

KICKING HORSE CULTURE

Board of Directors Report for 20/21 Fiscal

**Annual General Meeting
Wednesday November 17, 2021**

As we have all experienced in our own personal and unique ways, this year has been unlike any other. That is especially true for an arts and culture organization. KHC operates according to policy governance. In its simplest form, this means it is the Board's role to represent the "Owners" of the organization. The moral "Owners" of KHC are the citizens of Area 'A' and the Town of Golden. The Board is required to connect with the Ownership and translate their response into the "Ends" of the society. The Ends are currently expressed as "Engage, Energize and Enrich". In many ways, what this has looked like is bringing people together to create, learn about or experience arts and culture in various forms. How this has typically been achieved had to be reimagined because of pandemic restrictions. Covid interrupted a lot of planned programming for the fiscal year but the Executive and Artistic Director pivoted programming with creativity and determination. I think the programming that has been and continues to be delivered is of significant importance as our community navigates the pandemic.

The annual MasqueParade took a virtual form that brought delight to so many. The Art Gallery of Golden, hosted a number of virtual exhibit openings and there was a successful series of Summer Kicks concerts that were 'taken' to various neighbourhoods in the community – presented within BC's public health orders – and extremely well received by neighbourhood audiences. This highlights just a few of KHC's achievements over the past year.

This year has also been significant for the Board. We began the year as an almost completely new Board of Directors. Earlier in the year we completed online policy governance training. We continue to receive periodic policy governance consultation when needed particularly in regards to Ends interpretation and monitoring. When we began the year, it was evident that NXT Board, the platform previously used for Board record keeping, file sharing and communication was defunct. We have switched to using Google workspace and I would like to thank Dustin specifically for this transition. It has been such an important improvement for the functioning and efficiency of the Board. I am so grateful for each one

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ENGAGE. ENERGIZE. ENRICH.



of our Board members and their complimentary set of skills and experience. I could not fulfill my role as Chair without their cooperation, support and knowledge. The Board is looking to have two new members join us. Board members enable the successful delivery of arts and cultural programming and ensure that Kicking Horse Country enjoys and values arts and culture at a use of resources that demonstrates good stewardship of funds received. If you or someone you know is interested, please get in touch and we would be happy to provide more information.

An important role of the Board is Ownership linkage, that is connecting with moral owners of the organization. This has also been hampered somewhat by pandemic restrictions. In the Spring we were able to reach out to a number of community members, particularly leaders of various organizations within the area. We will be reviewing the information that was gathered more closely in an upcoming Board meeting but the themes of diversity and engagement of younger community members is what stands out to me. What we hear from Owners is what guides us as a Board and we will continue to do our best to ensure Kicking Horse Culture meets the changing needs of the community.

The Board would like to thank the Executive and Artistic Director for his continued monitoring of public health orders to ensure compliance with provincial mandates. We also note that the Executive's decisions regarding program offerings were made with the safety of staff and audience top of mind. We understand and appreciate the effort it has taken this year to be creative in providing the town of Golden and visitors with programs in the face of the pandemic.

Our thanks also goes out to the staff and volunteers that have helped in providing programming in the 2020/21 fiscal year.

On behalf of the Board,

Kalika Bowlby (Chair)

Merryl Edington-Hryb, Elva Mertick, Dustin Thomson, Lyuba Kirkova