

Winnipeg Arts Council Corporate Plan 2023 – 2025

CONTENTS

Summary	3
Planning Framework	4
Program Descriptions	5
Framing Themes and Touchstones 2023-2025	10
Outcomes/Scorecard 2022	13
Personnel	16
Financial Plan	18

Winnipeg Arts Council, Inc.

103 - 110 Princess Street
Winnipeg MB R3B 1K7
Treaty 1 Territory
204.943.7668

winnipegarts.ca

The Winnipeg Arts Council is located on Treaty 1 Territory and on the ancestral lands of the Anishinaabeg, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota and Dene Peoples and in the homeland of the Métis Nation. We offer our respect and gratitude to the traditional caretakers of this land.

Cover Photo: See Hear Speak by Paul Robles. Photo by Carla Hernandez.

Winnipeg Arts Council
Corporate Plan Summary 2023

With an aim to refresh its guiding document, *Creation Participation Inspiration: Framework for Planning, 2018 to 2022*, the Winnipeg Arts Council recently undertook an engagement process with its board members and staff. The new document provides a planning bridge to 2025 and guides the Winnipeg Arts Council's efforts for a time frame of two years. The refresh exercise was intended to update the existing guiding document rather than conduct a new strategic planning process.

As a result of that process the Council's four Framing Themes were refined and clarified to reflect the perspectives of current board members, many of whom were not involved in the creation of the 2018-22 plan. It also allowed the document to be examined in the current context: **evolving forms of practice, funding cuts from the City of Winnipeg, a global pandemic, and public dialogue around social justice, climate change, ethnocultural representation and the legacy of residential schools**.

Contained within the annual **Corporate Plan**, are the programs and activities prompted by the currency of these key topics. Achieving the service mandate outlined by the City of Winnipeg to the Winnipeg Arts Council remains the driving force: equitable distribution of grants to artists and arts organizations; encouraging civic engagement in the arts; the management and delivery of the City of Winnipeg Public Art Policy.

Hampered still by another year of an austerity arts budget from the City, all efforts will be made to fulfill the 2023 Corporate Plan as outlined. As in the previous three years, the assigned total amount to the Winnipeg Arts Council is $4,180,787.00, with an additional $258,570.00 designated for museums. Expected 2023 funding for Public Art is $125,000.00, reduced for the fourth year from a longstanding base of $500,000 in 2018.

The logic of funding for Public Art to be included in City Major Capital Projects, will again be relayed to City decision-makers. Ensuring that Public Art is created for the city's public spaces is a priority for the Winnipeg Arts Council.

Winnipeggers deserve the benefits of a flourishing cultural sector in every corner of the city in terms of both quality of life and economic development. We welcome a new City of Winnipeg budget process in 2024, that surely will support a new sense of optimism for Winnipeg's future. A future that includes restored funding for the arts and for Public Art, and a sustainable plan for future increased investment.

2023 Corporate Plan

All of the Winnipeg Arts Council programs exist within three spheres that describe the fundamental conditions for the arts in Winnipeg, and thereby also inform the planning framework:

CREATION

The determination of Winnipeg's artists and arts organizations to create is fearless and unstoppable. With whatever resources available, this city produces artistic accomplishment of the highest degree.

PARTICIPATION

Winnipeg communities of every nature desire the best that artists and arts organizations can offer, but also know that they too need, contribute to and participate in creative experience.

INSPIRATION

The arts are a source of inspiration and when public art is created in civic spaces, it gives the city character and livability, and easy access for all.

In keeping with the goals, objectives and policies of the City's OurWinnipeg 2045 Development Plan and the United Nations 17 Sustainable Development Goals, The Winnipeg Arts Council:

Helps Winnipeg maximize the value it derives from the arts for purposes of the economy, tourism, employment and quality of life;

Gives Winnipeg a coherent, civic-wide policy on culture based in efficiency and best practice;

Harnesses Winnipeg's arts, culture and creative industries to generate positive social benefits for all of Winnipeg's diverse communities, bringing Winnipeg in step with progressive cities around the world.

The great distinguishing factor from any other organization listed on the City's "Grants" list is the fact that the Winnipeg Arts Council functions as an investor and administrator on behalf of the City, and these funds are thereby distributed to some 200 arts organizations and artists each year *with administration costs which are among the lowest of any public funder in the country.*

2023 Programs

C R E A T I O N

As stated by the Winnipeg Arts Council, the individual artist is recognized as the primary source of creative activity. It is, however, the expectation that arts organizations implement creativity, ideas, imagination and artistic expression into their programs. Further, everyone in Winnipeg is invited to bring their curiosity and participation to the arts and engage in the endless possibilities on offer.

The following Winnipeg Arts Council programs support Creation in the arts community. Included are:

Multiyear Grants to Arts Organizations
The three-year Operating Grants and two-year Program Support Grants are intended to make contributions to the operations of established arts organizations that have a continuing presence in Winnipeg and have a track record of high-quality programming or services. Multiyear grants support a range of activities and art forms, reflecting different cultural traditions and art practices. Organizations receiving support are expected to advance the development of their art forms, to participate in the development of local artists, to maintain public support, and to practice strict management and financial controls.

2023 is the third and final year of the funding cycle for 3-year Operating grants. Organizations receiving support through this program will begin the year having just completed an interim report outlining their challenges and successes of 2022 along with their programming and administrative plans for 2023. Organizations will be expected to demonstrate their support for Winnipeg artists and audiences as the effects of the pandemic recede. These organizations will be required to submit a new 3-year application in November 2023 which will be jury-assessed. This assessment will coincide with a new 4-year City of Winnipeg budget, which will dictate the degree to which these organizations are funded.

2-year Program Support grants will begin a new cycle in 2023. These grants support smaller though well-established Winnipeg arts organizations who have less infrastructure but who present on an ongoing annual basis throughout the year or seasonally. Funds are intended for organizations with a demonstrated organizational capacity as well as a history of consistent programming/presentation and public support.

Project Grants
Project Grants serve new and developing arts organizations, established arts organizations that work on a project basis, and artist collectives undertaking a special, one-time initiative. These grants support a range of activities and art forms, reflecting different cultural traditions and art practices. This program is not open to existing multiyear grant clients.

Grants to Individuals

The Winnipeg Arts Council recognizes the individual artist as the primary source of creative activity. WAC also understands that individuals have been the most affected by the covid-19 pandemic, with many of the avenues they use to create and present their work severely curtailed between 2020 and 2022. Employment of artists was among the first casualties of the pandemic and artists remain one of the last groups to recover in terms of official employment numbers. In 2023 WAC will sustain support for individuals.

Two programs advance this work. The Individual Artist Grant Program supports the creation of new work in any art form, or the development, curation, exhibition, or presentation of works of art by Winnipeg artists. Winnipeg is one of the few cities in Canada to have such a program for individual artists at the municipal level and this grant is a valued contributor to the national reputation of Winnipeg as a city of the arts. Demand for Individual Artist Grants always exceeds capacity, however, with approximately 1 in 3 requests funded.

Professional Research & Development grants support artists and arts administrators in activities that contribute to their professional development and enhance their careers in the arts.

***In the above-listed grant programs**, the Winnipeg Arts Council offers support to Winnipeg-based artists and not-for-profit organizations that have **as their core activity** – creation, production, presentation or training in the visual, performing, literary, and media arts. Applications for assistance are considered through **a peer assessment process** that advises the Winnipeg Arts Council on awards to be made within a pre-determined budget, against program criteria and guidelines*.

Public Art Opportunities

The Public Art Program provides opportunities for local artists to reflect on Winnipeg's stories and places while creating civic icons. We strive for Indigenous representation and diversity in Winnipeg's Public Art Collection with consideration for geography, materials, scale, and through experimentation with new, as well as traditional artforms, and through the work of emerging as well as established artists. Public artworks created by Indigenous artists reflect cultures, peoples and heritage that are at the roots of our territory, city and province while sharing meanings that are defined by Indigenous people themselves.

Indigenous Arts Leaders Fellowship

In 2015 the Winnipeg Arts Council began to work on a series of programs to bolster the organization's role in creating meaningful connections in the arts for Indigenous people. The Indigenous Arts Leaders Fellowship was launched in 2018 to increase the number of Indigenous Winnipeggers with professional arts administration skills.

The program's genesis coincided with the publication of the Truth & Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action, addressing employment gaps between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Canadians (7), increasing equitable access for Indigenous peoples to jobs (92), and leadership positions in the arts (84).

To date, six Fellows have completed the program and one Fellow is currently placed with a Winnipeg arts organization. We continue to work with past participants to provide ongoing mentorship as they pursue careers in the arts. The priority for this program remains Indigenous administrators however we continue to look at expanding it to provide similar opportunities for other groups who are underrepresented in arts administration.

PARTICIPATION

Creative pursuit contributes to the quality of life in Winnipeg and to the health and wellbeing of its citizens. Just as important is the value of art itself, the creative ingenuity of people applied for its own purpose. Experiencing the arts provides the capacity to perceive, feel and interpret the world. The multiple aspects of "engagement," whether through community, audience, civic or youth-oriented arts experiences are a programmatic priority for the Winnipeg Arts Council through our Arts Development and Public Art programs.

Much has been accomplished in recent years in spite of both the pandemic and funding reductions to both WAC programs and public art. 2023 is anticipated to be a more stable year with more possibilities for citizens to be engaged in the arts and the Winnipeg Arts Council will continue to celebrate the importance of the arts in our lives. Associated activities include:

Community Engagement with the Arts

WITH ART and *Youth* WITH ART programs encourage communities to collaborate with professional artists in the exploration of creative experience, a process of artmaking that can be a catalyst for beneficial change. These programs are designed to be flexible, experimental and truly a model for community development. Within the COVID context, artists and community groups with projects in progress had to rethink collaborative processes and worked hard to maintain relationships. Projects were launched at virtual or more intimate outdoor events. Twelve new artists joined the Roster and three new projects began in 2022, the first since the start of the pandemic.

Public Art Event Programming and Interpretation

Winnipeggers come together in our city when invited to participate in public art programming. Families gather to skate under the rainbow lights in Kildonan Park, Indigenous artists share teachings in Air Canada Park, wheelchair athletes invite a us to a pick up game at the Mayfair Recreation Centre, and public art tours attract a diverse audience to explore our city together. While public gathering was limited by COVID, we focused on digital and social media engagement, and hosted more smaller gatherings as public health guidelines allowed. We have been developing new partnerships with Storefront Manitoba and Winnipeg Architecture Foundation.

Public Art Tours

Free ArtWalk and ArtRide walking and biking tours continue to be received by a broad public with great interest. The program was maintained throughout the pandemic by adapting plans to evolving public health guidelines. In 2022, we introduced ArtBus, hop on and off Winnipeg Transit tours along the BLUE Line. The tour program will continue to be expanded in 2023.

Mobile App

The Winnipeg Public Art Works mobile app provides Winnipeggers and visitors with a tool to explore our city. The interactive app continues to be downloaded to help people find art in parks, along trails and on city streets. Each entry includes a short quiz, fun facts and a brief description of the work. Users can also listen to audio clips of the artists themselves and track which pieces they've visited.

Jane's Walk Winnipeg

This annual festival of free, citizen-led walking conversations takes place in hundreds of cities around the world. Jane's Walk Winnipeg, coordinated by Winnipeg's Public Art Program, was reimagined for the pandemic through the creation of an online library of community maps. The materials have been accessed by hundreds of Winnipegggers and remain online so that stories can continue to be shared and we can learn something new about our city. We welcomed back a small number of community-led live walks in 2022. This will continue to be expanded in 2023.

Civic Arts Participation

Through its own programming as well as in partnership with other organizations, The Winnipeg Arts Council has created ways for the general public to experience and participate in the arts in a variety of public settings. Many of these events and activities were curtailed as a result of Covid, however as public gatherings are once again possible – with the 150th anniversary of the City of Winnipeg on the horizon – we will investigate potential new activities to take place 2023 & 2024.

The Urban Idea Centre & City Builders

Managed by the Winnipeg Arts Council, The Urban Idea Centre is mandated to promote the importance of the arts in city building. This is achieved through events, publications, and programs including "The Year of Urban Ideas" which in 2014 generated conversation about the arts in the public realm in Winnipeg through symposia, art installations, public events, and more.

Museums - *PARTNERSHIP*

In September 2018, City Council directed the Winnipeg Arts Council to take over funding for five museums which had previously been funded directly by the City. WAC has been distributing these funds since 2019 and will continue to do so in 2023 as directed by the City. However, all museums funding currently flowing through WAC is prescribed by the City of Winnipeg. This includes which recipient organizations are funded, individual grant amounts, and all funding/reporting requirements. There is no flexibility under the current agreement, which lasts through the end of 2023.

Also in 2018, WAC received direction from City Council to develop a peer-assessed museums grant beginning in 2022. However, no funds were provided to support such a program and consequently no change to the situation is expected before the 2024 municipal budget. WAC will create a museums program using the Program Support Grant for Arts Organizations (described under "Creation – Multiyear Grants" above) as a template, beginning with the 2024 year. WAC will seek an additional $100,000 to seed this program and fulfill the direction received from City Council in 2018.

Culture Days - *PARTNERSHIP*

This open doors event invites the public to become acquainted with all the arts in Winnipeg and has become a major vehicle for those with a passing interest to find out more. The Winnipeg Arts Council partners in Culture Days in order to promote the arts and to assist access for everyone in Winnipeg.

Nuit Blanche Winnipeg - *PARTNERSHIP*

Nuit Blanche is a free exploration and celebration of contemporary art, focused on public participation and engagement with a wide array of artists. It creates a climate where emerging and established professional artists, as well as the public, take active roles. Works exhibited are a combination of curated projects and open calls, and programming adheres to a high degree of artistic standard. After stepping back from participation due to COVID, the Winnipeg Arts Council presented a major installation in 2021 by a local artist in Old Market Square. WAC is taking a more active role in 2022 that will continue in 2023. WAC's participation consists of financial support for the major works presented at Nuit Blanche as well as production and programming expertise.

INSPIRATION

Building a City of Character! Winnipeg's **Public Art Program** managed by the Winnipeg Arts Council has become a model for the rest of the country and is often called upon by other municipalities for guidance. Artworks have transformed public space adding character and often creative utility. Whether the impressive light and mist fountain in Millennium Library Park, now an iconic marker in the centre of the city, or poetry installations at neighbourhood libraries, or artists' designs integrated into bridge infrastructure, the Winnipeg Arts Council provides the initiative and administrative integrity needed for all aspects of public art throughout the entire city. There are many different ways to engage with public art. The meaning can shift depending on who is interacting with the work, when, and what has brought them to the public space. The pandemic highlighted the need for access to public space and public art, especially for those who don't have backyards.

► 90% of Winnipeggers say that public art gives the city more character, and 78% say every city project should have an element of public art.

While Winnipeg's Public Art Program has been limited by a severely reduced budget in recent years, WAC has focused on the development of smaller temporary and community-based artworks along with maintenance and engagement with existing works. We continue to advocate for increased investment to rebuild the Program through the implementation of a percent for art initiative. We have been actively seeking out partnerships, working with BIZs, the Downtown Action Team on the Recovery Strategy, and reaching out to City Departments with Capital Projects in development. This may include partnership opportunities with other levels of government, which can only be achieved when funds are matched by the City.

► A percent-for-art strategy will allow the Public Art Program to build at a rate that corresponds with municipal growth.

The allocation of a percentage of City Capital Project Budgets to public art, along with an annual base allocation, would deliver the Public Art Program Winnipeg needs and allow it to build at a rate that corresponds with municipal growth.

F*ormally, the annual Public Art Program Plan is submitted under separate cover to the Director of the Department of Planning, Property and Development for approval by the Planning Executive Advisory Committee.*

Winnipeg's Poet Laureate

Winnipeg's third Poet Laureate will be announced at the beginning of 2023 to begin a two-year appointment. The Poet Laureate's role is to create work that reflects the life of the city, commemorates official functions, and develops their own body of writing and performance. WAC's intention since the Poet Laureate program began in 2018 has been to develop a Youth Poet Laureate position as well. This will be further explored in 2023.

Promotional and Celebratory Events

The Mayor's Luncheon for the Arts, which includes the presentation of the annual Winnipeg Arts Council Awards, draws attention to arts achievement and boosts awareness of the arts in Winnipeg.

The Carol Shields Winnipeg Book Award honours books that evoke the special character of, and contribute to the appreciation and understanding of Winnipeg, a tribute to Carol Shields whose writing often captured the essence of Winnipeg.

Framing Themes and Touchstones
Winnipeg Arts Council Goals 2023-2025

Framing Theme:

The Winnipeg Arts Council will inspire the people of Winnipeg to deepen their engagement with, and value for, the arts.

Touchstones	Impacts	Programs/Goals/ Objectives for 2023	Programs/Goals/ Objectives for 2024 / Beyond
By actively pursuing: • A leadership role in celebrating and boosting the visibility of the arts across all sectors • Broad public awareness of Winnipeg Arts Council programs, clients and activities • Strategic engagement that promotes, advocates for, and interacts with all Winnipeggers	• Winnipeg is a city of the arts • The Winnipeg Arts Council is an information hub for the arts in Winnipeg • More, and more diverse, arts participation in Winnipeg • Citizens understand the Winnipeg Arts Council's contribution to the arts and thereby to the quality of life in our city	• Continue to develop outreach and interpretive programming for the Public Art Program • Complete artwork repairs based on condition reporting completed in 2022 • Review existing & investigate new Arts Development programs to facilitate interaction between professional artists and the general public • Work on public programs with new Poet Laureate • Investigate special opportunities for Winnipeg's 150th anniversary ● Develop accessibility standards in social media	• More active communications about WAC activities and programs • Develop Youth Poet Laureate position • Review existing & investigate new Arts Development programs to facilitate interaction between professional artists and the general public • Continue strategic engagement through social media

Framing Theme:

The Winnipeg Arts Council intentionally serves diverse communities and artistic disciplines.

Touchstones	Impacts	Programs/Goals/ Objectives for 2023	Programs/Goals/ Objectives for 2024 / Beyond
By actively responding to: • The varied and diverse needs of artists and audiences of all ages, incomes and abilities • The effects of the Covid-19 pandemic on the arts • New and evolving forms of artistic and cultural expression **And engaging with:** • First Nations, Métis and Inuit Winnipeggers with the principles of Reconciliation embedded throughout WAC programs and operations • Ethnocultural and newcomer populations • Board and staff membership that reflects the diversity of the community the Winnipeg Arts Council serves	• Increased participation in the arts • Increased and diversified artists and audiences • Artists and communities feel engaged and supported by the Winnipeg Arts Council • A more representative Winnipeg Arts Council • Winnipeggers see themselves reflected in Winnipeg's Public Art Collection	• Monitor Covid-19 recovery in the arts sector with a focus on the effects on individual artists, adjusting and responding as need arises • Ongoing program review to ensure programs continue to be adaptable and responsive to new and emerging forms of artistic practice • Resume professional development opportunities for artists in grant writing and peer assessment, delayed due to Covid-19, with focus on targeting diverse groups • Evaluate online grant processes • Build on success of Indigenous Arts Leaders Fellowship • Incorporate equity audit response into program development and operations • Ongoing attention to board and staff diversity • Continue to caption video productions and provide ASL interpretation • Engage underrepresented artists in the creation of public artworks and programming	• Implement new museums grant program upon receiving commensurate funding • Ongoing program review to ensure programs continue to be adaptable and responsive to new and emerging forms of artistic practice • Ongoing professional development opportunities for artists in grant writing and peer assessment, delayed due to Covid-19, with focus on targeting diverse groups • Build on success of Indigenous Arts Leaders Fellowship • Ongoing attention to board and staff diversity • Engage underrepresented artists in the creation of public artworks and programming

Framing Theme:

The Winnipeg Arts Council facilitates a culture where art is understood as essential to city building.

Touchstones	Impacts	Programs/Goals/ Objectives for 2023	Programs/Goals/ Objectives for 2024 / Beyond
By cultivating: • The positive relationship with the City of Winnipeg • Support for the arts by other civic champions such as the Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce, Economic Development Winnipeg, BIZ organizations and professional associations. • The Winnipeg Arts Council's contribution to placemaking and city building	• Broader networks of support throughout Winnipeg • The Winnipeg Arts Council is recognized as a core service provider by the City • Recognition of the importance of the arts in municipal planning • Public art is included in City Planning and Capital Project Budgets	• Develop new City Builders youth program in collaboration with local school divisions • Increased engagement with new Mayor and City Council members • Increased engagement from City Council representative on WAC Board • Increased participation with other civic organizations • Collaborate with City Departments on Capital Projects	• Continue to engage with Mayor & Council as well as City administrative staff • Continue to collaborate with City Departments on Capital Projects • Continue to find ways to work with City early in planning processes to include public art

Framing Theme:

Increased funding for the Winnipeg Arts Council in order to expand support to artists and arts organizations, and to increase the public's opportunity to interact with art.

Touchstones	Impacts	Programs/Goals/ Objectives for 2023	Programs/Goals/ Objectives for 2024 / Beyond
By strengthening: • The relationship with the City of Winnipeg • Public awareness of the economic benefits of the arts • Project fundraising through other levels of government and foundations	• Restored arts funding to pre-2020 levels • Planned and sustained increases to the arts as in other major Canadian cities. • Restored and increased funds for public art	• Advocate for restoration of arts investment in future City budgets • Leverage funding from other levels of government and foundations • Collaborate with the Downtown Action Committee on the integration of public art in pandemic recovery	• Restoration of and planned increases to arts investment from the City of Winnipeg • Museums funding which allows WAC to fulfill the mandate received from the City of Winnipeg in 2018 • Work with City to include public art early in planning processes

2022 PROGRAMS/GOALS/OBJECTIVES:		2022 OUTCOMES:

▲ Progress ◆ Ongoing ▼ Incomplete / needs consideration

The people of Winnipeg deepen their engagement with, and value for, the arts		
Ongoing monitoring of COVID-19 effects on Winnipeg artists, arts organizations and audiences	◆	Omicron limited activity in early 2022; increased public activity as year progressed with new reporting requirements for organizations Ongoing consultation with local and national colleagues about the recovery process
Update website content & functionality	▲	Revamped website launched; cleaner appearance and more efficient backend management.
Continue to develop outreach and interpretive programming for public art (with youth focus)	▲	Upgraded public art gallery with additional map and search functionality. Submitted artworks as destinations to Google Maps. Created BLUE Line Scavenger Hunt for Culture Days. Contributed to Hidden Winnipeg Architectural Scavenger Hunt. Collaborated with Storefront MB on Library Art & Architecture Tour. Brochure and craft activity in development for Four Flowers at Cornish Library.
Develop communications strategy for rolling out public art projects, the expansion of billboard readership and calendar	◆	Ongoing despite no dedicated communications staff
Continue engagement through social media; develop accessibility standards in social media	◆	Ongoing despite no dedicated communications staff
Review existing & investigate new Arts Development programs to facilitate interaction between professional artists and the general public	▲	Resumed participation in and support of Nuit Blanche Winnipeg
Increase profile and programs of Winnipeg's Poet Laureate with public events; develop Youth Poet Laureate position	▲	Launched publication of 215 by Duncan Mercredi which received national media coverage and reached Top 5 Winnipeg paperbacks in April 2022. Resumption of public events has allowed Poet Laureate to appear live and in person. Youth Poet Laureate position not begun
Maintain collection to quality standard for continued engagement and pride in the artworks	▲	Condition Reports completed for artworks. Repairs to Watershed, Mediating the Treaties, Tables of Contents undertaken.

2022 PROGRAMS/GOALS/OBJECTIVES:		2022 OUTCOMES:

▲ Progress ◆ Ongoing ▼ Incomplete / needs consideration

The Winnipeg Arts Council is intentionally serving diverse communities and artistic disciplines		
Incorporate conclusions from Equity, Diversity, Inclusion Audit consultations into WAC programs & services	◆	Engaged >20 artists in EDI consultations Updated language and metrics around self-identification questions for applicants Ongoing consultations with Arts Accessibility Network Manitoba regarding accessibility language & standards
Develop new five-year strategic planning framework	▲	Created a two-year "bridging plan" to review/affirm/update current framework for 2023 & 2024. A full plan will be developed for calendar year 2025.
Ongoing monitoring of participation and success rates for applicants from diverse communities to ensure representation	◆	Numbers of application & success rates from equity-seeking communities reached an all-time high in 2022.
Create training opportunities for artists from traditionally underrepresented communities in grant writing and peer assessment	▼	Limited opportunities due to covid
Engage more communities in public art tours and partnerships	▲	Strategic outreach through social media to a wide range of neighbourhood and cultural groups. Partnered with Storefront Mb to deliver art & architecture tour. Added ArtBus on BLUE Line. Continued to partner with Bike Winnipeg.
Ongoing Board development assessing membership and community representation	▲	Artists Ian August and Ben Williams joined the Board in 2022
Review online & electronic grants process	◆	Ongoing
Maintain relationships with former Fellows; investigate expansion of program to serve other diverse groups	▲	Engaged former Fellows as part of jury and EDI consultation processes.
Maintain programs which are adaptable and responsive to new and emerging forms of artistic practice	▲	Travel grants reinstated based on public health guidelines Updated & clarified eligibility language based on applicant & juror feedback Updated language and metrics around self-identification questions for applicants
Continue to engage underrepresented artists in the creation of public artworks and programming	▲	Commissioned Old Market Square artworks by Paul Robles (2021) and Jonathan S Green (2022) through invitational competitions. Installed poetry by Duncan Mercredi in Air Canada Park. Let's Play Wheelchair Basketball Sign installed at Mayfair Courts. Added ASL interpretation and captioning to WITH ART videos. Commissioned Carla Hernandez to create video documentation of See Hear Speak.

2022 PROGRAMS/GOALS/OBJECTIVES:		2022 OUTCOMES:

▲ Progress ◆ Ongoing ▼ Incomplete / needs consideration

Facilitating a culture where art is understood as essential to city building		
Encourage Councillors to go on tours/attend openings/other WAC events	▲	5 Councillors plus the Mayor attended Mayor's Luncheon for the Arts
Strengthen the Board's relationship with the City of Winnipeg through its Councillor and City Admin representatives	▲	3 WAC staff members engaged in City of Winnipeg's Downtown Recovery Strategy and action team
Continue to ensure proper recognition for WAC / City of Winnipeg made at public events and presentations by funded artists/organizations to demonstrate the value of the City's investment in the arts	◆	Continue to impress the importance of visibility and recognition, however opportunities for messaging have been limited in 1st half of year
Continue to work with City administration to implement % for art in Capital Projects initiative	▲	Met with Councillors and City staff from Public Works, Community Services, Municipal Accomodatons and Planning to discuss upcoming projects (South Wpg Rec Campus, St. James Civic Centre, St. Vital Bridge Rehabilitation)
Continue to find ways to work with City early in planning processes to include public art	▲	Participated in public consultations for St. Vital Bridge Rehabilitation and Portage & Main Revitalization Study. Collaborating on Downtown Recovery Strategy and Revitalizing Places Projects
Enhance partnerships with Mayor and Councillors and their media and social media about WAC events, and all arts events.	◆	Ongoing despite no dedicated communications staff

Increase funding for the Winnipeg Arts Council in order to expand support to artists and arts organizations, and to increase the public's opportunity to interact with art		
Continue to build relationship with Mayor and Councillors and work to inform of and demonstrate to them the arts imperative.	▼	Regular meetings with Mayor have not been reinstated since covid shutdown
Work to ensure no further cuts to the arts result from annual budget updates process.	▲	Individual meetings with Mayor, 7 Councillors and CAO's office in late 2021 to press for status quo funding in 2022.
Lay groundwork for increased arts support in next multiyear budget process.	◆ ▼	Civic election in October 2022; ongoing meetings with leading candidates beginning in summer to make the case for the arts. Outreach to the Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce to introduce the arts as an election issue has received only anecdotal response to date.

PERSONNEL PLAN

STAFF

Executive Director	Carol A. Phillips
Public Art Manager	tamara rae biebrich
Operations Manager	Tanya Christensen
Administrative Assistant	Maliyah Kelly
Program and Arts Development Manager	Dominic Lloyd

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Andrew McLaren, Chair
Donna Fletcher, Vice Chair
Kerry Dangerfield, Secretary-Treasurer/Chair of Finance Committee
Jason Granger, Past Chair

Ian August, Council Director
Laurel Howard, Council Director
Darrel Nadeau, Council Director
Julie Penner, Council Director
Liz Wreford, Council Director
Seema Goel, Arts Community Director
Bola Opaleke, Arts Community Director
David A. Robertson, Arts Community Director
Ben Williams, Arts Community Director
Erica Wilson, Arts Community Director
Vonnie Von Helmolt, Chair Emerita

Councillor Kevin Klein
John Kiernan, Director, Planning Property & Development (non-voting)

History

The Winnipeg Arts Council was incorporated on April 24, 2002. Prior to this the organization was known as the Winnipeg Arts Advisory Council. This council provided advice on cultural policy development to Winnipeg City Council between 1984 and 2002. In 1996 the City authorized the advisory council to assist in reviewing City of Winnipeg Cultural Policies and in April 1997, the City of Winnipeg Cultural Policy Review Panel recommended that the advisory council be restructured to become a non-profit, autonomous body at arm's length to the City of Winnipeg, and that the name be changed to the Winnipeg Arts Council Inc.

Governance and Management

The Winnipeg Arts Council is governed by a minimum of 11 and a maximum of 15 board directors. The Directors are nominated from groups including citizens at large through the City appointments process, the arts community and City representatives. Each director must serve the purposes of the Winnipeg Arts Council and not their nominating group. Directors' terms are two years and a total of three terms may be served. The Winnipeg Arts Council engages an Executive Director to manage the business of the Council and the Executive Director is currently supported by a staff of four.

Mandate (from the City of Winnipeg)

- Advance the arts, and education in respect of the arts, throughout the City of Winnipeg
- Manage the conditional grant and carry out the City's arts and cultural funding programs, exercising final arm's length authority to approve and issue arts and cultural grants
- Advise the City on arts and cultural policy
- Foster development of the arts
- Explore partnerships and initiatives with other funding bodies, foundations and other groups
- Manage and administer the City's Public Art Policy and Program
- Present for approval to the Standing Policy Committee on Protection, Community Services and Parks, a three-year Arts and Culture Business Plan to be adopted on an annual basis

Mission

The Winnipeg Arts Council funds and supports artists and arts organizations. We initiate and promote development of the arts for the people of Winnipeg.

Vision

Winnipeg is a city of the arts, where art is woven into all people's lives. Everyone has equitable access to the arts, participates in the arts, values the arts and is enriched by the arts.

Values

ART

Creative human expression in all its manifestations results in art. The importance of art is the basic reason for the existence of the Winnipeg Arts Council. Art making, art producing, art documenting, art interpreting, art educating—are all about making and sharing meaning through art.

COURAGE

It takes courage to arrive at great things and the Winnipeg Arts Council leads with ideas. We have courage in what we initiate and in how we respond. We take informed risks and encourage artists to do the same. We are responsive and adaptive to others.

INTEGRITY

We are centered and clear in our intentions and honest and respectful in our practices. All of our programs and relationships are conducted with transparency and accountability. Integrity is how we build credibility.

EQUITY

Access, inclusion, and diversity are encompassed beneath the banner of equity to create space and opportunity for the diverse people of Winnipeg to be engaged in or have access to art. We support diverse art forms, ideas, and communities.

CELEBRATION

We actively promote all forms of art and opportunities to engage with art. Bringing focus and attention to the arts allows for connection, communication and celebration of the arts in our city.

FINANCIAL PLAN 2023-2025

Notes to Budget

1) 2023: The request for a total of $4,439,357, includes the City allocation to arts grants and administration, as well as the designated amount for museums grants and administration, in line with year four of the City of Winnipeg 2020-2023 Multi-Year Budget.

2) Under separate cover, the request to the City's Capital Budget for the 2023 Public Art Program is $125,000, as in line with year four of the City of Winnipeg 2020-2023 Multi-Year Budget. In 2024, the request will be $500,000, in keeping with the amount awarded before the City reduction to Public Art in 2019. This will begin the process of reintroducing Public Art to Winnipeg after four years of reductions.

3) At the direction of City Council (November 23, 2018) the Winnipeg Arts Council oversees Museums Grants in designated amounts to five independent museums.

4) 2024: The social and economic impact of the arts (*Culture to the Core*, January 2020) demonstrates the returns engendered by municipal investment in the arts. As demonstrated in other Canadian cities (eg. Calgary, Edmonton), sustained funding of the arts with reliable annual increases only builds societal and economic returns for the city as a whole.

The Winnipeg Arts Council will have absorbed the 10% reduction imposed by the City for the course of the City's Multi-Year Budget along with the drastic cuts to Public Art.

In 2024, however, the request will be to restore funding to 2019 levels and reinvest in Winnipeg's artists and arts organizations. Coming out of the effects of the pandemic on the arts, restoration of funding in 2024 will assist the restart of the arts in Winnipeg. The bulk of restored funding will be assigned to the Grants Programs for artists and arts organizations.

In 2024, the Winnipeg Arts Council intends to contribute to the celebration of the 150th Anniversary of the city of Winnipeg, with a major public event to be finalized.

Staffing has been kept at a ten-year low, but two additional support positions are required for administration and communications. Such additions will return the staff component to 2018 levels.
Inflation has affected all aspects of operations. Amounts between 0% and 10% have been allocated line by line to actual increased costs.

5) 2025: To continue to assist artists, arts organizations and museums still in recovery from the pandemic impact and out-of-control inflation, awards to individual artists and organizations will be increased. Budget lines that have not been upgraded since before 2019 have been addressed with modest increases.

In 2025, the intention is to resume funding the New Creations program which supports Winnipeg arts organizations and artists in the commission of new artworks in any discipline for Winnipeg audiences.

WINNIPEG ARTS COUNCIL
2023 Draft Budget

	2023	2024	2025
OPERATING EXPENSES			
Committee Expense/Hospitality	$3,000	$3,000	$3,500
Courier/Trsp./Parking	$4,800	$4,800	$5,000
Audit	$7,200	$7,200	$7,500
Legal Fees	$2,500	$2,500	$2,500
Equipment/Furniture	$7,000	$7,000	$9,000
Board Expense	$6,000	$7,000	$7,500
Insurance/Bank Charges	$5,700	$6,550	$7,000
Seminars/Conferences/Prof. Dev.	$2,500	$8,000	$10,000
Communications/Advertising	$5,000	$5,000	$7,000
Phone/Fax/Computer	$5,250	$6,500	$6,500
Postage	$2,000	$2,000	$2,500
Office Supplies	$8,000	$9,000	$10,000
Print Costs	$8,000	$10,000	$10,000
Rent	$54,000	$56,000	$56,000
Utilities	$9,000	$9,000	$10,000
Memberships/Subscriptions/Library	$3,000	$3,000	$3,000
Office sub-total	**$132,950**	**$146,550**	**$157,000**
Staff	$373,000	$415,000	$435,000
Casual & Consultants	$5,000	$18,000	$20,000
Benefits	$37,000	$38,000	$40,000
Staff sub-total	**$415,000**	**$471,000**	**$495,000**
Operations sub-total	**$547,950**	**$617,550**	**$652,000**
PROGRAM EXPENSES			
Multi Year Grants Program	$3,199,707	$3,755,640	$4,000,000
Project Grants	$75,000	$135,000	$150,000
Individual Artist Grants	$200,000	$220,000	$300,000
Indigenous Arts Leaders Fellowship		$70,000	$70,000
Carol Shields Wpg. Book Award	$11,750	$11,750	$11,750
Poet Laureate	$10,000	$10,000	$12,000
Professional Development Grants	$20,000	$40,000	$45,000
Youth WITH ART		$40,000	$50,000
Arts Development	$82,330	$150,000	$150,000
Celebrations Winnipeg 150		$150,000	
New Creations Fund			$150,000
Translation Services	$5,000	$10,000	$10,000
Jury Fees	$15,000	$15,000	$18,000
Jury Expenses	$4,050	$5,000	$7,500
Emergency Fund	$10,000	$10,000	$10,000
Program sub-total	**$3,632,837**	**$4,622,390**	**$4,984,250**
Grand Total	**$4,180,787**	**$5,239,940**	**$5,636,250**

Museums Budget

	2023	2024	2025
OPERATING EXPENSES			
Museum Grants Administration	$17,670	$17,670	$17,670
PROGRAM EXPENSES			
Museum Grants	$240,900	$340,900	$375,000
Total	**$258,570**	**$358,570**	**$392.670**

*Minute No.560 Reports-Standing Policy Committee on Protection, Community Services & Parks - Sept.11/18 Item No.4 Museums-Special Operating Agency (rec'd by WAC, November 23, 2018)