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AGENDA

Virtual Annual General Meeting March 26th, 2024, 6pm Two Rivers Gallery

- 1. Call to order
- 2. Acknowledgement of the Traditional Territory of the Lheidli T'enneh

3. Adoption of Agenda: March 26, 2024

4. Adoption of Minutes: April 19, 2023

5. Reports:

President's Report Executive Director's Report Audited Financial Statements Appointment of Auditors

6. Election of Directors

Returning: Shelby Petersen, Cheryl Schweizer, Jennifer Young, Chelsea Dunk, Don Melanson, Simon Pow

Standing for re-election: Keli Watson, Yingxin Hong, Shelby Richardson

Standing for election Ali Mammadov

Three calls for nominations from the floor

- 7. New business
- 8. Adjournment
- 9. Guest Speaker Ken Lum following

2023 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

April 19, 2023, 6:00 pm Virtual via Zoom

1. Call to order:

Declaration of Quorum: 28 /15

Time: 6:01 pm

2. Acknowledgement of the Traditional Territory of the Lheidli T'enneh (Shelby Petersen)

3. Adoption of Agenda: April 19, 2023 (6:01 pm)

Motion: To adopt the April 19, 2023 Annual General Meeting Agenda as presented.

MOVED: Kara Biles

SECONDED: Shelby Richardson
ALL IN FAVOR: Everyone
ALL OPPOSED: None
MOTION CARRIED: Yes

4. Adoption of Minutes: March 30, 2022

Motion: To Adopt the Minutes of the March 30, 2022 Annual General Meeting as presented.

MOVED: Shelby Richardson SECONDED: Kara Biles ALL IN FAVOR: Everyone ALL OPPOSED: None MOTION CARRIED: Yes

5. Reports:

a. Vice President's Report (Shelby Petersen)

Motion: To accept the Vice President's report as presented.

MOVED: Peter Maides SECONDED: Kara Biles ALL IN FAVOR: Everyone ALL OPPOSED: None MOTION CARRIED: Yes

a. Management Team Report (George Harris)

Motion: To accept the management reports as presented.

MOVED: Audrey McKinnon

SECONDED: Peter Maides ALL IN FAVOR: Everyone ALL OPPOSED: None MOTION CARRIED: Yes

b. Audited 2022 Financial Statements

We will now hear from our Auditor Taylor Turkington of Beswick Hildebrand Lund.

Motion: To Approve the Audited Financial Statements as presented by Taylor Turkington of Beswick Hildebrand Lund for the fiscal year 2022.

MOVED: Keli Watson

SECONDED: Audrey McKinnon
ALL IN FAVOR: Everyone
ALL OPPOSED: None
MOTION CARRIED: Yes

c. Appointment of Auditors

Motion: Be it resolved that the Prince George Regional Art Gallery Association appoint the firm of Beswick Hildebrand Lund, as the auditor of our financial statements for the fiscal year 2023.

MOVED: Audrey McKinnon SECONDED: Zoey Meletis ALL IN FAVOR: Everyone ALL OPPOSED: None MOTION CARRIED: Yes

6. Retiring Trustees: Kara Biles

Recognition and thanks to Kara Biles for 9 years of service to The Prince George Regional Art Gallery Association.

7. Election of Trustees

Returning: Shelby Richardson, Keli Watson, Jeffrey Wayow, Jennifer Young,

YingXin Hong, Chelsea Dunk, Audrey McKinnon.

Standing for re-election: Shelby Petersen, Darrin Rigo, Cheryl Schweizer

Standing for election: Don Melanson, Simon Pow

Call for nominations from the floor.

- **1.** First call for nominations.
- 2. Second call for nominations.
- 3. Third call for nominations.

No nominations from the floor. Shelby Petersen, Darrin Rigo, Cheryl Schweizer, Don Melanson and Simon Pow are acclaimed to the board of directors.

MOTION: To accept the Executive Committees Nomination Report as presented.

MOVED: Peter Maides

SECONDED: Audrey McKinnon ALL IN FAVOR: Everyone ALL OPPOSED: None

MOTION CARRIED: Yes

8. New business: None

9. Adjournment: 6:52 pm

MOTION: Motion to adjourn the Two Rivers Gallery's 2023 Annual General Meeting.

MOVED: Kara Biles

SECONDED: Shelby Richardson

ALL IN FAVOR: Everyone ALL OPPOSED: None MOTION CARRIED: Yes

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

SHELBY PETERSEN

Hadih and welcome – my name is Shelby Petersen and I am the President of the Two Rivers Gallery Board of Directors. I am speaking to you today from the unce ed ancestral lands of the Lheidli T'enneh where I am grateful to have been born and now live, work, and play as an uninvited settler.

Thank you to all the Gallery members who have taken the time out of your evenings to join us today. The Board and I want to share our appreciation for you and all the ways you've supported the Gallery in the last year.

Reflecting on 2023, I am heartened by the stellar work and by the dedication of the Two Rivers staff who show up each day with enthusiasm. Your constant commitment to the organization, our community, artists, members, and non-members is so admirable. The Gallery is extremely lucky to have such a great staff and we really got to hear what a positive impact the staff has made throughout Prince George.

The last several years have not been without challenges from a global pandemic to leadership changes. Throughout these challenges the Gallery has continued to offer quality programming and diverse exhibitions that embody the organization's key Strategic Foundations:

- Reconciliation
- Fostering learning through contemporary art, creativity, and creation
- Administrative and financial health

I encourage anyone who hasn't had a chance to look at the Strategic Plan yet to check it out on the Two Rivers website.

New Executive Director

Sara Knelman, who was the Executive Director since 2020, resigned in early January 2023. Under Sara's leadership the Gallery was able to successfully navigate the COVID-19 pandemic as well as execute the creation of our new Strategic Plan in 2022. With Sara's departure, George Harris stepped up to hold the Interim Executive Director role. Shortly thereafter, George was officially hired on as the Gallery's Executive Director. As many here know, George has a long tenure with the Gallery, working as the Curator for over 20 years. The Board felt that there was no better candidate than George with his extensive working knowledge of the Gallery and his dedication to the community.

Since being hired on, George has done a great job collaborating with his team to deliver exciting programs and immerse himself within this new role. Thanks, George – you're doing a great job and I can't wait to see what's instore.

With George now assuming the Executive Director responsibilities that meant that the Gallery was on the hunt for a new Curator. After an extensive cross-Canada search, George successfully hired Ehsan Mohammadi at the end of 2023. Ehsan is a folklorist and visual arts curator originally from Iran. Previously, Ehsan resided in St. Johns, Newfoundland for five years

and he now fondly refers to it as his second home. Thank you, Ehsan, for joining the Gallery, and I'm so excited to see you grow and flourish in our community.

2023 Reflections

As George has mentioned in his Executive Director's Report, 2023 saw the opening of many diverse and thought-provoking exhibitions including, most recently, Knock Knock: Art, Humour and Meaning from which we will hear a talk by Ken Lum this evening. Thank you to George for you help stewarding this year's exhibitions while also transitioning into your roles as Executive Director.

This year also saw the continuation of many great programs offered by the Gallery including BMO Community Art Days. BMO Community Art Days has already become a staple event in our community with many looking forward to attending each year. Another notable program is Beads and Bannock led by Indigenous Programmer Crystal Behn. This program allows attendees to enjoy some freshly made treats while learning traditional Indigenous art.

Again, I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all the staff here at the Gallery. You form the heart of this organization.

Thank you

I am grateful to my fellow Directors Don Melanson (Vice President), Ying Hong (Treasurer), Jennifer Young (Secretary), Shelby Richardson, Cheryl Schweizer, Chelsea Dunk, Keli Watson and Simon Pow for your unique pespectives and commitment to the Gallery and to the community of Prince George.

A huge thank you to our members, donors, friends, and supporters – you help make the Gallery an amazing place for everyone to enjoy. We are so grateful to you, and we really couldn't do all of this without you. Thank you from the entire Board of Governors.

Shelby Petersen Board President

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

GEORGE HARRIS

I am very grateful to have the opportunity to live, work and raise a family on the traditional unceded territory of the Lheidli T'enneh, a place where I have lived for a substantial part of my life as an uninvited settler. It is also a great privilege to be part of an art museum and to play a role in this community.

2023 was a demanding year, in many ways, and I want to recognise, with gratitude, the support of the Board of Directors and my colleagues at Two Rivers Gallery for their hardwork and support. Sara Knelman, Executive Director since 2020, resigned in January and I took over her role. As I have transitioned from the role of curator into the role of Executive Director over this last year it has been fascinating to see an organisation I have worked with for so long from a different perspective. I look forward to continuing to learn and grow in this new role and to continue to deliver exciting programs in collaboration with this team.

In early 2023, repairs and restorations resulting from the July 2022 fire in the shop were largely completed. The floor in the South Gallery was replaced and repairs to the shop were resolved. Pam Carlson did a fantastic job in the first quarter of the year in replacing shop furniture and resetting the space making it look great. After months and months of concessions we were able to start resuming work more or less as normal.

Our first exhibition of 2023 was Jose Luis Torres' exhibition *Transition* an installation-based exhibition that was designed and built specifically for Two Rivers Gallery by the Quebec based artist. The installation addressed migration relocation, displacement and adaptation. as a way of exploring relationships between places and the consequences of journeying between them. We were thrilled to partner with Le Cercle des Canadiens Français de Prince George who translated the artist's talk. The exhibition required the collection of furniture and many household items much of which we were able to disperse to recent settlers to Prince George including Ukranian settlers.

Catherine Blackburn's *New Age Warriors with Recent Works* incorporated a touring component circulated by the Dunlop Art Gallery, as well as new works selected in collaboration with the artist. A rising figure in both the art and fashion world, Blackburn creates a dialogue between traditional aspects of Dene culture and new interpretations of them as she works to heal the wounds of colonialism. In conjunction with this exhibition we hosted fashion designer Olamipo Bandele's *Fear of Missing Out* which explored connections to her Nigerian homeland through clothing design.

With the onset of Spring, thoughts turned to our Regional Outreach projects. This year, we circulated an exhibition of paintings by Métis artist Erin Stagg called *Otipemisewak: The People Who Own Themselves*, and developed a publication with the same title. This body of work had been shown previously in the Galleria and was well received in the communities of Valemount, Mackenzie and McBride, to which it circulated. Our school-based program, Imagination on the Move, partnered with artist Kim Hayhurst to explore notions of self-growth and community inspired by the ideas of a community garden. In-class activities focussed on *Before we Stood Tall*, a book written by Jessica Kulekjian and illustrated by local artist Madeline Kloepper. Our Outreach team Kyra Thibadeau and Tehja Orcherton visited 8 schools and around 1200

students throughout the district.

This project fed into BMO Community Art Days in collaboration with Kim Hayhurst who was engaged as an artist in Residence for this two-day festival of creativity. Hayhurst led BMO Commuity Art Days participants to develop a series of plant forms out of paper and other material which expressed aspects of their maker's character. These were installed in the Galleria in order to form a kind of community Garden. Paul de Guzman, was our second Artist in Residence for the event. De Guzman, a Filipino-Canadian artist focussed on sipa, a pre-Colonial form of Hacky Sack. Having a strong socially engaged element, participants were invited to try their hand in the game while engaging in conversation and cultural exchange. I am grateful to Sarah Pashkewicz and Sofia Comas who led BMO Community Art Days, to the many community participants and especially to BMO for being this event's title sponsor.

In August, we opened *Nonreturnables* featuring work by Gwenyth Chao, Anna Gustafson, Hildur Jónasson, Desirée Patterson, Mima Preston, Sylvie Roussel-Janssens, Clare Thomas, and Carlyn Yandle and Jude Greibel's *Dismantled Worlds*. Both exhibitions examined challenges of our time. *Nonreturnables* considered our relationship to plastic through the viewpoint of participating artists. *Dismantled Worlds* took a poignant look at themes including consumerism, climate change and pollution with wit and dry humour. This was a popular exhibition that we chose to hold over to the end of the year. Sofia Comas and her team developed *Nonreturnables: A Plastic Expo* to further explore issues arising from the exhibition with a number of community partners. Of course, members of our Learning and Engagement program are always there to offer exhibition tours and art explorations that offer further opportunities for discussion, learning and insight.

We presented numerous programs over the course of the year including *Art-Heals*, *Beads and Bannock*, kids' camps and countless other activities. While far too many to include in this narrative, they are an important part of our engagement with our community and help define the character of our organisation. Programs would not be possible, however without the people who run them. To that end, I am endlessly grateful to our team of staff and contractors with whom we work to share these opportunities with our community. Particularly, I would like to extend my thanks to our staff who have led the Gallery and our programs throughout the year, Oliva Beck, Pam Carlson, Kris Harris, Roxanne Heroux-Boulay, Sofia Comas, Kyra Thibadeau, Crystal Behn, Melanie Bellwood, Kaos Campbell, Ming Draper, Melissa Glover, Andrea Hawco, Luc Iannone, Cassidy Muir, Sara Pashkewicz, Brianna Rose, Tehja Orcherton, Teresa Chu, Kait Herlehy, Larque Law, Eden Dale, Ehsan Mohammadi and Evelin Bowolin.

While we have bid some of our team farewell, we have welcomed new colleagues, notably Interim Assistant Curator Brianna Rose and Curator Ehsan Mohammadi. As we embark on a new year, I am excited to move forward and continue to work with our team to engage with our community through its exhibitions and programs.

Thank you Respectfully submitted George Harris Executive Director

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2023

Shelby Petersen **President**

Elected 03/20

Jennifer Young Secretary Elected 02/16

Simon Pow **Director** Elected 03/23

Keli Watson Director

Appointed 05/17 Elected 03/18

Shelby Richardson

Director Elected 03/21

Jeffrey Wayow **Director** Resigned

Kara Biles **President**

Completed maximum term

Don Melanso Vice President Elected 03/23

Cheryl Schweizer

Director Elected 03/20

Chelsea Dunk **Director**Elected 03/22

YingXing Hong **Director**

Appointed 07/20 Elected 03/21

Audrey Mackinnon

Director Resigned

Darrin Rigo **Director** Resigned

Board Committees active in 2023

Finance Committee Members

YinXin Hong, Shelby Petersen, Darrin Rigo, Keli Watson, Don Melanson, Sara Knelman and George Harris

Membership and Fundraising Committee

Shelby Richardson, Cheryl Schweizer, Shelby Petersen, Don Melanson, Jennifer Young, Roxanne Heroux Boulay, Olivia Beck, Kris Harris and George Harris

Governance Committee

Simon Pow, Don Melanson, Shelby Petersen, Audrey Mackinnon and George Harris

TRG GALLERY STAFF 2023

FULL-TIME

George HarrisExecutive Director

Ehsan Mohammadi Curator

Olivia Beck Operations Manager

Kris Harris Administrative Assistant

Sofia Comas
Director of Learning
& Engagement

Kaitlyn Herlehy Assistant Curator

Teresa Chu Registrar & Preparator

Roxanne Heroux-Boulay Marketing Coordinator & Graphic Designer

Pamela Carlson Two Rivers Gallery Shop Manager

Kyra ThibaudeauPublic Programming
Coordinator

Brianna Rose Interim Assistant Curator

PART-TIME

Crystal BehnIndigenous Programmer

Kaos Campbell Visitor Experience

Luc lannoneFacility, Safety & IT Supervisor

Eveline Bowolin Custodian

Sarah Pashkewicz Creative Representative

Melissa Glover Art Heals Coordinator

Andrea Hawco Art Heals Facilitator

Cassidy Muir Visitor Experience

Ming Draper Visitor Experience

SUMMER STUDENTS & INTERNS

Kyra Thibaudeau Regional Program Coordinator

Tehja Orcherton Regional Program Coordinator

Sarah Pashkewicz Community Art Days Coordinator

Eden Dale Creativity Camp Coordinator

Larque Law
Curatorial Assistant
Navdeep Singh
CNC Tourism Intern

CONTRACTORS

MNP LLP Bookkeeper

Surface Impressions
Website Development

VOLUNTEERS

Vicki Chen **Etsuko Sudo-Rustad** Hannah Cole **Sue-Ellen Cassidy** Sophia Garbutt Goji Leakey Ash Lawrence **Jennifer Young Mary Irving Faye Sibley** Jordana Archer Rena McEvoy **Emma Bains** Maria Colin Andrea Hawco Andre Tapia **Anne Harris** Mary Applegate **Dusty Martin** Faezeh Mahdavishirazi Viktoria Drigo **Rhonda Corman** Melissa Glover Lily Dale Laura-anne Browning **Chantal Presse** Vangelene Lily Dannika Rose Seungyeop Shin

Ada Chow

FUNDERS & PARTNERS

The Prince George Regional Art Gallery Association gratefully acknowledges the support of the following public agencies, companies and individuals:

Funders

BC Arts Council
Canada Council for the Arts
Government of Canada
Prince George Community
Foundation
Province of British Columbia
Regional District of Fraser-Fort
George

Sponsors

BC Lottery Corporation BMO Bank of Montreal Canfor City of Prince George Northern Development Initiative Trust RBC Foundation

Partners

BC Early Childhood Pedagogy
Network
Books & Company
College of New Caledonia
Coast PC Hotel by APA
CFUR 88.7
Cinema CNC
Emily Carr University of Art +
Design
Immigrant and Multicultural
Services Society (IMSS) of
Prince George
Inspiring Women Among Us
Jim Pattison Group
Kiwanis

Le Cercle des Canadiens Français de Prince George Northern Health Pacific Autism Family Network Prince George Citizen Prince George Urban Aboriginal **Justice Society REAPS** School District #57 Spinal Cord BC **Technogeeks** The Exploration Place The Makerie The Prince George Public Library Theatre Northwest Tourism PG **UNBC** Vista Radio

Patron and Donors

Wesley Mitchell

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Elizabeth Kovacic Kueng
Michael Busch
Pnina Granirer
Ravi Saxena
Rita Leisner
Richard E Prince
Ted Price
Troy Lindstrom

PUBLIC PROGRAMS

Children & Youth	School	Adult	
Creative Space Sunday	Art Explorations	Art Heals	
SmART Saturday Art Classes (3-4 years)	School Tours Homeschool Program	Art Disco	
SmART Saturday Art Class (5-7 years)	Artist Talks with CNC	Artist Talk Series Art with Maureen Faulkner	
SmART Saturday Art Class (8-12 years)		Art & Stewardship Workshop	
Spring Break Creativity Camps		Beads & Bannock	
Summer Creativity Camps	Special Events	Cyanotype Print Workshop with Desirée Patterson	
Pro D Day Creativity Camps	Nonreturnables: A Plastic Expo	Self Directing Life Drawing	
Good Trouble Youth Art Collective (14-20 years)		In-person Gallery Tours	
Regional Summer Program	Vivek Shraya in partnership with	Wonder is a Gift with Erin Stagg	
	IWAU	Lhuhuwezdel (Gather) Cherries Workshop	
		Lhuhuwezdel (Gather) Fireweed Workshop	
		Lhuhuwezdel (Gather) Saskatoons Workshop	

LOCAL & REGIONAL OUTREACH

National Day of Truth & Reconciliation Day
Aimhi Walkathon

Pioneer Days McBride

Canada Day

National Indigenous Peoples

Day

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Year	2023
On-Site Visitation	14,531
Number of Memberships	214
School & Program Attendance	6,653
Local & Regional Outreach Attendance	2,923
Community Art Days Attendance	7,273
Number of Exhibitions	10
Number of Curatorial Publications	1
Number of Full-Time Employees	9
Number of Part-Time Employees	9
Number of Summer Student Employees/Interns	6
Number of Volunteers	44
Number of Volunteer Hours	452
Number of Donations to the Permanent Collection	11
Social Media Reach	78,600
Social Media Followers Gained	703

EXHIBITIONS

MAIN GALLERIES

February 11th to April 9th *Transition*José Luis Torres

April 28th to July 9th

New Age Warriors and Recent Works

Catherine Blackburn

New Age Warriors curated by Jesse Campbell, Organized by Mann Art Gallery and Circulated by Dunlop Art Gallery, Regina Public Library.

With selected recent works curated by Two Rivers Gallery.

July 28th, 2023 to January 7th, 2024 *Dismantled Worlds*

Jude Griebel

July 28th, 2023 to January 7th, 2024

Nonreturnables

Gwenyth Chao, Anna Gustafson, Hildur Jónasson, Desirée Patterson, Mima Preston, Sylvie Roussel-Janssens, Clare Thomas, and Carlyn Yandle









EXHIBITIONS

GALLERIA

February 11th Winter Festival

Group exhibition in collaboration with Le Cercle des Canadiens Français de Prince George

March 17th to May 7th

Otipemisewak: The People Who Own Themselves

Erin Stagg

May 18th to July 2nd *Fear of Missing Out* Olamipo Bandele

July 7th to August 13th **Greening the Gallery**Collaborative installation between Two Rivers Gallery and The Makerie

August 18th to October 1st **Up Around the Bend** Emily Wilson

October 6th to December 10th *Limbinal Mappings* Gwynne Bilski











REGIONAL OUTREACH EXHIBITION

Otipemisewak: The People Who Own Themselves

Erin Stagg

Mackenzie Community Arts Center from June 22 – July 30

Valemount Museum from August 16 - September 22

McBride Valley Museum and Archives from October 17 - November 17

PERMANENT COLLECTION

2023

Dan Steeves. From light to obscurity and darkness, 1998. Ink on paper.

Dan Steeves. The Last Home, 1995. Ink on paper.

Dan Steeves. The thought can needle, 1997. Ink on paper.

Dan Steeves. Through the darkness, 1998. Ink on paper.

Richard E. Prince. *The Pageant of the Copper Moon*, 2016. Steel tube, barrow wheels, whale bone, aluminum, copper, steel plumbing pipe and hockey tape.

Aileen Bahmanipour. Blind Contour Drawing of Victory, 2022. Ink on paper.

Rita Leistner. *Alexander Miller*, 2016. Pigment print on hahnemüle photo silk baryta paper, flush mounted to aluminum composite panel.

Rita Leistner. *Franco Berti*, 2016. Pigment print on hahnemüle photo silk baryta paper, flush mounted to aluminum composite panel.

Rita Leistner. *Jose Kaze*, 2016. Pigment print on hahnemüle photo silk baryta paper, flush mounted to aluminum composite panel.

Rita Leistner. *Matthew Muzzati*, **2016.** Pigment print on hahnemüle photo silk baryta paper, flush mounted to aluminum composite panel.

Rita Leistner. *Oceanne Bourque*, 2016. Pigment print on hahnemüle photo silk baryta paper, flush mounted to aluminum composite panel.

PUBLICATION

Otipemisewak: The People Who Own Themselves. Erin Stagg, with text by Kait Herlehy and Larque Law.

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Ken Lum

Ken Lum's work is part of our current exhibition *Knock Knock: Art, Humour and Meaning*, on display until April 7, 2024. Lum is professor at the University of Pennsylvania's School of Design in Philadelphia, but he was born in Vancouver and has strong connections throughout the province. He is known for his conceptual and representational art in a number of media, including painting, sculpture and photography. Lum is an important voice in contemporary art. He has distinguished himself not only as an artist of note, but as a professor of visual art at UBC, and several other notable schools, and he is co-founder and founding editor of Yishu: Journal of Contemporary Chinese Art. His significant contributions are recognised with the Governor-General's Award in Visual and Media Arts and his investment as an Officer of the Order of Canada.

