

KCNPAC Letter of Support

We are a non-profit organization which typically presents five concerts per year at the Kelowna Community Theatre (KCT) between September and May. We have had a loyal following for over 50 years.

Our fully volunteer staff presents exceptional quality performing arts and contribute to their fiscal success predicated on the pre-sale of memberships. With such loyalty and low overhead, seat prices roll out to less than \$20 per concert and every concert is a full house.

Our season programs are based on presenting a variety of music, theatre and dance designed to have wide audience appeal. Each season features only professional artists of international and national fame.

For years our membership has been limited to the seating capacity (853) of the KCT and we normally have a waiting list of more than 150 per year. Sadly, this has denied many families within our Central Okanagan community the opportunity to enjoy high quality performers from around the world.

If City staff and council carry through with their plan of rebuilding a new theatre on the existing site, the three-year construction period will be devastating to our organization, our audiences and the hundreds of artists who rely on Kelowna's one and only reasonably sized theatre.

KCNPAC's vision of a larger capacity performing arts centre will not only allow KCCA to serve more people from within our community, but it will open the door for other national and international presenters to finally put Kelowna on the concert hall circuit between Calgary and Vancouver.

Over the years we have witnessed the City of Kelowna continue to lag far behind other world cities in recognizing the economic value of an iconic performing arts centre to cultural tourism. Such a venue would be particularly significant in presenting itself as a lens through which people around the world would see a city that recognizes culture as a core value of its citizens.

Len McFarlane
President
Kelowna Community Concert Association