

Under the distinguished patronage of His Excellency the Right Honourable David Johnston C.C., C.M.M., C.O.M., C.D., Governor General of Canada



Palingenesis™

n. regeneration (lit. & fig.); revival; (from Gk)

Caring for Our Own™

VOLUME 11 ISSUE 3

FALL 2011

PAL'S FIRST CHAPTER STAYS THE COURSE



In the days of PAL's explosive expansion out of Toronto and across the country, much discussion centred on how various parts of this organization would meld with each other, and what it would look like as a result of the hoped for intra-national spread. Groups from Stratford and Vancouver met with the national office to work out our future shape, cooperating with each other to mutually draft workable governance and connectivity policies. On the same day, at almost the same time, these two groups officially gained the status of PAL Chapters, signing a *Chapter Agreement* and laying the groundwork for many of the changes leading to what PAL Canada has become.

Because of time zone differences, Stratford's documentation was received some hours before Vancouver's earning them the distinction of being the first PAL Chapter to be created.

Our "First Chapter" has stayed the course, moving slowly and surely through the early stages, more firmly establishing their presence and effectiveness year after year. This Summer their offer to purchase a property was conditionally accepted and the hard work of negotiating with the City regarding By-laws and Rezoning continues. All this on top of the tremendous job of organizing PAL Stratford's annual extravaganza, *Expect the Extraordinary*.

-See STRATFORD p.3

BMO TO HOST PAL DINNER

Sniffing out a combined "profile/fund raising" initiative, our Executive Director, **Paul Shaw**, along with **Marlene Smith**, met with *Bank of Montreal (BMO)* representatives recently. The bank, one of North America's best, has signaled a strong desire to host a reception for PAL Canada mid-February next year. BMO's reputation as a host is top notch so we hope all falls neatly into place. An exciting prospect! Our *Winter Issue* will provide more details. Stay tuned!!

Mr. Shaw is also pursuing working together with a new musical theatre company which believes in PAL's importance. The artist-driven company, listing the cream of musical theatre artists, is eager to investigate a mutually beneficial relationship with PAL Canada. Can't wait!



PAL VAN CELEBRATES CANADA DAY

Pal Studio Theatre Society hosted the second annual *Canada Day Celebration*.

Over 200 neighbours from the Coal Harbour community attended. A grant from the *City of Vancouver* and financial support from various sponsors provided a free pancake breakfast. A variety of entertainment was provided by PAL residents as well as by outside performers.



Busy scene: PAL Van's free pancake breakfast

APPROPRIATE THANKS AT APPROPRIATE TIMES

This Issue's offering was supposed to be an appreciation of the amount of work undertaken, and PAL strides made, by "former President" *Chris Marston*. However, we have had the good fortune to retain him a bit longer following the expiry of his term. Now let it be stated immediately that Christopher Marston deserves to hear our appreciation shouted out loud and displayed in the pages of this publication, but a full-blown paen in the circumstances seems somewhat premature. While he has been trying to ease his PAL workload for the past year or so, it appears the Board is having difficulty replacing him. Not surprising. *Ex-President Marston* has agreed to act as *Interim President*.

There is certainly nothing wrong in recognizing early the debt we owe those who undertake such heavy, volunteer responsibilities and, indeed, why should we wait to do so. Better to honour those special people among us at appropriate times rather than too late, as sometimes happens. With that in mind, we began our *Profile Peek* column, to showcase worthy individuals from all Chapters.

With that in mind, also, we introduce in this Issue a column highlighting specific actions taken by our *Supporting Cast* services throughout PAL (*PAL's Angels* in Vancouver). We encourage SC volunteers and others to submit their stories regarding such actions, as we also continue to encourage everyone to submit to *Profile Peek* the names of those who have made a significant individual contribution to our organization anywhere within the PAL Family.

Meanwhile, we do not hesitate to express our thanks and record our admiration for Chris Marston and his (now-continuing) stellar leadership of our PAL.

Large round of applause, please!

Notes on Communication-

A recent meeting of the *Communications Committee* discussed Chair Dominic Clarke raised several observations about website undertakings re social media such as *Facebook* and *Twitter*. The matter will continue to be investigated. Meanwhile, PAL Canada's Facebook has been adjusted so only outgoing messages can be posted. This should preclude any uninsured exposure while continuing a needed Facebook presence.

The question of the website being too text-heavy was also raised. Executive Director, **Paul Shaw**, and Webmaster **Chris Hutchinson** are to investigate adding more visuals. Also, a renewed effort will be made to upload *Youtube* and other graphic materials.

Legacy documents such as Constitution & By Laws, documentation re Charitable Status, Board Members, Committee Structure, Fundraising Programmes, Membership Drive Materials, Volunteer Recruitment Materials, Supporting Cast are time-consuming and can be problematic. The Exec. Director will undertake to finalize categories of legacy documents and identify missing ones. Chapters will be contacted re providing up-to-date materials.

It was noted that **Gail Packwood** is providing excellent articles and the Committee will closely monitor our website to determine what is attracting the most attention.

A pilot project is to be initiated linking Chapter newsletters directly to the PAL Canada website. This will enable greater publicity for chapters with no additional work required.

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Editor
Dan MacDonald

Copy Editor
N. J. Fry

Layout Design/Execution
Dan MacDonald



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Contributors

Jin Bradford, Dominic Clarke,
Nonnie Elkins, Aggie Elliot,
Gary Glacken, Corey Henry,
Linda Huffman, Sylvia Hughes,
Chris Marston, Nancy Morgan,
Ellie O'Day, Gail Packwood,
Patty Gail Peaker, Gordon Tanner
Barbara Zuchowicz



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Letters Articles, Notices:

palingenesis@eastlink.ca

Or, mail correspondence to;

PAL Canada
110 The Esplanade
Toronto, Ontario
M5E 1X9
416-203-3051

PAL Charitable Number:
89788 0902 RR0001



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PRESIDENT'S NOTES

Talk about the long goodbye! In spite of what I said here in the last issue, here I am again. Just one more time!

The Board met in July to elect a new Executive which you'll find listed on the back page.

It's a strong and experienced group, well able to provide the kind of leadership we need. That's a good thing, because the Board has yet to come up with a candidate for the President's position. As a result, I agreed to serve for an interim period, but that, of course, will end soon. At its September meeting, the Board reviewed our financial situation, was informed that the *By-law changes* approved by the AGM were now approved by *Industry Canada*, initiated some schedule and objectives changes to the *Strategic Plan* and made detailed provision for the immediate future until a new President is elected. Finally, and it gives me great pleasure to announce it, *Jeff Braunstein* was appointed to the vacant member-at-large seat. Jeff brings all the smarts and experience of his long and successful career as an actor and producer, punctuated by stints with a number of organizations, including the Presidency of *Equity*, to our table and we're very glad to have him.

A CHEERFUL LOOK AT BEING GAY

Sylvia Hughes, the *Pal Place* resident pictured here, has written a musical. Called *Fagtime*, it takes place over one evening in a gay bar and is promising to be witty, funny and just plain fun.



"It seems to me that so many plays about the gay community have been anything but", says Sylvia, pointing to *The Boys in the Band*, *La Cage Aux Folles* or *Angels in America* which she says are really about shame, guilt and disease and

sometimes all three. Her musical - "It's bright, funny and relevant" - includes such song titles as *Don't* (about coming out), *The Fag-Hag's Lament* (women who prefer gays to their straight husbands), *At The Gym* (where gays meet dates), and *God Help the Child Who's Gay* (about how gay kids are more vulnerable than any others). "The tone is bright, and funny and - well - gay and is intended to give everyone, I mean EVERYONE, a good time."

Sylvia is presently in discussions with a Vancouver producer regarding stage, TV and movie possibilities. There is also interest in a revised version for showing in high schools and the Mirvish group has expressed interest.

NEW WINNIPEG EXECUTIVE ELECTED



New PAL Winnipeg Prez

Rea Kavanagh has been officially elected President of *PAL Winnipeg* after serving as President *pro tem* since the death of Wayne Nicklas last year.

Replacing Rea in the position of vice-president is **Devan Towers**. **Donovan Fontaine** is the newly-elected Treasurer of the Chapter. The redoubtable **Rob Macklin** carries on as Winnipeg's Secretary.

STRATFORD Con't

This year's offering took place on 3 October, just too late to include the results in this Issue of *Palingenesis*. Titled *Bombs Over Broadway*, the "explosive" theme is a creation of Shane Carty and Ari Weinberg who came up with the unique idea of presenting items from Broadway "bombs", shows that were panned by critics yet contained tunes - "some real musical gems" as Carty puts it - that ought to have had a better end. We'll follow up on the 2011 version in our *Winter Issue*. *Expect the Extraordinary* is PAL Stratford's biggest annual event and principal fundraiser. It is held with the tremendous cooperation of the Stratford Shakespearean Festival and Company members.



We're busy organizing **Scrabble with the Stars**. Legendary scrabble player

and generous contributor to PAL Halifax, **John Dunsworth**, returns as Grand Marshall. A sneak peak of our Star players includes author **Sheree Fitch**, painter **Joy Laking**, Atlantic Film Festival CEO **Gregor Ash** and spoken word artist **Shauntay Grant**. We are also pleased that several business owners who are patrons of the arts here in Nova Scotia will be joining us as Stars also. Scrabble with the Stars will be held on Monday, October 24th at 7pm at the Atlantica Hotel in Halifax.

Our post-summer Board meetings will return their focus to the Gottingen St development in November. The Board Co-Chair, **Eric Stotts**, will be meeting with **Ross Cantwell**, to determine progress the *Nova Scotia Housing Trust* has been able to make on plans for the buildings.

The most exciting news from PAL Halifax is about Administrator **Ann Pocket**. She and her partner **Paul Begin** were delighted to welcome twins, Margo and Benjamin, on July 16th!

-Nancy Morgan

Ed.: See photo page 6.



The summer thunder & lightning storms gave way to some beautiful weather that PAL Toronto took advantage of.

The picturesque Toronto Islands played host to the first full meeting (and retreat) of the *PAL Toronto Board of Directors 2012/13* as officials welcomed newly elected members **Kate Barris**, **Corey Henry**, **Anne Hampton**, **Pam Hyatt & Taborah Johnson**. A waterside picnic was a highlight of a day spent proposing, planning & implementing the events that will pave the way to the next stage of PAL Toronto's development (and "encore performances" !)

On June 18th we hosted our annual *Courtyard Sale*. The weather was kind, the crowds good and, with much support from volunteers, everyone had a fine time and made a little money into the bargain!

On August 14th PAL Toronto's *Pal Place Residents' Assoc.* (PPRA) gave a pot-luck BBQ on the *Vac Kuchar Roof Terrace*. The *Celebrity Club* provided sausages and burgers, **Bob Van Dyke** slaved over the BBQ, and other residents provided all the extras. There was a good turn-out, the sun shone, and it was a great day.

-Nonnie Elkins & Corey Henry



PAL Stratford's residence search has been our highlight. This summer a conditional *Offer to Purchase* was made on a property and..... it was accepted! Then followed the working through and satisfying of the conditions and all that usually entails. We are

currently dealing with *City of Stratford* By-laws and Rezoning issues. A Public meeting was held in late September in Stratford's City Hall. Part of the normal Planning Process, it provides a formal and public opportunity for any objections to the Rezoning to be raised.

Preparations for our annual fundraiser, *Expect the Extraordinary*, held on Oct. 3rd, required a huge amount of organizing, as usual. This is our major annual fundraising event and we are currently conducting a major *Fundraising Feasibility Study*. Fundraising will continue to be our main preoccupation for the next few years.

-Aggie Elliot



PAL OTTAWA Steering Committee

The PAL Ottawa Steering Committee, chaired by **Jim Bradford**, is moving quickly toward establishing a community presence. The process of incorporation has been facilitated by a generous startup loan and Founding Directors are being organized.

PAL Ottawa already has it's eye on a couple of sites, one -on Arts Court- is moving ahead quickly. The *Arts Court Redevelopment Group (ACRG)*, consisting of the *City of Ottawa*, the *Arts Court Foundation* and the *Ottawa Art Gallery* have been made aware of PAL's interest in accommodation being made available. The other possibility is in *Bayview Yards*, west of downtown.

A second "needs assessment" is being planned to more clearly define our client community.

Our *Supporting Cast sub-committee* has established priorities: first, to establish contacts with sister organizations. We are also contacting social agencies to facilitate a PAL training programme for volunteers. The group is also researching volunteer screening guidelines and associated training practices. Among our priorities are developing a PAL Ottawa Code of Conduct, and familiarizing ourselves with legal responsibilities and liability issues. Recruitment of volunteers for Supporting Cast has also begun. We've been busy!

-Barbara Zuchowicz



PERFORMING ARTS LODGE WINNIPEG

We've had a busy summer! First, our new logo (L) with

designed by **Scott Gillam** of *Push Design*. You're invited to use it whenever you mention us.

This summer also saw us sign an agreement with *ACORN Development Consultants*, to assist in all site-related endeavours. With their help we have been successful in securing *CMHC Seed Funding* to help us in the first stages of our project including the creation & distribution of a *Need & Demand Survey*. It is posted at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/palwinnipeg> and we have already received responses.

PAL Winnipeg welcomes **Katrina Kupca** to our Board; Ms. Kupca is a professional fundraiser who will provide much needed guidance moving forward. We feel lucky to have her!

On Friday September 23rd at *Aqua Books* we held two premiere fundraising screenings of John Barnard's *The Book of Vaudeville: an MTS Winnipeg on Demand* documentary about Winnipeg's rich Vaudevillian past. MTS Winnipeg On Demand approached us wanting to benefit an organization that serves their community -and covered all the costs! \$1,380 from ticket sales have been donated to PAL Winnipeg. The films were fabulous, and the crowd was thoroughly entertained.

Our Communications Committee invites you to visit our refurbished website:

www.palwinnipeg.org. If you have the opportunity, link to it. We also have a *facebook* page and will no doubt be tweeting soon.

-Gordon Tanner



PAL EDMONTON



artists urban village

The Official Opening of the Co-op was a huge success. It is now full with a growing waiting list.

The City has confirmed funding of \$50,000 towards a Feasibility Study for our next project
CMHC confirmed the next \$10,000 of our Seed Funding

We sent out an RFP for architectural firms and received very strong response

Our AGM was held September 27th. we will be applying for new funding from *CMHC* through their *Proposal Development Fund* and developing a Feasibility Study. The plans for the new facility will mean we will be hiring an architectural firm and consultant team.

(Edmonton)

Our focus is still on Community outreach, identifying partners and stakeholders, and we will be mounting a membership drive. We intend also to apply for Charitable Status and extend development of our website.

-Linda Huffman



City Assists Celebration -PAL Studio Theatre Society hosted the second annual *Canada Day Celebration* with over 200

neighbours from the Coal Harbour community in attendance. A grant from the *City of Vancouver* and financial support from various sponsors provided a free pancake breakfast. A variety of entertainment was provided by PAL residents and outside performers

Donor Recognition -PAL Vancouver hosted a very successful recognition event September 12th for donors who had named a suite, theatre seat or paving stone on our rooftop garden in the past year

David Y. H. Lui -The sudden death of longtime PAL resident *David Y. H. Lui* was a blow. He will be greatly missed in PAL and Vancouver at large

Funding Reorganized -Our Director of Development, **Bill Harvey**, retired on September 2nd. The position has now been eliminated in a restructuring of our fundraising plans. **Patrizia Ferrari** has been hired as Executive Assistant for Resource Development assisting the Board's Executive Director and Resource Development Steering Committee.

Continuing Challenges -Ongoing fundraising to meet to meet our yearly fundraising target of \$265,000.

Future Focus -Fundraising, of course, and preparation of the 2012 operational budget, as well as the work of preparing for the yearly *Board of Trustees* planning retreat.

-Gary Glacken

AREN'T THEY JUST THE CUTEST LITTLE THINGS?

BENJAMIN (Left) and **MARGO** (Right) twin offspring of PAL Halifax Administrator, **Ann Pocket**. Ann is presently on -you guessed it- maternity leave. Her position with *PAL Halifax* is being ably filled by Board Member **Nancy Morgan**.

GREETING CARDS ADDED

More cards are being added to the catalogue of greeting cards in support of PAL. Two were added in September (*Some Clowns I've Known*), a painting by **Gordon Pinsent**, and a reproduction of a stained-glass installation by Toronto artist, **Ira Ginsberg**, depicting the first theatrical production in the New World, in Nova Scotia in 1606 (*The Theatre of Neptune*) a gift to *American AEA* to mark the creation of *Canadian AEA* in 1976. Two more cards will be added in October. Check the website: tioramarts.ca

**UNSUNG HEROES****-Supporting Cast Stories**

A major bragging point in our list of real accomplishments within PAL is the invaluable work done by those amazing volunteers on Supporting Cast organizations throughout the nation. Called PAL's Angels in Vancouver, these members continue to perform amazingly selfless actions in aid of their fellow artists. The work, for privacy considerations, must usually go unrecognized except by those closely involved, but it is vital to fulfilling the founding ideals of PAL.

This column will, from time to time, record repeatable stories of the kinds of assistance SC renders. We solicit stories from all PAL Chapters. This Issue we outline the long, arduous task of helping Jean Roger Periard re-integrate into the PAL Family and accept their assistance in settling into a long-term care facility near his home in New Brunswick. It is yet another satisfying case illustrating the quality and perseverance of Supporting Cast in rendering help where it is needed. Case subjects have given permission for their stories to be told. -Ed.

☆☆☆

Roger Periard moved into Pal Place in 1993, an active, healthy man. His acting and commercial work was reasonably healthy also and he quickly entered into the life of the PAL community. Roger's interest and activity within Pal Place was quite substantial working with the Residents' Association, the PAL Board, the in-house newsletter, and he kept minutes and copious notes on everything. He was organized in his home office and also liked to cook. Roger is a bingo fanatic; he and then resident Sharon Dyer orchestrated popular bingo nights, including neighboring community friends as well.

In March, 2008, Roger fell in his apartment and was taken to emergency. For the next 2 years Roger was in and out of hospitals: a hip operation, more falls, further health problems progressing from occasional to almost daily requirements of assistance.

See Unsung Heroes - page 8

DAVID Y. H. LUI

A founding member of the PAL Vancouver Board of Directors and member of its Studio Theatre Society



Board, strong PAL supporter David Y. H. Lui died on the 14th of September. Dubbed ‘*the boy impresario*’, he was a leading figure on the B.C. arts scene for 40 years. He founded *Ballet BC* in 1985 with

Jean Orr, and remained true to his special love of dance right up to his untimely death, while constantly involved in many other B.C. cultural programmes. He served a term on the *Canada Council*, and is widely considered the dean of the fine and performing arts on the West Coast. David was inducted into the *Order of Canada* in 2000. He is survived by his brother, Philip. Arts workers and supporters are mourning his loss throughout our community, especially in all areas of activity in his native Province of B. C.

SPREADING THE PAL WORKLOAD

Recent constitutional changes have attempted to decide the perfect workable number of members to sit on our Board of Directors. Too many bodies can mean unwieldy decision-making - too few, not enough to carry the load. In PAL’s case with so many being Chapter Reps already carrying big work loads, there are limits on their time available to us. It was therefore decided to make it possible to recruit, if necessary, additional Board members elected “at large”, by changing their By-laws numbers to read, “No fewer than seven and no more than ten”. The hope is that by increasing, if it is found to be necessary, the number of those on the Board without specific Chapter responsibilities, the work can be distributed more effectively. There is, of course the added benefit of the increased potential for Board representation from areas not already served by Chapters which would encourage more national participation on the Board, leading to increased availability of PAL services, especially those of Supporting Cast, throughout the nation.

The rightness of the decision, passed by Resolution at the Summer AGM, will play out in the next election.

DIANE ROSENTHAL

She supported PAL as faithfully as all other causes in which she believed, serving on the PAL Canada Board for a number of years. Diane was especially interested in the national aspect of PAL’s work and her list of accomplishments would fill many pages.



Diane Rosenthal began as a teacher but an arts appreciation course at U of T shifted her focus firmly towards artistic pursuits and the eventual creation of the noted *Hollander York Gallery* in Toronto, a major supporter of Canadian artists.

She believed in fitness, becoming a successful marathoner and participating in many charitable runs. Just before her 70th birthday, the eldest of an all-female team, Diane climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro.

Diane died in Toronto the 19th of January this year, from pancreatic cancer. She leaves Joseph, her husband of 52 years, daughter Cheryl and sons David and Sam. Sam, Supervisor of *City Playhouse Theatre*, in Ontario, has organized a fundraising evening there when partial proceeds will go to Toronto’s Princess Margaret Hospital for pancreatic research.

True to her passion for all artists, everywhere, her admirable service to PAL Canada was undertaken for the benefit of the arts community from coast-to-coast-to-coast in Canada. That national community mourns her loss and gratefully acknowledges her caring participation.

Ed: See *Gala Fundraiser*, page 8 →

Jeff Braunstein has been appointed to fill a vacancy, as *Member-at-Large*, on the *PAL Canada Board of Directors*.

IN MEMORIAM

John Bayliss Sudsy Clark
Diane Rosenthal Dorothy Gardner
David Y. H. Lui

EVENTS

What's Coming Up in PAL Chapters

24 October (Monday) -7 pm Atlantica Hotel
PAL HALIFAX SCRABBLE® WITH THE STARS

Tickets \$45 each

Sponsor a Table: \$275(with 3 Tks) \$175 (No Tickets)

29 October - GALA FUNDRAISER

When The Reaper Calls
by Peter Colley

Partial proceeds to Princess Margaret
 Hospital for Pancreatic research

City Playhouse Theatre - City of Vaughan

Tickets 75.00 ♦ Box Office 905 882 7469

PAL TORONTO Coming Events

10 October -Thanksgiving Pot Luck Dinner -residents only

3 December -Christmas Bazaar -All Welcome

17 December -Celebrity Club Concert -All Welcome

25 December - Pot Luck Dinner -Residents only

Unsung Heroes (Cont'd)

In declining health and fiercely independent, he withdrew into himself, avoiding the community, even his closest, old friend, Michel, becoming reclusive and eventually even unresponsive to hospital care.

SC later learned that Roger could no longer take care of himself and Long Term Care (LTC) should be looked at. His hospital file contained a name -Patty Gail Peaker, (coordinator of PAL Toronto SC services). Patty responded with speed and gusto and in time Roger was brought back into contact with colleagues. His long-time friend Michel was contacted in New Brunswick, where he had moved, and returned to help Roger manage the needed move into an LTC facility. Patty coordinated Roger's affairs, easing the burden for Michel. Finally Roger moved into LTC, in Toronto, feeling healthier and happier and amongst friends.

Patty had asked Roger if a move closer to Michel in New Brunswick would be desirable. It was, and with Michel working from NB and SC working from Ont., a location was found and Roger flew to his new home in January.

Roger reports that he is very happy with the move, has a lovely room, good care and meals, and is in a bilingual setting on the Bay of Chaleur with his closest friend only a few miles away. Thanks to the persistence of SC, life is again good for Roger Periard.

PAL CANADA FOUNDATION

110 The Esplanade, Suite 333, Toronto, ON
 M5E 1X9

Phone: 416-203-3051 Fax: 416-203-2299*

Email: info@palcanada.org

URL: www.palcanada.org

Executive Committee

President: Chris Marston marstonchris@ca.inter.net

V-Pres: Jane Heyman jane.heyman@gmail.com

Sect'y: Allan Macmillan macmillan22@gmail.com

Treasurer: Ron Zammit rzammit@actrafrat.com

Without Portfolio:

Dominic Clarke dclarke@blaney.com

Christina Smith christina.smith@dhhs.ca

Kelly Handerek kelly.handerek@uregina.ca

Patty Gail Peaker pattygail@gmail.com

Gary Vermeir busagent@iatse849.com

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CHAPTER CONTACT INFORMATION

PAL Halifax c/o Loc 849, I.A.T.S.E.,

15 McQuade Cres., Halifax, NS B3S 1C4

phone: 902-425-2739

busagent@iatse849.com www.palhalifax.org

PAL Toronto 110 The Esplanade, #328, Toronto, ON
 M5E 1X9 phone: 416-777-9674

admin@paltoronto.org www.paltoronto.org

PAL Stratford P.O. Box 21045, Stratford, ON N5A
 7V4 banks@cyg.net

PAL Winnipeg Rea Kavanagh - President
www.palwinnipeg.org

PAL Calgary #201 - 208 57th Ave SW,
 Calgary, Alberta T2H 2P6 phone: 403-252-9255
lereaney@telus.net

PAL Edmonton phone: 780-431-1353
artistsurbanvillage@gmail.com

PAL Vancouver 300 - 581 Cardero Street,
 Vancouver, BC V6G 3L3 phone:604-255-4312
info@palvancouver.org www.palvancouver.org

PAL Ottawa (Steering Committee)
palottawa@gmail.com