



**VANL
CARFAC**

**ANNUAL REPORT
2015/2016**

ARTISTS WORKING FOR ARTISTS

The Mandate of VANL-CARFAC is to raise the socio-economic status of the artist by:

- Advocating on behalf of the visual arts sector
- Providing information to artists and non-artists on the moral rights of artists on issues of copyright, exhibition and reproduction
- Promoting the development of a cohesive provincial visual arts sector by developing communication tools and liaising between regional visual arts associations
- Advancing awareness of the visual arts in the province
- Acting as a liaison between the visual arts sector, government, cultural organizations, art galleries and the public
- Acting as a spokesperson on issues specific to visual artists
- Serving as a communication link between VANL members and CARFAC, the national visual arts service organization

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

VANL-CARFAC's Board of Directors consists of dedicated and hardworking volunteers who care deeply about our province's visual arts community. These individuals are the backbone of our organization, working together to raise the status of the arts and artists within the province of Newfoundland and Labrador.

Katie Butler-Major, St. John's, NL

Pepa Chan, St. John's, NL

Janet Davis, Wesleyville, NL

Teresa Kachanoski, Chair of the Board, St. John's, NL

Chrissie Kerr, Stephenvile, NL

Emily Lukaweski, St. John's, NL

Robin McGrath, Happy Valley - Goose Bay, NL

Ingrid Mary Percy, Corner Brook, NL

James Quinlan, St. John's, NL

Amber-Lynn Thorne, St. John's, NL

Olivia Wong, Corner Brook, NL

STAFF

VANL-CARFAC operates out of St. John's, with an office located on the 3rd floor of Devon House, 59 Duckworth Street. Office hours are 1 - 5PM, Monday - Friday.

Dave Andrews, Executive Director

Tessa Graham, Program Coordinator

CHAIR'S MESSAGE

The 2015-16 calendar year has certainly been an eventful one and I want to thank our staff, Dave and Tessa, for their hard work and dedication.

Our board of directors has also worked very hard and though our numbers have been low, our various committees have still managed to accomplish a great deal with the help of member volunteers. Here are just a few highlights:

The advocacy committee has championed a number of initiatives and provided guidance for consultations with city and provincial reps about budget issues.

The communications committee has been very active in publishing 12 Broadside issues on a wide range of topics of interest to our membership and beyond.

The EVA committee has been successful in raising the funds needed for this year's event and have had a record number of submissions in each category while streamlining the process.

In the coming year, some of our long-serving board members will be leaving their positions, but we have been actively recruiting new people to join us while continuing to be mindful of representing the various regions of the province and we have lots of new initiatives and collaborations to look forward to.

While the economic times are tough for everyone in this province, self-employed artists are in even greater need of support and encouragement. VANL-CARFAC is determined to continue to provide professional guidelines and a voice for visual artists.



Teresa Kachanoski, Chair of the Board

Teresa Kachanoski, Chair of the Board



COMMITTEE REPORTS

WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO THIS YEAR

From workshops to artist talks, we've certainly been up to a lot this year - take a look at what all of our committees have been doing in 2015/2016!



FINANCE AND PLANNING

The Finance and Planning committee is tasked with overseeing the development and administration of VANL-CARFAC's major programming and events. In 2015, VANL-CARFAC received sustaining funding from the Cultural Economic Development Program (CEDP), sustaining funding from the City of St. John's, and a grant from the Graduate Transition to Employment (GTEP) program.

Pivotal Point Grant:

The Cox & Palmer Pivotal Point Grant is a grant presented in partnership with Cox & Palmer that was developed to help facilitate the important transitions that occur within an artist's career trajectory as they evolve their practice and work to develop their reputation and visibility within the art world. Eligible projects include, but are not limited to: the development of new audience or market; publications and presentations; skill set development for new media; materials towards the creation of a specific body of work; participation in a residency that provides time and facilities to generate new work; or support for creation of a body of work or for exhibition costs at a significant venue. The grant is valued at \$5000 and is awarded annually.

The planning committee and office staff administered the grant for 2015—releasing a call for submissions, collating the submissions and striking and overseeing this year's selection jury. This year VANL accepted nineteen applications for the grant (up from just seven in 2014). The grant was responsible for generating four new memberships. This year's Pivotal Point jury was Jennifer McVeigh, Mavis Penney, and Teresa Kachanoski. The next granting period will be in the Fall of this year.

This year's recipient was Kay Burns for her proposed project 'The Museum of the Flat Earth.'

Kay Burns is a multidisciplinary artist based in Fogo Island, Newfoundland.

Her work includes performance art, locative media, audio, video, photography, sculpture, and installation.

Kay explores site-specific responses to locations through reinterpretation and reinvention of local mythologies, histories and the eccentricities of people who inhabit those places. Her work melds fact and fabrication, indirectly commenting on the authority associated with the dissemination of information. A significant part of her practice since 2003 has been the reinstatement of the defunct



Kay Burns as her performance persona, Iris Taylor

Flat Earth Society of Canada through her performance persona, Iris Taylor, entailing presentations of an evolving 'recruitment lecture,' guided 'historical' walks and the ongoing development of flat earth artefacts. Other walking-related investigations are realized through GPS triggered audio projects. Her work has been presented internationally in Reykjavik, Amsterdam, Belfast, New York and Los Angeles; and across Canada from Dawson City to St. John's. She previously held the post of curator at the Muttart Public Art Gallery in Calgary, and taught in the University of Calgary Fine Arts Department and the Alberta College of Art and Design Media Art Department prior to her move to Newfoundland. Burns continues to undertake freelance writing and curatorial projects, as well as mentorship and visiting teaching roles for various organizations and institutions.

The image shows three identical posters for a panel discussion titled "empower yourself: Confident Negotiations for Visual Artists" held on Saturday, September 12th at 3 pm. Each poster features a different panelist:

- Tara Bryan - Artist:** A portrait of Tara Bryan with red hair. Text: "Tara is a painter and book artist, living and working on the edge of the North Atlantic in Newfoundland. She is a lifetime member of VANL/CARFAC, which selected her for its Long Haul Award in 2010. Tara was a finalist for the NLAC Arts Achievement Award in 2011, and was inducted into the Royal Canadian Academy of Arts for Book Design in 2012. Recently, "Aftermath (cracking up)" from her 2010 exhibition *On Ice* at The Rooms Provincial Art Gallery was selected to be made into a large-scale mural which will be installed later this year on the façade of the Convention Centre in downtown St. John's."
- Emily Lukaweski - Lawyer:** A portrait of Emily Lukaweski with dark hair and a scarf. Text: "Emily is an associate in the St. John's office of Cox & Palmer. She was admitted to the Newfoundland and Labrador Bar in 2013 after having completed her Juris Doctor at Dalhousie University, including a diploma in international business law through Queen's University's UK campus. She has an interest and appreciation for a variety of disciplines which includes many arts related matters. Emily practices mainly in the area of corporate and commercial, intellectual property (IP), and immigration. She spent a period of time as a volunteer for the Artist's Legal Information Society in Halifax (ALIS), Nova Scotia, where she assisting with IP publications and liaising with community members. Her time with ALIS helped form an organization that would grow into an essential legal tool for various artists, musicians, and other organizations."
- Ingrid Mary Percy - CARFAC National Vice-President, Newfoundland and Labrador Representative:** A portrait of Ingrid Mary Percy with blonde hair. Text: "Ingrid Mary Percy studied visual art at the Emily Carr University of Art + Design in Vancouver, B.C. (B.F.A., Dip. F.A.) and at the University of Victoria, Victoria, B.C. (M.F.A.). She has been involved in the visual arts, writing, and music communities of Canada for 25 years. Since 1997, Ingrid has taught visual art at various institutions including the University of Victoria and Emily Carr University of Art + Design. A professional visual artist, she has exhibited her work across Canada and internationally. Ingrid has served on the Board of Open Space in Victoria, B.C. and Eastern Edge Gallery in St. John's, N.L. She is currently Vice-Chair of Visual Artists Newfoundland (VANL-CARFAC) and the Newfoundland and Labrador Representative on the Board of Canadian Artists' Representation/Le Front des artistes canadiens (CARFAC National). Ingrid lives in Corner Brook, Newfoundland and Labrador and is an Assistant Professor in the Division of Fine Arts at Grenfell Campus, Memorial University of Newfoundland. She teaches 2D Design, Drawing, Painting and Serigraphy."

"Empower Yourself: Confident Negotiation for Visual Artists" Panel Discussion Posters

Empower Yourself: Confident Negotiations for Visual Artists Panel: On September 12th VANL-CARFAC held a panel and professional development session on best practices and techniques for artists to negotiate exhibition and reproduction fees, contracts, and how to deal with improper handling of work by galleries and presenters. The opening presentation offered some best practices for successful negotiations as well as some specific advice and tools that may be employed if an artist's rights have been abused. The panelists included Chloe Lewis (Artist and Director of Eastern Edge Gallery), Andrew Taggart (Artist), Tara Bryan (Artist) and Emily Lukaweski (Lawyer) with Ingrid Mary Percy (Artist, Vice-Chair of VANL-CARFAC, NL Rep and Vice President of CARFAC National) acting as the moderator. The panelist made presentations on their personal experiences, offered advice, and answered questions from the audience. Attendance was very encouraging and pending funding, we hope to provide another event for this coming year. VANL also supplied an advisory note and a sample contract for participants to take home.

The board retained Doug Kirby at DMK Chartered Accountants for the preparation of the Review Engagement for financial year ending March 31, 2015.

ADVOCACY

It has been an especially busy year for advocacy issues within the province. Early this year, VANL received word of the restructuring of gallery space at the Rooms and fielded a large amount of concern from the community as to what these changes would mean for the gallery's operation and for the safe handling of artworks. After consulting with artists, community members and stakeholders, VANL wrote letters outlining the community's concerns to the gallery director, CEO and board of directors of the Rooms and met with the gallery director to discuss these issues. In follow up letters and meetings with the board and director, it appears that the changes being made would not dramatically effect or impede the gallery's function.

A number of issues also arose at the municipal level. Following the removal and destruction of a public art installation by local artist Pepa Chan we met with city officials to discuss the creation of a new policy for best practices to deal with public installations, the proper handling of both permitted and un-permitted work, the institution of a 30 day holding period in the cases of work removed by city workers, and, if possible, to streamline the permit application process. This issue is ongoing.



We also consulted with the City regarding the make-up of the Convention Centre procurement jury and the lower percentage of artists and arts professionals, compared to juries for the annual art procurement. VANL is hoping to use these issues as a starting point to advocate for the reinstatement of the annual art procurement, and to formalize some best practices regarding the make-up of future procurement juries.



Photo credit: Matt Barter

Following the 50% cut to the city arts project funding in December of 2015, VANL released a press statement on behalf of our advocacy committee and membership and worked with other sector organizations and protest organizers to lobby for its reinstatement. Executive Director, Dave Andrews, spoke on behalf of VANL and the visual arts sector at the event on the steps of City Hall. While the project funding was reinstated, we will continue to advocate for the reinstatement of funding to the annual art procurement.

Advocacy Report continues on next page

VANL BROADSIDE

March 2016 #008

"There is more to representing art than selling art. The life of the gallery is dependent on the renewal and refreshment of its artists and dealers. When that stops happening, it's the end." - Arne Glimcher

In Newfoundland and Labrador, You Can Die of Exposure

by Teresa Kachanoski, Chair of the Board

Everyone loves getting a good deal at an art auction, especially if the proceeds go to help a beloved charity. You go home with a lovely piece of artwork and you feel good about being generous.

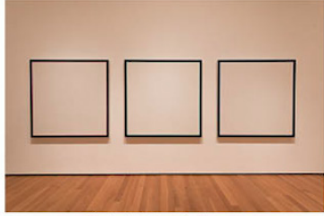
There is another side to this story that doesn't get the attention it deserves. Artists and art dealers are too frequently asked to donate work to charity auctions and the practice has become detrimental to local galleries and to the visual arts sector in general. The justification of "getting exposure" by donating work has been found untrue. Gallery owners see a dramatic drop in sales during months when art auctions abound, while artists are not getting paid for their work. As art auctions are equally popular and problematic, we are currently in the process of developing a series of recommendations and guidelines to make charities aware of the issues.

VANL-CARFAC is also in a situation where it needs to raise funds. For the past 11 years we have put on the Excellence in Arts (EVA) awards, with proceeds entirely generated by private sponsors and through fundraising efforts. This year we will indeed be having a fundraising event that will feature an art auction, but our auction will be different and we will make sure our guests are aware of the issues.

The artwork we will auction has been provided by local galleries, but we will set the minimum bid at the gallery price. The galleries will receive their commission, the artists will receive their share, and VANL will get the surplus amount above the minimum. While we will not receive a large return on each piece, we do feel that it's a win-win-win situation that will help open a dialogue about best practices in these situations.

Galleries are an essential part of the art-making world. They provide artists with marketing, promotion, advice, expertise, support and feedback. The work they do by educating and alerting the public to trends, establishing fair prices, and providing a context in which artists can sell their work even benefits those artists who are not represented by galleries. By supporting these integral parts of the visual arts community, we are ensuring both the galleries, and the visual arts as a whole, remain able to fulfill their role in maintaining the vibrant culture of Newfoundland and Labrador.

Want to be profiled on our home page? We are inviting all members to submit. The Member of the Month will be drawn at random and featured on the home page of www.vanl-carfac.com. Check our website for more information.



Stock photo from pixabay.com

VANL-CARFAC also made our annual pre-budget submission to the Department of Finance—this year outlining four recommendations for improvements in the visual arts sector.

VANL-CARFAC has also been addressing issues regarding the increase in charities and fundraisers holding art auctions and charity events primarily based around artworks. VANL's executive director met with a number of gallery owners regarding the negative impact that this increase is having on their business and artists' sales. The Advocacy committee and communications committee released a broadside addressing the issue. Also, this year's EVA reception fundraiser was structured to draw attention to this issue. VANL worked with 4 local galleries to auction work, placing the minimum bid at fair market value. VANL received only the profits over and above the minimum, and the artists would receive the profit, and the galleries received their full commission.

VANL has also directly contacted charity events to advocate for the proper payment of fees. The committee will continue to address this issue and a review of VANL's recommendations for payment for and the handling of artists' work with respect to auctions will be addressed by the upcoming development project for Best Practices documents. We have also regularly met with a number of local stakeholders, including the City of St. Johns, the provincial government, Business and the Arts, local galleries, the media, etc and board and staff have served on both the provincial and municipal arts advisory committees, juries, and ad hoc committees. VANL-CARFAC also provided advice to both members and non-members, galleries, and organizations, regarding issues of commercial contracts, copyright, commissions, etc.

HUMAN RESOURCES

For 2015-16, the VANL-CARFAC office hired Tessa Graham into the Program Coordinator position. Tessa is a recent graduate from the Grenfell Visual Arts program, and was hired with support from the Graduate Transition to Employment Program (GTEP) in July of 2015.

As it is a key component of our human resources plan, VANL has committed to finding as many professional development opportunities for Tessa as time and resources will allow, including relevant workshops by the Eastern Edge gallery, We Hearts the Arts, other CARFAC affiliates, artist talks, etc. These opportunities often have a direct relevance to her work, not only to her professional duties with VANL-CARFAC, but to her own art practice.

EVA AWARDS

The Tenth Annual EVAs took place on June 5th at The Rooms in St. John's. Awards were presented in six categories; the winners were Kyle Bustin (Emerging Artist); John MacDonald (Large Year award); Kent Jones (Long Haul award for lifetime achievement); Bruce Johnson (Critical Eye Award) and the Kippy Goins Award was awarded to Sharon LeRiche and the Craft Council Gallery. In recognition of the Award's tenth anniversary, and to account for the increased cost of living since the awards' inception, the prize amounts for each of the cash awards were raised from \$1000 to \$2000.

As always, the direct costs of the awards were raised entirely through generous support from our corporate and private sponsors—who generously increased their contributions to account for the larger prizes. Mary Pratt also returned as the Patron of the Awards for 2015. As well, the VANL-CARFAC Arts Advocate award was presented to St. John's artist June Walker Wilson, who received a print by Canadian artist Tony Urquhart.

In addition, a sixth, People's Choice award was added, in which both the nominees and winner were chosen by the community through an online voting platform. It was felt that the publicity afforded by this event would provide valuable attention both to the nominees, to the visual arts sector, as well as to VANL. Nineteen artists were nominated by the community and over 17,000 votes were cast for the nominated artists, with the largest number of votes going to St. John's based artist Michael Gough. The award came with a prize of \$1000.

The 11th annual awards were scheduled for May 13th 2016. In lieu of hiring a sponsorship coordinator, the EVA committee and staff undertook the fundraising and secured sponsors for all of this year's awards. As well, the committee held a fundraising event at our pre-EVA reception, auctioning thirteen works of art (along with other smaller batches of items) on silent auction. This year's event was used not only as a fundraiser, but also as a way to draw attention to an ongoing advocacy issue within the sector. While



the event was itself an auction it was structured to draw attention to the overabundance of art auctions used by charities and fundraisers and to highlight the effect that they have on both the galleries, the strain that excessive donation requests places on artists, as well as the negative impact these events have on artist's sales and the market value of their work. VANL joined with local artists and their gallery representatives to publicize the issue through our respective memberships. The starting bids were set at fair market value, and both the galleries and artists received the full commission and profit from the works. Though somewhat hampered by the weather, the event was a great success and the funds raised have exceeded our remaining funding requirements for this year's awards.

STUDENT/EMERGING PRACTICES

This was the second year of the student committee, with its goals to help integrate visual arts students and emerging artists into the Canadian and Newfoundland and Labrador arts communities, by increasing youth and student membership in VANL. Its efforts were to help inform youth about their rights as emerging artists in relation to issues, such as copyright and reproduction law.

While there was no formalized student committee, the topic of creating a structured group was discussed – with the possible premise that it would be based on the VANL board with 4 to 5 members who would each chair different subsections (ie. advocacy, communication, fundraising, etc.).

During the 2015-16, there was a VANL booth set up at the Wonderful Fine Market, in Corner Brook every Saturday throughout the fall, which was organized by Ingrid Mary Percy with Olivia Wong. VANL student members volunteered to man the booth and help answer any questions about VANL – this allowed these students to have a deeper understanding of VANL and what it represents as well as allowing them to have a place to display and sell their artwork.

There was also a membership drive in the winter, and an informal information session at the beginning of an art history class about VANL. The several students who continuously volunteered during the year were: Olivia Wong (chair), Marisa Rowsell, Kellye Hynes, Megan Wells, and April Fowlow.



Photo of Olivia Wong at the VANL-CARFAC booth at the Wonderful Fine Market

COMMUNICATIONS

VANL BROADSIDE
February 2016 #006

"Everything passes. Robust art alone is eternal." Theophile Gautier

Post Graduate Decisions: Part One

facilitated by Amber-Lynn Thorne

The biggest question to follow the completion of your Bachelor's of Fine Arts degree is the daunting "now what?" These testimonials follow the different paths of four of 2015 Visual Arts program class graduates from Grenfell Campus, Memorial University.

Jane Walker --

There was an urgent sense of unfinishedness that I felt as I neared the end of my BFA, a feeling that I could approach my practice more holistically, with stronger and more informed results.

An interest in interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary art practice led me to the Masters of Research in Creative Practices at The Glasgow School of Art. The 12-month program consists of designing a practice-based research project supported with academic methodology, mixed-methods and techniques. During the final three months of the programme, I will conduct my research and present it as a body of practical work accompanied by a written dissertation.

My current research interests revolve around the feasibility of decentralized contemporary art practice within our province. Unfortunately, dichotomies between urban and rural art practice can exist hand-in-hand with the dichotomies between "high art" and "folk art". In Newfoundland and Labrador, we have a unique opportunity to invest in the value of permanent rural creative practice as a space for something new. Contemporary and distinctive work is capable of growing on the fertile creative grounds of our rural spaces if we provide appropriate support for the specific challenges of working remotely. Using successful models and support for contemporary artists in the Scottish Highlands and Islands, my research will aim to strategize ways of making rural creative practice a viable and sustainable option for contemporary artists in Newfoundland and Labrador.

"Portrait of Myself as My Mother"
Jane Walker, 2015, found textiles

Photo of Jane Walker
by Amber-Lynn Thorne

This is a four-part series to be posted bi-monthly. Past Graduate Decisions: Part 2 will be released on Feb 15th, 2016. You can check out our past Broadside's on the website at: <http://vanl-carfac.com/programs-services/past-broadside/>

In 2015-16, the main focus of the Communications Committee has been writing, editing and maintaining the VANL-CARFAC Broadside. This online newsletter is released on the 1st of each month, with some exceptions where we have released two issues per month, the extra being released on the 15th. The Communications Committee have managed to produce a backlog of articles of varying subject matter, as well as creating and releasing new articles covering relevant and timely issues, as they arise. The Broadside is distributed through email, posted on our website, and on social media.

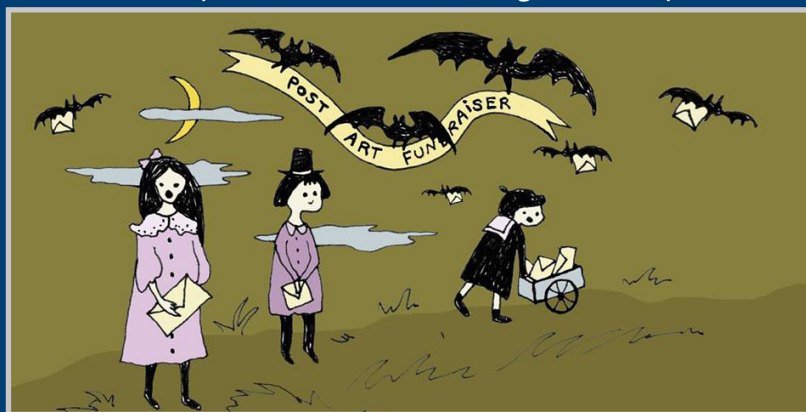
The Member of the Month profile, which celebrates one of our members, is released on the 15th of each month. The Communications Committee has also been keeping the VANL-CARFAC twitter and Facebook feeds refreshed with relevant Newfoundland and Labrador art sector based news and news stories.

FUNDRAISING

The fundraising committee was pretty active this past year, but is in need of new members. We continue to focus on using fundraising efforts as outreach opportunities to increase our visibility in the community and to boost membership in the organization.

Card-Making Workshops: Robin McGrath and Mavis Penney held two card-making workshops in Labrador, which brought in \$310.

The Wonderful Fine Market: Olivia Wong (VANL Student Rep) and Ingrid Mary Percy (VANL Vice-Chair) hosted a VANL Information table at the Wonderful Fine Market every Saturday from September to December 2015 in Corner Brook, NL. In addition to selling memberships, providing information about VANL-CARFAC and the visual arts sector in Newfoundland and



Labrador, they sold VANL aprons and collected donations for VANL. They also had art supplies on hand that provided children the opportunity to make art in return for a donation to VANL. The VANL info table also served as a venue to display emerging artists' work. Visual Arts students sold their paintings, drawings, etc. in exchange for sitting the table. The VANL Info table at the Wonderful Fine Market in Corner Brook raised enough money for VANL to purchase a membership in the Wonderful Fine Market Cooperative with a little left over. More importantly, the initiative gave emerging artists/art students a venue to sell their work; situated VANL as a community member; disseminated information about our organization to the general public; and served to raise the profile of the visual arts and artists in our province.

Printer's Art Fair: This was a very successful event. June Walker and Pepa Chan attended the Printer's Fair in November 2015 at The Rocket Room. They sold donated prints, books, cards, aprons, t-shirts and memberships. They also had VANL information on display and talked about the organization with the visitors. A total of \$280 were raised.

Post Art: Our third annual Post Art exchange was held in April 2016. For the exchange, VANL-CARFAC acts as a clearing house, connecting individuals through an address exchange. Each artist produces and mails three pieces of their own art to three addresses and, in exchange, receives art from three other participants. We have had success with this, with participants ranging from emerging and amateur artists, to well-established senior artists from all over the province and across the country. It is a very unique event and people seem to enjoy it. Pepa Chan facilitated this year's event and she noticed that the amount of participants dropped almost in half. Maybe there needs to be a new way to promote it? We raised \$370.

Anatomy of a Newfoundland and Labrador Visual Artist: We've continued to the artist's aprons and t-shirts using the "Anatomy of a Newfoundland and Labrador Artist" image, by Robin McGrath and Mavis Penney. We sold them at the Printer's Fair. Robin sold ten aprons in Labrador (\$250) and three were sold at the EVA Reception on March 5th (\$75).

This year's fundraising committee was Robin McGrath, Pepa Chan and June Walker-Wilson (member).

MEMBERSHIP/OUTREACH

Membership in VANL has remained stable, with a modest 6% increase from the last annual general meeting. This year, the Pivotal Point grant—which requires membership in VANL to apply—was responsible for seven new memberships.

The proposed “Recent Graduate” membership category proposed was officially put in place. The new classification was instituted to address the issue of new graduates often being unable to afford a full membership, as they leave school and enter the workforce. The fee for the RC membership category is now \$25.

The board and staff were also held some community outreach events this year: holding a BBQ at the Eastern Edge Art Marathon event in August and another in tandem with the Face to Face board meeting in September.

As one of our membership benefits, we have continued our Artist Talk series. Any artist exhibiting work is eligible to apply for a talk, which will be paid at the current CARFAC recommended minimum rate. The series is meant to work both as a professional development initiative and to serve as an example of best practices of the payment of professional fees to artists. In the last year, we’ve had a series of very successful artist talks, including Michael Pittman who gave a talk in conjunction with his latest exhibition of new work at The Leyton Gallery; Jeanette Jobson made a presentation on her work at the Peter Lewis Gallery; and in November, Boyd Chubbs gave an artist talk at the Christina Parker Gallery.



COLIN MACNEE EMERGENCY FUND



Colin MacNee, photo by Robert Young

VANL-CARFAC continues to administer our emergency fund for artists in times of need: covering illness, injury or loss of studio space which would hamper their ability to work. Applications are handled anonymously. There were no requests for assistance in the last year. An ad hoc committee has been struck to review the current guidelines of the fund in order to ensure that they adequately cover the needs of the community. As well, a new brochure has been designed to publicize the fund, to ensure that artists in need are aware of the fund.

On Oct 4, 2015, the art community lost Gerry Squires, who requested that donations be sent to the Colin

MacNee Emergency Fund, in lieu of flowers. \$2410 was collected towards the replenishment of the fund.

NATIONAL REPORT

2015 - 2016 CARFAC National Report by Ingrid Mary Percy

The 2015-2016 year began in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan in May 2015 with the annual CARFAC Conference and AGM. This year we tried something new: instead of hosting one large conference we decentralized the event and called it A National Conversation. We distributed conference funds to our regional affiliates to host events appropriate to their region on the theme Empower Yourself: Confident negotiation for visual artists (I moderated VANL's Empower Yourself panel discussion on September 12, 2015 in St. John's with artists Tara Bryan, Chloe Lewis and Andrew Taggart and VANL Board member and lawyer, Emily Lukaweski).



Avis Rasmussen, Beverly Edgcombe and Ingrid-Percy at the CARFAC AGM June 2015

Photo credit: Ingrid Mary Percy

At the May meeting in Saskatoon, CARFAC partnered with TRIBE Inc. to present three-days of activities that included: a panel discussion on negotiation with artists Mary Longman and Clint Neufeld; an opening at AKA artist-run of Dana Claxton: Revisited and Bear Witness: The Ultimate Warriors; a panel discussion moderated by Rebecca Belmore, Contemporary Aboriginal Performance: Acts and Intervention with artists Adrian Stimson and Robin Brass.

At the CARFAC AGM, Susan Tooke (Halifax, NS) was elected President and I was elected Vice-President of CARFAC National.

I also serve on the Fee Schedule Committee. This year, we have been negotiating the Minimum Fee Schedule with the Canadian Museums Association (CMA), the Canadian Museum Directors Organization (CAMDO) and the Artist-Run Centres and Collectives Conference (ARCA) We have

National Report continues on next page

proposed the usual 3% annual increase for the next 5 years (starting January 1, 2016) as well as recognition/agreement in principle to use the Professional Fee Guidelines in the CARFAC Fee Schedule on a national basis at public galleries, museums, and artist run centres across Canada. In addition to the regular negotiation of the fee schedule, this year, CARFAC-RAAV is working with the Independent Media Arts Alliance (IMAA) and Le Conseil québécois des arts médiatiques (CQAM) to harmonize our various fee schedules and also, try to come up with some reasonable ways to quantify performance and media art so that it is practical to apply a fee schedule to it.

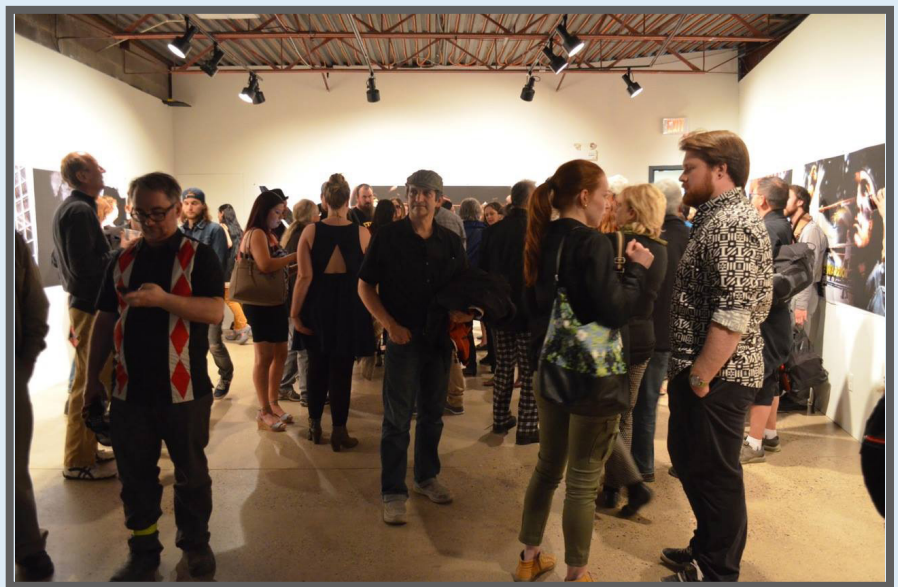
CARFAC National staff and board intervened with the dysfunctional situation in Winnipeg with CARFAC Manitoba and we came up with a plan to either revive CARFAC Manitoba or withdraw their CARFAC Affiliate designation. We hired an artist in Winnipeg on contract to deal with the situation in the community, we put out the word that we were hoping to resurrect CARFAC Manitoba then, we called a special meeting. CARFAC President Susan Tooke, along with our CARFAC employee on the ground in Winnipeg, and April Britski (via Skype), attended and held the meeting. It was a huge success and a group of energetic Winnipeg artists stepped forward and volunteered to form a new Board.

Executive Director of CARFAC National, April Britski, who recently gave birth, is on maternity leave and currently living in Vancouver, BC. She plans to return to CARFAC National as Executive Director after her leave in March 2017.

I have been very busy on the CARFAC HR Committee. CARFAC National has two full-time (30 hrs per week) staff members (Executive Director and Advocacy & Communications Director) and one part-time staff member. In October, we did extensive performance reviews with the three staff members. In the past few months, we also wrote, advertised, interviewed for, and hired an Acting Executive Director. We hired Marcia Lea as Acting Executive Director (AED) to replace April Britski during her paternal leave. Marcia Lea is an Ottawa based visual artist, educator, and curator who has been involved with CARFAC for a long time.

The HR Committee is also hired Darrah Teitel to fill Melissa Gruber's position whose departure was sudden and somewhat unexpected. Darrah Teitel as our new Director of Advocacy and Communications. Teitel has background in Theatre and worked as a Legislative Assistant in the House of Commons from 2011 to 2015. She has been extremely effective in working with advocacy as it relates to the ARR, meeting with MPs, etc.

On the HR Committee, I worked on finalizing an Employee Handbook for CARFAC National. With all the HR changes, we realized that it would be a good time to complete this. I also wrote a Social Media Policy and the HR Committee added some other items (including a clause about accruing overtime). We had a lawyer review the document and the final Employee Handbook was approved by



*Dana Claxton show at AKA Artist-Run in Saskatoon, May 2015
Photo credit: Ingrid Mary Percy*



CARFAC National Board and Staff in Saskatoon, May 2015

Photo credit: Ingrid Mary Percy

the CARFAC National Board at our last meeting.

On the national level, we continue to move forward with the Artist's Resale Right Campaign (ARR). We have identified key MPs across the country who may be supportive of an ARR Bill if put forward by the Liberals (Scott Simms is a Liberal MP in NL and put forward an ARR Bill when the Conservatives were in power). CARFAC has generated material to present to MPs and various board members and CARFAC members will be doing this across Canada. On March 14, 2016, I met with Liberal MP Gudie Hutchings in her office in Corner Brook. She was very enthusiastic about the ARR and said that she would like to see it happen. CARFAC National is promoting the ARR as an all party caucus strategy to create a groundswell of interest and momentum in passing a Bill on ARR. In June 2016, I will be meeting with other MPs in Ottawa to discuss the campaign. The ARR will put more money in artists' pockets and will be especially beneficial to Indigenous artists living in Northern communities.

The 2016 CARFAC AGM will be held in Montreal June 3 - 5. The AGM committee came up with a similar theme to Visual Arts Alberta's project "Draw More Income" and we plan to use similar branding. It will include stories of success, pitfalls, etc. We will develop promotional materials over the coming months. "Draw More Income" has a similar quality to "Has the Artist Been Paid?" – it's flexible enough to go in different directions. The Independent Media Arts Alliance (IMAA) has their meeting just before ours which I will also be attending.

Lastly, it's important to note that I have been reporting to the CARFAC National office and regional affiliates across Canada about the health and well-being of artists and the visual arts sector in Newfoundland and Labrador on an ongoing basis. One of the most important aspects of being a regional affiliate of a national organization is having strength in numbers and having the support of the larger Canadian arts community when the going gets tough. CARFAC National and affiliates are aware of the cuts that are happening to arts and culture in our province and if we need advocacy or support on a national level, we have a voice

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CARFAC National and our regional affiliates across the country

VANL-CARFAC thanks our board of directors: Teresa Kachanoski (Chair); Ingrid Mary Percy (Vice-Chair); Emily Lukaweski (Treasurer); Katie Butler-Major (Secretary); Pepa Chan; Janet Davis; Chrissie Kerr; Robin McGrath; James Quinlan; Amber-Lynn Thorne; and Olivia Wong.

And our Staff: Dave Andrews and Tessa Graham

And to anyone who we may have forgotten. Thank you!

Thank you!



Artists working for artists