

Peninsula Arts & Culture Alliance (PACA)

Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, September 9, 2026

Time: 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

Location: Semiahmoo Arts Society (SAS)

Facilitators: Elaine Cheung & Michele Partridge

1. Welcome

Elaine Cheung and Michele Partridge welcomed attendees and reaffirmed PACA's mission of fostering collaboration, mutual support, and shared success within the local arts and culture community.

2. Semiahmoo Arts Society (SAS) Membership

- Annual membership fee: \$50
- Membership includes both Semiahmoo Arts Society (SAS) and PACA membership.
- Membership includes one complimentary PACA meeting per year.

Registration:

<https://semiahmooarts.com/paca>

3. Member Introductions & Updates

Bruce Petherick – White Rock City Orchestra

- The orchestra's new season starts Saturday.
- The orchestra is preparing for its December concert, which will once again feature a guest vocalist.
- Bruce also shared that his personal artwork continues to be exhibited internationally.

Wendy Haines

- Wendy previously created art and has returned to painting following retirement.
- She is creating artwork incorporated into eyeglasses, allowing the wearer to view the artwork through the lenses.
- This was Wendy's first PACA meeting.

Carla Maskall – Local Artist & Muralist

- Participating in International Artist Day and the Culture Crawl.
- Carla shared that she has several projects underway and encouraged members to follow her work on Instagram.

Pat Petrela

- Promotes and supports local art and is involved with Semiahmoo Seniors.
- Looking for an art-related offering from SAS that could be brought to Semiahmoo Seniors for Christmas.

Lucille Loose

- Looking for opportunities and locations to sell her artwork.
- Participating in International Artist Day.

Tamiko Spicer – Okimat Artworks

- Continues distributing weather-resistant sculpting material throughout Canada.
- Brought and shared a sculptural seal.
- Provided an update on the Butterfly Bench placemaking project for White Rock. The project has received endorsement and is awaiting technical approval before fabrication can begin. Tamiko is waiting for the City's approval regarding the appropriate footing.
- Tamiko is also completing a personal 14-foot dragon sculpture featuring a water element.

Nicci Battilana – @niccidotca / Nicci.ca

- September 17: Opening reception for the South Rock Art Tour at Nomad Gallery, 7:00–8:30 PM.
- September 19–20: South Rock Art Tour exhibition, 10:00 AM–4:00 PM, at 15450 18th Avenue, Surrey.
- October 4: Culture Crawl. Nicci will teach a free mixed-media art journaling class from 2:00–4:00 PM at Kent Street Activity Centre.
- October 13: Sip & Sketch at the new Goldie's Donuts.
- September 24–26, 2027: *Noted*, the Metro Vancouver Pen & Paper Fair, celebrating fine writing, stationery, creativity and craftsmanship, will be held at White Rock Community Centre.

Website: Nicci.ca

Instagram: @niccidotca

Pen & Paper Fair: @vancouverpenpapershow

Jonanne Pierre – My Petite Suite Décor

- This was Jonanne's first PACA meeting.
- Participating in the Culture Crawl at Ocean Park Hall.
- Works as a mixed-media artist.

Marie Roberts

- This was Marie's first PACA meeting.
- Creates handmade cards and teaches card-making classes.
- Offers one-on-one or two-person card-making instruction for \$20 per person.

Registration:

[Card-making class registration](#)

October 1 – Halloween Hat-Making Night

- Taking place at Marie's home studio.
- Cost: \$50 per person.
- Registration deadline is Friday.
- Secure a spot by e-transfer to cardswithprettypaper@gmail.com or by credit card:

[Pay by credit card](#)

Marie also encouraged members to think of someone who could use a word of encouragement and consider making and mailing or giving that person a handmade card.

Chris McClure – Golden Cactus Studio

- Organizing an International Artist Day event at Uptown Gallery in White Rock in November.
- The exhibition is currently full and will feature more than 30 represented artists.
- The event, titled "Artist Happening," will provide an opportunity to meet participating artists.
- Visitors will also have an opportunity to have their photo taken with a Picasso.
- Reception: Saturday, November 7, 5:00–9:00 PM
- Exhibition: November 3–21, 11:00 AM–4:00 PM daily.
- Request: Chris is looking for someone with video skills to film the event.

Michele Partridge – Confidence Coach & Peninsula Productions

- Continues teaching acting and improv classes at SAS.
- Classes are held on the last Monday of each month and admission is by donation.
- Upcoming production:
 - *Barefoot in the Park* by Neil Simon — September 17–20 and October 3 as part of the Culture Crawl.

Elaine Cheung – White Rock City Councillor / White Rock Farmers Market

- Shared that artwork created by children at SAS will be displayed in the window of the former Giraffe Restaurant.
- Provided an update on the White Rock Farmers Market economic impact study following the market's expansion.
- The market's estimated direct economic impact has increased to approximately \$7.6 million, up from approximately \$5.3 million in 2023.
- The expanded market is attracting approximately 8,000–10,000 visitors on Sundays during the four-hour market period.
- Elaine noted that the market is part of the BC Association of Farmers' Markets (BCAFM), with vendors required to grow, make or bake what they sell.

4. Semiahmoo Arts Society (SAS) Updates

Fall Classes

- Registration for fall classes is now open.
- A new low-cost seniors' class will focus on digital photography.
- Participants will learn how to use their phones or iPads to take, edit and save photographs.

White Rock Farmers Market

- SAS will be participating at the White Rock Farmers Market on Sunday, which is the final market of the season.

Paint the Town

- Exhibition runs August 1 – October 4.
- The Silent Auction event will take place October 2, with an online auction component.
- Proceeds will be divided 70% to the artist and 30% to Ulee's Access Fund.
- Tickets are \$35, including wine and food.
- Michele Partridge will serve as emcee.
- The exhibition includes public voting and artwork sales.
- Visitors can scan QR codes associated with the artwork to vote for the People's Choice award.

Paint the Town:

[Semiahmoo Arts – Paint the Town 2026](#)

SAS Funding & Advocacy

SAS shared that it is facing a significant funding challenge.

At the end of 2027, the Peace Arch Hospital & Community Health Foundation's three-year commitment of \$100,000 per year will end. Without replacement funding, SAS anticipates that it may have to dissolve.

SAS highlighted the importance of its approximately 5,000-square-foot arts space, which serves South Surrey and the broader Peninsula community.

SAS noted that:

- It has operated the arts wing at the South Surrey Recreation & Arts Centre since 2014.
- SAS currently receives approximately \$25,000 annually from the City of Surrey, representing approximately 3% of its operating budget.
- The Peace Arch Hospital & Community Health Foundation provided a three-year grant of \$100,000 per year, which has helped sustain the organization.
- SAS is currently working with City of Surrey staff on a new operating agreement.
- SAS has applied to present as a delegation at the September 21, 2026 Regular Council Meeting, where a proposed new operating agreement is expected to be considered.

Members were encouraged to review SAS's letter to Surrey Council and advocate for increased and equitable municipal investment in arts and culture.

SAS Letter to Surrey Council:

[Read the Support Request to Surrey Council](#)

Advocacy Information & Draft Letter:

[Help Advocate for Funding Equity](#)

Action Requested: Members are encouraged to write to the Mayor and Council of Surrey to request increased and equitable investment in arts and culture.

5. City of White Rock Updates

Culture Crawl

- The White Rock Culture Crawl is coming up October 3–4.

Uptown Gallery

- Applications for the 2027 exhibition program have closed.
- Applicants are expected to be notified within the next couple of weeks.

City of White Rock Arts & Culture:

[White Rock Arts & Culture](#)

White Rock Arts & Culture Opportunity Updates:

[Sign up for City of White Rock arts and culture updates](#)

6. New Business

No new business was raised.

7. Next PACA Meetings

- Wednesday, October 14, 2026
- Wednesday, November 11, 2026

PACA meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month, with locations rotating among members' spaces.

PACA Information & Membership:

[Semiahmoo Arts – PACA](#)