



December 22, 2010

Dear Member,

You will find enclosed the Notice of an Extraordinary General Meeting to be held January 13, 2011. At this Meeting you will be asked to approve a Motion to dissolve the Western Council of Arts in Education Societies (which operates as the Arts in Education Council of B.C.).

At the Annual General Meeting of the Society, held October 21, 2010, the options for the Society were discussed, and it was the view of those attending that the best option for the Society was that it should be dissolved and the assets remaining distributed to a charitable organization, as our Constitution requires, which has similar interests to our own. According to our Constitution, the Board of Directors makes the decision on the organization to receive the assets, but, should the Motion to Dissolve be approved, the Board will recommend that the assets be distributed to ArtStarts in Schools, to be set up as a special "Arts in Education Council of B.C. Fund" to support grants to assist programs furthering the cause of arts in educational institutions. This will of course be subject to negotiations with ArtStarts, but it is our hope that such a fund would allow for grants such as we have been making recently to the Arts Professional Specialist Associations, to assist with special speakers at their conferences.

We look forward to your attendance at this meeting, as we would like to have as many of our members and long-time supporters as possible join us for this occasion. It is with a certain sadness that we come to the conclusion that this is the best possible course, but we hope also to celebrate the accomplishments of the Arts in Education Council of B.C. over the 30 years of our existence, and to express our appreciation to ArtStarts for their support and cooperation during recent years. The importance of the arts in education will continue to be recognized through their work and the work of other organizations dedicated to giving young people opportunities to benefit from participation in all forms of the arts.

Yours sincerely,

Joanne Cram, Chair