teetaert's interests in biology, virology, and botany with her artistic imagination. Through drawings, felt sculptures, and painted tiles, she created a show that was as fun as it was thought-provoking. The exhibition's playful yet slightly unsettling aesthetic was a delight to our audiences, particularly younger viewers and those with an interest in science and art.

3.Labours of Love Under Lamplight, Curated by Holly Aubichon, this exhibition showcased recent acquisitions to the SK Arts Permanent Collection, featuring works by ten Indigenous artists from

Saskatchewan. This exhibition is a celebration of the diverse practices in Indigenous art, ranging from contemporary aesthetics to those rooted in familial traditions. The inclusion of these new artists in the SK Arts Permanent Collection was a significant milestone, and we were thrilled to highlight these important works.

4. Atim Maskikhiy ('Dog Medicine') is a unique collaboration between OSAC and the Western College of Veterinary Medicine, featuring works by seventeen artists from the La Ronge tri-community area. The exhibition explores the dog-human relationship through the lens of a community-driven research project. By marrying art and science, this exhibition is reaching a broader audience than typical peer-reviewed research. It calls for systemic changes in the way we approach animal health and welfare in northern, remote, and Indigenous communities.

Program Grants are awarded to arts councils for member, youth, artist, and audience development. Priority is given to exhibition programming, Indigenous-led/ Partnered Programming, and Inspire-led applications, allowing for \$1750 as a total amount. All other types of programming are for a maximum of \$1000. This year \$15,553.10 was paid out to twelve Arts Councils to present programming including an artist retreat, workshops, artist talks, Inspire-led workshops, and local adjudications.

In a special partnership with the Wanuskewin Institute, Western College of Veterinary Medicine, Saskatchewan Centre for Patient-Oriented Research (SCPOR), Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation, Northern Animal Rescue, Lac La Ronge Indian Band, Town of La Ronge, and the Village of Air Ronge, OSAC was thrilled to co-present the tour launch, opening reception, and artist talks for Atim Maskikhiy at Wanuskewin in January of 2024. This event highlighted many of the artists featured in the exhibition who travelled from the La Ronge tri-communities to participate in a presentation about the project and speak to their work. Attendees were treated to performances by Hoop Dancer Lawrence Roy, and Fancy Shawl Dancer Chanelle Gamble. 160 members of the public attended the opening along with artists in the exhibition, elders, community partners, and funders.

In closing, Zoë expressed her gratitude to all our Arts Council partners, artists, and community members who made this year's achievements possible. The work we do at OSAC is a testament to the power of art to inspire, challenge, and bringing communities together. As we look ahead to the next year, we remain committed to our mission of fostering a vibrant and inclusive arts community across Saskatchewan. Thank you.

Operations & Events Manager – Catherine Tomczak

Catherine welcomed everyone and thanked all for being part of Showcase 2024! She gave a little recap of Showcase 2023 and a few other areas that she takes care of for the organization. For those of you that were in Regina last year, thank you, we hosted Showcase at the Ramada Plaza and we were so pleased to have Darke Hall as our new venue. It is a beautiful facility and grateful to work with Dawn and her crew. Attendance last year was 165 full delegates with numbers still lower than before COVID, but so happy to see this year we are getting closer to our regular numbers of just slightly over 200 delegates. Last year we offered a workshop on "Bridging the Generational Divide" facilitated by Shari Hildred. We will be working with Shari again in 2025 as she will assist the Board and Staff on the OSAC Strategic Plan. We also offered the showcase favorite "Table Talk" which hosted a variety of topics and allowed folks to visit tables of their choice for 20-minute sessions. Kind of like speed dating! The fun part of Showcase is that the year after it is over, we start seeing all the performers and visual art exhibits that were selected from the previous year.

There were so many amazing acts that performed and exhibits that now will be touring throughout our province.

OSAC Volunteer Recognition Awards were presented to two volunteers from the Leader & District Arts Council and one from the Biggar & District Arts Council, along with two new Life Members – Derek Gould, GV Audio and Lori Glauser, Yorkton Arts Council. OSAC is incredibly grateful for the generous financial and gift-in-kind support from many diverse organizations who partnered with OSAC as Sponsors and Partners.

Accounting and Financials

Some may say the fun part of my job is coordinating Showcase, but the accountants in the crowd may say accounting is the fun part....so here we go. The fiscal year for OSAC was August 1, 2023 – July 31, 2024, and was audited in September 2023 by the accounting firm of MNP. The audit committee met to review and confirm the audited statements with their team. She is happy to say it was a clean audit – the completed financial statements can be found at the back of the annual report. Fran from the OSAC Audit Committee will speak more about the audit shortly. OSAC continues to receive funding support from Canadian Heritage (\$55,000) and from the Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund (\$724,000). We are grateful for the support to continue the many programs that we offer to our membership across the province. The financial processes in place such as EFT, direct deposit and Etransfers have certainly streamlined the accounting procedures. Thank you to the arts councils that have taken advantage of these processes which has helped to make things much more efficient.

Please remember to bookmark the OSAC Website for all the information you require to make your arts council a success and continue to follow both of OSAC's main two platforms – Facebook & Instagram. And don't forget to use #OSAC24 this weekend. Well, that's my quick rundown. You can read more on pages 6-9 of the annual report or let's chat later as I'm here all weekend and I do like cocktails!

5. Executive Director's Report: Kevin Korchinski

Kevin indicated that his report can be found on page 4 of the Annual Report. It is nice to see everyone. Looking back on my notes from this AGM talk last year, I talked about the funding, both through our Annual Global Funding via the Lottery Trust and via CAPF and Canadian Heritage, as funding applications for both were due in the 2023/2024 Fiscal Year for future years. While we were successful in the applications, that was tempered by another 4 years of flatline funding from the Lottery Trust, which is administered by SaskCulture. That will mean OSAC is facing 7 years without an increase in our core operational funding, while facing ever increasing costs.

As a recipient of the original Canadian Heritage program over 20 years ago OSAC is thrilled to still receive CAPF funding annually in support of Showcase and the Performing Arts program. We will also see a 20% reduction in our 2025/2026 and 2026/2027 CAPF funding, however the possibility of a supplemental top up remains a possibility. While forecasting a deficit for the 2024/2025 Fiscal year, the staff are constantly looking for efficiencies and alternate revenue sources.

Alex Rogalski from SaskCulture is here this weekend – and is not hearing anything I have not told him before, and I thank him for listening! Fortunately, lottery sales remained quite strong through the past year and with a number of large jackpots recently I anticipate that they will remain so. It remains vital that you

remain vigilant in promoting lottery sales whenever possible and do not forget that there is a newish Sask Lotteries logo that needs to be used when you print new materials or on your website. You can download that and all the required logos from the OSAC website. The unique funding model that Sport Culture and Recreation has in SK is the envy of many. A portion of every lottery ticket sold goes into the lottery trust that is then distributed to the three groups. This is some of the most stable Arts funding in all of Canada and is vital to OSAC's - as well as your success. So please mention the importance of those lottery sales in front of every audience and town council you speak to. This great staff I am lucky enough to be a part of have outlined many of these efforts in an effort to keep your organization and OSAC healthy and involved in the local, provincial and national arts scene.

As I said at this point in the last couple of years, I remain very concerned about the overall infrastructure – both building and human – of the sector overall but particularly on the Performing Arts side. Venues, Artists, Agents, Managers, Tech Crews and support services like Ticketing and printing among others have been among those most severely impacted. In recent months a number of smaller agencies have either closed or joined forces, in an effort to survive. These businesses, and the people who work at them are vital for OSAC, and the sector. One of the other recurring themes you have heard us talk about is the importance of the inclusion of Culturally diverse and Indigenous artists in your seasons and their inclusion in your audiences as well. This remains a key area for OSAC and we have offered a number of workshops over the years and have been very conscious of artist diversity in all of our programs. The Inclusion, Diversity, Equality and Accessibility (IDEA) Committee met virtually and in person this year. Tasha Hill, Chair of the IDEA Committee, will talk more about this later in the meeting. As you can see by the artists and exhibitions this year, diversity among the artists in all three programs remains a high priority for the organization and will continue to be. This may be the most culturally diverse group of Showcase artists to appear at OSAC.

Every year I talk about how honoured I am to work with this terrific staff and this year is no different. The passion, integrity and stream of great ideas they bring to work every day is inspiring. They are a small but mighty group who allow OSAC to help you, the membership continue, to bring quality arts experiences to your home communities. I would be remiss not to mention that there are some impending changes within the office. Marianne Woods was scheduled to retire months ago, however agreed to stay on when Rosemary McCallum left for maternity leave after welcoming a new little boy to her family. Rosemary is scheduled to return in August of 2025 – in the position of School Tours Manager. In July 2024 Jaecy Bells joined OSAC as the Administrative and Program Assistant – who jumped in headfirst and designed the Annual Report, Program Guide and much of the other printed material here this weekend. Jaecy also took over much of our Social Media as well as the day to day admin duties. So yes – that means this is Marianne's last Showcase as an OSAC employee – over 30 years, including 20 managing the School Tour Program and being the Membership Liaison. Thank You Marianne!!

The OSAC Board are a dedicated group that are able to look at the big picture and not just the concerns of their Arts Council. They are always looking out for you the membership and for that you should thank them. Term limits are a positive thing but it also means saying goodbye to Board members we have spent a lot of time with. I would like to say Thank you to Jackie Ferraton and Fran Karakochuk for all the help and guidance over the years.

**03-24/10M BIGGAR & DISTRICT ARTS COUNCIL/WEYBURN ARTS COUNCIL
THAT THE PROGRAM MANAGER(S) AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORTS BE
APPROVED AS PRESENTED.**

CARRIED.

6. IDEA Committee – Tasha Hill, Chair

This year marks the creation of a permanent Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (also known as IDEA) Committee, as well as a defined DEI Statement: OSAC values diversity and equality. OSAC will not discriminate against anyone based on race, colour, creed, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, religion, national origin, disability, ancestry, marital status, or any other applicable characteristics protected by law.

Because we are a Governance Board, OSAC has few permanent committees. When necessary, an ad hoc committee will be struck and when its mandate has been fulfilled, that committee will end. There is a consistent need to serve the principles of Inclusion, Diversity, Equality and Inclusion within our organization and in society as a whole. Due to this need and the desire of the Board to ensure it and our members stay active and aware surrounding these issues, the IDEA Committee was made a permanent committee. Governing parameters for the committee were added to the OSAC Governance materials and will be reviewed annually by the Board to ensure they continue to meet the changing needs and issues within the organization. In the coming weeks, we will be adding an IDEA section to the OSAC website with information and links that the membership can use.

7. Financial Report – Fran Karakochuk, Chair, Audit Committee

7.1 2023/24 Audited Financial Statements

Fran introduced herself as the current Chair of the OSAC Audit Committee. She thanked her fellow committee members Jackie Ferraton, Gladys McCarthy, Marc Holt and Kali Weber for their assistance. The 2023/2024 Audited Financial Statements have been posted on the OSAC Website since the middle of September and are located at the end of the Annual Report - you would have received when you registered. We will also have the statements on the screens and a few copies on each table. On September 17 the Audit Committee met via Zoom call with MNP and the OSAC staff involved in the Audit. The audit was considered a clean audit by MNP and were happy with the organization and cooperation of the office.

The decrease in revenue is a result of no additional COVID funding in the 2023/2024 Fiscal Year. The Communication decrease is a result of a 2022/2023 Direct West online and Radio campaign using either deferred or additional COVID funds. The OSAC Board did make a motion which was approved to replenish the Diversity Advisory fund of the \$1808, that was used to support our work with our Ray Keighley, our Knowledge Keeper and the IDEA Committee.

Note 13 references the administration that the OSAC office does for the I Want To Showcase Consortium. The platform is used by a number of networks across Canada and the U.S. to accept applications for their various showcases and is a valuable tool for the networks as well as agents and artists. Fran thanked Catherine Tomczak for her exemplary work in preparing for the Audit. MNP was very complimentary of the audit preparation done by Catherine and mentioned that is the reason the OSAC Audit fee is among the

lowest for an organization the size of OSAC. Fran asked if there were any questions from the membership. There being none, the following motion was made:

**04-24/10M LA RONGE ARTS COUNCIL/LLOYDMINSTER ALLIED ARTS COUNCIL
THAT THE 2023/24 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS BE ACCEPTED AS PRESENTED IN THE
OSAC ANNUAL REPORT.**

CARRIED.

7.2 Appointment of Auditor – 2024/25 Fiscal Year

The Audit Committee of the OSAC Board recommends that MNP be appointed as auditors for the 2024/2025 year.

**05-24/10M STATION ARTS CENTRE/LUSELAND ARTS COUNCIL
MNP LLP BE APPOINTED AUDITORS FOR THE 2024/25 FISCAL YEAR.**

CARRIED

8. Chair's Report – Marc Holt

Marc indicated his report is on page 3 of the Annual Report. The biggest challenge we have faced the past year is continued flatline funding. Thank you to our incredible staff, who despite presenting a deficit budget, worked diligently to end the year with a small surplus. Thank you to the membership from all corners of the province. The work you do to support arts programming in your communities is integral to making your community a great place to live. Marc thanked our funders, SaskCulture Inc., Saskatchewan Lotteries and the Department of Canadian Heritage. Lastly, he thanked his fellow board members for their dedication and continuing support.

9. Election – OSAC Board of Directors – Treena Redman. Chair. Nominations Committee

Treena introduced herself in her role as Past Chair of the OSAC Board and Chair of the Nominations Committee. She thanked her fellow committee members Gladys McCarthy and Caron Dubnick. This year there are six positions to be filled. We are thrilled to present a full slate of nominees for the position of Director of the OSAC Board of Directors. These will be for a 2-year Term with a maximum of 3 terms possible with one term being the second year of a term. All Names and bios have been on the OSAC website in recent weeks and nominations closed 30 days prior to today's date. Each nominee was asked to come forward and say a few words.

9.1 Directors (2) – Two Year Term – Representing Full/Associate Membership

Robyn Lang, Melville Arts Council: entering the first year of her second two-year term. Excited to stay with the board, thank you for the wonderful work that the membership does and looking forward to continuing.

Tasha Hill, Weyburn Arts Council: entering the first year of her second two-year term. Pleased to be a member of OSAC, learning the governance board procedures has been exciting for her as well as continuing to be on the IDEA Committee.

Syndel Thomas Kozar, Melfort Arts Council: entering the first year of her first two-year term. Syndel is very excited to working with OSAC and sharing Indigenous and Diverse Views.

Nicole Thiessen, Station Arts Centre Cooperative: entering the first year of her first two year term. Super excited to learn about everyone and learn what you are doing, thanks for the opportunity.

9.2 Chair (2) – Two Year Term – Representing Full/Associate Membership

Marc Holt, Biggar & District Arts Council: entering the first year of his second and final two-year term as Chair. Happy to be Chair of the Board again – OSAC means a lot to him, happy to be Chair for another two Years.

06-24/10M WATROUS AREA ARTS COUNCIL/MELVILLE ARTS COUNCIL

THAT ROBYN LANG, MELVILLE ARTS COUNCIL AND TASHA HILL, WEYBURN ARTS COUNCIL BE ACCLAIMED AS DIRECTORS FOR THE FIRST YEAR OF THEIR SECOND TWO-YEAR TERM.

THAT SYNDEL THOMAS KOZAR, MELFORT ARTS COUNCIL AND NICOLE THIESSEN, STATION ARTS CENTRE COOPERATIVE, BE ACCLAIMED AS DIRECTORS FOR THE FIRST OF A TWO-YEAR TERM.

THAT MARC HOLT, BIGGAR & DISTRICT ARTS COUNCIL BE ACCLAIMED AS CHAIR FOR THE FIRST YEAR OF HIS SECOND AND FINAL TERM

CARRIED.

Congratulations to all! OSAC, your 2024 /2025 OSAC Board of Directors. Treena shared that there are two retiring Board Members this year. In each case they have reached the end of their third two-year term. Jackie Ferraton has completed her second full term on the Board – a 12-year commitment that we are very grateful to Jackie for. Fran Karakochuk started her term with the Prince Albert Council for the Arts and as retirement occurred moved back to Foam Lake and is now part of the Quill Plains Regional Arts Council. Treena asked Jackie and Fran to come forward to present a thank you from the OSAC Board and Membership for each of them.

Jackie: Thank you to OSAC for being part of the OSAC Board for these many years – OSAC is a wonderful organization to be part of.

Fran: Six years have gone by very quickly, thank you for the opportunity to serve the OSAC membership.

Treena asked that the new OSAC Board remain after the AGM to arrange for a photo.

NEW BUSINESS

10. Constitution Update – Marc Holt/Kevin Korchinski

PROPOSED MOTIONS:

1. That the OSAC Constitution be amended to reflect the removal of gender specific language to gender neutral, i.e. remove s/he from throughout the document and replace with a gender neutral alternative.
Rationale: to bring the document into the language in use today.

2. That the OSAC Constitution be amended so that every Arts Council and Associate Member will have one (2) vote at the Annual General Meeting or other membership meetings.

Rationale: the two votes per Arts Councils and one for School Members are left over from the amalgamation of the Junior Concerts Society with OSAC in the 1990's to ensure that the Arts Councils maintained control of the organization. In the decades since then, it has never been a concern and causes more confusion at the AGM than the issue it was meant to solve.

**07-24/10M STATION ARTS CENTRE/LUSELAND ARTS COUNCIL
THAT THE OSAC CONSTITUTION BE AMENDED TO REFLECT THE REMOVAL OF GENDER
SPECIFIC LANGUAGE TO GENDER NEUTRAL, I.E. REMOVE S/HE FROM THROUGHOUT
THE DOCUMENT AND REPLACE WITH A GENDER-NEUTRAL ALTERNATIVE.**

CARRIED.

**08-24/10M LANGENBURG ARTS COUNCIL/SWIFT CURRENT ARTS COUNCIL
THAT THE OSAC CONSTITUTION BE AMENDED SO THAT EVERY ARTS COUNCIL AND
ASSOCIATE MEMBER WILL HAVE ONE (1) VOTE AT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OR
OTHER MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS.**

CARRIED.

11. Membership Fee Increase - Marc Holt/Kevin Korchinski

In October 2013, the OSAC membership approved a number of changes to the OSAC Constitution & Bylaws regarding Membership categories and fees. As it has been over a decade since those changes, the OSAC Board of Directors, upon the recommendation of the Executive Director, are proposing the following change in membership fees and categories to take effect in the 2025 /2026 Fiscal Year.

2.1 The OSAC Constitution and Bylaws states that membership fees will be set by the membership at a business meeting or an annual general meeting.

PROPOSED MOTION: That the OSAC Membership fees be adjusted as follows:

Proposed Membership Fees for 2025/2026

-Full Membership (From \$200 + \$10 GST plus \$12 PST) **to** \$250 + \$12.50 GST plus \$15 PST = \$277.00
Annually

-Associate(School) Membership (from \$30 + \$1.50 GST plus \$1.80 PST) **to** \$50.00 + \$2.50 GST plus \$3 PST =
\$52.50 Annually

Rationale: As it has been a decade since the most recent increase and due to the additional costs, the OSAC office faces (communications, rent, etc.) a minimal increase is being proposed as a way to assist in offsetting these costs.

Categories are defined under MEMBERSHIP as per Section 1 (1.1-1.4) of the OSAC Constitution and Bylaws.

**09/24/10M WEYBURN ARTS COUNCIL/ASSINIBOIA & DISTRICT ARTS COUNCIL
 THAT THE OSAC MEMBERSHIP FEES BE ADJUSTED AS OUTLINED ABOVE.**

CARRIED.

12. Adjournment

**10-24/10M CANORA ARTS COUNCIL
 THAT THE MEETING BE ADJOURNED**

CARRIED.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:27 am.

OSAC Chair

OSAC Executive Director