

Hornby Island Arts Council

Hornby Island Arts Centre
Hornby Island
Population: 1100



The Arts Centre is a multi-use, cultural facility to accommodate exhibits, markets or large performances of up to 200 attendees and create year-round economic and cultural opportunities.

2 Arts Centre project

The project seeks to promote, showcase and develop the Island's arts sector by strengthening and supporting existing traditions, while inspiring new generations of artists. The Centre is the culmination of decades of community-led discussions and two decades of grassroots fundraising that include over \$110,000 in auctioned artwork from Island artists and \$65,000 in private donations.

3 ICET Partnership

ICET support will help build a flexible multidisciplinary facility that includes a large exhibition space, secondary presentation and workshop room, a gift shop, offices, kitchen, washrooms, partially covered patio, and parking spaces.



5 Community Impact

Hornby Islanders will have improved access to arts programming and Island artists will have greater opportunities to create and share works in a purpose-built space. The expected revenue impact through direct sales and related services, like workshops, is estimated at \$700,000 in additional revenue for the arts sector. The increase in off-season visitors will allow local businesses and entrepreneurs to stabilize year-round operations and job security.



1 Context

Hornby Island has a reputation as a destination for arts, culture and nature. Charles Hepburn Scott, a founder of Emily Carr, brought students for visits as early as the 1920s. The lack of a dedicated arts space, however, has impeded progress in a sector that employs nearly half of its residents.

4 Process

Design and construction work are currently underway with an expected opening in the summer of 2021.



6 Regional impact

The Centre's programming will encourage residencies and allow for visiting exhibitions. New artists will benefit from educational and mentorship opportunities. The visibility and reputation of the Comox Valley arts scene will see a significant boost with this Centre, one of the only modern arts facilities north of Nanaimo.

7 Spin-off benefits

The Centre's capacity will allow HIAC to access a wider variety of funding that can further support operations and allow development of other festivals and events throughout the year. The new facility will provide a cultural space to help develop new relationships with Indigenous peoples and all nations.

“ This Arts Centre is creating a public good, just like operating a library, and it will have a desirable, healthy and balancing influence on the Island's economy. Andrew Mark, Executive Director Hornby Island Arts Council (HIAC)

