

MINUTES

MISSISSAUGA ARTS COUNCIL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF MEMBERS **Wednesday, May 8, 2024 from 6:00-7:00pm**

In-Person Meeting

Great Hall - Mississauga Civic Centre
300 City Centre Drive, Mississauga ON L5B 3C1

1. Call to Order and Land Acknowledgement

Mississauga Arts Council (MAC) Board President, **Ron Duquette**, welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 6:06pm.

MAC Creative Director & Strategist **Jacqueline Mak** delivered the land acknowledgement as follows:

The Mississauga Arts Council acknowledges that the land on which we gather is part of the Treaty and Traditional Territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, Haudenosaunee Confederacy, the Huron-Wendat and Wyandot Nations. We are grateful to have the opportunity to work on this land, and give our respect to these peoples and their ancestors who have been inhabitants of this land since time immemorial. We also recognize that Mississauga is now home to many global Indigenous Peoples.

Ron Duquette explained the “show of hands” voting process for the meeting to all in attendance.

2. Appointment of Secretary and Verify Quorum

Ron Duquette motioned that MAC Administration Lead, Susan Durnin, be appointed secretary of the 2024 Annual General Meeting.

Motion: That Susan Durnin be appointed secretary of MAC's Annual General Meeting.

Motion: RON DUQUETTE

Second: FILIP PLASKOTA

Outcome: Motion Approved

Susan Durnin verified the following:

Proof of notice: Pursuant to article 8.11 in the by-laws, notice of the time, place and date of the Annual General Meeting of members, was sent to all members more than 10 days in advance of the meeting by email.

Report on Attendance: There were 36 members in attendance. 4 proxies were received.

Quorum: Pursuant to article 8.12 in the by-laws which states that 'twenty (20) members present in person or represented by proxy, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business' I deem that there is quorum for tonight's meeting.

3. Introduction of Directors, Advisors, and Staff

MAC Advisor, **Jennifer Rabanillo**, introduced MAC's Board of Directors and Advisory Board Members.

In attendance:

- Ron Duquette, president
- Charles Chu, treasurer
- Helen Almeida, director
- Wendy Furtenbacher, director and City representative
- Filip Plaskota, director
- Mike Douglas, executive director and director

The following directors were unable to attend and sent their regrets:

- Jason Chellew, Vice-President
- Sarah Rustomji, Secretary
- Anna Adams, director and MBOT representative
- Deta Constantine, director
- Christine Griffin, director
- Sumeeta Kohli, director
- Jung Ah Kwon, director
- Tracy Xavier, Acting director

MAC's non-voting Advisory Board is:

- David Ho

- Amena Mohammad
- Jennifer Rabanillo

MAC Executive Director, **Mike Douglas**, introduced MAC Staff:

- Mike Douglas, Executive Director
- Susan Durnin, Administration Lead
- Jacqueline Mak, Creative Director & Strategist
- Sherri Parliament (née Murray), Communications Manager
- Sabrina Cunha, Multimedia Designer
- Madison Espie, Development Manager (with thanks to Canada Services Recovery Fund)
- Maria Naqvi, Content Creator (with thanks to Ontario Trillium Foundation)
- Lejla Pepeljak, Reporter, Arts and Culture (with thanks to Ontario Trillium Foundation)

4. Review and Approval of 2023 AGM Minutes (August 2, 2023)

MAC Director, **Wendy Furtenbacher**, confirmed that the Minutes from last year's Annual General Meeting (August 2, 2023) had been distributed electronically to all MAC members, and hard copies are available to all in attendance.

Minutes from 2023 AGM:

mississaugaartscouncil.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/230802_AGM23-Minutes.pdf

She moved that the reading of the Minutes of the 2023 Annual Meeting held on August 2, 2023 be waived and that the Minutes be approved as distributed.

Motion: That the reading of the Minutes of the 2023 Annual Meeting held on August 2, 2023 be waived and that the Minutes be approved as distributed.

Motion: WENDY FURTENBACHER

Second: FILIP PLASKOTA

Outcome: Motion Approved

5. President's Report

Ron Duquette delivered the President's Report as follows:

In 2023, MAC developed a new Strategic Plan, Bringing Audiences to the Arts, aiming to foster connections and engage with community partners, organizations, audiences, and artists across Mississauga to build our arts economy.

With this new strategic focus, MAC's strong communications will continue to surge. In 2023, MAC reached 2,700,000 social media impressions, and 1,970,000 in total reach. These communications are leveraged to help our members reach new audiences and share their events and stories on Sauga Arts HUB.

Each year, MAC produces two signature events to support the arts sector in Mississauga. In May 2023 we hosted The MARTY Awards, a celebration of local artistic achievements. Our sold-out event saw 500 guests in attendance and recognized 59 Finalists, 16 Artistic Excellence Award winners across 8 artistic disciplines, and 5 Community Award winners.

Thanks to the board, our annual fundraiser, the MACsquerade Glam Ball was our most successful to date, achieving record-breaking profits. MAC's signature events are not possible without the contribution of MAC's diverse and dedicated board members.

MAC has reinvested the profits from our fundraiser into the new Sauga Neighbourhood Arts Program or SNAP!. SNAP! provides seed money for community arts initiatives in celebration of Mississauga's 50th Anniversary.

2023 was truly an exceptional year for MAC.

We would like to extend a special thank you to our funders, especially including: the City of Mississauga, and the Ontario Arts Council.

Thank you to the Ontario Trillium Foundation - their grant support enabled MAC to hire Maria and Lejla.

Thanks also to the Community Foundation of Mississauga and the Canada Services Recovery Fund. This funding allowed us to hire Madison Espie, as Development Manager, who's role has been critical to growing relationships with donors and sponsors.

MAC would like to extend a big thank you to all of our sponsors and donors. Their support enables us to serve artists in our community through our programs and services. We look forward to making more creative connections to help grow our arts economy.

With no questions or comments, Ron Duquette asked for a motion to approve the President's Report as presented.

Motion: To approve the President's Report as presented.

Motion: HELEN ALMEIDA

Second: WENDY FURTENBACHER

Outcome: Motion Approved

6. Approval of Audited Statements – January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2023

MAC Treasurer, **Charles Chu**, presented the Treasurer's Report and Audited Financial Statements as follows:

Thank you Ron, and good evening everyone.

My name is Charles Chu and I'm the Treasurer for MAC. Firstly, I'd like to thank our staff for their continuous hard work into making MAC what it is in supporting the artists in our city.

Looking right to the bottom figure, you'll notice the change from prior year's surplus to this year's figure. As a not-for-profit, our duty is to our mandate and our stakeholders and given our biggest fundraiser occurs at the end of our fiscal year, there will be occasions where identifying the best places to give back falls into the following year. I'm sure there's many here that have felt that support over the course of their membership with MAC or who knows someone who has. The biggest example of this is our microgrant program where we approved a record number of artistic projects this year and that would not be possible without efforts in fundraising.

MAC is getting bigger as shown by our revenues and that's because of the support we're getting from the community, our membership and others who feel this is needed to grow and enhance the arts and we take that support and we give it back. We're also planning to utilize previous surpluses into new collaborative endeavours as well as grow our existing projects.

We cannot do this without your continued support. We truly rely on your advocacy to make the artists in Mississauga thrive. Thank you.

You can find a summary of MAC's 2023 Audited financial statements on pages 26-28 in the Annual Report. An electronic copy of the Annual Report was sent to all members and is available for download on our website. Hard copies are available for those in attendance this evening.

2023 Annual Report:

mississaugaartscouncil.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/MAC-Annual-Report-2023-Web.pdf

With no questions or comments about the audited financial statements or treasurer's report, Charles Chu asked for a motion to approve and adopt the 2023 Audited Financial Statements.

Motion: That the 2023 Audited Financial Statements be approved and adopted.

Motion: JENNIFER RABANILLO

Second: ZOHRA ZOBERI

Outcome: Motion Approved

7. Appointment of Auditors and Remuneration

MAC Treasurer, **Charles Chu**, made a motion to appoint auditors as follows:

I move that HVGP Chartered Professional Accountants be hereby appointed Auditors of the Mississauga Arts Council until the next Annual Meeting or until a successor is appointed and that their remuneration as such be fixed by the Board of Directors.

Motion: That HVGP Chartered Professional Accountants be appointed Auditors of the Mississauga Arts Council.

Motion: CHARLES CHU
Second: JEANNETTE CHAU
Outcome: Motion Approved

8. Ratification of the Actions of the Directors

MAC Director, **Filip Plaskota**, made a motion to ratify the actions of the directors as follows:

I move that all acts, contracts, By-Laws, proceedings, appointments, elections, and payments enacted, made, done, and taken by the Directors and Officers of the Mississauga Arts Council, since the last Annual Meeting of Members be approved and insofar as any such corporate proceedings have not been validly enacted, passed, sanctioned, and confirmed. The same are hereby for greater certainty enacted, passed, sanctioned, confirmed, authorized or made, with retroactive effect, and in all other respects with the effect stated in the minutes and records of the Mississauga Arts Council.

Motion: To ratify the actions of the directors

Motion: FILIP PLASKOTA
Second: HELEN ALMEIDA
Outcome: Motion Approved

9. Membership Fee Update

MAC Executive Director, **Mike Douglas**, presented updated membership levels and fees as proposed by MAC to go into effect on June 1, 2024.

MAC proposes the following levels and prices for a 1 year individual membership to MAC:

Senior/Student \$30

Individual \$40

Individual Plus \$60 (Incl added service benefits)

Nonprofit, Arts Group, or Business Membership will now have fees based off of their operating budget size. 1 year membership fees proposed are:

Groups with operating budgets under \$100,000, \$60 annual fee

Groups with operating budgets between \$100,000K and \$1,000,000, \$100 annual fee

Groups with operating budgets over \$1,000,000, \$150 annual fee

Proposed Membership Update:

mississaugaartscouncil.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/2024-MAC_MembershipUpdate.pdf

Questions were received, and the proposed changes were discussed.

Motion: That the proposed changes to the Membership Levels and Fees be approved and adopted as presented for implementation on June 1, 2024.

Motion: WENDY FURTENBACHER
Second: JOANNE WANDA ROSSITER
Outcome: Motion Approved

10. Update to Articles of Incorporation

MAC Executive Director, **Mike Douglas**, introduced two proposed updates to MAC's Articles of Amendment that will be filed with the Province of Ontario to comply with the Ontario Nonprofit Corporations Act (ONCA).

The first change is to set our number of board members as a range from 13-15.

The second change is to our organizational purpose from:

TO promote the artistic expression and appreciation of the arts within the City of Mississauga and to provide in depth planning recommendations concerning the core of the City of Mississauga in order that it becomes the cultural centre of the City of Mississauga.

To the revised purpose of:

TO promote professional artistic expression and the appreciation of the arts within the City of Mississauga.

With no questions or comments, Mike Douglas asked that a motion be made to approve and adopt the proposed changes to the Articles of Amendment as presented.

Motion: That the proposed changes to the Articles of Amendment be approved and adopted.

Motion: HELEN ALMEIDA
Second: FILIP PLASKOTA
Outcome: Motion Approved

11. Board Elections

MAC Director and member of the Human Resources Committee, **Helen Almeida**, led the election of MAC's Board of Directors.

The following Directors were not required to stand for election:

- Helen Almeida (in 2nd year of two-year term)
- Jason Chellew (in 2nd year of two-year term)
- Ron Duquette (in 2nd year of two-year term)

- Christine Griffin (in 2nd year of two-year term)

The following directors are appointed and were not required to stand for election:

- Anna Adams (serving a four-year term as MBOT appointee)
- Wendy Furtenbacher (serving a four-year term as City appointee)

The following Directors are seeking re-election for a 2-year term to the Board:

- Charles Chu
- Deta Constantine
- Sumeeta Kohli
- Jung Ah Kwon
- Filip Plaskota
- Sarah Rustomji

The following Directors are seeking election for a 1-year term to the Board:

- Jennifer Rabanillo
- Tracy Xavier

Helen Almeida moved that the proposed slate of candidates be approved as Directors of the Mississauga Arts Council for the 2024/2025 year.

Motion: That the proposed slate of candidates be approved as Directors of the Mississauga Arts Council for the 2024/2025 year.

Motion: HELEN ALMEIDA
 Second: SUSAN KSIEZOPOLSKI
 Outcome: Motion Approved

Helen Almeida declared Charles Chu, Deta Constantine, Sumeeta Kohli, Jung Ah Kwon, Filip Plaskota, Jennifer Rabanillo, Sarah Rustomji, and Tracy Xavier as Directors of the Mississauga Arts Council.

12. Update from MAC Executive Director

MAC Executive Director, **Mike Douglas**, presented highlights of the creative connections MAC made in 2023 as follows:

*We provided \$220,000 in artist fees to over 394 local artists.
 Our total live and on-screen audience members for murals, special events, and MicroGrant projects reached over 1.6 million.*

MAC sponsored performances across the city, at community events and festivals, such as VAM's Art in the Park, Canadian Music Expo, Taste of Cooksville, Italfest, Mississauga Music Awards, and the Cooksville Festival of Cultures.

We also partnered with fellow arts and culture organizations to produce programs like Sauga Teens Got Talent and Beauty of Bees at the Streetsville Bread and Honey Festival, Amphitheatre Unplugged with the City of Mississauga, and Sauga Summer Song Contest with Metalworks and Mississauga Music. These programs continue to engage emerging artists in career-boosting activities.

One of these partnerships was Sauga's 50th Anniversary Anthem Contest in partnership with Metalworks Studios and SoundsUnite.

Mikey Bloom's winning song, "Mississauga", has been adopted by the City as its official anniversary anthem!

TD Culture Lab professional development series delivers knowledge and skills artists need to succeed. We introduced the Screen Media Makers Industry Summit, now the Indie Filmmakers Amplifier, and the TD Culture Lab - Breakthrough to Writers Success Day.

Our Murals with MAC program provided \$28,860 in artist fees to 10 visual artists to create artwork for utility boxes and murals. This included partnerships with Clarkson BIA, Connolly Capital, Express Scripts Canada, and LGBT YouthLine.

MAC's MicroGrant Program provides funding to individual artists to support the creation and presentation of their impactful projects. These MicroGrants target areas of interest or need within the local arts sector, and have been catalysts for collaboration across artistic practices.

Last year, we provided \$154,000 to 50 artist-led projects.

MAC would like to take a moment to recognize the contributions that our RAMA Gaming House Volunteers make, in providing much of the support to the MicroGrant Program.

Last year, 17 volunteers helped MAC raise over \$94,000 through 186 volunteer hours at RAMA Gaming. Would some of the RAMA Volunteers here tonight please stand and be recognized.

Thank you!

13. MicroGrant Winner Announcement

SUSAN DURNIN

MAC Administration Lead, **Susan Durnin**, announced the eight winners of the 2024 Matchmaker MicroGrants: Arlene Paculan, Caterina Sauro, Hibah Mian, Joanne Feely DeGraaf, Lorraine Brown, Matthew Zadkovich, Mileena Sobreira-Yousufy, and Sandra Clarke.

14. Announcements

MAC's Communications Manager, **Sherri Parliament (née Murray)**, shared information about three upcoming MAC events in June 2024.

- The **Next Gen: Singing Contest** (formerly Sauga Teens Got Talent) on Saturday, June 1 at 2 PM in partnership with the Streetsville Bread and Honey Festival.
- The **Beauty of the Bees Exhibition** on Sunday, June 2, 1:30 PM at the Pollinator Garden beside the Streetsville BIA Building on Queen Street at the Bread and Honey Festival.
- The **2024 MARTY Awards** on Wednesday, June 26 at the Mississauga Convention Centre!

15. New Business

MAC President, **Ron Duquette**, asked those present to share any questions, comments and/or new business.

16. Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, **Ron Duquette**, moved that the 2024 Annual General Meeting of MAC members be adjourned

Motion: To adjourn the 2024 Annual General Meeting of Members.

Motion: RON DUQUETTE

Second: CHARLES CHU

Outcome: Motion Approved

The 2024 Annual General Meeting of MAC members was adjourned at 7:04pm