

2 Sir Winston Churchill Square Edmonton, AB, Canada TSJ 2C1

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youraga.ca

January 29, 2015

Dr. Diane Kipnes Chair, The Edmonton Galleria Project Suite 400, 10508-82 Avenue Edmonton, Alberta T6E 2A4

Dear Dr. Kipnes,

The Art Gallery of Alberta is pleased to provide a letter of support for the Edmonton Galleria Project.

The Galleria project will be a welcome addition to the downtown Arts District and will complement the activities of the Art Gallery of Alberta and other cultural organizations in the City. By bringing potential new audiences and new presenters to the downtown core, the Edmonton Galleria will be a vital, creative hub and positive addition to our community.

At the AGA, we are always working to develop new program directions that emphasize creating connections between people, art and ideas. A new performing arts and art education complex will provide enhanced opportunities to engage with the interdisciplinary nature of the local arts community.

We believe that the Galleria Project will be an important and welcome addition to the City of Edmonton.

With best regards

Catherine Crowston

Executive Director / Chief Curator

Darcy Trufyn

Chair, AGA Board of Directors





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January 29, 2015

Terry Keyko **Edmonton Cultural Trust Foundation** Suite 400 10508-82 Avenue NW Edmonton, Alberta T6E 2A4 Canada

Dear Terry Keyko,

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Art Gallery of Alberta, please accept our sincere thanks for your invitation for the AGA to be a beneficiary of the Edmonton Cultural Trust. The Board of Directors of the AGA has voted to accept this invitation, and would be very pleased for the AGA to have beneficiary status and membership with the Edmonton Cultural Trust Foundation.

We greatly appreciate the work that is being done by the Edmonton Cultural Trust Foundation and its Board of Directors on behalf of Edmonton's cultural organizations.

We wish you the best of luck with this important endeavour.

With best regards

Catherine Crowston

Executive Director / Chief Curator

Darcy Trufyn

Chair, AGA Board of Directors



9828 - 101A Avenue Edmonton, Alberta Canada T5J 3C6 Tel: (780) 426-4811 Fax: (780) 428-7194 Box Office: (780) 425.1820

Artistic Director BOB BAKER Executive Director PENNY RITCO

www.citadeltheatre.com

February 9, 2015

Dr. Dianne Kipnes Chair Edmonton Downtown Academic and Cultural Centre Foundation Suite 400, 10508 -82 Avenue, Edmonton, AB T6E 2A4

Dear Dr. Kipnes,

Re: Edmonton Cultural Trust Foundation

Thank you for the opportunity to meet with you and be updated on the Edmonton Galleria Project and to learn more about the Edmonton Cultural Trust (ECT) on December 5, 2014.

First of all, we would like to share our support for the Edmonton Downtown Academic and Cultural Centre (EDACC) Foundation's Edmonton Galleria Project, which will generate the income and assets to sustain the Edmonton Cultural Trust Foundation. We are furthermore pleased that you have included the Art Gallery of Alberta, the Winspear, the Edmonton Opera and ourselves as beneficiaries of the Trust, and we look forward to working with you to ensure that Galleria complements our already vibrant arts scene and addresses the facility requirements of a range of arts organizations in our community.

We also support the efforts of the EDACC Foundation to garner the support and participation of the City of Edmonton, the Governments of Canada and Alberta and Edmonton's business and philanthropic community in the Galleria Project.

We agree with the Edmonton Downtown Academic and Cultural Centre (EDACC) Foundation that the establishment of such a trust will positively impact the arts and culture community in Edmonton. Many major arts organization in our City face the same challenge: how to manage the increasing costs of running our facilities, while staying focused on the important work of creating and curating arts and entertainment experiences using a business model that is largely dependent on government grants.

We view an innovation such as the Edmonton Cultural Trust as a way in which key arts partners could be the beneficiaries of a "sustainable legacy for arts and culture in Edmonton". As one of the four major cultural facilities on 99th Street that would benefit from the success of the Cultural Trust, the Citadel Theatre commends your organization for developing a structure that will foster an even healthier arts ecology in our city.

We find it particularly gratifying that one of your stated priority uses of funds will be the development of 99th Street as a "walkable and shopable "Arts District corridor. Like you, we imagine a destination teeming with people enjoying all that our cultural facilities and our City's public square could offer.



9828 - 101A Avenue Edmonton, Alberta Canada T5J 3C6 Tel: (780) 426-4811 Fax: (780) 428-7194 Box Office: (780) 425.1820 Artistic Director BOB BAKER
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Our own Citadel Theatre renovation to create a signature entrance and marquee presence facing Churchill Square represents our commitment to downtown vibrancy and community building -- an aspiration we know EDACC shares.

We are also encouraged by our discussion with you about inclusiveness and the recognition of the value of diverse board members with a broad skill set on the Edmonton Cultural Trust Foundation to ensure its success.

We strongly support the inclusion of Dave Mowat, the current Vice President of the Citadel Theatre's Board of Directors as a Founding Trustee of the ECT Foundation and are confident that his association with the Citadel and his devotion of Edmonton, and to downtown vibrancy in particular, will bring valuable insight to your Foundation.

Many thanks for all that you do to champion arts and culture in our city.

Sincerely

Sol Rolingher, QC

Chair, Citadel Theatre Board of Governors



www.edmontonopera.com

February 10, 2015

Dr. Dianne Kipnes, Chair Edmonton Downtown Academic and Cultural Centre Foundation Suite 400, 10508 -82 Avenue Edmonton, AB T6E 2A4

Re: Edmonton Galleria Project and Edmonton Cultural Trust Foundation

Dear Dr. Kipnes,

Edmonton Opera is pleased to provide this letter of our full support for the Edmonton Downtown Academic and Cultural Centre (EDACC) Foundation's Edmonton Galleria Project, which will generate the income and assets to sustain the Edmonton Cultural Trust Foundation. We are furthermore pleased that you have included the Art Gallery of Alberta, the Winspear, the Citadel and Edmonton Opera as beneficiaries of the Trust.

In addition, we encourage the efforts of the EDACC Foundation to garner the backing and participation of the City of Edmonton, the Governments of Alberta and Canada, and Edmonton's business and philanthropic community in the Galleria Project.

All major arts organization in our City face the same challenges: managing the increasing costs of operating and maintaining facilities while staying focused on the important work of creating and presenting arts and entertainment experiences using a business model that is largely dependent on government grants. We do not believe that this old business model will sustain and grow our organization in the future.

Edmonton Opera commends your organization for developing a business case that fosters an improved and sustainable arts benefit to the citizens of Edmonton and Alberta. We agree with the EDACC Foundation that the establishment of a cultural trust will positively impact the arts and culture community in Edmonton and surrounding areas.

We view and support an innovation such as the EDACC Foundation as a way in which key arts partners could be the beneficiaries of a "sustainable legacy for arts and culture in Edmonton". We are also encouraged by our discussion with you about inclusiveness and the recognition of the value of diverse board members with a broad skill-set in order to ensure success.

Our Board of Directors supports my inclusion, as the current Chair of the Opera's Board of Directors, to be a Founding Trustee of the EDACC Foundation. By using this already-proven model of arts-business-government support, we look forward to a sustainable future.

Sincerely,

Richard Cook, Board Chair

Edmonton Opera

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February 19, 2015

Mr. Irv and Dr. Dianne Kipnes Edmonton Downtown Academic Cultural Centre Foundation c/o Delcon Development Group Ltd. 10508-82 Avenue Edmonton AB T6E 2A4

Dear Mr. Irv and Dr. Dianne Kipnes,

The Francis Winspear Centre for Music is pleased to provide this letter of support for the proposed Edmonton Galleria Project.

We understand the scope to include four theatres ranging in size from 200 to 1,600 seats, and that the success of this project rests on a partnership with the University of Alberta as a key tenant. As we are frequently asked within the community whether this project will duplicate the Winspear Centre venue, or our own completion plans, our Board and administration have reflected on this concern. Our conclusion is that this project has the potential to significantly benefit our city.

As the fifth largest city in Canada, we believe that Edmonton may be ready for additional performance venues in the next ten years. The Galleria project as currently proposed is complementary to our own completion plans, especially with the focus of multi-disciplinary activities related to existing and expanded University programs.

We welcome that the Galleria Project will be an anchor at the north end of 99th Street, galvanizing it as an arts corridor in the Edmonton core. It will add important critical mass to Edmonton's Arts District, and will serve as a complement to the downtown Arena and as home to the Edmonton Opera.

We understand that a component of the Edmonton Galleria Project is the creation of an Edmonton Cultural Trust Foundation. We look forward to gaining a deeper understanding of the structure of the foundation as it evolves and how it may impact us. As one of Edmonton's Cornerstone Arts Organizations, we understand that we could be a beneficiary of the trust and are grateful for this consideration.

Sincerely,

Reg Milley

Chair, Board of Directors

Francis Winspear Centre for Music

FRANCIS WINSPEAR CENTRE FOR MUSIC