

The Vancouver Life Drawing Society AGM

April 30, 2018 - May 1, 2019

President's Report

Well the end of another fiscal year is upon us. The Board has, in usual fashion been hard at work keeping the interests of the Society at heart and making sure things run as smooth as possible.

Last AGM we saw the election of a new Treasurer Ron Bijok, replacing Nick Jackiw who has gone to Germany. Ron has been working hard liaising with our accounting firm Quantum Accounting Services Inc. to keep our financial books in order. He has also been carrying out the duties of Jaime Jones, our Financial Clerk that counts and deposits our session funds. Jaime has been unable to carry out his volunteer duties for health reasons and so Ron has had to step in until we can either find another suitable volunteer to take over or until Jaime returns.

In addition to his financial duties Ron redesigned and incorporated a new session sign-in sheet making tabulating the session funds that much easier. He has also added to and edited the Session Manager's Handbook with additional information session managers will find useful. Much of this information such as session costs, schedule and format were on the web site but by consolidating this information he has made it all more conveniently available to session managers.

The studio upgrades and/or reorg have been pretty much completed. The costs were submitted to The City to count against our rent. With the reorg of things we managed to give the models a little more changing room in the walk in closet. The easels were moved over by the sign in desk and the library over by the front window. Suzanne and Marlene managed to go through our kitchen cupboards and make decisions about what items could be removed and what kept. Altogether the changes seemed to have improved the utilization of our limited space.

Paul has been hard at work getting us compliant with the B C Societies Act. The last step is adopting the model bylaws, which we will be voting on. He has also kept our volunteer contact list up to date and has ideas on how to make this information available on our web site, as opposed to constantly revising an ever-changing list as volunteers come and go.

Last year we saw the creation of a Wednesday morning session. Elsa who got it going has had to back off due to other commitments. Alain with Dean managing has kept the session alive and finds it an excellent vehicle for trying new and interesting things plus a venue for trying out new models; which assists with his

other occupation of being our modeling booker and coordinator. Alain is also our Gallery Coordinator and has been hard at work promoting the Gallery and preparing it for shows. He was also instrumental in reducing Gallery fees back to what they originally were when the Artist-Gallery Self Curated Contract was first enacted.

Suzanne has carried on her role as Vice President with great aplomb assisting the President, fielding the many and varied questions and concerns members and non-members alike may have and trouble shooting any conflicts that may arise. She also pulls extra duty as our Purchaser ensuring the studio remains well stocked of provisions and the Studio and Storage Slot rental coordinator.

To all those who volunteer their time as session managers, cleaners, maintaining our membership list, email accounts and web site and assisting with the general running of the Society I extend a salute of thanks, for without this collective endeavor this Society could not exist.

Looking ahead the Board has been concerned with our declining revenues. We did well in the past due to funds from the W. L. Davis Estate and T D Investments. Those are no more and the sessions are not receiving sufficient revenues to cover our operating costs. This year we will be fine but we see down the road where a raise in fees will be a necessary. Until then we remain financially solvent so no concerns there.

So in closing I welcome everyone to our 2019 AGM and another great year of drawing and painting.

Douglas Smardon, President