

**CREATIVE CITY NETWORK OF CANADA
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Friday, June 13, 2014 | 8:30am – 9:15am

Centre Ballroom, Sheraton Hamilton Hotel, 116 King Street West, Hamilton, ON

REPORT FROM THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE: THE SLATE

Elena Bird, City of Toronto, Ontario

Elena Bird is dedicated to enhancing the cultural and creative life of the city. She is passionate about maps and involved in developing municipal cultural mapping as it relates to municipal cultural planning best practices and strategies. As a Senior Policy Advisor, Economic Development & Culture for the City of Toronto since 2002, Elena has worked on cultural planning and cultural mapping projects including the Culture Plan for the Creative City, the follow-up Progress Report I/II and the Creative City Planning Framework and Placing Creativity, a partnership that explores mapping and the intersection of culture, economy and place. Elena completed her M.A. in Cultural Economics at Erasmus University Rotterdam. Before this she studied Economics at Ryerson University and Arts Management at the University of Toronto. Currently she is a member of the board of the Creative City Network of Canada (CCNC), and chair of the Municipal Cultural Planning Incorporated (MCPI) Municipal Cultural Mapping Guidelines Working Group. In the past she has served on the board of artist-run organizations YYZ Artists' Outlet, a centre for contemporary visual art, and Pleasure Dome, a collective dedicated to the presentation of experimental film and video in Toronto.

Ian Forsyth, City of North Vancouver, British Columbia

Ian Forsyth was born and raised in Vancouver, graduating from UBC with a BFA in Theatre. From 1986 to 1990 Ian ran the Vancouver TheatreSports League and in 1992, after working with the Arts Club, New Play Centre, Carousel Theatre and Pi Theatre, Ian accepted an opportunity to open and run the North Peace Cultural Centre in Fort St. John. Moving to Kelowna in August of 1998, he became the city's 1st Cultural Services Manager, working to develop Kelowna's Cultural District and Cultural Tourism Initiative. In November of 2001, Ian moved to Burnaby to become the Arts Services Manager for the City, leaving in 2007 to become North Vancouver's first Director of Cultural Affairs. Ian is currently the Past President of the Alliance for Arts and Culture, a board member for the Vancouver East Cultural Centre, Theatre Under the Stars, President of the 605 Dance Collective, and President for the Creative City Network, and is the former Vice President of both the Magnetic North Theatre Festival and Capacoa, the Canadian Arts Presenter's association.

Nichola Reddington, City of Victoria, British Columbia

Nichola is the Coordinator for Arts & Culture at the City of Victoria. A graduate of Queen's University and Grant MacEwan's Arts & Cultural Management program, Nichola's passion for arts stems from her experience working behind the scenes at various film and theatre productions including the Grand Theatre in Kingston and Citadel Theatre in Edmonton. Prior to her position at the City of Victoria, Nichola worked for The Works Art & Design Festival and the Art and Design in Public Places Program in Edmonton, Public Dreams Society in Vancouver and the Shadbolt Centre for the Arts in Burnaby. Facilitating cultural projects and building capacity within the local arts community has been the focus of her work over the last several years including managing the City's revitalized Spirit Square, coordinating public art projects, liaison with the Poet Laureate position and facilitating the completion of the cultural

mapping project Victoria Arts Scan. Working with the arts community, developing audiences, and engaging people in participating in cultural activities is what continues to inspire her.

Sheila McKinnon, City of Surrey, British Columbia

A career in the arts was destined when she began creating puppets and performing with them in an elementary school touring program. Then she expressed herself through choir, drama and a love of dance. Sheila McKinnon graduated with an Honours Arts degree from York University and has worked in municipal government for over 30 years. As the Manager of Arts Services for the City of Surrey her career highlights include: establishing a Public Art Program, the Surrey Children's Festival, hosting the BC Festival of the Arts, the 2008 Cultural Capitals of Canada designation for the City of Surrey and participating in the 2010 Cultural Olympiad. Sheila is the Chair of the Vancouver Region – Cultural Development Advisory Committee and was nominated Business Person of the Year for 2008 by the Surrey Board of Trade for their annual Business Excellence Awards. She enjoys the many benefits of community cultural development and working with creative people.

Alice Sabourin, City of Hamilton, Ontario

Alice is a senior project manager for the Love Your City project at the City of Hamilton. Alice is leading the development of a city-wide cultural planning initiative which includes identifying and mapping cultural resources, engaging citizens and stakeholders in the development of a Cultural Policy and Plan and embedding a cultural lens into all City business. Alice has an MBA in Innovation from McMaster University and is a certified enterprise architect and marketing research professional. Alice's previous experience has included positions in the public and private sector in planning and quality management, marketing and marketing research, and total customer experience.

John Ariyo, City of Mississauga, Ontario

John Ariyo is the Supervisor, Research & Projects for the Culture Division at the City of Mississauga. A social scientist by training, his focus on Mississauga cultural development is designing and using research, data, surveys, focus groups, partnerships, project management and program evaluation as tools to lead or support a number of Culture Division's projects, programs and initiatives. He is currently the project leader for the Mississauga Cultural Resource Mapping project and the Cultural Resource Partnership. He was part of the City's separate project teams that completed the new 40-year Strategic Plan for the City and the Culture Master Plan for the Culture Division. John is a member of the Project Management Institute (PMI) and the Canadian Evaluation Society (CES). He holds a Master's degree in International Development Studies and a Bachelor of Science degree with honours in Geography & Planning.

Robin Armistead, City of London, Ontario

Robin has worked for the City of London in various departments and capacities for 25 years. Robin has lead the City of London Culture Office for 8 years. She currently reports to the Director of Corporate Investments and Partnerships of the Finance Department. Robin works closely with the City of London's Investment and Economic Prosperity Standing Committee of Council and its associated Creative City Committee. Robin has an educational background of an honours Bachelor of Urban Regional Planning from the University of Waterloo and a Master of Social Work in Policy and Community Development from Wilfred Laurier University. Robin is a passionate advocate for arts, heritage, diversity, creativity and culture.

Onalee Groves, City of Barrie, Ontario

Onalee Groves is currently the Culture Officer of Development in the City of Barrie. Onnie began her career with the city twenty years ago as a Recreation Programmer in the Leisure, Transit and Facilities branch. She worked in the area of older adults for approximately thirteen years when she advanced from the Programmer job to the position of Co-ordinator of Seniors and Cultural Services. During this time Onnie worked at developing and implementing a ten year Cultural Plan for the City of Barrie and became Culture Officer when the department was officially formed in the spring of 2008. Onnie possesses a diploma in Social Services, a undergraduate degree in Gerontology and a Masters Degree of Integrated Studies in the main stream of Cultural Studies. Onnie has extensive personal, as well as professional experience in the arts, as prior to her work with the City of Barrie Onnie taught piano lessons for over ten years. Onnie has a passion for the arts and continues to play several instruments, as well as volunteering her spare time to several local arts organizations.

Jennifer Hoesgen, City of Humboldt, Saskatchewan

Jennifer is passionately involved in the arts, culture and heritage in Humboldt as the Director of the Humboldt and District Museum and Gallery, which includes managing the civic museum collection and archives in a 1912 national historic site. She has a degree in Anthropology from the University of Saskatchewan and a Diploma in Cultural Resource Management from the University of Victoria. Jennifer is developing interpretive components to tell the story of the 80 acre Original Humboldt site (circa 1870 – 1885) through art installations, historical research and public archaeology. She is currently managing the revitalization of a 1920s building into an accessible community venue for the city's arts, culture and heritage activities. Jennifer is excited to be part of the team developing the City of Humboldt's first Culture Plan.

Kelly Jerrott, City of St. Albert, Alberta

Kelly is the Director of Cultural Services for the City of St. Albert, where she works with a dynamic team to manage the operation of Arden Theatre and deliver performing and visual arts programs including the Northern Alberta International Children's Festival and St. Albert Children's Theatre. She holds a Master of Arts in Leadership from Royal Roads University and a BA in Recreation from Acadia University. Kelly joined the City in 2010 and was instrumental in the development of the Cultural Master Plan approved in January of 2012. The Cultural Services team has taken significant steps in the implementation of the plan including launching a St. Albert LIVE YouTube Channel to highlight and celebrate culture in the community; hosting Cultural Cafes to encourage collaboration and communication among culture stakeholders; and launching an interactive site using GIS technology to view the City's Art in Public Places collection. Before joining the City, Kelly served as the Executive Director of Edmonton's Northern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium, Executive Director of Music Alberta, and General Manager of the Savoy Theatre in Glace Bay, N.S. Kelly is active in the arts community and is currently a member of the Advisory Committee for the Arts and Cultural Administration Program at Grant Mac Ewan University. She has also served as a board member of the Western Canadian Music Alliance, Prairie Music Alliance, and as a host committee member for the JUNO Awards, and Western Canadian Music Awards.

Kwende Kefentse, City of Ottawa, Ontario

Born and raised in the Greater Toronto Area, Kwende is currently living and working in Ottawa, Canada's capital. Fascinated by cities, his various professional ventures reflect

different explorations and investigations into how they function, with a particular focus on culture and space. He was formerly a journalist for the Ottawa Xpress, and a guest author on Richard Florida's Creative Class Exchange, writing regularly about how cultural scenes develop and function in cities. His independent research about the active role of spatial configuration and urban design in structuring the emergence of Hiphop culture has contributed to the NFB's Highrise project, and has made him a sought after speaker.

Kwende currently works with of a small but mighty award winning team of cultural developers, stewarding the City of Ottawa's council approved Renewed Action Plan for Arts, Heritage and Culture (2013 - 2018). He is also developing a blog that uses the lens of urban theory to reflect upon popular Hiphop culture, and analyzes Hiphop's deep connection with the city. His talk on the subject was named 'Best Arts Talk of 2012' by regional arts blog Adobe Airstream. Kwende is also DJ Memetic.

Roxanne Richard, City of Moncton, New Brunswick

Roxanne Richard is the Cultural Development Officer for the City of Moncton. After completing her Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Education degree at l'Université de Moncton, Roxanne worked for the Frye Festival, a bilingual non-profit literary festival, where she managed the school and youth programs and volunteer coordination. Passionate about the importance of arts and culture in the community, Roxanne joined the City of Moncton team in 2011. In addition to helping Moncton's numerous cultural organizations and artists with various events and initiatives, Roxanne oversees the municipal art collection, coordinates the work of the Moncton Cultural Board and is currently working on a first cultural mapping project for the city