



**EXPLAIN HOW YOUR PROJECT SUPPORTS THE PRINCIPLES AND PRIORITY AREAS OF THE PROGRAM:**

We believe that this "Curtain Motorization Project", although primarily geared toward assisting our mature membership, will also provide some benefit to tourism. A motorized curtain allows, inter alia, for a more rapid pace for a play and, therefore a more enjoyable experience for theatre patrons.

(Please attach additional pages as necessary.)

**LIST ANY MEASURABLE ECONOMIC BENEFITS OR OTHER OUTCOMES THAT WILL RESULT FROM THIS PROJECT:**

The motorization of the main stage curtain will result in one or two days employment by a local electrical company. In the longer term, it will make live productions at the Village Theatre even more enjoyable for patrons. In addition, it will make the Village Theatre even more attractive for rental by such groups as the Bard to Broadway Theatre Society, the Qualicum Beach School of Dance and the TV show Chesapeake Shores.

(Please attach additional pages as necessary.)

**PLEASE PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIAL:**

- ☒ An Organizational Chart illustrating the structure of your organization, including Directors and volunteers.
- ☒ A copy of a bank statement showing your organization's name and address.
- ☒ A copy of your organization's financial statements for the current year and one year prior.
- ☒ A copy of your organization's budget for the current year and one year prior.
- ☐ Any supporting materials you consider necessary to communicate your project idea.

**SIGNATURE**

**DATE:**

By signing here, you confirm that you have read the Program Guide and that you are signing on behalf of an eligible applicant.

**SUBMIT HARD COPIES TO:** NORTHERN COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM  
REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NANAIMO  
6300 HAMMOND BAY ROAD  
NANAIMO, BC V9T 6N2

**SUBMIT DIGITAL COPIES TO:** [nced@rdn.bc.ca](mailto:nced@rdn.bc.ca)

**OFFICE USE ONLY:**

**DATE RECEIVED:**

**RECEIVED BY:**

**COMMENTS:**

**FUNDING  
AWARDED:**

☐ YES

☐ NO

**AMOUNT AWARDED:**

**Please Note:** The Regional District of Nanaimo is subject to the provisions of *The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* and cannot guarantee that information provided can or will be held in confidence.

## NOTES

**The information contained herein is provided in support of an application by the ECHO Players Society of Qualicum Beach, BC for a Northern Community Economic Development Grant from the Regional District of Nanaimo.**

1. *ECHO Players* (which is an acronym for: “*Errington, Coombs, Hilliers and Others*”) is a not-for-profit, volunteer theatre company based in Qualicum Beach, BC. It has been in existence since 1974 and mounted its first production in the Spring of 1975. Thus, we celebrated our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary just a couple of years ago.

*Echo Players* provides a number of services not only to Qualicum Beach and the broader Oceanside community but much further afield, as well. Our activities include mounting a minimum of 4 major theatrical productions each year; renting our theatre (the “Village Theatre”) to other performing groups (including other theatre companies such as *Bard to Broadway* and the *Qualicum Beach School of Dance*) and to individuals for a variety of both commercial and charitable causes. We regularly allow our theatre to be used free of charge for charitable purposes.

We draw actors, directors, back stage crew folks as well as audiences from as far afield as Nanaimo, Port Alberni, Courtney and Campbell River. In addition, our theatre is a regular venue for the Annual Theatre BC North Island Zone Festival.

In addition, we host an annual Vancouver Island Juried One Act Play Festival which includes not only plays from our fellow theatre companies in Courtney, Port Alberni, Nanaimo, etc. but also (and as a direct result of our many years of encouragement) from area high school drama clubs.



*Echo Players* is also a regular participant in local events such as Family Day celebrations, Hallowe'en Celebrations and Moonlight Madness etc.

*ECHO Players'* principal revenue generating activity is the plays that it mounts each year. Please find enclosed a copy of our 2019 – 2020 Season brochure. In addition, we receive rental income for the use of our theatre each summer by *Bard to Broadway*. Finally, as a registered charity, *ECHO Players* receives a small amount of funds each year in donations. Recently, to formalize this last activity, the Board of Directors of *ECHO Players* established the *ECHO Players Arts Fund*. Please see included brochure.

ECHO Players owns, operates and maintains its own theatre, the “Village Theatre”, located at 110 W. 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave. in Qualicum Beach, BC. The theatre is an Art Deco structure dating from the 1940s and was originally a cinema. It is one of the oldest – and, in our view, one if the prettiest - buildings still in use in Qualicum Beach. It was recently officially designated as a Heritage Building. Given the age of the building (70 years) it requires regular maintenance and upgrading.

The many activities of ECHO Players may be viewed on our website: [www.echoplayers.ca](http://www.echoplayers.ca). A link showing details of the mural project can be found on the right hand side of our home page.

2. The project for which this application is being made is known as the “***Curtain Motorization Project***”. The main curtain at the front of the stage in the theatre is, currently, manually operated. It is a very heavy curtain not only because of its very large size but, also, because it is, by regulation, fire retardant (and, therefore, comprised of very heavy material).

For at least the past decade, ECHO Players has been hoping to motorize the curtain so as to make its operation less onerous on our members. This has come to a head, somewhat, in the last couple of years as our membership (all of whom are volunteers and many of whom are in their late 70s and early 80s) continues to age. Finding a volunteer to operate this curtain several times during each performance for productions that run for 12 to 14 evenings is becoming a challenge.

Although there are well-known artistic advantages to a motorized curtain, our motivation is entirely for the well-being of our mature members.

3. The NCED Funds applied for will be used to help pay for the purchase and professional installation of a motorized Main Stage Curtain in the Village Theatre in Qualicum Beach.

These costs are estimated to be approximately \$17,000.<sup>00</sup>. We have an estimate (from Sapphire Sound in Abbotsford) of \$15,773.<sup>10</sup> for the requisite motors, controllers, etc. Plus, we will need to hire a local electrician to run new wiring from the stage all the way to the Tech Booth at the back of the theatre auditorium. We estimate this cost to be approximately \$1,200.<sup>00</sup>. Thus, the total cost estimate is approximately \$17,000.<sup>00</sup> (\$16,973.<sup>10</sup>).

This project is to be paid for from the **ECHO Arts Fund** which was established a few years ago specifically for the purpose of funding exactly these kinds of improvements to the Village Theatre. The current balance in the **ECHO Arts Fund** is \$7,500.<sup>00</sup>. All of these funds will be applied to this project. This leaves us, therefore, \$9,500.00 short of the necessary total. In our application to the RDN for a **Northern Community Economic Development Grant**, we are requesting a grant of \$4,250.<sup>00</sup> (representing 25% of the total cost of the project).





# **ECHO Players Society**

## **Organizational Chart**

### **(Current Year 2018/19)**

The ECHO Players Society is a non-profit charitable organization registered under the BC Societies Act.

Our current membership is approximately 230 members.  
Membership in the Society is \$15.<sup>00</sup> per year.

The Society is governed by an elected Board consisting of 11 members. These are (currently) as follows:

#### **Table Officers**

President: Rose Knabb  
Vice-President: Mike Andrews  
Secretary: Lynn Walker  
Treasurer: Anne Drozd  
Past President: Ken McCready

#### **Directors at Large**

Margaret Jenkins  
Jennifer Kelly  
Ron Stoltz  
Jim Windsor  
Stephen Torrence  
Vacancy

In addition, the Society has several committees charged with overseeing the management of the Society's affairs. These committees and their chairs are as follows:

Archivist: Eileen Butts

Artistic Direction Committee. Chair: Ron Stoltz

Bar Committee. Chair: Janet Taggart

Bugle Newsletter: Kerry Campbell

Concession: Tricia Browne

Costumes. Chair: Pam McCready

Health and Safety Committee. Chair: Alistair McVey

Hilliers Committee. Chair: Phil Copple

Marketing/Sponsors. Chair: Sue Murguly

One Act Play Committee. Chair: Margaret Jenkins

Play Reading Committee. Chair: Helen Margaret Randall

Publicity Committee. Chair: Sue Murguly

Properties. Chair: Judi Andrews

Sets Committee. Chair: Phil Copple

Social Committee. Chair: Margaret Jenkins

Technical Committee. Chair: Ken McCready

Theatre Management Committee. Chair: Alistair McVey

Website Committee. Chair: Vacant

ECHO Players has no paid staff and all work is undertaken on a strictly volunteer basis by our membership. For example, a typical play (with a cast of, say, 4 or 5) will involve the work of up to 130 people.



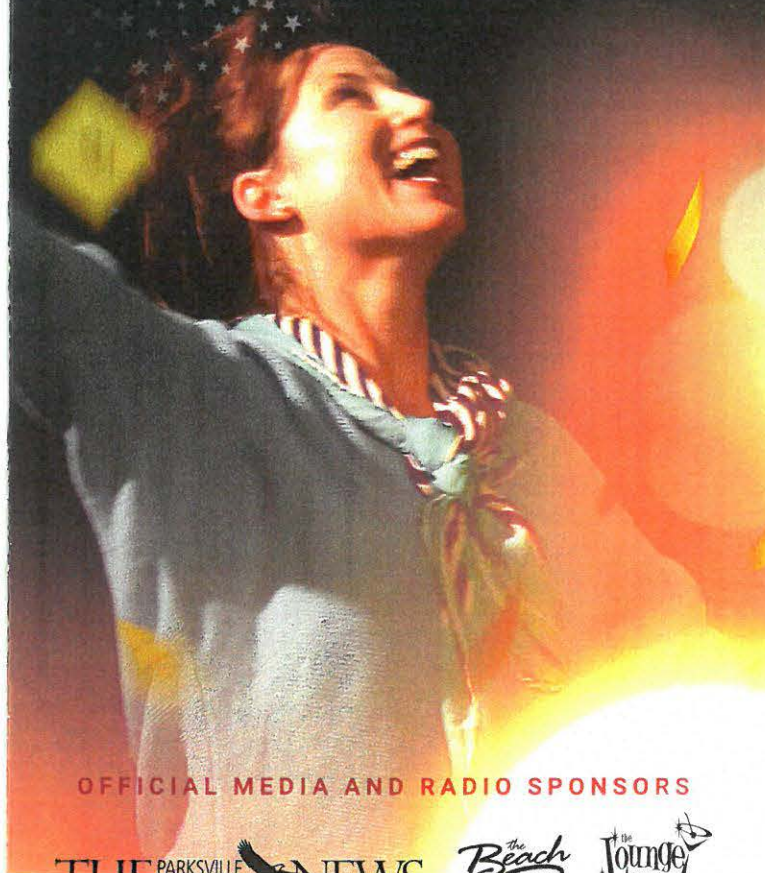
# VILLAGE THEATRE

2018-2019



QUALICUM BEACH, BC

## THEATRE MAGIC AT ITS BEST



OFFICIAL MEDIA AND RADIO SPONSORS

THE PARKVILLE

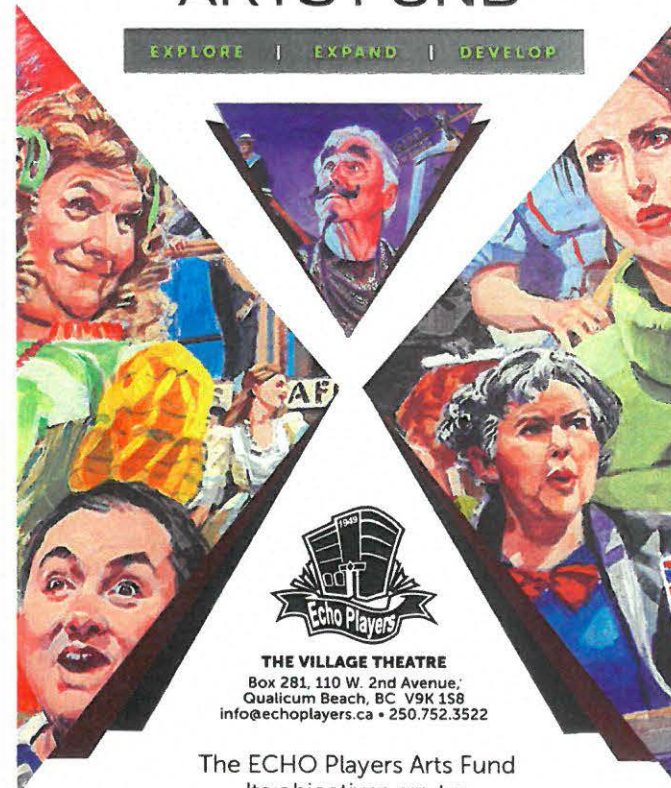
The Beach

The Lounge



## ECHO PLAYERS ARTS FUND

EXPLORE | EXPAND | DEVELOP



**THE VILLAGE THEATRE**  
Box 281, 110 W. 2nd Avenue,  
Qualicum Beach, BC V9K 1S8  
info@echoplayers.ca • 250.752.3522

The ECHO Players Arts Fund

Its objectives are to:

- Contribute to and support the love of theatre
- Maintain the heritage Village Theatre
- Provide ongoing requirements for productions
- Support workshops, scholarships and facilities for Theatrical endeavours

For more information or to make a contribution visit:

**[www.echoplayers.ca](http://www.echoplayers.ca)**

