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## REPORT TO ARTS COMMISSION MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24, 2026

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**SUBJECT**     **CRD Arts Development: 2025 Impact Report**

### **ISSUE SUMMARY**

The *CRD Arts Development: 2025 Impact Report* has been completed and is ready for review by the CRD Arts Commission before being forwarded to the CRD Board for information, distributed to councils, and made available to the public.

### **BACKGROUND**

Produced annually, the *CRD Arts Development Impact Report* provides a glimpse into the social, economic, and artistic impact of the CRD Arts Development Service. From 2018 to 2021, this report was called a Progress Report. In 2022, after an organization-wide review, it was renamed to "Impact Report," which more accurately reflects its purpose as an outreach initiative to show the impact of CRD arts funding. The 2025 Impact Report will be distributed widely, leveraging CRD digital platforms, including mailing lists, e-newsletters, and social media.

By advancing the annual Impact Report and recipient list to the CRD Board, the Arts Commission fulfills its statutory requirement to provide information on which organizations have received grants and the amounts of those awards, as well as raising awareness about the positive impact the CRD arts funding is having across the region.

The 2025 Impact Report presents information through infographics, statistics, images, quotes, and stories around two broad themes: 1) the economic impact of the CRD Arts Development Service's investment in arts organizations and activities, and 2) the qualitative impact of funding, including a section of the report that highlights how funding has activated Indigenous arts projects and community collaborations that empowered cultural self-determination across the region.

The 2025 Impact Report also highlights the first-ever national Arts Vibrancy Index. This index, produced by the business data lab of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, compared 22 census metropolitan areas (CMA) across Canada according to nine socio-economic factors, related to the arts. The Greater Victoria CMA, which includes all municipalities in the CRD, ranked #1 in the country, indicating the remarkable economic and social vibrancy of the region's arts eco-system.

### **ALTERNATIVES**

#### *Alternative 1*

The Arts Commission recommends to the Capital Regional District Board:  
That staff distribute the CRD Arts Development: 2025 Impact Report to all councils and electoral area directors to raise awareness about the positive impact of the Arts Development Service throughout the capital region.

#### *Alternative 2*

That this report be referred back to staff for additional information.

**IMPLICATIONS**

The 2025 Impact Report will be distributed to councils of participating and non-participating jurisdictions, as well as the directors of the CRD Board. The report will be distributed to the regional arts community and broader public through links in the CRD Arts e-newsletter (which has over 800 subscribers), social media, and the CRD website.

To limit the environmental impact of printing, grant recipients are provided with a link to the Impact Report as a digital asset with the option to request a physical copy if they require it.

**CONCLUSION**

The 2025 Impact Report provides a glimpse into the crucial impact of CRD Arts Development grant funding and outreach activities. Once reviewed by the CRD Arts Commission and CRD Board, the report will be distributed to all jurisdictions and published on the CRD website.

**RECOMMENDATION**

The Arts Commission recommends to the Capital Regional District Board:  
That staff distribute the CRD Arts Development: 2025 Impact Report to all councils and electoral area directors to raise awareness about the positive impact of the Arts Development Service throughout the capital region.

Submitted by:	Chris Gilpin, MPA, Manager, Arts & Culture
Concurrence:	Varinia Somosan, CPA, CGA, Acting Chief Financial Officer and Acting General Manager, Finance & Technology
Concurrence:	Ted Robbins, B. Sc., C. Tech., Chief Administrative Officer

**ATTACHMENTS**

- Appendix A: CRD Arts Development: 2025 Impact Report
- Appendix B: List of 2025 Grant Recipients
- Presentation: CRD Arts Development: 2025 Impact Report