

Arts Centre for Edson Society
Annual General Meeting
President's Report
September 13, 2017

Here are the major highlights from the 2016-2017 year for the Arts Centre for Edson Society.

September

- ACES held their Annual General Meeting where they re- elected their current Executive, which is as follows:
 - President: Peter Taylor
 - Vice-President: Kevin Zahara
 - Secretary Treasurer: Diana Inscho
 - Director: Gemma Christie
 - Director: Ron Christie
 - Director: Clayton Dearden
 - Director: Shari McDowell
 - Director: Helen Payette
 - Director: Doug Woodhouse

November

- Town of Edson CAO Mike Derricott, Director of Community Services Jim Desaultels and Arts Coordinator Alicja Broda joined the regular meeting. ACES thanked them for all their work thus far. They spoke about having Community Services take on a more broader focus outside of recreation. Ali has been working with arts members to provide more well-rounded arts programming and use the current facilities better. Mike spoke that the Town and Yellowhead County would be collaborating on a regional survey looking at new programming and facilities. This survey would be released in the spring and then presented as information in September.

March

- Diana Inscho made a great presentation to the Rotary Club of Edson's Centurion Club. After the presentation, the organization voted to have them donate \$2300 to ACES to assist us in continuing to lobby for a new theatre.

April

- ACES met with members of ECHO on a possible partnership to renovate the Red Brick Arts Centre. This renovation would see the needs of the community met with all the concerns that ACES and other user groups have had with the Red Brick while at the same time guaranteeing the longevity of the Red Brick in the community. ECHO rejected this proposal and said we would be better off perusing a new facility to see our needs met.

- ACES members actively completed the regional survey from the Town of Edson and Yellowhead County. ACES members also attended sessions hosted by the study group and participated in phone interviews to present ACES message.
- ACES paid for Facebook advertising to promote their page and the completion of the survey.

May

- ACES members attended the open house by the study group to present the initial findings of the Town & County survey.

August

- ACES volunteered at the Rotary Sundays in the Park.

Future Initiatives

As President, I recommend the following initiatives that ACES should take in the coming year. All initiatives need the consent of the ACES committee.

- Use social media and the general media to champion the project, and praise the work on Town Administration.
- Advocate ACES project during the October municipal election campaign. ACES should ask all the candidates their opinions on a future theatre and print their answers on their Facebook page and in the local media (newspapers). ACES should also be visible in the community and at the local forum to ask questions of the candidates. Finally, ACES should meet with the candidates one-on-one to get their personal perspective on the project.
- ACES should look at the former Evergreen School as a potential site for a future theatre. Perhaps mentioning this idea in the local media to hear what the public thinks about this.
- Have monthly press releases that keep the media and community up to date with ACES.

Submitted as information, September 13, 2017

Peter Taylor

President, Arts Centre for Edson Society