

Victoria Baroque Music Society Annual General Meeting

Saturday November 15, 2025, 3:00 pm

The Sequoia Room in St. Luke's Community Hall

3821 Cedar Hill Cross Road, Victoria, BC

AGM Agenda

1. Call to order at 3:00 and motion to adopt the agenda
2. Reception of minutes from the previous Annual General Meeting, November 9, 2024
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

Adjournment

Victoria Baroque Music Society Annual General Meeting

Minutes of 2024 Annual General Meeting

Saturday November 9, 2024, 4:00 pm

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

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

Victoria Baroque Music Society Annual General Meeting

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.

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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 pressing 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 Hutton, Victoria Baroque will continue to be a musical success.

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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 wonderous 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

Victoria Baroque Music Society Annual General Meeting

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 Annual General Meeting

2025 AGM reports

Treasurer's report to the Society

Financial position

The society has working capital and unrestricted net assets (equity) of \$33,673. During the year, the board passed a resolution to internally restrict \$10,000 for a future opera-related project, funded by a bequest received during the year. The board similarly passed a resolution to internally restrict \$15,000 for future major maintenance requirements for the Society's continuo organ.

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 \$125,279 in total revenues for the year, compared to \$122,810 in previous year, an increase of approximately \$2,500.

Direct concert and workshop revenues were down by approximately \$20,000 over the previous year. Donations were up from the previous year by approximately \$15,500, \$10,000 of which is represented by a one-time bequest during the year.

Grant income was up by approximately \$8,200 from the previous year. This increase was largely due to a new grant from the Victoria Foundation.

Expenses

Production-related expenses such as artist fees and production costs were down by approximately \$24,000, compared to the previous year. This was the result of lower concert activity and the replacement of a portion of the artistic direction fees with a new marketing and administration position.

Management and administrative costs were down by approximately \$8,000 compared to the previous year, mostly attributable to the afore-mentioned introduction of a marketing and administration position.

Excess of Revenue over Expense

In summary, the society experienced a "profit" of \$23,133, compared to \$4,548 in the previous year, an increase of approximately \$18,500.

General

The society continues to be in sound financial condition.

Respectfully submitted,
William Jamieson, Treasurer

VICTORIA BAROQUE MUSIC SOCIETY
Financial Statements

Year ended August 31, 2025

NOTICE TO READER

The balance sheet of the Victoria Baroque Music Society as at August 31, 2025 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.

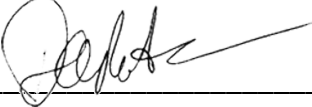
Readers are cautioned that these statements may not be appropriate for their purposes.

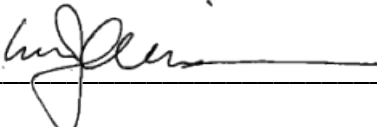
Willam D. Jamieson
Treasurer

VICTORIA BAROQUE MUSIC SOCIETY
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT AUGUST 31, 2025
(Unaudited - See Notice to Reader)

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash in bank	\$ 91,982	\$ 63,634
Funds held in trust (Note 2)	2,116	2,116
GST refund receivable	1,184	442
Prepaid expenses	460	200
	<u>95,742</u>	<u>66,392</u>
RESTRICTED CASH		
Gaming account	9,357	9,023
CAPITAL ASSETS		
Musical instruments (Note 3)	<u>49,000</u>	<u>49,000</u>
	<u>\$ 154,099</u>	<u>\$ 124,415</u>
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable	\$ 7,545	\$ 3,325
Deferred Revenue	38,881	36,550
	<u>46,426</u>	<u>39,875</u>
NET ASSETS		
Invested in capital assets	49,000	49,000
Internally restricted, note 4	25,000	-
Unrestricted	33,673	35,540
	<u>107,673</u>	<u>84,540</u>
	<u>\$ 154,099</u>	<u>\$ 124,415</u>

Approved on behalf of the board





VICTORIA BAROQUE MUSIC SOCIETY
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2025
(Unaudited - See Notice to Reader)

	2025	2024
REVENUES		
Ticket sales, garden concerts, & joint concerts	\$ 50,689	\$ 70,633
Grants (Note 5)	35,550	27,346
Donations & fund raising	33,902	18,325
Workshop & school concerts	3,300	3,773
Victoria Foundation investment return	1,514	1,373
Membership fees and miscellaneous	324	1,100
CD sales	-	260
TOTAL REVENUES	125,279	122,810
EXPENSES		
Production expenses:		
Artist's fees and expenses	64,343	75,478
Artistic direction	6,000	16,201
Education/outreach programs	5,600	5,600
Venue and music rental	1,700	4,232
Publicity and advertising	1,827	2,404
Box office and ticketing	3,101	1,684
Instrument tuning & moving	-	830
Technical	158	560
	82,729	106,989
Administrative expenses:		
Internet	2,157	2,135
Office - rent	1,800	1,800
Contract - marketing and administration	10,430	1,698
Insurance	1,190	1,540
Fundraising	996	1,293
Gifts	-	1,000
Other	438	660
Printing and annual brochure	1,392	520
Telephone	330	378
Office - supplies	49	249
Postage	635	-
	19,417	11,273
TOTAL EXPENSES	102,146	118,262
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	\$ 23,133	\$ 4,548

VICTORIA BAROQUE MUSIC SOCIETY
STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS
AS AT AUGUST 31, 2025
(Unaudited - See Notice to Reader)

	Unrestricted	Restricted (Note 4)	Invested in Capital Assets	2025	2024
OPENING BALANCE	\$ 35,540	\$ -	\$ 49,000	\$ 84,540	\$ 79,992
Excess of revenues over expenses	23,133	-	-	23,133	4,548
Internal restriction, Note 4)	(25,000)	25,000	-	-	-
CLOSING BALANCE	\$ 33,673	\$ 25,000	\$ 49,000	\$ 107,673	\$ 84,540

**VICTORIA BAROQUE MUSIC SOCIETY
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2025
(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 – INTERNALLY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS

Pursuant to a directors' resolution, dated May 20, 2025, \$10,000 has been set aside for future use for an opera-related production in the 2026 fiscal year and \$15,000 has been set aside for major maintenance required for the Society's continuo organ.

NOTE 5 – GRANT REVENUE

	2025	2024
Provincial Gaming grant	\$ 9,000	\$ 9,000
Capital Regional District	9,550	9,550
Victoria Foundation	15,000	-
Private foundations	2,000	8,796
	\$ 35,550	\$ 27,346

Victoria Baroque Music Society Annual General Meeting

President's Report

Since our last annual general meeting in November 2024, we have completed our first season with Artistic Director Christina Hutton, found an excellent new venue for our summer garden concerts in Goward House, and enjoyed the first two concerts of our five-concert 2025/26 season.

I want to thank Christina for her work in designing and organizing our Victoria Baroque concerts. I would also like to thank our musicians and singers whose talents lift the notes from the page and translate them into the beautiful sounds we all enjoy.

I will leave reporting on our past and future concerts to Christina in her artistic director's report.

We have had several changes since our last AGM.

Grant Sigurdson offered to join us last February and was appointed by the board at that time. He is now standing for election as per our bylaws.

Also joining the board this year is Mieka Michaux who will be the musicians' representative.

Natascha Sekerinski was hired at the beginning of the summer as our media and communications manager. Natascha takes over from Kelsey Gilker who accepted a full-time position with the Victoria Conservatory of the Music. Our thanks to Kelsey for the wonderful work she did while with us and welcome to Natascha.

Bill Jamieson has been our treasurer for the last four years. I think that, on any board of directors, the role of the treasurer carries the most work and responsibility and we have been fortunate to have Bill guiding our finances. Thank you, Bill. We truly appreciate all you have done for Victoria Baroque.

We are now in our 15th season. The last few years have brought a number of changes – COVID saw us providing concerts online and the start of our summer garden concerts to provide music with social distancing; Christina Hutton joined us as artistic director, taking over from founding artistic director, Soile Stratkauskus. We created a part-time communications and marketing position to better leverage social media and to allow our artistic director to focus more on the music and performances.

I am sure we will see changes in the future, but what will always be constant is the quality of music Victoria Baroque presents to its audience.

My thanks to all our board members, our staff, and our volunteers and especially to our sponsors and donors who are essential to our ability to bring baroque music to Victoria.

Victoria Baroque Music Society Annual General Meeting

Artistic Director's Report

Victoria Baroque's (VB) 2024-25 season included four main series concerts, four additional concerts in casual venues, innovative programming, and educational events.

Season highlights included a multimedia collaboration with The Centre of the Universe on a program called "Time and Space" featuring astrophotography by Island photographers and music about the universe; and "Phantasm" with guest director, David Greenberg. Greenberg is a baroque violinist and Cape Breton fiddler, active in preserving Canadian folk-music heritage. His program included a new arrangement of fiddle tunes for Baroque orchestra that brought the house down! In addition to audience favourites like a Bach Cantata, Vivaldi's Gloria, and a Mozart mass setting, our programming incorporated music by under-represented demographics, including baroque music by women and composers of colour and recent works by Canadians, including Tawnie Olson, the late Jocelyn Morlock, and Cree composer Andrew Balfour.



Our casual concerts moved to two vibrant community hubs. The Bach in the Pub Series now takes place at Hermann's Jazz Club, where we also reach an online audience via their livestreaming. Our garden concerts now have a permanent home at Goward House. Besides self-presented concerts, VB performed on other presenter's series including ArtSpring, the Cowichan Symphony Society and Township Classics, and collaborated with other ensembles and organizations, including the St. John's Singers, Artistry and Outreach in the Cowichan Valley, and the Victoria Conservatory.

Top: Victoria Baroque at St. John the Divine

Bottom: David Greenberg at Hermann's Jazz Club

Victoria Baroque Music Society Annual General Meeting



Victoria Baroque Youth Orchestra Christmas in Mill Bay

VB's educational Summer Intensive Program and Youth Baroque Orchestra offered community members (ages 13-80) hands-on experience of baroque style, and opportunity to perform side-by-side with VB's professional musicians. The Youth Baroque Orchestra performed a Christmas program of music by Corelli and excerpts from Messiah, and a spring program called "Meeting Mozart".

We continue to find much joy in the community of musicians, students, and music-loving listeners that are Victoria Baroque.

Victoria Baroque Music Society Annual General Meeting

Nominations and Elections to the Board of Directors

Current VBMS Board of Directors

David Robertson (president)

Bill Jamieson (treasurer)

Andrea Kolot (secretary)

Julia Andrews

Christopher Butterfield

Jennifer Gerwing

Sharon McMillan

Grant Sigurdson

Kimberley Van Nieuvenhuyse

Members whose term ends November 2025

Julia Andrews

Jennifer Gerwing

Bill Jamieson

Andrea Kolot

Sharon McMillan

Kimberley Van Nieuvenhuyse

Nominations for 2-year term ending November 2027

Julia Andrews

Jennifer Gerwing

Andrea Kolot

Sharon McMillan

Kimberley Van Nieuvenhuyse

Grant Sigurdson