



Annual General Meeting  
In person and on zoom  
Saturday, January 21, 2023  
ATCO Performing Arts Centre  
1371 Hastings Crescent SE

# MINUTES

Attendance: In person: Megan Emmett, Carole Tsang, , Lauren Thompson, Lorne Lillico, Keith Heilman, Catherine Barclay, Vaughn Lillico, Ernie Abbott, Renee Fagnou, Cathy Inglis, Ellen Parker (Parker PR), Chris Thompson, Jennifer Bridle (Recording Secretary) Shirl Penner, Rod Garossino, Jan Rubak, Ken Lima, Jana Bodie, Dave Mortson, Kathryn Parrotta, Eugen Beaulieu, Bryan Clarke, Jason Erhardt, Lloyd Anderson, Jocelyn Smith, Jocelyn Jones, Jessica Eckstadt, Kathy Siebel, Laura Hambley, Stacey Shaub-Szabo, Deanna Henderson-McDade, J.P. Hermano, Tara Lima-Coelho, Cathie Lynch.	ACTION
<p><b>1. Welcome Message and Introductions – Catherine Barclay</b> Catherine welcomed all attendees, both in person and virtual. 2022 was a “hybrid” year...both in person and online. Constant evolution of learning. What was the impact of COVID 19 on the arts community? Study done with industry executives. Top 5 competencies required in the Arts:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Audience Engagement</li><li>2. Digital Competencies</li><li>3. Marketing and Communications</li><li>4. New Managerial Approaches</li><li>5. Fundraising</li></ol> <p>Survey “Vital Signs Arts and Belonging” it found the sense of belonging that people in the arts community have. Belonging with each other and belonging with the audience. People in the arts are more likely to have a sense of belonging. 77% agree that arts experiences help them feel a part of their community. Helps people stay in community and build relationships.</p>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Approval of January 22 AGM Minutes –</b> Laura Hambly moves to approve the minutes, seconded by J.P. Hermano. CARRIED</li> <li></li> </ul>	
<p><b>Business Arising from the Minutes</b></p> <p><b>2. Message – Megan Emmett</b> 21/22 season was Megan's first year as CEO. First year anyone other than Shirley Penner was CEO. Transition went very well. The hybrid season took a tremendous toll on everyone. Launched a new website, launched a DEI singer council and it took a lot. Strength and warmth of YSC is the heart of the singers and volunteers. Volunteers are like a magic carpet to this organization. Looking forward, the challenge is to find all of the threads in magic carpets and bring them together. We want YSC to be the safety net for our kids. Thank you to Catherine and the board for their support in Megan's first year, as well as to the volunteers.</p>	
<p><b>3. Message – Shirley Penner Founder and CDO</b> It has been a pleasure handing over CEO to Megan last year. In 1990 we became Youth Singers of Calgary and have overseen the funding of the organization ever since. Shirl is enjoying working with the fund development team. Fund generation, since 1990, we try to stick to 50/50. 50% earned tuition, building rental etc) and 50% donated (gaming, personal donations, grants, sponsorship). Never ending list of things we do for fundraising. We lost most of our revenue during COVID. We were facing a very tough time. There were government grants to help...we raised almost one million dollars. It was nothing short of a miracle. Now we need to carry on rebuilding. We ended up with no deficit. This year one of our dear friends and donors gave us \$100, 000. Made over \$100, 000 on Hearts Out at Home. Kids and Music program exploded with registrations. Over 100 families, Grade 2 and under. This year we signed on CH Financial for the spring show sponsorship. Bingo's are going up. Close to \$400, 000 net revenue on bingos. \$1,000,000 donation from Marg Southern, had the naming ceremony. We became the ATCO Performing Arts Centre. Donor recognition wall honouring all the people who have donated the cash to make this organization what it is. Notes and Stars wall in Studio A. it has been a pleasure working with</p>	

<p>Megan and Catherine Barclay. Thank you to Eugene Beaulieu and Laura Hambly for being by Shirl's side with all of the revenue generation.</p>	
<p><b>4. Message – Tricia Penner, Artistic Director</b></p> <p>Tricia thanked Megan, Shirl and Catherine. Artistic team has big dreams and a small budget and they depend on the fund revenue. 21/22 Season was about fun and joy and looking at all of the things that we have in common. Three highlights:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Creativity – there are no more creative people than what we have on the team here at YSC. Our main goal is to support kids in their creativity</li> <li>2. Team Work – we would be no where without our strong teams...production team, artistic team, divisional teams and volunteer teams.</li> <li>3. We work hard to keep this program relevant to our singers, families and the world. We are always learning and trying to figure out what the most important thing is. Christmas Show offered us the opportunity to gather together.</li> </ol> <p>It was a great year because of everyone's commitment to the program. Thank you to the artistic team, production team, volunteers and families.</p>	
<p><b>5. Keynote – Alex Sarian, President and CEO, Arts Common</b></p> <p>Alex is originally from Toronto. Arts management professional. Important to help build resilient strong citizens.</p> <p>WE talk about belonging in the arts community...Alex feels so privileged to feel so at home here in Calgary. He acknowledged the land that we live on and meet on. He is essentially an arts educator. Three main barriers to people attending arts events.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Geographic</li> <li>2. Financial Barriers</li> <li>3. Perceived barrier that "I don't belong there"</li> </ol> <p>There needs to be intentionality when you are looking at financial barriers</p> <p>Who, How, What and Why of what we do?</p> <p><b>WHO?</b> – who are we doing this for? We need to build relationships. Article 27 Everyone has the right freely to participate in the arts. Equitable access to the arts is a basic human right. They reimagined their mission statement. Redefine a bold and adventurous Calgary Mission be an inspirational force.</p>	

Who are we NOT serving? And WHY?  
 We like to think that Arts Education is inclusive, but is it? Creative youth development vs. technical skill building. Are we as welcoming as we think we are?  
**WHAT?** – talented artist, interpretive artist and creative artist. Young people love to live in the world of talented and don't spend enough time in interpretive and creative. Being talented is good...but it is not enough. it will never be enough. Talent allows you to express yourself. Interpretive takes something that has already been created, but takes it and puts a new twist on it. Creative artist creates something out of nothing. All three types of artist build upon each other.  
**WHY?** – What's more important? The intent of the artist or the interpretation of the audience? We need to live in the tension between what is being shared and what is being received. Relevance is the ability to engage in that dialogue.  
 We are all part of this mission together. This is why we do it...what it means for the organization and what it means for the city of Calgary.

#### **6. Financial Report – Ernie Abbott on behalf of Shane Simmons**

Our year end financials have been audited and approved by our auditors. Cathy and financial team is going an amazing job.  
 Over all, the organization broke even over 2021/2022. Revenues balanced at \$1.6 million, which is where we were in 2017.  
 We are expecting that we will have a balanced budget for this year as well.

#### **7. Approval of the Auditors for 2022-2023 Season**

Dave Morton moves to approve Buchanan Barry as our auditors, Renee Fagnou seconds. **CARRIED**

#### **8. Election of Board of Directors**

##### **Board Executive**

- Ernie Abbott, Chair
- Laura Hambly, Vice Chair
- Catherine Barclay, Past Chair
- Shane Simmons, Treasurer
- Rod Garossino, Secretary

<p><b>Directors</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eugene Beaulieu</li> <li>• Jason Bergeron</li> <li>• Cathy Lynch</li> <li>• Renee Fagnou</li> <li>• J.P.Hermano</li> <li>• Karri Quan</li> <li>• Patricia McGauley</li> <li>• Megan Thomson</li> <li>• TBD</li> </ul> <p>Chris Thompson moves to accept the slate as presented. Deanna Henderson-McDade seconds. CARRIED</p>	
<p><b>7. New Business / Q &amp; A</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Bylaws Presentation and Approval</b> Last updated in 2007. Working to refresh and modernize the bylaws. Intergral Org has lead us through the process of updating our bylaws. Moving some bylaws to policies and procedures that can be modified and changed without a membership vote. Modernize the bylaws to incorporate digital competencies. Kathy Siebel moves that they bylaws of the society be altered by replacing those in existence and substituting therefore the Bylaws attached to this resolution. Any officer of the society is directed to do any and all such acts as are required to give effect to this resolution, including issuing certified copies of this resolution and filing the same with the Registrar of Corporations of the Province of Alberta. JP seconds. CARRIED.</li> <li>• Ernie thanked Catherine for her work and leadership on the board.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>8. Adjournment – 12:29 pm</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “The capacity to learn is a gift. The ability to learn is a skill the willingness to learn is a choice.”</li> </ul>	