



**Lake Country Art Gallery**  
10356 Bottom Wood Lake Road  
Lake Country BC, V4V 1M2  
250-766-1299  
[www.lakecountryartgallery.ca](http://www.lakecountryartgallery.ca)

# **Report to Mayor and Council District of Lake Country**

by

## **The Lake Country Art Gallery**

**June 7, 2022**

- Current status of the Lake Country Art Gallery, impact of covid
- Major Renovations
- ArtsVest Program
- Strategic Planning
- BESTi Program
- Human Resources
- Community Engagement, Programs
- Exhibitions
- Operations
- Finances

**We are pleased to present an update of the operations of the Lake Country Art Gallery.**

## **Impact of Covid on the operations of the Lake Country Art Gallery**

Given it has been almost three years since we have been able to present a Report to Mayor and Council, we would like to do a quick catch-up on the impact of the covid pandemic.

Like many public spaces, the Art Gallery had to temporarily close to the public, fortunately only for only two and a half months. We re-opened our doors in June 2020, but under much different circumstances. With all the required covid protocols and restrictions in place, we continued to offer exhibitions, but had to cancel most events, workshops, classes, and public activities, including planned fundraising events. During this time, we developed and implemented on-line content, such as videos, interactive projects, a community survey, and extra newsletters to ensure that we responded to the situation and continued to provide art experiences to the public. Committee and Board of Director meetings, along with several Professional Development sessions, took place virtually.

Fortunately, we were able to retain our staff members at their regular level of hours and salary during the pandemic.

We are pleased that many aspects of our operations have now returned to normal, and look forward to further regaining of functions, events, volunteers, and supporters.

Some highlights and milestones of the past year

### **Major Renovation Project**

We applied for and received a \$40,000 grant from the BC Community Economic Recovery Infrastructure Program – Community Economic Resilience. These funds allowed us to complete several renovations to the Gallery, including the long wished for new floor, updated to LED lights, installation of double pane sealed windows and doors, construction of a new mobile wall, some electrical updates and interior improvements.

### **Business for the Arts**

An *ArtsVest* program provided resources, expertise and training in marketing, board governance and sponsorship along with matching funds and peer-to-peer networking. This 9-month program came with on-line workshops, mentors, and document resources to help us better develop relationships with potential business sponsors. The matching funds created an added incentive and helped us secure over \$6,000 in cash donations and over \$900 in-kind support.

### **Strategic Planning**

Our annual look at Strategic Planning started with stakeholder interviews early in 2020. Feedback was supportive but also helped us recognise the significance of the need to have more clarity about what we do and to communicate more effectively to reach a wider audience. We followed up with a series of workshops to analyse organisation strengths and weaknesses, and to consider risks and opportunities to help guide organisation and program development.

### **Capacity Enhancement**

An additional year-long development program was awarded to us through BESTi (Building Excellence and Sustainability Together Intensive). This Capacity Cohorts program and funding offered us in-depth and long-term support to look at increased capacity and to strengthen resiliency. Using the Non-Profit Lifecycles format, we began a guided deep dive into the five areas of operation: Programs, Management, Governance, Resources and Systems to create a Capacity Enhancement report. Along

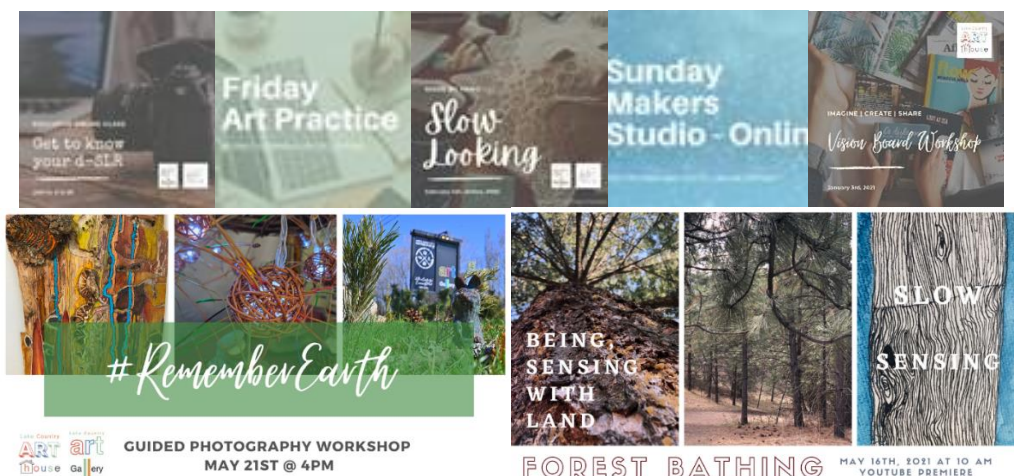
with the findings from Strategic Planning, these two sources of information allowed us to consider where we could most effectively apply \$5,000 funding for some immediate improvements, and this continues to be supported by further work on building strengths in staff and board development plus succession planning.

## Human Resources

In the Human Resources area, we have taken several steps toward the goal of taking the Art Gallery to a more professional and secure state. The Manager position was changed to an Executive Director. All staff members were moved to an employee rather than contract position. Slight increases in salary were made, and a policy of five sick days per year was established. We created a new, continuing position, a half time Gallery Administrative Assistant.

## Community Engagement

The position of Community Engagement was filled for one year by Alison Beaumont and Pippa Dean-Veerman. Throughout the year, Pippa and Alison brought many new programs and developments to the Art House offerings, to connect with and engage a wide range of community needs while inspiring fresh and valuable new programs, making full use of online and digital platforms to reach a wide range of participants.



Programs through this period included weekly on-line workshops: Sunday Maker Studio; Friday Art Practice; Slow Looking; Summer Art Retreat with community Elders; Shibori indigo dye; Collaborations with Music in the Park and RDO Parks events brought artmaking to community events. Summer Student Faith Wandler coordinated a new Art Alley Banner Project featuring artwork by UBCO students and young artists from the Okanagan, documented in a special delve-in guide.

**From October 2021, the position of Community Engagement Coordinator was then filled by Rena Warren**, who activated many opportunities to work with the public. Some examples of the programs offered through the Art House include After School Art, Tap-In: Creative Safe Space for Teens, Open Studio Fridays, and Hand Made Saturday Workshop Series.



**After School Art** is designed for children aged 7 - 11, and has explored a variety of processes, including drawing, painting, printmaking, and hand building. The group also participated in an international initiative called Global Art Project for Peace.

**TapIn: Creative SafeSpace** for Teens is an art and wellness program for youth aged 13 - 17. TapIn is a low-barrier, accessible option for teens and youth at risk.

**Open Studio Fridays** is an art program hosted by veteran art educator Tina Siddiqui. This program aimed at youth and adults offers three-hour weekly classes where participants can work on prescribed activities or bring projects from home to work on in a guided setting,

**Hand Made Workshop Series:** A series of Saturday workshops have begun focussing on specialized art processes including Basics of Stained Glass, Block Printing Basics and Wet Felting, Acrylic Painting, Painting Botanicals in Gouache. Coming up next - Natural Bundle-Dyeing



**Outreach:** Community Rena Warren, led fifteen educators from the Central Okanagan through a well received Pro\_D on-line workshop on block printing.

**Coming up soon:** Library/ Gallery Field Trips for Elementary School Groups; Two mid-summer art camps are planned for July and August to be led by CEC Rena Warren, past instructor Christia Langlois and retired schoolteacher Linda Munroe.

**New Banners for the Artists Alley** this time round, a focus on mature or senior artists are invited to create works with a "torch bearer" theme, with "words from the wise"



**CATWALK:** A community fundraising event will take place in June in partnership with Okanagan Humane Society. The public adoption event will feature some fun activities including a wearable art gala for cats and a 'Hissing Booth' photo opportunity

**Annual Community Picnic Event:** A mid-August evening experience with Live music & performance, artisan vendors, food trucks, art activities and more ...

**GATHER:** (Pending funding) Mothers, Makers, Creators is intended as a year-long project that aims to connect with cultural groups in the Okanagan for the purpose of hosting intergenerational, round-table workshops focusing on public discourse, storytelling, traditional arts and foods.

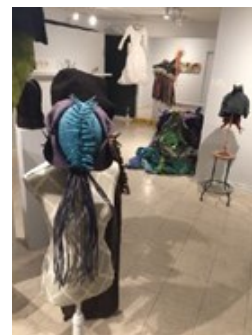


# Exhibitions Report Jan 2021-May 2022

Curator Wanda Lock

## Review of Exhibitions 2021

**Made By Hand:** Exhibition of artwork blurring the lines between fine art and craft, created by over **25 Gallery Members**. Series of 'Maker/ Artist' Videos interviews accompany the show  
*Jan 9–Feb 20 \_ 462 visits*



**Equipment Space:** An installation of sculpture and video by **two emerging professional artists** Lucas Glenn and Mat Glenn. "Equipment-Space conceptually eliminates the binary (man/nature) by exploring what equipment is... equipment is what you find in the space between humans and what we think of as nature " *L. Glenn.*

*Feb 27–Apr 10 \_ 665 visits*

**Voice & Land:** intergenerational Exhibition featuring artwork by **103 community members**, alongside paintings by invited guest artist David Wilson. The theme *Voice & Land* invited participants to explore and create artwork that speaks to the relationship between humans, human activity and the natural world

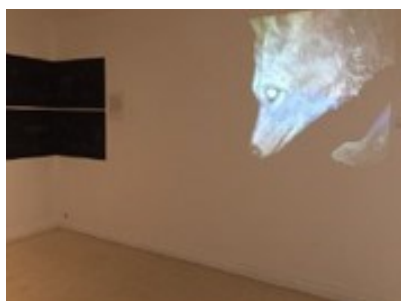
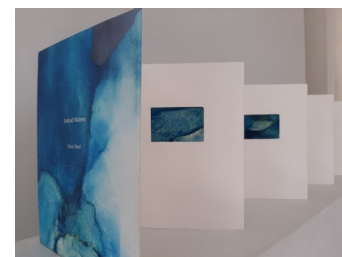
*Apr 17–May 22, \_ 741 visits*



**Two Pop-Up Exhibitions:** The first *On My Mind* was presented by The Laundry Room and brought together **8 artists**: Pip Dryden, Adrianna Singleton, Nyasha Dube, Faith Wandler, Shay Ritchie, Arianna Tooke, Jetta Loudon, and Jade Loudon whose work explored awareness of the need for self care, contributing to an ongoing discourse surrounding themes of mental health awareness.

Next Pop-up: *Grounding, In Touch/Waters II* presented the Graduation works of **two UBCO MFA graduates** Brittany Reitzel and Sam Neal

*May 29 - Jul 3 \_ 562 visits*



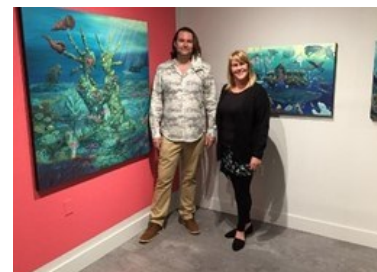
**Uncharted Territory:** *Home, encounter, debris*, three words that connect the works of **three artists** Robin Ripley, Sarah Ronald, and Victoria Verge. Meandering through the neighborhoods of discarded objects, memories of place, the anticipation of the unknown, and the nocturnal world, the gallery visitor wonders through a visual journey of painting, collage and assemblage, drawing, and animation.

*Jul 9–Aug 21 \_ 1,377 visits*

... re-opening after the Gallery Renovation with

**Sea Of Love:** Two artists Shannon Lester and Endrene Shepherd filled the gallery with forty-nine acrylic paintings, rich with cerulean, sapphire, azure blues, deep turquoise greens, watery clear seafoam teals with dark phthalo yellow-greens dotted with colours one would expect to see when swimming among the fishes, coral reefs, and sea life.

Oct 8–Nov 20 — **963** visits



And wrapping up the year with



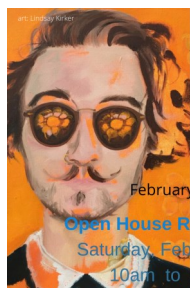
**Over/ Under 100:** annual fundraising exhibition and sale of over 600 artworks by 60 Gallery Members, with a feature wall installation selected by Norm & Hélène Letnick. Additional fundraising events included the artisan Night Market and Family Button-Making Day. Funds raised for 2022 programs = \$6,768.97

Nov 26–Dec 21 — **752** visits

**2022 brings a return to pre-COVID visitor numbers with our first three exhibitions ...**

**If I Were You:** featuring the work of Judith Jurica, Vikki Drummond, and Maureen Kaczowski, these three artists were chosen to explore the words of KD Lang. Judith has long contemplated the ability of humans to morph into bird-like creatures, while Vikki explores identity, space and ideas of escape. Meanwhile Maureen collages image & text to ponder the future of humans and robots

Jan 8–Feb 20 — **986** visits



**Liars & Lovers**  
LC Art Gallery  
Members  
Exhibition

February 26 - April 10

Open House Reception:  
Saturday, February 26  
10am to 2pm

**Liars & Lovers:**

*Liar, Liar, Pants on fire... How do I love thee? Let me count the ways...*

A playground taunt or poetry by Elizabeth Barrett Browning? Fake news and conspiracy theories? Politics? Great Loves, John & Yoko, Sid & Nancy, Cleopatra & Mark Antony... 46 Gallery Members responded to this call through painting, sculpture, video and more.

Feb 26–Apr 10 — **1,205** visits

**The Relativity of Space & Time:** Through a series of paintings by Diane Feught and Lindsay Kirker, the subject of time, space, memory, beauty, philosophy, feminism, loss, and love are all represented.

Apr 16–May 28 — **1,321** visits



... and coming up

**Plastic Grass:** UBCO MFA Graduates 2022 Natasha Harvey, Michaela Bridgemonhan, Scott Moore

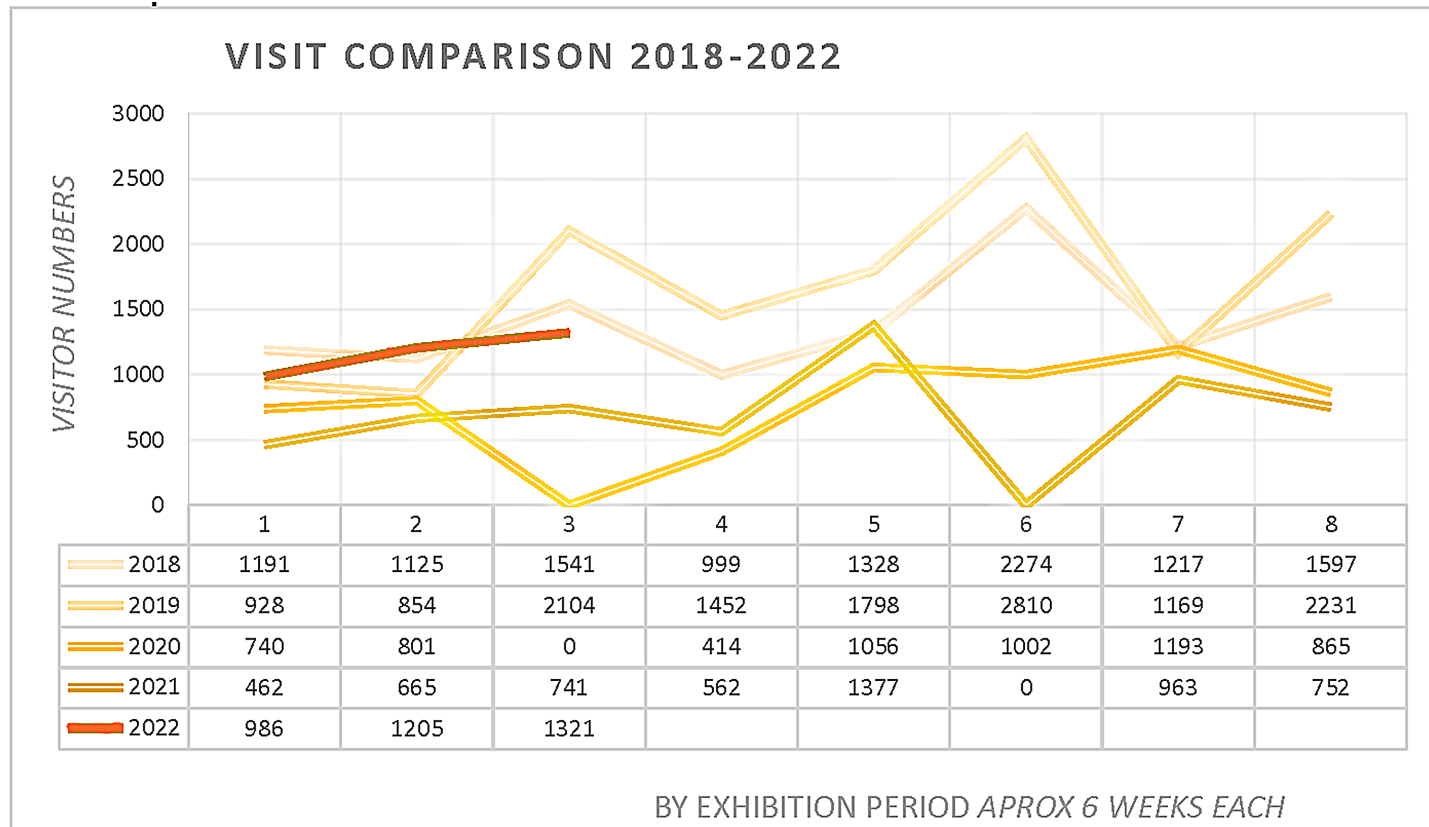
**Principals of Enclosure:** Gambletron (Lisa Gamble), Johnny Forever Nawracaj, Zev Tiefenbach, three artists whose works converge around the precarity of the contemporary built environment

**Black Liquorice Studio:** Pop-up exhibition of work from this growing BIPOC artist collective that aims to provide a platform for underrepresented artists in the Okanagan .

**We Meet Again:** Celebrating artist and arts educator Jim Kalnin through his own art alongside the artworks of many of his former students.

# Operations Report Jan 2021-May 2022

Prepared by Executive Director Petrina McNeill



As Indicated by the **orange line** in the chart above, Exhibition visitor numbers are now returning to \*pre-COVID amounts \*2018-2019 indicated by the highest two pale yellow ranges. While physical visits and larger events effected a 50% drop in these numbers—2020-2021 indicated by the two deeper ranges in the foreground.

Throughout 2020-2021 several digital and on-line projects were developed or launched to help us reach and support remote audiences through our website, Youtube channel, social media and through on-line workshops

**4,502 views** accumulated across **15 videos** that were created and uploaded to our YouTube channel during 2021

**117** registrations through **14** Live-streamed events and classes

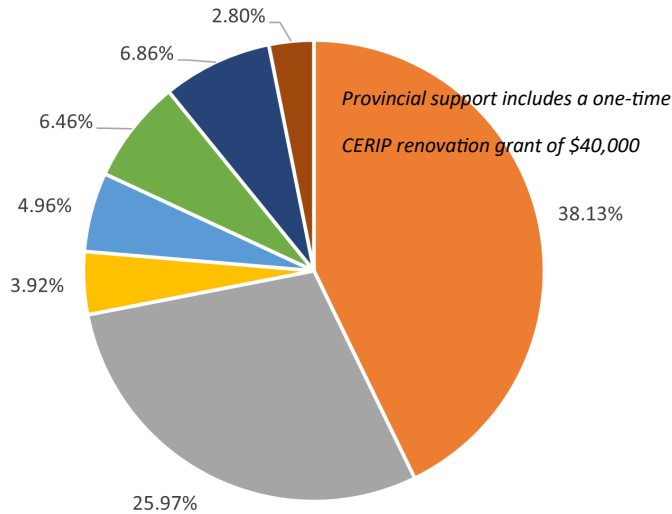
**876** Newsletter subscribers

**7,200** website visits per year\*: estimated using the of 633 'unique visits' recorded during the month of March 2022' **1,773** Facebook followers on Main Gallery page; plus 1,537 across ArtHouse, Artshelf and Art Community Group pages **1,718** Instagram followers on main gallery page; plus 582 for the recently added ArtHouse page

And **157** Gallery Members maintained their support with active subscriptions

Community Engagement programs directly reached over 330 participants through in-person and online classes and events. In addition to this, content created and recorded, then made available on video via Youtube, and through written learning guides available on our website, continue to be viewed and enjoyed long after production

## 2021 Income Sources



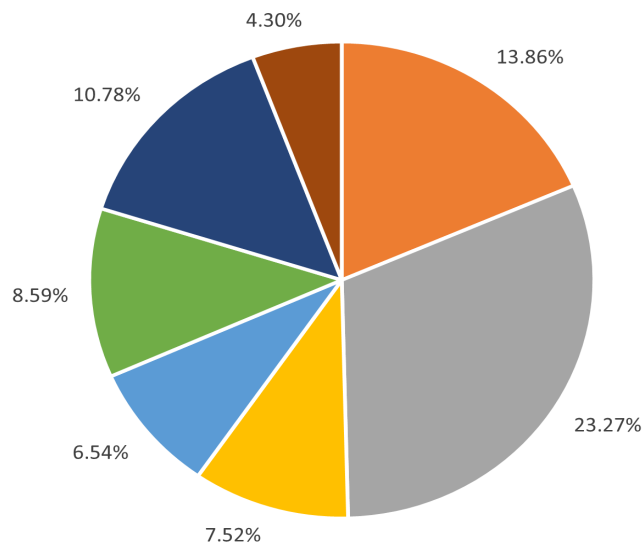
### Income Source legend for 2021

Provincial and Federal Government grants	38.13%
Municipal grant	25.97%
Central Okanagan Foundation grant	3.92%
Business Sponsorships	4.96%
Individual donations and Memberships	6.46%
Earned Income (Rentals and workshops)	6.86%
Fundraising income	2.80%

### Income Source legend for 2022 budget

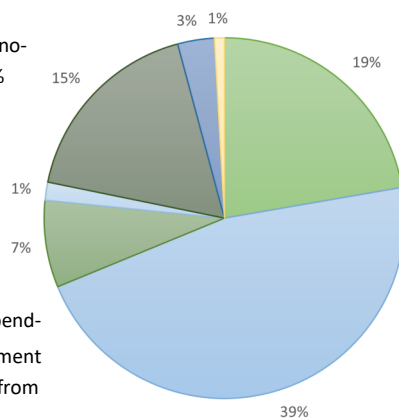
Provincial and Federal Government grants	13.86%
Municipal grant	23.27%
Central Okanagan Foundation grant	7.52%
Business Sponsorships	6.54%
Individual donations and Memberships	8.59%
Earned Income (Rentals and workshops)	10.78%
Fundraising income	4.30%

## 2022 income sources per budget



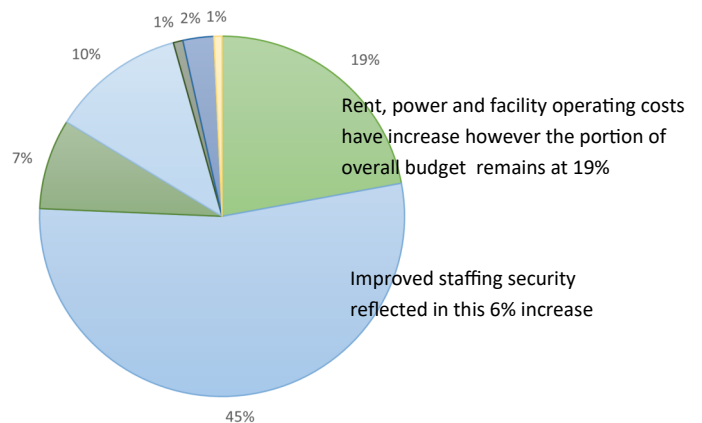
## Expenses 2021

Funded costs of Gallery Renovation reflected in this 15%



\* Projected increase in spending on Community Engagement from 1% to 10% would be from pending project grant

## Expenses Projected for 2022





# LAKE COUNTRY ART GALLERY SOCIETY

## STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENSES (Unaudited - See Notice to Reader)

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2021**

	2021	2020
<b>REVENUE</b>		
District of Lake Country (Note 3)	\$ 53,000	\$ 65,000
Gaming (Note 3)	31,167	26,000
Earned income	22,693	21,172
CERIP Grant (Note 3)	38,203	-
Donations	13,335	14,174
Fundraising	18,426	31,461
Grants	39,248	22,004
Sponsorships	12,644	3,500
	228,716	183,311
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Amortization	1,663	1,342
CERIP renovation costs	38,203	-
Carfac fees	12,292	9,203
Facility's operating costs	18,401	19,516
Fundraising costs	10,699	20,282
GST	1,527	1,371
Professional services	28,314	32,059
Rent	42,500	42,083
Salaries and benefits	75,178	59,864
	228,777	185,720
<b>DEFICIT FOR THE YEAR</b>	(61)	(2,409)
<b>RESTRICTED FUNDS, beginning of year</b>	27,431	29,843
<b>RESTRICTED FUNDS, end of year</b>	\$ 27,370	\$ 27,434

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements

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# LAKE COUNTRY ART GALLERY SOCIETY

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## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Unaudited - See Notice to Reader)

DECEMBER 31, 2021

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### BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

1. The basis of accounting applied in the preparation of the balance sheet of Lake Country Art Gallery Society as at December 31, 2021, and the statement of income and surplus for the year then ended is on the historical cost basis with the addition of:

- accounts receivable less an allowance for doubtful accounts
- accounts payable and accrued liabilities
- deferred income for funds received and allocated to a future period.

### 2. FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT

Furniture & equipment are recorded at cost. Amortization is provided annually at rates calculated to write-off the assets over their estimated useful lives as follows:

Furniture and equipment - 20% diminishing balance

	Cost	Accumulated Amortization	Net 2021	Net 2020
Furniture and equipment	\$ 15,125	\$ 8,474	\$ 6,651	\$ 5,367

### 3. DEFERRED INCOME

Deferred income represent funds received in the current year for specific purposes and not used in the year

	2021	2020
Gaming Grant	\$ 23,333	\$ 24,500
District of Lake Country	12,000	-
Artsvest	4,500	-
Central Okanagan Foundation	5,000	-
CERIP balance of grant received for building renovations	1,797	-
	\$ 46,630	\$ 24,500

Priorities and actions identified through the 2021 BESTi capacity-building initiative and LCAG's own strategic planning process.

## Mission & Vision

- Draft a vision statement.
- Review mission, revise (if necessary), and recommit.



## Management & Staff

- Review and update job descriptions, org chart, and reporting structures.
- Strengthen staff capacity and sustainability by increasing staff wages, hours, benefits, and professional development.
- Work towards transitioning contract positions into permanent.
- Explore transitioning the gallery manager position to an executive director.
- Support and strengthen the CEC position and programming to enhance public accessibility.



## Financial Resources

- Create more time for staff to spend on grant-writing.
- Explore hiring or contracting a part time fundraising consultant or grant writer.
- Reactivate the Art House to increase earned income.
- Explore alternate forms of earned income less vulnerable to COVID and wildfires.
- Reactivate the board fundraising committee.
- Pursue more corporate sponsorship.
- Begin to develop a formal individual donor program.
- Prioritize development of an emergency surplus.



## Programs

- Assess programs for relevance and value, eliminate those not directly related to the core.
- Increase community engagement programming that enhances member involvement and public accessibility.
- Increase earned income programming.



## Governance

- Reinvigorate the board around purpose and mission.
- Reconfirm expectations and responsibilities around financial sustainability and fundraising.
- Provide regular board development opportunities.
- Conduct an annual board self-evaluation.
- Recruit more directors with time, energy, and the capacity to contribute.
- Instate one youth director to be chair of a youth committee.
- Develop emergency succession plans for the Board Chair and Gallery Manager.



## Administrative Systems

- Secure financial training and accounting support.
- Enhance monthly financial reporting.
- Plan for more sophisticated donor software.
- Increase use of Google Docs among board and staff.



## Facility Security

- Form a committee to create a needs analysis and costing for a secure and sustainable facility
- Engage with the DLC to discuss the possibility of a purpose-built building.
- Engage the community in greater understanding of the purpose, value and significance of local access to a public art gallery

