

**CREATIVE CITY NETWORK OF CANADA
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**
Wednesday, November 7, 2018 | 8:30 AM-9:00 AM
The Living Arts Centre
4141 Living Arts Centre Drive, Mississauga, ON L5B 4B8

REPORT FROM THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE: THE SLATE

Yvonne Chui, City of Maple Ridge, BC

Described as a passionate and driven leader, Yvonne Chui has worked over 23 years in the cultural sector focusing on arts, heritage, and tourism. She is known as a “relationship builder” who, through arts and culture, inspires innovative approaches to connecting people, communities and ideas. She has an extensive background in management of arts organizations in the not-for-profit sector and municipal government and some consulting for community groups such as the Chinatown Society Heritage Buildings Association. Most recently she has been responsible for the development of public art, cultural grants, artist in residence program, and special events with the City of Maple Ridge. Yvonne received her B.A. in Arts with a double major in Anthropology and Sociology from the University of British Columbia and has continued her education in the arts area including “Arts for Social Change”, placemaking with Mark Lakema, and more recently in the UBC Cultural Planning program.

Paula Davis, Town of Port Hawkesbury, NS

Paula Davis has worked for the Town of Port Hawkesbury in the cultural field since graduating from Mount Allison University. She is responsible for the recreation, leisure, aquatic, and cultural programming for the Town of Port Hawkesbury. The town has a population of 3300, but attracts regional participation from the surrounding counties. Paula has developed and programmed the Granville Green concert series for 23 years, which is a free outdoor concert series, made possible through community partnerships. She has also been responsible for marketing and securing sponsorship support for all cultural events, which is instrumental to their sustainability.

Sarah Douglas-Murray, Town of Oakville, ON

Sarah Douglas-Murray is the Senior Manager of Cultural Services for the Town of Oakville. In her role as senior manager, she oversees the cultural services division which includes cultural planning and outreach, special events, and the direct operation of the town’s cultural facilities — the Oakville Centre for the Performing Arts, Oakville Museum and Queen Elizabeth Park Community and Cultural Centre. Sarah’s cultural services team is working to implement the Town of Oakville Cultural Plan 2016-2021 and has been successful in exponentially growing cultural programs, outreach, and the capacity of cultural groups within the community. Sarah is a graduate from the University of Toronto with a degree in Art History, Anthropology and Sociology, is a graduate of the Cultural Careers Council of Ontario’s Income Managers Program, and has a Certificate in Cultural Planning from the University of British Columbia.

Julie DuPont, City of Ottawa, ON

Julie DuPont is the Portfolio Manager for the City of Ottawa's Public Art Program, encompassing public art commissions, acquisitions for a circulating art collection and professional galleries. She currently oversees commissioning projects including the Light Rail Transit Art Program, many road and infrastructure projects and engaging the private sector for new public art opportunities. Her work also includes cultural and creative policy development, space making, social engagement, collaborative working with digital media and creative industries.

Before joining the City, Julie was actively involved in the local arts community having worked in artist run centres and not for profit cultural organizations. She has been with the Public Art Program for 28 years and over her time has held positions as the Collections and Curatorial Assistant, Planner for Exhibitions, and Public Art Officer Commissions. Through the City she has worked with the private sector managing commission projects and has also worked with the University of Ottawa on launching their first public art commissions and policy.

She is a graduate from Algonquin College School of Art and Technology's Fine Arts / Fine Crafts program and also earned her Bachelor's degree from the University of Ottawa's Visual Arts program.

Jennifer Fitzpatrick, City of Humboldt, SK

Jennifer has been a director of CCNC since 2013, and most recently the Chairperson of the Membership Committee. Jennifer helps bring the voice of a smaller municipality to the conversation as the Director of Cultural Services for the City of Humboldt, Saskatchewan, with a population of approximately 6,000.

Jennifer is passionately involved in the arts, culture and heritage in Humboldt, managing the civic museum in a 1912 national historic site, public art gallery in a 1920s historic bank building, the Original Humboldt site which is an 80 acre parcel of land with public archaeology and art installations to depict its history, the municipal Public Art program, Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee and most recently the historic Water Tower which has been re-adapted with an internal staircase to take in the best view of the city. Jennifer is a member of the Humboldt Downtown Business Improvement District who recently launched their new vision for the downtown core.

Jennifer is the author of the book "100 Interesting Stories about Humboldt" published in 2005. She has a degree in Anthropology from the University of Saskatchewan and a Diploma in Cultural Resource Management from the University of Victoria. She was part of the municipal team who created the "Our Humboldt Culture-Led Growth Plan" which continues to guide the creative life of the city. She was awarded the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal in 2012 for her work in heritage and cultural activity.

Lisa Hickey-Besserer, City of Calgary, AB

Lisa Hickey-Besserer has been with The City of Calgary's Arts & Culture division since 2007, most recently serving as Business Strategist for the Cultural Strategies unit. For over 20 years, her career has supported the development of arts and cultural opportunities for artists and communities, through her positions with municipal governments, commercial galleries and not for profit organizations. Her professional experiences include the management of performance and visual arts festivals, public art programming and policy development, community engagement, arts education, strategic program development, and capital project management. She has been leading Calgary's municipal cultural infrastructure investment strategy since 2016; with a focus on developing municipal and partner lead community cultural hubs. Lisa is a graduate of the University of Toronto, where she obtained a Honours BA specialist degree in Arts Management with a major in Fine Art History. Always looking to learn, she formally continued her education, graduating from the University of British Columbia's Cultural Planning Program in 2014.

Kelly Jerrott, City of St. Albert, AB

Kelly Jerrott has more than 25 years' experience as a leader in the arts and cultural sector in Canada, and holds a Master of Arts in Leadership from Royal Roads University, in Victoria, British Columbia. She is currently the Director of Cultural Services with the City of St. Albert, in Alberta, Canada, known as the "Botanical Arts City". She serves at the national level as Vice President of the Creative City Network of Canada, and has been a Board Member since 2013. Ms. Jerrott chaired the 2015 Creative City Network of Canada Summit in Kelowna, B.C., bringing cultural professionals together to learn from each other, and be inspired through keynote speakers, sessions and study tours. Active in the arts community she is also a member of the Academic Advisory Council for the Arts and Cultural Management Program at Grant MacEwan University in Edmonton, Alberta; and has served as a board member with organizations such as Events Edmonton, producer of the Taste of Edmonton Festival, the Western Canadian Music Alliance, and the JUNO Awards/Canada's Music Awards Host Committee. Working with a dynamic team in St. Albert, Ms. Jerrott oversees the management and operation of the City's cultural facilities such as the Arden Theatre, Art Gallery, Museum and Historic Sites, as well as the City's Public Art Collection. She was instrumental in the development of the City's Cultural Master Plan, and Heritage Management Plan, taking significant steps in recent years towards the implementation of both plans; including producing the Northern Alberta International Children's Festival of the Arts, launching the new Amplify Youth Festival, and St. Albert LIVE YouTube Channel to highlight and celebrate culture in the community. Before joining the City, Ms. Jerrott 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. Ms. Jerrott is a values-based leader who creates a positive culture that empowers others to strive for excellence, fostering a high level of employee engagement and productivity through innovation and creativity.

Théa Morash, City of St. John's, NL

Théa Morash works for the City of St. John's, NL as the Arts and Cultural Development Coordinator, traversing cultural planning, public art, funding programs for artists and arts organizations, special events and festivals, and then some. Her previous experience includes working as the Executive Director of the Writers' Alliance of Newfoundland and Labrador and the Resource Centre for the Arts/LSPU Hall, as well as being a practicing artist: Théa is an actor, writer, and musician.

Emma Morris, City of Regina, SK

Emma Morris is an arts and heritage professional, currently working as Community Consultant for Art and Cultural Heritage with the City of Regina. Emma has always harbored a love for the arts, and she pursued this passion with a Bachelor's degree in Art History from the University of Regina. Upon convocation, she relocated to England to study an MA in Cultural Heritage and Resource Management from the University of Winchester. During this time, Emma worked locally with two museums, one private and one county-funded. She was also able to travel while conducting research, and experienced many diverse and exciting cities throughout Europe and the UK who are embracing their culture to create welcoming and vibrant communities. Upon returning to Canada, she remained focused on the role of art and cultural heritage in Canadian communities of all sizes through work and volunteering with non-profit organizations like the Prairie Central District for Sport, Culture and Recreation, the Museums Association of Saskatchewan, and Heritage Saskatchewan.

In her current role, Emma is working to align community and municipal priorities with Regina's Cultural Plan (2016), including adhering to standards and best practices for collections care and management, research, public art, monuments, and supporting community-led placemaking initiatives. Her skills and interests include public art, cultural infrastructure, research, funding (administration and grant writing), and cultural events.

Brent Oliver, City of Spruce Grove, AB

Brent Oliver is one of the most earnestly dedicated champions and patrons of the Arts in Alberta. For over 25 years Brent has devoted himself to developing and promoting Alberta arts initiatives, events and artists. This life-long calling grew from Brent's passion for culture. While earning a Music Degree from the University of Alberta, Brent worked as a talent buyer, booking local bands and touring acts at the Rev Cabaret, then at Sidetrack Café, two of Edmonton's most iconic live music venues of in recent history. Guided by his confidence in the strength of Alberta's music community, and his desire to help it grow, Brent established (and became Director of) Foundation Concerts, an Edmonton based concert and arts event promotion company which brought some of the most prominent touring acts to Western Canada. In 2014, Brent brought his wealth of expertise to the City of Spruce Grove as Director of Cultural Services, a position he accepted in August of that year. His responsibilities include management and operation of the Horizon Stage Performing Arts centre, city liaison to the Allied Arts Council and Spruce Grove Library, as well as development of art policy for the future of the City. Brent continues to consult and volunteer on countless cultural initiatives. In September 2013, Brent was elected as a Director on the board of the Alberta Music Industry Association and currently sits as Vice-Chair of the board, and Chair of the organization's Community Engagement Committee.

Nichola Reddington, City of Victoria, BC

Nichola is the Senior Cultural Planner 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.

Alice Sabourin, City of Hamilton, Ontario

Ali is a forward thinking innovator and award winning civil servant with a passion for making positive change. Ali led the development of Hamilton's city-wide Cultural Plan which spanned three phases, engaged 2,300 stakeholders, received unanimous Council approval and garnered media attention proclaiming the Cultural Plan was a "game changer" for Hamilton. The Cultural Plan, also known as "Love Your City" earned two national awards – one for excellence in cultural planning and another for creative engagement.

Ali has an MBA in Innovation from McMaster University; as a student, her team's research paper on Innovation in the Public Sector earned the *Best Paper Award* from the Management of Innovation and New Technology Institute, and ignited a passion for innovation in public service. Ali has worked as an analyst, strategic planner, research manager, quality manager, total customer experience manager, internal consultant and senior project manager in the private and public sectors.

Konrad Skorupa, City of Toronto, ON

Konrad Skorupa is committed to elevating the creative and cultural identity of the city. Konrad works as a Cultural Development Officer, Economic Development and Culture at the City of Toronto. His primary role is to develop and implement cultural programs and projects that foster and enhance the growth of Toronto as a creative city. Konrad has been employed in the cultural municipal sector for the past ten years and has worked on programs such as City of Toronto culture funding portfolio, cultural policy development and implementation, Below Market Rent spaces, contributor to the *Live with Culture blog* and the *Making Space for Culture* project. Konrad completed his Honors Bachelor of Arts at the University of Toronto. He continued his studies with a Master's in Education in Community Development at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education and a Graduate Professional Certificate in Cultural Sector Leadership at the University of Victoria. In the past, he has served as a advisory board member at the Peel Art Gallery Museum and Archives (PAMA), Canadian Arts Data (CADAC) agency users committee member, Creative City Network Host City Bid Selection Committee member and city representative on *Indirect cultural investments in five large Canadian cities: a preliminary Analysis*. Currently, Konrad sits on the board of Work in Culture, Humber College Arts Administration and Cultural Management Graduate Certificate Program and Ryerson University Creative Industries degree program.

Teri Souter, Town of Huntsville, ON

Teri has been a municipal manager in Huntsville Ontario for 20 years, where she is currently the Manager of Arts, Culture and Heritage. Her work mandate is to create, sustain and grow a vibrant arts, culture and heritage sector in her community and her portfolio currently includes overseeing Muskoka Heritage Place - a municipal museum, pioneer village and steam train operation; designated built and natural heritage; art exhibits; and, cultural events.

Teri's board experience includes: Executive, Huntsville and Lake of Bays Chamber of Commerce; Executive, Muskoka Tourism; and, Public Secretariat Appointment to the Ontario Trillium Foundation Grant Review Team for Parry Sound, Muskoka, Nipissing, Temiskaming.

Teri also belongs to an ad hoc local service group whose philosophy for leadership is strength and sustainability through leadership rotation, keeping the goals and work of the board closely aligned and engaged with the grass roots membership in a quickly evolving environment.

Michael Tunney, City of Mississauga, ON

Michael Tunney is the Manager of Culture & Heritage Planning for the City of Mississauga where he oversees the cultural planning, research, public art, and heritage planning programs. Since joining the Culture Division in 2011, Michael has developed and implemented cultural resource mapping and research programs, strategic plans and feasibility studies for cultural infrastructure, and most recently led the redevelopment of a WW2 industrial building into the city's newest cultural hub. Prior to joining the City he has worked in municipal planning, museums and galleries, and the commercial art sector.

Since becoming first involved with CCNC in 2014, Michael has presented at summits and regional meetings, and served on summit organizing committees and working groups. He has been on the Board of Directors since 2016 and is the Co-Chair of the 2020-24 Host Bid Committee.

Michael holds an Honours Bachelor of Environmental Studies degree from the University of Waterloo where he studied geography, economic development, visual arts and tourism planning. In 2008 he completed a post-graduate certificate in Museum Management and Curatorial Studies from Fleming College.