

**CREATIVE CITY NETWORK OF CANADA
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**
Friday, May 31, 2013 | 8:30am – 9:30am
Arts Court Theatre, 2 Daly Avenue, Ottawa, ON

REPORT FROM THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE: THE SLATE

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.

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.

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.

Carol Beatty, City of Medicine Hat, Alberta

Carol Beatty has been the Manager of Cultural Development for the City of Medicine Hat since 1998 and project managed the building of the Esplanade Arts and Heritage Centre which opened in the fall of 2005. She manages Cultural Development for the city and Esplanade, with responsibility for other city owned cultural facilities. She has lived and worked in Nova Scotia, Ontario and Alberta where she was Director of Continuing Education for the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design, and worked in museums and art galleries in various capacities in Alberta and Ontario since 1980.

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.

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.

Alison Turner, City of Edmonton, Alberta

Alison is the Communications Director for the Edmonton Arts Council. A graduate of Grant MacEwan's Arts & Cultural Management Program, Alison also has a BA in Philosophy from the University of Alberta and BAA in Radio and Television Arts from Ryerson University. Before joining the EAC, Alison was the Executive Director of the Film & Video Arts Society – Alberta. Alison is interested in cultural policy and the role it plays in shaping communities as well as the lives of the people who make their living in the arts. She has volunteered on several arts boards and committees over the last ten years and is currently teaching the Arts Advocacy and Lobbying course in the Arts and Cultural Management program at Grant MacEwan University.