

## 2021 Annual General Meeting: President's Report

2020 was another busy year for the Society as we continue our passionate quest to build the heART of the West Shore, a sustainable destination for innovation in the arts, culture and creative community development. Despite COVID and the move to online discussions, many significant achievements were made in the past year.

### Site Selection

Our vision is a financially sustainable arts and culture centre that serves the needs of the West Shore communities and beyond. To this end, we are proposing a development project ("Colwood Place") that encompasses the Emily Carr Centre for the Arts together with commercial, residential and other uses.

In June 2020 we made a presentation to the City of Colwood, seeking a long-term lease on City-owned property at the corner of Island Highway and Ocean Boulevard, currently the park and ride site. The development would see restoration of the adjacent wetlands, creation of a public plaza, and retention of the park and ride facility. Over 90 letters were received in support of this request. Council gave approval for staff to work with the Society to draft a Memorandum of Understanding. With the leadership of Jeffrey Simpson of Kaizen CRE Solutions, a draft MOU has been completed and submitted for staff review. We hope to present this to Council early in 2021.

### CRD Stage One Consultations

Several Board members participated in the region-wide "Stage One" consultations, designed to conduct an analysis of gaps and challenges in regional performing arts facilities. It is clear that the proposed Emily Carr Centre for the Arts will address several of the identified gaps.

### Fundraising

To ensure we are prepared for significant fundraising efforts, we interviewed several professional fundraising firms and have begun to identify grants that are aligned with our project.

The Thrifty's Smile Card continues to be an important source of income to support our communications work. Branded merchandise (aprons and bags) are available for sale on our website (get yours before they are gone!)



# Juan de Fuca Performing Arts Centre Society

Charity Registration 79421 9725 RR0001

## Stakeholder Advisory Committee and Stakeholder Survey

We have created a “stakeholder advisory committee” with an exceptional group of community leaders, who are helping to ensure that our project stays grounded in community needs. A survey has gone out to over 50 stakeholder groups, to confirm and update their requirements for space.

## Research

Two master’s students, one from Royal Roads University and one from Indiana University, are assisting us with research into building sustainability options and financial options and opportunities.

## Board of Directors

As a working Board, Directors put a great deal of ‘sweat equity’ into the Society, totaling more than 860 hours of time during 2020. We have three committees to support our work (Property Committee, Communications and Outreach Committee and Finance Committee), and welcome non-Directors to join these committees and support our work.

It has been my great pleasure to work with the 2020 Board of Directors, and I thank them for their dedication and hard work.

Judith Cullington, President  
February 2021

