

Executive Director's Message

2018/19 was a year of change and progress for ArtsBuild Ontario (ABO). As an organization dedicated to supporting creative spaces across the province with programs, tools, and resources, ABO continued to deliver on its mandate through three project grants from the Department of Canadian Heritage, the Government of Ontario, and the Ontario Trillium Foundation, and through an operating grant from the Ontario Arts Council.

ABO focused on continuing to support the development of Indigenous creative spaces and accessibility in arts facilities. ABO released the *Accessibility in Creative Spaces Toolkit and Webinar Series* to support accessibility, equity, and inclusion for Ontario arts facilities. ABO held two gatherings with Indigenous artists and arts organizations to better understand the needs around Indigenous creative spaces/places/hubs.

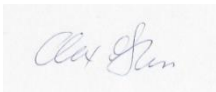
Through continual evaluation of our sector needs, ABO continued to deliver our core programs to respond to the current needs of arts organizations and their facilities, and reinforce advocacy efforts in support of creative spaces.

This past year has been one of transition for ABO staff. Executive Director Patricia McKinna departed the organization in August 2019 and Alex Glass was appointed Interim Executive Director. Alex has been with ABO since 2015 and was previously the Assistant Executive & Program Director. We are looking forward to hiring a new Program Manager and Program & Communications Coordinator to join the team.

ABO expanded our role as building manager at 44 Gaukel to include the First Floor of the building, in partnership with the City of Kitchener and the Accelerator Centre. We will be co-managing a total of 22,000 square feet of creative workspace and 16 tenants, in addition to our rehearsal space. The partnership between the City of Kitchener and Accelerator Centre remains a positive collaboration.

I would like to extend a genuine thanks to the Board of Directors, funders, and networks across Ontario and Canada who support and engage in our work.

Thank you,



Alex Glass
Interim Executive Director

2018 / 19 HIGHLIGHTS

GOVERNANCE AND ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

ArtsBuild Board of Directors

ABO continues to be strongly supported by our Board of Directors.

ABO recognizes the outgoing contributions of Leif Malling, Will Chow, Carmen Wade and Brett Randall who stepped down in 2019. Thank you for your support of ABO.

We are pleased that Kristian Clarke has been appointed Secretary on the board executive and that our board has been joined by Chris Plunkett and Nisha Dhaliwal. We appreciate your contributions this past year.

ArtsBuild Advisory Committee

The ABO Advisory Committee, comprising major arts service organizations in Ontario, provides advice and guidance on the needs, issues and preferences of their members. They are a tremendous support in the area of communications for ABO and as well as informing arts organizations across the province about ABO's various programs, tools and resources.

We are pleased to welcome Zainub Verjee as Chair of the ABO Advisory Committee.

FUNDING PARTNERS

Department of Canadian Heritage

In 2018/19 ABO secured funding from the Department of Canadian Heritage through its Strategic Initiatives fund for two years, ending March 2020. This funding has allowed us to develop the Creative Spaces Case Study Series. This project includes 20 case studies on creative space capital projects, supports our Learning Series with 10 webinars, two Brainstorming Workshops, an Online Training Series for Capital Projects and a Best Practice Summary report.

Canada Council for the Arts

In 2018/19 we secured a one-year project grant from the Canada Council for the Arts through its Supporting Artistic Practice stream. This grant provided matching funds to support the first year of

the Department of Canadian Heritage's Creative Spaces Case Study Series.

Government of Ontario

In 2018/19 we secured a one year project grant from the Accessibility Directorate of Ontario through their EnAbling Change fund. Working with an accessibility advisory committee, this grant allowed us to develop an Accessibility in Creative Spaces Toolkit for Ontario arts organizations, as well as a six part webinar series centred on the Design for Public Spaces Standard as part of the AODA.

Ontario Trillium Foundation

In 2019/20, ABO received a Grow Grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation. This funding allowed us to grow our LEARN IT | BUILD IT | MANAGE IT workshops in five communities within our catchment: Kitchener, Waterloo, Cambridge, Orangeville and Guelph. The project allows us to deliver the program over two years, which includes 10 workshops and 4 webinars.

Ontario Arts Council

The Ontario Arts Council continues to provide ongoing operational and project support as it recognizes the need to assist organizations with their cultural infrastructure projects. We were successful in receiving multi-year operating support through the Arts Service Organization stream starting in 18/19.

PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATIONS

Cultural Community Organizations

We continue to partner and work with the following key organizations that help ABO move forward and serve our constituency.

WorkInCulture (serving the cultural community in skills development)

Toronto Alliance for the Performing Arts (Arts service organization for the performing arts in Toronto)

Theatre Ontario (serving the professional and community theatre sector in Ontario)

Ontario Museum Association (serving the museum sector in Ontario)

Ontario Presents (serving presenting organizations province wide)

Strategic Relationships

Through work on all projects, ABO continues to maintain relationships with field professionals to better support our sector.

Such relationships include:

Ameresco

Walter Fedy

The Dalton Company

Community Forward Fund

Cobalt Connects

Municipal Relationships

City of Waterloo

City of Kitchener

Region of Waterloo

City of Cambridge

York Region Arts Council; City of Newmarket; City of Richmond Hill; City of Markham

Simcoe County

Arts Network Ottawa; City of Ottawa

City of Greater Sudbury

City of Hamilton

City of Mississauga

BUILDING

PLAN IT | BUILD IT

ABO continues to promote and add to PLAN IT | BUILD IT; an online tool that provides our organizations with the necessary steps of a capital project.

RESOURCE LIBRARY

ABO spent some time this year reviewing improvements to the site that we will implement in 19/20.

MANAGING

44 GAUKEL

ABO continues to co-manage 44 Gaukel, with a focus on the rehearsal space and office needs of arts tenants. This year was also spent preparing for the construction project on the First Floor as the designated arts hub for Downtown Kitchener. The project will create 11 work spaces for creative industry workers. Managing arts

tenants and renters at 44 Gaukel has allowed ABO to better engage with our community and local artists and had provided an increase in revenues to ABO.

ASSET PLANNER FOR THE ARTS

Asset Planner continues to have 9 active users in the program. This tool continues to be a key platform to manage and understand the needs of their space.

CREATIVE SPACES MENTORING NETWORK

We launched our fourth iteration of AFMN to 19 new arts leaders – rebranding it as the Creative Spaces Mentoring Network. This one-to-one mentorship program aims to give customized support to our organizations in need.

Seeing an expanded and fully subscribed program demonstrates that this program provides value and is much needed in our sector.

BRICKS&MORTAR

With 450 registrations, Bricks&Mortar remains to be the only database that houses information on arts facilities province wide. The data has been used by municipalities and ABO to demonstrate the needs of the sector to stakeholders. We have found it helpful in using the data as a reference point for our own grant applications and professional development content.

SPACEFINDER IN CANADA

18/19 saw the launch of SpaceFinder Sudbury. The site is active in 11 instances across Canada. The expansion of SpaceFinder in Canada has grown ABO's provincial and national reach to arts organizations who can access our in-person and remote programs. It has also led to further conversations, and we may see more instances in 19/20.

MOVING FORWARD

2019/20 will be spent executing two-year grants from the Department of Canadian Heritage and Ontario Trillium Foundation and sourcing revenue generation opportunities for 20/21 to secure our ability to offer programs, resources and tools that respond the current needs of creative spaces.

2018 – 2019 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chris Loreto, President

Leif Malling, Vice-President

Kristian Clarke, Secretary

Bill Ralph, Treasurer

Randy Dalton

Zainub Verjee, Advisory Chair

Nisha Dhaliwal

Will Chow

Chris Plunkett

Brett Randall

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Artist Run Centres and Collectives of Ontario

Akin Collective

Ontario Presents

Canada Dance Festival

Dance Ontario

Galerie du Nouvel-Ontario, in collaboration with

Association des groupes en arts visuels francophones

Ontario Association of Art Galleries (OAAG)

Professional Association of Canadian Theatres (PACT)

Le Théâtre du Nouvel-Ontario

Theatre Ontario

Toronto Alliance for the Performing Arts (TAPA)

CONTACT INFORMATION

Alex Glass

Interim Executive Director

ArtsBuild Ontario

44 Gaukel Street

Kitchener, ON N2G 4P3

519-880-3670 ext. 103

alex@artsbuildontario.ca

www.artsbuildontario.ca

ARTSBUILD ONTARIO FUNDERS

The Department of Canadian Heritage, Ontario Trillium Foundation, Canada Council for the Arts, Ontario Arts Council, and Government of Ontario have provided funding to ArtsBuild Ontario's many initiatives. We would like to acknowledge the continued support of these generous funders.



TREASURER'S REPORT

ArtsBuild Ontario Charitable Organization

Highlights from Audited Financial Statements

For the period April 1 2018 – March 31 2019

Revenue

Public sector grants	\$ 165 321
Programs	122 187
In kind	40 788
Project partners	22 635
Sponsorships	4 100

Other	1 685
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 356 716

Expense

Human Resources	\$170 226
Program	65 153
In kind expenses	40 788
Operations	30 918
Professional fees	29 148
Marketing	4 215
Conference	4 005
Evaluation	375
Other	117

TOTAL EXPENSE	\$344 945
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NET INCOME	\$ 11 771
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UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS	
BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$ 81 251

UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS,	\$ 93 022
END OF YEAR	

ArtsBuild Ontario's complete audited financial statements are available upon request.