



ANNUAL REPORT 2020-2021





Front image: (ok vancouver ok), oxygen off-site, online exhibition, 2021

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2020

A YEAR IN REVIEW

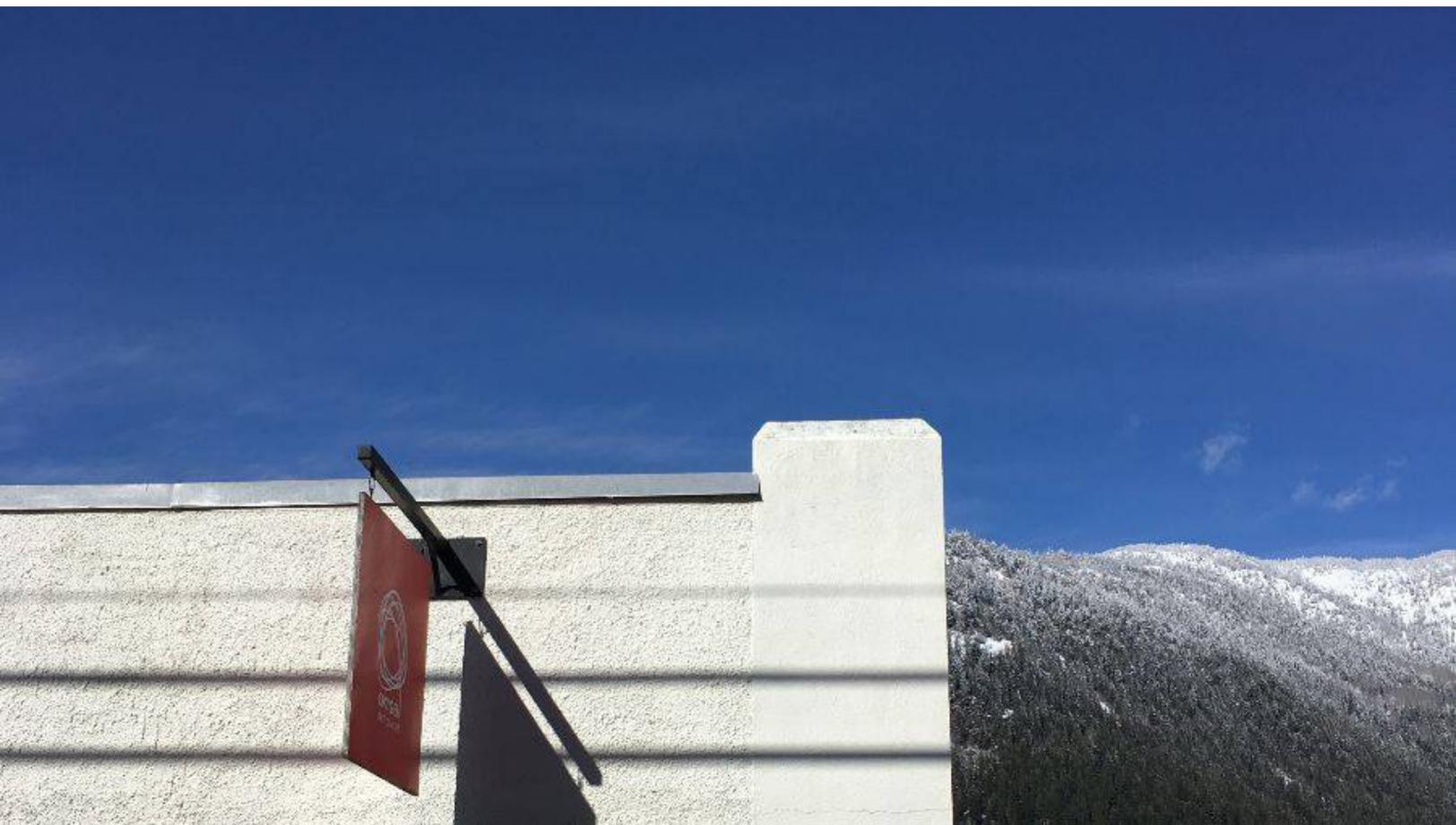
#2,975 Total Visitors

#58 Members / #7 New Members

#46 Artists

#14 Instructors

#645 Volunteer Hours



MESSAGE

from the Board of Directors Chair: Bessie Wapp

Hello Oxygen Art Centre Community,

Thank you for attending the centre's 2021 AGM.

Below are the year's highlights from my perspective as outgoing President of the OAC Board of Directors.

- **BOARD ACTIVITY**

A large focus of board efforts this year was on policy development. We discovered the hard way that we had no conflict resolution policy in place so we made this our top priority. We also worked on a volunteer management document. Thank you to Julia for your research toward all our policy work this year and to all the members of the board for your thoughtful attention to the finicky work of drafting policy. As well, our board members were active with committee work this year. Only one of our committees, the Events Committee, went into full covid hibernation.

Social Justice Committee – This group focussed on bringing an Anti-Oppression lens to all of the centre's activities. The committee developed a land acknowledgement, and organized trainings for staff and volunteers, including an excellent workshop recently with Bakau Consulting. Thank you, Brian and also Zoey of the Kootenay Native Plant Society, for your efforts to make that workshop available. Thank you also, prOphecy, for chairing the Social Justice committee.

Exhibition & Residency Committee – This group recently completed the large job of reviewing and selecting the artists to be included in the next 3 years of programming. Thank you to everyone on the Exhibition & Residency Committee.

Facility Committee – Momentum generated in 2019 to investigate possibilities for expansion of our physical space continued into 2020 as we sought partners and looked into various different locations, buildings, and renovation possibilities, but with covid limitations continuing we turned the fuel down on expansion efforts this year. We're still open to possibilities, but expanding our physical footprint doesn't hold many advantages until there are substantial changes in the covid situation.

Julia took advantage of the reduced traffic in the space to do a major clean out of the kitchen & storage area though and, amazingly, freed up enough space to house the office nook there.

Fundraising Committee – This group focussed on building the back end of donor and member management. An important piece has been the daunting task of choosing and implementing an online platform to maintain the many and various relationships the centre has developed over the years. Thanks to Carol's thorough research, we chose a platform called Little Green Light and it has worked out very well. If you recently got a gentle nudge to renew your membership it's because that program gave the committee a nudge to nudge you. As well, the committee is excitedly looking ahead to next year because 2022 will be Oxygen's 20th anniversary! Watch for further info and an invitation to our alley birthday party coming up next Fall! Thank you, Carol, for your dedication in chairing this committee, and especially for helping us over the hump of utilizing Little Green Light.

- **BOARD COMPOSITION**

Long-time Oxygen alumni Ian Johnstone stepped down from the board in December 2020. Thank you, Ian, for your many years supporting the centre. No doubt your art practice has benefitted from your reduced board involvement.

With Ian's departure, Tyler Vance Wright valiantly stepped into the role of Treasurer. Tyler quickly got a handle on the finances thanks his willingness, ED Julia's sound grasp of numbers, and Bookkeeper Susan Bernhardt's seasoned guidance. Thank you, all three, for keeping us in the black and informed via monthly financial reports.

Meanwhile this year Carol Wallace served as Secretary, Brian Lye was Vice President, and I was President.

- ELECTION

We have four board members who have completed one 2 year term and are standing for election to their second term. These are: Brian Lye, Carol Wallace, Anita Levesque, prOphecy sun.

Standing for his second elected term is Tyler Vance Wright.

And standing for his first elected term is Samonte Cruz. Not long after Ian's departure we were fortunate to welcome Samonte onto the board mid-term. Samonte is a mixed-gender, mixed-race, Filipinx artist, and 2021 festival director of Bent on Art.

Thank you, Samonte, Tyler, Brian, Carol, Anita, and prOphecy for agreeing to stand for election today. This AGM marks the completion of my time on the board. I've served my maximum three two-year terms, as well as one additional year by special appointment. I'm very happy that the organization is in such good financial shape and capable hands at this time. But I won't be going far because next month I begin a residency at the centre. I'm very excited to take a step back from governance and toward my own practice.

- EDUCATION

The centre's education program continued throughout the past year. Kudos to Education Coordinator Natasha Smith for her continued dedication to education programming, and the ongoing dance between in-person and online. She has been very attentive to instructor and student feedback, and has made professional development opportunities available to instructors to keep our educational offerings at a high level. Thank you, Natasha.

- NEW POSITIONS

The centre is pleased to have been able to create two new contract positions. Greta Hamilton is in the new role of Literary Arts Coordinator and Megan K. Quigley is in the new role of Research Assistant. We're very happy to have you, Greta and Megan. Thank you for your efforts in your new positions!

- EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Our fantastic ED Julia Prudhomme is now a little over 2 years in her position and she has proven to be amazingly good at her job. Continuing covid restrictions meant additional workload for her in conceiving programming for the full spectrum of covid eventualities, putting in place timed viewing slots for gallery exhibits and online registration, implementing sanitation and vaccine passport protocols. At the same time she kept up with the usual granting cycle of applications and final reports in addition to identifying and securing sources of funding for the two new contract positions.

A huge thank you to you, Julia, for your exemplary work this year.

The centre is very, very lucky to have you.

It's been a privilege to serve on the Oxygen Art Centre board of directors. I wish the staff and new board all the best in the coming year - and I hope you will all sign up for a time to experience the results of my residency!

With great respect and appreciation for you, the Oxygen community,

Bessie Wapp
Outgoing OAC Board Chair

MESSAGE

from the Executive Director:

Julia Prudhomme

Despite a challenging year—what with an enduring pandemic, heightened socio-economic inequity and violence, and a summer of apocalyptic smoke and wildfires—Oxygen Art Centre has found new, innovative ways to support contemporary artists and reach a wider community through online and hybrid programming.

Our Exhibition & Residency program implemented its first remote residency with Z'otz* Collective (Toronto, ON) where the artists transmitted updates from their studio alongside an in-person exhibition featuring a vinyl mural and drawings on paper. We also hosted an in-person residency with local filmmaker and artist, Brian Lye, where he developed a series of 16mm films and an installation for viewing them, inspired by crystals. During the summer Oxygen presented in-person and online exhibitions in collaboration with Kootenay Gallery of Art featuring eleven artists working on topics of resource extraction, entitled "Overburden." The guest curated exhibitions also featured a weekend of online discussions and workshops. All projects featured free online adjunct programming in a myriad of forms and respective exhibition catalogues.

Furthering our exploration of online exhibition contexts, we presented "Oxygen Off-Site" in April 2021 featuring seven artists and collectives based in the region. Off-Site features new artworks created for the project, as well as individually designed webpages for each artist by web designer and performance artist, Deanna Peters. The seemingly extant pages are linked through a feedback loop of actions provided by each artist to cull a response from another, which consequently explore topics of domesticity, land-based practices, performance, and fugitive photographic techniques offering a diverse cross-section of regional art practices.

Oxygen's education program also transitioned to online platforms. Through research and collaboration, we were able to successfully offer art classes online with our incredible faculty. In addition to art classes, we offered a community-focused month of drawing entitled "The Big Draw" where both our immediate and distant communities engaged with daily drawing prompts and accessed free art kits. We also began a larger youth arts education project, "freezer cheese," which will launch in December of this year.

Throughout Oxygen's year online, of particular note is the Author Reading Series. The series received an immense outpouring of support and praise, often selling out in advance, which featured B.C. authors, poets, memoirists, and emerging creative writing students.

In response to the overlapping crises, Oxygen's staff and board sought to conduct research and work collaboratively to determine steps for direct action as an artist-run centre. This was made manifest in a number of ways, most directly through the formation of the Social Justice Committee, as well as the development of organizational policies, protocols, and reading groups. I look forward to taking part in these ongoing discussions and to find meaningful approaches to improve our position as an artist-run centre and to create space for reparative futures.

This excellent contemporary art programming is made possible by Oxygen's staff, Natasha Smith (Education Coordinator), Greta Hamilton (Literary Arts Coordinator), Jaymie Johnson (Gallery Assistant), and Megan Quigley (Research Assistant). I am grateful to collaborate, dream, and make possible this and future programming at Oxygen Art Centre together. I am also grateful to our committed Board of Directors, volunteers, members, and donors for their ongoing support. *Take care.*

EXHIBITION & RESIDENCY PROGRAM

2020

Z'otz* Collective: Remote Residency

Z'otz* Collective: Exhibition

Paradoxes of a Soft Spoken Tree

+ Catalogue

Brian Lye: Residency

2021

Brian Lye: Exhibition

ABOVE ABOVE BELOW BELOW

+ Catalogue

Oxygen Off-Site

Online Exhibition

(ok vancouver ok), Alexa Black, Brian Kalbfleisch, Lucas Myers, Brian Lye, prOphecy sun and Adrian Wagner, with web design by Deanna Peters/Mutable Subject

Overburden: Geology, Extraction, and Metamorphosis in a Chaotic Age

Group Exhibition + Online Symposium

Gabriela Escobar Ari, Asinnajaq, Patti Bailey, q^wh^qwiⁿhⁿ, Randy Lee Cutler, Darren Fleet, Jim Holyoak, Tsema Igharas, Keith Langergraber, Sarah Nance, Tara Nicholson, Carol Wallace

Co-curated by Genevieve Robertson + Maggie Shirley

Co-presented by Oxygen Art Centre + Kootenay Gallery of Art

+ Catalogue

EXHIBITION & RESIDENCY PROGRAM



EDUCATION

Report from the Education Coordinator: Natasha Smith

Summary:

Move to Online Education Programming

- Visioning and planning for online programming began at the end of April 2020 with a meeting with educator and board director Anita Levesque to draw on her online education experience.
- Oxygen COVID-19 Student Survey – Sent out beginning of June to gauge what type of programming students may be interested in for the fall. We received over 100 responses and the results informed the planning and scheduling of the Fall 2020 semester with the creation of a combination of online and small in-person classes.
- Zoom orientation session (early August) facilitated by Anita Levesque for all interested instructors; introduction to the Zoom interface, best practices and online Padlet tool.
- Instructors given further opportunity to practice, share and brainstorm as they developed their courses.
- COVID-19 protocols for in-person education were created and instructors were asked to sign a protocol agreement if they were proposing an in-person class. We lost one instructor as she was not willing to wear a mask to teach an in-person class. United Way funding provided a one-time \$200 honorarium for instructors to help online course development/preparation.

Adult Education Fall 2020 Semester

10 courses offered, with 8 instructors Including: Writing, Music, Fibre & Visual Art and Prof. Development

Singing the Blues Goes Virtual with Bessie Wapp

Eco-Printing on Textiles with Seathra Bell

Drawing with the World in Mind with Deborah Thompson

Resurrecting the Lost Art of Letter Writing with Rayya Liebich

Art Shack with Ian Johnston

How to Submit to Commercial Galleries with Kristy Gordon

Painting on Another Level with Natasha Smith

Poetry Immersion with Rayya Liebich

Moving into Abstraction with Natasha Smith

Sonic Imaginaries: An Introduction to Creating Electronic Compositions with prOphecy sun

7 out of 10 courses ran with a total of 45 students

3 courses cancelled due to low registration

Students were surveyed following the completion of the Fall 2020 semester

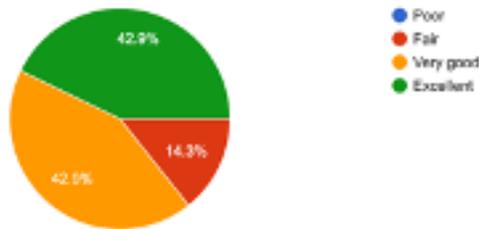
Student Survey:

Student Survey Summary of Results

14 Responses (sent to 34 students)

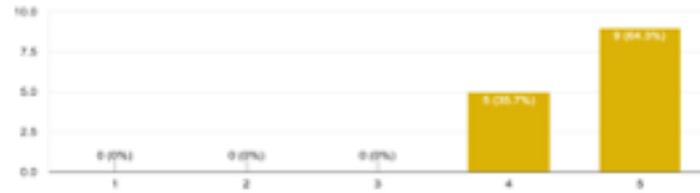
How was your overall Oxygen online learning experience?

14 responses



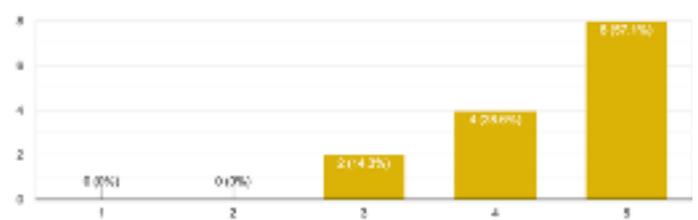
How valuable was the course content?

14 responses



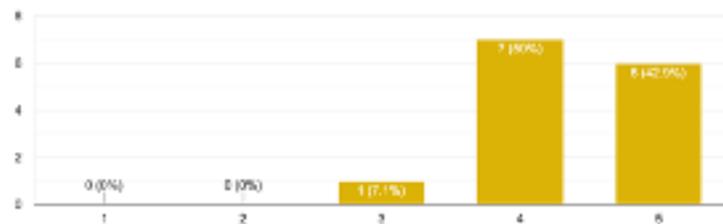
How was the instructor's ability to communicate course materials?

14 responses



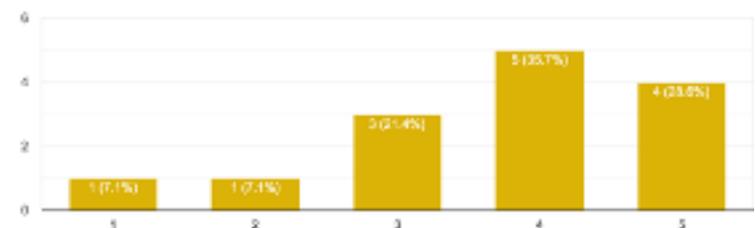
How relevant were the course resources (texts, presentations, supplementary materials)?

11 responses



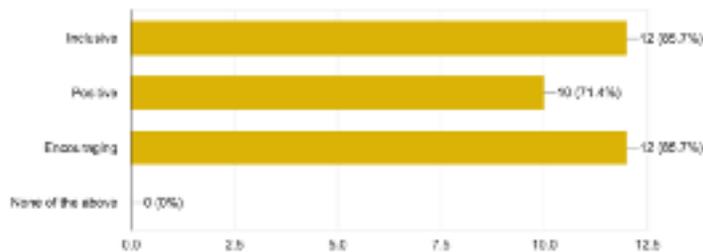
How did you find the instructor's feedback on your work?

14 responses



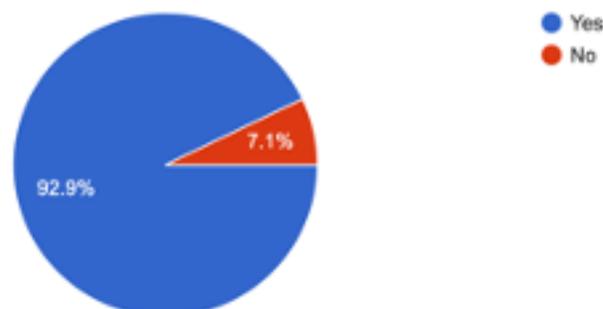
Overall, how was the instructor's attitude towards students? (check all that apply)

14 responses



Did you receive the support you needed to enjoy the online programming experience?

14 responses



Adult Education Spring 2021 Semester

10 online courses were offered, with 6 instructors Including: Writing, Visual Art and Video/ Sound

Designing for Fashion and Wearable Art with Seathra Bell

Beginner's Brush 1: Introduction to Painting with Deborah Thompson

Introduction to Colour Theory with Deborah Thompson

Mapping Memory: Collaging a Personal History with Natasha Smith

Be Not Afeard: A Poetry Workshop for Beginners with Rayya Liebich

Tapping the Poetic Unconscious with Rayya Liebich

Sonic Imaginaries 2: Voice, Performance and Creative Composition with prOphecy sun

April Poetry Challenge: 30 Days, 30 Poems! with Rayya Liebich

Reading and Writing Rilke with Susan Andrews Grace

Abstract Collage Painting with Natasha Smith

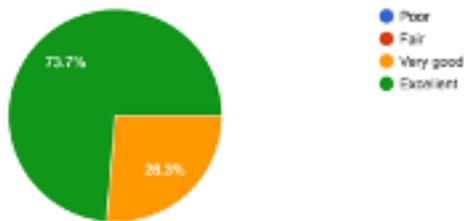
9 out of 10 classes ran with 52 students

Student Survey Feedback

52 students contacted - 19 responses

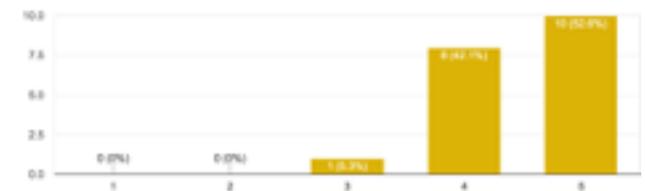
How was your overall Oxygen online learning experience?

19 responses



How valuable was the course content?

19 responses



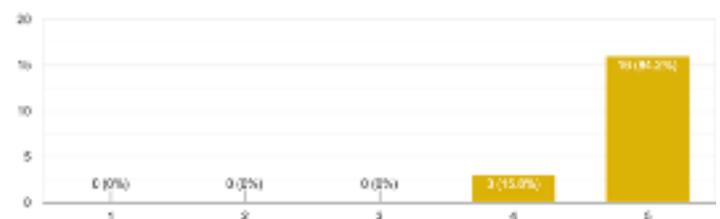
How relevant were the course resources (texts, presentations, supplementary materials)?

19 responses



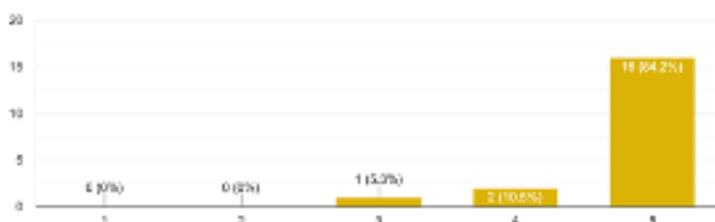
How was the instructor's ability to communicate course materials?

19 responses



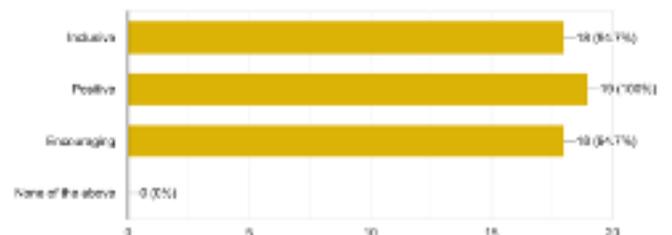
How did you find the instructor's feedback on your work?

19 responses



Overall, how was the instructor's attitude towards students? (check all that apply)

19 responses



Did you receive the support you needed to enjoy the online programming experience?
19 responses



New Initiatives

- We introduced a bring a friend discount of 10%
- We added an interested in membership and newsletter sign-up check box to the education registration form.
- Creation of an online mentorship project. CKCA application submitted to help fund this initiative (the application was successful and project will start Fall 2021) Aim: To offer a series of affordable one-on-one online mentorship opportunities for individual artists to receive two 1-hour mentorship sessions with an OAC instructor.

New Tech

Julia Prudhomme secured CBT funding to buy technology to support Oxygen's online Education programming.

Inventory:

(3) iPad, 10.2 inch, Wi-Fi, 128 GB

(1) Nikon D3500 DSLR Camera with 24.2 MP Sensor, NIKKOR AF-P 18-55mm VR & 70-300mm Dual Zoom Lens Kit, 2 Pack Sandisk 32GB Memory Card + ZeeTech Accessory Bundle

(3) PEYOU Tripod, 50" Aluminum Camera for Tablet/Phone with Remote

(5) UBeesize 8" Selfie Ring Light with Mini Tripod Stand and Cell Phone holder

(3) UBeezie Tripod S, Premium Phone Tripod, Flexible

Education Programming Promotion

Julia Prudhomme created an engaging and consistent social media presence and regular newsletters which have become a key way to promote and feature the Education Programming.

NELSON FINE ARTS CENTRE SOCIETY
(dba Oxygen Art Centre)

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(unaudited)

June 30, 2021

NOTICE TO READER

On the basis of information provided by the Society, I have compiled the statement of financial position of the Nelson Fine Arts Centre Society (dba Oxygen Art Centre) as at June 30, 2021 and the statements of operations and changes in net assets for the year then ended.

I have not performed an audit or review of these financial statements, and accordingly, I express no assurance thereon.

Readers are cautioned that these statements may not be appropriate for their purposes.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bernhardt". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the left.

Susan M. Bernhardt, B.Comm (Honours)
Nelson, BC
September 28, 2021

NELSON FINE ARTS CENTRE
(dba Oxygen Art Centre)

Statement of Financial Position (unaudited)
As at June 30

	2021	2020
Assets		
Current Assets		
Cash	\$ 46,310	\$ 17,555
Restricted Cash (Note 2)	214,205	133,652
Accounts Receivable	7,316	3,973
Prepaid Expenses	-	6,098
	<u>267,831</u>	<u>161,278</u>
Capital Assets (Note 3)	29,511	19,362
Total Assets	<u><u>\$ 297,342</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 180,640</u></u>
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	\$ 5,485	\$ (114)
Unearned Revenue	-	-
Deferred Contributions (Note 5)	219,965	130,518
Deferred Contributions - Capital (Note 5)	28,906	20,658
	<u>254,356</u>	<u>151,062</u>
Net Assets		
Net Assets Invested in Capital Assets	29,511	19,362
Unrestricted Net Assets	13,475	10,216
	<u>42,986</u>	<u>29,578</u>
	<u><u>\$ 297,342</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 180,640</u></u>

Approved by the Directors:


 _____ Director


 _____ Director

NELSON FINE ARTS CENTRE SOCIETY
(dba Oxygen Art Centre)

Statement of Changes in Net Assets (unaudited)

For the Year Ended June 30

	Unrestricted Net Assets Invested in Capital Assets	Unrestricted Net Assets	Total 2021	Total 2020
Net assets, beginning of the year	\$ 19,362	\$ 10,216	\$ 29,578	\$ 14,342
Addition of assets	\$ 15,002	\$ (15,002)	\$ -	
Excess of revenue over expenses for the year		\$ 13,408	\$ 13,408	\$ 15,236
Amortization	\$ (4,853)	\$ 4,853	\$ -	\$ -
Net assets, end of year	\$ 29,511	\$ 13,475	\$ 42,986	\$ 29,578

NELSON FINE ARTS CENTRE SOCIETY
(dba Oxygen Art Centre)

Statement of Operations (unaudited)

For the Year Ended June 30

	2021	2020
Revenue		
Grants (Note 4)	\$ 147,486	\$ 99,547
Grants - Capital (Note 4)	4,666	2,177
Government Assistance	5,412	3,401
Education Class Fees	10,451	20,943
Event Series Donations & Fees	240	1,800
Fundraising and other	-	679
Donations	10,263	6,165
Memberships	1,391	118
Sponsorships	-	2,500
Interest & Rebates	2	1
	<u>\$ 179,911</u>	<u>\$ 137,331</u>
Expenses		
Visual Arts - Exhibitions	\$ 47,615	\$ 32,342
Adult Education Programs	6,647	12,929
Education Coordinator	11,660	8,200
Presentation & Event Series	2,779	5,008
Youth Arts Education	21,375	-
Accounting & Legal	2,664	2,095
Advertising & Promotion	1,620	2,152
Amortization	4,853	2,272
Bank Charges	360	394
Insurance, licences and dues	1,674	2,438
Office Equipment & Supplies	2,880	1,694
Professional Fees	-	1,845
Rent	12,088	11,758
Repairs & Maintenance	2,475	607
Telephone	1,248	1,244
Utilities	1,212	1,255
Payroll Expenses	45,233	35,626
Website	120	236
	<u>\$ 166,503</u>	<u>\$ 122,095</u>
Excess of revenue over expenses for the year	<u><u>\$ 13,408</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 15,236</u></u>

NELSON FINE ARTS CENTRE SOCIETY

(dba Oxygen Art Centre)

Notes to Financial Statements

(unaudited)

June 30, 2021

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Capital Assets

Capital assets are recorded at cost. Amortization is calculated on the declining balance basis at the following annual rates:

Library	20%
Office furniture & equipment	20%
Program equipment	20%
Signs	20%
Computers	55%
Leasehold Improvements	10%

The provision for amortization is reduced by one-half in the year of acquisition and no amortization is recorded in the year of disposition.

Goods and Services Tax

Goods and services tax is recoverable at a 50% as a rebate. The unrecoverable portion is recorded as an expense.

2. Restricted Cash

A portion of the Society's cash is externally restricted by the respective funding agencies. Any funds, which are not expended in accordance with the provisions of the funding agreements, must be returned to the respective funding agencies. The Society records these funds as restricted cash and a corresponding liability for future expenditures is included in deferred contributions as disclosed in Note 4.

3. Capital Assets

	2021 Cost	2021 Accum. Amort.	2020 Cost	2020 Accum. Amort.
Library	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ 478
Office Furniture & Equipment	6,639	2,375	4,024	1,636
Program Equipment	11,030	3,366	3,606	2,379
Signs	757	500	757	436
Computer	6,802	3,069	1,839	1,539
Leasehold Improvements	16,889	3,296	16,889	1,785
	<u>\$ 42,617</u>	<u>\$ 13,106</u>	<u>\$ 27,615</u>	<u>\$ 8,253</u>
Net book value	<u>\$ 29,511</u>		<u>\$ 19,362</u>	

4. Grants Received (Current & Capital)

	2021	2020
BC Arts Council	\$ 25,860	\$ 20,000
BC Arts Council - Early Career Development	4,954	-
BC Arts Council - Pivot Program	9,620	-
BC Infrastructure Grant	2,825	-
BC Community Gaming	17,325	15,100
Canada Council for the Arts	48,380	36,420
Canada Summer Job Grant	3,504	3,324
Columbia Basin Trust - Various	588	1,888
City of Nelson - RDCK - CIP	5,030	6,695
Columbia Kootenay Cultural Alliance	20,900	5,080
Lion's Club	750	500
Osprey Community Foundation	2,000	1,200
Nelson & District Credit Union	1,500	1,500
Teck	750	-
United Way	3,500	-
Vancouver Foundation - Covid Relief	-	7,840
	<u>\$ 147,486</u>	<u>\$ 99,547</u>
	2021	2020
BCAC - Infrastructure Grant	\$ 1,500	\$ -
Columbia Basin Trust - Capital	1,410	578
Columbia Kootenay Cultural Alliance - Capital	1,756	1,600
	<u>\$ 4,666</u>	<u>\$ 2,178</u>

5. Deferred Contributions

Deferred contributions represent unspent externally restricted funding which are for the purposes of providing funding for children, youth and adult programming and other special projects in future periods. The changes in deferred contributions balance for the period are as follows:

	2021	2020
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 151,176	\$ 41,574
Additional Grants Received - Operating	236,933	202,515
Additional Grants Received - Capital	12,914	8,812
Amount recognized as revenue in the year - Operating	(147,486)	(99,547)
Amount recognized as revenue in the year - Capital	(4,666)	(2,178)
Balance, end of year	<u>\$ 248,871</u>	<u>\$ 151,176</u>

Deferred contributions at year end relate to grants from the following organizations:

	2021	2020
BC Arts Council Operating Grant 2021-22	\$ 24,000	\$ 12,000
BC Arts Council Operating Grant 2020-21	1,740	27,600
BCAC Arts Council Resilience Supplement	54,000	5,000
BCAC - Pivot Grant	15,580	-
BCAC - Early Career Development Grant	23,046	-
BC Community Gaming	13,175	2,000
Canada Council for the Arts - Year 2	7,000	6,580
Canada Council for the Arts	-	10,800
Canada Summer Jobs Grant	-	2,628
Columbia Basin Trust	7,000	7,000
Columbia Kootenay Cultural Alliance	26,594	21,150
Lion's Club	-	750
Osprey Community Foundation	11,500	7,000
Nelson & District Credit Union	-	1,500
Regional District of Central Kootenay	870	-
Teck	-	750
United Way	5,000	-
Vancouver Foundation	30,460	25,760
	<u>\$ 219,965</u>	<u>\$ 130,518</u>

Deferred contributions at year end related to capital expenditures and matched to amortization are from the following organizations:

	2021	2020
BCAC Infrastructure Grant	\$ 7974	\$ 0
Columbia Basin Trust - Capital	6,989	5,488
Columbia Kootenay Cultural Alliance - Capital	13,943	15,170
	<u>\$ 28,906</u>	<u>\$ 20,658</u>

6. Impact of Covid-19 Pandemic

The Covid-19 pandemic declared in March 2020 continues to impact Oxygen's program delivery with exhibition delays and online education options.

STAFF + BOARD

Oxygen Art Centre is run by a part-time staff and volunteer Board of Directors.

STAFF:

Executive Director – **Julia Prudhomme**

Education Coordinator – **Natasha Smith**

Literary Arts Coordinator – **Greta Hamilton**

Gallery Assistant – **Jaymie Johnson**

Exhibition and Residency Coordinator –
Deborah Thompson

BOARD:

Chair – **Bessie Wapp**

Vice Chair – **Brian Lye**

Treasurer – **Tyler Wright**

Secretary – **Carol Wallace**

Director – **Anita Levesque**

Director – **prOphecy sun**

THANK YOU

+ ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Oxygen Art Centre is an artist-run centre.

Oxygen Art Centre acknowledges with gratitude that we are located on the tum xula7xw/ traditional territory of the sn'ca7ckstx/the Sinixt People. As uninvited guests we honour their ongoing presence on this land. We recognize that the Sinixt Arrow Lakes, Sylix, Ktuxana, and Yaqaan Nukij Lower Kootenay Band peoples are also connected with this land, as are Métis and many diverse Indigenous persons.

We are grateful for the financial support we receive from Canada Council for the Arts, BC Arts Council, BC Gaming, Province of BC, Government of Canada, Vancouver Foundation, Columbia Kootenay Cultural Alliance, Vancouver Foundation, Columbia Basin Trust, Osprey Community Foundation, United Way, Nelson Lions Club, and Nelson and District Credit Union.

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