MAKING SPACE FOR ARTS & CULTURE

CULTURAL INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN

COUNCIL JULY 10, 2018
RTS 012420
AGENDA

• Context
• Key Findings
• Moving Forward
“Culture is an essential ingredient in the 21st Century city … no global city can be successful without it. Contributing to city reputation, economic prosperity and quality of life.”

World Cities Culture Forum 2017

Kokoro Dance
Woodwards Atrium
MAKING SPACE FOR ARTS & CULTURE

Vision

• Affordable, accessible, vital cultural spaces that enable Vancouver’s diverse and thriving cultural ecology

• A city in which artists can live, work and share their work

Report Purpose

• To inform City programs & policy that enables affordable accessible space for arts & culture
Informed by AMS Study
Internal Steering Committee
Arts and Culture Policy Council (ACPC), ACPC Spaces Sub-Committee
RELATED CITY STRATEGIES

Healthy City Strategy
City of Reconciliation
VanPlay

Places for People
Plaza Stewardship
Social Infrastructure Plan

Heritage Action Plan
Liquor Policy Review
Regulatory Review

Support for Small Business Strategy
Provincial Property Assessment & Taxation Review
Employment Lands Study

Creative City Strategy
Vancouver Music Strategy
Making Space for Arts & Culture
Special Events Policy Update
Rapid growth in urbanism increases need for cultural expression, identity and livability

Cultural/Creative Industries one of fastest growing sectors (UN)

Arts and cultural workers 7.4% of GDP* in Canada

BC highest # & Vancouver highest concentration of artists per capita (StatsCan 2011)

65% of artists with total income under $40K (StatsCan 2011)
ACCOMPLISHED | 2008 - 2018

GRANTS & AWARDS

- **$9.36M Grants**
  - 135 NPOs to plan, buy, build, renovate
  - 236 projects, leveraged $60M+

- **$4.5M CAC funding**
  - Western Front bought building & grunt gallery paid off mortgage

- **Artist Studio Awards**
  - 7 studios (3-year terms)
  - 26 artists since 1995
### CAPACITY & PLANNING

**Community capacity**
- BC Artscape ~50K sf
- 221A ~50K sf
- Arts Factory ~21K sf
- Social Purpose Real Estate Collective

**Area & community plans & development**

**Reducing regulatory barriers**
- 450+ enquiries
- Arts Event Licence & Reviews
- **NEW!** liquor licence for arts establishments/family studios/retail in studio
COV SPACES

• Total of 80 spaces, 830K sf, 137 tenants

• $100M – 9 renewal projects QET ($73M)

• 13 NEW CACs, 182k sf, ~30 tenants

• Other 40k sf
  • Arts Factory, Britannia Carving Pavillion, St. James Community Square, Joy Kogawa House
# Arts Spaces Delivered Through CACS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Square Feet</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alliance for Arts and Culture</td>
<td>4,055</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arts Starts in School</td>
<td>6,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bill Reid Gallery</td>
<td>9,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>BMO Theatre*</td>
<td>48,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Canadian Music Centre</td>
<td>3,350</td>
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<tr>
<td>CBC The Post*</td>
<td>8,500</td>
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<td>Cineworks</td>
<td>3,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contemporary Art Gallery</td>
<td>5,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>MC2 Artist Studios (2)*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Orpheum Annex*</td>
<td>15,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pacific Cinematheque</td>
<td>7,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>1569 W 6th Artist Studios (2)*</td>
<td>800</td>
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<tr>
<td>VSO School Of Music*</td>
<td>24,568</td>
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<tr>
<td>Woodwards*</td>
<td>21,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>York Theatre (VECC)*</td>
<td>12,500</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>157,418</strong></td>
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* Since 2009

## Underway

- Howe Street Studios, Main & 2nd Housing,
- 801 Pacific Cultural Hub

~ 50,000 square feet
“The challenge of making space for culture is inseparable from the broader affordability crisis.”

Justine Simons, Deputy Mayor for Culture and the Creative Industries, London
Paul Owens, World Cities Culture Forum
## SURVEY FINDINGS

### SMALL BUDGETS CITY SERVING
- 77% budget <$500K
- 44% budget <$100K
- City-serving
  - 8% neighbourhood based
  - Most city, metro, region

### VULNERABLE SECURITY OF TENURE
- 1/3 leases <1 year
- 2/3 leases <5 years
- 5 facilities owned by NPOs
- 50% organizations concerned about losing their space
- Highest concern over losing production space

### MANY SPACES NEED UPGRADES
- 89% orgs considering minor improvements -
  - accessibility, tech, acoustics, environmental
- 43 active major projects (1/3 under construction)
- Funding sources co-developments, fundraising, federal grants, owner-financed and conventional loans
## Affordability & Displacement
Little property ownership; high land values & property taxes; limited tools for private spaces; development displacing existing spaces

## Capacity
Lack of leadership development opportunities, philanthropy and advocacy; lack of space operating funding; undercapitalization

## Equity, Access, MST & Indigenous
Lack of First Nations and Urban Indigenous visibility and spaces; barriers for underrepresented small & emerging groups; facility accessibility barriers

## Culture not high profile/ priority strategy
Compartmentalization; lack of transparency; infrastructure grants too low; little support for cultural spaces citywide; more City-controlled spaces should be made available

## Regulatory Barriers
Need for support in permit and license navigation; Zoning/licensing/building requirements do not align; restrictive noise by-laws; limitations with Arts Event License
38 World Cities

Most Critical Issues

- Artists leaving to more affordable areas
- Loss of performance, exhibition, production and administrative spaces

London

- 35% of grassroots music venues lost over 8 years
- 30% of artist studios likely to be lost by 2019
INNOVATIONS | OTHER CITIES

Community Arts Stabilization Trust
• NPO buys space & leases to own (San Francisco)

Creative Hub Property Tax
• 50% assessment/tax reduction, >5,000 sf (Toronto/Ontario)

Cultural Districts
• Developments >60K sf, 5% arts uses with NPO lease (15+ yrs), 4 sf density bonus per 1 sf arts space (New York)

Agent of Change
• Sound measures for residential developments near venues (Victoria, Australia & San Francisco)

Splendor
• Musician-run venue, funded by membership (Amsterdam)
“Work to position arts and culture as a core sector of community planning and development.”

Jamie Bennett, ArtPlace America
MOVING FORWARD | OBJECTIVES

1. Position/align arts and culture as a key priority in City building

2. Expand tools to partner to secure, enhance and develop affordable, accessible cultural spaces

3. Incorporate equity, access & Reconciliation lenses into programs, policies, and priorities

4. Expand engagement with community & partners on renewal planning for City owned spaces and developing new spaces

5. Support community led initiatives that build capacity
1. ARTS & CULTURE AS KEY PRIORITY

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Develop city-wide arts and cultural space targets
- Review and update Cultural Infrastructure Grants to improve access, partnership opportunities and funding levels

FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS

- Explore ways to support security of tenure & acquisition (e.g. land trusts, co-ops)
- Ensure sector is represented and engaged in all planning projects
- Encourage City strategies to engage with ACPC; develop engagement toolkit
- Support cultural space priorities in existing area and community plans
2. EXPAND TOOLS

RECOMMENDATIONS
- Explore policies, zoning, regulatory and other tools to support cultural spaces
- Work with DBL & Regulatory Review to remove barriers and streamline processes
- Advocate to Province for “Split Tax Bill” approach
- Explore a time-limited City stabilization fund to assist nonprofits in crisis

FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS
- Explore tools to:
  - Preserve affordable industrial space
  - Leverage heritage incentives
  - Retain/enhance cultural spaces in places of worship, legions and halls
  - Support existing tenants in private space
  - Use density bonusing, cultural districts and mixed-use cultural hubs
  - Support artists & NPOs through regulatory processes
  - Support reuse of older buildings and temporary studio spaces
3. EQUITY, ACCESS & RECONCILIATION

RECOMMENDATION

- Engage with Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Nations and Urban Indigenous community on ways to support improved visibility and self-determined cultural spaces.

FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS

- Review programs and support through equity, access and reconciliation lens.

- Support development of Indigenous engagement and design guidelines.

- Continue to support cultural redress.

- Further support accessibility for artists and audiences.
4. RENEWAL

RECOMMENDATION

- Engage community and partners on planning and feasibility of city-owned spaces e.g. Vanier Park institutions, Orpheum, Firehall Theatre

FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS

- Balance renewal of large and small City-owned spaces
- Support NPOs to plan improvements including accessibility and greening upgrades
4. NEW

RECOMMENDATION

- Integrate cultural spaces into City spaces such as community centres, housing projects, social spaces, libraries, and others

FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS

- Local First Nations and Urban Indigenous self-determined cultural spaces
- Music spaces as per Vancouver Music Strategy
- Functional outdoor spaces
- Expand Artists Studios Awards
- Co-located hubs for admin & home bases
- Shared production, rehearsal, & presentation space
- Partner on major facilities such as a new Vancouver Art Gallery
5. BUILD CAPACITY

RECOMMENDATION

- Support knowledge sharing & research including joining the World Cities Culture Forum

FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS

- Support/explore:
  - Community-led capacity building & research
  - Ways to support non-profit space operators
  - Developing tools to share info & “demystify” processes
  - Partnerships opportunities (e.g. Canada Spaces Fund, VSB, CIRES, Granville Island, Creative BC, SPRE)
  - BC GOV to develop a cultural infrastructure program

Debra Sparrow, 2018
Granville Island
WHAT NEXT?

Review timing/resources

2019 | Report back with Creative City Strategy

grunt gallery
Artist rendering of the Blue Cabin Residency
Simcic + Uhrich Architects