

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE ___ MAY 04, 2015

MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

MY NAME IS ADELE KOSTIAK, PRESIDENT OF THE SOUTH SIMCOE ARTS COUNCIL

WE APPRECIATE THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS OUR VIEWS AND CONCERNS REGARDING THE REPORT ON THE 2015 GRANTS/DONATIONS PROGRAM IN RELATION TO THE OPERATION OF THE ARTS COUNCIL.

THE SOUTH SIMCOE ARTS COUNCIL IS IN ITS 21ST YEAR. THE TOWN HAS ALWAYS BEEN A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTOR TO THE ARTS COUNCIL IN THE CONSISTENT AMOUNT OF \$25,000.00 PER YEAR. OUR PROGRAMS AND SERVICES ARE DIRECTED TO THE TOWN OF NEW TECUMSETH.

WE ARE BEFORE YOU THIS EVENING TO EXPLAIN THE RAMIFICATIONS OF YOUR RECOMMENDATION TO REDUCE OUR FUNDING BY \$9,400.00.

LET ME EXPLAIN:

**FIRSTLY, OUR YEAR END IS SEPTEMBER
SECONDLY, IT IS NOT JUST THE REDUCTION FROM THE TOWN; IT IS THE COMPOUNDING EFFECT OF THIS REDUCTION ON EXISTING APPLICATIONS FOR OPERATIONAL FUNDING.**

OUR EXISTING COMMITMENTS ARE THREATENED BY THIS LATEST CHALLENGE TO OUR ORGANIZATION.

- **OUR PROVINCIAL FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES, BEING THE ONTARIO TRILLIUM FOUNDATION AND THE ONTARIO ARTS COUNCIL ARE BASED ON WHAT WE RECEIVE FROM OUR MUNICIPAL ENTITY.**
- **OUR RECENT ONTARIO ARTS COUNCIL SUBMISSION BASED ON YOUR \$25,000.00 SUPPORT, ALLOWS US A ONE TIME OPPORTUNITY FOR 2015-16 TO RECEIVE A GRANT OF 14% OF OUR OPERATIONAL REVENUE. FOR SUBSEQUENT YEARS IF SUCCESSFUL, IT IS BASED ON 10% OF OUR REVENUES. THE TOWN OF NEW TECUMSETH IS OUR PRIMARY FUNDER.**
- **ANY REDUCTION IN TOWN FUNDING THEREFORE SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCES OUR ABILITY TO SECURE THESE OTHER FUNDINGS AND PLACES OUR ORGANIZATION IN PERIL.**
- **BASED ON OUR ASSUMPTION OF RECEIVING THE ARTS ON MAIN FUNDS, WE HAVE COMMITTED \$2,000.00 FOR ARTS ON MAIN AND HAVE ENGAGED A TORONTO JAZZ SINGER SONGWRITER PERFORMER FOR THE BATTLE OF THE BRUSHES, ARTS ON MAIN EVENT SATURDAY, JUNE 20.**

AS A RESULT OF THE FUNDING REDUCTION WE MUST TAKE IMMEDIATE ACTION:

1. **AS OUR TENANT COSTS AT THE GIBSON CULTURAL CENTRE ARE OUR LARGEST OPERATING COST, IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO ADDRESS IMMEDIATELY OUR TENANCY AT THE GIBSON CULTURAL CENTRE**

- 2. CARRY OUT A COMPLETE REVIEW OF ALL PROGRAMS TO ASCERTAIN POSSIBLE CONTINUATION OF PROGRAMS AND;**
- 3. FURTHER, THAT NOT BEING ENOUGH, WE WILL BE FACED WITH THE POSSIBILITY OF CEASING OPERATIONS**

WE ASK THAT AT THIS TIME YOU RECONSIDER THE STATED CUTS TO THE SOUTH SIMCOE ARTS COUNCIL.

THANK YOU.