



Corporation of the City of
NEW WESTMINSTER

Notice is hereby given of the following meeting:

ARTS COMMISSION

April 1, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.

**Meeting held electronically under Ministerial Order No. M192/2020 and
the current Order of the Provincial Health Officer - *Gatherings and Events***

AGENDA

1.0 ADDITIONS / DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

2.0 ADOPTION OF MINUTES

2.1 Adoption of the Minutes of February 11, 2021

3.0 PRESENTATIONS

4.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- 4.1 Poet Laureate 2021-2024 Update – Todd Ayotte**
- 4.2 Anvil Centre Performing Arts Residencies Update – Todd Ayotte**
- 4.3 Cultural Gig Workers – Sarah Joyce**
- 4.4 Virtual Programming Considerations – Sarah Joyce**

5.0 NEW BUSINESS

**5.1 Decline in Space for Artists and Cultural Groups in New Westminister
– Bob Crockett**

6.0 REPORTS AND INFORMATION

- 6.1 New Media Gallery Update: MirNs Exhibit – Sarah Joyce**
- 6.2 Library Update – Chris Koth**
- 6.3 Report from Arts Commission Representative on Public Art Advisory
Committee (Standing Item) – Peter Leblanc**
- 6.4 Arts Council of New Westminister (Standing Item) – Bob Crockett**
- 6.5 Vagabond Players (Standing Item) – Ted Drabyk**

7.0 CORRESPONDENCE

8.0 NEXT MEETING

Thursday, June 10, 2021

9.0 ADJOURNMENT



ARTS COMMISSION

February 11, 2021

**Meeting held electronically under Ministerial Order No. M192/2020 and
Order of the Provincial Health Officer *Gatherings and Events – February 5, 2021***

MINUTES

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillor Trentadue	- Chair, City Council Member
Ted Drabyk	- Community Based Arts Sector
Erin Jeffery	- Community Based Arts Sector Non-Profit Representative
Peter Leblanc	- Community Based Arts Sector, Non-Profit Representative
Bob Crockett	- Arts Council of New Westminster Representative
Kelly Proznick	- Community Member
Julia Schoennagel	- Community Member
Janet Tilley	- Douglas College Representative
David Vivian	- Community Member
Katey Wright	- Community Member
Vesna Maljkovic	- Education Sector Representative

VOTING MEMBER REGRETS:

Utkarsha Kale	- Community Member
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STAFF PRESENT:

Todd Ayotte	- Manager, Community Arts and Theatre
Sarah Joyce	- Director/Curator, New Media Gallery
Chris Koth	- Manager of Programs and Community Development
Nicole Ludwig	- Assistant City Clerk
Carilyn Cook	- Committee Clerk

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

1.0 ADDITIONS / DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT the Arts Commission agenda of the February 11, 2021 meeting be adopted with the addition of:

- *Item 5.2 New Business – Decline of Artist Space by Bob Crockett*
- *Item 5.3 New Business – Art Peer Alliance Update by David Vivian*

CARRIED.

All members of the Commission present voted in favour of the motion.

2.0 ADOPTION OF MINUTES

2.1 Adoption of the Minutes of September 3, 2020

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT the Arts Commission minutes of the September 3, 2020 meeting be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED.

All members of the Commission present voted in favour of the motion.

3.0 PRESENTATIONS

There were no items.

4.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

4.1 Poet Laureate 2021-2024

Todd Ayotte, Manager of Community Arts and Theatre, provided a presentation of the 2021 Poet Laureate Call which outlined eligibility, compensation, deliverables, as well as draft Call items such as Program goals and duties.

In response to questions from the Commission, Mr. Ayotte provided the following comments:

- A compensation increase can be further explored in the future budgets to ensure it is aligned with the responsibilities attached to the position;
- Given the intent to reach diverse community voices and perspectives, the call will be encouraging submissions from BIPOC and equity-seeking writers;
- Youth and emerging writers are welcome to apply;
- The Poet Laureate Selection Committee, comprised of representatives from the library, the Arts Commission and the community will evaluate the submissions and prepare a recommendation for Council; and,
- The Call will be shared widely through various avenues, including the City's website, the Cultural Services Newsletter, social media, local arts and cultural organizations.

Discussion ensued, and Commission members provided the following comments:

- Given the desire to reduce barriers to participation and attract emerging writers, the evaluation criteria should be weighted more heavily on the candidate's ability to provide a voice to and/or connect with the City's equity-seeking communities;
- Language in the Call should be clear;
- The call should use the word "writer" to replace or appear alongside the word "artist"; and,
- Selection Committee representation should be solicited through the local literary arts community including the Royal City Literary Arts Society and those who were connected to Litfest.

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT David Vivian and Julia Schoennagel be appointed as the Arts Commission representatives on the City's Poet Laureate Selection Committee.

CARRIED.

All members of the Commission present voted in favour of the motion.

4.2 Cultural Gig Workers

Sarah Joyce, Director/Curator, New Media Gallery, shared the significant struggles that gig workers are currently facing with the lack of events being held due to the pandemic. As such, a study will be undertaken to determine the exact issues being faced by gig workers and what supports are needed to address these issues. Next steps include:

1. Gather a small ad hoc group together
2. Email and Digital Poll is sent out
3. Answers compiled into a report to Arts Commission
4. Projected timeline: May Report for June 10 Meeting.

Discussion ensued, and Commission members expressed their gratitude that this matter will be looked into as some of them are gig workers themselves and/or are married to gig workers.

Councillor Trentadue requested that Ms. Joyce continue with the study and bring it back to the Commission for further discussion.

Commission members were encouraged to contact Ms. Joyce directly if they wish to participate in the study.

4.3 Virtual Programming Considerations

Sarah Joyce, Director/Curator, New Media Gallery, advised of the challenges encountered with virtual programming including security, anxiety from too much screen time, etc., noting that procedures for recording program participants, particularly children, during virtual sessions is necessary. Ms. Joyce outlined the following steps to be taken to address these issues:

1. Gather a small ad hoc group together
2. Email and Digital Poll is sent out
3. Answers compiled into a report to Arts Commission
4. Projected timeline: May Report for June 10 Meeting.

Chris Koth, Manager of Programs and Community Development, thanked Ms. Joyce for raising this topic, and advised that as facilitators of their online programs, library staff would be interested in participating in the study.

5.0 NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Election of Alternate Chair

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT Bob Crockett be elected as the Alternate Chair for the 2021 term of the Arts Commission.

CARRIED.

All members of the Commission present voted in favour of the motion.

5.2 Decline of Artist Space

Bob Crockett, committee member, advised that the decline in the availability of practice, storage, etc., art space is becoming very concerning to the arts community; therefore, he will be submitting a report to the Commission for discussion at the next meeting.

5.3 Arts Peer Alliance Update

Todd Ayotte, Manager, Community Arts and Theatre, provided an update to the Commission on the implementation of the arts peer alliance to support the advancement of key tactics identified in the Arts and Theatre Strategies. Mr. Ayotte reinforced that the intention was not to create new committees, but rather engage the sector through project-specific, ad-hoc opportunities such as the upcoming Anvil Centre performing arts residency. Once the Art Coordinator is hired, it is anticipated that more active, project-based engagement will expand to the visual arts community.

6.0 REPORTS AND INFORMATION

6.1 Anvil Performing Arts Residences

Todd Ayotte, Manager of Community Arts and Theatre, shared a presentation titled, “Anvil Centre Performing Arts Residencies 2021” which outlined the residency program framework, the purpose and intention (to support performing arts sectoral recovery, and opportunities for community engagement) as well as the timeline, selection and evaluation process. Updates will be provided to the Commission at the April 1, 2021 meeting.

6.2 New Media Gallery Updates

Learning Lab

Sarah Joyce, Director/Curator, New Media Gallery, announced that installation of the MirNs exhibition is underway, and that all of the works, which consist of mirrors or portraiture, will be interactive without the necessity of touch, and that the exhibit will also include a live artificial intelligence piece which will be linked through Germany and Spain to New Westminster.

Micro-residencies

Sarah Joyce, Director/Curator, New Media Gallery, shared that the three day long micro-residencies include 15 young artists who are learning about technology and who may not normally have the funds to spend on expensive technologies. She advise that two of the artists are now in exhibitions and that a follow up report on the micro-residencies will be provided to the Commission in the future. .

6.3 Library Update

Chris Koth, Manager of Programs and Community Development, announced that the New Westminster Public Library’s Call for Artists is now open, and will be until March 5, 2021, for those who wish to exhibit in the Library’s upstairs art space. He also advised of the teen arts contest, of which the winner will become a jurist on the aforementioned Call. Additional information can be found on the Library’s website.

In response to a query from a Commission member, Mr. Koth shared that displaying art along the library ramp was stopped as part of the renovation, and advised that now there are logistical concerns with respect to the art pieces selected for the space.

6.4 Report from Arts Commission Representative on Public Art Advisory Committee (Standing Item)

Peter Leblanc, shared that at the October 1, 2020 Public Art Advisory Committee meeting, members discussed the following:

- The community response to the loss of the WOW Westminster public art installation due to the fire at Pier Park, and ensuing discussions as to how the City may consider commemorating this important work; and,
- The Sportsplex public art project which will be installed in Queen's Park later this month.

6.5 Arts Council of New Westminster Report & 2021 Plan (Attached) (Standing Item)

In addition to the report and plan circulated in the meeting Agenda Package, Bob Crockett, reiterated the ongoing concern about the lack of space for artists

6.6 Vagabond Players (Standing Item)

Ted Drabyk, shared that the Vagabond Players Theatre is closed and will remain so until the pandemic is over.

7.0 CORRESPONDENCE

There were no items.

8.0 NEXT MEETING

Thursday, April 1, 2021

9.0 ADJOURNMENT

ON MOTION, the meeting was adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

Certified Correct,

Councillor Mary Trentadue
Chair

Carilyn Cook
Committee Clerk



ARTS COUNCIL OF NEW WESTMINSTER
PO Box 16003, New Westminster, BC V3M 6V6
info@acnw.ca | acnw.ca | 604-525-3244

Submission to the Arts Commission

From: Bob Crockett, President, Arts Council of New Westminster

Date: March 18, 2021

Subject: Decline in space for Artists and Cultural Groups in New Westminster.

This report asks the Commission to raise awareness with City Council of the challenges facing artists and long-standing cultural organizations in our city to find the spaces in which to operate.

Background

Artists and arts groups are being squeezed out of spaces to operate in all major cities.

- As reported by Vancouver city staff:
“Vancouver has experienced an escalating loss of artist studios. As documented in Making Space for Arts and Culture and the Vancouver Eastside Culture Crawl’s 2019 report, A City Without Art, there has been a loss of 400,000 square feet (37,161 sq. m) of visual arts studio space over the past 10 years in the eastside catchment of the Crawl (does not include for example music spaces). The majority of artists (78%) rent their workspace and most (77%) are seeking to relocate due to rent increases and property redevelopment.”
- In response the City of Vancouver passed a to amend the Zoning and Development By-law to remove barriers to the creation of new work-only artist studios in industrial districts. In September, [city council approved a 10-year goal](#) of creating, repurposing, or expanding 800,000 sq. ft. of affordable city, non-profit, and private spaces for arts and culture, including 650,000 sq. ft. of new or repurposed space, 150,000 sq. ft. of enhanced existing spaces, and 400 units of affordable artist housing.

The Situation in New Westminster

Redevelopment is putting pressure on arts organizations for work-only studios plus practice and storage space. Anecdotally, we can provide the following examples:

- **100 Braid** street artist studios and the neighbouring music studio space have been closed.
 - Susan Grieg summarized the situation like this:
The loss of the 100 Braid St building and Braid St Art Studios & Gallery has impacted working space for over 70 visual artists, as well as 10 musicians, 3 performing artists and 2 writers. There is also the displacement of the over 400 artists and 60-70 musicians who have been associated with art shows, open Mic nights and other events. It will deeply impact the New Westminster community



population who attended the other 30 events that happened each month before COVID.

I have scoured New Westminster for other affordable industrial and even commercial space only to be told over and over that each place has a demo clause of six months to a year. There is no regulation of pricing by private owners of many of these buildings and they have even raised lease amounts during the past year making spaces even more unaffordable.

After eight months of exploring what has been available, it seems sadly, the lack of affordable space and zoning areas for arts studios along with these other factors means that there are few, if any, options left in the city for permanent working art space.

The affects and ripples of these collective losses thru not having art space for practice will not truly be felt until after COVID is over. Everyone wants to return to a “normal” life, only there will be a gaping hole in what life in New Westminster has come to mean.

- Rick Good, the current owner of Bully's Studios reached out to the ACNW for help:
As you know we are an hourly jam space, bands book in to rehearse and we charge them for use of the room. With the new orders that have been extended, we have seen a dramatic drop in the number of bands that have been showing up to practice, somewhere in the range of 70%even with our COVID-19 precautions in place. I d am just curious as to what help the city is able to offer to one of its longest lasted music spaces. The building itself has been a music spot since the 50s, and Bullys has been around for almost 20 years at this point. We would hate for the pandemic to be the thing that takes us down, so I am reaching out to you and The City for any help you can give.
- John White, Music Director, **New Westminster and District Band Society** reported:
Of most concern at this time is the identification of a future rehearsal site(s) and a suitable storage space for the organization's considerable music library, collection of instruments and other musical equipment. Up until rehearsals were halted in March 2020, the Jazz Band rehearsed at New Westminster Secondary School and the other two ensembles rehearsed in the gym at Richard McBride Elementary. Richard McBride is being replaced and construction of the new facility is significantly complete. When the new school opens in September 2021, the Band Society will lose its rehearsal and storage space.



- John Davies of the **New West Symphony** advised the ACNW:
The Massey has asked the Symphony and the two Bands to work together to come up with a plan to share so as to reduce duplication and storage space requirements. We will be evaluating if there are any problems relating to the overlap of rehearsals and concert times. After that we will be looking at the condition of the instruments that the bands own as we have set aside money to acquire much of what we need to complete the Symphony's requirements and upgrade whatever is on its last legs. We could have a workable solution that will be significantly less costly than what we envisioned but the devil will be in the details. As the Symphony would have to have a full percussion set available to move back and forth between the band room and the stage of the Massey for concerts, the same does not apply to the bands that would just rehearse there. Should the band(s) decide to move to a different rehearsal space we would not be able to follow them without being prepared to rent instruments for our performances in the theatre. Rental would clock in at around \$750 per concert including transportation. As we may never be in a position again to financially outfit the Symphony's percussion needs we need certainty that we can reach a long-term agreement and that would only be possible if the arrangements with the Massey are attractive enough for the band(s) so they are not looking for alternative locations down the road. .
- John Davies also added this about the **Royal City Musical Theatre**:
The Royal City Musical Theatre Society moved their rehearsal space to Vancouver in a facility that was part of the Winter Olympics. There are plans to make the old Shiloh Methodist Church on 6th Avenue near 12th available for community groups once it has been restored and the new day care facility has been built.
- On several occasions, theatre and music groups have requested to use the ACNW **Queen's Park gallery** for rehearsals.

Recommendation

To meet this challenge, this requests that the City:

1. Prepare a report on the inventory of work-only artists studios currently available in NW, the level of current use of this type of space in NW, project future need of this type of space, set appropriate targets for the future inventory of this type of space, review zoning and bylaw changes, and other strategies, to achieve the target inventory over short and long terms.
2. Review the accessibility of civic facilities for local artists, arts groups, and arts organizations

References See <https://dailyhive.com/vancouver/vancouver-artist-studio-space?auto=true>
ECCS City without Art report: <https://culturecrawl.ca/about/community-engagement>



REFERRAL REPORT

Report Date: November 16, 2020
Contact: Chris Robertson
Alix Sales
Contact No.: 604.873.7684
604. 871.6038
RTS No.: 14083
VanRIMS No.: 08-2000-20
Meeting Date: November 24, 2020

TO: Vancouver City Council

FROM: General Manager of Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability and General Manager of Arts, Culture and Community Services

SUBJECT: Employment Lands and Economy Review Quick Start Actions: Zoning and Development By-law Amendments to Remove Barriers to New Work-Only Artist Studios in Industrial Areas

RECOMMENDATION

- A. THAT the General Manager of Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability be instructed to make an application to amend the Zoning and Development By-law to remove barriers to the creation of new work-only artist studios in the industrial district schedules, generally in accordance with Appendix A; and that the application be referred to Public Hearing;

FURTHER THAT the Director of Legal Services be instructed to prepare the necessary amending by-law generally as set out in Appendix A for consideration at Public Hearing.

- B. THAT Recommendation A be adopted on the following conditions:
- (i). THAT passage of the above resolutions creates no legal rights for any person, or obligation on the part of the City and any expenditure of funds or incurring of costs is at the risk of the person making the expenditure or incurring the cost;
 - (ii). THAT any approval that may be granted following the public hearing shall not obligate the City to enact any rezoning by-laws;
 - (iii). THAT the City and all its officials, including the Approving Officer, shall not in any way be limited or directed in the exercise of their authority or discretion, regardless of when they are called upon to exercise such authority or discretion.

REPORT SUMMARY

Council adopted the *Employment Lands and Economy Review Phase 2: Emerging Directions for Consideration Through the Vancouver Plan (“ELER Phase 2”)* on October 22, 2020 to guide further research, policy and program development and inform the economic foundations of the Vancouver Plan process. As part of ELER Phase 2, Council also approved the implementation of five immediate “quick start” ELER actions requiring by-law amendments, one of which was for the removal of barriers to new work-only artist studios in industrial areas within the Zoning and Development By-law.

This report recommends Zoning and Development By-law amendments to various industrial district schedules to remove certain date and floor area conditions for Artist Studio – Class A and Artist Studio – Class B uses while maintaining existing restrictions for the “Residential Unit associated with and forming an integral part of an Artist Studio” use. The intent of these changes is to remove existing barriers to allow new work-only artist studios in these district schedules while supporting Council’s cultural space targets of no net loss of arts and cultural space and goal of 800,000 square feet of new space by 2030.

COUNCIL AUTHORITY/PREVIOUS DECISIONS

- On October 22, 2020, (RTS 13633) Council approved *the Employment Lands and Economy Review Phase 2 Report*.
- On September 11, 2019, (RTS 13175) Council approved Vancouver’s 10-year culture plan *Culture|Shift: Blanketing the City in Arts and Culture* which included *Making Space for Arts and Culture*, a 10-year cultural infrastructure plan, and the *Vancouver Music Strategy*.
- On January 7, 2013, (RTS 9863) Council adopted *Proposed Amendments to the Zoning and Development By-law to Support Artist Studios in Industrial Areas* to expand opportunities for work-only artist studios.
- On October 6, 2011, (RTS 09132) Council adopted the *Artist Studio Regulatory Review Implementation Framework*, which describes opportunities to improve the creation, preservation and operation of artist studios.
- In 1996, Council adopted the Artist Studio Guidelines, Strata Title Conversion Guideline for Artist Studios, and amended definitions and regulations for artist studios to encourage functional, liveable, affordable and safe artist live-work studios.
- In 1995, Council approved policies from the *Artist Live/Work Studio Policy Review*.

CITY MANAGER’S/GENERAL MANAGER’S COMMENTS

The City Manager recommends approval of the foregoing.

REPORT

Background/Context

On October 22, 2020, Council received the *Employment Lands and Economy Review Phase 2: Emerging Directions for Consideration Through Vancouver Plan (“ELER Phase 2”)* to guide further research, policy and program development and to inform the economic foundations of the Vancouver Plan process. Launched in January 2019, the Employment Lands and Economy Review included in-depth research and stakeholder engagement to inform the economic foundations of the Vancouver Plan process.

Since the onset of COVID-19 in March 2020, the ELER program also incorporated emergency response initiatives to support workers and employers. This included the identification of short-term recovery actions that the City can take to support economic recovery. This is of particular importance for Vancouver’s arts and culture sector, currently projecting losses in excess of \$90 million for artists, cultural workers, and cultural organizations as a result of COVID-19.¹ As part of ELER Phase 2, Council approved the implementation of immediate quick start recovery actions requiring by-law amendments, one of which was the removal of barriers to new work-only artist studios in industrial areas.

Arts and Culture

Arts and culture are vital to the city’s identity, quality of life, economic prosperity and development, social cohesion, and sustainability. Cultural facilities are essential to providing balanced, complete communities and neighbourhoods. Further, the arts and cultural sector and the creative economy are critical to employment and economic growth. In British Columbia, arts and cultural industries contributed \$7.9 billion to GDP in 2016, which is higher than agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting (\$5.8 Billion) and utilities (\$6.3 Billion). Vancouver-based artists have achieved worldwide renown with Vancouver having the highest concentration of artists per capita among Canada’s major cities. The median income of Vancouver artists, which is \$22,116, combined with the lack of affordable studio space, make Vancouver an extraordinarily challenging city for artists to build and maintain sustainable careers.²

In 2019, Council approved *Making Space for Arts and Culture*, a ten-year, cultural infrastructure plan to optimize City policies, tools, programs and investment priorities to secure, enhance, and develop vibrant and affordable arts and cultural spaces. The plan identifies accelerated loss and displacement of cultural spaces as the most critical challenge facing the arts and cultural sector - particularly studio and production space in commercial and industrial zones. It sets Vancouver’s first cultural space target of 800,000 square feet (74,322 sq. m) of space by 2030, which includes 650,000 square feet (60,387 sq. m) of new or repurposed space. The plan also sets out policy to ensure no-net-loss of cultural space, including production space such as artist studios and music spaces.

¹ Greater Vancouver Professional Theatre Alliance (2020), COVID-19 B.C. Arts & Culture Impact Survey. Accessed at <https://www.gvpta.ca/programs/covid-19-sector-impact-survey>.

² Hill Strategies (2016), Artists in Canadian Municipalities in 2016. Accessed at <https://hillstrategies.com/resource/artists-in-canadian-municipalities-in-2016/>

This report recommendation addresses one of the Plan actions to remove barriers for new work-only artist studios in industrial zones, to support no net loss of space and allow for the replacement and growth of work-only studio and production space.³

Strategic Analysis

Two of the key policy areas in ELER Phase 2 are promoting the diversity, resilience and equity of the city's economy as well as placing emphasis on the value of the city's industrial lands. The report includes policy directions that encourage a diversity of jobs and sectors and enhance viability of arts and culture sector. Many of these issues have been amplified by COVID-19. Canada Council reported 43% of artists and cultural workers were concerned that they would lose 75% of their projected income in 2020.

Artist Studios and Production Space in Industrial Lands

Industrial land is critical to local arts production jobs: it serves as the arts and culture sector's "back of house" with creation, rehearsal, and production. For example, nearly one-in-five businesses in the False Creek Flats identify as being part of the arts and cultural economy, with an estimated minimum of 525,000 square feet (48,774 sq. m) of artist production and rehearsal studios.⁴ Production and studio spaces typically exist in older, lower rent, industrial and commercial building stock. Industrial spaces are required for a variety of high-impact art production such as construction of large built forms for public art, toxic materials, and loud noise.

Previous Work

In 2011, City staff conducted a comprehensive review of artist studios leading to Zoning and Development By-law amendments to expand existing artist studio uses in industrial zones. The conditions limiting new artist studios, however, were not removed at that time. As a result, most artist studio uses continue to be subject to conditions that limit the development of artist studios to buildings that existed prior to a specific date (originally 1996; later amended to 2013 or 2017 depending on the zone), and limit additions to a maximum of ten percent of the existing floor area⁵.

These conditions were originally intended to address concerns around new developments in industrial areas that were using residential units associated with artist studios as strata condominiums. While these measures may have helped to address further conversion of industrial land into residential use, they have also effectively stopped on-site replacement and needed growth of work-only studios.

Loss of Artist Studios and Productions Spaces

Vancouver has experienced an escalating loss of artist studios. As documented in *Making Space for Arts and Culture* and the Vancouver Eastside Culture Crawl's 2019 report, *A City Without Art*, there has been a loss of 400,000 square feet (37,161 sq. m) of visual arts studio

³ Culture|Shift: Blanketing the City in Arts and Culture Vancouver Culture Plan 2020-2019, Appendix D Making Space for Arts and Culture (RTS 13175).

⁴ Making Space for Arts and Culture: Cultural Infrastructure Plan Update 2018 (RTS 12420)

⁵ There are only a few circumstances where the date and floor area conditions do not apply: outright-approved artist studios within specific sub-areas of the I-2 and I-3 zones and conditionally approved artist studios in the MC-1 and IC-3 zones.

space over the past 10 years in the eastside catchment of the Crawl (does not include for example music spaces). The majority of artists (78%) rent their workspace and most (77%) are seeking to relocate due to rent increases and property redevelopment, as summarized by one respondent:

“East Vancouver artists are living on hefty rents and borrowed time as they watch one block redevelop after another, resulting in the displacement of yet another studio. I feel that this pattern will continue, leading to an exodus of creatives.”⁶

ELER and *Making Space for Arts and Culture* also recognize that the sector faces a number of space-related challenges such as displacement, affordability, regulatory barriers, competition from other uses, availability of safe and affordable workspaces, a diverse continuum of workspaces, and overall supply of workspaces. Artist studios, in particular, face a difficult and unique challenge as the majority of Vancouver’s industrial zoning, while allowing for existing studio spaces, does not allow for the replacement of new artist studios.

Proposed Amendments

1. Work Only Artist Studios

Staff are recommending the removal of regulatory barriers for work-only artist studios with by-law amendments to remove date and floor area conditions for “Artist Studio – Class A” and “Artist Studio – Class B” uses listed under the [Cultural and Recreational] sections of the industrial district schedules (as per Appendix A). This would allow new work-only artist studios to be developed through the Development Permit process to allow the replacement and growth in the supply of work-only artist studios and production spaces.

2. Residential Units Associated with Artist Studios

Staff are also recommending to retain existing limitations on residential units associated with artist studios by transferring the date and floor area conditions from the artist studio uses listed under [Cultural and Recreational] to the residential units associated with artist studios listed under [Dwelling] (as per Appendix A). As indicated through ELER Phase 2 and the Metro Vancouver Regional Industrial Lands Strategy, the limited supply of industrial land in the region needs to be protected and prioritized for employment uses. Furthermore, as experienced in the 1990s in the IC-3 district schedule, new residential units associated with artist studios often function as market strata residential units, which do not achieve the longer-term community benefit of affordable housing for artists. This will ensure that no new residential uses are inadvertently allowed in industrial zones or where this use is not supported by existing regional and municipal regulations and policies including Metro Vancouver’s Regional Growth Strategy and the Regional Context Statement Official Development Plan.

Next Steps

Staff are continuing to work to address barriers to artist studios through the implementation of *Making Space for Arts and Culture*. The delivery strategy of arts and culture infrastructure, along with other public benefits will continue to be explored through various mechanisms, including

⁶ Eastside Culture Crawl (2019), A City Without Art. Accessed at <https://culturecrawl.ca/about/community-engagement>.

capital planning, senior government partnerships, and the Vancouver Plan's Public Investment Framework.

Consultation

The recommendations in this report builds upon extensive engagement undertaken as part of *Making Space for Arts and Culture* as well as concerns raised during ELER's engagement that highlighted the vulnerability of non-profit and arts and culture workspaces due to displacement and competition with other land uses, and affordability.

Staff also reached out to the Arts and Culture Advisory Committee – Spaces Subcommittee and the broader arts and cultural community via the City's Cultural Services e-mail listserv for feedback on this specific action. There was support as well as reiterated concerns around displacement, net loss, lack of growth and ensuring studio spaces are available to artists.

Financial Implications

Any new work-only artist studios (Class A and Class B) are eligible for a reduced rate of \$10 per building permit under each applicable Development Cost Levy By-law, see the City's [DCL Bulletin](#) for details on DCL rates.

The recommendations of this report will be undertaken with existing budgets and personnel.

CONCLUSION

These amendments to the Zoning and Development By-law industrial district schedules to remove existing barriers to allow new work-only artist studios are a small step to sustain livelihood opportunities for arts and cultural workers who contribute significantly to Vancouver's economy, liveability, and identity. This aligns with Council priorities including *Making Space for Arts and Culture*, ELER Phase 2, and COVID- 19 pandemic recovery.

* * * * *

**DRAFT By-law to amend the Zoning and Development By-law
Regarding Artist Studios**

Note: A By-law will be prepared generally in accordance with the provisions listed below, subject to change and refinement prior to posting.

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF VANCOUVER, in public meeting, enacts as follows:

1. This By-law amends or adds to the indicated provisions of the Zoning and Development By-law.
2. In the MC-1 and MC-2 Districts Schedule, Council strikes “, the change of use must only apply to floor area existing as of February 26, 2013, and any additions are limited to no more than 10 percent of existing floor area” from section 2.2.1C.
3. In the MC-1 and MC-2 Districts Schedule, Council strikes “Artist Studio – Class A, but only in sub-area A as shown in Figure 1.” and “Artist Studio – Class B, but only in sub-area A as shown in Figure 1.” from section 3.2.2.C, wherever they appear.
4. In the MC-1 and MC-2 Districts Schedule, Council strikes “, but only if the change of use applies to floor area existing as of February 26, 2013 and additions do not exceed a maximum of 10 percent of the existing floor area” from section 3.2.3 C, wherever they appear.
5. In the MC-1 and MC-2 District Schedule, Council strikes “Residential Unit associated with and forming an integral part of an Artist Studio – Class B” from section 3.2.3 DW and replaces it with “Residential Unit associated with and forming an integral part of an Artist Studio – Class B, provided that the change of use applies to floor area existing as of February 26, 2013 and additions are limited to a maximum of 10 percent of the existing floor area.”
6. In the M-1, M-1B, M-2, IC-1 and IC-2, IC-3, I-1, I-2, and I-3 District Schedules, Council strikes “, the change of use must only apply to floor area existing as of February 26, 2013, and any additions are limited to no more than 10 percent of existing floor area” from section 2.2.C, wherever they appear.
7. In the I-3 District Schedule, Council strikes “Artist Studio – Class A, but only in sub-area A as shown in Figure 1.” from section 2.2.C, wherever they appear.
8. In the M-1, M-1B, M-2, IC-1 and IC-2, I-1, I-2 and I-3 District Schedules, Council strikes “, provided that the change of use applies to floor area existing as of February 26, 2013 and additions are limited to a maximum of 10 percent of the existing floor area” from section 3.2.C, wherever they appear.
9. In the M-1, M-1A, M-1B, M-2, I-1 District Schedules, Council strikes “Residential Unit associated with and forming an integral part of an Artist Studio – Class B.” from section 3.2.DW and replaces it with “Residential Unit associated with and forming an integral part of an Artist Studio – Class B, provided that the change of use applies to floor area existing as of February 26, 2013 and additions are limited to a maximum of 10 percent of the existing floor area.”

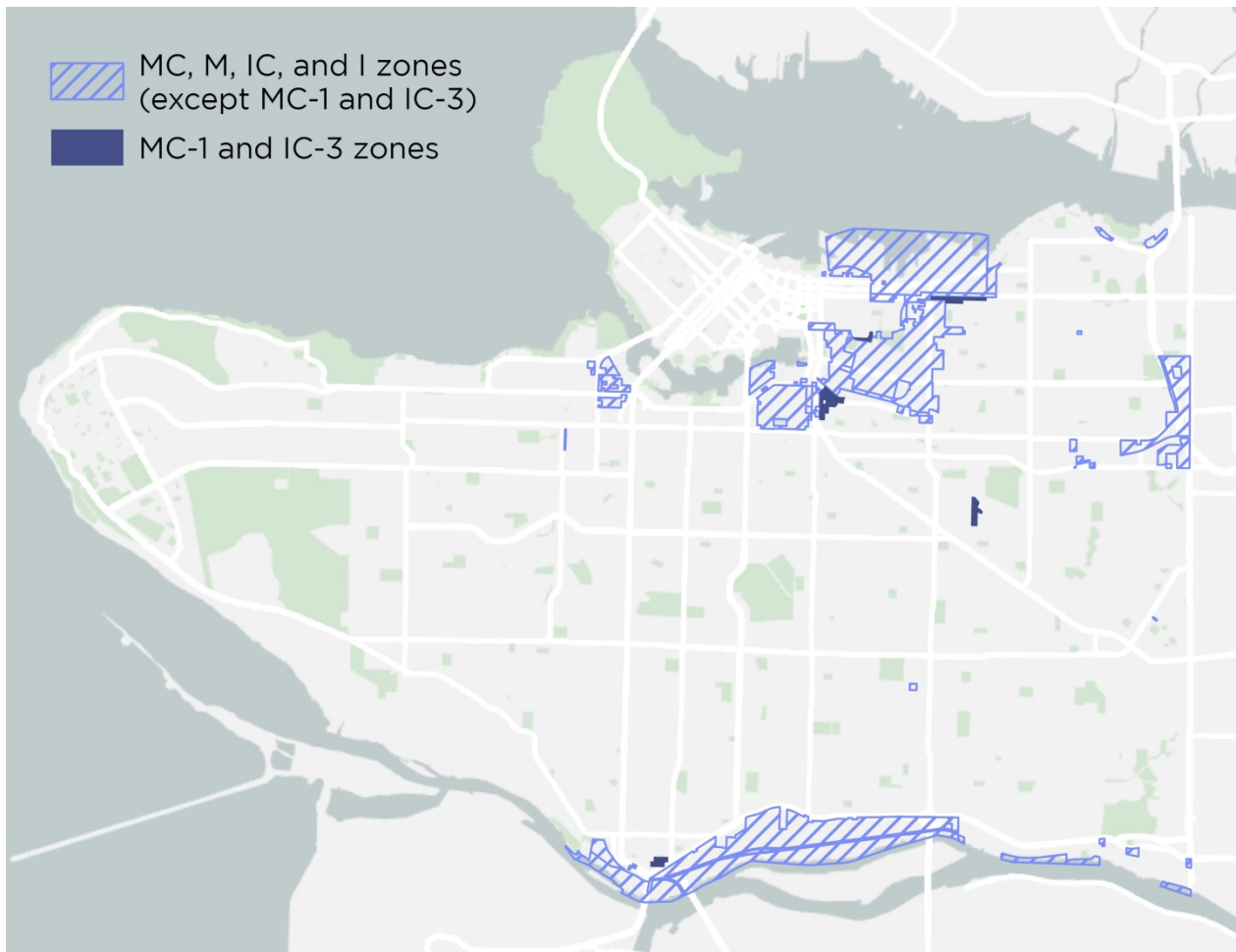
10. In the IC-1 and IC-2 Districts Schedule, Council strikes “Residential Unit associated with and forming an integral part of an Artist Studio.” from section 3.2.DW and replaces it with “Residential Unit associated with and forming an integral part of an Artist Studio, provided that the change of use applies to floor area existing as of February 26, 2013 and additions are limited to a maximum of 10 percent of the existing floor area.”
11. In the I-1A, I-1B, and I-4 District Schedules, Council strikes “Residential Unit associated with and forming an integral part of an Artist Studio – Class B.” from section 3.2.DW and replaces it with “Residential Unit associated with and forming an integral part of an Artist Studio – Class B, provided that the change of use applies to floor area existing as of May 2, 2017 and additions are limited to a maximum of 10 percent of the existing floor area.”
12. In the I-2 District Schedule, Council strikes “Residential Unit associated with and forming an integral part of an Artist Studio - Class B, but not in sub-area A or B as shown in Figure 1.” from section 3.2.DW and replaces it with “Residential Unit associated with and forming an integral part of an Artist Studio - Class B, provided that the change of use applies to floor area existing as of February 26, 2013 and additions are limited to a maximum of 10 percent of the existing floor area, but not in sub-area A or B as shown in Figure 1.”
13. In the I-3 District Schedule, Council strikes “Residential Unit associated with and forming an integral part of an Artist Studio - Class B, but only in sub-area B as shown in Figure 1.” from section 3.2.DW and replaces it with “Residential Unit associated with and forming an integral part of an Artist Studio - Class B, provided that the change of use applies to floor area existing as of February 26, 2013 and additions are limited to a maximum of 10 percent of the existing floor area, but only in sub-area B as shown in Figure 1.”
14. In the M-1A District Schedule, Council strikes “, the change of use must only apply to floor area existing as of February 26, 2013, and any additions are limited to no more than 10 percent of existing floor area” and “, provided that the change of use applies to floor area existing as of February 26, 2013 and additions are limited to a maximum of 10 percent of existing floor area” from section 3.2.C, wherever they appear.
15. In the I-1A and I-1B District Schedules, Council strikes “, the change of use must only apply to floor area existing as of May 2, 2017 and any additions are limited to no more than 10 % of existing floor area” from section 2.2.C, wherever they appear.
16. In the I-1A and I-1B District Schedules, Council strikes “, provided that the change of use applies to floor area existing as of May 2, 2017 and additions are limited to a maximum of 10% of the existing floor area” from section 3.2.C, wherever they appear.
17. In the I-4 District Schedule, Council strikes “and the change in use must only apply to floor area existing as of May 7, 2017 and any additions are limited to no more than 10 percent of existing floor area” from section 2.2.C, wherever they appear.
18. In the I-4 District Schedule, Council strikes “, including a Residential Unit and the change in use must only apply to floor area existing as of May 2, 2017 and any additions are limited to no more than 10 percent of existing floor area” from section 3.2.C, wherever they appear.

Summary of Proposed Changes

Table 1 and Map 1 summarize the proposed amendments from Appendix A. Staff are maintaining regulations that support the construction of new residential units associated with artist studios in MC-1 and IC-3 district schedules in order to remain consistent with existing City policies and Zoning and Development By-law regulations in these areas. Ultimately, the proposed amendments enable the construction of work-only artist studios in new buildings while retaining existing restrictions on residential units associated with artist studios, where applicable.

District Schedule	Proposed Amendments	
	Remove Conditions for Artist Studios under [Cultural and Recreational]	Add Conditions for Residential Unit associated with Artist Studios under [Dwelling]
MC-1	✓	✗
MC-2	✓	✓
M-1	✓	✓
M-1A	✓	✓
M-1B	✓	✓
M-2	✓	✓
IC-1 and IC-2	✓	✓
IC-3	✓	✗
I-1	✓	✓
I-1A	✓	✓
I-1B	✓	✓
I-2	✓	✓
I-3	✓	✓
I-4	✓	✓

Table 1: Summary of Proposed Artist Studio Amendments



Map 1: Industrial zones affected by proposed amendments

New Westminster Arts Commission Report: New Westminster Public Library

April, 2021

2021 Call for Artists:

From February 1 to March 5 the library issued a new Call for Artists to which 22 applicants responded, 18 of whom are from New Westminster.

A jury composed of a representative of the Arts Council of New Westminster, New Westminster Secondary School Arts Program, a member of the Library Board of Trustees as well the winner of our Youth Art Contest from 2020 and will meet April 1st to adjudicate submissions and choose a selection of artists to exhibit July, 2021 to April, 2022. Caitlin MacRae is the librarian facilitating this year's call.

2021 Teen Art Contest:

Entries are currently being received for our annual Teen Art Contest. Youth are invited to submit illustrations, painting or photography reflecting this year's summer reading club theme 'Crack the Case', focused and mystery and suspense.

As well as having their work featured in bookmarks and other promotional materials for the Teen Summer Reading club, the winner will automatically be invited to sit on next year's Call for Artists Art Exhibit jury. The deadline for submissions is April 6th and a winner will be selected by the end of April, 2021.

Indigenous Film Series:

The library, in partnership with New West Museum and Archives, is hosting a film series featuring films that help give voice to the history and experience of Indigenous individuals and communities.

Each film is accessible free online, and will be followed by an online discussion planned for a specific date and time, facilitated by a member of our local First Nations. Specific details and more information is available via the library website at <http://nwpl.ca/filmseries>.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christopher Koth,
Manager Programs and Community Development
604-527-4678 or ckoth@nwpl.ca