

Bulkley Valley Community Arts Council Fonds

Fonds No. AF27

Accession No. 2021.15

Physical Description: ~38 cm textual and graphic material, 2 scrapbooks, 36 photographs, 2 MP4 files

Date Range: 1970-2015

Administrative History/Biographical Sketch

The Bulkley Valley Community Arts Council (BVCAC) is a Smithers-based organization which promotes awareness of, and access to, the arts for Bulkley Valley residents. Its work includes funding arts projects, providing bursaries to aspiring artists, and coordinating community events. Council membership includes local artists, musicians, vocalists and dancers as well as organizations such as the BV Concert Association, BV Folk Music Society, BV Historical & Museum Society, Central Park Building Society, Dze L K'ant Friendship Centre Society, Smithers Gallery Association, and the Smithers District Chamber of Commerce. The area served by the BVCAC extends from Houston in the south to Hazelton in the north.

The history of the BVCAC extends at least as far back as November 1968, when it received a Cultural Funds Grant from Premier W.A.C. Bennett (*Interior News*, Nov. 13th 1968). By January 1970 the Council had its own constitution and bylaws. However, it was not officially incorporated under the Societies Act until March 1980. The BVCAC obtained charitable status in 2002.

Custodial History

Items were created and used by the Bulkley Valley Community Arts Council during the course of its day-to-day activities. They were retained as internal records until being transferred to the Bulkley Valley Museum on May 19th 2021.

Scope and Content

This fonds includes textual and graphic records, photographs, and electronic media created and used by the Bulkley Valley Community Arts Council during the fulfillment of its mandate. The majority of the material is textual or graphic in nature, including foundational documents (constitution, certificate of incorporation, by-laws), policies, reports, financial statements, meeting minutes, agenda books, grant and bursary applications, project proposals, cast lists, pamphlets, and posters. Also included are 36 photographs and two scrapbooks related to children's concerts in the 1980s-1990s, and a DVD with two short demo videos produced by local filmmaker Taylor Fox in 2009.

Arrangement

This fonds has been arranged into five series, each reflecting a particular function of the BVCAC.

- Series 1 contains administrative material relating to the incorporation, governance, and management of the BVCAC.
- Series 2 contains applications for funding made by individual artists and community groups, whether directly to the BVCAC or to other organizations with the support of the BVCAC.
- Series 3 contains grant applications made by the BVCAC to outside organizations.
- Series 4 contains bursary applications to the BVCAC.
- Series 5 contains material related to events, projects, and programs put on by the BVCAC.

This arrangement has been imposed by Bulkley Valley Museum staff, but original order has been adhered to as closely as possible.

Access restriction

Many files contain personal or sensitive internal financial information; researcher confidentiality agreement should be signed.

Administrative

Series no.: **S1**

Related accessions: 2021.15

Physical description: 8 cm of textual material

Date range: 1970-2015

Scope and content

This series contains of administrative material relating to the incorporation, governance, and management of the Bulkley Valley Community Arts Council. This includes the BVCAC's original constitution, certificate of incorporation, by-laws and resolutions; a director's handbook containing guidelines, policies, and background information; membership lists, annual reports, financial statements, meeting minutes, activities reports/newsletters, agenda books for 1995, 2005, and 2015, membership certificates, and administrative material from the Northwest Regional Arts Council (based in Terrace).

Arrangement

This series has been divided into files based on subject matter; see File List for greater detail.

Notes

Membership lists, annual reports, financial statements, meeting minutes, activities reports, and newsletters are not exhaustive for all years of the BVCAC's existence.

The three agendas were selected from a wider range of calendar books (covering the period 1993-2015) to serve as representative samples of the BVCAC's yearly activities.

Funding applications

Series no.: **S2**

Related accessions: 2021.15

Physical description: 4 cm of textual material

Date range: 1985-2013

Scope and content

This series contains applications for funding made by local artists and community groups, either directly to the BVCAC or to other organizations with the support of the BVCAC. It also includes posters and other ephemera for several of the events which were funded by the BVCAC. This series represents the core work of the Bulkley Valley Community Arts Council.

Arrangement

This series has been divided into three files arranged in chronological order, as well as one separate file for the 2011 Arts and Culture Days applications (due to their extent).

Grant applications

Series no.: **S3**

Related accessions: 2021.15

Physical description: 9 cm of textual material

Date range: 1983-2012

Scope and content

This series contains grant applications made by the BVCAC to external organizations, whether for itself or on behalf of its member organizations. Includes applications for charitable status, BC Arts Council grants, Arts-Based Community Development, Embrace BC, the ArtsNow Creative Communities Program, Arts Partners in Creative Development, the Innovations Program, and the Spirit of 2010 Olympic Paralympic LiveSites funding. Initiatives supported by these grants include the multi-stage Expanding Circles project, a Bulkley Valley Community Arts and Cultural Assessment, a proposal to install banners along Smithers' Main Street, a mentoring program put on by the Bulkley Valley Classical Strings Society, and upgrades to the Della Herman Theatre in Smithers Secondary School.

Arrangement

This series has been divided into files based on specific projects for which grants were being requested (ex. Expanding Circles), or specific bodies which applications were being sent to (ex. BCAC).

Bursary applications

Series no.: **S4**

Related accessions: 2021.15

Physical description: 11 cm of textual material

Date range: 1982-2013

Scope and content

This series contains bursary applications sent to the BVCAC from high school graduates intending on pursuing post-secondary education in the arts. Many applications include letters of recommendation and samples of the applicant's work, in the form of drawings, photographs, poetry, short stories, choreography routines, and digital recordings on CD.

Arrangement

This series has been divided based on chronological order, with one file for every five years' worth of applications (with the exception of the 1980s, which constitute a single file).

Events, programs, and projects

Series no.: S5

Related accessions: 2021.15

Physical description: 6 cm of textual material, 2 scrapbooks, 36 photographs

Date range: 1987-2011

Scope and content

This series contains material related to various events, programs, and projects carried out or funded by the BVCAC. The contents are primarily ephemera, such as posters, pamphlets, and tickets, but also include preparatory notes, cast lists, reports, correspondence, and other textual documents.

In addition, this series contains 36 colour photographs of Missoula Children's Theatre productions (Alice in Wonderland, Feb. 1993, and The Pied Piper, Feb. 1995) and two "Concerts for Kids" scrapbooks with newspaper clippings, photographs, and ephemera from the 1980s-1990s.

Arrangement

This series has been divided into files based on subject matter, including: Della Herman Theatre, 1999 tech workshop, Missoula Children's Theatre, new logo contest, Alcan Arts Highway Project, variety shows (incl. Monty Python, Kaleidoscope, Show Tunes), dinner theatre, Jesus Christ Superstar, Pink Fraud: The Wall, Christmas concerts, 25th anniversary CD release party, and Expanding Circles projects.

Notes

None of the photographs have been scanned or assigned P-numbers.

Scrapbook pages are acidic and some materials may need to be removed if it is possible to do so without damaging them. The covers and bindings of the scrapbooks have been discarded.