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## NEWS RELEASE

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Ministry of Tourism, Culture and the Arts  
BC Arts Council

### **BC ARTS COUNCIL APPOINTS NEW CHAIR**

VICTORIA – A new chair and vice-chair have been appointed to the BC Arts Council, announced Tourism, Culture and the Arts Minister Kevin Krueger today.

Jane Danzo, past president of Pacific Opera Victoria, has been appointed chair of the BC Arts Council, taking over from retired chair Don Shumka. Dr. Stanley W. Hamilton, emeritus professor of UBC's Sauder School of Business, has been designated as vice-chair.

“Jane Danzo and Stanley Hamilton bring with them a wealth of arts and organizational knowledge,” said Krueger. “They are both experienced members of the council and have played key roles in developing the strategic plan that will ensure the BC Arts Council remains independent, strong and responsive.”

Danzo, a former teacher, has been involved in community service in Victoria for more than 30 years and was a member of the advisory committee to the Vancouver Foundation for the BC Arts Renaissance Fund and the Medici Fund. Dr. Hamilton is past president of the Arts Club Theatre Company and currently serves as a board member and chair of the Capital Campaign and Granville Island Stage renovation project.

The council also welcomes a new member, Russell J. Anthony. Anthony is a vice-president with Stantec, which provides professional design and consulting services in planning, engineering, architecture, surveying, and project management. He is also a director of the Vancouver Opera Foundation and a supporter of the Downtown Eastside Arts Council.

Outgoing board chair Shumka is president of Walden Management, a financial consulting firm, director of the Emily Carr Institute of Art + Design Foundation and previously sat on the board of Ballet British Columbia. He served as chair from 2002, and leaves having served the maximum allowable term.

Four members have also been re-appointed to the council: Kelowna media artist Stephen Foster, Courtenay visual artist Marilyn Timms, Abbotsford communications consultant Karen Young and Prince George arts organizer and volunteer, Elizabeth MacRitchie.

All appointments were effective August 1. Members are appointed by Order in Council and may sit for a total of six years.

The BC Arts Council supports arts and arts organization across the province and is governed by a 15-member council, which represents the regions, cultural diversity and artistic communities of British Columbia.

For more information about the BC Arts Council, please visit [www.bcartscouncil.ca](http://www.bcartscouncil.ca).

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## BACKGROUND

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#### **Chair, Jane Danzo** (Victoria)

Born in Kingston, Ontario, Jane Danzo was educated at Queens University. After teaching at the secondary and post-secondary school levels in Eastern Ontario, Danzo moved to Victoria where she has been in community service for more than 30 years. During this time, Danzo served as a director of, or as an advisor to, governing boards in the education, health and arts sectors of Greater Victoria. Danzo is past president of Pacific Opera Victoria, where she was the president for six years and a director for 11 years. During her presidency, she was also a governor of the POV Foundation. She was also a member of the Advisory Committee to the Vancouver Foundation for the BC Arts Renaissance Fund and the Medici Fund.

#### **Vice-chair, Dr. Stanley Hamilton** (Vancouver)

Dr. Hamilton is an emeritus professor at UBC's Sauder School of Business, specializing in real estate and pension portfolio investments. He has served on the boards of the B.C. Assessment Authority and the Vancouver City Planning Commission. Dr. Hamilton is currently a member of the Investment Advisory Committee of the Public Guardian and Trustee of B.C., the Financial Service Tribunal of B.C. and the UBC Development Permit Board. Dr. Hamilton is also a board member and past president of the Arts Club Theatre Company and currently serves as chair of its capital campaign and Granville Island Stage renovation project, and is also a director of the Stanley Theatre Society.

#### **Russell J. Anthony** (Vancouver)

Russell Anthony is a vice-president with Stantec, a company that provides professional design and consulting services in planning, engineering, architecture, surveying, and project management. Anthony was previously president of RPA Projects and Penreal, as well as executive director and chief operating officer of the Ballet Opera House Corporation, and vice-president of Expo 86 Corporation. Anthony also served as the chair of Friends of Carnegie, was a member of the Vancouver Economic Development Commission and is former chair of Sport BC. Currently he is a director of the Vancouver Opera Foundation and a supporter of the Downtown Eastside Arts Council. Anthony holds a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Winnipeg, a Bachelor of Laws from University of Toronto, and a Master of Laws from The London School of Economics.

**Stephen Foster** (Kelowna)

Stephen Foster is an Indigenous media artist who has held national and international exhibitions. Foster works as an associate professor in Creative Studies at UBC Okanagan where, in addition to teaching new media and video art, he is the co-ordinator for the Interdisciplinary Graduate Studies Master of Fine Arts Program and the CanWest Global Centre for Artists' Video. Foster has also held teaching positions at Okanagan University College and York University in Toronto. Foster has a Master of Fine Arts, in Visual Arts and Interdisciplinary Fine Arts, from York University. He has received numerous research and equivalent grants and has participated in various scholarly, professional and service activities. Foster has also been active with artist-run galleries and media arts centres fulfilling various board and staff positions.

**Elizabeth MacRitchie** (Prince George)

Elizabeth MacRitchie is past president of the Prince George Community Foundation and has served on boards of arts and sports organizations for the last 25 years. She is past president of the Prince George Music Festival, has served on the boards of the BC Association of Performing Arts Festivals, the Prince George Music School and the Northern Family Health Society. MacRitchie has chaired Prince George Symphony Orchestra's Strauss Ball events and has volunteered in many other capacities with the symphony. Music is an important part of MacRitchie's life, as pianist for several school choirs and operetta productions, and has performed with the Cantata Choir and local musical theatre productions.

**Marilyn Timms** (Courtenay)

Marilyn Timms is a full-time working artist, who lives in the Comox Valley. She paints figures from life and landscapes in watercolours and acrylics, and has been honing her craft for over 30 years. A well respected workshop instructor, Timms travels extensively sharing her skills, jurying exhibitions and lecturing. She was awarded the Barse Miller Memorial Award at the American Watercolour Society's 136th International Exhibition in 2003. She has had paintings accepted into the Societe Canadienne de l'Aquarelle Annual Watercolour Exhibition, the Canadian Society for Painters in Watercolours' OPEN WATER exhibition and many others. Timms was awarded full signature membership in the Federation of Canadian Artists in 1993 and, in 2005, she attained full signature membership in the Society of Canadian Artists. Her board experience has been enhanced by many years as a member of the Federation of Canadian Artists Board of Governors, past president and past board member of the Comox Valley Art Gallery, a member of the Comox Valley Chamber of Commerce, the Downtown Courtenay Business Improvement Association, Courtenay Rotary Club and Soroptimist International of Courtenay.

**Karen Young** (Abbotsford)

Karen Young is an entrepreneur, business woman and volunteer with a passion for helping others succeed. Her business ventures encompass the fields of online education and fundraising, and volunteer co-ordination for Lookout Emergency Aid Society. Believing in healthy, whole communities, Young is past chair of the Abbotsford Arts and Heritage Advisory Committee for the City of Abbotsford, past president of the Abbotsford Symphony Orchestra Society, and past president of the Abbotsford Chamber of Commerce. Young was honoured in 1999 with the Woman of the Year Award, in the leadership category, by the Business and Professional Woman's Association of the Fraser Valley.

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