



Image: "Flow" by artist Sandeep Johal

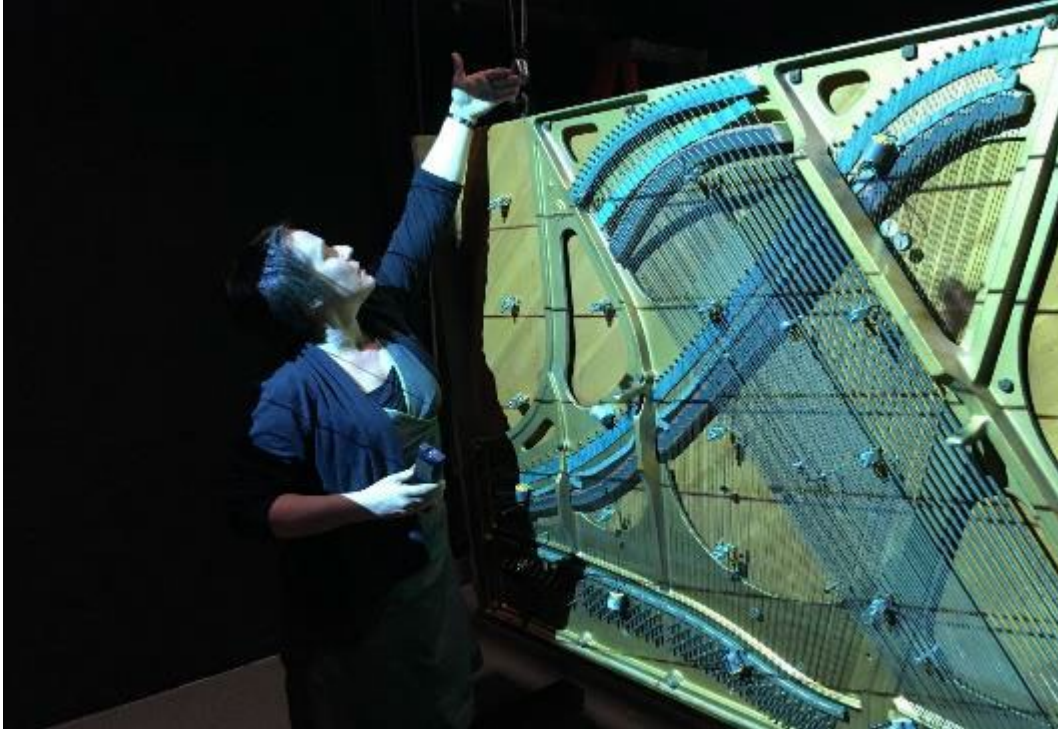
# Arts, Culture, and Economic Development Advisory Committee

April 11, 2024



NEW WESTMINSTER

# Agenda



- New Media Gallery Tour & Social
- Economic Development Plan Update
- Sidewalk Patios & Street Activations
- Anvil Centre 10-year Review
- Civic Grants
- Business Licence Bylaw Redevelopment
- Business Education Nights
- Public Art Update

# Reminder: 2024 ACEDAC Meeting Calendar

## ACEDAC Meeting Dates

April 11

June 20

August 8

October 10

December 12

All meetings at 9:30am to 11:30am with hybrid options for attendance.



# Patios & Street Activation

- Working with businesses who applied for and were granted a TESA during COVID to convert these patios to permanent
- Developed new system for administering patios, including bringing under Business Licensing
- Switched to mid-year invoicing to provide flexibility for businesses to have more patio revenue to offset the invoice
- Only two patios remain that are working through the process to convert



# Anvil Centre 10-Year Review

Community and interest group engagement has included:

- Conference client interviews
- Public and staff drop-in sessions
- Community and interest group workshops
- Intercept surveys in Downtown New West
- Be Heard New West: online survey, discussion forum & ideas board



# About Anvil Centre

When it was being planned and constructed, Anvil Centre was called the “**Multi Use Civic Facility**”. There is lots happening inside the downtown cultural and conference centre:

- Programs and classes
- Events and conferences
- Performances and workshops
- Exhibitions



# About Anvil Centre

Inside Anvil Centre, you'll find:

- New Media Gallery
- Museum & Archives
- Canadian Lacrosse Hall of Fame
- Anvil Theatre
- Community Art Gallery



# Origins of Anvil Centre

Development of Anvil Centre was funded through Provincial gaming revenue. The funding agreement specified that the project must:

- contribute to economic development
- include convention/conference space, and
- be located in Downtown New West.





# Anvil Centre at 10-years-old

- City Council has had several discussions about Anvil Centre and its role in the community
- Council asked City staff to engage Anvil users and non-users about how to bring more of a welcoming, community feeling to the facility & seek other suggestions
- Input will be used to **inform recommendations** to enhance the facility and offerings
- Note: Major physical renovations are not anticipated



# Discussion Questions

1. Anvil's tag line is "*Where Culture, Community and Commerce Meet*". How have **your experiences** at Anvil Centre lined up with these three areas?
2. How would you describe the **identity of Anvil Centre**, both in terms of physical presence and the experiences it offers?
3. Do you have any suggestions about how to make Anvil Centre **feel more welcoming and community focused**?
4. We have heard feedback that awareness of Anvil Centre and its diversity of programs, services, and spaces could be expanded. Do you have suggestions for **how best to share information about Anvil's offerings** to the local community and beyond?

# Next Steps

- Engagement reporting – March/April
- Report to Council with recommendations – mid-2024



# Grants

- Undergoing analysis to make refinements for the 2025 grants (applications open in fall 2024)
  - Municipal scan
  - Internal and external engagement
    - Focus groups
    - Staff workshop
    - Survey
  - Platform Optimization
- Will come to ACEDAC at the June meeting



# Business Licence Bylaw Review

- Highlighted changes that are proposed in the bylaw:
  - Including broader language with less-specific business categories
  - Inclusion of business license for temporary uses of under 3 months
  - Removal of refunds for annual licence fee
  - The Licensee, owner or operator of the Business must pay all outstanding fees and fines and outstanding debts owed to the City by the Business, the Licensee, and the owner and operator of the Business before a Licence will be issued or renewed.
  - Increase of late payment penalty from 10% to 20%
  - Ability to apply conditions to business licenses (e.g. hours of operation, number of occupants, duration of license, etc.)

# Business Licence Bylaw Review

- Fee Review (see attached/previously distributed)
- Every municipality determines fees differently (employees, per unit, number of seats, flat rate, size of building, etc.)
- Employee and size assumptions were made for common license types to try and compare apples to apples as best as possible
- A few categories staff are reviewing further:
  - Liquor primary annual
  - Liquor primary application
  - Residential rental

# Business Licence Bylaw Review

## Focus Group

- Staff will be holding a focus group in April/May for interested business owners to provide feedback on proposed updates to the Business License Bylaw.
  - Highlight proposed changes that are anticipated to be included in the new bylaw
  - Share work compiled on municipal license fees across the region
  - Hear business feedback on proposed changes
  - Email [info@investnewwest.ca](mailto:info@investnewwest.ca) with your name, business and contact information to be added to the list and staff will provide additional details as they are available

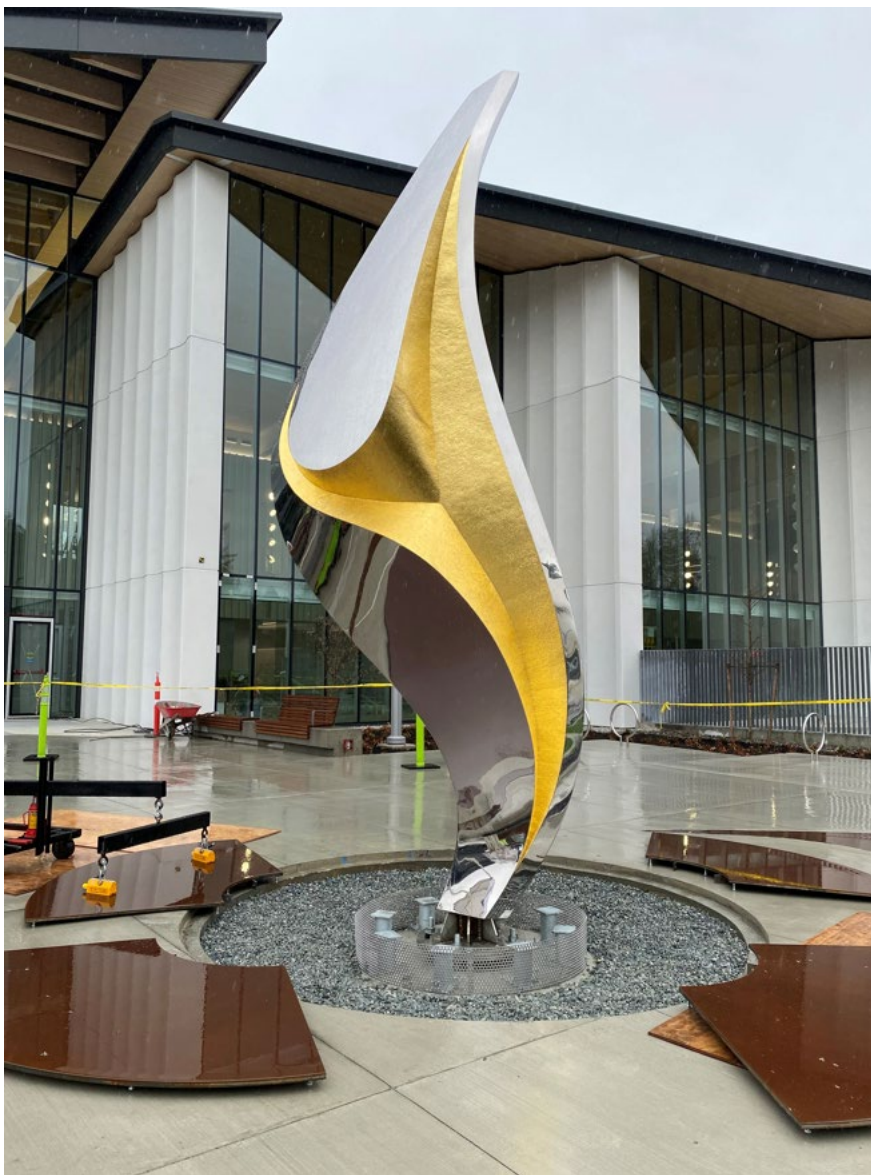
# Business Education Nights

- Continuing the Business Education Nights to build capacity and provide topical education to non-profits and businesses in New Westminster
  - **January:** Gender Diversity Basics
  - **February:** Buying Local Impact, partnership with Chamber and LOCO BC
- Upcoming Topics:
  - Coming up **April 17** – Instagram Marketing with Jasmine Crisp from Tourism New West
  - Employee Contracts
  - Hiring Inclusively





# Public Art Update



# təməsewtx<sup>w</sup> public art installation

*Miyiwts - Water's Edge* by James Harry

16ft mirror polished stainless steel sculpture that reflects the strength and power of the former Glenbrook Ravine while referencing Coast Salish design motifs and presence on these lands. Gold leaf has been intricately applied to the inner recessions bringing warmth, depth and movement to the work. The sculpture rests on top of a weathering steel inlay designed in the shape of the Coast Salish eye.

James Harry (Nexw'Kalus-Xwalacktun) was born in Vancouver and grew up in New Westminster. He is of Squamish Nation (Swxwú7meshk) and European decent (Scottish, and German).

Public Art Unveiling/Ceremony - May 8, 12noon-2pm

# Capture Photography Festival

*Ensemble by Karen Zalamea*

In partnership with Capture Photography Festival, the City of New Westminster commissioned a temporary public art installation in response to Anvil Centre.

The work was developed from an image sourced from a newspaper clipping depicting female dancers from the Ramon Obusan Folkloric Group of the Philippines performing at Expo '86. Zalamea was intrigued by the sister-city relationship established in 1991 between the City of New Westminster and Quezon City in the Philippines, the artist's matrilineal hometown.

Karen Zalamea is a Filipino-Canadian artist, educator, and cultural worker based in Burnaby, Canada.

Artist Talk – April 14, 3pm, Anvil Theatre





## Mural Pilot Project

### *Salmon* by Randall Bear Barnetson

This mural was created in partnership with the Vancouver Mural Festival, and in collaboration with the Purpose Society.

This is the first mural created as part of a pilot mural project launched in 2023. A second mural is planned for summer 2024 on East Front Street.

Randall Bear Barnetson is a multidisciplinary artist of Indigenous heritage. He is from the village of Nadleh Whut'en, the Dakelh nation, and of the Duntem'yooBear clan.



# Irving House Artist Residency

Holly Schmidt and Janet Wang

The Irving House Artist in Residence Pilot invited artists to explore and experiment in response to the site and surroundings of this historic home.

The intention was to generate new observations or perspectives, and facilitate meaningful and contemporary public art responses to the understanding of place and the overall context of Irving House.

Temporary artistic interventions are currently installed on the site.

Artist Talk - May 15, 6-8pm, Anvil Centre



## In Process: Agnes Street Park

*Untitled Project by Karen Tam*

Brookfield Properties is developing a residential tower at 810 Agnes and is supporting the design and construction of a City-owned park on the site. Funding for this project includes a contribution to public art.

The new park is located at 824 Agnes Street, the former site of the Chinese Benevolent Association (CBA).

In 2023, artist Karen Tam was selected for her concept proposal, reflecting on the history and stories of the Chinese community in New Westminster.

The project is currently in design development.

Visit the City's website for more info about the program, links to other projects in progress and to explore the Public Art Registry:

[www.newwestcity.ca/publicart](http://www.newwestcity.ca/publicart)