

**Central Highlands Arts and Cultural Advisory Committee (CHACAC)
Planning Meeting - Record of Proceedings**

Date:	Friday 3 May 2024
Venue:	Executive Meeting Rooms 1 and 2 - Emerald council office
Chair:	Cr Gai Sypher
Minute taker:	Ruth Haydon – Arts and Cultural Officer Galleries (ACOG) & Hayley Sullivan - Arts and Cultural Trainee
Present:	CHACAC Members: Teagan Arnold, Mellissa Chick CHRC: Cr Gai Sypher, Cr Gillian Wilkins, Suzanne Poulter – Manager Connected Communities (MCC), Katerina Hatzipanagiotis - Coordinator Arts and Engagement (CAE), Ruth Haydon – Arts and Cultural Officer Galleries (ACOG), Lauren Roberts – Senior Library Officer (SLO), Hayley Sullivan - Arts and Cultural Trainee.
Apologies:	CHACAC members: Ben Robertson, Helen Chivers, Barbara Beazley
Meeting time:	10.11am – 01.19pm
Preparation documents distributed for this meeting:	<i>Sent 26 April 2024</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CHACAC - Planning meeting agenda - 3 May 2024 • CHACAC - Record of Proceedings – 9 February 2024 • Update – Meeting Actions – 3 May 2024 • Update – Galleries – 3 May 2024 • Update - Council projects – 3 May 2024

	Subject	Discussion
1.	Opening of meeting	<p>Cr Sypher welcomed members to the meeting and apologies were noted.</p> <p>In light of the councillor elections, there has been a change in membership on the committee. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Departing councillor representatives – Crs Joe Burns and Charlie Brimblecombe have concluded their term on the committee. • New councillor representatives – Crs Gai Sypher and Gillian Wilkins have joined the committee. • Resignation of Arts and Cultural Officer – Karen Newman has resigned from the Arts and Cultural Officer role to commence her role as councillor. <p>Members acknowledged and expressed their thanks to Joe Burns, Charlie Brimblecombe and Karen Newman for their commitment to the arts, culture and heritage sector in the Central Highlands through their various contributions to the committee over the length of their tenure.</p> <p>Action: CAE to send letters of thanks to Joe Burns, Charlie Brimblecombe and Karen Newman for their service to the committee.</p>
2.	Conflict of Interest Register	Nil
3.	Written updates circulated	<p>Previous meeting actions update – as recorded at the end of these minutes.</p> <p>Galleries update Emerald Art Gallery</p> <p><u>Previous Exhibition</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Central Highlands artist, Ros Burns’ “Exploration of Creation” Exploration of Creation opened on Friday 2 February and closed on 15 March 2024. 108 supporters attended the opening event with nearly 900 visitors to the gallery visiting the exhibition. 24 artworks were purchased from the exhibition. <p><u>Current Exhibition</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mackay Artist, Shelley Engwirda “We Rise”. We Rise opened on Friday 22 March with 24 attendees. The Exhibition will remain on display in the gallery until Friday 3 May 2024. <p><u>Upcoming exhibitions 2024</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May to June – Council Collection Indigenous Exhibition “Connection” • June to July - Youth Art Awards

- August to September - Emerald Art Awards
- September to October - Bill Gannon and Dieter Irving
- October to November - Blackwater Art Society
- November to January 2025 - Emerald State High School

Bauhinia Bicentennial Art Gallery in Springsure

Previous exhibition

- The Annual Art Awards – Springsure was opened on Friday 1 March with award winners announced by judge Claire Sourgnès, Director of the Ipswich Art Gallery on the night. Artworks from seven categories were displayed in the Gallery from artists as young as five years old living in the Central Highlands, to artists from Brisbane and everywhere in between. 130 Artworks were displayed at the art awards this year. The exhibition closed on Wednesday 17 April 2024.

Current exhibition

- Former Springsure local Sharon Kirk is displaying her latest artworks in an exhibition called “Marked by the Land”. As a multidisciplinary artist, Sharon’s artworks are an eclectic collection of works informed by elements found in the natural environment. Artworks in the exhibition utilise various media including natural pigments and found objects to create responses to landscapes the artist finds herself in. The opening event will be held on Friday 26 April. The exhibition will remain on display until 1 June 2024.

Upcoming Exhibitions 2024

- June to July – Springsure Quilters Group
- July to October – International Textile Biennale (touring exhibition)
- October to November – Our Lady of the Sacred Heart School
- November to Jan 2025 – Bill Gannon

More information is available on the council website’s [upcoming exhibitions](#) page.

Council Projects Update

Capital Projects

Emerald Art Gallery acoustic treatment

- Acoustic Treatment project to the Emerald Art Gallery was completed in March 2024. The team from Macrosphere installed the acoustic panelling and sculptural pieces in just two days. The improvement to the sound quality in the gallery is noticeable, reducing the amount of echo by approximately 70%.

Springsure Hospital Museum

- Building works have commenced utilising a suitably qualified builder, under the direction of heritage advisor Gail Lipke.
- Works currently in progress include repairs to the floor/subfloor and window reglazing.
- Further works prioritised for the coming months include door frame repairs and external works to the timber wing.

Operational Projects

Metal in March 2024

The program of Metal in March events and activities have been completed! The final events that went ahead were:

- Quirky Garden Art Workshops with Raelene Bock. Raelene hosted four workshops for children and adults in Emerald on 17 February and in Springsure on 2 March. Workshops were advertised on the [Central Highlands Regional Galleries Facebook page](#). Over 60 participants enjoyed Raelene's sold-out workshops.
- Jemica Ostrofski of Meekz Contemporary Jewellery in Brisbane delivered multiple workshops in Blackwater on 16 and 17 March, Capella on 21 March, Emerald on 23 and 24 March and Sapphire Gemfields on 22 March. Workshops were advertised on the [Central Highlands Regional Galleries Facebook page](#). Over 60 participants enjoyed these workshops with all but one selling out. During her time Jemica also connected with the Blackwater State High School, Emerald State High School and Capella State High School for workshops, along with hosting additional workshops outside of the scheduled program due to community demand.
- Jazz in the Park was a free event held on Sunday 10 March. Approximately 200 community members enjoyed music from the Emerald State High School Swing Doctors and the Emerald Town Jazz band performing at the Emerald Botanic Gardens from 4.30pm to 6.30pm. It was the perfect day for such an event and both performers and audience had a great time.
- The festival's signature event was the Reuse, Recycle, RE-INVENT metal art competition held on Saturday 23 March at Morton Park. This event was a collaboration between the CHRC Arts & Culture Team and the CHRC Resource and Recovery Team that provided the money for prizes. Eight artists entered 21 metal-based artworks into three categories. The display was open from 7:30am to 11.00am, with prizes awarded to the following:
 - "La Chaise" Barry Cross – Trash to treasure
 - "Horned Demon" Kay Towns – Most Inventive
 - "Chessman" Brian Curteis – Most Inventive
 - "Heavy Metal Music" Marley Gaylard – Youth Prize (10-17 years).

		<p>The People’s Choice prize was announced on Friday 5 April, the winner being “Heavy Metal Music” by Marley Gaylard. Artworks were judged by Johnny from Emerald Trash to Treasure and Jemika Ostrofski, visiting metalwork artist.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During the metal art competition event, Emerald local Jase Moore provided an artist talk about his artworks displayed at Morton Park (near the Visitor Information Centre). Jase is a huge advocate for recycling metal waste from both the agricultural, mining and industrial industries prevalent in the Central Highlands. He has been creating artworks from recycled metal since he was 14 years old. We captured Jase on video to create our next instalment of our “Artists in the Spotlight”. • Finally, an interactive map was developed and launched on the CHRC website locating the Metal Public Artworks owned by council across the region. This map will be ongoing. In the future additional artworks and trails will be added as tourist destinations. Head here to see the interactive map. An accompanying brochure was also printed and distributed across the Central Highlands for our tourists to scan the QR code to direct them to the map and trail. <p><u>Community Training</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members discussed the option for online and on-demand courses and resources to be made available for artists. CAE noted that bodies such as Flying Arts Alliance run webinars which are promoted in the galleries newsletter, and resources like LinkedIn Learning are also widely available. • Members noted that resources and assistance to manage handover and financial records would also be beneficial. SLO noted that information and support are available to not-for-profit groups from the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) - https://www.acnc.gov.au/ • Teagan shared that the Volunteering Queensland training held by council was very informative and resources for community groups in the management of volunteers would be beneficial for groups unable to attend. • A suggestion raised was a series of family history workshops hosted in the library e.g. how to access different databases, how to build a family tree. Teagan suggested she could facilitate these workshops. <p>Action: CAE and SLO to discuss potential family history workshops with Teagan.</p> <p><u>Heritage projects</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oral histories - the team are working towards publication of the Bauhinia oral histories on Montage, which include eight recordings with transcripts. Written consent is being sought for recordings before publication.
4.	Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF) update	<p><u>Ongoing projects</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Due to reduced capacity in the arts team, there are a number of outcome reports that have been received that require review by officers before being shared with the committee for finalisation. These should be completed by the end of the current RADF contract in September 2024.

- Members were asked their preference regarding receiving these outcome reports for review – individually, or multiple at a time. Members agreed that multiple at a time is preferred.
- CAE noted that there has not been any update from the Central Highlands Science Centre on progressing their project by the extended completion date of June 2024. If the project is not able to progress, funds will need to be returned for expenditure within the current contract.

Council-initiated project (CIP)

- As discussed at the RADF meeting earlier the same day, remaining funds under the current contract must be expended for the contract to be finalised. To achieve this, a CIP will be undertaken under advice of the committee.
- Members discussed the following ideas -
 - Arts around August 2024 – enhanced and/or additional activities for the annual program, hosting music acts in council’s premier venues such as the Capella Cultural Centre.
 - Japanese festival 2024 – cultural activities to enhance the event planned for August in Blackwater which celebrates the Ichinoseki sister city relationship.
 - Multicultural festival – activating community volunteers to revive the event concept as held in previous years.
- Due to the complexity and time required to plan a new event, members agreed that a multicultural festival would not be suitable under the current contract parameters.
- Members agreed to prioritise cultural activities to enhance the Japanese festival. If additional funds are available, then a musical performance at Capella Cultural Centre during Arts around August.

Action: Arts and culture team to prepare council-initiated project plan for review by the committee at the June 2024 meeting.

Program proposal 2024-25

- CAE advised that a proposal is in progress for future RADF funding. Arts Queensland’s new contract format will be multi-year - four years total (two plus two). This allows for adjustment after two years if needed, e.g. if a council’s population increases into the next tier and they are eligible for additional funding.
- Central Highlands is in tier 3 which is for 25-50,000 population, so unlikely to change tiers during the contract period.
- The program proposal will cover the overarching goals and approach for the whole four years, with more specific information about the 2024-25 program.
- No major changes are included in the proposal in comparison to previous years.
- As part of the annual process to prepare for the new program launch, the next planning meeting agenda will include committee review of the RADF guidelines (including local priorities) and application form.

<p>5. Project discussions</p>	<p><u>Arts around August 2024</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning for Arts Around August activities is set to begin very soon, to allow time for the program to be launched in June and begin in July. • Members were asked about the kinds of activities preferred for council-led events, and discussed the following activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Musical performances from touring artists e.g. Zac Cross band ○ Cooking classes ○ Turkish lantern decorating workshops ○ Family history month (August) workshops ○ Soap/candle making workshops ○ Macrame workshops • Following on from previous discussions about rebranding the name of the festival, members had no additional ideas to discuss. • Members suggested seeking community input for potential new names through a competition. The competition could be held this year with a new name chosen to be implemented in 2025. Including a prize would increase community interest and avoid potential engagement fatigue. <p>Action: Arts and culture team to review viability of an Arts around August renaming competition and possible prizes. Action: Mellissa Chick to enquire on the costs for Zac Cross band.</p> <p><u>Annual Youth Art Awards 2024</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Entries for the 2024 Youth Art Awards are currently open and will close Friday 31 May. Planning is currently underway for the opening on Friday 21 June. The exhibition will be opened from 24 June to 23 July. Online voting will be open for People’s Choice Award from 21 June to 7 July. • Emily Wakeling, Curator at Rockhampton Museum of Art (in a personal capacity), has been secured as the judge for this year’s awards. <p><u>CHACAC membership</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The current term of the committee runs through to the end of June 2024. • CAE reminded any members who have not submitted an expression of interest (EOI) but wish to remain on the committee to complete and return their form. • EOIs for the full three-year term (July 2024 to June 2027) will close Friday 31 May, with a report to be presented at the general council meeting on 26 June to endorse members. • If positions are not filled through this process, EOIs will remain open to receive, evaluate and present to council as needed until all positions are filled. Note - members endorsed during the term will serve the remainder of the term i.e. until June 2027, not a full three years. • CAE reminded members to promote the opportunity and encourage any community members who are interested to join. Officers can make printed copies of membership documents available upon request.
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		<p>Action: CAE to email membership documents to members.</p> <p><u>CHACAC meeting dates 2024</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CAE noted that no future meeting dates had previously been set, pending the outcome of council elections and the schedule of councillor commitments. • The committee holds six meetings per year. So far, two meetings have been held in 2024. To remain on schedule, one meeting should be held in June, with an additional three to be held in the remaining six months of the year. • Members identified dates for the remainder of 2024, noting that these would require review with new committee members and further consideration to RADF assessment timelines – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Monday 17 June ○ Friday 19 July ○ Friday 13 September ○ Friday 15 November <p>Action: CAE to send meeting claimers for 2024 meeting dates.</p>
7.	Member updates	<p>Cr Gai Sypher</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Following discussions with council’s General Manager Communities and Manager Parks, Recreation and Community Facilities, the Friends of Capella Cultural Centre (FCCC) have submitted a grant application to the Capricornian Community Grants for a mobile gallery wall and hanging system. The purpose of this grant is to provide an opportunity for the group to host pop-up art exhibitions. • If the application is successful, a local exhibition will be organised and managed by the FCCC under their agreement with council. The aim is for the exhibition to coincide with Arts around August. <p>CAE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The current Creative Cultural Futures and Heritage Action Plan 2022-24 FYs will come to the end of its life on 30 June 2024. To take its place, a new two-year action plan covering 2024-26 FYs will be developed to cover the last two years of the ten-year strategy. Activities in the plan will prioritise preparation for a new strategic document. To align with the format of council’s current strategic documents, strategy and action plan components will be combined into a single five-year strategic action plan. • To assist in creating a new action plan, engagement activities will be undertaken in the coming months to seek community feedback on council’s arts and cultural activities. Further details will be provided to members when available. • Recruitment is underway for the Arts and cultural officer position, applications closed on 24 April 2024.
8.	Next meeting	Monday 17 June at 09.00am 2024.

9.	Meeting close	01.19pm
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Meeting Actions

Items/Projects	Action	Responsible	Status	Notes
Arts around August	10-11-23 CHACAC members to offer suggestions for a potential Arts around August rebrand.	ACO	Complete	09-02-24 CHACAC members will bring new ideas to the next meeting in May. Suggestions so far: Community Canvas Festival, or Spring into Art CH.
	03-05-24 Arts and culture team to review viability of an Arts around August renaming competition and possible prizes.	CAE / ACOG		
	03-05-24 Mellissa Chick to enquire on the costs for Zac Cross band.	Mellissa Chick		
CHACAC membership	03-05-24 CAE to email membership documents to members.	CAE		
CHACAC meeting dates	03-05-24 CAE to send meeting claimers for 2024 dates.	CAE		
Community training	03-05-24 CAE and SLO to discuss potential family history workshops with Teagan Arnold.	CAE / SLO / Teagan Arnold		
Creative Cultural Futures and Heritage – Aspirations Document	03-09-21 Aspirations document to be reformatted to improve readability.	ACO	Ongoing	10-11-23 To be reviewed as part of creating the new CCFHAP 2024-26. 13-01-2023 CCFH Aspirations document is being reviewed and reformatted.
Invite Lauren Roberts to all future CHACAC Meetings	09-02-24 – ACO to include Lauren to the CHACAC mailing list for future CHACAC meetings and correspondence.	ACO	Complete	
Letters of thanks	03-05-24 - CAE to send letters of thanks to Joe Burns, Charlie Brimblecombe and Karen Newman for their service to the committee.	CAE		
RADF CIP Outcome Report - Creative Connections	25-06-21 Barbara Beazley to complete the outcome report for Creative Connections project.	ACO	Ongoing	03-09-21 Payment has been made, receipt has been provided to the ACO and the report is to be finalised and submitted by Barbara Beazley. 09-02-24 – Outcome report will be emailed at the end of the meeting today.