



CHAPTER 10: ARTS AND CULTURE

10.1 INTRODUCTION

Port Moody's objective is to build a distinctive community that residents feel proud to call home, that visitors select as a destination, and where businesses find attractive opportunities.

Port Moody has many outstanding attributes including a beautiful natural setting on the waterfront, many leisure opportunities in parks and recreation facilities, and walkable neighbourhoods offering a variety of amenities. While many municipalities in the Metro Vancouver region have these amenities, it has been the focus on the arts that has set Port Moody apart from other communities. By adopting the slogan "City of the Arts" in 2001, Council recognized that the arts complement the other important attributes of the City while also reflecting a distinctiveness found only here.

10.2 CULTURAL POLICY

Since the last Official Community Plan update in 2011, Council adopted the Arts and Culture Master Plan (2011–2015) to guide artistic and cultural development in Port Moody. The overarching goals include integrating the arts into everyday life, building on strengths, and contributing to the economic life of Port Moody. With successful implementation of these goals, Port Moody will experience an abundance of cultural expressions, including public art, art installations, murals, galleries and performing arts complimented with year-round arts and culture events and activities.

The philosophy of this Master Plan is to enrich community life by encouraging and supporting culture and the development of the arts, inspiring a vibrant future, while respecting the past.

The Arts and Culture Master Plan identifies Moody Centre's historic downtown and the site of the Port Moody Arts Centre as a cultural precinct. This area is envisioned as a vibrant and active pedestrian place that will attract businesses and visitors

and encourage the development of artist studios, live/work studios, and other innovative forms of development.

10.3 PUBLIC ART

An important component of the Master Plan is its focus on public art through the Public Art Policy (2001) and Public Visual Art Master Plan (2003), both of which are expected to be updated in the near future.

The City of Port Moody is committed to developing a strong public art program which is accessible to the community. Public art helps to make Port Moody aesthetically pleasing and interesting. It builds our community by enhancing quality of life, contributing to economic development and helps us to celebrate our rich history. It brings art to life for our citizens in many everyday settings. Public art shows Port Moody's commitment to local artists and provides residents with access to art from British Columbia, Canada, and around the world.

The current Public Art Policy and Public Visual Art Master Plan provide a framework for the creation and placement of works of art in public spaces and publicly accessible spaces around Port Moody. It establishes a program for the placement of art in public spaces, ranging from public buildings, to parks, and walkways. It also provides for the placement of art in private spaces which are publicly accessible and which encourage the private sector to participate, maximizing both how and where public art can be experienced. Art diversity is shared community vision encouraging arts and culture in all its mediums, forms, and representations, such as film, crafts, music, heritage, culinary arts, and dance, to name only a few.

The goals of the Public Art Policy are:

1. To incorporate and integrate the public art program into the planning, design and execution of civic projects in Port Moody;

2. To demonstrate, through projects, that public art can significantly enhance the quality of life of Port Moody residents and contribute to economic development;
3. To ensure that through its selection process, qualified artists provide a variety of arts and cultural expressions and to ensure that the selection process is meaningful, fair and equitable, and compatible with development aspirations;
4. To encourage community members to participate in developing the resources of public art;
5. To reflect the diversity of Port Moody and its citizens; and,
6. To encourage participation of, and partnership with, the private sector to provide for enhanced public art in private spaces which are publicly accessible.

10.3.1 NEW PUBLIC ART PROJECTS

The City continues to grow its public art inventory by allocating 0.3% of the overall capital and operating budget to include a public art component. While there is currently no public art policy directed to the private sector, a significant number of private developers have included public art within their developments.

City staff continue to work with developers to encourage the inclusion of art in public places by identifying opportunities in the development process. Some good examples of this cooperative working relationship where public art has been integrated into new development include the Klahanie, Newport Village, Corbeau, Heritage Woods and Suterbrook projects.

10.4 CULTURAL AND INNOVATION DISTRICT

Port Moody, as City of the Arts, spurs and supports artistic, cultural, and economic activity. There are many examples around the world that can be examined as models, as well as recent developments within the City, including Inlet Centre's Newport Village, Suter Brook and Klahanie projects. Historic Moody Centre has been identified as one area with great potential for the development of a successful cultural and innovation district to assist in revitalization.

To support this vision, the Arts and Culture Master Plan recognizes the need for residential densification within a cultural and innovation district to achieve a vibrant, active pedestrian oriented place that will attract businesses and visitors and encourage the development of artist studios, live/work studios and other innovative forms of development and commercial activity. This environment is also critical to support and attract an entrepreneurial, creative and innovative technology community.



Artists Markian Olynyk and Brian Baxter on the Port Moody Recreation Complex's roof with their glass piece, "Movement: The Search for Perfect Form."

10.5 CULTURAL FACILITIES

The Arts and Culture Master Plan focuses on developing the professional capacity of the City's main cultural organizations to deliver effective programs and services rather than the creation of new cultural facilities. As a result of the success of the Port Moody Arts Centre, the Port Moody Station Museum and Inlet Theatre existing facilities are at capacity and many groups are experiencing a lack of space for cultural activities.

In 2012, the City acquired the Appleyard-Centennial House and relocated the heritage home near the Port Moody Arts Centre, the same area identified for expansion of arts and culture activities in Moody Centre. The Appleyard-Centennial House is intended to provide additional space needed for expanded arts and culture programming.

10.5.1 PORT MOODY ARTS CENTRE

The Arts Centre opened in 1996 following extensive renovation of the former City Hall. Since 1999, the facility has been run by the non-profit Port Moody Arts Centre Society. The Arts Centre is home to the Blackberry Gallery, a gift shop, arts classes of all kinds, and many different community arts groups. The facility is very popular and heavily used by a variety of artists both novice and professional.

Space at the Arts Centre is limited and use of the facility is expected to increase as both the City's population and interest from residents within the region continues to grow. Strategic directions for continued development of arts and culture will be addressed through application of the recently updated policies of the Arts and Culture Master Plan.

10.5.2 PORT MOODY STATION MUSEUM

The City recognizes the contribution of the museum as an important historic institution in Port Moody. The Port Moody Station Museum is owned and operated by the Port Moody Heritage Society and serves to promote increased awareness and knowledge of Port Moody's heritage and history. Through exhibitions, interactive displays, tours, special events and workshops, the museum brings to life events and people who influenced the community of Port Moody.

The City will continue to work with the Port Moody Heritage Society to develop a long term plan for the potential relocation of the current Port Moody Station Museum facility or expansion on the existing site as part of the future development of a cultural and innovation district in Moody Centre.

10.5.3 INLET THEATRE

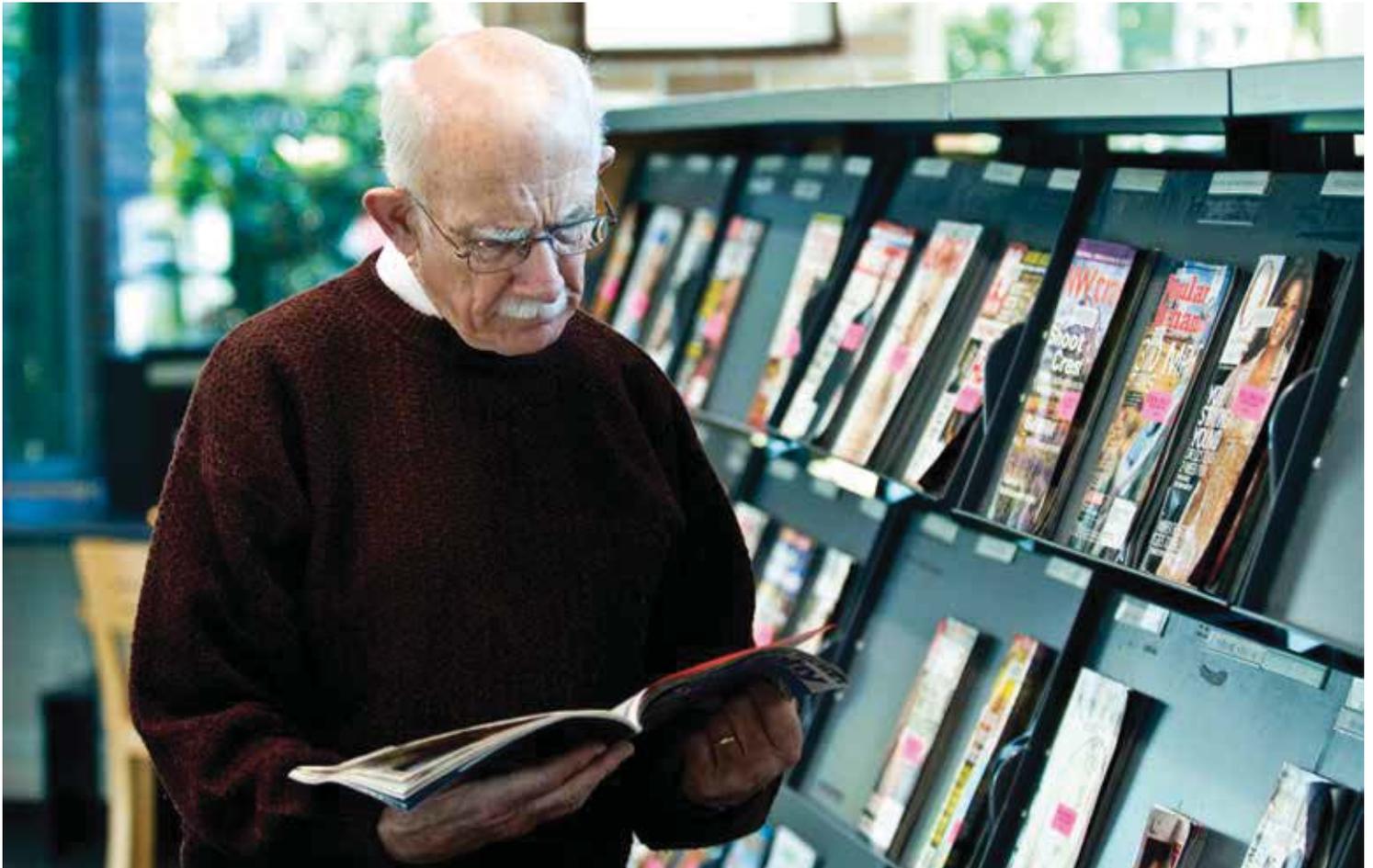
The Inlet Theatre at the Port Moody Civic Centre is a state of the art facility and regularly features plays, concerts and dance performances, as well as a host of special events including the Port Moody Canadian Film Festival and the Festival of the Arts. The theatre and the adjacent Galleria have become the focal point for many cultural events in the City and are well used by cultural groups within the community.

10.5.4 LIBRARY SERVICES

The Port Moody Public Library was established in 1943 and since 1995 has been located within the Port Moody Civic Complex. The Library offers a wide range of services, programs and collections (online, print and multimedia) for all ages. It is a well used community facility with over 300,000 in-person visits per year and more than 22,000 active registered borrowers.

The vision for the Port Moody Public Library, as highlighted in its 2013 – 2017 Strategic Plan, is:

"To be a welcoming, open and free community gathering place where all can reflect, learn, create, share and debate."



Its mission is:

“To connect people with ideas and information, to inspire imagination and a love of reading, and to facilitate lifelong learning and discovery.”

The strategic plan helps the Library Board to set priorities and make decisions about resource allocation. Community input was a critical driving force in shaping the current strategic plan which prioritizes four areas: investing in new technologies; infusing library space with new energy and purpose; inspiring a generation of young readers and learners; and igniting the imagination of the community.

10.6 FUTURE CULTURAL FACILITIES

As part of Port Moody’s continued emphasis on “City of the Arts”, the City is interested in attracting a diversity of arts facilities including a post-secondary arts institute, versatile black box theatre space and production facilities.

GENERAL POLICIES

1. The City will support arts and culture in the community by working in cooperation with other agencies in the provision of arts and culture facilities and services.



2. The Arts Centre, Youth Centre and Museum shall continue to be maintained for community use.
3. The City will provide a range of cultural facilities for its residents, in various neighbourhoods and convenient locations, as the necessary population and financial levels are reached to support such facilities.
4. The City will develop an incentive program to encourage arts related space.

PUBLIC ART POLICIES

5. The City will continue to provide a variety of public art projects through the Public Visual Art Policy and the 0.3% funding formula from capital projects.
6. The City shall encourage developers to provide public art in publicly accessible or publicly owned spaces as part of major developments and will develop guidelines to facilitate this process.

CULTURAL FACILITY POLICIES

7. The City will undertake a needs assessment and analysis with respect to cultural facility development in partnership with existing cultural facility operators.
8. The City will investigate options for the development of land surrounding the Kyle Centre and the Arts Centre as it continues to encourage the development of the Moody Centre Cultural District. Ideally, this development will include a signature arts centre, community cultural activity and innovation space, in addition to residential opportunities.
9. The City will work with the Port Moody Heritage Society to develop a long term plan for the potential relocation of the Port Moody Station Museum facility as part of the future development of a cultural district in Moody Centre.

LIBRARY POLICIES

10. The City will continue to provide financial support for the operation of the Port Moody Public Library so that it can continue to provide access to a rich collection of materials and programming promoting literacy and lifelong learning for all Port Moody residents.
11. The City will work with the Port Moody Library Board to conduct programming studies and investigate options for the development of a new facility for the Port Moody Public Library in order to meet the current and future needs of Port Moody residents.