

# ARTS NORTH

Volume 32 Issue 3  
Summer 2007

## Arts Fest 2007 Results and Kudos

~by Andrea Palmer

This year Burns Lake was proud to host Arts Fest – and the event was a resounding success! With 46 entries from emerging artists from across the North, jurors had a pleasurable challenge in selecting ten pieces to travel our region.

The opening reception, exhibition and judging were held at the Heritage Centre Art Gallery, with the reception hosting almost a hundred guests (along with artists!) in attendance. The following exhibitors had works chosen to tour



Above, L-R: Arts Fest jurors Andrea Loreen-Wulf and Treva Burton speak to the opening crowd

through the Central Interior for the next few months:

Randy Horley, Quesnel, "1950 Ford Pickup"; Vince Jackson, Burns Lake, "Humming Bird"; Thomas Johanson, Burns Lake, "Eve"; David Marchant, McBride, "Rhubarb"; Lynne Martens, Decker Lake, "Wendy"; Brenda Miller, Burns Lake, "A Composition of Decomposition"; Bonnie Remple, Burns Lake, "Cascade"; Kim Stewart, Prince George, "Entanglement"; Gerda Volz, Burns Lake, "Night of the Walking Dolls"; and Samantha Lynn Young of

*(Continued on page 3)*

### Inside this issue:

Editorial	2
Join CIRAC	2
Arts Fest Results	3
Governance Goodies	4
Grant	5
Penny Stewart Honoured	6
Calls for Entry	6
Farewell and Hail	7
Event Calendar	8

### Look for:

- A Good Buy
- Honours for CIRAC's founding coordinator
- A grant for BC CAN
- Who's new and exciting
- Summer events

**BookNookBookNookBookNook\*Now with CDs!\*BookNookBookNookBookNook**  
**CALLING ALL AUTHORS AND MUSICIANS: The Book Nook wants to showcase (and sell!) YOUR recorded and published work! Join us at the 2007 Studio Fair (November 2-4) in Prince George's Civic Centre as we introduce CDs to our inventory of fabulous written works presented in CIRAC's Book Nook. \*Entry deadline Sept. 15, Form at [www.cirac.ca](http://www.cirac.ca)\***

# ARTS NORTH

A journal of the arts produced by  
the Central Interior Regional Arts Council

All rights reserved. Reproduction in whole or in part prohibited without written permission. The publisher will take all reasonable care but will not be responsible for the loss of any manuscript, drawing or photograph. The views expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the Central Interior Regional Arts Council.

**ARTS NORTH** is published quarterly in Prince George, British Columbia, by the Central Interior Regional Arts Council. The **copy deadlines for 2007 are January 17, March 16, May 18, September 19. E-mail submissions and photos welcome.** Annual subscriptions (\$25 + 1.50 gst) are available through the office of the regional arts coordinator:

#508 – 1600 3rd Avenue, Prince George, BC V2L 3G6  
Telephone: 250-562-0024 Facsimile: same  
E-mail: info@cirac.ca Web site: www.cirac.ca

**REGIONAL ARTS COORDINATOR:** Gail Hunt  
gailhunt@shaw.ca

**TABLE OFFICERS:**  
President: Anna Barley (Williams Lake) 250-392-9737  
Vice-President: Sheri Ukrainetz (Mackenzie) 250-997-6912  
Secretary: Zéa Wulf-Wilson (Burns Lake) 250-692-9188  
Treasurer: Jeni Robinson (Prince George) 250-963-6863  
Past President: Graham Kelsey (Big Lake) 250-243-2440

**MEMBER ARTS COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES:**  
**BELLA COOLA COMMUNITY ARTS COUNCIL**  
Pauline Russell 250-982-2126  
lenderud@belco.bc.ca

**FORT ST. JAMES COMMUNITY ARTS COUNCIL**  
Monica Grill 250-996-7449  
bgrill@fsjames.com

**MACKENZIE COMMUNITY ARTS COUNCIL**  
Carol Skulmoski 250-997-4323  
cskulmoski@cablerocket.com

**NECHAKO VALLEY COMMUNITY ARTS COUNCIL**  
Mia Moutray 250-567-4265  
mia74@telus.net

**PRINCE GEORGE COMMUNITY ARTS COUNCIL**  
Melanie Desjardines 250-962-2392  
melanie@anythingmetal.com

**QUESNEL COMMUNITY ARTS COUNCIL**  
Cyndi Cassidy 250-992-3436  
dhjca@shaw.ca

**UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN B C ARTS COUNCIL**  
Dr. Rob Budde 250-960-6693  
rbudde@unbc.ca

**WILLIAMS LAKE COMMUNITY ARTS COUNCIL**  
Jane Perry jperry@wlake.com

**100 MILE HOUSE COMMUNITY ARTS COUNCIL**  
Ginny Alexander 250-395-3555  
ginny-lou@shaw.ca

**LAKES DISTRICT ARTS COUNCIL**  
Wayne Brown 250-692-3434

**ROBSON VALLEY ARTS COUNCIL**  
Sheilagh Foster 250-569-2758  
watercolours@mcbriedbc.com

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT DIRECTOR:**  
Duncan Barnett/ Cariboo Regional District 250-392-3351

## ~Editorial~

### Good Buy

No, it's not a typo this time. I'm working with the double entendre thing.

My message to you, the reader, is first, a bittersweet **good-bye** as I leave my job as coordinator of CIRAC and place it in the capable hands of my successor, Andrea Palmer. (You can read about Andrea on page 7.)

For me the job has mostly been an exciting meeting of bright minds, punctuated by successes and frustrations in the advocacy department and some tedious administrative functions (If you've never stuffed envelopes ad nauseam, consider yourself lucky.) The job is sometimes lonely, because the only staff person is me, but my board over the four years of my tenure has been unstintingly supportive, and I heartily thank the board members for that.

Thanks to those of you who plopped down your \$26.50 to become members of CIRAC. Your vote of support has allowed us to perform our work with meaning. I know I will miss the sense of place and community that the artists and arts supporters in our region provide, when I'm navigating the busy and anonymous roadways of Vancouver.

As for **good buy**, my second message is this:

Invest in the arts and culture. Encourage your civic leaders to recognize the value, far beyond dollars, that a rich cultural environment offers every community.

I will hold you in my heart. Good bye.

~ Gail Hunt

## JOIN US! Regular Members receive:

- ◆ One year of Arts North, the quarterly journal of the arts
- ◆ One year of Newslite, the up-to-date arts newsletter
- ◆ Eligibility to be listed in our web site's Artist Directory
- ◆ Early notice of special events, festivals and arts happenings
- ◆ Discount rates on special CIRAC events
- ◆ Opportunity to help shape arts development in the region by becoming a board member, attending meetings, volunteering and working on committees
- ◆ A chance to meet and share ideas with other people from around the province with similar interests
- ◆ Assurance that your views and interests are being actively represented to all levels of government and community agencies

Send: \$26.50 (includes gst) with name, address, phone and fax numbers, e-mail to: CIRAC,  
#508-1600 3rd Ave. Prince George, BC V2L 3G6.

We gratefully acknowledge the financial support of



BRITISH COLUMBIA  
ARTS COUNCIL  
Supported by the Province of British Columbia

(Continued from page 1)

Decker Lake with "The Universe Wants You To Know".

There were five honourable mention distinctions awarded as follows: Katie Blair, Burns lake, "Unveiled Velvet"; Martha Cloudesley, Lac La Hache, "Seasons of Life"; Yoka Loiseau, 108 Mile Ranch, "Proscenium"; Bonny Remple, Burns Lake, "Late Bloomer"; and Brenda Lea Shaffer, Francoise Lake, "Little Sister".

All the artists who entered their work must be applauded for strong presentations in a wide variety of mediums, including acrylics, chromacolours, hand-made paper, copper wire, collage and more.



# ARTS FEST 2007



Above: "Entanglement" 24x46 (triptych) by Kim Stewart



Left: David Marchant's Arts Fest 2007 entry: "Rhubarb", 36 x 26. (Photo by David Marchant)

**ARTISTS IN THE GARDENS**  
**Cariboo Style**



**in Quesnel**  
**Sunday, July 22, 11-3**  
 for more information: Maggie - 992-8200

# Community Arts Councils, Governance, and the Importance of Policy

By Graham Kelsey



*This article is adapted from a presentation made at the CIRAC AGM in Burns Lake on April 21<sup>st</sup>. (Photo above.)*

I am sometimes asked to work with non-profit groups in various kinds of problem solving. As part of the process I ask Boards to identify the most important issues that they think they need to address in the next year or so. Surprisingly, issues of Governance emerge as among the most important issues in almost every organization. Also surprising is the fact that some other issue areas (staffing, program, space, communications etc.) arise less frequently, or are assessed on average as less

important. If you worry about governance problems, you are not alone.

So, not being alone in worrying about governance problems, what can you do about them?

The short answer is to start by *thinking* about governance. When were your constitution and bylaws written? How recently have they been reviewed? Do you have a set of policies? Do you have any policies at all?

Start by reading the *Society Act* and your own constitution and bylaws. Check that you are in compliance with the act (for example, bylaws must contain certain clauses). Recognize that you are governed by different layers of requirements and that the requirements in each layer can be changed only by the group that created them. Thus:

- *The Society Act of British Columbia* can be changed only by the BC Legislature
- *The Society Act Regulations* can be changed only by the Lieutenant Governor in Council (i.e., the Cabinet)
- Your Constitution and Bylaws can be changed only by your members at a general meeting
- Your policies can be changed only by your

## Board

Herein lies one key to the importance of having policies. Not only do they provide a reasoned set of rules for various aspects of the organization, thereby providing consistency of operation from year to year, but if there is a need to change those rules, you yourselves can do it.

Having got this far, think about what the Board is supposed to do and how your organization works. Think how often discussions at the Board table call up imperfect reminiscences of how such and such an event used to be run, or how, as far as we know, the previous treasurer used to do such and such. Think about how often the recollection of how something gets done is a bit vague because so-and-so has left, and how often, as a consequence, you find yourselves re-inventing the wheel. At this point you might realize the huge importance of policy and the wisdom of creating a policy manual—a collection of your organization's policies.

Most people see the development of a policy manual as a huge and dreary task. Not so. It's a stimulating exercise that gets the whole Board thinking. And this is because a policy is a statement of the Board's values, beliefs and intents. It isn't primarily a detailed statement of procedures. It's the framework for those procedures.

If you don't relish the task of sitting down to decide what the Board's values are (and few people would), then take one area in which you think you need a policy and say, "What do we want to happen here in general terms?" Once that's decided, then how many aspects of whatever it is you're dealing with need to be addressed? For each of those aspects how would you like to see it handled?

An example (quasi-fictitious) might be helpful here. One Community Arts Council was suddenly faced with the need to respond to a request from a private drama teacher who wanted to know if she could use their facility for a children's program she was starting. The discussion at the Board was, to put it mildly, messy. Some liked the teacher and wanted to be helpful, others thought her program was suspect and anyway, wouldn't it take away from what the performing arts group was trying to do? Some wanted to know if rent would be charged and if so, how much? The question of her working for profit came up. Someone else asked what would happen if one of our own groups wanted the space at the same time? And which of the three available spaces did she want? The group normally using space "A" couldn't be expected to move all their stuff out twice a week. Neither could the weavers whose looms took up a lot of floor space in area "B". That left only the big common area, OK? Would our insurance cover her program? And

so on and so on. After about fifteen minutes, someone who hadn't spoken yet asked, "Whatever we decide on this one, what will we do when the next request for the use of our space comes up? We're discussing the wrong question. Of course we have to give Stella an answer, but the more important question is why don't we have a policy governing the use of our facility?" Silence. Then the Board agreed: Stella would be asked to wait a month and in that time the Board would develop a policy for the use of the facility.

A special meeting was convened to develop a policy. One Board member who had some experience in policy development agreed to guide the discussion. After only twenty minutes a basic statement of intent was clear. It read: "The Board believes that the Arts Centre is primarily for the benefit of all members of the Community Arts Council. In order to ensure fair and efficient management of the Centre, the Directors have approved the following provisions." From that it was fairly easy to say what aspects

of the facility use needed regulation and this provided the subheadings for the clauses of the policy. They were "General Provisions", "Allocation of Space", "Financial Matters" and "Review" (a stipulation that the policy should be regularly reviewed). The facilitating Board member undertook to write a draft, which he brought to the next Board meeting, when it was adopted with one small change. Stella could now have her answer, and, more importantly, the next request could be handled very promptly.

Sensible policies, made by consensus of the Board, written down, constantly referred to and regularly reviewed (and changed if necessary) are the key to an efficient, smooth-running organization. They provide continuity and they prevent squabbles. They are fun to create and satisfying to use. And if more inducements are needed, we might add that funders are usually favourably impressed by their



*Photo, right: L-R: CIRAC coordinator, Gail Hunt, and Treasurer Jeni Robinson delightedly accept a grant from the Prince George Community Foundation's Jim Imrich. The grant is to go toward the development of the BC Cultural Alliance North.*

Grants up to \$2500 were presented to non-profits: five each for Arts & Culture, Social Services and Education, one each for Environment and Sports & Recreation, and six for Health.



## Our own arts hero...



**Former Central Interior Regional Arts Council coordinator Penny Stewart was recognized this year with an induction into the Arts Gallery of Honour.** The accolade was awarded by Prince George's Community Arts Council and is seen as the 'hall of fame' for arts in the city.

Stewart's induction is based on her support of the arts – a devotion that has spanned the past 30 years. In 1977 Stewart took on the role of director with

both the Prince George Concert Association and the Community Arts Council – and became president of each for the next eight years. Studio 2880 benefited from her directorship from 1984 to 1989, and another of her highlights includes a city appointment to the Multipurpose Facility Committee from 1986 to 1988. It is no small feat that throughout much of that time Penny Stewart also served the Central Interior Arts Council as coordinator for 21 years.

Stewart represented the arts community from 1990 to 1996 on the City Healthy Communities Committee, and was appointed to Prince George's Leisure Services Commission Arts Policy Task Force in 1994 to 1995. Part of her role with that task force was to help develop a rationale for the development of an arts policy for the city. Those experiences eventually led Stewart assist the arts on a provincial level as a founding member of the Assembly of the B.C. Arts Council, to which she was appointed again from 1996 to 2001.

Stewart has been lauded before with a variety of awards for her work in the arts, including the City Service Award in 1988, the Rory Ralston Cultural Leadership Award in 1999 (one of only five ever awarded in British Columbia), and the Arts Champion Award in 2004.

Penny Stewart's work on behalf of the arts for Prince George, the Central Interior and the province have been inspiring, creative and exemplary of her hard work and commitment.

Other honourees include award-winning poet Jacqueline Baldwin for the literary arts category; Colin Dix, inducted for theatre arts; Sandra Nahornoff, inducted for her work in the visual arts; Maureen Nielson, a pianist, was inducted as this year's Alice Box Memorial Award winner; Des Parker, inducted for architecture; teacher, producer, director and choreographer Judy Russell was inducted in the performing arts category; and Noreen Rustad, a Prince George Resident since 1946 and former Woman of the Year – Impact and Influence and Rotary Citizen of the Year, was inducted for her work in the fibre arts.



## Calls for Entry

**Island Mountain Arts announces the Sonia Cornwall Scholarship for an emerging Cariboo artist** – Created in memory of renowned Cariboo artist and Cowboy Hall of Fame inductee, Sonia Cornwall (1919-2006), this scholarship will provide the full eight-day tuition (value \$800) to an emerging visual artist living in the Cariboo to attend the Toni Onley Artist' Project for professional and emerging artists from July 21-29 in Wells. For more details and application requirements, along with other scholarship opportunities, visit the Island Mountain Arts website at [www.imarts.com](http://www.imarts.com). Deadline is June 8.

**Theatre In the Raw's Fifth Biennial One-Act Play Writing Contest.** Calling all writers, playwrights, actors and directors. Deadline December 31, 2007. Details: 604-708-5448 [www.theatreintheraw.ca](http://www.theatreintheraw.ca)

**Station House Gallery, Williams Lake, call to Cariboo artists for summer exhibition proposals and 2008.** Deadlines June 14 and August 31. 250-392-6113 or download forms from [www.stationhousegallery.com](http://www.stationhousegallery.com)



**Calling all authors and musicians in the Central Interior:** BOOK NOOK 2007 is a great opportunity to showcase your work. Join us, won't you?



Above: CIRAC's new coordinator, Andrea Palmer (shown here with her daughter Lily)

# *Hail and Farewell*

~ by Anna Barley

The picture, however, is not entirely bleak. I am delighted to announce that an energetic and talented replacement for Gail has been appointed. Andrea Palmer has accepted the position of Coordinator. She will work with Gail in the month of June and take over fully from her on September 1<sup>st</sup>. Andrea lives in Prince George with her husband and small daughter. She has B.A. and M.A. degrees from UNBC. Her experience in media and communications will bring a needed element to CIRAC's work. She has worked as researcher, associate producer and freelancer for the CBC in the region. She has taught writing, communications and literature at UNBC and has instructed in the university's Carrier Language Certification program in Fort St. James. She has been a board member with the Prince George Symphony Orchestra and a member of the UNBC Senate. Most recently, she is to be found as a Readers' Advisor with the Prince George Public Library. Andrea brings a bright, articulate and very committed presence and we very much look forward to working with her in CIRAC.

Adieu Gail.  
Soyez la bienvenue, Andrea.

The one job a CIRAC President never wants to have to do is to accept the departure of a valuable and highly valued Coordinator. Alas, such a task has fallen to me. Gail Hunt has been obliged to tender her resignation for family reasons—her husband has been transferred to Vancouver and she, of course, is going with him.

We will miss Gail greatly. She has been our Coordinator for four years. We will miss her efficient management of the details of running CIRAC. We will miss her cheerful and extremely well-informed presence at our meetings and events. The arts in the region will be the poorer for the lack of her tireless advocacy with various municipal and provincial committees and boards. And I personally will miss the

guidance (and prodding!) she so usefully provides to the President. Above all, however, she will be missed because she has a vision for the arts in the Central Interior and she has never allowed that vision to be dimmed. It has led her always to be thinking of what more could be done within the constraints of an underfunded sector. That thinking has brought innovations like the "Dreams and Schemes" conference, like the BCCAN proposal, like getting greater local involvements by moving ArtsFest around the region. It has led to more efficient Executive meetings, and to a more cost-effective production of *Arts North*. Gail has been a remarkable and totally dedicated Coordinator. I cannot count the extra miles she has gone in the cause of CIRAC, its work and the arts in this region.

# Artists at the Farmers' Market Day

**Saturday  
August 11  
8:30 – 2:00**

Sponsored by the  
Quesnel Arts and Recreation Centre

Contact: Maggie 992-8200

## QUESNEL OLD TIME FARMERS' MARKETS

Saturdays  
May 5 to  
October 6

8:30-1:00



Corner of  
Kinchant &  
Carson  
Manager:  
Paul Dumais  
747-8543

**“Come for the freshness...  
Stay for the fun...”**

Info? Contact: Paul – 747-8543

### Upcoming Arts Events in Our Region

**100 Mile House** Contact: 791-6454  
info@100milearts.com

**Barkerville** Contact: Theatre Royal  
994-3225 www.barkerville.ca

**Burns Lake** Contact: Wayne Brown  
Process 4 Gallery: 692-3434  
June 21 Aboriginal Day @ Radley  
July 1 Canada Day Celebration @  
Radley Beach: Live Music  
Aug 10-12 “Sonfest” Gospel Music  
Sept 7-9 Fall Fair @ Eagle Creek Grounds

**Fort St. James** Contact: 996-8228  
Enterprise Centre

**Mackenzie** Contact: 997-5818  
86 Centennial Drive  
Ongoing: Mountain Gifts and Gallery,  
Hours: Sat, 11-4, Wed. 7-9, Th/Fri. 10-3

**McBride** 241 Dominion  
Contact Nadine: 569-2530

**Bella Coola**  
Contact: June: 982-2270  
July 20-21 Discovery Coast Music Festival

**Vanderhoof** Contact: Mia 567-5767

**Prince George** Contact:  
Two Rivers Gallery 614-7800 or:  
Contact: 562-5426 www.studio2880.com  
June 16 Spring Arts Bazaar @ 2880  
June 17 Multicultural Drum Festival at  
Huble Homestead  
July 6-Sept 16 Jane Adeney & Catherine  
Gibbon: *Smoke* TRG  
Also: John Hall: *Souvenir*  
July 9-August 6 Arts Fest 2007 Touring  
Show @ Two Rivers Art Gallery  
July 15 Artists in the Garden @ TRG  
July 27-28 PG Folkfest, Fort George Park

**Quesnel** Contact 992-8200  
500 North Star Road  
June “Assemblage and More” @ gallery  
Sylvia Graham

June 15–17 Vaughn Butland workshop  
July “Christmas in July” quilts @  
gallery  
July 22 Artists in Gardens tour  
August “Nazko Four” pottery/stained  
glass/wood  
August 11 Artists @ the Farmer’s  
Market  
Sept. 14–16 Suzanne Northcott mixed  
media workshop, 300\$

**Wells** Contact 1-800-442-2787  
www.imarts.com  
July 14–24 Various Workshops  
July 21-29 Toni Onley Artist’s Project  
July 31-August 3 Guitar & Songwriting  
August 3-6 ArtsWells Festival of All  
Things Art  
August 14-18 Celtic Harp School

**Williams Lake**  
Contact: 392-9737  
www.stationhousegallery.com  
Summer: Windows: Visions &  
Reflections