



October 3-5, 2024

## Arts BC Conference 2024 Programming

### Changing the Narrative

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**kʷikwə́ləm | Kwikwetlem | Coquitlam**

**Evergreen Cultural Centre, 205 Pinetree Way, Coquitlam BC, V3B 7Y3**

This year, we are working in partnership with the Rural Arts Inclusion Lab to anchor the program in a community of practice, mapping the complex interconnections and relationships that underlay the sector, and weaving themes across the three days we are together.

Registration will be open during ALL conference days from 8:15am-9am, as well as 12:30pm-1pm.

Come early! A light breakfast will be available at 8am each conference day.

# Thursday, October 3 | Day 1

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## MORNING PROGRAMMING

### **9:00am-9:30am | Theater**

**Welcome and Opening Remarks | Ronnie Dean Harris, McKaila Ferguson (President, Arts BC), and Mayor Richard Stewart (City of Coquitlam)**

Ronnie Dean Harris will open our event, laying the foundation of our days together and orienting ourselves to the land we are on. We will hear opening remarks from McKaila Ferguson, Arts BC President and Mayor Richard Stewart, City of Coquitlam.

### **9:30am-12:30pm | Theatre**

**Setting Tables, Building Stages, Making Offerings, On the Path of the Transformers | Ronnie Dean Harris and Meeka Morgan**

Meeka and Ronnie will share stories and experiences in the works of setting tables, building stages and making offerings on the path of transformation(s). From inception through fires, floods and onto positive growth and capacity building, we look at the ancient works as part of our framework for walking, working, offering and responding to the grief and trauma from climate crises in a time of great transformations as artists and producers of events.

### **9:30am-12:30pm | Studio A**

**Values-Based Working | Allison Girvan, Sidi Chen, and Kia Kadiri**

How do we centre shared values as the foundation of working together? Our work is often in collaboration with others whether inside our organizations, or in choosing which groups we want to work with as artists, board members, or arts administrators. Gaining clarity about your personal and organization's values and making these the foundation of collaborations helps to create projects and partnerships that are authentic and sustainable.

This workshop will help you identify key values and guiding principles for decision-making and will provide a framework for evaluating partnerships of all kinds.

This session is co-facilitated by members of the Pathways team.

## AFTERNOON PROGRAMMING

### **1:30pm-4:30pm | Theatre**

#### **Respectful Relationships & Ethical Collaboration | Victoria Jaenig**

Respectful Relationships & Ethical Collaboration is a facilitated discussion using interactive exercises and ice breakers, communications tools, storytelling methods and lecture-style presentations to successfully share space and place with Indigenous populations – individually or collectively. Victoria invites dialogue reflecting on our existing / previous partnerships, engagement and recruitment practices with First Nations peoples, communities or organizations identifying barriers, challenges, and unsafe practices. She provides guidance and direction for organizations and artists looking for a way to improve or create safe, meaningful and respectful collaborations, relationships and partnerships in their engagement and recruitment practices for projects and programming.

### **1:30pm-4:30pm | Studio A**

#### **Resiliency & Emergency Plans for Arts Organizations | Deb Borsos**

As we continue to face climate emergencies throughout the province, a relevant and functional Emergency Plan is a critical element of organizational infrastructure. Learn from peers who have navigated real life challenges. Through stories, examples and practical exercises, this session will help you gain an understanding of the key components that will keep your organization resilient when an emergency or disaster happens. Learn to identify and build relationships and coordinate with local government and emergency service organizations before an event happens to help your whole community stay safe – and then recover well.

## EVENING PROGRAMMING

### **7:00pm-9:00pm | Main Lobby**

#### **Evening Social - Everyone Welcome**

We will close the day with an evening of reconnection during our Social, open to all at the Evergreen Cultural Centre. Reconnect with colleagues, make new friends, and turn online connections into IRL (in real life) relationships. The concession will be open with alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages for purchase. Everyone welcome!

# Friday, October 4 | Day 2

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## MORNING PROGRAMMING

### **8:00am-9:00am | Studio A**

#### **BIPOC Breakfast**

This space is upon request of Conference attendees and presenters who are part of Indigenous, Black, and People of Colour communities that wish to gather. This space is only for folks in these communities. Please pickup a light breakfast and meet in Studio A if you wish.

Other Conference attendees are invited to enjoy their breakfast in other areas of the Conference venue and are asked to please respect our colleagues that have requested this time together. Please contact the Arts BC team at [hearte@artsbc.org](mailto:hearte@artsbc.org) if you would like to request that we schedule a time for a different group to gather.

### **9:00am-9:30am | Theatre**

#### **Where We Are & Why We Are Here | Carla Stephenson and Elliott Hearte**

Many things have changed since we last gathered, in this session we will co-create an understanding of where our sector is at and set the intentions for the days to come.

### **9:30am-10:30am | Theatre**

#### **Spotlight: Stories from the Sector | Shawn Stephenson (Tiny Lights Festival), James Darin Corbiere (Eastern Woodland Art), X'staam Hana'ax Nicole Halbauer (H.E.A.L Healthcare)**

This plenary session will showcase sector leaders as they share innovative projects, new strategies, and stories of success & challenge. Despite the uncertainty and struggle in the sector, many communities, organizations and individuals have found creative ways to adapt to new realities, create new ways of working, and spotlight the power of the arts.

**10:45am-12:00pm | Theatre**

**Are Relationships the Ultimate KPI? (panel) | Meeka Morgan, Scotia Monkivitch, Kia Kadiri, and Shay Paul (moderator)**

Are relationships our greatest asset, key performance indicator, and linch-pin to the entire sector? With increased constraints in the arts and the need for deeper community engagement and representation in our organizations, the power of relationships is coming to forefront. This bold discussion will dig into the challenges of benefits of working in relationships that cross communities, cultures, and sectors.

**Various Times | Studio B**

**Human Library | Patricia Huntsman, Peisen Ding (ArtStarts), Megan Lau (BC Coalition of Arts, Culture, & Heritage)**

Our community is a wealth of knowledge – our greatest asset is our people (the people powering the arts). Use our handy app to book a chat with one of our speakers or sector resources.

## AFTERNOON PROGRAMMING

**12:30pm - 1:00pm | Art Gallery**

**Curator's Tour: Cindy Mochizuki**

Join the AGE curator for a drop-in lunch time tour of Cindy Mochizuki: stories best told at twilight. This event is free to attend and wheelchair accessible. Drop-ins welcome.

Some stories are best told at twilight. As the sun sets below the horizon and darkness emerges, the veil lifts between the everyday and the spirit realm. Supernatural creatures inhabit our world: haunting dreams and lullabies, appearing in the pages of legends and recounted through the memories of elders. This magic manifests in the whimsical storytelling of artist Cindy Mochizuki. stories best told at twilight focuses on the artist's telling of Japanese myths, legends and folklore. Each artwork—which might manifest as a short animation, an elaborate installation or a singular performance—is the result of an abundance of images and objects that came before. This solo exhibition goes behind the curtain, taking a rare look at the artist's usually hidden creative process and spanning artworks created over more than a decade.

### **1:15pm-2:45pm | Theatre**

#### **Creative Recovery: Unleash the Power of Creativity | Scotia Monkivitch**

Life is full of surprises, twists and turns that trip us up or enable growth and new opportunity. Our response to these challenges, as individuals and communities, is as varied as the context in which they occur. And you can be sure that the context is complex and forever changing.

Arts and culture provide ways of sharing stories, connecting, reducing isolation, making sense of and preparing for the unimaginable, all essential for disaster preparedness and recovery. Our emergency services prepare for, fight and clean up floods, fires and tornadoes. We fight for, support and encourage laughter, dance, tears, music, touch, connection, stillness, participation, imagination and hope.

Creative Recovery is a process of bringing new relational connection, meaning, engagement and challenge to our communities and the world of disaster management. It highlights the vital role we can play as creative connectors, leaders and responders. We envision a creative sector that is leading us in the activation of climate responsive practice, systems change to support resilient futures for all and the sustainability of culture and the arts as a vital component of our society.

### **1:15pm-2:45pm | Studio A**

#### **Leveraging Assessment Tools for Decision-Making | Patricia Huntsman**

It is important to take an honest look at our organizations and our capacity. In this hands-on workshop, discover more about thoroughly assessing your organization's strengths and areas for improvement so you can unlock new potentials for a strategically sound future.

### **3:00pm-4:00pm | Theatre**

#### **How Access and Inclusion are Failing Us: Thoughts from Disabled and Mad Artists | Jenna Reid**

As of late the field of Disability Arts and Culture is gaining increased recognition within our arts sector. Arts Organizations of all kinds are working with and alongside disabled and mad artists, arts administrators, and cultural workers. This has many of us wanting to know how best to create accessible and inclusive arts spaces. However, practices of access and inclusion are often informed by white Eurocentric understandings of disability and have a difficult time accounting for the real-life messy and intersectional experiences of living in disabled and mad body-minds. This session will give you a

starting point to understand some basic access principles, will open up conversations around why and how these have been failing our disabled and mad communities, and provide you with a chance to collectively brainstorm how we might creatively shift our practices. This session will be led by Jenna Reid, a professional artist and arts administrator who identifies as mad (amongst many other things) and has worked both in the field and organized within the community for the past 20 years.

### **3:00pm-4:00pm | Studio A**

#### **Using Data For Good | Meena Das**

In this workshop, you'll learn how to turn your survey data into meaningful, actionable insights. We'll begin by building strong "data values" that serve as the foundation for ethical and impactful data use. Next we'll look into the 5-Point framework of communicating data effectively. All this knowledge will then be used to apply to a sample survey dataset, and we will collectively consider how to transform raw data into actionable strategies that drive positive change in your organization.

### **3:00pm-4:00pm | Studio B**

#### **\* The Truth in Truth and Reconciliation Game | James Darin Corbiere**

Meet artist James Darin Corbiere in Studio B to demo the Game!

### **Various Times | Studio B**

#### **Human Library | Juan Ramirez (Arts BC Shared Services), Pathways Program Team**

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### **4:15pm-5:00pm | Theatre**

#### **A World of Rhythm | Mohamed Assani**

#### **Connecting the Dots: Sensemaking & Mapping Solutions Hidden in Plain Sight | Carla Stephenson & Elliott Hearte**

Join us to end the day with a focus on collaboration and finding solutions.

*A World of Rhythm | Mohamed Assani:* Calling all rhythm enthusiasts! Join us for an exhilarating journey into the intricate world of rhythm with renowned sitarist and composer, Mohamed Assani. Mohamed, twice nominated as 'Instrumental Artist of the

Year' for the Western Canadian Music Awards, will guide participants through a dynamic exploration of rhythmic techniques drawn from Indian and Pakistani traditions, as well as his own genre-defying approach to music making.

*Connecting the Dots: Sensemaking & Mapping Solutions Hidden in Plain Sight* | Carla Stephenson & Elliott Hearte: Many folks are working on innovative solutions to sector-wide challenges. We are often working in isolation and cannot locate where our work fits in the larger picture. This session will map out and amplify many projects and initiatives and will help you locate resources, potential collaborators, and solutions to challenges you are facing.

\* Sensemaking or sense-making is the process by which people give meaning to their collective experiences.



# Saturday, October 5 | Day 3

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## MORNING PROGRAMMING

### **9:00am-9:15am | Theatre**

#### **What We've Done & Where We're Going**

Grounding ourselves for our final day together.

### **9:15am-10:15am | Theatre**

#### **Spotlight: Stories from the Sector | Tanya Nielson (Kamloops Arts Council), MaryAnn Anderson (SmartGrant), and Joanne Finlay (Tsimshian Arts and Culture Society)**

This plenary session will showcase sector leaders as they share innovative projects, new strategies, and stories of success & challenge. Despite the uncertainty and struggle in the sector, many communities, organizations and individuals have found creative ways to adapt to new realities, create new ways of working, and spotlight the power of the arts.

### **10:30am-12:00pm | Studio A**

#### **Navigating Conflict & Building Capacity to Hold Nuance | Yun-Jou Chang and Carla Stephenson**

In a constantly evolving, complex sector and world, attempts to deepen our work, extend relationships, and more fully understand ourselves and others can easily (perhaps inevitably) lead to conflicts. This session will explore ways to create spaces where we can hold multiple perspectives and provide tools to navigate conflicts when they arise.

This session is co-facilitated by members of the Pathways team.

### **10:30am-12:00pm | Theatre**

#### **Creating a Culture of Cohesion | The Bandish Network**

In view of the future development of a South Asian Canadian Museum in BC, conference delegates and members of the community are invited to this special interest

session. Come and share your thoughts about how we may foster a culture of cohesion, to actualise a dedicated museum for people of subcontinental South Asian Heritage in BC. We also explore how traditional disciplines in BC have evolved in response to our economic, and cultural creative environments and how the future museum may embrace the ICA field, which attracts many young artists to BC. Together, we aim to identify key priorities for a balanced approach, that helps answer the intersectionalities within the South Asian diaspora with a focus on the growing yet underrepresented ICA market. Practising artists, Puneet Singh and Hriday Buddhdev share their respective disciplines in honour of BC's intangible cultural heritage and its wealth of knowledge and skills, that have been passed from one generation to another.

This session is graciously supported by the Province of British Columbia and is free for community members to attend. Arts BC and the Bandish Network invite community members to join the conference lunch following the session. We look forward to welcoming you.

### **Various Times | Studio B**

**Human Library | Darb Erickson (BC Arts Council), MaryAnn Anderson (SmartGrant), Scotia Monkivitch (Creative Recovery Network)**

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## **AFTERNOON PROGRAMMING**

### **1:00pm-2:30pm | Theatre**

**Telling a Different Story: Changing the Narrative of Arts & Culture (panel) | X'staam Hana'ax Nicole Halbauer, James Darin Corbiere, Ryan Hunt, Rupinder Grewal (moderator)**

Arts, culture, and creativity are key to the social and economic health of our communities, intersecting with nearly every other sector and fueling innovation critical to future-thinking and social change. And yet, Arts are positioned in our colonial narrative as an “extra”. Artists and administrators are operating in scarcity mindsets. This panel challenges that tired narrative. It is a critical time for us to tell our story from a place of strength – arts as central to a creative, innovative, and healthy society.

**3:00pm-4:00pm | Theatre**

**2 Rivers Remix | in conversation with Meeka Morgan, Ronnie Dean Harris (interviewer)**

2 Rivers Remix Moveable Feast is an incredible example of an Indigenous-led movement and festival. The event centres mentorship, relationship building and sustainability. Join us in conversation with Meeka Noelle Morgan to learn more about her work, the movement, and history and future of the event.

**3:00pm-4:00pm | Studio A**

**Demystifying Workplace Mental Health & Psychological Safety | Dagan Nish (Actsafes Safety Association)**

This session provides a foundational overview of three distinct, evidence-based approaches to reducing physical and psychological harm in the workplace: mental health first aid, psychological safety, and psychological health and safety.

This session is sponsored by and in partnership with Actsafes Safety Association.

**4:15pm-5:00pm | Theatre**

**Bringing It All Together | Carla Stephenson and Elliott Hearte**

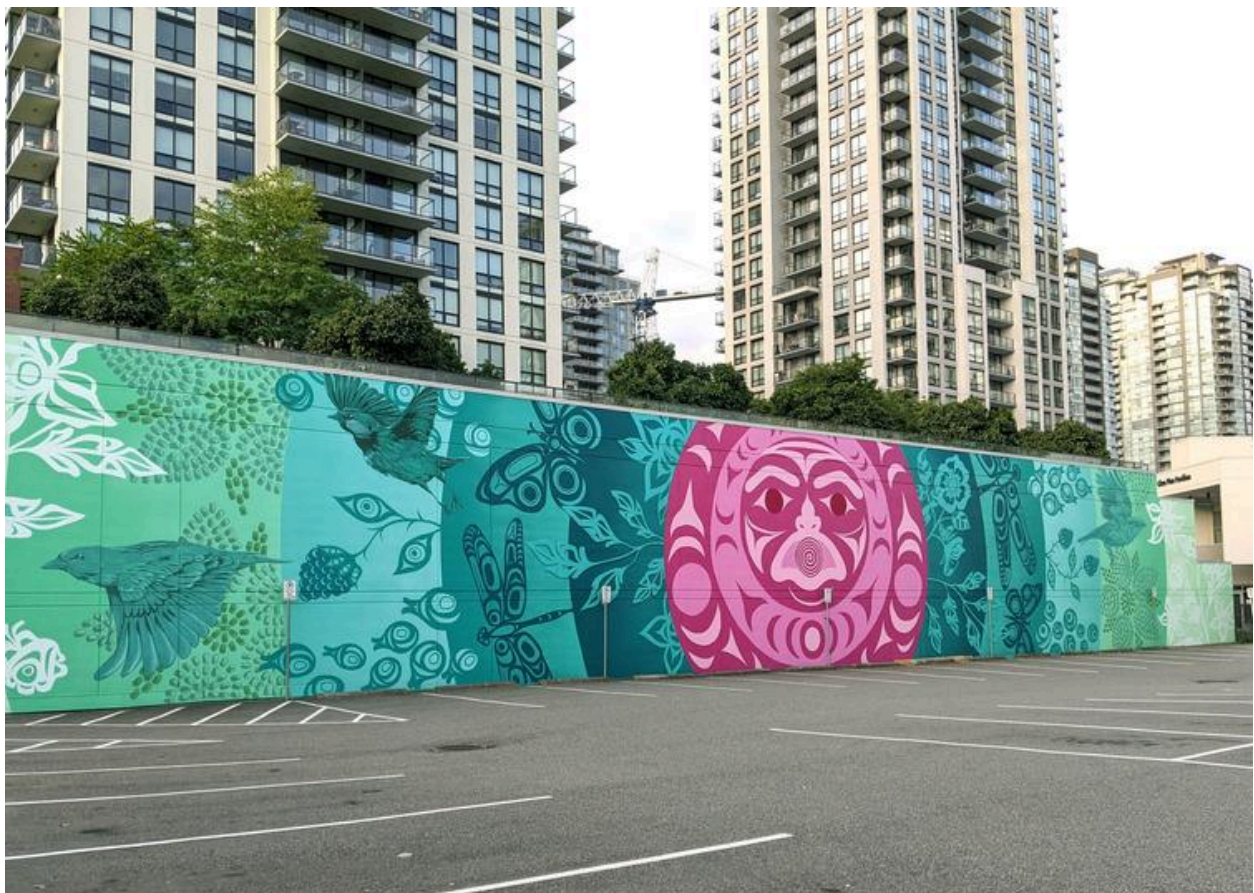
Drawing the threads and themes together in a final plenary session. Sharing ideas and goals for the sector in the coming times.

# City of Coquitlam

## A message from our Municipal Sponsor

The City of Coquitlam has been working on a Streetscape Enhancement Program since March 2022. This program, funded by the City, as well as a grant from Destination BC, supports beautification throughout our City. In 2023, this program delivered a number of initiatives under the themes of art, light, and architecture, including four new wall murals, as well as other elements that have made our city more visually appealing. In 2024, we have been working to create three more new murals, one of which you can see in progress on Pinetree Way just steps from Evergreen Cultural Centre, at the City Centre Branch of Coquitlam Public Library. For more information about these projects, check out the City's [website](#).

The Streetscape Enhancement Program is just one of the ways the City of Coquitlam has been working to bring art to our community. We are excited to be a part of the Arts BC 2024 Conference and we hope that you will discover cultural engagement in many forms during your visit to the City of Coquitlam.



# Funders & Sponsors

Arts BC gratefully acknowledges the support of our  
Municipal Sponsor, the City of Coquitlam.



Arts BC gratefully acknowledges the support of our  
funders and partners.



Supported by the Province of British Columbia



# ARTS BC CONFERENCE 2024

Changing the Narrative | Evergreen Cultural Centre

## THURSDAY, OCT 3 | DAY ONE

9:00AM - 9:30AM	<b>Welcome and Opening Remarks</b> with <b>Ronnie Dean Harris</b> , <b>McKaila Ferguson</b> (President, Arts BC), and <b>Mayor Richard Stewart</b> (City of Coquitlam) Location: Theatre	
9:30AM - 12:30PM	<b>Setting Tables, Building Stages, Making Offerings, On the Path of the Transformers</b> with <b>Ronnie Dean Harris</b> and <b>Meeka Morgan</b> Location: Theatre	<b>Values-Based Working</b> with <b>Allison Girvan</b> , <b>Sidi Chen</b> , and <b>Kia Kadiri</b> Location: Studio A
12:30PM - 1:30PM	Lunch	
1:30PM - 4:30PM	<b>Respectful Relationships &amp; Ethical Collaboration</b> with <b>Victoria Jaenig</b> Location: Theatre	<b>Resiliency &amp; Emergency Plans for Arts Organizations</b> with <b>Deb Borsos</b> Location: Studio A
7:00PM - 9:00PM	Evening Social at the Evergreen Cultural Centre (everyone welcome)	

## FRIDAY, OCT 4 | DAY TWO

8:00AM - 9:00AM	BIPOC Breakfast at Studio A		
9:00AM - 9:30AM	<b>Where We Are &amp; Why We Are Here</b> with <b>Carla Stephenson</b> and <b>Elliott Hearte</b> Location: Theatre		
9:30AM - 10:30AM	<b>Spotlight: Stories from the Sector</b> with <b>Shawn Stephenson</b> (Tiny Lights Festival), <b>James Darin Corbiere</b> (Eastern Woodland Art), <b>X'staam Hana'ax Nicole Halbauer</b> (H.E.A.L. Healthcare) Location: Theatre		
10:30AM - 10:45AM	Break		
10:45AM - 12:00pm	<b>Are Relationships the Ultimate KPI? (panel)</b> with <b>Meeka Morgan</b> , <b>Scotia Monkivitch</b> , <b>Kia Kadiri</b> , and <b>Shay Paul</b> (moderator) Location: Theatre		
Various Times	<b>Human Library: Morning Session</b> with <b>Patricia Huntsman</b> , <b>Peisen Ding</b> (ArtStarts), <b>Megan Lau</b> (BC Coalition of Arts, Culture, & Heritage) Location: Studio B		
12:00PM - 1:15PM	Lunch		
12:30PM - 1:00PM	<b>Curator's Tour: Cindy Mochizuki</b> with the <b>AGE</b> curator Location: Art Gallery		
1:15PM - 2:45PM	<b>Creative Recovery: Unleash the Power of Creativity</b> with <b>Scotia Monkivitch</b> Location: Theatre	<b>Leveraging Assessment Tools for Decision-Making</b> with <b>Patricia Huntsman</b> Location: Studio A	
2:45PM - 3:00PM	Break		
3:00PM - 4:00PM	<b>How Access and Inclusion are Failing Us: Thoughts from Disabled and Mad Artists</b> with <b>Jenna Reid</b> Location: Theatre	<b>Using Data for Good</b> with <b>Meena Das</b> Location: Studio A	<b>*The Truth in Truth and Reconciliation Game</b> with <b>James Darin Corbiere</b> Location: Studio B
Various Times	<b>Human Library: Afternoon Sessions</b> with <b>Juan Ramirez</b> (Arts BC Shared Services), <b>Pathways Program Team</b> , <b>Lucia Reguera Castro</b> (Artist Legal Outreach) Location: Studio B		
4:00PM - 4:15PM	Break		
4:15PM - 5:00PM	<b>A World of Rhythm   Connecting the Dots</b> with <b>Mohamed Assani</b>   <b>Carla Stephenson</b> & <b>Elliott Hearte</b> Location: Theatre		

## SATURDAY, OCT 5 | DAY

9:00AM - 9:15AM	<b>What We've Done &amp; Where We're Going</b> with <b>Arts BC</b> Location: Theatre		
9:15AM - 10:15AM	<b>Spotlight: Stories from the Sector</b> with <b>Tanya Nielson</b> (Kamloops Arts Council), <b>MaryAnn Anderson</b> (SmartGrant), and <b>Joanne Finlay</b> (Tsimshian Arts and Culture Society) Location: Theatre		
10:15AM - 10:30AM	Break		
10:30AM - 12:00PM	<b>Creating a Culture of Cohesion</b> with <b>The Bandish Network</b> Location: Theatre	<b>Navigating Conflict &amp; Building Capacity to Hold Nuance</b> with <b>Yun-Jou Chang</b> , <b>Carla Stephenson</b> , and <b>Ryan Hunt</b> Location: Studio A	
Various Times	<b>Human Library: Morning Sessions</b> with <b>Darb Erickson</b> (BC Arts Council), <b>MaryAnn Anderson</b> (SmartGrant), <b>Scotia Monkivitch</b> (Creative Recovery Network) Location: Studio B		
12:00PM - 1:00PM	Lunch		
1:00PM - 2:30PM	<b>Telling a Different Story: Changing the Narrative of Arts &amp; Culture (panel)</b> X'staam Hana'ax <b>Nicole Halbauer</b> , <b>James Darin Corbiere</b> , <b>Ryan Hunt</b> , <b>Rupinder Grewal</b> (moderator) Location: Theatre		
2:30PM - 3:00PM	Break		
3:00PM - 4:00PM	<b>2 Rivers Remix</b> with <b>Meeka Morgan</b> & <b>Ronnie Dean Harris</b> (interviewer) Location: Theatre	<b>Demystifying Workplace Mental Health &amp; Psychological Safety</b> with <b>Dagan Nish</b> (Actsafe Safety Association) Location: Studio A	
4:00PM - 4:15PM	Break		
4:15PM - 5:00PM	<b>Bringing it All Together</b> with <b>Carla Stephenson</b> & <b>Elliott Hearte</b> Location: Theatre		