



THE MUNICIPALITY OF
LAMBTON SHORES

**Community Vibrancy Fund
LARGE PROJECTS APPLICATION FORM**

Prior to completing an application, applicants must have read the Community Vibrancy Fund Large Projects Guidelines. Applicants are required to meet with Municipal staff prior to submitting an application.

Only completed applications will be considered. Lambton Shores Municipal Council has the sole authority to approve or deny applications.

Organization Name: Grand Bend Art Centre

Funding Requested: \$31,413.00

1. Applicant Information

1.1 Board of Directors

Please complete the chart below:

Name	Position	Term	Years Active
Nette Pachlarz	President	5	10
Joanne Janzen	Treasurer	8	8
Lynn Douglas	Recording Secretary	1	4
Peter Phillips	Director		14
Kelli Phillips	Director		13

1.2 Provide details about the organization including the history, mandate, objectives and services provided, and geographic area of operation.

Grand Bend Art Centre was formed in 2009 and received the Ontario Corporation number 1836204 in 2010. Our mission is to inspire creativity in the community which includes Grand Bend, Lambton Shores and surrounding area. We strive to educate and increase the public's understanding and appreciation of the visual arts, to develop arts' programming for all ages and abilities, with special emphasis on children's education, to produce visual arts festivals and events, and to operate an art centre to be used for workshops, programs, and art exhibits for the benefit of the general public.

1.3 Please confirm that membership to the organization is open to anyone in the Municipality of Lambton Shores:

Yes, I confirm that membership is open to everyone

No, membership is not open to everyone

1.4 Describe the organization's experience with successfully completing projects. Include details such as project management experience, budget management, etc. Provide examples of project completion and identify the experience of the individuals that will be involved in the project implementation.

The following is a list of projects completed by GBAC:
Paint Ontario, Halloween Family Event
Pottery Studio, Beach Murals and Sculptures,
Art Exhibits ,School music programs, May We Come Together Festival,
Perch n' Paint Plein Air, Optimist Beachfest Childrens' Activities,
Dab and Gab - open Senior Artists' Paint Group, Painting Workshops,
Children Art Day Camps
Since acquiring Paint Ontario 8 years ago, GBAC has produced an unprecedented Art Competition and Sale, worthy of provincial attention, and this has financially allowed us to produce and fund the above mentioned projects.
Through Board support, sponsors, and volunteers, this show provides a cultural 3-week event that serves our creative community. This community includes residents of all ages and our local business' such as hotels and restaurants who benefit from the presence of our 3000 visitors.
Our production schedule includes websites, online registration, promotion, hanging and lighting,

2. Project Description

2.1 Provide a description of the proposed project, including the location where the project will take place.

Paint Ontario will take place on the main floor of the Grand Bend Legion Branch #498. We have a minimum 5-year agreement with the Legion for this venue. Relocating requires specially built portable walls, plinths, electrical upgrades and the purchase of lighting. As well, we will upgrade the existing drywall and paint the gallery. A storage container to house the production equipment and walls will be required to house the entire transportable system for Paint Ontario. New signage is a necessity to redirect the public to our new venue.

2.2 Describe, in detail, who will benefit from the project. What is the target population that your project will support? How will you ensure that your project is open and accessible to all members of the general public?

Paint Ontario has been a unique juried competition and sale since 1996. The show provides a much-needed cultural experience and inspiration to Grand Bend and greater area. It benefits artists, both existing and future creators, who benefit from the prestige of being selected to a show of such high calibre and sales. Paint Ontario has enhanced the careers of many successful artists, Donna Andreychuck, Martina Bruggemans and Marion Anderson to mention a few. Paint Ontario offers one of the most unique opportunities for artists and it is a huge honour to be selected. The creation of many additional sponsor prizes increases the prize allotment by \$3,000 and replaces a "peoples choice" style of prize. The major prizes are judged by their peers. We use past winners in all of our marketing which provides a publicity boost winners. With the addition of artist demonstrations, the

2.3 Describe the need for the project, including identifying any gaps that exist. List any documented studies or reports that support the need for the project.

The need to fund this project is the direct result of losing our venue of 25 years at Lambton Heritage Museum. The entire format of Paint Ontario is volume based. The revenue required cannot be sustained on a show that became half the size of our previous shows. With your funding we can secure the main hall at the Legion and present the host gallery in our GBAC building next door, creating enough space to boast over 200 original pieces of art for sale. The show entry fees are a huge component of the fundraising formula. Artists have a one in 200 chance of being selected which has proven to increase our number of entries. Using 2019 figures we received \$9000 in entry fees and we gave approx \$13000 in prizes. The number of artists represented and the commission earned was grossly affected by a 50% reduction in space as proven by our 2022 show.

Securing a venue for 30 days was a huge challenge. We require a secure temperature-controlled environment, handicap accessibility and adequate parking. The Grand Bend Legion was and is the only option for the next 5 years although we could easily fill a space twice the size. All other venues could not accommodate us within our financial means.

Paint Ontario has always networked with the tourism and hospitality sector and local businesses. The new location will offer a first time opportunity for walk-in traffic, control our hours of operation and secure our very successful opening nights. Opening nights provide the gathering of artists, sponsors, and buyers. This social event of the season has historically resulted in 50 percent of our sales. Many of these artists come and stay. We provide much-needed opportunities for artists to learn more about the business and making of art. A report from The Scoop revealed the "Ontario Arts Council Report: Arts and Culture Brings \$11.4 Billion to the Province of Ontario". It states, " They stay longer, spend more, and come from afar - a new report details what the arts and culture tourism brings to the province." The article goes on to say that 36% of arts and culture visitors within the province stayed for 3 or more night. This is why it is

2.4 Demonstrate the community support received for the project. At least one letter of support from a local organization other than the applicant must be provided.

To date we have received financial support from the Grand Bend Rotary, business and private donors. We have a 5-year agreement with Grand Bend Legion. GBAC has contributed to the project with its own funds and we have secured letters of support from service clubs, artists, buyers, sponsors and businesses.

Over 25 sponsors representing business and individuals from Sarnia to London to Zurich ensure enthusiastic participation.

All profits go directly to serve our community since we are all volunteers (we have over 40 volunteers).

2.5 Have all necessary approvals, permissions and permits been granted for the project to proceed? If yes, please describe. If not, please describe the plan to receive the necessary approvals.

As of today we are not aware of any needed permits to accommodate our container , however we may require special permission for this and new signage.

2.6 Describe the sustainability of the project, including how the project will be funded and operated over the life of the project.

Paint Ontario has always been successful, however since acquiring it from Barry Richman, we have more than tripled its annual revenue. We intend to sustain and grow this one-of-a-kind cultural event in the tri-county area with close proximity to Grand Bend. With grant success we can secure our new home and perpetuate success and sustainability. Funds will be required for lighting, walls, plinths, tables, folding dollies, painting storage carts and tool boxes, all to be stored onsite in the container similar to professional theatre production storage. Our business model requires an adequate space to ensure maximum impact, attendance, and sales to reach our financial requirements for existing and future projects.

2.7 Which funding category applies to this project:

- Energy sustainability
- Land stewardship
- Recreation projects
- Agriculture / Rural Affairs
- Arts / Culture / Community Heritage
- Community / Special Events
- Community Beautification / Environmental Awareness
- Supporting Youth / Seniors / Vulnerable Sector
- Tourism / Economic Development
- Funding for ongoing and/or annual cultural and/or historical events that promote tourism and/or historical significance to Lambton Shores, but does not include Canada Day Celebrations

3. Financial

- 3.1 Describe what the requested funds are being used for. **Note** that if approved, funds cannot be used for anything other than the stated purposes.

The funds are used to create a theatre style functional set and store it in a container on site so we can relocate and market Paint Ontario from the museum to the new Grand Bend Legion venue. The container will contain all the assets to produce the show at the Legion for the next five years and will have a shelf life of 10 years plus if properly cared for.

- 3.2 Describe the fundraising strategy and other funds that have been secured to support this project. List any funding partners.

We started with a video presentation at the Legion in March 2023. We presented the need for the electrical upgrades and portable walls to produce a show of this calibre. The transformation of this venue also allows for growth into the potential Community Centre through its portability. GBAC committed reserve funds to get started. We made a direct request for funds through mailchimp and our social media platforms. We successfully presented to Grand Bend Rotary who recognized the need for this major cultural event. We have just now initiated a wall sponsorship campaign. Many GBAC board members contributed to the cause and are challenging our community of friends to also contribute. We hosted an art exhibit and Plein Air event which also generated funds. Martina's art show and classes generated monies as well as pottery classes. In the new year we will possibly initiate raffles of 50/50 draws. We can provide a total at our council presentation in January as our fundraising is ongoing. We are confident we can come up with

- 3.3 Describe why Vibrancy Funds are needed for this project.

The estimated one-time cost of moving from the museum to the Legion is \$150,000. This money is to upgrade the Grand Bend Legion and to purchase all of the necessary walls, lighting and production equipment. Paint Ontario is our primary funding source and the face in the community. Currently we are asking for \$120,000. In the new location, we will once again be able to host our Paint Ontario opening night which has traditionally resulted in 50% of our gross sales. Receiving 1/3 of the costs will mean our community projects will continue to be offered without interruption: music in the schools, art and pottery programs for seniors and youth, festivals to promote Indigenous arts and multicultural activities for all ages. We are seeking donations and are confident we will have the 2/3 required to meet the

4. Contact and Signature

Contact information of person completing this application

Name:

Phone number:

Email:

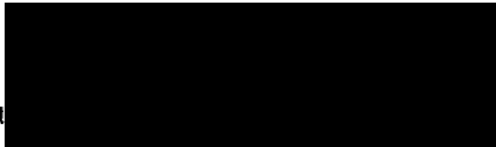
Mailing address:



The information contained in this application is, to the best of my knowledge, true and correct. I acknowledge that the contents of this application will be discussed in a public forum.

Teresa Phillips

Print name (person completing application)



November 27/23

Date

Nette Pachlarz

Print name (President or Chair of Board)



November 27/23

Date

Personal information, as defined by the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (MFIPPA) is collected under the authority of the Municipal Act, 2001, and in accordance with the provisions of MFIPPA. Personal information collected on this form will be used for the purpose of the administration of a Vibrancy Grant in the Municipality of Lambton Shores. If you have questions about this form, please contact the Municipality of Lambton Shores Community Services Department at 519-243-1400, option 3 or events@lambtonshores.ca or visit our website at www.lambtonshores.ca for more information. If you have questions about the collection, use, and disclosure of this information, contact the municipal Clerk at 519-243-1400, ext.8414.

2.2

Paint Ontario has been a unique juried competition and sale since 1996. The show provides a venue for artists to showcase their skills and art appreciators to view an incredible show. It drives sales for the artists, funds to support the Grand Bend Art Centre, and drives over 3,000 guests to attend and view the show. This leads to increased usage of local restaurants and businesses with the visitors. The event will take place in the very accessible Grand Bend Legion in May 2024.

It is an honour as an artist to be selected for this prestigious show, and the calibre of the artworks drives the attendance. Paint Ontario has enhanced the careers of many successful artists. Donna Andreychuck, Martina Bruggemans and Marion Anderson to mention a few.

With the addition of artists' demonstrations, the show offers opportunity to celebrate multi-cultural experiences and increased participation through learning and inspiring creativity.

2.3

The need to fund this project is the direct result of losing our venue of 25 years at Lambton Heritage Museum. The entire format of Paint Ontario is volume based. Revenue required cannot be sustained on a show that became half the size of our previous shows. With your funding we can secure the main hall at the Grand Bend Royal Canadian Legion and present the host gallery in our GBAC building next door, creating enough space to boast over 200 original pieces of art for sale. The show entry fees are a huge component of the fundraising formula. Artists have a one in 200 chance of being selected which has proven to increase our number of entries. Using 2019 figures we received \$9000 in entry fees and we gave approximately \$13000 in prizes. The number of artists represented and the commission earned was grossly affected by the 50% reduction in space as proven by our 2022 show.

Securing a venue for 30 days was a huge challenge. We need a secure, temperature-controlled environment, handicap accessibility and adequate parking. The GB Legion was and is the only option for the next five years. All other venues were simply too expensive to rent.

Paint Ontario has always networked with the tourism and hospitality sector and local businesses. Our show will now allow walk-in traffic. We will control hours of operation and secure a very successful opening night where artists, buyers and sponsors gather. a report from The Scoop revealed "Ontario Arts Council Report: Arts and Culture Brings \$11.4 Billion to the Province of Ontario." It states, "They stay longer, spend more, and come from afar - a new report details what the arts and culture tourism brings to the province." We believe this major cultural event must be saved as it has tremendous economic benefits.

in order to create a professional art gallery for Paint Ontario, we will need the movable walls and special lighting.

2.5

As of today, we are not aware of any needed permits to produce Paint Ontario however we will seek permission for new signage from the by-law officer. With regards to electrical permits, this is covered under the agreement with the GB Legion and is done by certified electricians.

3.2

We started with a video presentation at the Legion in March 2023. We presented the need for the electrical upgrades and portable walls to produce a show of this calibre. The transformation of the show at the Legion stresses the portability of the items required allowing for growth into the potential Community Centre. GBAC committed funds (\$10,000), Rotary (\$20,000) and an additional approximately \$11,000 from various smaller donors. We have a board led email campaign underway, as well as solicitation via email to our past patrons.

We initiated a wall sponsorship campaign. Many of our Board members donated. We hosted a Plein Air event and an art exhibit where funds were generated. In the new year we are preparing a 50/50 raffle. We are confident that the necessary funds will be available to have our Paint Ontario Show in May 2024.

3.3

The estimated one-time cost of moving from the museum to the Legion is \$140,000. This money is to upgrade the GB Legion and to purchase all of the necessary walls, lighting and production equipment. Paint Ontario is our primary funding source and the face in the community. Currently we are asking Council for one third of \$94,240 which equals \$31,413. In the new location, we will once again be able to host our Paint Ontario opening night which has traditionally resulted in 50% of our gross sales. Receiving one third of the cost will mean our community project will continue to be offered without interruption: music in the schools, art and pottery program for seniors and youth, festivals to promote Indigenous art and multi-cultural activities for all ages. We are seeking donations and are confident we will have the two-thirds required to meet the requirements of this application. No additional municipal financial assistance will be required for this move to the GB Legion. All or any support will be greatly appreciated.

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Paint Ontario Art Show and Sale opens in September

Tuesday, August 24, 2021

Grand Bend, ON – Lambton Heritage Museum will be presenting the Paint Ontario Art Show & Sale, September 3 - 26, 2021. The 25th anniversary show will be a live, in-person show - not a virtual show.

Paint Ontario is the largest show and sale of representational art in Ontario, which features over 200 original paintings by approximately 100 artists, selected from almost 700 submissions. The show provides a unique opportunity for emerging artists to showcase their work and an unmatched opportunity for buyers to view and acquire it. This year sculpture will be featured for the first time, adding a new dimension to the visitor art experience.

Artist demonstrations will inspire artists and art appreciators alike. These demonstrations will take place Thursdays from 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. and weekends from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. for the duration of the show. A full list of participating artists can be found at lambtonmuseums.ca/paintontario.

The final weekend of the show will feature a special "Perch N' Paint" contest. Participating artists will spend Saturday, September 25 out in the community doing plein air painting. The following day, artists will bring their paintings to the Museum by 12:00 p.m. for judging and a winner will be announced at 1:00 p.m. The paintings will remain on display and be available for purchase for the afternoon.

A silent auction will be taking place from September 3 - 26 which features the murals that were once a part of the Grand Bend Art Centre Beach Mural Project.

Outdoor live music will be featured on Sundays from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. and new this year is an outdoor art installation – The Pottery Garden. Area schools, community groups, long term care homes, and volunteers have contributed sculpted flowers that collectively will make up The Pottery Garden. An additional art installation will include an award winning psychedelic piano, previously displayed at a Toronto festival. Interactive art activities will also be available for all ages. After viewing Paint Ontario, patrons are invited to wander into the adjoining buildings and grounds of the Museum to experience an impressive host of accompanying new features.

The show is organized by the Grand Bend Art Centre (GBAC), a registered not-for-profit community group. "Our mission is to inspire creativity in the community" says GBAC Executive Director Teresa Marie Phillips. "Monies raised in sales commissions go straight back into cultural development within the community," adds GBAC President Nette Pachlarz.

More...

To visit the Paint Ontario exhibit, book a time at lambtonmuseums.ca. COVID protocols including social distancing, mandatory use of face masks and capacity limits will be in effect. Walk in entries will be accommodated as time and capacity limits allow.

For more information please visit lambtonmuseums.ca/paintontario.

Please contact:

Kathleen Annett

Marketing & Events Coordinator, Museums, Gallery and Archives

County of Lambton

519-243-2600 ext. 3153

kathleen.annett@county-lambton.on.ca

Dana Thorne

Curator/Supervisor, Lambton Heritage Museum

County of Lambton

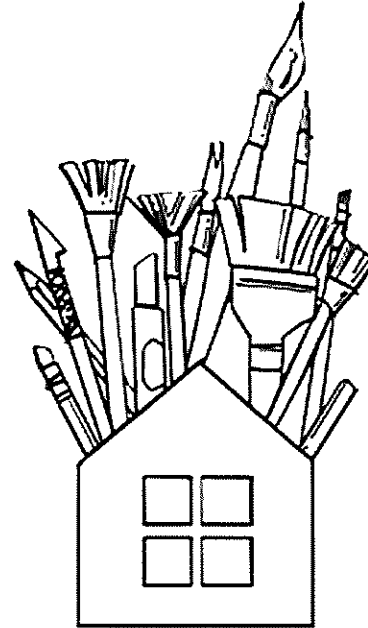
519-243-2600 ext. 3151

dana.thorne@county-lambton.on.ca

Grand Bend Art Centre Business Plan


DECEMBER 14, 2023

Prepared by Nette Pachlarz and Barbara H Pickett



Grand Bend Art Centre

Content

- Executive Summary
 - GBAC Description
 - Organization and Management
 - Business Model
 - Catchment
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Executive Summary

- The current Grand Bend Art Centre (GBAC), an existing charity, has operated for 13 years offering programs including Paint Ontario, the Beach Mural Program, children's camps, a music program, and arts classes and events in the current small facility on Municipal Drive.
- Our vision is "to inspire creativity in the community". Our centre continues with offerings for children, youth, adults and seniors, to nurture emerging artists and create a better appreciation of the value of art in our lives.
- With the growth in the population, there is a need to grow programming, increase the GBAC footprint, and the opportunity to build, an amazing "art experience" for the community.
- The GBAC hopes to be an integral part of the future GB Community Centre. In the meantime, the most recent Paint Ontario venue, Lambton Heritage Museum, is no longer large enough to sustain Paint Ontario, our primary fundraiser for GBAC. No Paint Ontario event occurred in 2023 and no funding was given via the Trillium Grant. Our alternative location is the Grand Bend Legion, until such time as the GB Community Centre comes to fruition, with the next Paint Ontario event set for May 2024.
- GBAC will need to provide lighting and movable walls, which will be used in the Legion and for other art events, and will be **reused** at the GB Community Centre in the future. These items require storage space that does not currently exist at the Grand Bend Art Centre.
- **We have submitted 2 separate applications to Lambton Shores;**
 - **Vibrancy Large Project Grant – We requested funding for lighting and movable walls for \$31,413**
(Total cost is \$94,240)
 - **Vibrancy Small Project Grant - We requested funding for an Indigenous Tent and a storage container for \$10,000**
(Total cost is \$20,313)

GBAC Description

➤ GBAC operates as:

- A creative environment with multiple classrooms for pottery classes, painting classes etc.
- A facility to host seminars, guest speakers, continuing education and special events
- A space for emerging artists to expand their capabilities and showcase their skills

➤ As we potentially become part of the GB Community Centre we will add:

- A venue for an annual Paint Ontario event
- GB Art Gallery and gift store

- We will continue to evolve our offerings and expand based on input from our Board of Directors and our Executive Director
- 

Organization & Management

GBAC Board of Directors:

- Nette Pachlarz – President
- Joanne Janzen – Treasurer
- Lynn Douglas – Recording Secretary
- Peter Phillips, Kelli Phillips, Cate Melito, Barbara H Pickett, Paul Rivard, Jim Quenneville


GBAC Executive Director (Creative) – Teresa Marie Phillips



Business Model – Make \$ Via

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Patron of the Arts (Sponsorship Packages) Tax receipts plus local recognition <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Hall of fame ➤ Donor gifts ➤ Media recognition 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Classes & Education <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Youth ➤ Seniors ➤ Aspiring artists ➤ Special interest groups
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Paint Ontario (Primary funding for GBAC) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Artists commissions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Government grant for capital funding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Special interest groups
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Annual Memberships: VIP, member only events, advance access, meet the artist 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Donations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Ticket Sales 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Community support
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Special Events 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Merchandise

GBAC Catchment

- Catchment 1-2 hours driving time to/from Grand Bend
 - Data derived from Census Canada 2021 (statscan)
 - Does not currently include growth rates
- 

GBAC Catchment

Citizens of :	Population	Age 15-64	Age 64-85
Huron	61,366	57.2%	25.9%
Lambton County	128,154	60.1%	24.5%
London Metropolitan Area	543,551	65.1%	18.4%
Chatham-Kent	104,316	60.5%	23.6%
Woodstock	46,705	62.8%	19.6%
Stratford	33,232	61.7%	23.9%
Kitchener, Cambridge, Waterloo	575,847	67.3%	15.6%

Promotion

➤ GBAC will reach potential users via:

➤ **Posts on Social Media:**

- Instagram: 368 followers
- Facebook: 1.3K followers
- Twitter: 185 followers
- You Tube: 12 subscribers

➤ Advertising flyers in the Community Centres, local schools, senior centres, and legions

➤ Radio promotion prior to special events

➤ Emails to current and past users



Vibrancy Large Grant Request

Vibrancy Large Grant Request	Lighting and Movable Walls
Lighting via Tech Direction	\$37,140
Walls – materials from various and volunteer assembly	\$45,000
Plinths (for sculptures)	\$ 2,800
Tables	\$ 3,000
Signage	\$ 3,000
Art Stands, foldable dollies, stackable storage system	\$ 3,300
Total	\$94,240 request = \$31,413

- Location – To be stored in a storage container (requested in the small grant application) either behind GBAC or Legion
- Maintenance and Ongoing Responsibilities for the portable equipment will be by GBAC

Vibrancy Small Grant Request

Vibrancy Small Grant Request	Indigenous Spirit Animal and Story Booth + Container
Custom Canopy Tent	\$1,776
Art Display Grid with Iron Mesh and 10 feet	\$1,572
Display stands, tables, storage bins	\$ 500
Canvases – Illustrations, printing and artist cost	\$4,600
Marketing – Signage & Banners	\$2,000
Storage Container with ramp, marine carpet and blankets, delivered	\$ 9,865
Total	\$20,313 request = \$10,000

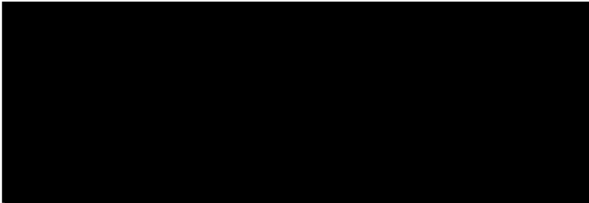
- Location – The container will be stored behind the GBAC, or behind the Legion, based upon township agreement.
- Maintenance and Ongoing Responsibilities for the container and the contents will be with the GBAC



Financial Projections

GBAC Jan – Sept 22 , 2023		Paint Ontario Transformation Donations
Income/Sales	\$66,858	\$ 41,163 (included)
Expenses	\$36,643	
NET INCOME	\$30,215	
Note: No Paint Ontario Art Sales in 2023, replaced via generous donations		
Without those donations	(\$10,948)	

- Pottery Classes, and Art Workshops are self sustaining this year
- Overhead costs of utilities, banking, music program, kids camps and events have continued



Dear Friends,

I would like to unequivocally say that I am 100% in support of Paint Ontario. It is an extremely high-quality production that brings together Ontario's best artists representing various mediums.

As an artist and an owner of a business in the area, I must express how valuable the arts are to our community. Paint Ontario is a draw for visitors to our area, beyond just sand and sun.

The economic spin off from Paint Ontario is widely undervalued. Patrons of the arts come from far and wide to visit Paint Ontario and are overwhelmed with the bounty that our beautiful area offers. Restaurants, farm-to-table outlets, wineries, cideries, studios, breweries, horticulture and small family-run businesses all benefit from the presence of Paint Ontario. Paint Ontario will continue to serve as a major catalyst for economic growth in our community.

Sincerely,

Marcela Bahar

Owner, White Squirrel Golf Club

Paint Ontario



23/11/2023

To Whom it may concern,

As an introduction, we are professional fine artists, painters, and as such we are always searching for opportunities to exhibit and display our works. Several years ago, we were made aware of an exhibition in Grand Bend, Ontario called "Paint Ontario." Our first year participating in this event took our breath away. Finally, we felt that we had found the perfect fit for the type of work we do...representational original fine art paintings. Such exhibitions are a rarity in the province. One of Canada's largest original art shows and competitions, "Paint Ontario," highlights original Canadian themed art works in the representational style, in all manner of different mediums and genera, by Ontario artists, creating an appreciation for Canadian wildlife, portrait and landscape.

Paint Ontario is unique in promoting only original works, excluding reproductions, and the quality of the selected work is held to the highest standards, the best Ontario has to offer. This has resulted in a loyal following of collectors old and new who traditionally attend and patronize the show. School students are encouraged to come and tour the exhibit and see live demonstrations.

Paint Ontario is one of the highlights for the artists, giving them the opportunity to network with their peers, demonstrate, participate in, or attend workshops, and interact with the public. Sales, commissions, and encouragement for the artist(s) is outstanding and can result in a significant part of their annual income.

The competition awards facet of the event tends to elevate the credibility of the artists who place, providing an asset to their careers, and the professionalism of the organizers and volunteers of the exhibit and competition inspire artists to grow, develop and strive to be the best they can be.

Sincerely,

Elaine Guitar - van Loo,
Layne van Loo.



Sent from my Galaxy

My two cents

"I am an artist who lives in Ontario and in my opinion Paint Ontario is the best show, Canada has to offer. The quality of the work is superb, and it is so well respected, that people wait each year for it to happen. It carries a wide range of work in many styles, with a very structured jurying process that only allow the best to be included. The opening reception is always packed and sales are vigorous. It is the show to be at as an artist, and a show to be at if you are a collector. "

Denise



Sent from my Galaxy

I was so thrilled to be excepted into Paint Ontario for the first time in 2006. It was a very special moment for me, Paint Ontario has been a huge part of my journey in becoming a full-time studio painter.

Now, as a member of the production team, I am inspired to witness the growth of artists, who, like me, rely on Paint Ontario to fuel their artistic journeys. I enjoy observing the development of relationships between Artists and the buyers, these connections represent significant milestones for artists.

Paint Ontario is a unique and essential platform for Artists.

The show offers what you would expect to attend in a major city, and its impact on the community is extraordinary. It provides an opportunity that is not typically available in such communities, making it crucial to support Paint Ontario. It's success is a testament to a well-established foundation built over the years.

Every year I am amazed at the attendance of the show, they come from near and far. My favourite conversation when I am at the show is.....

"Hello! is this your first time to the show?"

"Oh no no we have been coming here for years!!"

Martina Bruggeman

Sent from my iPad

November 26, 2023

To Whom It May Concern,

Each spring, the community looked forward to two events. The return of the Tundra Swans and Paint Ontario. The whole community came out of hibernation to attend the opening of this signature event, each year drawing more and more people from out of town to visit as the ice thawed on the lake. And each year, I would vow not to buy another painting, and each year, I always do and then discuss the art purchase with friends over dinner on the town.

As a former Parliamentary Assistant to the Ontario Minister of Culture, I can tell you that the arts in Ontario is a huge driver of economic development and income. The arts are also a potent learning tool for educators. The arts are the very essence of what it is to be human, sharing our stories in ways that resonate deeply within us. Whether is it visual, aural, written or performed, the arts enrich our community in ways that draw people together.

I think the first two paragraphs make it clear that I fully support the present fundraising effort of the Grand Bend Art Centre, which is to create a new home for Paint Ontario in the heart of our community, at the Grand Bend Legion. It is a convenient and meaningful gathering place and with the boundless creativity and resourcefulness of Teresa Marie and her team, a method has been devised to create a signature event that will surely draw many to the area.

With thanks for your consideration,

Jennifer Mossop



RE/MAX[®]
BLUEWATER REALTY Inc. Brokerage



"The Pedlar Team"

To Mayor Doug Cook, Deputy Mayor Dan Sageman & Council of Lambton Shores,

The PEDLAR Team at Re/MAX Bluewater Realty wholeheartedly supports the Paint Ontario Program. We appreciate its dedication to showcasing local artists, fostering an appreciation for the arts, and promoting cultural literacy in our community.

Paint Ontario's emphasis on local talent contributes not only to the creative spirit but also to the economic growth of our region. Supporting local artists enhances our community's unique cultural assets, attracting residents and visitors alike.

The program's commitment to art education is commendable, empowering aspiring artists and enriching the cultural landscape, especially for young children and retired individuals. Catering to these diverse interests ensures a well-rounded community.

Furthermore, Paint Ontario's occurrence during shoulder seasons is a significant attraction for tourists, contributing to the economic growth of our community. In our role as real estate professionals, we recognize the program's impact in making our community an even more attractive place to live, work, and invest.

The PEDLAR Team is committed to actively participating in and promoting the Paint Ontario event. Whether through sponsorship, or other means of support, we are dedicated to ensuring the program's continued success and positive impact on our community.

We extend our sincere appreciation to the organizers, volunteers, and artists involved in Paint Ontario. Thank you for enriching our community through the power of art. We look forward to the continued success of the Paint Ontario Program.

Thank you Mayor, Deputy Mayor & Council for your time regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

The PEDLAR Team at RE/MAX Bluewater Realty

Sent from my Galaxy



Hey Teresa,

Here's an updated proposal with the additional pipes and new proposed payment terms:

<https://app.jetbuilt.com/proposals/649c891a-3441-4f9d-a1d2-2fa976f38019>

And, here's a note you can use but feel free to massage it or let me know if you need something else:

Dear Board Members of Paint Ontario,

I am writing to express my full support for the proposed lighting upgrade project for Paint Ontario, an initiative that promises to significantly enhance Paint Ontario shows, now and for many years to come. The transformation of the Grand Bend Legion is not just a renovation but a pivotal step towards establishing it as a leading destination for art and culture in Southwestern Ontario.

The investment in a flexible, high-definition LED lighting system is a testament to Paint Ontario's commitment to providing the best possible environment and opportunities showcasing local artist's works. This upgrade will not only improve the visual presentation of the artworks, making each piece more engaging and accessible to visitors, but also represents a shift towards a more lively, adaptive, and cost-effective operation. The flexibility of the new lighting setup will allow for a diverse range of exhibitions, catering to a wider audience and enhancing the overall appeal of the venue.

As someone invested in the success of Paint Ontario and the cultural enrichment it brings to the community, I believe this project is essential. It demonstrates a forward-thinking approach, balancing the needs of today with a vision for a brighter tomorrow. The transformed space will undoubtedly attract more visitors, generate greater interest in local and regional art, and become a beacon of cultural activity.

I urge you to support this transformative project, recognizing its potential to elevate Paint Ontario as a central hub for art and community engagement.

Thank you for considering this important investment in the community's cultural future.

Dan Nagle

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1 (647) 982-2108

[Schedule a meeting](#)

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DIRECTION↑

Memorandum of understanding between the Grand Bend Art Centre and the Royal Canadian Legion, Grand Bend Branch 498.

It is the intention of both parties that Paint Ontario, a major project of the Grand Bend Art Centre, take place at the Grand Bend Legion in May 2024 and then annually for an indefinite period.

To make this possible, significant upgrades to the Legion's electrical system and capacity are essential. The GBAC will pay for the required upgrades, estimated at \$12000.00, and expects to amortize this amount over a five year period. Should the Legion terminate the agreement within a five-year period, the remaining portion of electrical upgrade costs would be payable to the GBAC by the GB Legion.

The GBAC will pay a preferential room rental rate and will rent the upper floor of the Legion facility for a 4-week period. The GBAC will be at liberty to charge entry fees to its event, as it deems appropriate to its needs. The Legion will staff the bar and retain bar revenues, opening hours by arrangement. Dart boards will be removable.