

hornby arts

Support for Hornby Island Arts Centre

Who

The Hornby Island Arts Centre will be a public facility that hosts exciting artistic and educational programming for the local community and beyond. As the only large indoor public space on Hornby that will operate with open hours throughout the year, the Arts Centre will enhance the Sollans and Central cultural hub, offering an inclusive and accessible space for all.

What

The Hornby Island Arts Council is proposing an annual \$30,000 requisition from the Comox Valley Regional District to support building maintenance costs for the Arts Centre. Initiated as a 3-year trial, the funds would support essential maintenance, security, and access services and would begin when the doors are opened to the public.

How

In accordance with the CVRD Staff and Directors' recommendation, the proposed requisition would reside with the Hornby Island Heritage Conservation service. With the completion of the Arts Centre, the impact on the taxpayer will be \$20/\$500,000 in assessed home-value. In other words, the proposal will cost the average homeowner approximately **\$20 per year for the next three years**. We are seeking a letter of support from HIRRA in this regard and will put forward the motion at the September general meeting.

Why

We are committed to providing a public space with wonderful programming: installations, workshops, performances, residencies, and so much more! Municipal support will ensure that essential health and safety measures are met, that the facility is cared for, and that funding and support for public programming and access is protected.

Evidence of secure municipal funding is directly linked to the confidence provincial and national funders place in arts organizations. Historically—working from a trailer—Hornby Arts has applied for insecure municipal support from the CVRD and HICEEC and has received an average of approximately \$5K over the last decade. A \$30,000 annual commitment to the Arts Centre will significantly enhance the capacity of Hornby Arts to plan and deliver dependable results to the community and to leverage funding and investment from outside the CVRD into the island economy many times over. Accessing donor, provincial, and federal support, arts organizations are uniquely positioned to achieve such returns. Fiscally balanced arts organizations receive a minimum of 20% of their annual budget from municipal sources. At \$30,000, we are projecting a contribution of between 10% and 15% of our budget after opening the doors to the Arts Centre, a comparatively modest requisition.

With support from the local community and the CVRD, this public project will make a significant contribution to our quality of life. Nurturing and preserving our cultural identity is at the core of the Arts Centre's mission.