

Victoria Baroque Music Society Annual General Meeting

Saturday November 9, 2024, 4:00 pm
Church of St. John the Divine
1611 Quadra Street, Victoria, BC

Chair	David Robertson
Artistic director	Christina Hutten
Secretary	Andrea Kolot
Present	Jennifer Gerwing, Sharon McMillan, Christopher Butterfield, Kimberley Van Nieuvenhuysse, Julia Andrews, + 6 members
Absent	Bill Jamieson, Christi Meyers

AGM Agenda

1. Call to order and motion to adopt the agenda
2. Reception of minutes from the previous Annual General Meeting, November 20, 2023
3. Treasurer's Report to the Society
4. President's Report to the Society
5. Victoria Baroque Artistic Director's Report to the Society
6. Nominations and election to the Board of Directors
7. Other business: Approval of Board actions
8. Adjournment

Call to order

Call to order at 4:12

As Chair, David Robertson welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for their attendance. Copies of the agenda and various other documents had been distributed before the meeting to those who had signed up to attend.

Motion to adopt agenda

Motion by Kimberley
Seconded by Julia
Carried

Reception of minutes from previous AGM

Motion to receive the minutes by Julia
Seconded by Kimberley
Carried

Treasurer's report to the Society

Financial position

The society has working capital and unrestricted net assets (equity) of \$36,040. As at the year-end date, that was represented by cash (\$65,750, including \$2,116 held by Christ Church on behalf of the society, relating to our share of net profit on the St. John Passion and held in trust for future co-productions), GST rebate receivable (\$442), and prepaid expenses (\$200), less outstanding accounts payable (\$2,825) and deferred revenue, (\$36,550).

Deferred revenue

Deferred revenue consists of grant funding received by August 31, 2024 but specified by grantors for use in the following fiscal year.

Revenues

The society had \$122,810 in total revenues for the year, compared to \$126,994 in previous year, a drop of approximately \$4,000.

Direct concert and workshop revenues were up by approximately \$6,000 over the previous year. Breaking that down further, direct ticket sales were up by approximately \$30,500 and joint concert fees (including concerts in other centres and our share of the St. John Passion) were down by approximately \$19,000. Workshop and youth orchestra revenue was down by approximately \$5,500.

Donations were down from the previous year by approximately \$8,000.

Grant income was down by approximately \$2,000 from the previous year. This increase was largely due to a one-time grant from the Victoria Foundation.

Expenses

Production-related expenses such as artist fees and production costs were down by approximately \$15,000, compared to the previous year. Breaking that down further, Victoria Baroque instrumentalist fees were down by approximately \$22,000 and guest artist fees were up by approximately \$9,000. This was likely the result of producing two large choral works with vocal soloists, the "Banned from the Concert Hall" concerts and a drop in joint concert fees from runouts. Other production costs were down by approximately \$2,000.

Management and administrative costs were down by approximately \$3,000 compared to the previous year, largely as a result of investments made in fundraising software and subscriptions in the prior year.

Excess of Revenue over Expense

In summary, with an increase of \$6,000 in concert revenues and a decrease in direct concert costs of \$15,000, the overall financial result from direct concert operations improved by approximately \$21,000.

With that improvement, offset by the reduction in grant and donation revenues, and the reduction in administrative costs, the society experienced a “profit” of \$4,548, compared to a loss of \$9,509 in the previous year, and overall improvement of approximately \$14,000.

General

The society continues to be in sound financial condition.

Respectfully submitted,
William Jamieson, Treasurer

Adoption the Financial Statements as of August 31, 2024

Motion by Sharon
Seconded by Vanessa
Carried

President’s report to the Society

Our 2023/24 season was one of transition. Just before the start of the season, our artistic director, Soile Stratkauskas, advised the board that she had accepted a position with the Victoria Symphony. While saddened to see her leave, we were excited for Soile in the next step in her career.

Planning a season begins months before the audience takes their seats and Soile had the season set out before stepping down. She continued to guide the season as, Christina Hutton, supported by Elyssa Lefurgey-Smith, assume the role of artistic director.

I want to thank Soile, Christina and Elyssa for making the transition seamless to our patrons. It was also a transition for our board as we truly discovered how much Soile did in creating and managing Victoria Baroque over the many years.

To fill the gaps we hired a part-time marketing manager, Kelsey Gilker, to take on much of the outreach to the community working on our advertising and helping with our grant writing. While we had board members retiring at the last AGM, we also gain some new. This year is the same. I want to thank Jim Harlick for his many years as a board member. I would also like to thank Madeline Reid for her work on the board.

The other is Christi Myers, who has been the long-time musicians’ representative to the board. We will be pressganging another of our musicians to fill her place at the table.

Our 2024/25 season is underway, and I am confident that under the direction of our artistic director, Christina Hutten, Victoria Baroque will continue to be a musical success.

My thanks to all our board members, our staff, and our volunteers.

Also, to our sponsors and donors who are critical to our ability to bring baroque music to Victoria.

And to all the musicians and singers who create the wonderful baroque music that we all enjoy at each concert.

David Robertson

Artistic Director's report to the Society

Victoria Baroque's (VB) 2023-24 season involved four main series concerts, five additional concerts in casual venues, and several educational events.

For two projects, VB invited home acclaimed guest directors, Julia Wedman and Aislinn Nosky to lead programs of music by well-loved Baroque composers and new compositions by Canadian composer Emily Doolittle and emerging Dutch composer Sem Hak. VB also performed perennial favourites, Handel's Messiah and Bach's St. John Passion to sold out halls and presented its first multi-media event "In the Trees." Offering music alongside photography of the Ancient Forest Alliance and poetry of Lorna Crozier, this performance explored themes of environmental stewardship.

VB presented garden concerts and casual concerts at the Victoria Event Centre, including the hilarious "Banned from the Concert Hall Program" featured risqué songs of past and present and explored themes of artistic censorship. It was brought back by popular demand at the end of our season. Besides self-presented concerts, VB performed in other presenters' series on Salt Spring Island and in the Cowichan Valley; collaborated with Vox Humana Chamber Choir, St John's Chamber Singers, the Victoria Children's Choir's Youth Ensemble; and co-presented concerts with Christ Church Cathedral, St John the Divine, and Early Music Vancouver.

VB's educational workshop, the Summer Intensive Programme in Baroque Music at the Victoria Conservatory offered members of the community (ages 14 to 80) hands-on experiences of baroque performance style. VB continued to run a Youth Baroque Orchestra for students ages 11-17, which rehearsed weekly during the autumn and spring terms, culminating in four public performances, including a Sing-along Messiah and a Vivaldi Concerto/Gloria program. Players from VB coached the orchestra and performed side-by-side with the teens.

Christina Hutten

Nominations and election to the Board of Directors

Andrea Kolot as Nominations Officer presented the slate of nominations:

Standing for Re-election:

- David Robertson
- Christopher Butterfield

Other Business: Approval of Board Actions

Motion by Vanessa that all lawful acts, proceedings and contracts made on behalf of the society by its directors and officers be approved, ratified and confirmed.

Seconded by Sheila

Carried

Motion to Adjourn

Motion to Adjourn by David Robertson

Carried

Adjournment 4:32 pm

VICTORIA BAROQUE MUSIC SOCIETY
Financial Statements

Year ended August 31, 2024

NOTICE TO READER

The balance sheet of the Victoria Baroque Music Society as at August 31, 2024 and the Statements of Operations and Net Assets for the year then ended have been compiled internally on the basis of information provided by management.

Neither an audit nor a review engagement in respect of these financial statements have been performed.

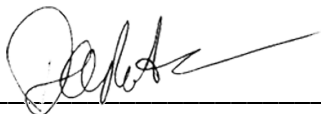
Readers are cautioned that these statements may not be appropriate for their purposes.

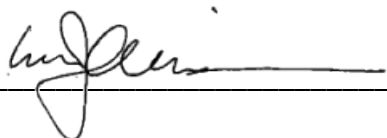
Willam D. Jamieson
Treasurer

VICTORIA BAROQUE MUSIC SOCIETY
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT AUGUST 31, 2024
(Unaudited - See Notice to Reader)

	2024	2023
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash in bank	\$ 63,634	\$ 47,292
Funds held in trust (Note 2)	2,116	-
GST refund receivable	442	1,648
Prepaid expenses	200	400
	66,392	49,340
RESTRICTED CASH		
Gaming account	9,023	286
CAPITAL ASSETS		
Musical instruments (Note 3)	49,000	49,000
	\$ 124,415	\$ 98,626
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable	\$ 3,325	\$ 8,121
Deferred Revenue	36,550	10,513
	39,875	18,634
NET ASSETS		
Invested in capital assets	49,000	49,000
Unrestricted	35,540	30,992
	84,540	79,992
	\$ 124,415	\$ 98,626

Approved on behalf of the board

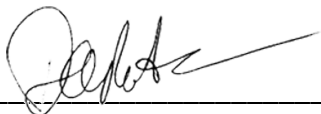


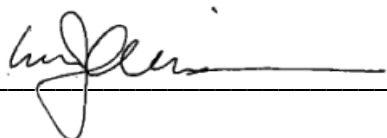


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(Unaudited - See Notice to Reader)

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VICTORIA BAROQUE MUSIC SOCIETY
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2024
(Unaudited - See Notice to Reader)

	2024	2023
REVENUES		
Ticket sales, garden concerts, & joint concerts	\$ 70,633	\$ 59,008
Grants (Note 4)	27,346	29,419
Donations & fund raising	18,325	26,383
Workshop & school concerts	3,773	9,455
Victoria Foundation investment return	1,373	1,179
Membership fees and miscellaneous	1,100	750
CD sales	260	800
TOTAL REVENUES	122,810	126,994
EXPENSES		
Production expenses:		
Artist's fees and expenses	75,478	82,628
Artistic direction	16,201	18,038
Education/outreach programs	5,600	11,790
Venue and music rental	4,232	3,342
Publicity and advertising	2,404	4,343
Box office and ticketing	1,684	1,673
Instrument tuning & moving	830	400
Technical	560	-
	106,989	122,214
Administrative expenses:		
Internet	2,135	1,620
Office - rent	1,800	1,800
Administrator	1,698	-
Insurance	1,540	1,190
Fundraising	1,293	5,558
Gifts	1,000	-
Other	660	1,561
Printing and annual brochure	520	2,144
Telephone	378	264
Office - supplies	249	105
Postage	-	47
	11,273	14,289
TOTAL EXPENSES	118,262	136,503
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	\$ 4,548	\$ (9,509)

VICTORIA BAROQUE MUSIC SOCIETY
STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS
AS AT AUGUST 31, 2024
(Unaudited - See Notice to Reader)

	Unrestricted	Invested in Capital Assets	2024	2023
OPENING BALANCE	\$ 30,992	\$ 49,000	\$ 79,992	\$ 89,501
Excess of revenues over expenses	4,548	-	4,548	(9,509)
CLOSING BALANCE	\$ 35,540	\$ 49,000	\$ 84,540	\$ 79,992

VICTORIA BAROQUE MUSIC SOCIETY
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2024
(Unaudited – See Notice to Reader)

NOTE 1 – PURPOSE OF THE SOCIETY

The purpose of the Society is as follows: (a) to advance the public’s appreciation of the arts by providing high-quality artistic performances of Baroque music and associated music forms; (b) to advance education by providing instructional seminars, workshops and lectures on Baroque music and associated music forms; and (c) to undertake activities ancillary and incidental to the attainment of the aforementioned charitable purpose.

The Society is a registered charity and is exempt from income tax.

NOTE 2 – FUNDS HELD IN TRUST

Funds held in trust represent the balance of funds due to the Society in connection with a joint production during the year, held by another presenting organization on behalf of the Society, and to be used in a future similar joint production.

NOTE 3 – CAPITAL ASSETS

Capital assets are comprised of two harpsichords, acquired in February 2021 for \$24,000, and a continuo organ valued at \$25,000 contributed in a prior year.

The Society’s policy is not to amortize instruments, as the fair value of the instruments does not decrease over time.

NOTE 4 – GRANT REVENUE

	2024		2023
Provincial Gaming grant	\$ 9,000	\$	9,000
Capital Regional District	9,550		9,550
Victoria Foundation	-		7,500
Private foundations	8,796		3,369
	<u>\$ 27,346</u>	\$	<u>29,419</u>