

Would you (or someone you know) like to be involved in funding decisions concerning the arts? Are you an artist, arts volunteer, or arts leader? Do you have the time to prepare for and attend five meetings a year? There are 3 upcoming vacancies on the Yukon Arts Advisory Council (YAAC) and we are collecting names of people who would like to join. The deadline for these nominations, using the attached form, is **November 30, 2017**.

YAAC exists under the authority of the Arts Act and is responsible for adjudicating funding requests and reviewing related policy. To serve the dynamic needs of Yukon artists and arts organizations, and to provide the best service in assessment and governance, the council should reflect the range and diversity of the arts community. Ideal candidates are strong in at least one of the following areas:

Artistic Discipline: (visual art, theatre, music, digital, literary arts etc.). An established artist is recognized by other artists as someone who has an art practice informed by training and education, whose work interprets rather than reiterates, and whose work has been seen by the public through professional appearances.

Arts Leadership: Experience in nonprofits, First Nations, or communities in artistic direction, event management, project management, consulting, or administration at the staff, volunteer or board level.

Financial Background: A comfort level with financial statements and budgets as contained in project proposals and arts funding budgets. Accountants and bookkeepers as well as laypeople with a mind for budgets fit this requirement.

First Nations Representation: Recognizing First Nations artists' and organizations' distinct needs and ensuring equitable access to funding programs is a principle of the Arts Policy. Having strong representation at the council level allows for informed decisions to advance this principle.

Communities Outside of Whitehorse: Belief that all Yukon communities should contribute to and benefit from enjoyment of the arts is another Arts Policy principle and members from communities throughout Yukon bring excellent perspectives to the table.

Current members include: Bill Barnie, Marjolène Gauthier, Al Cushing, Nicole Bauberger, Jackie Olson, Heidi Hehn, Gail Calder, Krista Reid, and Tarie Castellarin. Each member brings valuable experience and expertise to the Council. If you feel that your background and talents would contribute to strong decision-making about the arts, please consider putting your name forward. If you know of someone who should be considered, please nominate them (ensuring that you have their permission beforehand).

While the primary role of YAAC is to recommend annual allocations of \$1.3 million in operating, project, and touring funding to artists and arts organizations, they also periodically undertake a program review to ensure that funds, guidelines and funding levels best serve today's range of arts practice in Yukon.

Arm's length and peer review systems are employed by arts councils throughout the world to provide the best possible support to the arts community and to distance government from determining artistic value. Council operates through consensus and confidentiality with results being forwarded to the Minister of Tourism and Culture as recommendations for approval and announcement.

Yukon Arts Advisory Council members are appointed by the Minister of Tourism and Culture for terms up to three years. The council meets four times a year to assess Arts Fund and Touring Artist Fund applications, and once to assess Arts Operating Funds for a total of 5 meetings. Honoraria is \$125 per day and the Department covers travel, per diem and accommodation expenses for out of town members.

For further information, or to submit completed forms:

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Drop off: 100 Hanson Street, Whitehorse