

MINUTES

MISSISSAUGA ARTS COUNCIL INTERIM MEETING OF MEMBERS Tuesday, September 17, 2024 from 5:30-6:00pm Virtual Meeting (Zoom)

1. Call to Order

Mississauga Arts Council (MAC) Board President, **Ron Duquette**, welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 5:35pm.

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 Interim Meeting of MAC members.

Motion: That Susan Durnin be appointed secretary of MAC’s Interim Meeting of MAC Members.

Motion: Ron Duquette

Second: Helen Almeida

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 Interim Meeting of MAC Members, was sent to all members more than 10 days in advance of the meeting by email.

Report on Attendance: There were 25 members in attendance. 6 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’ it was deemed that there was quorum for the meeting.

3. Review and Approval of Updated By-Laws

Executive Director, **Mike Douglas**, led members through key changes and relevant paragraphs in the updated version of the By-Laws based on our work with KC Law.

Noted changes included updated language to reflect gender neutral pronouns, addition of terms to include electronic meetings and payments, and a paragraph about conflicts of interest. The membership terms have been adjusted with updates to the process to revoke membership. There were no questions from those present or from members in advance of the meeting.

Motion: To approve and adopt the Restated By-Law No. 1 as presented.

Moved by: Ron Duquette

Seconded by: Breann Ritchie

Conclusion: Approved

4. Update from MAC's Executive Director

Mike Douglas provided an update on MAC's activities and initiatives in 2024.

Dream Out Loud - Since June, MAC has been advocating for a new mindset for support from the City of Mississauga. Through virtual brainstorming sessions with arts leaders and impressive deputations to the City's Subcommittee of Council - Arts and Culture and Festival Groups, this has been a busy and rewarding summer for local arts advocacy.

SNAP! - Proceeds from MAC's fundraising at the MACsquerade Ball helped us launch the successful Sauga Neighbourhood Arts Program (SNAP!) which provided \$80,000 to 38 projects involving over 100 artists in all 11 wards of the city.

SAMS - Through the support of a project grant from the province of Ontario, MAC will pair up artists with long-term care homes, providing entertainment and arts experiences to one of our community's most overlooked group of people - much in need of the health benefits of the arts.

SAH - Sauga Arts Hub (SAH) is being redeveloped to be more user-friendly and engaging. Watch for the new and improved site to launch this fall.

Motion: To approve Executive Director Update as presented.

Moved by: Jennifer Rabanillo

Seconded by: Charles Chu

Conclusion: Approved

5. New Business

Encouragement to attend the Subcommittee meeting on September 19, 2024

<https://pub-mississauga.escribemeetings.com/Meeting.aspx?Id=d32fbb94-5882-4d8b-8156-56e24008a4a4&Agenda=Agenda&lang=English&Item=17&Tab=attachments>

6. Adjournment of Interim Member Meeting

With no further business from those present, there was a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:00pm.

Motion: To Adjourn the Interim Member Meeting.

Moved by: Jason Chellew

Seconded by: Cathleen MacDonald

Conclusion: Approved

MAC ED Report for September 2024

Hello friends, as summer ends, here is an update from MAC.

Dream Out Loud The most significant thing we've achieved this summer has been advocating for a new mindset for support from the City of Mississauga. As Mayor Parrish announced at The MARTYS; after MAC's deputation to Council about the disadvantaged funding and support circumstances currently practiced, she will be sourcing new funding for the arts sector. Councillor Butt formed a new subcommittee to examine funding and support practices. The committee of 10 Councillors heard deputations from 24 of the largest organizations in the ecosystem across Festivals and Culture, Arts and Heritage groups pointing at remarkably similar gaps in funding and staff support.

This Thursday morning City Staff will reply to these presentations.

SNAP! the Sauga Neighborhood Arts Program has evolved into a great success story in its first year, bringing thousands of residents into greater contact with local artists. With proceeds from last year's MACsquerade Ball, MAC was able to invest \$80,000 in seed money to fund or co-sponsor 38 projects, involving more than 100 artists paid to create or perform in every Ward of the city. SNAP! needs to continue and we hope the proceeds of this year's Disco Inferno! will be sufficient to keep this success story going again next year, as we anticipate demand will grow by 40%.

SAMS the new Seniors Arts and Music Series coming this winter is a circuit of creative and entertaining events designed for long term care home residents in Mississauga. One of the lessons we've learned is around the power of the audience. By identifying audiences in need of programming, we discover Community channels of support for it, whether it's from Ontario Trillium Foundation or a Ministry of the Ontario government, a social services organization, charity foundation or a corporate head office, by identifying people in need of creative uplift and encouragement, increased self-confidence & mental health. MAC is delighted to emphasize that recognizing the power in the audience for your work is often the key to unlock funding for your work.

The Sauga Arts Hub is coming. We have been quiet about this website because it has taken so long to address the slow download issue and we didn't want to advocate for it when we didn't feel it was good enough. In a few weeks you will hear all about this platform for the Arts in Mississauga and what we're going to do with it as long as we have the artists' participation in making it live. Because the more professional artists participate in their community, the greater their careers will be and the stronger and more representative our creative ecosystem will be. When we look at the winners of grants and awards and commissions almost always, they are engaged in their community. It's as if community engagement is a career accelerator.