

Letter of Support for a New Kelowna Performing Arts Centre

Serving as the only professional dance company in BC's Interior, Ballet Kelowna has been presenting large-scale dance productions at the Kelowna Community Theatre for 18 years. Ballet Kelowna is known for its dedication to and fulfillment of its mandate to develop Canadian dancers and choreographers by commissioning three to five new works each season as well as staging masterworks from the Canadian ballet legacy. Since 2014, Ballet Kelowna has presented an international dance company as part of our subscription series including The Ashley Bouder Project featuring New York City Ballet dancers, Alonzo King LINES Ballet from San Francisco, and Dance Cuba from Havana.

Our performing arts community has reached its creative and productive capacity in terms of the scope, volume, and quality of performances it can deliver in the community. It is time for a new multi-purpose performing arts centre that supports innovative productions and that is accessible and inclusive for both audiences and performers. A new performing arts centre will increase the cultural vibrancy of our city, stimulate cultural tourism, build civic pride, and bring more arts experiences to the Central Okanagan.

Ballet Kelowna supports the Citizens for a New Performing Arts Centre Society and we look forward to working with the organization to bring the dream of a world-class venue to life.

Sincerely,

Simone Orlando Artistic Director and CEO