

CULTURE SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Thursday, September 11, 2025

A Regular Meeting of the Culture Services Advisory Committee convened on Thursday, June 12, 2025 at 7:01 p.m. in the Council Committee Room, City Hall, 3000 Guildford Way, Coquitlam, BC, with the following persons present:

**Indicates Virtual Attendance*

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Councillor Robert Mazzarolo, Chair
Councillor Teri Towner, Vice Chair
Rob Bottos, Citizen Representative
Dana Ebtekar, Citizen Representative
Markus Fahrner, Coquitlam Heritage Society
Philip Hartwick, Evergreen Cultural Centre Society
Ryan Jamieson, Coquitlam Public Library Board
Andrea Jensen, Artistic Community Representative*
Joan McCauley, Place Des Arts
Clinton Pope, Citizen Representative

REGRETS: Silvia Camolese, Citizen Representative
Gina Chong, Festival Planners Network
Marwa Elziny, Citizen Representative
Jaylene Liu, Citizen Representative

STAFF: Tobi May, Director Major Capital Projects
Hilary Letwin, Manager Cultural Services
Alex McLellan, Committee Clerk

CALL TO ORDER AND TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. and provided an Indigenous territorial acknowledgement.

Markus Fahrner introduced himself as a new member of the committee following becoming the interim Executive Director of the Coquitlam Heritage Society.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. Minutes of the Culture Services Advisory Committee Meeting held on Thursday, June 12, 2025

The Minutes of the Culture Services Advisory Committee Meeting held on Thursday, June 12, 2025 were approved.

NEW BUSINESS

2. Update on Burke Mountain Community Centre

The Director Major Capital Projects gave a presentation entitled “Burke Mountain Community Centre and Burke Village Park Design Update” and referred to slides found in the Agenda package.

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- Future opportunities for the Committee to discuss public art in the design.
- Recreation programming in development to make use of three multipurpose room, fitness studio, gymnasiums, and partnerships with the library.
- Appreciation of unique architectural elements.
- Conceptualizing arrangements and design elements such as power access for events to be held in Burke Village Park plaza.

The Director Major Capital Projects left the meeting at this point and did not return (7:29 p.m.)

3. Evergreen Cultural Centre

Philip Hartwick, Executive Director of the Evergreen Cultural Centre, gave a presentation entitled “Evergreen Cultural Centre” and referred to slides found in the Agenda package.

Discussion ensued relative to the capacity of the current facilities, which allows smaller acts to be featured, and the longer-term plans for a new facility that would accommodate larger acts and serve the growing population of Coquitlam.

4. Place des Arts

Joan McCauley, Executive Director of the Place des Arts, gave a presentation entitled “Place des Arts” and referred to slides found in the Agenda package.

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- Support for scholarships through an endowment fund and fundraisers, such as an online art auction that will be held in October.
- Connections with the founding individuals in the community, such as Don Portelance, and possibilities to highlight them in the coming anniversary celebration.
- Appreciation of the funding arrangement with City as unrestricted operating funds provide organizational stability.

- Appreciation of opportunities provided for emerging artists, and examples of artists who had their first exhibitions through Place des Arts.

5. Update on Cultural Services Programs

The Manager Cultural Services gave a presentation entitled “Cultural Services Update” and referred to slides found in the Agenda package.

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- A suggestion to share paintings from the Como Lake “Paint in the Park” event on social media.
- Appreciation of the Clarke Road murals.
- A desire for the Music in the Streets busking program to be continued, especially with FIFA World Cup events next summer.
- The locations of the Austin Heights bench locations, which serve a placemaking function.

In response to Committee discussion, staff noted that Music in the Streets is planned to continue and potentially expand in response to positive feedback from both residents and local businesses in performance areas.

6. Committee Members’ Roundtable / Emerging Issues (Standing Agenda Item)

The Chair invited Committee members to share emerging issues and information regarding events occurring in their communities.

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- Coquitlam Public Library updates including the success of the summer reading club, an Indigenous workshop, and an interactive marine display and upcoming events including the Chuseok Festival at the City Centre Branch on September 27; a Truth and Reconciliation Event at the Glen Pine Branch on September 30; new crafting and retro video gaming lending starting October; the Brave Spaces Series featuring immigrant and Indigenous experiences through fall; and a Jury Art Exhibition with an after-hours opening event at the Poirier Branch on October 17.
- Notice that City Centre Library Branch renovations starting in October will result in reduced hours for eight weeks.
- Evergreen Cultural Centre updates including growing summer camps; a successful open-air performance series and summer concert series; strategic planning; and preparations for the new season launch.
- Coquitlam Heritage Society updates including a consolidated one-day summer

camp; the conclusion and opening of numerous exhibits; a series of memory writing workshops to facilitate family histories; and October events including Diwali, Autumn Moon Festival, and Halloween.

- Place des Arts updates including the launch of a new season of programs, three exhibitions, free Truth and Reconciliation workshops on September 30, and the annual online fundraising auction starting October 18.
- An event organized by a citizen representative to host Mark Zuehlke, battlefield historian, on November 5 to mark the 80th anniversary of the Canadian liberation of the Netherlands.

OTHER BUSINESS**NEXT MEETING DATE – Thursday, November 13, 2025****ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

MINUTES CERTIFIED CORRECT:

Councillor Robert Mazzarolo, Chair

Alex McLellan, Committee Clerk