Victoria Baroque Music Society
Annual General Meeting

Saturday November 7, 2025, 3:00 pm

Denson Lounge, St. John the Divine

1611 Quadra Street, 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 15, 2025
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 to the Board of Directors
7. Other business: Approval of Board actions
8. Adjournment

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 Hil Cross Road, Victoria, BC

Chair	David Robertson
Artistic director	Christina Hutten
Secretary	Andrea Kolot
Present	Bill Jamieson, Jennifer Gerwing, Sharon McMillan, Christopher Butterfield, Kimberley Van Nieuvenhuyse, Julia Andrews, + 4 members
Absent	

Call to order

Call to order at 2:47

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 Sharon
Seconded by Grant
Carried

Reception of minutes from previous AGM

Motion to receive the minutes by Julia
Seconded by Grant
Carried

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

Adoption the Financial Statements as of August 31, 2025

Motion by Bill
Seconded by Christopher
Carried

President’s report to the Society

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.

David Robertson

Artistic Director’s report to the Society

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 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.

Christina Hutten

Nominations and election to the Board of Directors

Andrea Kolot as Nominations Officer presented the slate of nominations:

Standing for re-election:

- Andrea Kolot
- Julia Andrews
- Jennifer Gerwing
- Sharon McMillan
- Kimberley Van Nieuvenhuyse
- Grant Sigurdson

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 Julia
Carried

Motion to Adjourn

Motion to Adjourn by Sharon
Carried
Adjournment 3:13 pm

Treasurer's report to the Society

Financial position

The society has working capital and unrestricted net assets (equity) of $33,673. In fiscal year 2024/25, the board passed a resolution to internally restrict $25,000. Of this, $10,000 is earmarked for a future opera-related project, and the remaining $15,000 is set aside for future maintenance of the Society's continuo organ.

Deferred revenue

Deferred revenue consists of grant funding received by August 31, 2025, but specified by grantors for use in the following fiscal year.

Revenues

The society brought in total revenue of $156,877 in 2025/26, compared to $125,279 in the previous year, an increase of about $31,600. Donations were down by $8,000.

Expenses

Production-related expenses such as artist fees and production costs increased by approximately $39,400, compared to the previous year. This was due to offering productions with a greater number of performers, which significantly impacted fees paid to musicians, as well as travel costs and per diems.

Management and administrative costs were up by approximately $12,220 compared to the previous year. This is mostly attributable to an increase in the artistic director fee, the addition of a marketing and administration position, and the redesign of the society's website.

Excess of Revenue over Expense

In summary, VBMS experienced a surplus of $2,138, compared to $22,633 in the previous year. 2025/26 was essentially a break-even year for the Society. It continues to have a good amount of working capital on hand and is in a solid cash flow position.

Sue Birge, Treasurer
October 31, 2026

Adoption the Financial Statements as of August 31, 2026

Motion by X
Seconded by X
Carried

Victoria Baroque Music Society

Balance Sheet Comparison

As of Aug 31, 2026

	TOTAL	
	As of Aug 31, 2026	As of Aug 31, 2025 (PY)
Assets		
Current Assets		
Cash and Cash Equivalent		
1110 Operating account - Van City	74,789.16	90,733.51
1115 Share account - Van City	6.45	6.45
1130 Gaming account - Van City	9,198.80	9,357.26
1140 Square Clearing	-182.57	1,092.29
12000 Undeposited Funds - 1	0.00	0.00
Total for Cash and Cash Equivalent	**$83,811.84**	**$101,189.51**
Accounts Receivable (A/R)		
Accounts Receivable	350.00	2,115.94
Total for Accounts Receivable (A/R)	**$350.00**	**$2,115.94**
1120 Cash float	150.00	150.00
1305 Prepaid expenses - 1	525.00	460.00
Total for Current Assets	**$84,836.84**	**$103,915.45**
Non-current Assets		
Property, plant and equipment		
1410 Harpsichords	24,000.00	24,000.00
1450 Continuo Organ	25,000.00	25,000.00
Total for Property, plant and equipment	**$49,000.00**	**$49,000.00**
Total for Non-current Assets	**$49,000.00**	**$49,000.00**
Total for Assets	**$133,836.84**	**$152,915.45**
Liabilities and Equity		
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable (A/P)		
Accounts Payable	5,558.22	6,950.60
Total for Accounts Payable (A/P)	**$5,558.22**	**$6,950.60**
Credit Cards		
2005 Visa credit card account	325.93	1,094.39
Total for Credit Cards	**$325.93**	**$1,094.39**
2111 Deferred Revenue	18,793.00	38,881.00
2200 Accrued Liability	0.00	0.00
24000 Payroll Liabilities	0.00	
25500 GST/HST Payable	-650.93	-1,183.60
Total for Current Liabilities	**$24,026.22**	**$45,742.39**
Total for Liabilities	**$24,026.22**	**$45,742.39**
Equity		
Retained Earnings	0.00	0.00
Profit for the year	2,137.56	22,632.91
3050 Net assets invested in capital	49,000.00	49,000.00
3500 Unrestricted equity, beginning	33,673.06	10,540.15
3900 Internally Restricted Net Asset	25,000.00	25,000.00
Total for Equity	**$109,810.62**	**$107,173.06**
Total for Liabilities and Equity	**$133,836.84**	**$152,915.45**

Victoria Baroque Music Society

Profit and Loss Comparison

September, 2025-August, 2026

	TOTAL	
	Sep. 1 2025 - Aug. 31 2026	Sep. 1 2024 - Aug. 31 2025 (PY)
Income		
4100 Concert Ticket Sales	47,215.40	23,315.00
4110 Season Ticket Sales	9,852.00	5,857.50
4200 Other presenters	22,023.36	21,516.00
4205 CD sales	44.00	
4360 Grants	53,550.00	35,550.00
4361 Victoria Fd. Investment Return	1,904.00	1,514.00
4400 Donations	21,844.78	29,902.18
4115 Workshops and Education		3,300.00
4203 Sponsorships		4,000.00
4300 Other revenue		24.00
6005 Instrument rental income		300.00
Total for Income	**$156,433.54**	**$125,278.68**
Cost of Goods Sold		
5000 Production costs		
5005 Artists Fees - VBP (DS)	56,876.61	41,655.00
5010 Guest Artists Fees	36,200.00	17,330.53
5020 Artists travel expense	7,524.27	6,943.73
5021 Artists Lodging Expense/Per Die	3,490.15	1,513.20
5035 Venue Rental	2,260.00	1,700.00
5040 Technical and recording	380.00	
5245 Publicity	2,617.20	1,827.15
5252 Summer Music Academy	3,000.00	3,000.00
5254 Online ticketing fees	4,313.05	3,101.47
Total for 5000 Production costs	**$116,661.28**	**$77,071.08**
5100 Security		157.85
Total for Cost of Goods Sold	**$116,661.28**	**$77,228.93**
Gross Profit	**$39,772.26**	**$48,049.75**
Expenses		
5025 Artistic Director fee	10,000.00	6,000.00
5211 Bank Charges	592.61	247.75
5213 Fund Raising Expense	2,993.22	897.35
5215 Insurance Expense	1,190.00	1,190.00
5216 Internet expense	2,103.39	2,157.30
5220 Licenses and Fees	239.28	190.00
5231 Office Rent	1,350.00	1,800.00
5235 Postage	105.54	634.99
5255 Telephone	231.39	329.82
5600 Contract - Admin & Marketing	18,718.19	10,430.00
5700 Meetings and governance	111.08	
5212 Hospitality		98.60
5232 Office Supplies		49.06
5240 Printing and Copying		1,391.97
Total for Expenses	**$37,634.70**	**$25,416.84**
Profit	**$2,137.56**	**$22,632.91**

President's report to the Society

The first concert in Victoria Baroque's 17th season took place in October marking the start of our third season under the musical direction of Christina Hutten.

As we have for the last few years, we are trying new things this season. Three of our performances will be in the afternoon and our final concert is taking place this May at the Horticultural Centre of the Pacific. Due to the venue size, we will be having two performances on that day.

At last year's AGM, Bill Jamieson stepped down as treasurer. I thank Bill for continuing to support the role until Sue Birge joined us as in the spring. The treasurer plays a vital role on any society's board, and we are fortunate that Sue has taken on this responsibility.
Mieka Michaux joined the board this summer as the musician representative bringing a valuable voice and perspective to the table.

AGMs can be a time of transition, and this year we have three board members stepping down. Christopher Butterfield, Sharon McMillan, and I are retiring from Victoria Baroque. Together we have almost 25 years volunteering with Victoria Baroque. Work we have found highly rewarding. Along with other members of the board, we have seen Victoria Baroque change and grow over the years. We have gone from our audience sending cheques by mail to buy tickets to online purchases and scanning phones at the door. We are reaching out through social media to connect with our audience through Facebook and Instagram. Our *Bach in the Pub* events proved immensely popular as have the concerts where we have stepped outside the Baroque period to present original modern works and multimedia presentations.

COVID saw online performances and the start of our summer garden concerts, which for the last two summers have taken place at Goward House, a venue that offers the flexibility of an inside or outside performance, saving us from the whims of the weather.

It has been wonderful to have been part of the board, and I believe that Victoria Baroque will continue to evolve as an organization while holding fast to its core purpose of bringing beautiful Baroque music to our audiences.

David Robertson

Artistic Director’s report to the Society

Victoria Baroque's 2025-26 season included four main series concerts, an additional large-scale collaboration, casual garden concerts, performances for other presenters, and a week-long educational workshop.

Our season started with cello landscapes, featuring internationally renowned cellist Diederik van Dijk along with Amy Laing and Katrina Russell. Besides wonderful cello concerto repertoire, Diederik shared music by his late friend, Indigenous composer, Cris Derksen.

The Mimosa String Quintet, a group of several Victoria Baroque musicians and their dear international colleagues, gave their debut performance in a program of Boccherini and Schubert Quintets, a musical treat for Halloween.

We celebrated the holiday season with our first collaboration with Octet Victoria, an ensemble of young singers whose goals and vision are a natural fit with Victoria Baroque.

In January, Canadian soprano and Metropolitan Opera star Mireille Asselin and acclaimed baritone Jesse Blumberg joined for a program that wove together Baroque dramatic music with new Canadian commissions telling archetypal stories from Greek mythology.

We mounted a large-scale production of Bach's St. John Passion in collaboration with the St. John's Chamber Choir and the Choir of Christ Church Cathedral. Our season concluded with a project that showcased local craftsmanship like that of brass instrument builders Andrew Clark and Katrina Russell.

During the summer, we performed two sold-out casual concerts at Goward House. Besides self-presented concerts, VB performed on other presenter's series in the CRD outside Victoria, including Artspring, the Cowichan Symphony Society, and Saltspring Baroque.

Victoria Baroque believes strongly in the value of immersing music lovers of all ages in hands-on experiences. Our Summer Intensive Program in Baroque Music, presented in collaboration with the Victoria Conservatory, provided educational opportunities for members of the community, including music students, amateur musicians, and professional musicians wishing to immerse themselves in Baroque performance practice. The workshop includes daily workshops, lessons, rehearsals, and lectures, and attracts students and music lovers of diverse ages from BC, other provinces, and abroad. Students in the program have made beautiful lasting friendships. This year we welcomed a large cohort of 45 students taught by 13 instructors.

We are delighted to see growth in our audience sizes. Our main series shows have been regularly attracting audiences of 170-270 members during the past season. Our large-scale performance of Bach's St. John Passion at Christ Church Cathedral drew nearly 500 audience members, despite an unavoidable conflict with a performance by the Victoria Symphony. Behind the scenes, we’ve been working on a new digital presence for Victoria Baroque with a website redesign that will enable us to more easily share richer program information, educational materials, venue information, video clips and more.



Victoria Baroque performs *St. John Passion* at Christ Church Cathedral



Garden Concert at Goward House with Christina Mahler, Christina Hutten, and Soile Stratkauskas

Christina Hutten