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**Annual General Meeting
“Giving Voice to Impact”
Hosted by: Edmonton Opera
October 26-27, 2018
Edmonton, AB**

Amplify your collective impact by joining your colleagues October 26-27, 2018 for Opera.ca's Annual General Meeting in Edmonton, Alberta.

This year's meeting also coincides with closing night of *La Traviata*, an opportunity for you to experience the fruits of the largest co-production in Canadian history, underwritten by Opera.ca's new Coproduction Loan Program, our first impact investment program. The *La Traviata* set was entirely built on location in the newly-renovated, state-of-the-art Edmonton Opera Centre.

The Annual Meeting of Members will be an opportunity to continue our collective journey of increasing opera's civic impact with hands-on sessions on evaluating impact, sampling existing evaluative models within the context of our civically-engaged opera practices, all while contributing to the development of a nation-wide framework for measuring opera's social and civic impact.

Governance Track on Diversity and Inclusive Practices

New at this AGM, we are also presenting a special Equity, Diversity and Inclusion track for your boards of directors on board composition, unconscious bias training, and inclusive practices. The Governance Session will be held on Saturday, October 27, guided by one of Canada's leading diversity and inclusion strategists and facilitators, Alden Habacon. www.aldenhabacon.com. See the following schedule and invitation from Edmonton Opera board member Richard Cook, for more detailed information.

Who should attend?

- Opera company General Directors and Artistic Directors
- Audience and Community Engagement Staff
- Creative personnel, composers, librettists, directors, designers
- board members

Registration

To register for the AGM at the early bird price of \$300, click here:

<http://www.opera.ca/whats-new/latest-events/giving-voice-impact-agm-2018-edmonton-alberta>



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Accommodations

Book your accommodation at the Matrix Hotel at the special rate of \$155/night plus taxes. To arrange your accommodations at the Matrix Hotel at the preferred rate, please use [this link](#). To get this rate, you must book your room no later than September 25th.

Matrix Hotel
10640 100 Avenue, Edmonton, AB T5J 3N8
Email: info@matrixedmonton.com
<http://www.matrixedmonton.com/contact-en.html>

Booking Flights

When booking flights, please use the following guides:

Board members of Opera.ca should plan to arrive the morning of October 25, 2018.

General Delegates are advised to arrive the morning of October 26. Departing Flights after 3:00pm on October 27. A complimentary shuttle from the airport to the Matrix Hotel is available on October 26 at 10am and 11:30 by reservation only. (email c_loewen@opera.ca to confirm your reservation)

Governance Delegates are advised to arrive October 26 before 3pm with departing flights the morning of October 28.

Tickets to La Traviata

Edmonton Opera has generously provided premium tickets to Opera.ca delegates at a special rate of only \$60. To purchase your ticket, visit: <https://tickets.edmontonopera.com/single/SYOS.aspx?p=5163> and enter promo code. "AGM18"



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Hosted by: Edmonton Opera
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Detailed Schedule (as of September 4 2018)

*Attire: all meetings are business casual

Thursday, October 25

- 9am-12pm *Opera.ca Board members arrive (board members of Opera.ca only)*
- 2pm-4pm **Opera.ca Board Meeting** (board members of Opera.ca only)
RMRF law offices, Hurlburt Room, 3200 Manulife Place, 10180 - 101 Street
- 6pm – 8pm **Board of Directors Dinner** (board members of Opera.ca only)

Friday, October 26

- 9am-12pm *Delegates arrive throughout the morning.*
Complimentary Shuttle available from YEG to Matrix Hotel, 10640 100 Ave NW, at 10:30 and 11:30am. Must reserve in advance.
- Governance Session Delegates arrive throughout the day at leisure.*
- 1:00pm-1:30pm **Opera.ca Annual General Meeting**
Edmonton Community Foundation
9910 103 St NW, Edmonton, AB (a short walk from the Matrix Hotel)
- 2:00pm-2:15pm **Welcome. Land Acknowledgement. Contextual Address**
Christina Loewen, ED Opera.ca & Tim Yakimec, GD Edmonton Opera
- 2:15pm-3:00pm **Counting what Matters – Impact Panel**
This panel conversation about impact is from the perspective of leaders from opera companies, community art councils, and social investment funding programs to talk about social returns on investment, metrics, and being responsible to a triple bottom line (social, artistic and financial)
Moderated by: Christina Loewen, Executive Director Opera.ca



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3:00pm-3:15pm

Coffee Break

Sponsored by Dean Artists Management

3:15pm-4:30pm

Parlez-vous Evaluation?

Inputs, outputs, outcomes, theories of change and logic models - everyone is familiar with the language of evaluation, but what is the larger impact of our work? Bring your civic impact practice as an example and learn how to translate your work into the language of evaluation.

Led by: Viola Dessanti

5:00pm

Travel to Northern Jubilee Auditorium

All delegates, including Trustees, meet in the lobby of Matrix Hotel at 5pm and travel together to the Northern Jubilee Auditorium.

5:30pm-7:00pm

Annual Meeting Dinner

Jubilee Banquet Room

Dinner co-sponsored by IATSE Local 210 and Stingray Classica

7:30pm

La Traviata. (Separate purchase required. Visit

<https://tickets.edmontonopera.com/single/SYOS.aspx?p=5163> and enter promo code "AGM18".)

10:30pm

Shuttle back to Matrix Hotel

Saturday, October 27

7:00-9:00am

Breakfast at the Matrix at leisure (included in hotel rate)

***Early Checkout:** General Delegates who are departing that afternoon are advised to checkout early and bring their luggage with them to the Edmonton Opera Centre. Shuttles will depart from the Opera Centre to the YEG directly at 1pm.

9:00am

Shuttle departs Matrix for Edmonton Opera Centre with ALL delegates.



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9:30am-10:15am

General Track

Two Frameworks for Measuring Impact: One Social/Community (CIW) and One Artistic (Aesthetic Perspectives)

Co-Led by: Viola Dessanti and Mark Valdez

In this session, delegates will explore two frameworks; Aesthetic Perspectives, and the Canadian Index of Well-being learning about the domains and impact indicators of each framework.

Governance Track

Part I: Leading with Intent, Leading to Include

Purposeful leadership requires a strong sense of intentionality. In this opening session, participants will examine the different kinds of diversity, the business case (or business imperative) for a more inclusive workplace, and also explore the organizational stage-by-stage process towards fostering a work environment where people with profound differences thrive.

Led by: Alden Habacon

10:15am-10:30am

Coffee Break

Coffee Break Sponsored by Dean Artists Management

10:30am-12:00pm

General Session Track

Sculpting the Framework - Workshop

Through the lens of these two frameworks, delegates will align their own civic engagement work with them, seeing where their desired impact is best reflected, and where their work aligns with community priorities.

Delegates will also observe where their civic practice achieves more qualitative impacts and a language for talking about these.

As delegates situate their existing civic practice in the context of community impacts, this “cutting away” process will begin to reveal a natural, collective framework for measuring opera’s civic impact.

Co-Led by: Viola Dessanti and Mark Valdez



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Governance Track

Part 2: Disrupting Unconscious Bias in the Opera Board

This session establishes a foundational understanding of how bias affects decision-making and explores the impact of four kinds of bias that impact recruitment, advancement, and sometimes resulting in microaggressions in the workplace.

Led by: Alden Habacon

12:00pm-1:00pm

Lunch - ALL (provided)

Lunch is sponsored by Domoney Artists Management. General Delegates will be joined by Trustees for Lunch.

1:00pm

Farewell to General Delegates. Shuttles depart for YEG.

1:00pm-3:00pm

Governance Track

Part 3: Intro to Intercultural Leadership and Confronting Cultural Bias

This engaging and interactive session provides a frank conversation about the complex difficulties of leading more diverse and inclusive organizations and/or teams, the intercultural afterthought, and what is required to convert a team's diversity into innovation.

Led by: Alden Habacon

3:00pm-3:15pm

Coffee Break

3:15pm-4pm

Governance Track

Part 4: Multicultural Fundraising

This final module is a direct application of the previous content, taking into account the cultural differences that impact the effectiveness of fundraising efforts with communities that are not represented or historically underrepresented in the opera company's leadership and/or staff.

Led by: Alden Habacon

4:00pm

Shuttle returns trustees to the Matrix Hotel

5:30pm-7:00pm

Trustee Dinner



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For more information contact: Christina Loewen, Executive Director, Opera.ca,
c_loewen@opera.ca, (416) 591-7222

2100 Bloor Street West, Suite 6286, Toronto, ON M6S 5A5

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9 August 2018

Dear fellow board members,

On behalf of Opera.ca and the board of Edmonton Opera, I invite you to attend:

Opera.ca's Annual Meeting & Governance Track on Equity and Inclusive Practices

October 27-28, 2018

Edmonton Opera Centre, Edmonton, Alberta

If, like me, you have noticed that in both your professional and volunteer worlds, the conversations and questions around diversity and inclusivity are increasing, then this track is for you. Last September I had the pleasure of joining the Opera.ca Colloquium in St. John's, Newfoundland, where the focus was on practical ways to increase our civic impact. Through conversations with others, and with the guidance of experts, I was able to challenge my pre-conceived notions and advance my understanding of best practices in diversity and inclusion in governance.

The Governance Track on Equity and inclusive practice is a complement to Opera.ca's current strategic plan Charting our Civic Impact, delving into the topic from the perspective of the board of directors. Diversifying a board entails some risks (tokenism, unconscious bias) and rewards (increased corporate performance through inclusive practices), and this forum will explore these practices over a full day guided by one of Canada's leading diversity and inclusion strategists and facilitators.

To help tailor the Governance Track to your needs, please take a moment to complete the following survey:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/N327VXF>

While in Edmonton, I would like to personally invite you to attend the Friday evening Edmonton Opera production of La Traviata, the largest opera co-production in Canadian history. Opera.ca's Coproduction Loan Program made La Traviata possible, and the sets were entirely built onsite at the state-of-the art Edmonton Opera Centre in partnership with Manitoba Opera, Opera de Montreal, Pacific Opera Victoria and Vancouver Opera.

[Online registration for the Annual Meeting is now open](#)

If you have any questions, please direct them to Christina Loewen, Executive Director, Opera.ca.
c_loewen@opera.ca or by phone (416) 591-7222.

Please join us in Edmonton by registering now for this interesting and informative weekend with colleagues from across the country.

Richard Cook
Past Chair of the Board
Edmonton Opera
& 2018 recipient of the Opera.ca National Opera Directors Recognition Award