

CIRCUSWEST ANNUAL REPORT 2022-23



DREAM BIG PUSH LIMITS DEFY GRAVITY

CircusWest gratefully acknowledges we operate on the traditional territory of the Coast Salish peoples, including the territories of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil Waututh Nations.



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ORGANIZATIONAL SUMMARY

The CircusWest Performing Arts Society is a registered non-profit charity founded in 1984. Our team brings years of circus arts training and performance experience.

CircusWest is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors elected annually by our membership. In addition to providing governance and strategic direction for the organization, directors also serve on internal committees.

Core values: Our relationships and decisions are driven by our commitment to:

- **Community** – We work together to make circus safe, inclusive, & fun for all.
- **Excellence** – We foster a supportive environment & promote excellence and creativity in all aspects of our programming & performances
- **Teamwork** – We believe in the power of collaboration with our students, staff and membership.
- **Respect** – We celebrate diversity & require responsible, ethical, accountable behavior from all stakeholders

MISSION AND VISION

Our Mission -

- **INSPIRE** excellence in all aspects of circus

Our Vision -

- Provide **EXCEPTIONAL** Circus programming, performances and support for **ALL** participants

PRESIDENTS REPORT

The 2022-23 year at CircusWest was an excellent year which presented many opportunities. Together your Board, our Chief Executive Officer, and our staff, with the support of our members, have moved passed the pandemic and continue to gain momentum.

During the past year, the Board has worked closely with management to develop a five-year strategic plan and remains in an excellent position to continue to grow with our new plan to guide us.

Our members are an integral part of helping the organization moving towards the future. We appreciate your support and look forward to working with you all in the coming year.

Thank you.

Andrew Stewart

CEO'S REPORT

Welcome members to the 2023 Annual General Meeting and just like that another Circus season has come and gone. What a busy year it has been! Programming continued to expand to include our new Preparatory Program, 4P, along with a full continuum of class offerings. CircusWest also saw the return of several of our performance pathways this year which included the first spring show held in the PNE Forum this past June.

Over the past year both Programming and Performance Pathways continue to flourish. Our June Show this year did not disappoint as the cast and crew delivered another gold standard performance on the Forum stage for the first time in decades. A huge congratulations to Jay, all the staff and cast, and our dedicated volunteers for your vision in creating such an amazing premier. We again look forward to a dedicated show week for 2024 with some exciting partnerships ahead with the PNE.

The Board of Directors and management continue to focus on the long-term sustainability of the organization. Thank you to all the members engaging in our strategic planning process last fall. We strive and continue to enrich our delivery of programs and performances in the continued 4 years.

Finally, a huge thank you to our president Andrew and board of directors, who's continued oversight into the organization's direction this past year remains steadfast. I would like to personally thank the directors with terms that are ending this year along with welcoming our newly elected directors whose transferable skill sets continue to enrich the organizations governance model. A huge thank-you again to all our staff, new and old, who's dedication to Circus who continue to dedicate their life to the Circus craft.

Thank-you again to all our members and volunteers for your commitment to CircusWest and myself as your CEO.

Sincerely
Mark J. Schuett

TREASURER'S REPORT

CircusWest continues to be a fiscally responsible entity. This fiscal year saw impressive growth in programming revenue reaching nearly \$700,000, a \$92,000 increase over 2022. Total revenues came in at \$951,000 (2022: \$878,000). This trend is expected to continue with a next year's projected revenues surpassing \$1 million.

Expenses increased in line with revenues resulting in small deficit of just under \$3,000. CircusWest can afford these small deficits having a substantial general fund balance of over \$130,000 and capital reserve fund of \$28,000.

Cash flows are well managed with a year-end balance of \$300,000 (2022: \$330,000) and Current assets (\$350,000) are consistency in excess of current liabilities (\$267,000) demonstrating their robust ability to meet its obligations.

As we enter a new fiscal year, CircusWest is well positioned to continue the implication of its strategic plan, "Vision 2027". This success wouldn't be possible without the contributions of the dedicated management, staff, donors and granting bodies. Thank you for inspiring excellence.

Nadine Poznecov, CPA, CGA

FINANCIALS

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

For the Fiscal Years Ending August 31, 2023 and August 31, 2022

	2023	%	2022	%
REVENUES				
Programming	698,443	73%	607,878	69%
Performance	111,974	12%	115,736	13%
Grants	91,445	10%	91,410	10%
Fundraising	7,183	1%	14,759	2%
Other	41,996	4%	39,226	4%
Temporary Subsidies (CEWS/CEBA)	-	0%	9,461	1%
Total Revenues:	951,042	100%	878,468	100%
EXPENDITURES	2023	%	2022	%
Salaries and Wages	628,226	66%	530,699	60%
Operations	103,333	11%	98,761	11%
Building Occupancy	99,399	10%	90,707	10%
Programming Costs	63,638	7%	97,828	11%
Performance	59,379	6%	60,840	7%
Total Expenditures:	953,975	100%	878,835	100%
SUPLUS (DEFICIT)	(2,933)		(367)	

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR'S REPORT

2022-23 was a growing year at CircusWest as we saw increased enrolment in our overall core programming and Adult & Teen sessional classes. We also offered new programming and expanded weekend training offerings. In October 2022, CircusWest launched the Provincial Performance Preparatory Program (4P), a nine-month program focused on professional development of aspiring post-secondary circus artists, with an aim to prepare them for a career in circus arts. Our first cohort performed at the Opera in the Park and graduated with a website and promotional collateral. CircusWest also created the inaugural Hallowe'en 'Spooktacular Haunted Walks' as a membership focused celebration of Halloween and circus featuring the circus talents of our Performance stream students. Due to popular demand, we brought it back in October 2023 to great effect. CircusWest performed at holiday corporate and community functions including bringing our 'Fireflight - A Supernatural Circus' show to the Whistler Arts Centre. Spring circus outreach included Richmond Children's Art Festival shows and workshops, TED Talks workshops, and performances at local events and schools. In June 2023, CircusWest staged their annual Spring production at the PNE Forum for the first time ever. 'A New World Circus', was a resounding hit blending circus, progressive rock and roll, and the audacity of hope. Summer 2023 events include performing for Vancouver Opera, PNE's Metro Theatre Exhibit, and at Vancouver Convention Centre for large scale corporate events. CircusWest's popular Summer Camps sold out in June and additional spaces were created to meet the demand. Our summer evening Intensive circus classes were well attended but there is still room to grow these offerings. Throughout the summer, CircusWest performed at numerous events including Vancouver Opera's 'Opera in the Park', for the World Credit Union Conference, and as part of the PNE's workshop series. In 2023-24 season, we look forward to increasing our core and professional development offerings and to developing stronger relationships with our community partners and the PNE.

Jay Nunns, CircusWest Artistic Director

Dream BIG! Push LIMITS! Defy GRAVITY!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Andrew Stewart - President
- Princess Shiozawa- Vice-President
- Nadine Poznecov -Treasurer
- Nicole Collard - Secretary
- Shawn Hart - Director
- Kristopher McGregor - Director