



Electoral Area Directors & Municipal Regional District Tax Committee

MEETING AGENDA

September 3, 2024 – 12:00pm
RDMW Office – 2044 McNeill Road, Port McNeill, BC

Page **CALL TO ORDER**

- 1** **1. Agenda**
Approval of Agenda as Presented or Amended (September 3, 2024)
- 2-3** **2. Minutes**
Adoption of EA & MRDT Committee Meeting Minutes held July 16, 2024
- 4-13** **3. Report – Economic Development** (August 23, 2024)
RTAG 2024-05 BC Movement Arts Society

- 4. Next Meeting – To be announced**

ADJOURN



Electoral Area Directors & Municipal Regional District Tax Committee

MINUTES

July 16, 2024

RDMW Office – 2044 McNeill Road, Port McNeill, BC

CALL TO ORDER: 12:24 pm

Attendance:

EA/PA Directors: Chair Andrew Hory, Kevin Cameron (Zoom), Michelle Pottage (Zoom)
Kathryn Wykes, Dave Summers (12:31pm)

Staff: David Kim, CAO; Pat English, Economic Development,
Nadine Weldon, Administrative Assistant, N. McDowell, Recording Secretary

Public: Dennis Buchanan, John Tidbury, Pat Corbett-Labatt, James Furney

1. Agenda

24-12 It was moved and seconded, that the agenda dated July 16, 2024 be approved. **CARRIED**

2. Minutes

24-13 It was moved and seconded, that the minutes dated June 18, 2024 be adopted. **CARRIED**

3. Reports

- a) RTAG 2024-04 The Gatehouse Theatre Community Association
North Island Music Festival – August 24, 2024

Also noted:

- *2nd year that this event has applied for a grant.*
- *Received an approval from BC Fairs, Festivals and Events for a grant amount of \$5,000*
- *They have also submitted a grant request to the Town of Port McNeill for funding in the amount of \$3,000.00*

24-14
RTAG 2024-04

It was moved and seconded, that up to \$5,000 be approved for the Gatehouse Community Association, subject to confirmation of the requested grant from the Town of Port McNeill for the Rural Tourism Action Grant RTAG 2024-04

- b) 2024/2025 Rural Tourism Action Grant Program
Guidelines Amendment

24-15 It was moved and seconded, that the Rural Tourism Action Grant Program Guidelines be amended to explicitly exclude capital spending from the program. **CARRIED**

4. Application for Funding: Woss Community Hall

Also noted:

- *This community hall is used as the main recreation centre for the community and is utilized year round for a variety of sports groups and community recreation events.*
- *The flooring was refurbished approximately 14 years ago*
- *The RDMW will be the project manager for this project.*

24-16
CWF2024-02

It was moved and seconded, that funding for the Woss Community Hall Flooring project be approved up to \$40,000, with \$20,000 to be funded from the Woss Community Recreation Capital Reserve Fund and up to \$20,000 to be funded from the Community Works Fund (Project #CWF2024-02)

Next Meeting – To be announced

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at: 12:48 pm

CERTIFIED CORRECT

CHAIR

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER



**REGIONAL DISTRICT OF MOUNT WADDINGTON
BRIEFING NOTE**

TO: Electoral Area Directors and the Director for Port Alice **FILE NO.**
FROM: Pat English, Acting Manager Economic Development
SUBJECT: Rural Tourism Action Grant (RTAG)
DATE: August 23, 2024

APPLICATION

RTAG 2024.05 – BCMAS

The BC Movement Arts Society of Sointula is requesting a RTAG grant of \$5000 to support marketing efforts for the 4th season of the North Island Contemporary Dance Series scheduled for March – June 2025. Shows are planned for Sointula, Port Alice, Port Hardy and Alert Bay. The project has a total budget of \$33,500 with \$7,000 requested from the BC Arts Council, and \$13,000 from Canadian Heritage and Canada Council. BCMAS is contributing \$6,000 from its own reserves.

A detailed budget of expenses and revenues is included in the application package.

The proposed event meets the criteria of the Festivals & Events Program of the RTAG program to support event planning, implementation, and the design and production of marketing materials.

Accordingly, it is recommended for approval.

Respectfully submitted,

Acting Manager of Economic Development

Chief Administrative Officer
David Kim

SIGNATURE



Regional District of Mount Waddington

2024 Rural Tourism Action Grant

Electoral Areas A, B, C, D and Village of Port Alice

APPLICATION FORM

Please refer to Program Guide for more information.

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name of Organization BC Movement Arts Society

Key Contact Person Mary-Louise Albert

Mailing Address P.O. Box 177 Postal Code V0N 3E0
P.O. Box, Street, Village, Town etc.

Phone 604-970-3206 Fax _____ Email albertmarylouise@gmail.com

Incorporation, Business/Society No. S-0064195 Or other _____ Date of Incorp. June 30,2015

PROGRAM (choose one)

Trail Enhancement

Name of Trail _____

Description _____

Timeline _____

Festival & Events

Name of Event North Island Contemporary Dance Series - marketing support requested

Description _____

Timeline March 2024 to June 2025

Community Tourism

Name of Project _____

Location _____

Description _____

Timeline _____

FUNDING AND BUDGET

Sources of Funding	\$ Amount	%
Community/Local government (specify) BC Arts Council	\$7,000,	21%
Other funding (specify) Canadian Heritage & Canada Council	\$13,000	57%
In Kind Contributions	\$2,500	.7%
Proposed Request from the Rural Tourism Action Grant	\$5,000	15%
Total Sources of Funding	33,500	100%

Project Budget (define categories) Table can be expanded	\$ Amount
advertising (all mediums), printing, distribution, video trailers and design	\$21,000
communications manager and publicist	\$10,000
Administrative and outreach facilitation	\$2500
Total Project Budget	\$33,500

PROJECT BENEFITS

Describe how the project will assist either local or regional tourism destination marketing in your community.

PLEASE SEE ATTACHED PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND PROJECT BENEFITS

Please attach Community letters of support, permits, authorizations and evidence of legal status.

Note that funding cannot be provided without satisfactory provision of this information.

AUTHORIZATION

I/we certify that the information provided in this Application Form is to the best of my/our knowledge, complete, true and accurate and the proposal does not contravene Regional District of Mount Waddington or Village of Port Alice policies or bylaws.

I/we agree that the information provided in this Application Form will be shared with the Regional District of Mount Waddington Rural Tourism Action Grant review panel and Board upon request.

I/we understand that there is no guarantee that this application will be funded.

I/we also understand that the Regional District of Mount Waddington will not be responsible for any costs incurred in the preparation of this application, or any subsequent application for funding from the Regional District, and this application is being prepared entirely at my/our own risk and cost.

Signature of Authorized Representative(s)



Printed Name or Names Mary-louise Albert

Title Artistic & Executive Director

Date July 18,2024

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

North Island Regional Contemporary Dance Series – March 2025 to June 2025:

(Our fiscal year runs July 1 to June 30)

Our year-round presentation series (which will be its 4th Season for this application's 2024/2025 fiscal year) features exciting dance productions presented in up to 4 locations. Because of distance and geographical constraints (mountain passes, weather etc.) each production has consecutive shows in:

- Sointula: in either of the Finnish Halls and the AJ Elliott Elementary School;
- Port Alice: Recreation Centre
- Port Hardy Civic Centre or Port McNeill Gate House Theatre;
- 'Namgis Nation/Alert Bay: at the 'Namgis Lawrence Ambers Memorial Recreation Center;
- Campbell River: at the Tidemark Theatre
- Powell River: Evergreen Theatre

By offering performances in these locations, we honour our commitment to equitable access for all of the North Island Region and ensuring for safe travel during late fall/winter/months, when because of weather, area connections for road travel can be difficult and often unsafe.

The artists programmed are a minimum of 70% BC born or based dance artists and a maximum of 30% national/international.

Our shows in 'Namgis Nation/Alert Bay are shared with local indigenous artists such as the T'Sasala Cultural Group.

This upcoming 4th season visiting artists which this application is for, includes:

- Vanessa Goodman & Carolyn Shaw in *Graveyards & Gardens* (BC/US)
- Tentacle Tribe (Montreal)
- Tara Cheyenne Performance in PANTS (BC);
- T'sasala Cultural Group ('Namgis Nation/Alert Bay)
- Sidra Bell Dance NY (New York City)
- Arash Khapour, Rebecca Margolick and Tushrick Fredericks (BC/South Africa)
- Cristina Bucci and OURO Collective (BC)

Artist Engagement with Indigenous Cultural leaders:

Our programmed artists engagement with local indigenous communities under BCMAS Advisor, Andrea Cranmer's leadership. Artists have personal sharing and learning sessions with 'Namgis cultural leader and language teacher Andrea Cranmer. The performances on the 'Namgis Nation in the 'Namgis Lawrence Ambers Recreation Centre include sharing with Indigenous dance & music. PLEASE SEE ATTACHED LETTER.

Additional Activities – Creation Residencies for professional BC based/and or born dance artists:

Creation Residency programming for professional BC based/and or born dance artist.

Creation residencies provide excellent opportunity for dance artists artistically and supports their financial needs to create - an ongoing challenge, in particular for independent dance artists and small companies. Our residencies connect dance artists with new choreographic opportunities, enables intimate discussion platforms with a remote coastal community and increases rural community understanding and appreciation of professional contemporary dance. Our 2025 Creation Residencies will include communal 'Eating Meetings' where the artists will share their work in progress with community followed by a group discussion/feedback over a potluck meal. "Eating Meetings" were a common form of community decision making and information sharing by the early Finnish settlers seeking a socialist utopian commune on the island. This practice carried on in Sointula until the early 60's. Sharing over food is universal and delightful.

Thank you for considering our Application.

BC Movement Arts COMMUNITY BENEFITS

BCMAS is located on Malcom Island, within the unceded Kwakwaka'wakw territories of the 'Namgis, Kwakiutl, and Mamalilikala Nations and is committed to the development, understanding and enjoyment of dance in rural BC and to enhancing social interaction and well-being. In dance, we believe live performance is so important and rural communities are often deprived of this opportunity. Bringing professional dance to these communities (as opposed to the residents usually needing to travel long distances see shows) fulfills an unserved demand, stimulates artistic interest and growth. It is very expensive for people living in these areas to travel to urban centres such as Victoria and Metro Vancouver to see performances as it incurs significant costs relating to overnight stays and taking time off work. As well, participatory community dance activities in one's own community are fun, educational, healthy and contribute to social well-being.

We are excited to be offering opportunities for dance artists by way of engaging with communities and audiences in a non urban setting that is rich in history, resource industry, perseverance, hard work and spectacular natural surroundings. The series supports development of local arts workers (examples: videographers, editors, technicians) and local artists (local dance teachers, local opening show performers). This fosters meaningful present and future connections with rural based and urban based artists and arts workers. Local visual artists have the opportunity to share their artistic practise with the artists.

The caliber of artists presented and our presentation skills and capabilities not only encourage people living in the region to attend but also encourages tourists to plan their visits to the region around our performances and outreach activities. Our series spans non-peak tourist seasons as well. We market province wide as well nationally/internationally through social media/online platforms.

We connect dance artists with new audiences in a variety of settings from performance to intimate discussion platforms; choreographic/performing opportunities; increasing rural community understanding and appreciation of dance. The visiting artists as well develop valuable understanding of remote rural living and share their experiences when they return home. Local benefits include: paying local artists, and Indigenous cultural leaders (in addition to the visiting artists); creating volunteer and paid opportunities for local arts workers such as videographers, venue technicians, marketing, communications, administration; now that public health restrictions have lifted, we can again offer free dance workshops for local public schools and community, contributing to youth and community (and visiting artist) development. Two recent examples:

Visiting dance artist Rebecca Margolick taught two dance workshops for the T'lisalagi'lakw School in Alert Bay in April; Visiting Dance Artists Allen and Karen Kaeja two free community adult dance workshops in June and those who participated also joined them on stage at the end of the Kaeja's performances in Sointula and Pt. McNeill, performing with them in a final dance.

As well we support local economic financial development such as, and not limited to, renting rehearsal and performing spaces (Sointula Recreation Association for example receives 1,000's of dollars annually from us in venue rent); paying for local accommodation – guest houses and hotels; supporting local businesses such as grocery stores, restaurants, printing stores; we share our equipment (video camera, portable sound system, lights, blackout curtains for free with regional arts and community organizations.

There is no similar annual professional dance series or dance residencies in the Mt. Waddington Region. More people are moving into rural areas due to the high cost of living in BC's urban centres. We fill an artistic and cultural regional gap and support equitable accessibility of professional dance for all of BC.



June 20, 2024

Regional District of Mount Waddington
Box 729, 2044 McNeill Road,
Port McNeill, BC V0N 2R0.

Re: BC Movement Arts Society's Rural Tourism Action Grant Application

To Whom it May Concern,

I am very pleased to write this letter of support for the BC Movement Arts Society's (BCMAS) application for a Rural Tourism Action Grant to support the organization's wonderful 4th annual North Island Contemporary Dance Series.

The SRC strongly supports this application as BCMAS's dance series is a very expensive event that deserves financial support from the RDMW. It has, over the past number of years, brought dance performance at the highest level to the North Island, engaging and enlightening audiences that would otherwise rarely, if ever get a chance to see it. At the same time the artists have found an inspiring setting for creative residencies and local businesses have benefitted by being paid by BCMAS for services such as accommodations and hall rentals in Sointula, Pt. McNeill, Alert Bay as well as Campbell River; paid print and online advertising in local papers as examples. This is exactly the kind of economic diversification that we need and serves as an example of what creative and motivated organizations can achieve.

We sincerely hope that BCMAS maintains a long-term presence here, and that other like-minded organizations see its success and want to follow suit.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Bishop
Operations Manager, Sointula Resource Centre



280 1st Street
Sointula, BC V0N 3E0
250-230-9650
www.sointulamuseum.ca
June 21, 2024

Regional District of Mount Waddington
Box 729, 2044 McNeill Road,
Port McNeill, BC V0N 2R0.

Re: BC Movement Arts Society's Rural Tourism Action Grant Application

To Whom it May Concern,

I am very pleased to write this letter of support for the BC Movement Arts Society (BCMAS) application for a Regional District of Mount Waddington Rural Tourism Action Grant. BCMAS is a valued and unique professional dance organization based here on Malcolm Island. The organization's performance, outreach and residency programming are of the highest level. Its dedication to ensuring British Columbians in rural and remote communities have the opportunity to experience professional dance is insightful and forward thinking.

In addition to the above, BCMAS, under the direction of its Artistic & Executive Director, Mary-Louise Albert engages with the community in creative and practical ways and contributes thousands of dollars a year to the local community – multi-week rental income to the Sointula Recreation Association; local accommodations; local and regional businesses such as the Sointula Co-Op Store, Malcolm Island Food Company, Coho Joes Café, Gate House Theatre, 'Namgis Lawrence Ambers Memorial Recreation Center, Pt. Hardy Civic Centre; Rural Island Economic Partnerships amongst others. And of course, the numerous professional artists that BCMAS supports financially and artistic growth/development wise.

The Sointula Museum has benefited from project partnerships and support from BCMAS: BCMAS (supported by the Sointula Museum with archival research) created a beautiful dance and spoken word piece called *Harbour*, that integrated community performers, honouring the strength and courage of past women held dear and the museum's 50th Anniversary. Choreographed and performed by professional dance artist and BCMAS Advisor, Rebecca Margolick, the dance integrated the heartfelt words of two of the original Sointula Finnish women, the late Katri Riksmán & Olga Myntti. BCMAS filmed *the* production which is now a legacy to the participants and community. *Harbour* is permanently available for viewing on demand in the museum's Media Centre by all who visit the Sointula Museum.

The Museum created an award-winning documentary film entitled *Sointula: History and Memories* of an important photo identification archival project that involves local Seniors. BCMAS donated video equipment, lights and sound for the project, including numerous volunteer hours from Mary-Louise who as well co-directed the film and was one of two videographers. The Sointula Museum received a 2024 BC Heritage Award in the Education, Communications and Awareness category for *Sointula: History and Memories*.

BCMAS understands and value the importance of expertise, and of how meaningful it is for small communities to be given opportunities to come together through cultural, historical and artistic endeavours.

I whole heartedly support this application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kathy Gibler".

Kathy Gibler
Manager, Sointula Museum and Historical Society

BCMAS 2023/2024 FINAL REPORT TESTIMONIALS:

Comment from emerging dancer, Rhiannon Beausoleil-Morison:

“The experience of touring the North Island with AUTour was easily the best way to round off our year together as a company. The audiences that we shared our repertoire with were incredibly supportive and always welcomed us with the most open arms. There is nothing like having access to great art in beautiful landscapes of Canada. Thank you BC Movement Arts Society, the world needs more!”

Audience member and reviewer Debra Lynn re March 2024 show – Zachary Burke & Artists:

“Notable about the show is that, especially after the Whitney Houston number, it left you feeling good all over and maybe even with a spring in your step. Once the show was done, some of the audience might have felt like dancing their way out of the venue to their cars. I certainly did!”

Audience member Fred Middleton re March 2024 show – Zachary Burke & Artists:

“Firstly, we enjoyed last night's performance (and talk back) immensely. It was probably one of my top two of all the great dance shows you've brought here. Thanks for helping to fill the cultural void often associated with somewhat isolated communities. We encouraged anyone who was not there last night, to get their asses there tonight. Here's hoping for another full house for everyone's benefit.”

Audience member and reviewer Debra Lynn re October 2024 show – Ballet Kelowna:

“All and all, North Islanders were treated to a high-calibre show that can usually only be enjoyed in the major cultural centres of the world, like New York, Paris, Montreal. Many thanks are due to Mary-Louise Albert and the BC Movement Arts Society for working tirelessly to bring such cutting-edge dance performances to our corner of the world.”

Audience member Barbara Mallett who attended AU Tour Dance Company in Powell River:

“Came to Powell River. They were fabulous! Do you accept donations?”

“Just keep doing what makes things work. I'm open to whatever you think on getting the word out - local paper/the peak, Powell River living, posters, etc. also could help off stage if that would be useful. I was in a university dance company many years ago, and always loved watching dance and taking classes.” (Barbara gave us a \$250 donation and wants to volunteer for future shows!)

Comment from a 2024 artist on their cultural sharing experience: Karen Kaeja, Co-Artistic Director, Kaeja d'Dance:

“It is clear that the years of dedication that Mary-Louise has passionately devoted to creating a robust collaboration with the 'Namgis traditional dancers, emanates an undeniable value to dance in Canada. Allen and I felt a beautiful gravity of exchange during our sharing and conversation with them on their reserve. The sharing invitation to witness their dances and share one of our lifeDUETs in real time, along with wonderful open conversation, was massively impactful. The experience exponentially filled a reservoir of knowledge for us that could not be received in any other way. We will be forever moved.”

Audience member Cheryl Thompson Jaster: *“Thank you! So much talent on the stage!! Stunning!!”*

Audience member Bruce Finlay: *“Thank you for a magnificent performance!”*

Comment from Indigenous emerging dancer Nathan Bear:

“My name is Nathan Bear, I was a dancer apart of the Sointula AU Tour earlier this year. My experience from this opportunity was more than what I had expected this tour to show me. It reopened my eyes and my mind to beyond what dance can do. Performing in the North Island was very full circle as a lot of my culture and family still live there. Performing felt as a privilege this time around because of being home and not many indigenous children have had the exposure and opportunities I was given at a young age. It was a moment where I did not feel pressure but gratitude. This tour allowed me to reconnect with my culture and create bonds and memories with my dance mates that extended beyond what I thought we could have. Concluding the Tour in Sointula was the “perfect” way to begin our separate journeys. Being in a town with very limited stores and small population, allowed for us to explore more within ourselves and with each other that I felt happened because of the environment. We were welcomed with open arms and felt nothing but gratitude to be so lucky to have experienced this small yet large moment in our life.”

Audience Member Holly Tracy:

“Wow! I believe that all who are present for this performance will be touched on a healing level whether they know it or not. This is a mystical performance with many good vibrations- both in the form of enchanting music and dance. Please thank the performers who are spreading their magic. It touched me deeply. Thank you Mary-Loiuse for bringing this creation to the North Island. Beautiful!”

Audience Member Randy Grout:

“Hi Mary-Louise, I just wanted to say how much we enjoyed the dance performance on Friday night and to say how grateful we are for all your time and efforts to bring these shows to Sointula. I had such a great warm feeling inside after the performance and so awed by the talent of all involved in putting it together.”

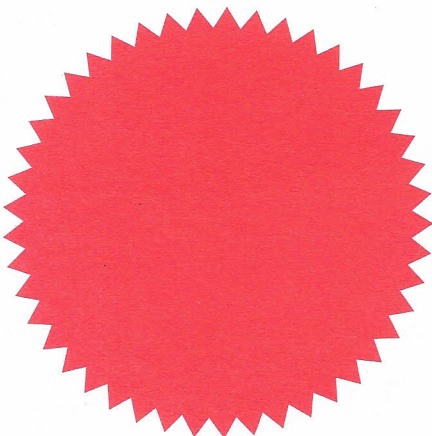


Number: S-0064195

CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION

SOCIETY ACT

I Hereby Certify that BC MOVEMENT ARTS SOCIETY was incorporated under the Society Act on June 30, 2015 at 10:50 AM Pacific Time.



*Issued under my hand at Victoria, British Columbia,
on June 30, 2015*

CAROL PREST
Registrar of Companies
PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
CANADA