

Dawson City Arts Society
Thursday, June 27, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.
KIAC Ballroom at Dënäkär Zho and online (Zoom)

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Members in Attendance:

Dan Davidson
Chantal Rousseau
Dara Moats
Alex Somerville
Kevin Boon
Bo Yeung
Penny Soderlund
Lulu Keating
Alice Thompson
Marie Spina
Peter Menzies
Arcane Perry
Jessica Svenningson
Chloé SeLarque
Blackbird
Matthew Sarty
Dan Sokolowski
David Curtis
Lana Welchman
Kayla Gangé
Capp Larsen
Kayla Goodwin
Carina Tscharf
Evan Rensch
Elaine Corden

1. Welcome & Introductions

Tr'ondek Hwech'in Land acknowledgements, board introductions, and staff introductions.

Lana Welchman, President: called meeting to order at: 6:10

2. Approval of 2024 AGM Agenda

Agenda approval moved Alex Somerville, seconded by Lulu Keating, motion passed.

3. Approval of 2023 AGM Minutes

Minutes approval moved by Kayla Gagné, seconded by Arcane Perry, motion passed.

4. Annual Operations and Programming Reports

Matthew Sarty, Performing Arts & Events Producer:
Performing Arts Dept. annual report presented

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Print and Publishing Festival annual report presented

Arcane Perry, Programs Manager:
Education, Outreach and Programs annual report presented

Jessica Svenningson, new ODD Gallery Director introduction
ODD Gallery annual report (as prepared by Tara Rudnickas) presented

Capp Larsen, Operations Director: Yukon Riverside Arts festival (2022-2023 fiscal year festival) annual report presented

Dan Sokolowski, Film Festival Producer - Dawson city International Short Film Festival & media arts programming annual report presented (two festivals lined up in the last fiscal year, none to be expected for the 24/25 year)

Chantal Rousseau, Artist-in-Residence committee member:
artist in residency program annual report presented. Announcement that Adonika Clark is leaving the position, and it will become part of the ODD Gallery Director role

5. Financial Statement Approval & Appointment of Accountants

Capp Larsen, Operations Director: Brief overview of KIAC Financial statements (see slides). Notes: KIAC is trying to increase corporate revenue and sponsorships to not rely so much on the government for core funding. We need to complete our outstanding reports to get our funding owed from several years of Canada Council for the Arts core funding

Question from member Alex Somerville: please explain why the review opinions the accountants gave is qualified

Capp Larsen, Operations Director: KIAC pays the accountant, BDO, for a review, not an audit. They make sure everything is done properly and meets certain standards, not every single transaction is being looked at in this process. There is a distinction between donations and sponsorships.

Lana Welchman, President: BDO suggested that we restrict certain donations, such as the artist-in-residence fundraising campaign, performing arts infrastructure, and others

Question from member Alex Somerville: on page 6, accountant reports a 75% drop in cash receipts from customers in the past fiscal year compared to previous year, what has changed to cause this drop?

Capp Larsen, Operations Director: we would have to take a closer look at that...

Lana Welchman, President: Everything we are doing is bigger, we have a bigger budget, but the way we are managing the budget has not changed, we need to make changes around that.

Budget notes: Roof and insulation repair saved a lot on heating as the building wasn't losing heat due to lack of insulation. There were no issues with ice buildup or leaking thanks to these repairs.

Motion to approve financial statements, moved by Alex Somerville, Seconded by Penny Soderlund, none opposed, motion approved

Motion to keep using the same accountants, BDO, motion moved by Kayla Gangé, seconded by Alex Somerville, none opposed, motion approved.

6. Strategic Updates

a. President Intro

Lana Welchman, President: Accomplishment update, challenges, strategic committee reports

b. Dënëkär Zho Renovation

Capp Larsen, Operations Director: KIAC renovation update. We have concept designs, nothing finalized yet. KIAC is set to close next summer to renovate the building.

c. Staff Restructuring

Capp Larsen, Operations Director: Organizational restructuring update. Consultant Ivy and Dean restructuring suggestion: moving to 2-3 directors to share workload and 4-day workweek at the same wages for the staff to offset the current lack of wage increases.

Member Lulu Keating Question: Are staff really going to work only 4 days a week? With all the programming going on I feel staff are already working 6 days a week.

Capp Larsen, Operations Director: We will be reprioritizing programming based on community feedback

Comment by Kayla Gangé, Director: With the restructuring there will be less opportunity for work to be siloed, and workload to be more collaborative and sustainable for everyone.

d. Artist in Residency Program Future Visions

David Curtis, Committee member -

Artist in residency program update: KIAC is restructuring the program. Macaulay house is being purchased by Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in government. There is a chance we can partner with them and remain tenants in the same location. Parks Canada has offered to help support the program through seasonal housing at some of their residential sites. An idea for restructuring could include creating themed residencies.

e. Reconciliation & Equity

Capp Larsen, Operations Director: KIAC is committed to strengthening relationships with Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in, including donating staff time and expertise to indigenous holidays and events, working on an equity hiring committee, and aims to create KIAC the most diverse and welcoming place possible.

f. Leadership Structure Update

Lana Welchman, President: Has ideas to change how boards operate. Will suggest meeting quarterly, and increase involvement of committees. Committees focus less on governance and more on specific aspects of KIAC members and directors want to contribute to.

g. Programming Committees

Matthew Sarty, Performing Arts & Events Producer - KIAC will create an overarching program advisory committee designed to provide feedback and create programming priorities for all department to work towards, promote programming in the community, sustain community needs and interests in the programming produced, and help the programming staff work more collaboratively with the community

h. 25th Anniversary Update

Lana Welchman, President: Several 25th anniversary projects are currently happening, including: podcast storytelling project, 25th logo provided by local design company the Firm, plan to discuss the next 25 years, 25th birthday party celebrating 25 years December 31st

i. Questions from the floor / Community Survey

7. BIO BREAK

8. Appointment of the ODD Gallery / Artist in Residency Committee

Jessica Svenningson, ODD Gallery Director: update on Gallery and Residency Committee roles: ensures KIAC's mandate is upheld, helps installs and strikes of exhibition, fundraising, events.

Call for Committee Members - Returning committee members: Chantelle Rousseau, Jimmy Boddie, Cari Tangedal, Charles Atlas Sheppard (undecided).
New members may register on a sign-up form

9. Special Resolutions

- a. Motion to amend DCAS Bylaws: Section 3.5 Quorum for General Meetings from *"A quorum for the transaction of business at a General Meeting is the greater of three members or 25% of the members"* to *"A quorum for the transaction of business at a General Meeting is the greater of three members or 15% of the members"*.

Lulu Keating moves, Marie Spina seconds. Passes.

- b. Motion to amend DCAS Bylaw 4.5 Terms from: "The Directors are elected at each annual General Meeting. A Director's term of office ends at the close of the next annual General Meeting after the Director's election" to *"The Directors are elected at each annual General Meeting. Directors' terms of office shall be two years ending at the close of the annual general meeting."*

Penny Soderland moves, Arcane Perry seconds. Passes.

"Aim" to stagger half the board terms for continuity.

- c. Motion to amend DCAS Bylaw 4.5 Terms to remove *"No Director may serve as a Director for more than eight consecutive years."*

Kayla Gangé moves, second by Alex Somerville. Passes.

10. Board of Director Elections

Kayla Gangé, Directors describes the experience of being on the board: Everyone is really smart and experienced, if you want to be involved in decision making in the artistic community, this is a great way to do that.

Lana Welchman, President, explains the board looks over the strategic priorities.

Motion: Keep board count to 7

Chantal Rousseau moves, Alice Thompson seconds.

Board elections commence.

2024/25 DCAS Board of Directors results:

- Blackbird (April Russell)
- David Curtis
- Kayla Gagné
- Marie Spina
- Kayla Goodwin
- Lana Welchman
- Peter Menzies

11. Voice of the Membership

Alice Thompson recommended we build a punishment structure for board members who don't follow through with their commitments, like showing up to bi-monthly meetings.

12. Adjournment of Meeting - at 8:13 pm