

Business and the Arts Committee

Mandate

Vibrant arts and culture are universally recognized as a defining trait of the world's truly "great cities". As a key to Calgary's future as a renaissance capital of the 21st century, the city needs to build those elements of community and quality of life that support the attraction and retention of the best and most talented employees. The keys to continued prosperity, and how the arts contribute, are just part of this committee's groundbreaking approach.

2007 – 2008 Committee Focus Areas

- Networking/connecting the business and arts communities
- Alignment with arts organizations (strategic)
- Creating and promoting arts policy

Summary of Previous Year's Work

The committee worked on two main projects for the year - an event featuring Canadian film actor/director Paul Gross and a new arts policy position for the Chamber. The efforts to develop arts policy culminated in a resolution that was passed at the Alberta Chambers of Commerce, advising governments at all levels to begin collecting more data on the state of the arts.

Also in the year, the group learned more about Alberta's Cultural Policy and met with the Hon. Lindsay Blackett, Minister of Culture and Community Spirit.

Committee Meeting Guest Speakers

Date	Speaker	Topic
September 2007	Tracey Read, Calgary Stampede	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Brief History of the Calgary Stampede
March 2007	Michèle Stanners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alberta's Cultural Policy
May 2008	The Hon. Lindsay Blackett, Minister of Culture and Community Spirit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alberta's Cultural Policy