

NEW BRUNSWICK
ARTS BOARD

2015-2016

ANNUAL REPORT



ARTS BOARD EXECUTIVE

Chair	Pierre McGraw, Pokemouche
1 st Vice Chair	Gwyneth Wilbur, Elmsville
2 nd Vice Chair	Nathalie Cyr-Plourde, Edmundston
Secretary Treasurer	Chet Wesley, Fredericton

MEMBERS

- Tim Borlase, Moncton
- Léo Goguen, Moncton
- Nisk Imbeault, Moncton
- Alex McGibbon, Gagetown
- Matthew Pearn, Fredericton
- Gary Sappier, Tobique First Nation

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

- Akoulina Connell (ex officio)

TOURISM, HERITAGE AND CULTURE

- Thierry Arseneau, Executive Director (ex officio)
- Bill Fraser, Minister (ex officio)
- Kelly Cain, Deputy Minister (ex officio)

COMMITTEES

Programs and Juries

- Kristen Atkins (Program Officer), Tim Borlase, Akoulina Connell (ex officio), Léo Goguen, Nisk Imbeault (Chair), Alex McGibbon, Pierre McGraw, Joss Richer (Program Officer), Gary Sappier, Gwyneth Wilbur

Nominations

- Tim Borlase (Chair), Nathalie Cyr-Plourde, Pierre McGraw, Matthew Pearn

Fundraising

- Akoulina Connell (ex officio), Pierre McGraw, Matthew Pearn (Chair), Chet Wesley, Gwyneth Wilbur





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MANDATE

The New Brunswick Arts Board (**artsnb**) is an arm's-length arts funding agency with a legislated mandate to:

- Facilitate and promote the creation of art;
- Facilitate the enjoyment, awareness, and understanding of the arts;
- Advise the government on arts policy;
- Unify and speak for the arts community;
- Administer funding programs for professional artists.

The New Brunswick Arts Board was established in 1989 as part of the New Brunswick government's fine arts policy: The New Brunswick Arts Board Act was assented to on November 9, 1990, and came into force on June 13, 1991. This act was amended in 1999 (An Act to Amend the New Brunswick Arts Board Act) in order to extend the autonomy and areas of responsibilities of the New Brunswick Arts Board.

The New Brunswick Arts Board is composed of 12 members balancing gender, the five regions of the province, the various linguistic and First Nations communities, as well as the various artistic disciplines.





MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

As I sit here writing my final annual report, it feels as if it was only yesterday that I accepted the challenge of presiding over **artsnb**. I can truly say that the experience has been as much enriching as revelatory of the political challenges affecting the arts and culture ecosystem.

In terms of partnerships, the four Atlantic provinces' arts boards (Atlantic Public Arts Funders/APAF) met in Halifax in April 2015. We discussed Petapan: First Light Indigenous Arts Symposium 2016; we also talked about the possibility of developing a program to support arts organizations facing a quickly evolving funding landscape.

Also in April, the executives of **artsnb** and the New Brunswick Foundation for the Arts met to establish a formal collaboration that would increase opportunities to diversify private and public funding to help stabilize the arts and culture ecosystem in New Brunswick.

In June 2015, the Board met in Caraquet to offer an information session to the newest members. At the same time, we held a wine and cheese event at the Atlantic Visual Arts Festival (FAVA) to connect with artists from the community. I'd like to take the opportunity here to welcome Léo Goguen to the Board and to acknowledge the contributions of outgoing board members Monica Adair, Tim Borlase, Nisk Imbeault, and Denis Lanteigne.

In November, I attended the annual general meeting of the Canadian Public Arts Funders (CPAF) in Yellowknife, the theme of which was "Achieving Impact Through Public Arts Funding." The meeting between Chairs allowed us to share our respective accomplishments and the challenges faced by each arts council. Akoulina and I had a meeting with the Association acadienne des artistes professionnel.le.s du Nouveau-Brunswick (AAAPNB) and ArtsLink to establish a set of joint strategies among the three organizations. We also attended the AAAPNB annual general meeting in Richibucto, NB, and the ArtsLink AGM in Florenceville.

Also in November, we held the Lieutenant-Governor's Awards for High Achievement in the Arts. Our congratulations go out to the exceptional laureates for 2015-2016: Thaddeus Holownia, Jules Boudreau, and Jacques Savoie. I wish to express my deepest gratitude for the generosity of our Lieutenant-Governor, the Honourable Jocelyne Roy Vienneau, who presided over the awards ceremony. This special event shines a light on some of our province's greatest talents. Hats off to the staff of **artsnb** and the Lieutenant-Governor for making this ceremony a resounding success.

At the time of writing this report, fundamental changes in the arts and culture sector in New Brunswick were announced.

Towards the end of 2014, I tried to meet with the Minister of Tourism, Heritage and Culture (THC) to discuss a number of subjects, including improvements to the process for replacing outgoing board members, opportunities for collaboration between our organizations in order to modernize our programs, and the full implementation of the arts board's mandate.

After having obtained more information through the access to information process and following our annual general meeting in October 2015, we enlisted the assistance of Dr. Monica Gattinger from the University of Ottawa to conduct an independent and objective analysis of this information. In the spirit of collegiality, we shared the research parameters proposed by Dr. Gattinger with the THC team to give them an opportunity to adjust these before proceeding with the analysis. Following the completion of the report in January 2016, we invited the THC executive to attend a presentation by Dr. Gattinger, together with the executive of the arts board, in order to discuss ways to better collaborate and to manage funds to artists more efficiently. The date for this presentation was set for 26 February 2016.



On 2 February, prior to the publication of the Gattinger report and only a few minutes ahead of the provincial budget announcement for 2016-2017, the board was informed of a cut to its budget of \$200,000 per year over the next two years. We requested to meet with the Minister and the Premier as it was obvious to us that more information would be necessary to ensure that decisions are made with the benefit of fact-based analysis. We quickly published Dr. Gattinger's report on 9 February; she came to present it to the THC executive on 26 February and then to the general public on that same day. A transition committee was struck, comprising the Executive Directors and Chairs of AAAPNB, ArtsLink, and **artsnb**, as well as two artists. This committee met on 11 February in Saint John and on 29 March in Moncton.

My parting wish is that a true cohesion develops among the various elements of our cultural ecosystem. I am confident that through collaboration, the department and the arts board will succeed in finding a model that will serve the interests of all of our province's artists.

I would like to thank each member of the Board as well as the staff of **artsnb** for their dedication to surmounting the challenges we've faced together over the past five years. Your integrity and engagement toward the needs of the community will ensure a bright future for the New Brunswick Arts Board.

Pierre McGraw
Chair, **artsnb**
2015-2016





MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Renewal and adaptive capacity building marked the past year at **artsnb**. A formal agreement between **artsnb** and the New Brunswick Foundation for the Arts (NBFA) has been developed with a view to bolstering and growing a private funding envelope to complement public funding. This will provide increased stability for the foundational funding frameworks for the arts in our province. The new arrangement will have the Executive Director reporting to the boards of both **artsnb** and the NBFA. Private fundraising efforts began for the Brighter Lights, Brighter Life campaign for **artsnb** but were placed temporarily on hold as the relationship with the NBFA was finalized.

The internal structure at **artsnb** has changed. It is now a flatter organization with an Executive Director, two full-time Program Officers, an Executive Assistant, a Public Relations Specialist, and an Aboriginal Outreach Officer. New staff were welcomed— Kristen Atkins as Program Officer, Tilly Jackson as Executive Assistant, and Greg Toole as bilingual Public Relations Specialist. Over the summer, through a Canada Summer Jobs grant, intern Alec Wyllie tackled the digitization and overhaul of **artsnb**'s paper and electronic filing system so that record-keeping is consistently organized and a document management system can be deployed.

Partnerships continue to flourish. We are in our final year of a deeply appreciated partnership with the Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI). From 2013 to 2016, our community contact through JEDI-supported workshops and outreach for Indigenous artists has grown from 40 artists to over 250, and continues to climb. A slow but steady increase is observable in application and success rates in **artsnb** grant programs.

We're embarking on a new relationship with the Department of Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour (PETL). We secured a Labour Market Research and Analysis (LMRA) grant to run intensive creative capacity workshops for Indigenous artists in 2016-2018. The target outcomes include increased direct participation in the arts and culture sector by Indigenous artists on terms that are self-determined and culturally relevant, as well as greater visibility and recognition of Indigenous art from New Brunswick.

The Atlantic Institute on Aging (AIA) collaborated with **artsnb** on piloting a series of Creative Aging workshops on writing (Fredericton), theatre (Miramichi), and dance/voice (Moncton). The goal: to leverage the health benefits of professionally run arts programming for elders in New Brunswick. The AIA was one of several partners who encouraged the creation of knitted goods for a joint campaign (A Warm Welcome for Syrian Refugees), along with Yarns on York, the Fredericton Public Library, Ignite Fredericton, and the Multicultural Association of Fredericton.

Now in the third year of its memorandum of understanding (MOU), the Atlantic Public Arts Funder's regional network (the four independent arts boards in Atlantic Canada) is working towards the second Petapan: First Light Indigenous Arts Symposium. The event will take place at the Dieppe Arts and Culture Centre, June 16-19, 2016. Elsipogtog First Nation is our partner community. The steering committee for Petapan is composed of Indigenous artists from all four provinces and the Executive Directors of all four arts boards. The symposium will gather 110 artists from across Atlantic Canada.

The Canadian Public Arts Funders (CPAF) is a national network of arts boards across Canada, and it continues to be an essential forum for exchange of knowledge, joint research, and best practices. This year there were professional development meetings on various themes (strategic communications; research and impact; multidisciplinary arts), as well as the annual general meeting in Yellowknife, NWT. This year I participated both on the CPAF steering committee and on a cross-jurisdictional working group to develop programming.



We held a series of three meetings for the **artsnb** Commission on Cultural Diversity. In the first meeting, we began with the KAIROS Blanket Exercise, which was developed by the Aboriginal Rights Coalition along with Indigenous elders and teachers as an interactive way of learning the history most Canadians are never taught. In the second meeting, existing programs at the Canada Council for the Arts, Canadian Heritage, the Department of Tourism, Heritage and Culture (NB), **artsnb**, and the Sheila Hugh Mackay Foundation were presented, followed by breakout groups to discuss what changes are needed in order to encourage the flourishing of diverse arts and cultural expression in New Brunswick. The third meeting identified short- and long-term goals. The final report is available on the **artsnb** website with a list of recommendations.

This year, **artsnb** convened three trilevel meetings of a network of public and private arts funders at the federal, provincial, and municipal levels for exchange of ideas, opportunities, and best practices. We also gathered diverse stakeholders to discuss the possibility of developing internships for Indigenous curators in New Brunswick's galleries and museums. Discipline-specific consultations were held this year for the literary arts and visual arts—partly to identify adjustments needed to programs, and partly to identify community goals for the next five years in each discipline.

We have almost completed **artsnb**'s digital transition to online forms and a module for preliminary online jury evaluation for all programs. Most programs are now live and the reporting module, which will help **artsnb** provide greater detail on programming in its annual reports, is in development. In the coming year, we anticipate that our paper and courier usage will drop dramatically for jury processes, resulting in an estimated \$7,000 in savings annually.

This year the provincial government conducted a Strategic Program Review. I was invited to participate in roundtables for the following: poverty, women, information technology, Aboriginal economic development, and arts and culture. I also participated on the Cultural Human Resources Roundtable and the resulting nominations committee to establish a new organization, Culture Plus. Work was reinitiated on the Premier's Taskforce for Status of the Artist legislation, and the arts board has participated fully.

Events attended by staff included Les Arts et la Ville in Moncton, Symposium Baie des Chaleurs, the Growing Together: Towards a Vision of Multiculturalism in New Brunswick Conference, the 21 inc. Ideas Festival, Culture Connect, the Talking Stick Festival, Saint John Theatre Company's 25th anniversary, the Atlantic Ballet's Velvet Gala, Festival international du cinéma francophone en Acadie, Festival des arts visuels en Atlantique, the Strathbutler Awards, and East Coast Startup Week, as well as the annual general meetings and forums for AAAPNB and ArtsLink.

In December, I accepted the position of Chief Executive Officer at the Manitoba Arts Council, so this annual report is my last at **artsnb**. I depart in June 2016. I wish to convey my profound gratitude to the arts community, who built an independent arts board for New Brunswick's arts ecosystem, and who continue to fight for its existence. Kudos also to the **artsnb** board members, who hail from every arts discipline, cultural group, and geographic corner of our province. These people generously volunteer chunks of their lives to **artsnb**; my life is richer for having learned from all of you. Finally, my deep respect goes to the dedicated **artsnb** staff, who diligently serve the arts community with the gifts of their knowledge, skill, and talent, ensuring service in both official languages, outreach to Indigenous artists, meetings to diversify cultural expression, and the implementation of responsive, responsibly run programs every day. Joss Richer, Kristen Atkins, Greg Toole, Tilly Jackson, Natalie Sappier, and Gary Belding, you're a gifted group, and I'll miss working with you.

Akoulina Connell
Executive Director, **artsnb**
March 2016



ABORIGINAL OUTREACH 2015-2016

This year marked the third year that **artsnb** has conducted continuing outreach and support for Indigenous artists through its partnership with the Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI). As this partnership draws to a close, we'd like to acknowledge and thank the amazing team at JEDI for their collaboration and support, including but not limited to: Bryan Harn, Karen LeBlanc, Lynne Poole-Hughes, Mark Taylor, and Tammy Williams.

Outreach by numbers:

First Nations community outreach: 14

First Nations community visits: 4

Aboriginal Artists workshop participants: 150

New Indigenous artist relationships: 260

Indigenous jurors: 8

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

This year Natalie Sappier was offered Program Officer training through a seminar along with **artsnb**'s two Program Officers, so that she could run the Aboriginal Arts Capacity Building program for the first time. The Circle of Elders' goal of having programming in New Brunswick for Indigenous artists that is run by an Indigenous artist was achieved for the first time. The training was provided by Claudia Buckley, a retired Program Officer from Canada Council's Theatre division, and included the following: Protocols/Oversights in the Jury Selection and Jury Results; Program and Juries Committee; an Overview of the Role of Public Arts Funding Provincially and Federally; Perspective: How do artists see themselves vis-à-vis public funders?; Guidelines for Jury Selection; Preparing for the Jury; Managing the Jury; Post-jury Process; Outreach/Workshops; and Protocols for Developing New Programs.

Train the Trainer: Art of Managing Your Career

JEDI offered Natalie the opportunity to take training in Ottawa in the Art of Managing Your Career. Natalie, on her experience: "It was great to have Tammy Williams join with me to learn these new skills at this workshop being in the middle of our Digital Literacy workshop and knowing we are able to bring back to our class more skills in their development. The workshop was taught by France Trépanier, an amazing mentor and expert in this area, and our keynote speaker at the Petapan 2014 symposium in Millbrook. The intense two-day Train the Trainer workshop included new outreach approaches, jury process, program development, networking, and most of all protocols. What was most amazing about this workshop was the circle of people who were learning together. I have met some really powerful Aboriginal artists and Aboriginal young leaders from across Canada and true strong friendships were built on that weekend. It was a great learning experience and I am very grateful to have had the opportunity to take part in the training."



NETWORK DEVELOPMENT

Petapan: First Light Indigenous Arts Symposium 2016—Steering Committee

The steering committee for Petapan is composed of the Executive Directors of all four arts boards in Atlantic Canada, an event planner, and two to three Indigenous artist representatives from each province. In developing the content for the symposium, the steering committee takes its guidance from the Indigenous artists on the steering committee.

Aboriginal Curator Internship Development

artsnb convened representatives of several museums and galleries to brainstorm on how to create opportunities to develop and support Indigenous curators in New Brunswick. Participants included: Aboriginal Curatorial Collective, Beaverbrook Art Gallery, the Canada Council for the Arts, the Department of Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour (NB), the Department of Tourism, Heritage and Culture (NB), Galerie d'art Louise-et-Reuben-Cohen (Université de Moncton), George Fry Gallery (New Brunswick College of Craft and Design), Metepenagiag Heritage Park, New Brunswick Crafts Council, New Brunswick Museum, Owens Art Gallery (Mount Allison University), and Yellow Box Gallery (St. Thomas University).

imagineNATIVE Film and Media Arts Festival

artsnb has developed a proposal for intensive creative capacity building, discipline-specific workshops in FY 2016-2017. This year we began forging a partnership with imagineNATIVE. Natalie travelled to Toronto to see the work at the imagineNATIVE festival and meet with Executive Director Jason Ryle to explore various workshop approaches. He is excited about the partnership and is looking forward to seeing more Atlantic filmmakers taking part in festivals, sharing their work, and engaging in new collaborations.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Identity Journey Theatre Project (CPSC)

In June 2015 Natalie was invited to a steering committee meeting of the Conseil provincial des sociétés culturelles (CPSC) for the launch of the Identity Journey Theatre Project. The Identity Journey began with a crowd-sourced script development exercise, honouring the four languages of New Brunswick (colonial languages: English and French; first languages: Wolastoqiyik and Mi'kmaq). The script, which is now in development, came from youth between 15 and 30 years of age. Ninety-five young Indigenous artists were engaged in this unique process, led by Natalie Sappier and Gop Bartibogue.

ArtsLink Forum

Natalie delivered the opening address at the ArtsLink Forum, speaking about the Wolastoq people, their relationship with the water, and her role at **artsnb** as an Aboriginal Outreach Officer—how it has become not just about helping Indigenous artists, but also about building bridges between communities, and opening a dialogue for better understanding.

Cultural Diversity Commission

Through three consecutive meetings in Dieppe, Saint John, and Fredericton, Natalie offered insight and shared the worldview of the Wolastoq people. She offered the opening prayer and smudge at the first meeting in Dieppe. With the emerging diversity in the province, it was essential to provide context, honouring that there was a diversified society on Turtle Island before colonists arrived.



New Brunswick Crafts Council: Aboriginal Crafts & Culture Collective

In late fall 2015, the New Brunswick Crafts Council (NBCC), New Brunswick College of Craft and Design (NBCCD), JEDI, and **artsnb** gathered together to brainstorm on the approach on having a travelling Aboriginal artist exhibit. We issued a call for the travelling exhibit *Sharing Stories* for summer of 2016. Through the hard work of the Crafts Council, June is now earmarked as Aboriginal Crafts and Culture Month in Fredericton, NB.

New Brunswick College of Craft and Design: Aboriginal Visual Arts Committee

An Aboriginal Visual Arts committee was convened to review and evaluate the Aboriginal Visual Arts program at NBCCD in order to strengthen it and develop strategies to increase awareness, interest, and enrollment in the program.

WORKSHOPS FOR INDIGENOUS ARTISTS

Digital Literacy Workshop

A series of Digital Literacy workshops was held in the JEDI boardroom in St. Mary's First Nation over six weeks (fall 2015) in partnership with JEDI; eight Indigenous artists participated. Basic introductory skills in computing were offered, building towards each artist's having the foundational framework for an online presence (website, online portfolio) and self-promotion tools, including social media.

Networking Skills for Artists Workshop

In October 2015, 25 artists took part in a networking panel at the Mi'kmaq-Wolastoqey Centre at UNB Fredericton. Panel participants included Shane Perley-Dutcher (metal worker/carver, NBCCD), John Cushnie (visual artist, Gallery Connexion), and Shelby "Beatz" Sappier (musician, City Natives). Each shared their experiences in building networks as their career developed in their particular arts discipline. They discussed the importance of building a strong network in order to support a creative practice and promote and disseminate one's work. Participants engaged directly, asking questions about various types of organizations, institutions, mentorships, training, etc.

Business Basics for Artists

Ignite Fredericton partnered with **artsnb** to deliver a workshop on Business Basics for Artists. Ten artists participated. Mike Mazerolle presented a number of topics, including the characteristics of an entrepreneur, importance of a business plan, location selection, operational requirements for a business, and sources of funding, and he presented options for further training resources. He followed this with a session called "Writing a Business Plan," in which he introduced the following: developing your value proposition, knowing your competition, acquiring market knowledge, pricing your products and services, budgeting, and scheduling.

Marketing Workshop for Artists

Held at Metepenagiag Heritage Park and facilitated by Akou Connell and Greg Toole, the Marketing Workshop for Artists outlined the preliminary questions one must ask before embarking on a marketing effort: understanding your value proposition, competition, target market, industry benchmarks, market dynamics, sales and marketing strategies, pricing, branding, and positioning. Twelve Indigenous artists participated.



SOCIAL MEDIA

artsnb has continued to emphasize the importance of maintaining a strong social media presence. Aside from our direct communications with local media outlets, Facebook and Twitter continue to be our primary means of communicating important messages from **artsnb** to the public. Our highest traffic generating posts tend to stem from press releases informing of competition results, or news stories that have been written about issues affecting **artsnb**.

Facebook is an essential tool as it connects us directly to over **2,000 people**, with the added potential of reaching an audience in the hundreds of thousands, as we observed in the month of February when we achieved our peak reach for FY 2015 and our content connected with **205,859 people**.

Our top five most engaging posts of 2015-2016 were the following:

- **Press release: ARTSNB SUFFERS \$400,000 IN BUDGET CUTS, February 3, 2016.**
387 shares. 467 comments. 508 Likes. 56,388 people reached.
- **artsnb community consultation survey, February 24, 2016.** 73 shares. 25 comments. 110 Likes.
11,742 people reached.
- **Press release: artsnb press conference to present Dr. Gattinger research report, February 8, 2016.**
50 shares. 9 comments. 88 Likes. 8,977 people reached.
- **Article: The East Magazine—ArtsNB stripped of funding, autonomy, dignity, February 5, 2016.**
41 shares. 10 comments. 52 Likes. 6,715 people reached.
- **Press release: Grants awarded for October 1, 2015 competitions.** 19 shares. 69 comments. 273 Likes.
6,953 people reached.

Sponsored (paid) posts on Facebook are also a cost-effective means of advertising for us. With the right message and call to action, we can maximize our reach while still keeping the investment low.

Our top paid campaigns on Facebook this year were the following:

- **Arts Scholarships, January 7-22** – 14,304 people reached, 124 clicks to website.
- **“HAVE YOUR SAY” community consultation survey (English), February 24-28** – 6,113 people reached.
180 post engagements.
- **“FAITES-VOUS ENTENDRE” community consultation survey (French), February 24-28**
– 3,835 people reached. 76 post engagements.
- **Dr. Gattinger presentation—Event promotion, February 24-26** – 3,010 people reached.
27 post engagements. 40 event responses.

Twitter can also be an extremely effective marketing tool, helping to connect us with arts and cultural organizations and individuals nationally and internationally. We gained 488 followers in 2015, raising our total following to 1,360 people. The 1,158 tweets we sent this year (3.17 per day) saw interaction through clicks, retweets, replies, or likes 3,850 times in total.

LinkedIn and Instagram are social media tools for which our following and level of activity trail that of Facebook and Twitter significantly; opportunities for growth, however, are indeed present. A planned and focused effort would be required to achieve significant results in growing the audience for these tools.

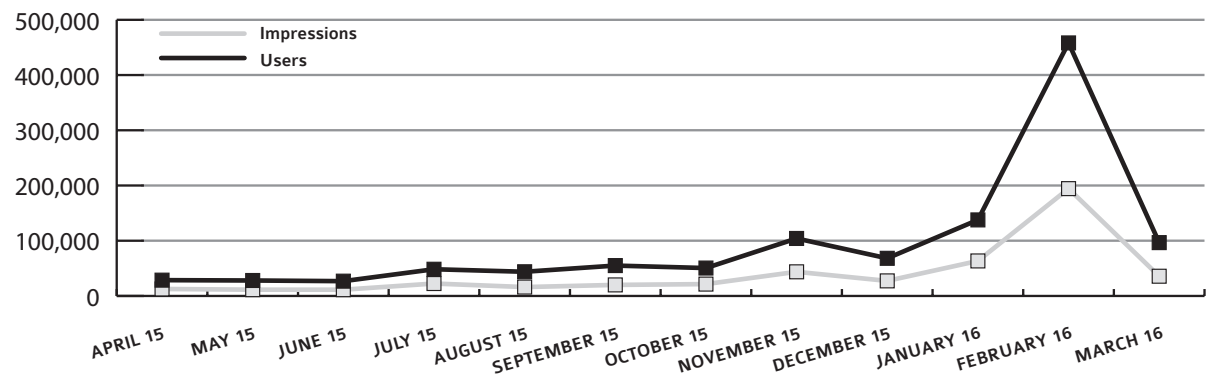
We have continued the practice of hosting a regular blog with guest posts on our website this year. This is a great opportunity for artists who receive grants to share their projects and experiences with the community. Members of our staff and the arts community at large have also been invited to contribute as a means of sharing opportunities and events



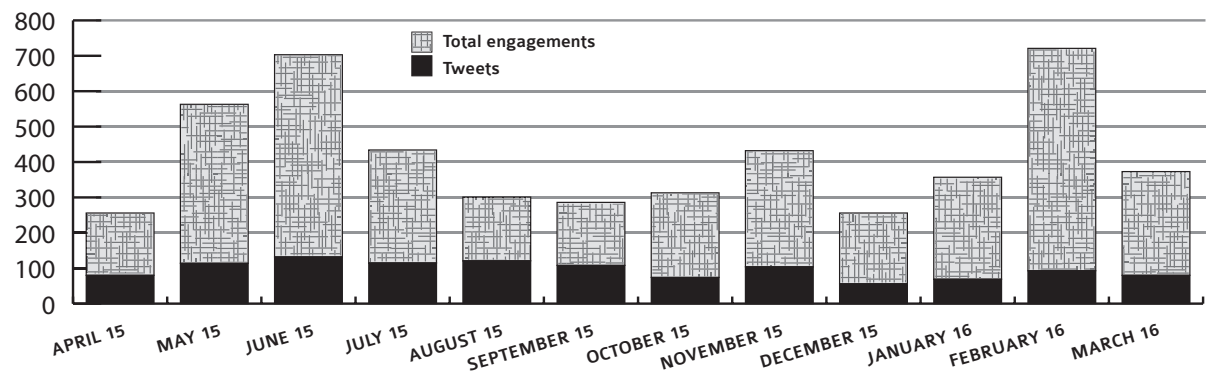
happening in our province; a blog post titled “32 festivals to attend in New Brunswick this summer,” by **artsnb** staff member Tilly Jackson, was viewed 2,969 times—our most popular post of the year! The **artsnb** blog also continues to be a place for us to inform the arts community of changes to our programs and offer tutorials. In anticipation of our digital transition, our Program Officers Joss and Kristen wrote a series of posts this fall offering tutorials on the ins and outs of applying online for grants with the new system.

We are pleased that the flexibility we have in writing posts on our website and sharing them immediately via social media has allowed us to serve the arts community in a responsive and engaging way.

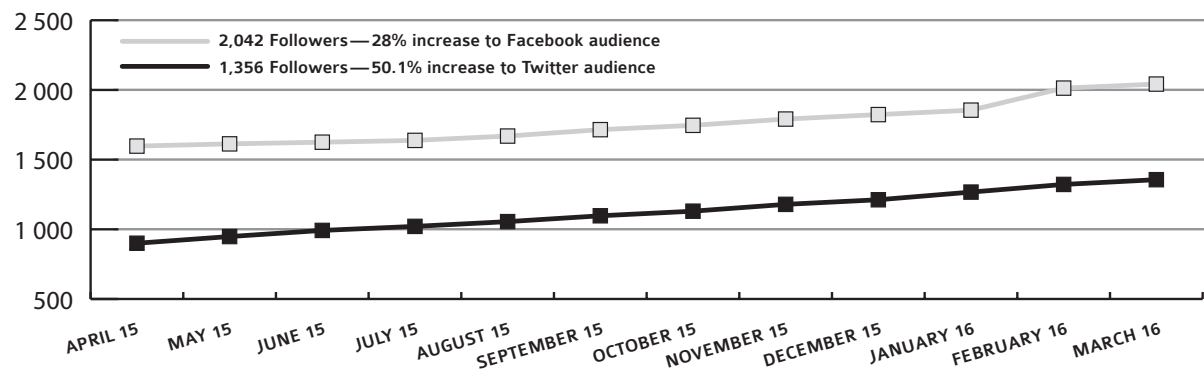
FACEBOOK REACH – APRIL 2015 TO MARCH 2016



TWITTER ACTIVITY – APRIL 2015 TO MARCH 2016



FAN GROWTH PER PLATFORM – APRIL 2015 TO MARCH 2016



STRATEGIC PLAN 2013-2018

VISION

artsnb strives for a New Brunswick in which excellence and innovation in the arts are fostered and artistic expression is cherished by its citizens.

MISSION

artsnb is an arm's-length provincial crown agency with a mandate to facilitate and promote the creation, enjoyment, and understanding of the arts, to advise the government on arts policy, to unify and speak for the arts community, and to administer funding programs for professional artists.

VALUES

artsnb is committed to the following values:

ENGAGEMENT

Maintaining partnerships and open exchange with various stakeholders, including all levels of government, the arts community, and the general public.

RELEVANCE

Providing relevant programs and services of high quality and consistent standards, while ensuring that Board decision-making processes are based on the democratic principles of peer review, fair representation, and consensus.

TRANSPARENCY

Ensuring that the public is provided with accurate and thorough information regarding the Board's processes, funding programs, and operations.

INNOVATION

Recognizing and supporting groundbreaking arts practice by remaining responsive to ongoing developments in the arts.

EQUITY

Promoting fair conditions for professional artists from emerging or minority cultural groups, the disabled, and other such groups to build capacity in **artsnb** programming. While all people have the right to be treated equally, not all experience equal access to resources, opportunities, or benefits. Achieving equality does not necessarily mean treating individuals or groups in the same way, but may require the use of specific measures to ensure equity.



STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

Through its policies and programs, **artsnb** strives to foster artistic excellence in New Brunswick. To this end, the Board must balance an increasing demand for funding and services against its allotted funding. The following goals have been identified:

GOAL A: PARTNERSHIP AND RESOURCES

artsnb secures more funding and greater financial security for the arts and artists in New Brunswick and ensures that the funds currently available are deployed strategically.

GOAL B: CAPACITY BUILDING

artsnb enables artists to realize their potential by offering grants, increasing opportunities for professional development, supporting exchange, and fostering vibrant arts practice in New Brunswick.

GOAL C: RELEVANT PROGRAMMING

artsnb's programs respond and adapt over time to meet the needs of artists. **artsnb**'s effectiveness relies on delivery of relevant, efficient, and strategically supportive programs for its artist clientele. An examination of national and international trends, developments, and challenges ensures that New Brunswick artists are supported at home and abroad.

GOAL D: ENGAGEMENT

artsnb fosters public engagement in the arts. While staying true to its ongoing focus on professional arts practice, it articulates publicly the contribution that art and artists make to everyday life and how its mandate relates to enhancing quality of life in New Brunswick. **artsnb** develops a public strategy. It clarifies how **artsnb**'s work in the professional arts sector benefits all New Brunswickers.

GOAL E: EQUITY

artsnb commits to searching out and identifying groups within the arts community whose needs differ, in order to develop programming and messaging that encourage engagement with **artsnb**. All people have the right to be treated equally, but not all experience equal access to resources, opportunities, or benefits. Achieving equality does not necessarily mean treating individuals or groups in the same way but may require the use of specific measures to ensure fairness (Aboriginal artists, Black Loyalist artists, newly emerging or existing minority groups, the deaf and disabled, LGBTQ, etc.).



ACTIVITIES 2015-2016

NOMINATIONS

During the year, the Board welcomed one new member, Léo Goguen (Architecture, Moncton). Departing board members are Monica Adair (Architecture, Saint John), Tim Borlase (Theatre, Moncton), Nisk Imbeault (Visual Arts, Moncton), and Denis Lanteigne (Visual Arts, Caraquet).

The executive has remained stable, with Pierre McGraw (Chair), Gwyneth Wilbur (1st Vice Chair), Nathalie Cyr-Plourde (2nd Vice Chair), and Chet Wesley (Secretary Treasurer) continuing in their respective roles for another year.

BOARD ACTIVITIES

The June 2015 board meeting was held in the town of Caraquet. The fall board meeting and AGM were held in Fredericton. An emergency board meeting was held in Fredericton in February subsequent to the announcement on February 2, 2015, of \$400,000 in projected cuts to **artsnb**'s administration over two fiscal years: \$200,000 in FY 2016-2017 and \$200,000 in FY 2017-2018.

A request under the Right to Information and Protection of Privacy Act (RTIPPA) was filed in June 2015 to the Department of Tourism, Heritage and Culture, requesting data on a full decade of program budgets, jury procedures, criteria, and program results to help nourish a dialogue with government on how to improve programming structure and delivery in New Brunswick. In October 2015 the results were received and Dr. Gattinger of the University of Ottawa was commissioned to prepare an independent, cross-jurisdictional assessment of public arts funding in New Brunswick. The report was presented bilingually on February 26 in an open forum at Centre communautaire Sainte-Anne in Fredericton, NB.

artsnb and the New Brunswick Foundation for the Arts (NBFA) are working towards an agreement to work closely together to develop a more robust private funding envelope that will complement the public funding already delivered through **artsnb**. The Executive Director will report to the boards of both **artsnb** and the NBFA. Two members of each board will have observational status at the other's board meetings, and these four plus the Executive Director will form a bilateral committee that will provide direction on funding delivery.

EXECUTIVE

The executive committee met several times during the year. Pierre McGraw attended the Canadian Public Arts Funders (CPAF) annual general meeting in Yellowknife, NWT, in November.

FINANCE

FY 2015-2016 ended with a deficit of \$30,396.21.

PROGRAMS

Funds for **artsnb**'s programs are awarded through juries of professional artists. During the past year, a total of 85 jurors took part in 33 juries in our board offices, across the province, and via teleconference.

Jury breakdown for 2015-2016:

- Creation: 2 deadlines x 8 discipline-specific juries = 16 juries
- Documentation: 2 deadlines (2 multidisciplinary juries)
- Lieutenant-Governor's Awards: 3 discipline-specific juries



- Aboriginal Arts Capacity Building: 1 multidisciplinary jury
- Arts Infrastructure: 1 multidisciplinary jury
- Artist-in-Residence and Creative Residencies: 1 multidisciplinary jury
- Arts Scholarships: 1 multidisciplinary jury
- Career Development: 8 deadlines (8 multidisciplinary juries)

The Creation program and Lieutenant-Governor's Awards continue to be juried in a by-discipline, peer-reviewed format, while **artsnb**'s remaining programs function with multidisciplinary juries. The Board would like to thank all jurors for their dedication to the peer-review system.

LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR'S AWARDS

The seventh year of the Lieutenant-Governor's Awards for High Achievement in the Arts was a great success. Three \$20,000 prizes were awarded to Jacques Savoie of Saint-Lambert, QC, for French Language Literary Arts; Jules Boudreau of Maisonneuve, NB for Performing Arts; and Thaddeus Holownia of Joliette, NB for Visual Arts. These awards honour artists who have achieved a high level of professional excellence in their artistic discipline in New Brunswick. **artsnb** would like to thank the Honourable Jocelyne Roy Vienneau and her hard-working staff for making the gala a memorable event.

OPERATIONS

Aboriginal outreach activities in partnership with the Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI) continued for a third year, raising the number of Indigenous artists with whom **artsnb** has contact to over 250, and we offered workshops in Digital Literacy, Marketing, Business Basics for Artists (partnered with Ignite Fredericton), Networking, and Career Planning. A gathering for Aboriginal artists took place in Elsipogtog First Nation.

The **artsnb** Commission on Cultural Diversity was convened for three meetings, and a final report was prepared with short-term and long-term recommendations for measures to increase the amount of publicly supported, culturally diverse artistic production. The meetings were attended by culturally diverse artists from several disciplines and all regions in the province, along with representatives of multicultural associations from across the province. Presentations on existing programs at the national and provincial levels were made by Canada Council for the Arts, Canadian Heritage, the Department of Tourism, Heritage and Culture (NB), **artsnb**, and the Sheila Hugh Mackay Foundation.

Creative Aging workshops continued through a partnership with the Atlantic Institute on Aging, including a workshop series on narrative gerontology at St. Thomas University (40 participants), a workshop on theatre and music in Miramichi (20 participants), and another on dance and voice in Moncton (12 participants). The goal is to pilot a series of innovative workshops that demonstrate the health and wellness value of Creative Aging workshops run by professional artists for the growing demographic of elders in New Brunswick.

Program Officers Joss Richer and Kristen Atkins attended a CPAF discipline-specific meeting on media arts in St. John's in September, and Communications Specialist Nathalie Rayne and Executive Director Akou Connell attended a professional development meeting on strategic communications in Ottawa in June. Kristen Atkins attended a professional development meeting on research and impact in Toronto in March.

This was a big year for social media and **artsnb**'s new blog. The blog content expanded to include entries from individual artists and arts organizations in New Brunswick on a diverse range of topics, from residencies and projects to challenges with



border crossings. We set record engagement levels on Facebook with the announcement of the cuts to **artsnb**, with our page reaching over 56,000 individuals on the day of the announcement. The number of page likes on the **artsnb** Facebook page spiked, and engagement levels on our social media platforms are now running at a consistently higher level.

Considerable effort goes into producing the annual report, running workshops, consulting with clients, convening stakeholders, liaising with partners, reviewing program criteria and processes, hosting the Lieutenant-Governor's Awards, and keeping **artsnb**'s office and programs running smoothly. The dedication of **artsnb**'s employees cannot be overstated. Thank you all for your commitment.

Tri-annual meetings between **artsnb**, AAAPNB, and ArtsLink were initiated to ensure greater strategic alignment in professional development programming and more open communication between the organizations.

YEAR 3 OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN

This past year marked year 3 of the execution of **artsnb**'s Strategic Plan. The Action Plan items accomplished in FY 2015-2016 include:

Partnership and Resources

- \$200,000 in new funding for **artsnb** programs was secured in 2015, increasing the reach and impact of arts investment for New Brunswickers.
- Aboriginal outreach continued through a JEDI grant and new collaborations with Ignite Fredericton.
- An agreement was signed between **artsnb** and the NBFA to bolster the growth and improve delivery of private funds to complement public funding and build a more resilient arts funding ecosystem for New Brunswick.
- Atlantic Public Arts Funders (APAF) affiliates—**artsnb**, ArtsNL, ArtsNS, and PEICA—and the Canada Council for the Arts are working towards a second Petapan: First Light Indigenous Arts Symposium at the Dieppe Arts and Culture Centre in Dieppe, NB, from June 16 to 19, 2016.
- Sheila Hugh Mackay Foundation partnered with us for a second year, offering an International Creative Residency grant for visual artists.
- We are in our second year of our MOU for Creative Residency exchanges with the Manitoba Arts Council (MAC) and the Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec (CALQ). The MOUs secure a mutual investment for each jurisdiction for three years.

Capacity Building

- **artsnb** continued its participation in the Cultural Human Resources Development roundtable discussions. The Executive Director of **artsnb** also sat on the nominations committee to establish a board for the new resulting organization, Culture Plus.
- In June we met with Minister Ed Doherty of Aboriginal Affairs to discuss resources needed to continue building upon the momentum of outreach with Indigenous artists through the **artsnb**/JEDI partnership.
- An application was successfully submitted to Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour (PETL) for a Labour Market Research and Analysis grant to build a program for a series of intensive creative capacity workshops in six artistic disciplines for Indigenous artists. An agreement was signed on March 31, 2015, for the amount of \$166,000, which will cover the costs of a facilitator and the workshops from April 2016 to March 2018. Reports will be submitted every six months.



- Aboriginal outreach workshops in FY 2015-2016 included:
 - Digital Literacy (six weeks, in partnership with JEDI)
 - The Art of Managing Your Career
 - Networking Skills for Artists
 - Business Basics for Artists (in partnership with Ignite Fredericton)
 - Marketing for Artists
 - Taxes for Artists workshop was held in early February 2016 in Saint John.
 - Work continues towards Status of the Artist legislation.

Relevant Programming

- The Aboriginal Arts Capacity Building program and the Arts Infrastructure program are under review by the Programs and Juries committee, now that their second cycle is complete. Feedback from jurors, applicants, and the Circle of Elders are integral to the committee review process.
- In the Arts Infrastructure program, a new criterion linking the grant proposal to an artistic project has been implemented.
- The Aboriginal Arts Capacity Building program will be renamed the “Equinox program” in FY 2016-2017. Language in the program will change from “Aboriginal” to “Indigenous.” The application forms have been streamlined for ease of use.
- Subsequent to evaluation of statistics on application and success rates across all programs, the Programs and Juries committee initiated a criterion change for the Creation program of a cap of four grants at the mid-career (B) level before artists begin applying at the experienced (A) level. Notification letters were sent to a handful of artists affected by the change. This change ensures that each granting category offers a fair and level playing field for those competing for grants. A cap has been long-standing at the emerging (C) level.
- Due to untenable operations procedures, we returned to requiring a fresh application for Lieutenant-Governor’s Awards each time a new competition commences.

Engagement

- Trilevel meetings in October 2015, February 2016, and March 2016.
- Discipline-specific stakeholder meetings (visual arts, fine craft, literary arts).
- Stakeholder meetings for developing Aboriginal curator internship opportunities in New Brunswick’s galleries and museums.
- Stakeholder meetings in literary arts.
- Continued work with the Youth Advisory Commission.
- Circle of Elders meetings.
- Meetings with Ignite Fredericton, the Atlantic Institute on Aging, Planet Hatch, East Coast Startup Week committee, Culture Connect committee, etc.
- Continued public awareness messaging via social media, the **artsnb** blog, and traditional media on the value of arts and culture to NB society and the economy.



Equity

- **artsnb** Commission on Cultural Diversity (three meetings) offered the opportunity for diverse stakeholders to gain a deeper understanding of the context for existing programs, the breadth of programs offered provincially and nationally, and the opportunity for improving access to existing programs or developing new programs to ensure greater diversity of cultural self-expression in New Brunswick.
- **artsnb** Circle of Elders.
- Stakeholder meetings for developing Aboriginal curator internship opportunities in New Brunswick's galleries and museums.
- "A Warm Welcome" community campaign to welcome Syrian refugees through knitted, sewn, and quilted goods, partnering with the Fredericton Public Library, Yarns on York, the Atlantic Institute on Aging, Ignite Fredericton, and the Multicultural Association of Fredericton.
- Partnership with the Atlantic Institute on Aging on the following Creative Aging workshops series:
 - Understanding Our Stories in Fredericton (Discipline: literary arts/narrative gerontology. A series of three workshops in partnership with St. Thomas University's Gerontology Department. Facilitator: Deborah Carr)
 - Sing Out in Miramichi (Disciplines: music/theatre. Facilitators: Elizabeth and Glenn Copeland)
 - Creative Aging and Dance in Moncton (Discipline: dance. Facilitators: Lee Saunders and Jalianne Li)

ACTION PLAN 2016-2017

To achieve the goals outlined in the Strategic Plan, **artsnb** will undertake the following actions and strategies in FY 2016-2017:

GOAL A: PARTNERSHIP AND RESOURCES

- Secure new financial resources for **artsnb** to continue delivering programs and services in the arm's-length model, fulfilling its legislated mandate.
- Finalize an agreement between **artsnb** and the New Brunswick Foundation for the Arts (NBFA) to use one joint administration (**artsnb**'s) to run both boards and facilitate the leveraging of private funds to complement existing public funds through a joint peer-juried administration framework (**artsnb**'s).
- Secure resources to hire one full-time fundraiser to focus on developing and maintaining relationships with private foundations and funders.
- Partner with the Department of Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour (PETL) through a Labour Market Research and Analysis grant (\$166,000 over two years, FY 2016-2017 and FY 2017-2018) to deliver six discipline-specific, intensive, creative capacity building workshops for Indigenous artists.
- Atlantic Public Arts Funders partnership: Ensure that the Petapan: First Light Indigenous Arts Symposium takes place in Dieppe, NB, June 16-19, 2016. **artsnb** staff will help run the event.



GOAL B: CAPACITY BUILDING

- Partner with PETL through a Labour Market Research and Analysis grant (\$166,000 over two years, FY 2016-2017 and FY 2017-2018) to deliver six discipline-specific, intensive, creative capacity building workshops for Indigenous artists.
- Facilitate the Petapan: First Light Indigenous Arts Symposium, taking place in Dieppe, NB, June 16-19, 2016.

GOAL C: RELEVANT PROGRAMMING

- Complete the digital transition—all program applications go live online. Complete reporting module to improve **artsnb**'s capacity for data analysis to inform decisions on program delivery.
- Review the Aboriginal Arts Capacity Building program and the Arts Infrastructure program.
- Work with the Government of New Brunswick to ensure the most cost-effective, democratic, transparent, and accountable program delivery system is in place for the arts and culture sector.
- Review programs in conjunction with changes at the Canada Council.

GOAL D: ENGAGEMENT

With the \$200,000 cut in funding to **artsnb** this year, all available budgets for public engagement activities (attending meetings, conferences, and symposia; developing partnerships; delivering workshops, participating in consultations and stakeholder meetings, etc.) outside Fredericton are on hold.

GOAL E: EQUITY

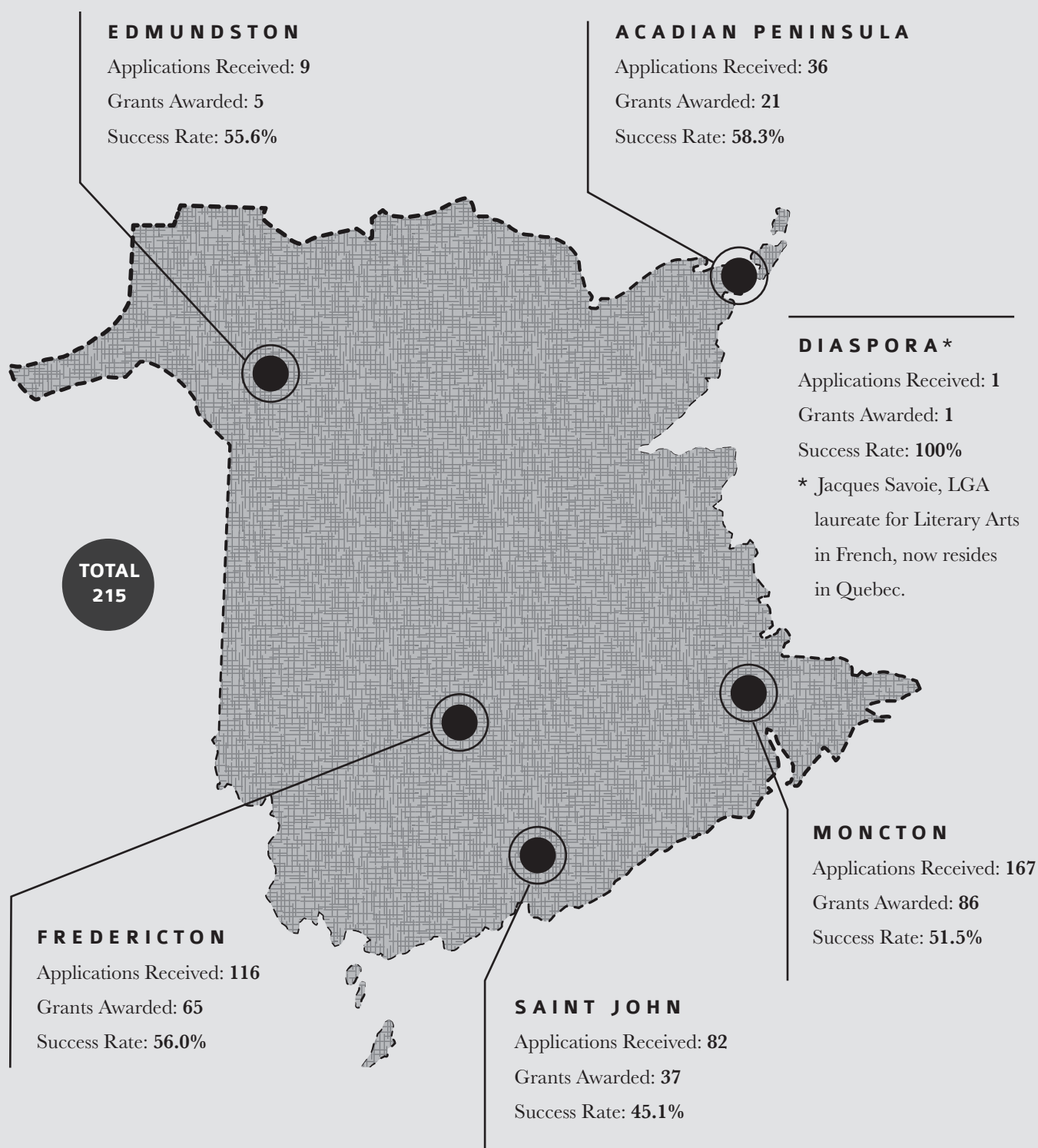
- Study best practices in equity programming delivery across Canada and abroad.
- Partner with PETL through a Labour Market Research and Analysis grant (\$166,000 over two years, FY 2016-2017 and FY 2017-2018) to deliver six discipline-specific, intensive, creative capacity building workshops for Indigenous artists.
- With the \$200,000 cut in funding to **artsnb** this year, all equity outreach initiatives with culturally diverse groups, LGBTQ, the deaf and disabled, etc. are on hold.



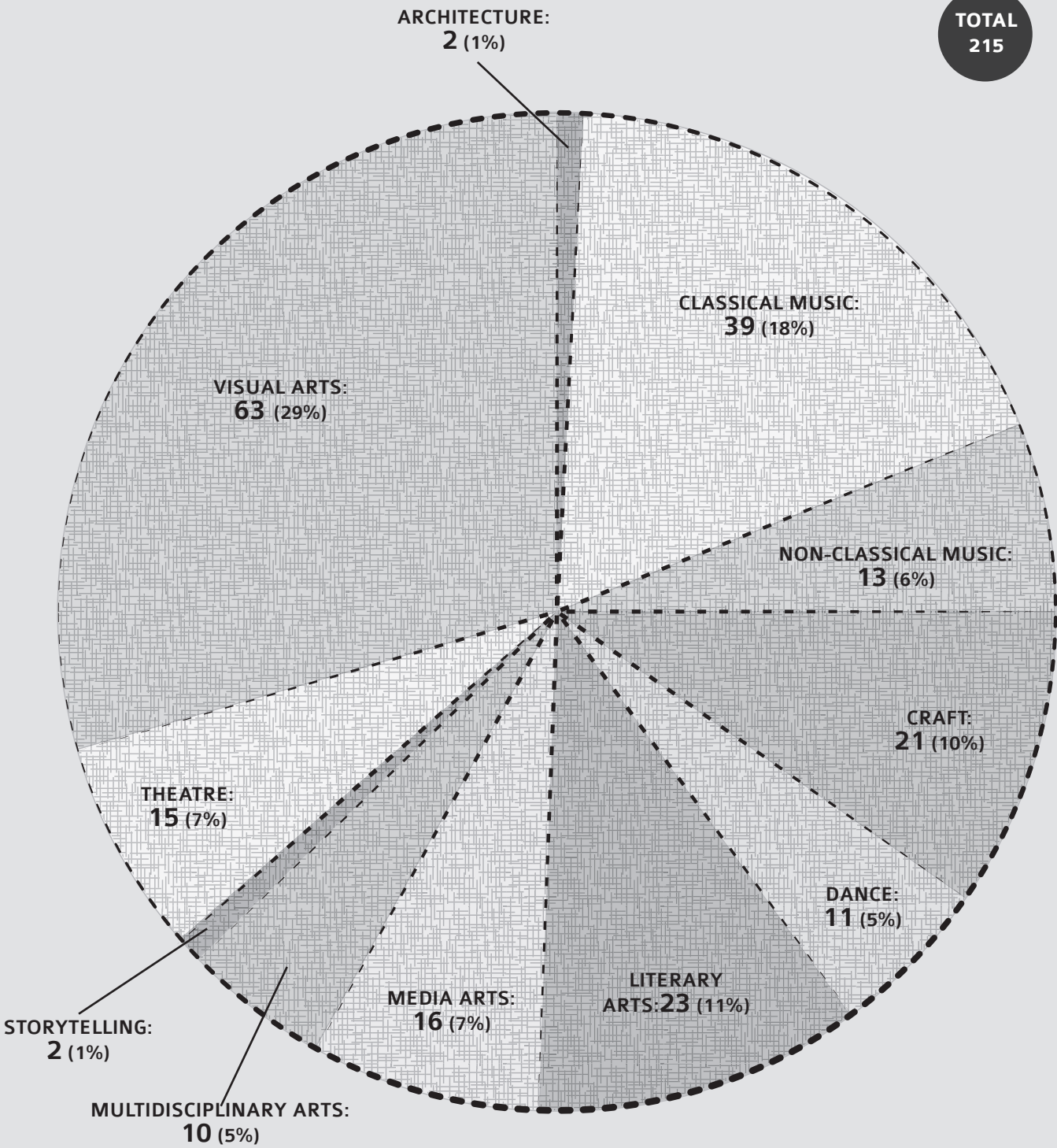
REPORT ON PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

APPLICATION AND SUCCESS RATES BY REGION 2015-2016

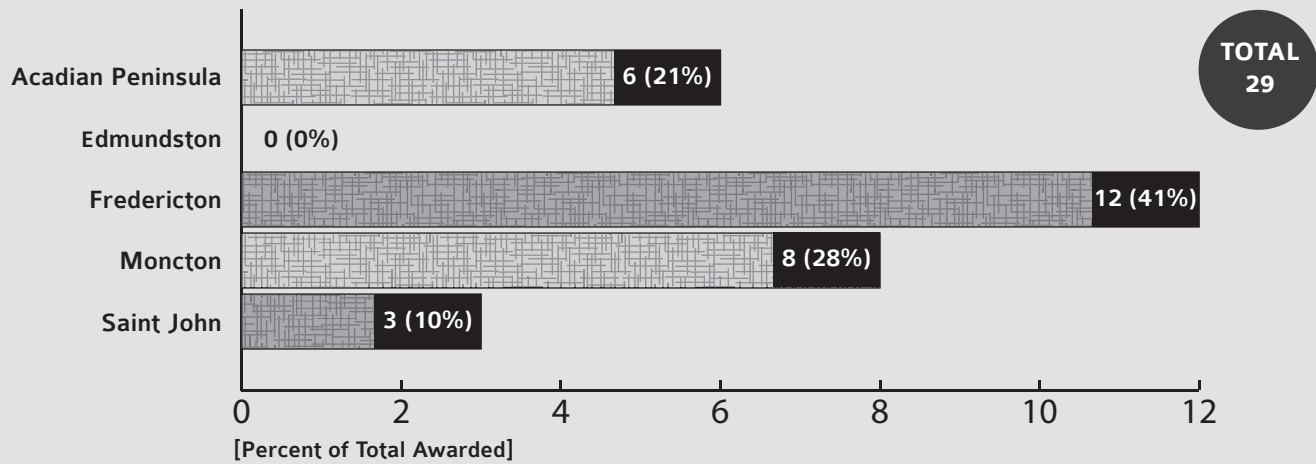
Total Applications Received: 411 | Grants Awarded: 215 | Success Rate: 52.4%



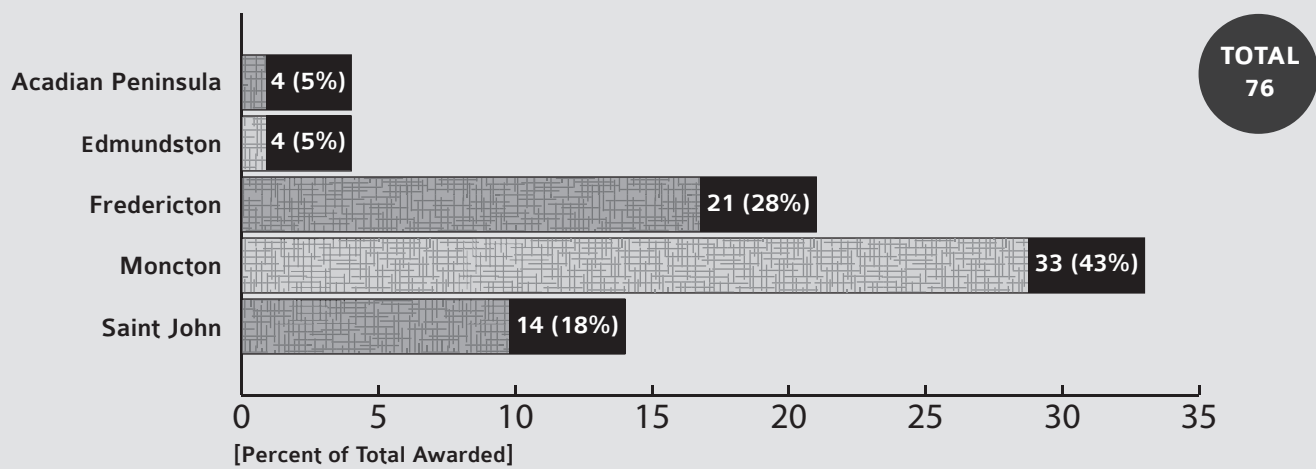
GRANTS BY DISCIPLINE 2015-2016



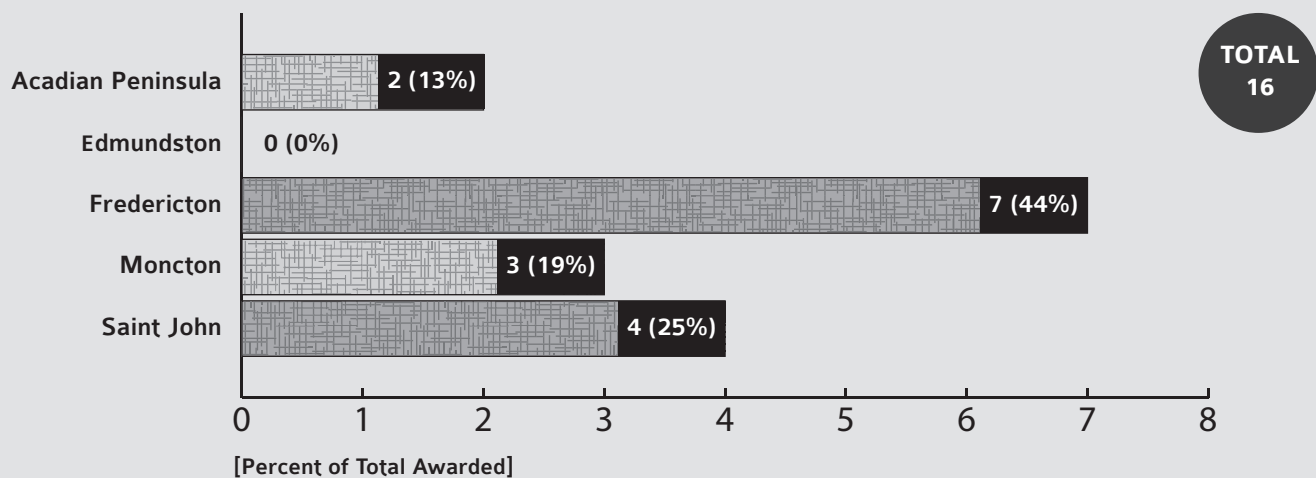
ARTS SCHOLARSHIPS BY REGION 2015-2016



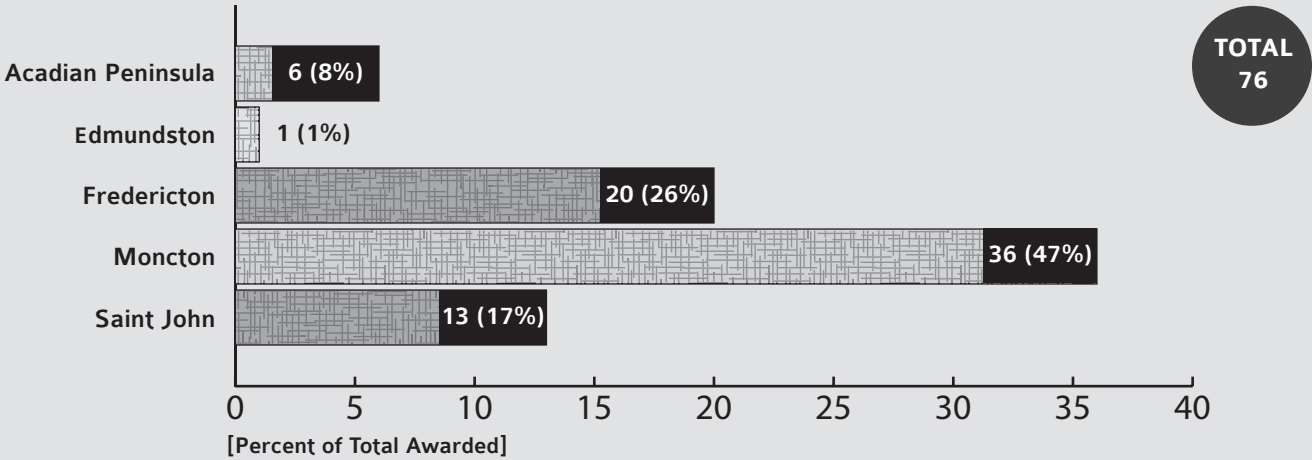
CREATION AND DOCUMENTATION GRANTS BY REGION 2015-2016



ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE GRANTS BY REGION 2015-2016



CAREER DEVELOPMENT GRANTS BY REGION 2015-2016



GRANTS TO ARTISTS

Year	Applications Received	Total Grants	Success Rate	Total Funds
2015-2016	411	215	52.4%	\$950,000 ¹
2014-2015	518	188	36.3%	\$910,000 ²
2013-2014	447	159	35.6%	\$650,000
2012-2013	417	157	37.6%	\$671,000
2011-2012	430	154	35.8%	\$763,562
2010-2011	364	172	47.3%	\$777,258
2009-2010	472	220	46.6%	\$923,675
2008-2009	363	185	51.0%	\$648,080
2007-2008	393	197	50.1%	\$831,377
2006-2007	418	181	43.3%	\$702,528
2005-2006	428	190	44.4%	\$706,350
2004-2005	397	168	42.3%	\$708,971

¹ Includes \$10,000 from Sheila Hugh Mackay Foundation

² Includes \$10,000 from Sheila Hugh Mackay Foundation and \$10,000 in additional funding from the Department of Tourism, Heritage & Culture for PanAm Games grants.

RESULTS OF COMPETITIONS 2015-2016

CREATION—A CATEGORY

(April 1, 2015)

\$74,992**CRAFT**

Alanna Baird, St. Andrews | \$13,380

Anna Torma, Baie Verte | \$13,380

LITERARY ARTS

Krista V. Johansen, Sackville | \$13,380

Valerie Sherrard, Miramichi | \$13,380

VISUAL ARTS

Joël Boudreau, Saint-Simon | \$13,380

Robin Peck, Fredericton | \$8,092

(October 1, 2015)

\$72,128**CLASSICAL MUSIC**

Sally Dibblee, Fredericton | \$7,550

David Rogosin, Sackville | \$5,100

MEDIA ARTS

Pamela Gallant, Moncton | \$15,000

MULTIDISCIPLINARY ARTS

Jean-Denis Boudreau, Moncton

| \$15,000

Amanda Dawn Christie, Moncton

| \$15,000

VISUAL ARTS

Janice Wright-Cheney, Fredericton

| \$14,478

CREATION—B CATEGORY

(April 1, 2015)

\$130,474**CLASSICAL MUSIC**

Nadia Francavilla, Fredericton

| \$8,000

Christie Goodwin, Dieppe | \$7,420

DANCE

Marcia Dysart, Saint John | \$2,623

Sarah Power, Saint John | \$9,110

LITERARY ARTS

Allan Cooper, Alma | \$9,900

Sharon McCartney, Fredericton

| \$9,650

Jane Tims, Rusagonis | \$4,900

MEDIA ARTS

Jillian Acreman, Fredericton | \$4,500

Tara Audibert, Sunny Corner | \$6,500

Fonya Irvine, Island View | \$3,469

MULTIDISCIPLINARY ARTS

Nelson Milley, New Maryland | \$5,867

NON-CLASSICAL MUSIC

Ross Neilsen, Fredericton | \$4,000

Samantha Robichaud, Riverview

| \$5,860

VISUAL ARTS

Jaret Belliveau, Moncton | \$10,000

Marjolaine Bourgeois, Moncton

| \$6,225

Denis Lanteigne, Caraquet | \$6,225

Mathieu Léger, Moncton | \$10,000

Christian Michaud, Edmundston

| \$10,000

Mary White, Fredericton | \$6,225

(October 1, 2015)

\$169,895.19**CLASSICAL MUSIC**

André Cormier, Moncton | \$9,500

Richard Gibson, Moncton | \$9,500

Martin Kutnowski, Fredericton

| \$5,607

CRAFT

Yolande Clark, Queenstown

| \$5,644.19

Darren Emenau, Saint John | \$9,925

LITERARY ARTS

M. Travis Lane, Fredericton | \$8,000

Jason Lawson, Main River | \$7,000

Christopher Paul, Sackville | \$8,809

MEDIA ARTS

Graeme Patterson, Sackville | \$10,000

Tara Wells, Sackville | \$10,000

MULTIDISCIPLINARY ARTS

Deanna Musgrave, Saint John | \$8,500

THEATRE

Mélanie Léger, Moncton | \$8,910

VISUAL ARTS

Ned Bear, Fredericton | \$10,000

Carol Collicutt, Fredericton | \$10,000

John Cushnie, Sussex | \$10,000

Carole Deveau, Moncton | \$10,000

Alexandrya Eaton, Sackville | \$10,000

Neil Rough, Edgetts Landing | \$10,000

Anne-Marie Sirois, Moncton | \$8,500

CREATION—C CATEGORY

(April 1, 2015)

\$45,500

CLASSICAL MUSIC

Jonathan Roy, Saint-Basile | \$4,000

CRAFT

Charline Collette, Campbellton

| \$5,000

Christopher Doiron, Blackville

| \$3,800

Allison Green, Fredericton | \$5,000

Philip Savage, Kingston | \$3,800

LITERARY ARTS

Riel Nason, Quispamsis | \$4,900

Suzanne Payne, Dieppe | \$2,000

THEATRE

Isabelle Bartkowiak, Moncton | \$3,500

Bianca Richard, Notre-Dame | \$3,500

VISUAL ARTS

Daniel MacDonald, Moncton | \$5,000

Fabiola Martinez Rodriguez,

Quispamsis | \$5,000

(October 1, 2015)

\$46,675

CLASSICAL MUSIC

Craig Lang, Rothesay | \$4,250

CRAFT

Katie Augustine, Fredericton | \$4,925

DANCE

Lou Poirier, Dieppe | \$4,000

LITERARY ARTS

Vanessa Moeller, Moncton | \$5,000

MULTIDISCIPLINARY ARTS

Sophia Bartholomew, Fredericton

| \$4,250

NON-CLASSICAL MUSIC

Hilary Anne Ladd, Saint John | \$4,250

VISUAL ARTS

Krista Gunn, Sackville | \$5,000

Dominik Robichaud, Moncton

| \$5,000

Susan Sacobie, Fredericton | \$5,000

Barbara Safran de Niverville,

Riverview | \$5,000

DOCUMENTATION

(April 1, 2015)

\$13,980

ARCHITECTURE

Stephen Kopp, Saint John | \$1,500

CLASSICAL MUSIC

Kevin Herring, Upper Kingsclear

| \$5,480

STORYTELLING

Marie-Hélène Morell, Grand Bay

Westfield | \$1,000

VISUAL ARTS

Christian Michaud, Edmundston

| \$6,000

(October 1, 2015)

\$7,000

VISUAL ARTS

John Leroux, Fredericton | \$7,000

THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR'S AWARDS FOR HIGH ACHIEVEMENT IN THE ARTS

(June 15, 2015)

\$60,000

VISUAL ARTS

Thaddeus Holownia, Sackville

| \$20,000

THEATRE

Jules Boudreau, Maisonnnette | \$20,000

LITERARY ARTS

Jacques Savoie, Saint-Lambert, QC

| \$20,000

ABORIGINAL ARTS CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAM

(November 15, 2015)

\$19,948

CRAFT

Sgoagani Mye Wecerisqon,

Burnt Church | \$4,948

NON-CLASSICAL MUSIC

Jonathan Dutcher, Fredericton

| \$5,000

STORYTELLING

Patricia Dunnett, Red Bank | \$5,000

VISUAL ARTS

Gina L. Brooks, Fredericton | \$5,000



**ARTS INFRASTRUCTURE
GRANTS FOR NEW &
EMERGING ARTISTS**

(November 15, 2015)

\$17,043.95**CLASSICAL MUSIC**

Craig Lang, Rothesay | \$2,500

LITERARY ARTS

Vanessa Moeller, Moncton | \$2,500

MEDIA ARTS

Todd Fraser, Moncton | \$2,500

Robert Parsons, Saint John | \$2,500

VISUAL ARTSCatherine Constable, West Quaco
| \$2,500Marika Drolet-Ferguson, Tracadie-
Sheila | \$2,500Samantha Thebeau, Fredericton
| \$2,043.95
CREATIVE RESIDENCIES

(February 1, 2016)

Quebec Creative Residency**\$4,000****VISUAL ARTS**Élise Anne LaPlante, Moncton
| \$4,000
**Sheila Hugh Mackay
Foundation International
Creative Residency**
\$10,000**VISUAL ARTS**

Danielle Hogan, Fredericton | \$2,000

Mathieu Léger, Moncton | \$6,000

Nicholas Paul, Fredericton | \$2,000

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE

(February 1, 2016)

\$83,404.44**CLASSICAL MUSIC**University of New Brunswick, Centre
for Musical Arts, Fredericton | \$5,000University of New Brunswick,
Saint John | \$8,000**DANCE**Connection Dance Works, Saint John
| \$5,000Rondos Dance Theatre, Rothesay
| \$4,000**LITERARY ARTS**University of New Brunswick,
Dept. of English, Fredericton | \$8,000**MEDIA ARTS**University of New Brunswick, Media
Arts & Culture, Fredericton | \$3,000
**MULTIDISCIPLINARY
ARTS**

The Playhouse, Fredericton | \$5,000

St. Thomas University, Fredericton
| \$8,000**THEATRE**Amis du Village historique acadien,
Bertrand | \$2,000

Live Bait Theatre, Sackville | \$4,000

NotaBle Acts Theatre Company,
Fredericton | \$5,000Theatre New Brunswick, Fredericton
| \$5,202.22Théâtre populaire d'Acadie, Caraquet
| \$8,202.22**VISUAL ARTS**Centre des arts et de la culture
de Dieppe | \$3,000Galerie d'art Louise-et-Reuben-Cohen,
Moncton | \$5,000Sunbury Shores Arts & Nature Centre,
St. Andrews | \$5,000
ARTS SCHOLARSHIPS

(February 1, 2016)

\$69,500**CLASSICAL MUSIC**

David Cooper, Fredericton | \$2,500

Matthieu Deveau, Fredericton | \$2,500

Amélie Doucet, Tétagouche-Nord
| \$2,500

Justin Doucet, Beresford | \$2,500

Naomi Ford, Riverview | \$1,000

Martine Jomphe, Hanwell | \$2,500

MinJoo Kim, Quispamsis | \$2,500

Thomas Nicholson, Lincoln | \$2,500

Phoebe Robertson, Sackville | \$2,500

Ariane Saulnier, Beresford | \$2,500

DANCE

Samuel Black, Yoho | \$2,500

Roxanne Dupuis, Moncton | \$2,500

Karine Martin, Dieppe | \$2,500

Catherine Parlee, Dieppe | \$2,500

Hannah Young, Bathurst | \$2,500

LITERARY ARTS

Jenna Lyn Albert, Fredericton | \$2,500

Erica Jomphe, Hanwell | \$2,500

MEDIA ARTS

Ryan O'Toole, Fredericton | \$2,500

NON-CLASSICAL MUSICMyriam Arseneau, Saint-Laurent
| \$2,500

Zachary Greer, Woodstock | \$1,000

Jorian Hapeman, Fredericton | \$2,500

Éric Maillet, Moncton | \$2,500

THEATRE

Crystal Lee Chettiar, Bathurst | \$2,500

Claudie Landry, Moncton | \$2,500

VISUAL ARTS

Laura Bonga, Saint John | \$2,500
Christopher Donovan, Hampton
| \$2,500
Hailey Guzik, Sackville | \$2,500
Holly Knowles-Peril, Gagetown
| \$2,500
Jennifer MacLeod, Fredericton
| \$2,500

CAREER DEVELOPMENT

(8 deadlines per year)

Arts by Invitation

\$60,085.79

ARCHITECTURE

Monica Adair, Saint John | \$1,087.16

CLASSICAL MUSIC

Karin Aurell, Sackville | \$1,180
Michel Cardin, Riverview | \$1,000
André Cormier, Moncton | \$1,800
Deantha Edmunds, Quispamsis
| \$2,000
Carl Philippe Gionet, Caraquet
| \$2,000
Yvonne Kershaw, Hanwell | \$1,427.90
Christopher Lane, Saint John | \$1,700
Linda Pearse, Midgic | \$2,000

CRAFT

Danielle Hogan, Fredericton | \$957.28
Isabelle Lafargue, Dieppe | \$1,530.30
Gudrun Pach, Ratter Corner | \$1,980
Joachim Pach, Ratter Corner | \$1,980
Geof Ramsay, Saint John | \$1,534.03
Anna Torma, Baie-Verte | \$2,000

DANCE

Lesandra Dodson, Fredericton | \$1,200

LITERARY ARTS

Joe Blades, Fredericton | \$2,000
Édith Bourget, Saint-Jacques | \$1,775

Elizabeth Copeland, Oak Point
| \$1,520

Mark Jarman, Fredericton | \$1,832.54
Dominic Langlois, Moncton | \$700
Diane Carmel Léger, Dieppe | \$1,157

MEDIA ARTS

Jarrod Hachey, Saint John | \$2,000
Ryan O'Toole, Fredericton | \$2,000
Neil Rough, Edgetts Landing | \$900

MULTIDISCIPLINARY ARTS

Sophia Bartholomew, Fredericton
| \$2,000
Chris Leblanc, Tracadie-Sheila
| \$1,017.80

NON-CLASSICAL MUSIC

Sandra Le Couteur, Pointe-Alexandre
| \$2,000
Brittany McEachern, Fredericton
| \$2,000
Apryll Stansfield, Rothesay | \$1,610.16

THEATRE

Bianca Richard, Notre-Dame | \$1,000

VISUAL ARTS

Eugenia Dietrich, Douglas | \$1,575
Frédéric Gayer, Moncton | \$1,171
Mark Igoliorte, Sackville | \$2,000
Mathieu Léger, Moncton | \$1,091.26
Jennifer-Lynn McInnis-Wharton,
Fredericton | \$1,803.36

Jerry Ropson, Sackville | \$825
Robert A. Van de Peer, St. Andrews
| \$1,599
Janice Wright-Cheney, Fredericton
| \$1,132

Artist in Residence

\$39,300.94

CLASSICAL MUSIC

Martin Kutnowski, Fredericton
| \$1,000

Robin Streb, Moncton | \$1,750

MEDIA ARTS

Amanda Dawn Christie, Moncton
| \$3,875

MULTIDISCIPLINARY ARTS

Sophia Bartholomew, Fredericton
| \$9,000

THEATRE

Lisa Anne Ross, Fredericton | \$2,500

VISUAL ARTS

Mario Doucette, Moncton | \$4,000
Julie Forgues, Moncton | \$4,000
Alex Francheville, Moncton | \$2,000
Mathieu Léger, Moncton | \$6,560
Robert Morouney, Otter Creek
| \$1,366
Barbara Safran de Niverville,
Riverview | \$3,249.94

Professional Development

\$13,696

CLASSICAL MUSIC

Yvonne Kershaw, Hanwell | \$1,000
Emily Logan, Riverview | \$1,000
Julie Rochus, Moncton | \$1,000

CRAFT

Bronwyn Gallagher, Gagetown
| \$1,000
Marie-Claude Hébert, Stilesville
| \$680
Isabelle Lafargue, Dieppe | \$1,000
Shoshanna Wingate, Sackville | \$1,000

LITERARY ARTS

Kelly Cooper, Belleisle Creek | \$1,000

MEDIA ARTS

Todd Fraser, Moncton | \$1,000
Daniel Greenwood, Moncton | \$1,000

THEATRE

Alyssa Pellerin-Boudreau, Nigadoo
| \$1,000

VISUAL ARTS

Christopher Harding, Fredericton
| \$1,000
Dominik Robichaud, Moncton
| \$2,016

Professionalization & Promotion

\$11,776.70

CLASSICAL MUSIC

David Adams, Saint John | \$1,000
André Cormier, Moncton | \$1,000
Martin Kutnowski, Fredericton | \$884

CRAFT

Isabelle Lafargue, Dieppe | \$1,000

NON-CLASSICAL MUSIC

Chris Colepaugh, Riverview | \$1,000
Evan Leblanc, Fredericton | \$1,000

VISUAL ARTS

Jared Betts, Moncton | \$1,000
Jean-Denis Boudreau, Moncton
| \$1,000
Joël Boudreau, Saint-Simon | \$1,000
Sarah Jones, Saint John | \$892.70
Denis Lanteigne, Caraquet | \$1,000
Ann Manuel, Fredericton | \$1,000

JURY MEMBERS 2015-2016

David Adams
Shari Andrews
Tammy Armstrong
Karin Aurell
Anne Babin
Jean Babineau
Alanna Baird
John C. Ball
Kashena Bartlett
Joe Blades
Paul Bossé
Édith Bourget
Dolores Breau
Rebecca Burke
Chantal Cadieux
Marie Cadieux
Greg Charlton
Herménégilde Chiasson
Germaine Comeau
Anne Compton
Elizabeth Copeland
Kyle Cunjak
Daphne Curtis
Margot Dionne
Mario Doucette
Daniel Dugas
Deantha Edmunds
Darren Emenau
François Émond

Len Falkenstein
Hubert Francis
Raymond Fraser
Leah Garnett
Chris Giles
Phyllis Grant
Emma Haché
Lloyd Hanson
Hélène Harbec
Bonny Hill
Thomas Hodd
Victoria Hutt
Yvonne Kershaw
Katherine Kilfoil
Ludmila Knezkova-Hussey
Stephanie Labilloy
Denis Lanteigne
Dyane Léger
Mélanie F. Léger
Vicky Lentz
Ian LeTourneau
Kathy-Diane Leveille
Anika Lirette
Roger Lord
Sandy MacKay
Peter Manchester
Tony Merzetti
Andrew Miller
Alain Mongeau

Solomon Nagler
Annie France Noël
Graeme Patterson
Leonard Paul
Kisuh's Perley
David Pressault
Evan Rensch
Denise Richard
Renée Rioux
Camilien Roy
Isabelle Roy
Craig Schneider
Ken Schwartz
Julie Scriver
Swan Serna
Helen Stanley
Dan Steeves
Stefan St-Laurent
Eric Stotts
Carol Taylor
Ron Tremblay
Anne Troake
Marie-Reine Ulmer
Ann Verrall
Becka Viau
D'Arcy Wilson
Pauline Young

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT 2015-2016

To the New Brunswick Arts Board:

I have audited the accompanying financial statements of **New Brunswick Arts Board**, which comprise the Statement of Financial Position as at March 31, 2016, and the Statement of Operations and Changes in Net Assets and Statement of Cash Flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian Accounting Standards for Not-for-Profit Organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit. I conducted my audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that I comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

Opinion

In my opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Board as at March 31, 2016 and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian Accounting Standards for Not-for-Profit Organizations.

W. Jeff Standring
Chartered Professional Accountant
June 21, 2016

2015-2016 ANNUAL REPORT



STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
MARCH 31, 2016

	2016	2015
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Cash and temporary investments	\$ 355,072	\$ 441,629
Receivables	23,224	55,175
Prepaid expenses	<u>3,200</u>	<u>3,200</u>
	<u>\$ 381,496</u>	<u>\$ 500,004</u>
LIABILITIES		
Current liabilities		
Trade payables and accrued liabilities	\$ 11,793	\$ 17,359
Employee deductions	8,416	8,854
Grants and scholarships payable	<u>325,770</u>	<u>407,878</u>
	345,979	434,091
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted net assets	<u>35,517</u>	<u>65,913</u>
	<u>\$ 381,496</u>	<u>\$ 500,004</u>
Commitments (Note 3)		

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGES IN NET
ASSETS YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2016

	2016	2015
Revenue		
Annual allocation	\$ 700,000	\$ 700,000
Tourism, Heritage and Culture	730,325	691,325
Book policy	45,000	45,000
Other grants and contributions	18,744	26,421
Grants recovered	15,964	10,600
Interest earned	3,521	7,335
Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI)	27,250	34,906
Atlantic Public Art Funders (APAF)	<u>0</u>	<u>172,399</u>
	<u>1,540,804</u>	<u>1,687,986</u>
Expenditures		
Administration (Note 5)	203,701	181,105
Chairperson (Note 6)	6,073	5,130
Board and committee (Note 7)	18,934	19,042
Lieutenant-Governor's Awards gala	9,556	12,541
Grants and scholarships	950,000	910,000
Services (Note 8)	48,352	28,794
Other	11,273	19,681
Salaries and benefits	290,391	301,455
Special initiatives	5,670	4,560
JEDI	27,250	34,906
APAF	<u>0</u>	<u>172,399</u>
	<u>1,571,200</u>	<u>1,689,613</u>
Excess of Revenue (Expenditures)	(30,396)	(1,627)
Net assets, beginning of year	<u>65,913</u>	<u>67,540</u>
Net assets, end of year	<u>\$ 35,517</u>	<u>\$ 65,913</u>

See accompanying notes to the financial statements



STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2016

	2016	2015
Cash provided by (used in)		
Operations		
Excess of revenue (expenditures)	\$ (30,396)	\$ (1,627)
Change in non-cash working capital balances:		
Decrease (increase) in receivables	31,951	6,074
Increase (decrease) in payables	(6,004)	(4,027)
Increase (decrease) in grants and scholarships payable	(82,108)	134,052
Increase (decrease) in deferred revenue	<u>0</u>	<u>(31,474)</u>
Increase (decrease) in cash	(86,557)	102,998
Cash and temporary investments beginning of year	<u>441,629</u>	<u>338,631</u>
Cash and temporary investments end of year	<u>\$ 355,072</u>	<u>\$ 441,629</u>

See accompanying notes to the financial statements

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
MARCH 31, 2016

1. Nature of Operations

The New Brunswick Arts Board was a branch of the New Brunswick government until January 2000. At this time, the Board became an arm's length agency. The purpose of the Board is to provide grants and scholarships to qualifying individuals and organizations to enable them to perform various art functions. It is exempt from corporate taxes under paragraph 149(1)(1) of the Income Tax Act.

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The financial statements were prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations in Part III of the CICA Handbook and include the following significant accounting policies:

Capital assets

Capital assets are recorded as expenses in the year they are acquired.

Revenue recognition and expenditures

The Board follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions. Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenditures are incurred. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

Unrestricted investment income is recognized as revenue when earned.

Expenditures are recorded using the accrual basis of accounting.

Use of estimates

Under Canadian Generally Accepted Accounting Principles management is required to make estimates and assumptions to prepare financial statements. These estimates are based on management's best knowledge of current events and actions that the Board may undertake in the future. These estimates and assumptions may affect the amount of assets and liabilities presented as at the reporting date and the reported amount of revenue and expenses during the fiscal period. Actual results may be different from the estimates and assumptions used.



NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

MARCH 31, 2016 (cont.)

Cash and temporary investments

Included in cash and temporary investments is cash on hand, balances with banks and short-term investments in cashable Canadian money market funds.

3. Commitments

The Board leases premises located at 649 Queen Street, Fredericton. The lease, which is being accounted for as an operating lease, has future minimum payments until June 2018 approximately as follows:

Fiscal year ending:

2017 \$39,000

2018 40,000

The Board has a rented photocopier with a minimum annual rental of \$3,400.

4. Financial Instruments

The Board's financial instruments consist of cash, temporary investments, receivables, trade and grants payable.

The Board initially measures its financial assets and financial liabilities at fair value. The fair value of these financial instruments approximates carrying value due to their liquidity and short-term maturities. It subsequently measures all its financial assets and financial liabilities at amortized cost.

The financial assets subsequently measured at amortized cost include cash, temporary investments and receivables. The financial liabilities measured at amortized cost include trade and grants payable.

It is management's opinion that the Board is not exposed to significant interest or credit risk arising from these financial instruments because of their liquidity and HST receivable.

2016

2015

5. Administrative Expenses

Accounting	\$ 22,735	\$ 13,311
Communications and public awareness	32,126	38,305
General expenses	96,687	84,695
Interest and bank charges	1,061	1,225
Professional fees	21,792	14,455
Translation and interpretation	2,059	1,075
Travel	27,241	28,039
	<u>\$ 203,701</u>	<u>\$ 181,105</u>

6. Chairperson Expenses

Honorarium	\$ 1,750	\$ 1,000
Other	0	438
Travel	4,323	3,692
	<u>\$ 6,073</u>	<u>\$ 5,130</u>

7. Board and Committee Expenses

Honorarium	\$ 4,400	\$ 4,542
Other	2,600	3,470
Translation and interpretation	2,148	3,937
Travel	9,786	7,093
	<u>\$ 18,934</u>	<u>\$ 19,042</u>

8. Services

Juries	\$ 44,324	\$ 25,343
Circle of Elders	4,028	2,898
Youth Commission	0	553
	<u>\$ 48,352</u>	<u>\$ 28,794</u>

9. Economic Dependence and Board Changes

The Board derives a significant portion of its revenue under funding arrangements with the Province of New Brunswick.

As of March 31, 2016 the Province has announced funding and operational changes that will impact the New Brunswick Arts Board.

BOARD MEMBERS 2015-2016

Bass-baritone **Pierre McGraw (Chair)** is a native of Pokemouche, NB. Pierre studied voice at the Université de Montréal and the Université de Moncton. He is often heard as a soloist with the Louisbourg Choir and La Mission Saint-Charles Choir as well as during the Sackville Early Music Festival and the Lamèque International Baroque Music Festival. In addition, Pierre is a contractual music teacher in public schools and singing teacher. Five years ago, Pierre became choirmaster for the Sormany Choir. He has acted as an adviser on the board of the Lamèque International Baroque Music Festival. He also has some opera roles to his credit.

Gwyneth Wilbur (1st Vice Chair), currently a resident of Charlotte County, has lived in Fredericton, Caraquet, and Montreal. It was in Montreal that she discovered her love of music and musical instrument making, and she proceeded to study violin making in Salt Lake City, Utah. She eventually returned to New Brunswick to attend the NB Craft School's Fretted Instrument Making Course. She rounded out her studies with a one-year apprenticeship with an Italian-trained luthier in Montreal. She returned to New Brunswick, where she still lives, in 1985 to start her own business as a luthier, working for musicians across Canada and the United States.

Nathalie Cyr-Plourde (2nd Vice Chair) lives in Edmundston, where she teaches third grade at the Carrefour de la Jeunesse. Having a father who is both a musician and a school principal who supports the arts in the school system, she was exposed at an early age to different elements of art. At age 16, she became particularly interested in dance. When still in university, Nathalie integrated into the competitive dance group The Main Street Dancers, of which she has been a member for the past 25 years. Today, she teaches and studies hip hop, jazz, contemporary, and lyrical styles. She is very involved in the arts in schools and in the production of community shows. She has also had the opportunity to represent her region at conventions and international competitions.

Chet Wesley (Secretary Treasurer) is Director of Marketing and Communications for the New Brunswick Innovation Foundation. There, Chet develops the creative and market strategy for NBIF and some of its portfolio companies and connects researchers with industry. Before joining the NBIF in 2007, Chet worked for Atlantic Mediaworks, where he co-produced the documentary *Success is a Journey*—on the worldwide history of McCain Foods—winner of the 2006 Canadian Public Relations Society's Award of Excellence. He has also worked as a writer for CBC Television, Report on Business Television, Canadian Business magazine, and Progress magazine and has lectured in finance and business communications at the University of New Brunswick.

Tim Borlase is currently Director of Moncton's Capitol School of Performing Arts, a bilingual theatre school for students of all ages. He serves on the board of the Canadian Conference of the Arts in Ottawa as Education Chairperson. Before he moved to New Brunswick, Tim lived in Labrador for 30 years, during which time he was Provincial President of the Association of Cultural Industries of Newfoundland and Labrador for several years. He was honoured to receive the Order of Newfoundland and Labrador and an honorary doctorate from Memorial University for his work in arts education. Tim is also the Vice Chair of the Greater Moncton Music Festival.



Léo Goguen is a registered architect and member of the Architects' Association of New Brunswick (AANB). Léo earned his master's degree in architecture at the University of Montreal and gained a diversified work experience within the same locale for reputable firms. Léo eventually returned home to Moncton and took a position within local firms, further diversifying his work experience. He has work experience in many fields including construction in harsh climates and isolated areas, urban design with municipalities, and project management. Léo is now a partner at Design Plus Architecture. He is greatly involved in his community, whether through his work at Design Plus or his time with several non-profits and boards.

Since 2010, **Nisk Imbeault** has been Director-Curator of the Galerie d'art Louise-et-Reuben-Cohen at the Université de Moncton. A 1996 graduate of the BFA program at the Université de Moncton, she went on to study history, philosophy, and art at the Université du Québec à Montréal. During her studies she worked with l'Atelier d'estampe Imago and for several years was with the Festival international du cinéma francophone en Acadie as a promotion and communications agent, an activities coordinator, then Deputy Director in charge of programming. She was Director of the Galerie Sans Nom from 2001 to 2011. She spends much of her time with various boards and committees helping to sustain artistic practices, including l'Association des groupes en arts visuels francophones (AGAVF), **artsnb**, the Aberdeen Cultural Centre, and the Public Art Advisory Committee for the City of Moncton.

Alex McGibbon studied art and design for two years under Ted Campbell and Fred Ross, from whom he learned many of his skills in portraiture. He taught art in the public schools of Fredericton for most of his 34-year teaching career, including 25 years at Fredericton High School. Alex was instrumental in shaping the high school visual arts curriculum and helped design the fine arts course now used for high schools. Alex's drawings and paintings are in collections at the University of New Brunswick and the New Brunswick Art Bank as well as in various parts of Canada, the US, and Great Britain and as far away as Japan. He now resides in the historic village of Gagetown.

Matthew Pearn is a lawyer practising in New Brunswick's civil courts. He is also a former CBC News radio reporter working across New Brunswick and other parts of Canada. He has worked as an arts and culture reporter and has extensive experience in both media production and film documentary.

Gary Sappier is the Aboriginal Representative on the **artsnb** board, from Tobique First Nation. His band, the Gary Sappier Blues Band, has released five CDs over the last decade. He has been nominated for awards locally and internationally, earning an ECMA nomination for Best Aboriginal Album. In 2014 he was nominated for three Aboriginal People's Choice Music Awards: Aboriginal Artist of the Year, Best Blues CD, and Best Group/Duo of the Year. Gary is a multi-instrumentalist whose music is a unique combination of Aboriginal-flavoured rhythms and soulful blues.

