



## An open letter to our community

**June 18, 2021**

The Management Agreement for the operations of the North Peace Cultural Centre with the North Peace Cultural Society ended in November 2020, and during negotiations on a new agreement, it became apparent that the current arrangement was not working. The City assuming operations of the North Peace Cultural Centre furthers the development of a diverse arts and cultural community. Many people have wondered about plans for moving forward.

A job posting will be issued early next week for the Arts & Culture Manager to develop, implement and promote opportunities for the arts to grow and flourish. They will be responsible for developing and delivering innovative programming throughout the community through various programs, exhibits, performing and visual arts, film, food, lectures, story-telling, festivals and signature events. Further, they will liaise and collaborate with our arts and cultural groups to maintain, develop, and broaden cultural experiences in the community. We aim to have this position filled as soon as possible to ensure a smooth transition. Further, we have met with the BCGEU and continue conversations regarding providing transitional opportunities to those currently supporting the Centre's operations.

We will continue to consult all affected users of the North Peace Cultural Centre and the community to address the many concerns we have heard about affordability and accessibility. We are fully committed to working with you to ensure we continue to build a flourishing arts and culture scene and supporting our local artisans while ensuring those who currently enjoy the facility will continue to do so moving forward.

We have been in discussions with Fort St. John Public Library to discuss a lease agreement that would ensure their financial viability well into the future and provides the employment security of those who work at the Library.

We look forward to working together to ensure the North Peace Cultural Centre is a bustling hub of arts and cultural events, classes and programs.

Milo MacDonald  
Chief Administrative Officer