

**MINUTES**

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**Seniors, Elders & Advocates Committee (SEA)**

Wednesday, March 16th, 2022 3:15pm Hybrid

**Present:** Cylia Wong, Myra Pierre, Lora Masotti, Sharon Williams, Amelia Gubana, Annie Danilko, Farren Gillispe, Anne Cowan, Daniel Cook, Kya Prince, Cynthia Low, Kiel Torres, Carlos Santiago, Amanda Lye, Danais Year, Sonia Mossaro,

**Tent Project Discussion Elder and Senior Participation**

* Commissioning artists to help reactivate šxʷqʷeləwən ct Carving Centre by creating designs to print on top of the Britannia event tents
* Launched an open call for artists from xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Sḵwx̱wú7mesh (Squamish), and səlilwətaɬ (Tsleil-Waututh) to submit designs for the tents, but did not receive any applications
* Any ideas from SEA committee of ideas, artist suggestions or collaborations. There is an honorarium of $500 each for the artists for designs
* Working with artist Randall Barnetson, carver for the current bench projects, to design a tent as well.
* Each print will be done twice, 8 10x10 in total
* 1 10x20 pop up tent in collaboration with Carlos and community member, elders and 55+ team to create a design for
  + **ACTION ITEM** – Invited to in person Friday Social Café 2-4pm to connect with seniors and elders
* Deadline for end of March, but can be pushed to April to prioritize strengthening collaborative relationship
* **QUESTION** – young girl who created the design put on masks sold by the school? Cynthia Low and Annie Dan to reach out for connecting.
* **SUGGESTION** – (Amelia Gubana) Athena Pitcha, emerging artist from Langara
  + **ACTION** **ITEM** – Kiel can send the callout to 55+ Staff to forward for artist suggestions

**Five-Year Reconciliation Plan**

* As a part of the Board 2022 Priorities
* Management team asking for an investment from the board of about 1.5 million dollars over 5 years
* As with most of the work that Britannia undertakes, hopes to be transparent and accountable to the community. The intention is for the project to embody the values and principles of Reconciliation
* Project to bring in an elder in residence program, revitalise šxʷqʷeləwən ct Carving Centre, support transformation of staff and board around governance and cultural safety across the organization, hire up to 3 indigenous staff to do this work and implement the project
* Request has gone out to the board, while not approved, is currently at the finance committee. Requesting that surplus’s from 2020-2021 (approx. $170,000) will be committed to this project, as well as funding from Federal Government (approx. $185,000)
* If there are any concerns or interest in helping guide this project, reach out to Cynthia Low and Annie Danilko
  + **ACTION ITEM** – Proposal will be made available and sent to committees

**Share Our Stories**

* Board approved funding to present this Anti-Racism and Anti-Oppression committee project
* With a focus to learn about different cultures from each other, this project hopes to encourage people from the community to tell their stories and to be able to put those stories in display boards at the Info Centre and the Pool, as well as online
* Invite to SEA Committee members who might be interested to be one of the first few folks to share their stories. A token of $500 for those able to work with the project
  + Reach out to Annie Danilko and Naina Varshney to participate either by sharing stories or being a part of the selection process
* Plans to include sharing LGBTQIA2S+ focused stories for displays in the future
* **SUGGESTION** – Anne and Kya working with film makers as a part of upcoming Arts and Health project, can connect them with Kiel if interested

**Mothers Day Traditional Pow Wow**

* Britannia hosted in 2018 and 2019
* This year Britannia does not have the capacity to host
* Would like to encourage the Parks Board and Trout Lake to host a one day gathering
  + **DISCUSSION**  - Pow Wow’s held at Trout Lake are fondly remembered by members and supported to encourage they be held there again at whatever capacity is available
  + **QUESTION** – Would this be a collaborative event by both Trout Lake and Britannia?
    - **ANSWERED** – Cynthia Low – Yes, we would work together for sure

**DISCUSSION** – SEA Committee meetings to refocus on 55+ centre and programs for majority of meetings, while maintaining and dedicating meetings to broader Board requests and motions.

-seeing a drop in participation at SEA meetings. Committee covering a lot of Britannia wide projects and not necessarily what’s on the minds or what’s needed by Elders and Seniors.

-want to continue to support all Britannia projects while still meeting the needs of the Elders and Seniors (55+)

Staff will meet to find how to balance and refocus SEA Committee while supporting other Britannia projects.

**Shine Intercultural Market March 20th – Spring Coffee House**

* General announcement for event; Sunday from 11am – 3pm
* Craft Collective has a table booked, with Cylia and Amelia volunteering to sit in. If anyone else is available to help as well please reach out to Daniel
* Quirke will also have a table with books and Zines available, or to chat about the writing group
* Annie will be there for renewal updates and inquires

**COVID Restrictions Lifting – Updates;**

* Mask mandates has been lifted site wide
* Vaccine checks still required until April 8th
* 55+ centre will be following the communicable disease guideline
* Participants safety and health at the foremost in planning onsite programming
* Any feedback or ideas will help in moving forward with in person on-site, hybrid and online programming
* **DISCUSION**;
  + Lots of hesitation to attend in person programs with mask mandates lifting. Many will continue to wear masks, regardless of mandates lifting while participating onsite. Many feel that their safety and health has been taken seriously while attending onsite, and have shared feeling reassured by the measures of site and staff so far.
  + Seniors are a vulnerable demographic, shared feelings that as long as there are added levels of protection happening onsite they would feel comfortable continuing to attend
  + **REQUEST** – to maintain some programs that will require vaccine checks to participate in person, even after the mandate is set to lift province wide April 8th 2022. Shared feelings of nervousness with vaccine checks being removed for participants, volunteers and instructors as there are many who will be affected negatively due to underlying health issues
* Committee and community members are encouraged to reach out to Britannia Board members for community related questions, clarifications, and concerns
  + Board Members that are on the SEA Committee; Annie Danilko, Cynthia Low, Vera Jones, Farren Gillispe, Sonia

**Program Updates:**

Spring Classes

* Registration is open and classes are going
* Friday Wellness has been very successful
* Summer planning already underway

Tax Clinics

* Appointments open – contact the Info Centre to book either in person or by phone
* Appointments are available for Saturdays

HATTA

* Current set is ongoing until June
* Last Hat Weaving course under the Healthy Aging through the Arts project
* Will be a full Britannia 55+ program moving forward
* Dancing Hats to Life Ceremony scheduled for July 2022 to celebrate past projects, in collaboration with Craft Collective and WOCT

Friday Café

* In person Social held in person at 55+ centre each Friday 2-4pm
* Kai has returned as volunteer onsite
* Registration not required, but can let 55+ staff know if you are attending to help map out table distancing for the day
  + This coming Friday there will be a great surprise for those who can attend!

Quirke

* Meeting online, with possible hybrid in summer
* Another Zine is in the works, updates to come

WOCT Mon/Wed Crafts and Weaving

* Weaving Our Community Together grant has been extended for another year
* Sabian, Todd and Seislom will continue as instructors

Partnering Programs (REACH, Pow Wow Committee Family Night, Squamish Nation Project)

* John and Tom to continue holding REACH ceremony in šxʷqʷeləwən ct Carving Centre
* Guest from Squamish Nation attending next SEA meeting to grow engagement for elders and seniors living off reserve, and help provided resources and support that might be needed
  + Possible workshops to come, they are very impressed with the SEA committee and craft collective participation
* Family Nights happening Monday Nights 5:30pm in Gym D with Pow Wow committee
  + Open invitations to attend

Grandview Woodland Food Network

* Ruth Elizabeth Briggs is the GWFN coordinator
* Grocery Gift Cards are being made available to send out to members who could use, working with 55+ team to draft a list
  + If anyone has recommendations of households that would benefit, please contact 55+ team

**Past Items:**

* Connection with Artists and painting inside the 55+ Centre Update
  + Last discussed: possible working group with SEA member, Craft Collective members, Arts and Culture members and Cynthia.
* Older youth in AML Update
  + Friday Evenings were approved by SEA as a date to host older youth in 55+ space
  + Cynthia as connection, invite was to be extended for them to discuss if Friday evenings worked
* Lytton Fundraising Update
  + Lytton Band has been contacted via email, will be calling band office if reply by email does not pan out

Meeting adjourn

Next SEA Meeting: **Wednesday April 20, 2022**