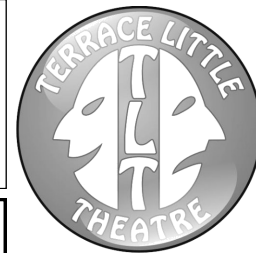


# BACKSTAGE NEWS



McCull Playhouse, 3625 Kalum St.  
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## Greetings

Greetings to our members current and historical. Yes, we're still here! We are facing some mighty challenges yet we also have dreams and ideals we're reaching for while we wait to find out how we'll ever be able to gather in a darkened room again. There's so much to take into consideration and while we plan to be daring (if you act, you know about taking risks!), we plan to be caring. Can I be a fool without being foolhardy? I sure hope so.

This pandemic can be a watershed moment for our Little Theatre; we are forced to come up with new strategies now. Our tiny building, the McCull Playhouse, has a seating capacity of only 89 people. To practice physical distancing could reduce our capacity to fewer than 20. So our 'intimate' space will be that much quieter, that much colder.

What has this past year done to us? Hardened our resolve? Infuriated us? Oh yes. The universal symbol of theatre comes to mind - comedy and tragedy. Which mask are we wearing now?

The answer is to get creative. There's never been a better time to finish that song, weave that story or write that play. I encourage you, friends of TLT, to develop material we can perform when the time is right. The time will come when our audiences will come back, starved for a show. We'll have our work cut out for us.

In the meantime, let's use all available resources to meet, rehearse, discuss and act our way out of this painted-in corner of a pandemic. We are using technology like we never thought possible. We are upgrading our internet and computer systems, with an eye to putting on shows remotely. We're considering special features of interactive videoconferencing like we never imagined would be needed by a Little Theatre.

Please keep in touch. For those of us who have changed email addresses since you last signed up - sorry, we miss you. But for all theatre goers we have reached with this message - please respond. We need your help, as always, to put on shows, but more than ever, we need to pay our heat, power, taxes and insurance, so we implore you to contribute. Or just renew your membership - it's only ten dollars; you can spare it. Here's how:

Send a cheque to Terrace Little Theatre. ... Or email [treasurer@mytlc.ca](mailto:treasurer@mytlc.ca)

Phone your Membership Director (that's me), Paul at 635-0617 - and tell us what you'd like to do; so many opportunities...

## New Terrace Little Theatre Board

Terrace Little Theatre (TLT) recently held their first board meeting and election via Zoom, as well as in person at the McCull Playhouse. The highlight of the meeting was inducting Amy Turner as a lifetime member. Second was the election of officers, (now for alternating two-year terms) many of whom are familiar to you:

**Robin MacLeod** *Term to 2022*; President. Robin is a long-time TLT member, director and more recently, president. Robin's other roles include president of the Terrace & District Arts Council and vice-principal at Caledonia Secondary.

**Matt Mageau** *Term to 2021*; Vice-President, Archives. Matt is a familiar face both on the board and on stage with TLT and at Home Hardware.

**Jacque Munson** *Term to 2021*; Treasurer in her second year on the board Jacque takes over from Kory Tanner continuing the task of reducing costs for the theatre, particularly during the pandemic.

**Betty Barton** *Term to 2022*; Director. Betty returns to the TLT after a two-decade hiatus from active duty. She replaces previous secretary and co-grant writer Juliana Angelo, who retired from the board. Betty has taken on grant writing, still with Juliana's assistance. When the theatre is operating, she is in charge of hospitality.

**Gerry Hopkins** *Term to 2021*; Director. A relative newcomer to Terrace and TLT, Gerry is our maintenance committee chair, working with Jacque, Betty, and Jim to ensure the building and grounds are in good shape. Gerry was introduced to the TLT when he helped Don MacLeod build the set for 'Icebergs'. Gerry comes from a project management career in major construction projects throughout the lower mainland. He moved from Maple Ridge 2 years ago to be closer to family.

**Nancy Stone-Archer** *Term to 2022*; Director. Nancy returns to the TLT executive after a 10 year hiatus. More recently she has been onstage, offstage or at the Lee. Nancy will work on the Archives portfolio, manage our Social Media and Technical portfolio hopefully moving us toward our plan to enter the streaming world. Stay tuned!

**Jim Branch** *Term to 2021*; Director. Always ready to help, even more ready to be on stage, Jim maintained the TLT yard, mowed the lawns and this winter, he's kept the snow off the sidewalk and courtyard. He joins Jacque, Gerry, and Betty on the building committee.

**Paul Sametz** *Term to 2021*; Director. After taking a pause from the Executive Paul is back in charge of membership and has agreed to help on the Technical committee.

## HELP NEEDED

The executive is looking for someone to join the board as secretary. The new secretary would be part of the team that is managing the building and checking the mail. Currently the majority of the secretary's role is recording the minutes of the virtual meetings. Interested? Drop a line to [info@mytlc.ca](mailto:info@mytlc.ca).



## Putting on the Ritz

This enforced downtime has led to some Covid silver linings, meaning our much loved building is getting some much needed attention. This summer, Gerry and Betty:

- Replaced the rotten fascia boards and loose gutters on the back of the theatre lean-to;
- Hung the new McColl Playhouse sign that Betty’s husband Grant had designed (now that it’s electrified, it will be lit when there is a performance or any special event on);
- Installed new interior stairs from the theatre floor to the upper seating area and down from the booth to the backstage emergency exit.
- Installed new handicapped sign was installed at the parking spot closest to the front door;
- Installed a handrail up the stairs to the downstairs bathrooms Soon to be installed are new to us countertops, faucets and sinks for an update to those bathrooms,

Terrace Steel donated the construction of a free-standing theatre sign which will be erected outside the theatre once weather will permit. This sign will be used to promote upcoming events, encourage membership, and direct people to our website (currently under re-construction).

Our energetic 2020 summer students, Kallie and Tiyanee, under the direction of Jacquie Munson, worked on a number of maintenance projects around the McColl Playhouse:

- tidied and built shelving over the heating ducts in the downstairs furnace room, otherwise known as ‘the dungeon’
- sorted props and carefully put them into clear labelled storage boxes for easy access on those new shelves
- cleared the overgrown area between the theatre and warehouse buildings
- Under the direction of Sally Sousa, the students sorted and cleaned the whole kitchen upstairs. Working with Nancy Stone Archer they helped install our new lighting board and lights. We’ll be ready for audiences as soon as we can.

## Grants Received

### Grant applications and results - 2019-2020

**Canada Summer Works** - \$8392 received to have two summer students work for 8 weeks doing theatre maintenance and updating archives

**Terrace Arts Council** - \$1000 received for operations

**Terrace Community Foundation** – \$4580 received to update, and replace theatre lighting

**Northern Development Initiative Trust** - \$12,125 for construction of a new sound booth and electrical work

### Grant applications Received for 2020-2021 (effective October 30, 2020)

**Terrace Beautification Society** \$1000 approved for landscaping and security lighting

**Terrace & District Arts Council** \$1000 received for operations.  
\$1000 capital project.

**City of Terrace** approved for 40 hours of telephone consultation with grant writer Daniel Steiner. Excellent help for now and future applications.

**Northern Savings Credit Union** \$2000 towards upgrading current security lighting, lighting to McColl Playhouse sign and lighting the new free-standing sign to be erected in front of the theatre in the spring of 2021.

**Northern Health Resilient Communities** \$5000 towards Computer Streaming Upgrade

## Lifetime Member

At their most recent Annual General Meeting, The Terrace Little Theatre Society proudly announced that AMY TURNER was named a Terrace Little Theatre (TLT) Lifetime member. Amy Turner has been an active member of TLT since 1988, if not earlier, when she played a Munchkin in Merry Hallsor’s production of the musical, “The WIZ”.

Since that time, she served on the Board for many years, and worked backstage in every capacity. Most famously, Amy sang and danced the boards in the “Nunsense” musicals as Sister Leo (garnering an Honorary Mention at Mainstage 2006).

She acted in numerous productions including “Better Living”, “Marion Bridge”, “The Importance of Being Earnest”, “Sinners”, “Steel Magnolias”, “Boeing, Boeing”, “The Odd Couple: Female Version”, “The Female Foursome”, “Cruel Tears”, “Maggie’s Getting Married”, “Karaoke Killer”, “I Buried an Idol”; the pantomimes “Cinderella”, “Puss in Boots”, “Jack and the Beanstalk”, and “Treasure Island”.

Amy worked backstage on more plays than can be counted, including “The Best Brothers”, “Wicked Women and One Lone Wolf”, “Criminal Hearts”, and many more, that others can attest to. There is not one year when Amy did not contribute to the Terrace Little Theatre in some meaningful way.

Amy reacted enthusiastically, “The stage lights are dark now, but when they come back up, I’ll be there. I can’t wait to see what we do next. Hell, maybe I’ll take a bold new step and do something I swore I’d never do, direct a play. Imagine that carnage!”

Amy joins Lifetime Members Marianne Brorup Weston, Merry Hallsor, Julie Jacobs, Gayle Holtom, Karla Hennig, Gordon Oates, and Alan Weston

## Virtual Play Readings

Wednesday March 17th at 7pm  
Reading Karla Hennig’s new play “Driving the Doctor” Three actors, set in the 1919 Spanish Flu pandemic

Saturday March 20th at 3pm  
Reading “Help Desk” What would a help desk in a pandemic look like. Roles for as many actors as come.

If you are interested in participating send an email to [media@mytl.ca](mailto:media@mytl.ca) and Nancy will help get you set up.