

Renovate and Increase Access to the Clayoquot Sound Theatre in Tofino, BC

Project : \$580,000

Fundraised up to date : \$250,000

Needed for next grant level : \$40,000



The Clayoquot Sound Theatre will soon be 40 years old and in need of vital renovations. The renovations include: removing the current interiors; adding in a neoprene and plywood sprung floor; retractable risers allowing a stand up audience of around 150 people; windows for natural light; black-out fire safe curtains; professional sound equipment; wider emergency exits with an accessibility ramp at the rear. These renovations will help achieve increased capacity, number of bookings, job opportunities, diversified art forms and level of professional artists presented, a more accessible space for those with reduced mobility and a healthier space, free of allergens for all. The project has been structured in a way that it could be done in stages and returned to a point of

functionality between each stage if securing funding is a risk. The CSCTA has 45% of the project funds secured and we will soon be applying to our final federal grant.

Within the last decade, Tofino has transitioned from its small resource based community roots to a thriving tourist destination. And while the people and organizations of this community have evolved, our space has not. Important updates to the theatre would allow the CSCTA to support more diversity and flexibility in programming that would in turn increase capacity and revenue both directly and indirectly into the community. Tourism Tofino is working towards diversifying visitor offerings and arts and culture is the next area set to be developed. This work has been identified through the 2018 Economic Impact of Tourism in Tofino study and aligns with their annual strategic goals. The Clayoquot Sound Theatre is a vital arts and culture venue for the Pacific Rim region, Tofino, Ucluelet and surrounding First Nations Communities as the sole purposely built professional arts space. The next nearest professional theatre space is over 200 km away in Nanaimo.

This project aims to reduce barriers and increase accessibility to the Theatre. Once renovations are complete audience members with mobility devices will be able to sit directly in the front row or perform on stage without the assistance of others. Both the front row & stage will be on grade allowing greater access for all. Both emergency exits will have easy push, steel doors installed and existing exterior drops will be mitigated through the addition of ramps. All proposed updates will be reviewed against the BC Building Code to ensure the project meets the needs of all. Pam Frazee, a local doctor and paraplegic, sums up the improvements perfectly. “The initiative for upgrading and improving our theatre is timely and much needed... I will be able to sit with my fellow audience, or my fellow altos in choir, with a clear view of the performance, or choirmaster. I will be able to move onto the stage without needing a lift up. I will not be impeding the egress of others.”

TIMELINE

Phase 1 : Nov 21st 2023 to February 1st 2024

- Gut the whole theatre of all equipment including stage and risers
- Instal new drywall all around the Theatre
- Install sprung floor
- Rebuilding the whole electrical system of the Theatre
- Build 2 top fixed risers and stairs leading to them
- Install new doors and windows (+ sprinkler system to protect windows)
- Lowering the piano booth to the level of the sprung floor
- Rebuilt entrance to back stage
- Installation of accessibility ramp on the North side by District of Tofino
- Installation of new ventilation system by District of Tofino

Phase 2 : April 1st 2024 to June 15th 2024

- Installation of custom made retractable risers
- Installation of black fire retardant curtains on three walls of the theatre
- Arrival of the new chairs
- Installation of new sound system
- Installation of mirrors for dance lessons

THE TEAM :

Sophie L'Homme - Project Lead - Clayoquot Sound Theatre Manager and Director of the CSCATA Board. Sophie has led many projects in our community, from the Tofino Jazz Festival through to the ultra successful concerts of the Tofino and Ucluelet choir, Sophie has shown very efficient leadership and commitment to her creative projects.

Mallory Stuckel : registered architect in British Columbia. In her professional career, she has worked on a diverse range of projects, including custom single-family homes, multi-family developments, sustainability-focused public infrastructure projects, restaurants and, most recently, beachfront hotel villas. Mallory has worked at award-winning firms in Victoria and Vancouver and is highly experienced in delivering projects that emphasize sustainability and human well-being. Notably, while working at Local Practice Architecture + Design, a renowned regenerative design practice in Vancouver, she had a significant role on the architectural team for the Aurora Coast Innovation Center, a mass timber research center in Comox, as well as the Clayton Water Reservoir in Surrey - which was later featured in the June 2021 issue of Canadian Architect. She is an alumna of the University of British Columbia School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture (SALA) and holds an interdisciplinary Bachelor of Environmental Design from the University of Manitoba's Faculty of Architecture.

Scott Windsor - Senior Theatre Design Consultant, Production Manager and Event Coordinator working in the performing arts and related fields for over thirty years. Scott has worked with architects and engineers providing design consulting services for professional, college and high school theatres and for distance learning and video conferencing facilities. He is providing guidance and advice to help develop the preliminary designs and cost estimates.

Cindy Hutchison - Culture and Events Programmer District of Tofino - Offering staff support and liaison between the District of Tofino and CSCTA Board/Project Lead. Has 8 years of professional event and project management experience.

April Froment - Manager of Public Spaces, Cultural and Visitor Initiatives District of Tofino - PMP certified to provide guidance on the project as needed.

Sylvan Home Contracting - contractor engaged to complete Renovations.

Engineers from Celerity and Herold Engineering were consulted on the project.

RENOVATION PROJECT COST : \$580,000

Confirmed funding :

- BC Arts Council - Grant Funder- Funding confirmed - \$75,000
- CSCTA - Applicant - Funding Confirmed - \$5000
- District of Tofino - Project Partner - Funding Confirmed - \$20,000
- District of Tofino - In kind work - \$80,000
- Private and corporate donations - \$150,000
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Total : \$330,000

Our next step is to fundraise \$40 000 more in order to be eligible to apply to the Canada Cultural Spaces Funds that could give up up to \$370,000. Our chances of being successful with our application are really good as this project falls 100% within the guidelines of this grant and we are shovel ready.

HOW TO HELP WITH THIS PROJECT :

- **Sponsor front row of seats for \$30 000 :**

One of the front rows will be named after you or the name of your company.

- **Sponsor a full row of seats for \$10 000 :**

A row will be named after you or the name of your company.

- **Sponsor the front row for \$20 000 :**

The front row will proudly be name after you or the name of your company.

- **Sponsor a new seat for \$1000 :**

A plate will be hung in the entrance of the Theatre featuring the names of the people and the companies who have sponsored a new seat.

- **Sponsor a new LED spotlight for \$250 :**

A plate will be hung in the entrance of the Theatre featuring the names of the people and the companies who have sponsored a new spotlight.

HOW TO MAKE A DONATION :

Personal donations can be made through the Tofino Community Enrichment Society that will issue a charitable receipt that is tax deductible. All funds collected by the Enrichment Society will be given back to the Theatre. Donations can be made by cheques in the name of the Tofino Community Enrichment Society and mailed to PO Box 9 in Tofino or done online through our website that will redirect you to the Canada Helps page of the Tofino Enrichment Society : www.tofinotheatre.com

Corporate donations can be made by cheque directly to the Clayoquot Sound Community Theatre Association and mailed us. A receipt will be mailed back to you. Please contact us for you also need an invoice.

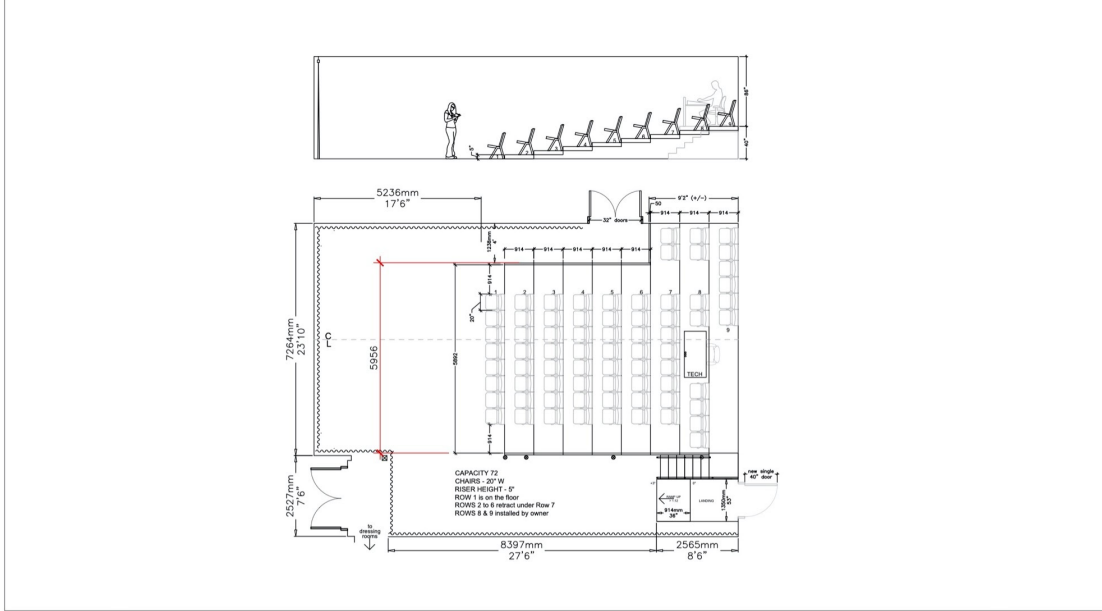
For more information please contact **Sophie L'Homme** at tofinotheatre@gmail.com

Clayoquot Sound Community Theatre Association : P.O Box 653, Tofino BC VOR 2Z0

Renderings by Mallory Stuckel Architect :



PLANS OF THE NEW THEATRE PROPOSED BY SCOTT WINDSOR :



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SEATING PLAN & SECTION
5" RISE USING 20" WIDE ARMLESS CHAIRS
NOT TO SCALE

GSW
 DESIGN