

2012 Annual Report

Sidney and North Saanich Memorial Park Society



Mary Winspear Centre
Conferences, Special Events and Live Theatre



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The non-profit Memorial Park Society is part of the Peninsula's rich history. In 1928, the Sidney Athletic Association and Sidney Women's Auxiliary acquired 12-acres of land in the Town of Sidney for the community to use for athletic and recreational purposes. The Sidney and North Saanich Memorial Park Society was established and the park was named the North Saanich War Memorial Park in honour of the local residents lost in the First World War. The park also included an athletic field and children's playground. The Society managed the park for many years, and in 1993 also took on management of Sanscha Hall located on the park grounds.

In recent years, the Memorial Park Society was central to the planning and construction of the Mary Winspear Centre, and the new memorial located outside the centre, dedicated to all Canadians who have given their lives in times of war and peace to serve Canada.

The Society continues to oversee the Mary Winspear Centre and Blue Heron Park in trust for the communities of Sidney and North Saanich.

Report from the Chair



John Bell
Chair
Memorial Park Society

John Bell

The Chair would like to thank and recognize the efforts of all our volunteers.

A full report will follow upon John's return.

Thank you for your continued support and generous contribution of your time and effort.

Executive Director



2012 was a great year for the Mary Winspear Community Cultural Centre and Blue Heron Park. It was also a year of transition. Chad Rintoul left his position as Executive Director in September and I, Brad

Edgett took the reins in October. I would like to thank Chad for all of his hard work and wish him success in his future endeavors. The Centre's success was only made possible by the hard work of our dedicated staff and volunteers. All of you are the heart and soul of the Centre and it would not be the gathering place that it is without your tireless efforts. I would like to say a special thank-you to Lynn Fanelli our Development Director. Please see her report contained below.

We are very appreciative of our municipal partners. Both the Town of Sidney and District of North Saanich are engaged supporters of the Memorial Park Society. In 2012 the Mary Winspear Centre budget was 30% funded by our municipal partners, with the remaining 70% self generated through revenues. The local municipalities and the business community recognize the value of the Mary Winspear Community Cultural Centre as a key contributor to the local economy.

The events held at our venue help to provide patrons to hotels, restaurants and shops. The Memorial Park Society brings tangible economic and community benefit to the Peninsula as a whole. All the events, live performances, service clubs, hobby groups, sporting associations and other Non-Profits that use our facilities

attract participants from throughout the Saanich Peninsula and North America.

My mandate is to "Bring the Centre Back to the Community and the Community Back to the Centre" and to make The Mary Winspear Centre a gathering place a place where action happens.

For the first time Central Saanich became a partner in the Mary Winspear Community Cultural Centre and Blue Heron Park by committing to a grant in aid. We hope this will blossom in to a wonderful partnership like the one we have with the Town of Sidney and the District of North Saanich. Clearly, our services benefit the Peninsula without borders. The MPS Board looks to a more secure future with participation from each of the three Peninsula municipalities.

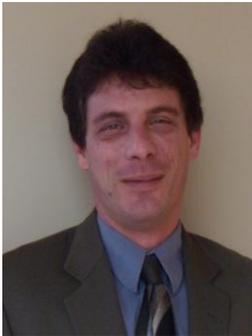
Finally, I would like to express my gratitude to the volunteer Directors who give so generously of their time and effort serving on the Memorial Park Society board, and the SANSCHA Foundation board. These community minded leaders offer oversight and support to myself and provide a valuable service to our community. My thanks to John Bell as Chair of the MPS and Ron Gurney as President of the SANSCHA Foundation for their sincere interest in the success of the Mary Winspear Community Cultural Centre and Blue Heron Park.

I look forward to working with our community in the year ahead to ensure the Memorial Park Society continues to contribute to the well being and vitality of the Peninsula. Watch for many more exciting events here at the Mary Winspear Centre!

Brad Edgett

Portrait Photography Courtesy of Phil McOrmond: Sidney Shutterbugs

Charlie White Theatre



Philip Sutton
Theatre Manager

The Charlie White Theatre continued to raise the bar in 2012.

Many talented artists and fabulous performances graced our stage at the Charlie White Theatre in 2012. Including Peninsula Singers, Palm Court Orchestra, Karen Clark

Dance Studio, Victoria Gilbert and Sullivan Society, Legends of Rock

'n' Roll, Hotel California, Under the Mango Tree, Mountain Dream Productions, Jim Byrns, The Bachelor Canada and many more amazing artists and events.

The Charlie White Theatre brought the best in internationally acclaimed artists to the Peninsula in 2012 and we are excited about the opportunity to bring in many more in 2013. Charlie White Theatre corporate sponsorships and partnerships play a leading role in our ability to present these celebrated artists. Our sponsors include Tanner's Books, Peninsula News Review, SeaFirst Insurance, Kumon, Victoria Airport Authority, Best Western Emerald Isle, and the Capital Regional District. The Town of Sidney, the District of North Saanich, and the SCCC continue to support the theatre through yearly grants to the Mary Winspear Centre. Thank you to all our community sponsors and partners your support is appreciated by all Peninsula residents.

In 2012 we finished the substantial theatre upgrade project with an endowment from the Charlie White estate. This gift was made at an opportune time as our theatre lighting board was starting to show its age. These monies were used to purchase a new lighting and sound board, speaker system, moving head lighting fixtures, and LED lights. Theatre patrons and clients have noticed and appreciated the improved sound and lighting effects we have to offer. Our deepest gratitude is extended to the Estate of Charlie White and his family.

Spearheading the Charlie White Theatre upgrade process is our exceptional technical staff. The time and research each technical staff member put into the upgrade process



Paul Masters
Technical Director

underlines their dedication and enthusiasm for the Charlie White Theatre. Their technical mastery continues to get rave reviews from clients, artists and patrons. Bravo and many thanks to Paul Masters (Technical Director) and his crew, Mark Trueman, and Daniel Pedlow.

New Front line staff of Carey Salvador has displayed an extraordinary client skill on a daily basis. Theatre clients appreciate her thoughtfulness, consideration, and time in dealing with their requests and questions.

The Charlie White Theatre has become the place where Peninsula and CRD residents can connect with world class artists. Thank you to all our patrons and clients for making the Charlie White Theatre the best place to watch and appreciate live theatre in BC.

Community Partner Groups



**North Saanich
Free Ride**



Community Arts Council of the Saanich Peninsula
Serving Sidney, North Saanich & Central Saanich

**Peninsula
Business Women**



**Saanich Peninsula
Hospital Auxiliary**



**Our wonderful supporters
allow us to provide
exceptional experiences
for our community.**

Thank You!

ANAVETS #302
Andrew Peter Bradley-Photographer
ASPECT Training Program
Beacon Community Services - YEP
Beacon Inn
Best Western Emerald Isle Plus
BC Arts Council
BC Touring
Brown's the Florist
Canadian Heritage
Christine Laurent Jewelers
Capital Regional District
Enterprising Non-Profits
Glen Meadows Golf & Country Club
Haro's Restaurant & Bar, Pier Hotel & Spa
Huff & Puff Party Stuff
Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural
Development – Embrace BC
Magical Moments Decorating
Muse Winery
MyPeninsula.ca
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Peninsula Co-op
Peninsula News Review
RBC Royal Bank
Rotary Club of Sidney-by-the-Sea
Seafirst Insurance Brokers
Seaside Times
Shaw Ocean Discovery Centre
SHOAL Centre
Sidney Kumon Centre
Stonestreet Cafe & Catering
Tanner's Books
The Children's Bookshop
The Q FM
Thrifty Foods
The Timebenders
VanCity
Veteran's Affairs
Victoria Airport Authority
Zanzibar

Mary Winspear

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Thank You from all of us at the



Mary Winspear Centre
Conferences, Special Events and Live Theatre
2243 Beacon Ave., Sidney, B.C.

2012 Board of Directors

John Bell - Chair
Gloria Addison
Stan Bamford
Joan Beattie
Peter Dolezal
Patricia Dowdall
Sheilah Fea
Ron Gurney
Viv Harding
Richard Paquette
Graham Williams

Jane Husband
– School District 63 Appointed
Director
Conny McBride
– North Saanich Council Liaison
Tim Chad
– Sidney Council Liaison

