



DANCE VICTORIA

THE WORLD'S BEST DANCE

111-2750 Quadra Street,
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Dance Victoria Celebrates the Success of its 2015/16 Season at its Annual General Meeting

VICTORIA, B.C. - The 2016 fiscal year ending June 30 was another extraordinary year for Dance Victoria with box office revenues totalling \$727,842, an increase of approximately 9% compared to 2014/15. Both subscription and single ticket sales were strong. Night Moves subscriptions, for 30 to 45 year olds, sold out and Dance Victoria's Pay Your Age program (for 12 to 29 years old) continued to be very successful. At the end of the year, Dance Victoria was able to add to its reserves, ensuring stability for years to come.

The Board of Directors and staff made significant progress in implementing Year One of its three-year strategic plan that has goals around financial stability, support for artistic creation, and bringing more people to the dance.

Five out of six Dance Victoria presentations in its 2015/16 "all Canadian" season exceeded financial targets. In total, more than 21,000 people participated in all programs. Dance Victoria was proud to be a commissioning partner for the Kidd Pivot and Electric Company Theatre's production of *Betroffenheit* that played in Victoria as part of a wider tour of North America and Europe. It was recently cited as *The Guardian* newspaper's top dance production of 2016.

In January, Dance Days offered 65 free events over 10 days in studios throughout Greater Victoria. Dance Victoria presented the premiere of Out Innerspace's *Major Motion Picture* (another Dance Victoria commission) to two sold-out houses at the Metro Studio Theatre.

Dance Victoria hosted four creative residencies at its studios in 2015/16, supporting two Victoria and two Vancouver dance artists in the development of new work. Several local artists also benefited from Dance Victoria's new Free Studio Access policy. In addition, through its Chrystal Dance Prize, Dance Victoria awarded a total of \$35,000 to two independent artists and a young dancer continuing her international training.

The organization also made progress in updating its policies to ensure fair and transparent processes; strengthening its governance structures; and succession planning.

At the Annual General Meeting, the Board thanked John Shields who has served several terms as a Board Director. Mariann Burka announced she is stepping down as President, but will continue as a Chair of the Governance and Planning Committee. New members elected include Susan Howard who will assume the role of Board President; Kristen Kitchen; and Nikki Sieben (Board Secretary), all of whom had been appointed during the course of the year. Directors of the Board continuing in their two-year term include



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Mariann Burka; René Peloquin (Vice President); Regan McGrath (Treasurer); Kari McLay and Lynda Raino.

About Dance Victoria

Now in its 20th season, Dance Victoria brings the World's Best Dance to the Royal Theatre and supports the development of new dance for the international stage from its studios in Quadra Village. Dance Victoria is a non-profit charitable society.

Fast Facts

Total Audience (all programs): 21,000
Total Budget 2015/16 \$1,436,087
Change in budget from 2014/15 + 7.5%

Percentage Earned Revenue (Box Office, Studio Rentals, Advertising)	65%
Private Sector Fundraising (Donations, Sponsorships, Foundations)	22%
Public Sector (Federal, Provincial, CRD Arts)	13%

Programs

Main Stage Presentations (Royal Theatre): 5
Total performances: 14
Free Dance Days events: 65

Full Time Staff: 4
Contract Staff: 2
Volunteers: 50+

Newly Elected Board Member Bios

Susan Howard is Development Director at Victoria Women's Transition House, an emergency shelter with support programs for women and children leaving abusive family situations. Trained as a classical ballet dancer at the Royal Winnipeg Ballet, she turned her passion for performance to non-profit income development. Susan has more than 20 years non-profit leadership experience in communities across Canada in fund and community development, marketing, communications and board and executive management. A graduate of SFU with a degree in business and liberal studies, Susan has a deep passion and love of the arts, particularly dance, and is honoured to serve on the Board of Dance Victoria.

Kristen Kitchen is the Leasing & Marketing Manager at Fort Properties Ltd where she manages tenant relationships and oversees marketing initiatives in support of the company's goal of promoting community well-being through designing and creating healthy and vibrant places. Kristen has always been interested in giving back to the community in which she lives and conducts business, and is active with several community organizations including the Urban Development Institute, the Chamber of Commerce and Junior Achievement.



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Kristen has had a passion for dance since her parents enrolled her in her first ballet class at three years of age. Growing up, she studied several different disciplines and danced professionally for a few years after completing her Bachelor of Commerce Degree at the University of Calgary. She has remained active in the dance community and now looks forward to contributing as a board member of Dance Victoria while continuing on Dance Victoria's Night Moves committee.

Nikki Sieben is an Associate Partner and BC Public Sector Leader for IBM Canada. Her experience ranges from leading a variety of high-profile system change and IT initiatives, to policy advice and support to central government agencies and ministries. Nikki's major strengths lie in her extensive experience in portfolio project management, communications, media and stakeholder relations, policy development and change management. She is particularly passionate about her role as a leader, executive member, and mentor, and believes that strong leadership is core to a successful career and a positive environment. She is a lover of dance and the arts, and is excited for the opportunity to contribute as a board member for Dance Victoria.