



AT THE

# ROOMS

The Rooms  
Corporation

**Annual  
Report**

**2021 /  
22**





# Table of Contents

<b>A Message from the Chair of the Board of Directors</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Overview of the Corporation</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Highlights</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Partnerships</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>Outcomes of Objectives</b>	<b>44</b>
Priority 1	
Priority 2	
Priority 3	
<b>Opportunities and Challenges Ahead</b>	<b>64</b>
<b>Financial Statements</b>	<b>68</b>





Margaret Allan, Chair, Board of Directors, The Rooms Corporation of Newfoundland and Labrador

## A Message from the Chair of the Board of Directors

I am very pleased to present The Rooms Annual Report 2021-22.

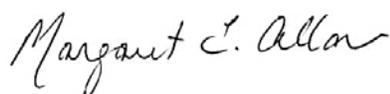
Over the past year The Rooms has continued its work to reflect, review, revise and reframe its role within the community, responding to this unprecedented time in history.

The Rooms and its Regional Museums have worked to reaffirm existing partnerships and have engaged in partnerships with new audiences – deepening their roles within their respective communities. The Corporation has continued to expand its digital presence, ensuring that more of its content has a province-wide reach.

The principles of sustainability have continued to be incorporated in the work of The Rooms and its Regional Museums as risks associated with physical plant upkeep for the buildings have been addressed. In doing so, The Rooms and its Regional Museums have worked to better serve their communities by becoming a more sustainable organization.

This has been my fifth year serving as Chair of The Rooms Board of Directors. I am pleased to be able to report on The Rooms achievements during the second year of the planning cycle and I look forward to guiding the Corporation through achieving the completion of 2020-23 Strategic Plan next year.

The Rooms is a Category 1 Crown Corporation under the Transparency and Accountability Act of the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador. The 2021-22 Annual Report is submitted in accordance with Government's commitment to accountability. It has been reviewed and approved by the Board of Directors, which is accountable for the results reported by The Rooms.



Margaret E. Allan  
Chair, Board of Directors  
The Rooms Corporation of Newfoundland and Labrador







A young visitor explores the seabirds of Newfoundland and Labrador case in the Level 3 Museum, **Connections** Gallery.



## Overview of the Corporation

The Rooms was fortunate to be able to remain open to the public from April 1, 2021 until March 31, 2022 despite the ongoing COVID-19 global pandemic. However, decline in domestic and international travel, a continued reluctance among residents to spend time in public spaces, and the pausing of in-person programming during the outbreak of the Omicron variant, drastically affected earned revenue for the organization.

## Vision

The Rooms Corporation is an innovative, culturally relevant institution that represents and showcases Newfoundland and Labrador to itself and to the world, and brings the wider world to its doorstep.

## Mandate

The Rooms Mandate is outlined in **The Rooms Act** under section 4, objects of the corporation as follows:

- (A) collect, preserve, present and make available for research the historic artifacts, natural history specimens and archival records that represent and illustrate the significant history, culture and natural heritage of the province;
- (B) conduct research with respect to the history, natural history, culture and heritage of the province for the purposes of paragraph (a);
- (C) collect and present provincial, national and international contemporary and historic art;
- (D) advance and promote the works of contemporary visual artists of the province;
- (E) support the development of cultural industries in the province;
- (F) strengthen the culture of the province; and
- (G) provide and enhance client services and partnerships to promote the cultural collections of the province and to show other national and international collections.



Young visitors explore the cod case in the Level 3 Museum, **Connections** Gallery.



## Lines of Business

The Rooms is comprised of five divisions and two units: The Rooms Provincial Archives, Art Gallery, Museum, Finance, and Marketing and Communications Divisions, the Education and Public Programming Unit, and Technical Services Unit.

The Archives, Art Gallery and Museum collect, preserve, present and make available for research the collections within their disciplines while the Education and Public Programming Unit and Marketing and Communications Division, support their work through developing, delivering and promoting education and public programs to a wide variety of audiences.

The Technical Services Unit assists with maintenance and presentation of exhibitions developed in-house and travelling from peer institutions. The Rooms also undertakes the development of interdisciplinary exhibitions which draw their content from all of the programming divisions. With a view towards providing an exceptional visitor experience, The Rooms also operates a café and gift shop.

1. The Rooms acquires, preserves, presents and makes available for research the historic artifacts, natural history specimens and archival records that represent and illustrate the significant history, culture and natural heritage of the province.
2. The Rooms collects and presents provincial, national and international contemporary and historic art; is the province's steward of archival records and a co-facilitator of Information Management initiatives; and, serves to inform, present and interpret the province's history.
3. The Rooms is an important education and outreach vehicle, aiming to provide access to its collections through education programs, travelling exhibits, Regional Museums, virtual access, workshops, and artist residency programs.
4. The Rooms is responsible for collections security, research, maintenance and preservation to safeguard the provincial memory, history and culture.
5. The Rooms provides support to professional constituencies in the archival, visual arts and museum fields.

## Number of Employees

The Rooms employs 45 permanent staff, including five permanent seasonal staff to operate The Rooms Regional Museums. These positions are funded in part by The Rooms operating grant from the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador. The Rooms employs a number of part-time staff for the Archives Reference Room as well as visitor services staff for The Rooms and its three Regional Museums on an annual basis.

## Physical Location

The Rooms is located in St. John's, with regional museums in Grand Falls-Windsor (Demasduit Regional Museum), Grand Bank (Provincial Seamen's Museum) and North West River (Labrador Interpretation Centre).

## Visitation

The Rooms welcomed 59,550 people through its doors during 2021-22. This included paid admissions, complimentary admissions, student admissions, and visits to the Archives Reference Room, café and gift shop. This compares to 20,783 people through its doors during 2020-21. The Rooms received 30,345 admissions in 2021-22, compared to 12,592 admissions in 2020-21 for an increase of 17,753 admissions or approximately 141 percent. Of this total number of admissions, 38 percent were free and 62 percent were paid.

Membership renewals and new memberships at The Rooms have also increased compared to 2020-21. From April 1, 2021 until March 31, 2022, 1,245 annual memberships were purchased, 673 more memberships or a 118 percent increase from 2020-21; 345 memberships were new and 900 memberships were renewals. This was the fourth highest total number of annual memberships since The Rooms opened.

Resident visitation was slow to recover from the second wave of the pandemic which hit the province in February 2021. March 2021 visitation numbers were among the lowest ever for The Rooms. The Corporation saw an opportunity to increase visitation during Spring Break Week in April 2021. The second wave of the pandemic meant that few residents travelled out of province over Spring Break. Locally, little was open to the public as a result of COVID-19 measures. Children were off school for a week with few options for places to go outside of their homes. The Corporation offered free admission for children under five to encourage residents to



bring their families to The Rooms. The initiative was well received with 1,550 total visits during the week – 1,300 of which were paid admissions, an increase of 1,200 admissions from the previous week of just over 100 admissions. The Rooms Visitor Services staff noted that many of the families were first-time visitors and a large number were grandparents visiting with children under five. The Rooms saw strong visitation from residents on July 1, 2021, when it welcomed almost 600 visitors between noon and 5 pm; and, again on September 30, 2021, the first ever National Day of Truth and Reconciliation, The Rooms offered free admission and welcomed over 1,200 visitors between noon and 5 pm.

Visitation to the three Regional Museums reached 5,715 visitors during the 2021 operating season, an increase of 3,571 visitors compared to 2,144 visitors in 2020. The Labrador Interpretation Centre had 1,344 visitors, Demasduit Regional Museum (formerly Mary March Provincial Museum) had 2,006 visitors, and the Provincial Seamen’s Museum had 2,365 during the 2021 season.

### **Paid Parking**

Parking fees are in effect 24 hours a day, seven days a week, for a fee of two dollars an hour. Parking is free for members of The Rooms during regular operating hours. From April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022, The Rooms collected approximately \$38,583 from paid parking. An increase of \$25,760 from 2020-21 or a 201 percent increase from the \$12,823 collected during the previous year.

### **The Rooms Gift Shop**

The Rooms Gift Shop collected \$277,216 in 2021-22 an increase of 133 percent from total sales of \$119,181 in 2020-21.

### **Reference and Access – The Archives Reference Room**

The main Archives public engagement program at The Rooms is its Reference and Access service – available daily in the Level 3 Reference Room and via contact with The Rooms through email, phone and postal mail as well. Researchers and those wishing to engage in the collections are provided with one-on-one service, and an individual experience between visitor and staff to discuss and tailor research inquiries, advise on potential content and deliver primary source material for use. In 2021-22, over 11,550 individual inquiries were responded to, coming from researchers across the province and around the world.

The continuation of COVID-19 protocols throughout fiscal year 2021-22 meant that the Archives Reference Room space and appointment times for researchers had to be limited to specific “blocks” of time throughout The Rooms hours of operation. To counteract this, more distance-services for researchers were offered, including increased responses to basic reference

questions via email and telephone, as well as more communication with researchers about what sources exist online and in other places to assist them with their work and inquiries.

Also, in an effort to gain a better understanding of the audience of archival researchers being booked via appointment only and a preliminary interview, Archives reference staff began asking targeted questions of researchers about their subject interests, depth and scope of their research and their expectations of service levels during COVID-19. This led to some adjustment of copying policies and procedures, a decrease in wait times for some items and a better understanding of Archives during closed pandemic times.

Between July 14, 2020 and March 31, 2021, the Archives received 917 researchers with appointments, and retrieved and re-filed over 5,000 items from the archives' holdings for these patrons. In addition, staff responded to over 1,400 research-related emails and completed 55 genealogy search requests. In March of 2021, with the help of volunteers, transcription began on thousands of pre-1900 parish records of baptisms, marriages and burials – with the goal of making the records easier for genealogists to search and use, and to prepare the foundation for a project to create a genealogy section for The Rooms website.

### **Revenues and Expenditures**

Please refer to The Rooms Corporation of Newfoundland and Labrador Audited Financial Statements for the year ending March 31, 2022 (Appendix A).



## Highlights

### **The Rooms Selects New Name for the Mary March Provincial Museum**

In March 2022, The Rooms announced that a new name for the Mary March Provincial Museum in Grand Falls-Windsor had been selected. The museum is now called the **Demasduit Regional Museum**. A group of local residents who had an interest in preserving the region's heritage established the community museum in the 1970s. The renaming process began with the creation of a working group comprised of representatives from Indigenous Governments and Organizations, councillors from the Town of Grand Falls-Windsor, a representative from the Grand Falls-Windsor Heritage Society, and two representatives from The Rooms. The Rooms sought public input on the new name through a survey offered on engageNL.com during December 2021. **Demasduit Regional Museum** was selected as the final choice as the name is distinct from the Beothuk Interpretation Centre and many respondents indicated a strong preference to retain the word museum.

### **Shary Boyle: Outside the Palace of Me**

The Rooms had the distinction of being the first venue to host the much anticipated exhibition by renowned artist Shary Boyle, **Outside the Palace of Me** from September 25, 2021 to January 9, 2022. This major exhibition of new work by Canadian visual artist and performer Shary Boyle was circulated by the Gardiner Museum and curated by Sequoia Miller. Borrowing a line from UK poet Kae Tempest's 2017 song **Europe Is Lost, Outside the Palace of Me** assembled the artist's ever-mounting anxieties about global crises, within the context of identity theatre. Reflecting on contemporary constructions of self through the language of costume, character, set design, and stage effects, Boyle explored how we see each other, and how we see ourselves. This multi-sensory installation included drawings, ceramic sculpture, life-sized automatons, two-way mirrors, coin-operated sculpture and an interactive score. Reimagining the museum as a collective performance space, the artist worked closely with a scenic designer, robotics engineer, amusement park innovator and costume artist to joyfully envision a set for humanity and imagination.



In March 2022, The Rooms announced that a new name for the Mary March Provincial Museum in Grand Falls-Windsor had been selected. The museum is now called the Demasduit Regional Museum.



### **Soundings: An Exhibition in Five Parts**

This travelling exhibition featured the work of over a dozen Indigenous artists across North America. It posed the question: **How can a score be a call and tool for decolonization?** Programs developed in partnership with the Sound Symposium activated the exhibition and created opportunities for The Rooms to forge new partnerships with Indigenous artists and organizations. The exhibition curated by Candice Hopkins and Dylan Robinson; organized by Independent Curators International (ICI); and, co-presented with Sound Symposium, opened in February 2022. The exhibition featured newly commissioned scores, performances videos, sculptures and sound by Indigenous and other artists who responded to this question. Unfolding in a sequence of five parts, the scores took the form of beadwork, videos, objects, graphic notation, historical belongings and written instructions. During the exhibition, these scores were activated at specific moments by musicians, dancers, performers and members of the public gradually filling the gallery and surrounding public spaces with sound and action and featured performances by Inuk soprano Deantha Edmunds, members of Eastern Owl, Sound Symposium and Inuk singer and drummer Sophie Angnatok.

### **The William B. Ritchie Collection and Helping Hands: 30 Years at Kinngait Studios Exhibition**

In February 2022, The Rooms opened the exhibition, **Helping Hands: 30 Years at Kinngait Studios** featuring more than 70 works from the William B. Ritchie Collection, a donation of nearly 400 Inuit fine art prints from Dorset Fine Arts – Kinngait Studio. The collection, gifted by Mr. Ritchie, is one of the largest and most valuable donations of artworks The Rooms has ever received and includes the work of artists and master printmakers who helped establish Kinngait Studios in the early years, as well as works created by the next generation of artists. The exhibition was guest curated by Nakasuk Alariaq, an Inuk-Finnish graduate student, educator, curator, and writer from Kinngait, Nunavut through funding from the **Inuit Futures in Arts Leadership: The Pilimmaksarniq / Pijariuqsarniq Project**.



Installation shot of **Helping Hands: 30 Years at Kinngait Studios /**  
**Δβϵϕῆῆ: ΔΡΔσῆ 30-σῆ ρᾶλσῆ ἡδῆΔᾶΓῆ.**



### **Vital Statistics Records Now On-Line**

In fiscal year 2021-22, The Rooms successfully negotiated a partnership with the **Division of Vital Statistics, Department of Digital Government and Service NL** to receive over 250,000 digital records for archival preservation and availability online via **The Rooms Provincial Archives Division**. The records cover the years 1950 – 68 and are now available on The Rooms website. This is the first time a collection of vital statistics records has been digitally transferred to The Rooms Provincial Archives. The records can be found on a searchable database located at [Vital Statistics \(Deaths 1950-1968\) digital collection](#). The database can be keyword searched by: name; date of death; sex; marital status; place of death; or, date of registration of death. Attached to each individual record is a digital reproduction of the individual's registration of death. Marriage, birth and additional death records will be added to the Archives in the near future.

### **Provincial Seamen's Museum 50th Anniversary**

In September 2021, the Provincial Seamen's Museum marked its 50th Anniversary. The museum hosted an Open House to celebrate the occasion and Rooms CEO, Anne Chafe, and Acting Director of Museums and Galleries, Kate Wolforth, were both in attendance, and Mayor Rex Matthews and MHA Paul Pike joined in the celebrations. To mark this milestone, new text panels were developed for inside and out and a new artifact display was unveiled. For 50 years the Provincial Seamen's Museum has helped preserve and present an important part of the history of Newfoundland and Labrador – its fishery, more importantly the world renowned Grand Banks Fishery. The museum is one of three institutions in this province with the Provincial Museum designation and it is the oldest of The Rooms three Regional Museums. It has long been an anchor attraction of Grand Bank and of the Burin Peninsula.

### **Rising to the Occasion: Our Community Responds to COVID-19**

When the global pandemic swept into this province, changing everything in March 2020, The Rooms chose to play a role in documenting this ever-changing landscape by “collecting COVID”. Businesses and individual residents contributed all sorts of responses to the pandemic, from the practical to the whimsical. The results offer some uniquely Newfoundland and Labrador reflections on COVID-19 and its ongoing effects. An exhibit featuring a selection of COVID responses opened in July 2021 and remains ongoing.



Celebrating  
**50**  
Years

In September 2021, the Provincial Seamen's Museum (PSM) marked its 50th Anniversary.



### **The Loss of the Ocean Ranger**

Over the night of February 14, 1982, a terrible North Atlantic storm initiated a chain of events that led to the sinking of the oil rig **Ocean Ranger**. On the occasion of the 40th Anniversary of the tragic loss of 84 lives, including 56 people from this province, The Rooms mounted an exhibit featuring archival images and documents, and museum artifacts connected to the disaster, to commemorate the event and its aftermath. This pop-up exhibit was free and was located at the entrance to the Level 4 Museum Gallery.

### **Tours of Duty: Stories of Service from Contemporary Veterans**

This exhibit, which opened in November 2021, was a glimpse into the lives and service of contemporary veterans from Newfoundland and Labrador who have played an important role at home and around the world. Their work has included protecting and providing aid to civilians and helping to maintain peace when called to do so by the international community. Canadian Armed Forces members make sacrifices every day in the line of duty, putting their health and safety at risk and serving our country, all while leaving loved ones at home. This exhibit shared some of these stories.

### **Private John Lambert**

The resolution and news coverage of the Pte. John Lambert research project brought much publicity to The Rooms and the work of its Archives Division in Fiscal Year 2021-2022. This resulted in increased inquiries about military history research, and numerous new donations of archival records, photographs and items to The Rooms for donation/loan. A public presentation about the discovery process and research was given by Archives Director/Provincial Archivist Greg Walsh on November 10, 2021 to a packed house at The Rooms with interest in the story remaining high. The Rooms continues to work with current members of the Lambert family descendants to expand the story of this long-lost Royal Newfoundland Regiment soldier who is scheduled to receive a proper military burial in Belgium on June 30, 2022.



The family of Private John Lambert met to arrange for making a future donation of Private Lambert's artifacts and records to The Rooms.



### **The St. John's International CircusFest**

This past year, The Rooms partnered with the St. John's International CircusFest for the first time to offer two programs, **A Night at the Circus** and a **Makeup Design Workshop** with Cirque de Soleil. **A Night at The Circus** immersive experience was particularly complex involving structural engineering, building-wide lighting and sound, and, specialized floor mats. This event was a big success and was the most attended program The Rooms had offered since COVID-19 with almost 400 people including staff and performers.

### **Occupational Health and Safety @ The Rooms**

The Rooms Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Committee met six times in fiscal year 2021-22, with more meetings scheduled but postponed due to COVID-19 shutdowns and scheduling issues. The Committee is made up of six members of both management and non-management staff and meets regularly to encourage collaboration between the employer and workers to address health and safety concerns in the workplace. The Committee identifies and evaluates concerns, makes recommendations for corrective action, and promotes health and safety in the workplace to reduce accidents and injuries.

The main achievement of the OHS Committee over the past year was to address approximately 80 workplace inspection issues for five facilities/buildings that fall within the care of The Rooms. As of March 31, 2022 there were eight remaining issues. Work was also undertaken on a new OHS Policy for The Rooms to better suit the unique structure of the organization. New committee members completed the required OHS training, responded to an external OHS Safety inspection for The Rooms by Service NL Officer (all nine recommendations were met within two weeks) and the committee led the rejuvenation of First Aid Kits and eye wash stations for all Rooms facilities.

# Highlights



The Rooms partnered with the St. John's International CircusFest for the first time to present **A Night at the Circus.**



## Filming at The Rooms

In October 2021, The Rooms received a variety of unrelated, high-profile filming requests. **The Discovery Channel's** program **Expedition Unknown** came from Los Angeles and New York to film an artifact in The Rooms collection that is believed to be a portion of the **L'Oiseau Blanc**, a plane that attempted early Trans-Atlantic flight from Paris to Newfoundland. While here the producer of the program requested assistance with tracing the host's genealogy, whose grandmother was from Newfoundland. Research indicated his great uncle was an inspector in the constabulary and had lived on The Rooms Grounds.

The following week we hosted a small crew from the **National Museum of Denmark** who came to film our Viking artifacts from L'Anse aux Meadows in our Level 3 **Connections Gallery**. These artifacts will be featured in a documentary series hosted by Rane Willerslev, Director of the National Museum of Denmark. The Rooms CEO hosted Dr. Willerslev for a lunch during his time in St. John's – a rare opportunity during the pandemic to be able to meet with an international colleague.

In mid-October, The Rooms hosted the cast and crew of **Hudson and Rex**. More than 125 people filmed onsite for four days. The Corporation was able to recoup a large portion of its rental income with this filming.

The Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts and Recreation included The Rooms in the promotional video for their website on unique fossils in the province. The Rooms collections will be featured in an online series produced by the department on the province's geological treasures, including the Haoitia Quadriformis and other fossils that fall under the **Historic Resources Act** to promote the importance of the province in the world of fossil research. Paleontologist, Dr. Jack Matthews, part of the team who discovered the Haoitia Quadriformis fossil was the host of the program and included interpretation on this fossil as well as others found in our collection.



The Rooms hosted the cast and crew of **Hudson and Rex**. More than 125 people filmed onsite for four days.



## Donor Highlights

### Donations

Between April 1, 2021 and March 31, 2022, The Rooms recognized \$346,484 in financial contributions. Over the past year the Corporation received donations of works of art, artifacts and archival material valued at \$486,937. The Rooms is grateful to its donors for their contributions. The Rooms continues to receive funding from Chevron Canada for the administration of the **Chevron Open Minds at The Rooms** program. A renewed commitment of \$492,226 for over three years was signed.

## Grants

### Federal Government Funding:

In 2021-22, The Rooms recognized \$821,478 in Federal Government funding from the **Canadian Heritage Canada Cultural Spaces Fund**; **Canadian Heritage COVID-19 Emergency Support Fund**; and, from the **Canada Council for the Arts: Engage and Sustain Core Funding Program**.

### Provincial Government Funding:

The provincial Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts and Recreation committed \$200,000 in funding towards the **Federal Department of Canadian Heritage Canada Cultural Spaces Fund**. The department has also contributed \$213,500 for **Come Home Year Program Funding** as well as \$70,000 towards the purchase of Indigenous artworks for the **Provincial Art Bank Program**. An additional contribution of \$100,000 was received to the **Provincial Art Bank program** to assist with the procurement of works by Indigenous artists for the new courthouse in Happy Valley-Goose Bay. The Department of Education has committed \$33,570 towards the delivery of **Five Fine Art Fridays**, a virtual initiative supported by the **Cultural Connections: A Provincial Arts and Cultural Strategy**.

### Other Grant Funding:

International Grenfell Association has contributed \$6,000 for the Residential Schools Project. These funds allowed for a dedicated search for archival records within The Rooms collection related to residential schools in Newfoundland and Labrador.



William B. Ritchie donated nearly 400 Inuit fine art prints from Dorset Fine Arts – Kinngait Studio. The William B. Ritchie Collection is one of the largest and most valuable donations of artworks The Rooms has ever received and includes the work of artists and master printmakers who helped establish Kinngait Studios in the early years, as well as works created by the next generation of artists.



# Acquisitions

## Acquisitions to the Archives

Work on collections in fiscal year 2021-22 involved the selection, arrangement, description, scanning and data entry of information pertaining to approximately 7700 archival records now available via The Rooms website. These records include material from a wide variety of government and non-government records collections, including many photographs from the Archives' collections which were previously unavailable. Wherever possible, digitized scans of the records were provided online along with the descriptive entries to better assist archives researchers with accessing new collections and information in a virtual environment. In addition, the relocation and reorganization of collections work areas, materials and equipment to new spaces throughout The Rooms greatly improved productivity, staff work area resources and efficiency, particularly in the area of collections processing.

## Acquisitions to the Art Gallery

The Rooms submission to Canadian Cultural Property Export Review Board (CCPERB) for a donation of 22 artworks by long-time donor John Perlin was approved March 25, 2022. The 22 artworks in this application include pieces by Newfoundland and Labrador artists Reginald Shepherd RCA (b.1924, d. 2002), Helen Parsons Shepherd RCA (b.1923, d.2008), Mary Pratt CC, RCA (b.1935, d.2018), Donald Wright (b.1931, d.1988), Anne Meredith Barry RCA (b.1932, d.2003) and Scott W. Goudie (b.1955). Some of the Shepherd prints are first-time acquisitions for The Rooms holdings (prints that were not previously part of The Rooms, Memorial University or Art Bank collections). The Mary Pratt painting is an early work of hers, a still life completed in 1961 (currently on display in our Level 4 Art Gallery Colonnade space). The Donald (Don) Wright watercolour "**Stages at Petty Harbour**" (1967) is a welcome addition to The Rooms collection.

A Mary Pratt family CCPERB submission was approved in December 2021 and included a portrait by Mary Pratt of her former husband, Christopher Pratt. (Mary Pratt, "**Portrait of Christopher**" (not dated), Graphite on Paper, 188.5cm x 87cm).

The Rooms purchased artwork from two emerging Indigenous artists from the province in December, 2021; Melissa Tremblett, "**Pep's Radio**", Digital Image (Photography), 2013; and, Alex Antle, "**Ankweyasi**", Beadwork, 2020. This piece was produced during the COVID-19 pandemic lockdown.

The Corporation also purchased a new work by Newfoundland and Labrador textile artist Lucas Morneau, a sweater from his **Queer Newfoundland Hockey League Series: Lucas Morneau, St. John's Sissies**, Crochet, 2021. The artwork was on display in an exhibition



The Rooms Corporation purchased a new work by Newfoundland and Labrador textile artist Lucas Morneau, a sweater from his Queer Newfoundland Hockey League Series: Lucas Morneau, **St. John's Sissies**, Crochet, 2021.



in New Brunswick at the time when The Rooms acquired the piece. Since receiving the work at The Rooms, the Corporation received loan requests to exhibit the work at two other Canadian art galleries – ODD Gallery (Dawson City, Yukon) January-April, 2022 and The Reach Gallery Museum (Abbotsford, BC) from May-September, 2022.

In November 2021, Sylvia Bendzsa donated 13 artworks and The Rooms purchased an additional five of her works. This acquisition is significant as Bendzsa, a senior artist in the community, was also underrepresented in The Rooms collections. Both of these purchases were made through funds reserved for purchases of artworks. In spring 2022 The Rooms installed one of Sylvia's artworks "**Islands at Tors Cove - Pee Wee Island**" in our Level 4 Executive Meeting Room.

The Rooms purchased a Tara Bryan painting in December 2021 (2021.19.01, Tara T. Bryan, **Gros Morne**, Oil, 1992). Bryan, an award-winning, Newfoundland and Labrador artist who passed away in September 2020, was underrepresented in The Rooms collections.

The Rooms acquired through donation a 1970s Arch Williams lithograph in February 2022. This was a significant acquisition, as The Rooms collection contained no other print works by this artist.

### **Acquisitions to the Museum**

The museum received submissions of 130 collections intakes from individuals and organizations totaling over 29,000 pieces or artifacts and specimens in 2021-22. This included 28,177 archaeology artifacts, two Indigenous Peoples Collection artifacts, 269 Natural History specimens and 600 history artifacts.

The following is a list of acquisition highlights:

- Two donations of First World War and Second World War medals and memorial plaques.
- A pair of Second World War leather boots.
- Donation of Regatta uniforms and a winner's medal that had been a loan and converted to a donation.
- A 1940s child's tricycle.
- A pair of otter skin gloves from Makkovik featured in the exhibition **From This Place: Our Lives on Land and Sea**. The gloves help to interpret the story of the Southern Inuit People. This artifact had been on loan and has now been converted to a donation.
- Several pieces of Newfoundland folklore related wood work from the late Walter Peddle's collection.
- A grass basket purchased in 1938 from Port Hope Simpson, Labrador.



Four Northern Gannet birds that were collected after Hurricane Larry from Cape St. Mary's which help tell the story of severe weather events in Newfoundland and Labrador and their impact on the environment in general.



- Over a dozen knitwear and weaving items from NONIA in celebration of their 100th anniversary.
- A 1959/1960 modern ashtray from the Gander Airport International Lounge.
- A collection of Korean War items associated with a Newfoundland veteran.
- Historic and Pre Contact archaeology collections from around the island of Newfoundland including Cape Ray, Bird Cove, Carbonear, St. John's and Penguin Island and from Maritime Archaic and Inuit sites at Porcupine Strand and White Point, Labrador
- Four Northern Gannet birds that were collected after Hurricane Larry from Cape St. Mary's which help tell the story of severe weather events in Newfoundland and Labrador and their impact on the environment in general.

### **Research Requests**

Museum staff processed over two hundred collections offers; over three hundred research and general requests; more than 60 media requests; and, 20 loan requests from April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022.

### **Archaeology and Indigenous Peoples Collections**

As COVID-19 restrictions relaxed throughout the year, The Rooms archaeological lab proved to be a popular spot and was visited by a number of different groups including documentary film crews from the United States and Denmark, A Norse Archaeology class from Memorial University and various researchers from the province and Maritimes.

The Museum continued to work on updating data in our collections management software program, EMu, which included entering photos, artifact location information, and importing catalogue databases from past archaeological work. As in previous years, we continue to see how EMu has greatly improved our ability to manage our collections data.

The Rooms continued its integral partnership with Indigenous communities as we worked to change out content for conservation reasons in the exhibits on Level 4.

Statistics for Archaeology & Indigenous Peoples Collection in 2021-22 include:

- 133 requests received for information, loans, research visits, tours and photograph use.
- Over 20 museums throughout the province displayed archaeology artifacts from our collections through our Community Loans program. As well, our artifacts are on loan to the Canadian Museum of History, the National Gallery of Canada, and several Parks Canada locations. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, a small number of museums did not get their loan artifacts this year.
- Archaeology artifacts were transferred to The Rooms via the Provincial Archaeology Office through 26 submissions from archaeologists representing over 28,177 artifacts and samples from 54 sites.
- 4100 records from 17 archaeological sites were entered into the EMu database.
- 12 researchers used the archaeology lab space to study the collections for a total of 220 hours.
- Through a partnership with Parks Canada, a researcher has added 700 artifact images to our records.



## Partnerships

The Rooms carries out its mandate in association with various parties including funding agencies, government departments and professional associations. During 2021-22, The Rooms worked in association with:

### **Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts and Recreation (TCAR)**

As a Category 1 Crown Corporation of the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, The Rooms is accountable to the Minister of Tourism, Culture, Arts and Recreation through The Rooms Board of Directors. Funding received from TCAR sustains operations of The Rooms each year. The Rooms works closely with the department on the following shared commitments: the **Art Bank Program** of the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador; the restoration of the Colonial Building; the development of the Cultural Action Plan; and, The Rooms continues to provide and manage collections for the ten Provincial Historic Sites.

### **Department of Education, Kindergarten to Grade 12**

The Rooms in-person education programs were cancelled in March 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic in accordance with public health guidelines. Restrictions were lifted for in-person visits from schools in February 2022 and The Rooms was able to offer two pilot programs **Connecting Peoples** and In the Making with classes onsite. In March 2022, classes came in person to take part in The Rooms **Makerfaire** program – a partnership with Memorial University’s Faculty of Education. The Rooms welcomed 275 students from grades K – 6 onsite between February and March 2022.

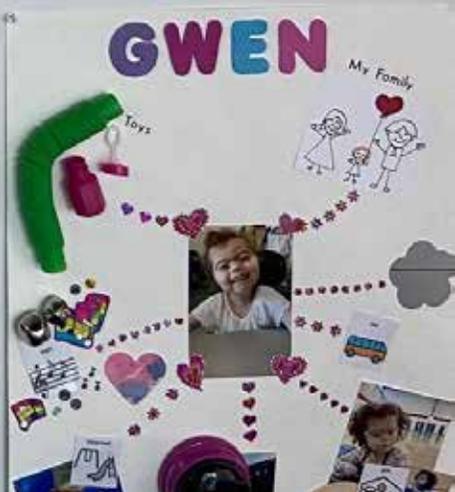
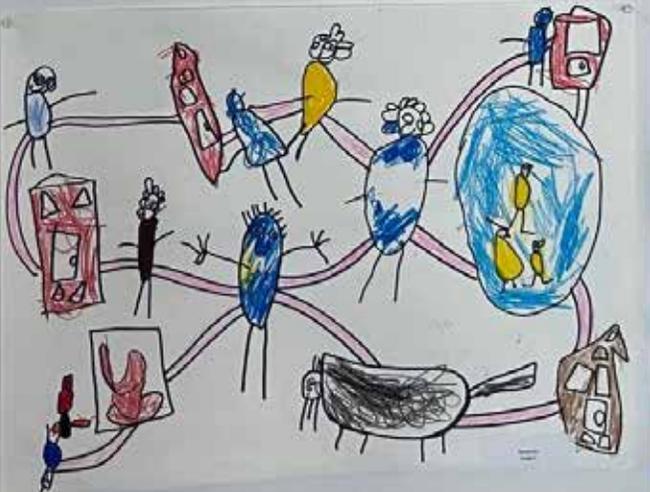
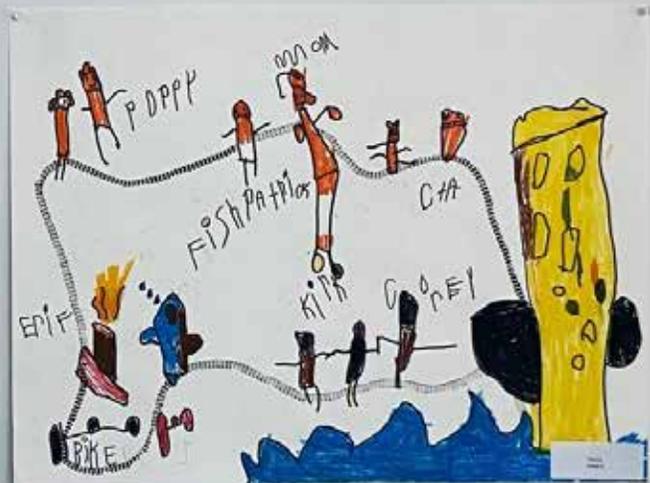
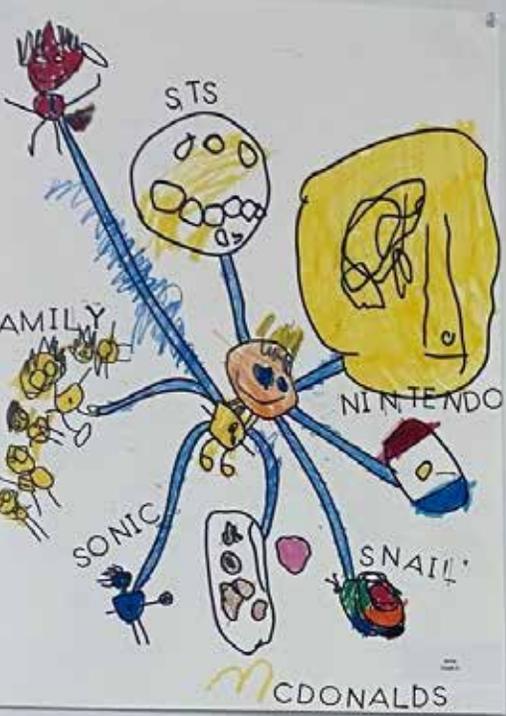
34

### **Five Fine Arts Fridays Educational Series**

Inspired by COVID-19 life, the Department of Education (EDU) engaged community arts organizations to bring curriculum-based arts and cultural learning opportunities to the K-12 public schools across the province throughout the 2021-22 school year, using Google Meet™.

This virtual initiative, supported under the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador’s **Cultural Connections: A Provincial Arts and Cultural Strategy**, was intended to engage students and teachers in interactive sessions facilitated by professional artists that explore the province’s arts and culture.

Community organizations involved include The Rooms, the Newfoundland Symphony Orchestra (NSO), ArtsNL, and St. John’s Storytelling. Each group has offered a series of five sessions that range from 45 minutes to one and a half hours in duration. Individual sessions have targeted specific grade level(s), and featured recorded and/or live components.



Artwork produced by students who participated in The Rooms MakerFaire program.



### **Newfoundland Symphony Orchestra**

The Rooms partnered with the NSO to offer two virtual school programs between February and March 2022. **Newfoundland and Labrador Musical Heritage Connections** was delivered virtually in The Rooms **Here we Made a Home** exhibition via google classroom. The second program, **Musical Connections with Nature in Newfoundland and Labrador** was delivered in The Rooms Connections gallery where students joined musicians of the NSO virtually to explore the world of music and create their own soundscape. There were 258 students who participated in these two programs.

### **Sharing our Cultures**

The Rooms hosted the 21st annual **Sharing Our Cultures** in May 2021. This event happens annually in March but was postponed due to the pandemic. Opening ceremonies were modified to take place outdoors. **Sharing our Cultures** brings together students from around the world to celebrate the rich diversity of cultures that we have in St. John's. In August, The Rooms provided space for the filming of the **Sharing Our Cultures** cable TV series with Rogers TV.

In March 2022, The Rooms was delighted to be able to welcome students onsite for the 22nd annual Sharing Our Cultures event which ran from March 21-23, 2022. Almost eight hundred (Grade 6) students participated in person.

### **The Rooms Travelling Edukits**

Restrictions and new protocols in response to COVID-19 impacted requests for The Rooms Travelling Edukits this past fiscal year.

The **BMO UpRooted: Resettlement in Newfoundland and Labrador** was requested by two schools; the **BMO Cultural Expressions Edukit** was requested by 11 schools and the **BMO First World War Edukit** was circulated to nine schools. Often there were several teachers using these kits in each school.

A fourth **Healing and Commemoration Edukit** was introduced in spring 2021. With financial support from Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada, and as part of the **Healing and Commemoration Project**, the Edukit provided students an opportunity to learn about residential schools in Labrador and Newfoundland. The kits were developed under the leadership and guidance of the **Healing and Commemoration Advisory Committee** to help students further understand and participate in reconciliation, spread awareness and education about residential schools in the province, and to foster acknowledgement and understanding towards those who attended the schools and their families. The activities support the curriculum objectives of social



Members of Kilautiup Songuninga-Strength of the Drum, perform at this year's Sharing our Cultures in March 2022.



studies programs (Grade 8 – 12) under the Newfoundland and Labrador English School District and allow for the use of pedagogy and philosophy important to Indigenous learning.

The Rooms has five **Healing and Commemoration Edukits** accessible on loan to any school with the province, free of charge. This past year the kits were used by six schools. In addition, eight kits were distributed to the following schools permanently in Labrador: Amos Comenius Memorial School – Hopedale; B.L. Morrison School – Postville; J.C. Erhardt Memorial School – Makkovik; Northern Lights Academy – Rigolet; Henry Gordon School – Cartwright; Jen Haven school – Nain; Mealy Mountain Collegiate – Goose Bay; and, Lake Melville School – North West River.

Program Specialist Directors, Indigenous Education, Shane Welcher from the Newfoundland Labrador English School District and Tom Mugford from the Department of Education reviewed the **Healing and Commemoration Edukits** and assisted with the promotional distribution to teachers via Google Classroom in May 2021.

### **Chevron Open Minds Program**

**Chevron Open Minds at The Rooms** is an innovative school program, engaging students, teachers, parents and content experts to collaborate for a week of object-based, hands-on, experiential learning to deepen connections within the community.

In 2021-22, Open Minds adapted to changing times, creating new ways to engage learners while maintaining the integrity of the Open Minds program and philosophy.

During the 2021-22 fiscal year, there were 22 weeks of Open Minds virtual programming and hands-on inquiry kits developed and implemented, bringing The Rooms collections to the schools for experiential opportunities. The inquiry kits were developed to travel to classrooms when COVID-19 prevented schools from visiting The Rooms in person. Each class had their own custom Open Minds Google Classroom link with instructional content, including videos with content experts to supplement the inquiry kit.

In addition to the virtual programs offered, there were eight weeks of in person Open Minds programming, connecting students with The Rooms collections and content experts. Students experienced inquiry-based programming in the galleries, classrooms, labs and vaults with content experts. Programming was adapted to ensure the safety of students, teachers, parents and staff while adhering to COVID-19 guidelines and regulations.

Open Minds at The Rooms facilitated learners to discover our collections through diverse and inclusive discovery learning opportunities. Interaction with historic artifacts, natural history specimens, archival records and historic and contemporary art stimulated curiosity, inquiry and critical thinking in authentic ways.

## Residential School Records Project

In June 2021, external funding was received from the **International Grenfell Association** (IGA) to allow for a dedicated project to search for any and all archival records within The Rooms collections related to residential schools in Newfoundland and Labrador. The six-week project focused mainly on collections relating to the IGA and related government records. The Rooms reviewed the records to determine if there were any death or medical records relating to hospitals, nursing stations or schools operated by the IGA that could be relevant. No records of this nature were found, and the intellectual control over the material was greatly enhanced for future research, thanks to the contribution from the IGA to aid in the search.

## Department of Crown and Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs

### Healing and Commemoration Partnership

Using external funding provided by the Federal Department of Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC), The Rooms completed phase one of its **Newfoundland and Labrador Residential Schools Healing and Commemoration Project**. This project aimed to capture and preserve the stories of students who attended the residential schools in Newfoundland and Labrador, as well as to display a special exhibit about these experiences and this little known part of the province's history. The project archivist was directly engaged in promotion, awareness, collaboration and consultation with former students and led the creation of related Edukits and a teacher resource guide to supplement the collections and exhibit work.

39

## Canada Council for the Arts

The **Canada Council for the Arts**, reporting to Parliament through the Minister of Canadian Heritage, is a national arm's-length agency that fosters the development of the arts in Canada through grants, services and awards to professional Canadian artists and arts organizations, as well as administering scholarly awards.

In April 2019, The Rooms received notification from the Canada Council for the Arts that its core grant application to the Artistic Institutions component of the Engage and Sustain Program was successful. The Peer Assessment Committee that evaluated The Rooms application recommended it for financial support to the amount of \$945,000 over a four-year period. These funds will be used to support local, national and international artists in the creation of new artistic works presented in innovative exhibition contexts at The Rooms.



### **Inuit Futures in Arts Leadership: The Pilimmaksarniq /Pijariuqsarniq Project**

This project is an initiative that aims to support Inuit and Inuvialuit in Canada in their pursuit of higher education and professional opportunities in all aspects of the arts and humanities. Mentors include Inuit and other partners across Canada who are committed to ensuring that Inuit students receive high level training and meaningful opportunities in all aspects of academia and professional practice across the arts, including film, theatre, the visual arts, museum studies, curatorial practice, arts administration and other areas.

During 2021-22, funds from Inuit Futures Arts Leadership enabled The Rooms to hire Nakasuk Alariaq an Inuk-Finnish graduate student, educator, curator, and writer from Kinngait, Nunavut to guest curate the exhibition **Helping Hands: 30 Years at Kinngait Studios**. Exploring art from an Inuk perspective, this exhibition spans thirty years of work from the William B. Ritchie Collection.

### **Art Bank Program**

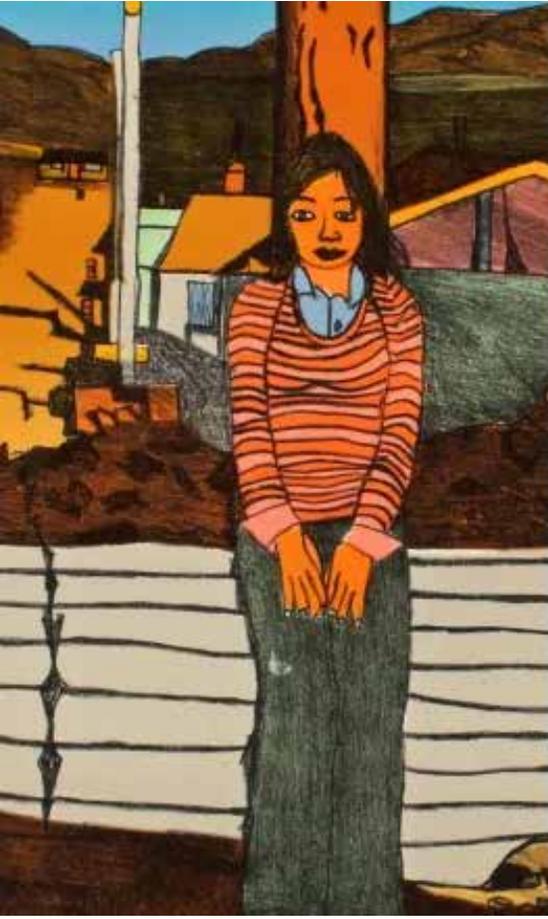
Established by Cabinet in 1982, and now managed by The Rooms with dedicated funds provided annually by the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts and Recreation (currently \$75,000), this program is designed to recognize and promote Newfoundland and Labrador artists by placing their original artworks in public buildings. There are currently 3134 artworks in this collection. It is in high demand across government.

This past year 74 artists made submissions to the program, including 34 artists from outside St. John's. A total of 204 artworks in various media were submitted for consideration. The Art Bank Jury consisted of Marcia Huyer (Corner Brook), Jessica Winters (Nunatsiavut), and Ashley Hemmings (St. John's). Jury members were nominated by the wider community and affirmed by The Rooms staff. The jury met virtually to review submissions in early November.

There were 21 new artworks approved for purchase for the Art Bank Collection in 2021-22 with purchases totaling \$66,800. Remaining funds in the program this year were committed to framing, shipping, travel for staff to install works in Labrador offices, and collection maintenance costs.

Highlights from this year's selection include artwork by three Indigenous artists: Brian LaSaga, Dale Ford and Marcus Gosse. The selection also includes purchases of works by emerging artists or artists new to the collection: Ethan Murphy, Jill O'Reilly, and Lori Deeley. Nine of the selected artworks are by artists based outside of St. John's.

The Rooms received an additional \$70,000 in funding from the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador towards the purchase of artworks by Indigenous artists living in Newfoundland and Labrador. These artworks will be added to the Provincial Art Bank Collection. The Rooms issued an additional call for artists on March 1, 2022, encouraging Indigenous artists to submit artworks for consideration to the Provincial Art Bank Program by May 1, 2022.



Nakasuq Alariaq, guest curator of **Helping Hands: 30 Years at Kinngait Studios** /  
Δβϱϣϥϣ: ▷ρ▷σϣ 30-σϣ ρϣϣσϣ ϣϣϣϣϣ.



### **Additional Art Gallery Partnerships**

The Rooms holds organizational memberships in the **Canadian Museums Association**, the **Canadian Art Museum Directors' Organization**, **International Council of Museums (ICOM)**, and the **Atlantic Province's Art Gallery Association (APAGA)**. The Rooms Acting Director of Museums and Galleries participates in the jury process for the **Cultural Economic Development Program** with the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts and Recreation annually. The Rooms curator of contemporary art is vice-president of APAGA, a nominator for Scotiabank Photography Award and Scotiabank New Generation Photography Award, nominator for the Order of Newfoundland and Labrador, nominator for the Governor General's Awards in Visual and Media Arts, and a board member for the Bonavista Biennale.

### **Touring Exhibitions**

A national tour for **Ned Pratt: One Wave** was developed by The Rooms, and exhibited from September to December 2018, and has been on display at the Beaverbrook Art Gallery, Fredericton, New Brunswick, as well as the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia. The exhibition toured to the Judith and Norman Alix Art Gallery in Sarnia, Ontario and was scheduled to open in fall 2021 but opened in spring of 2022 as it was postponed as a result of the gallery being closed due to the pandemic.

### **Artists in Residence**

Through partnerships with Parks Canada and the Landfall Trust, and with funding from the Canada Council for the Arts, The Rooms offers artist residencies annually during the summer at Kent Cottage, Brigus, Gros Morne National Park and Terra Nova National Park. However, these residencies have been postponed due to COVID-19 related travel restrictions.

### **CEO Shared Commitments**

The Rooms CEO is a member of the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts and Recreation's Cultural Action Plan Advisory Committee, as well as the Department's Working Group on Monuments and Observances. The Rooms CEO is also a member of the Canadian Arts Summit Committee. The CEO continues to be a member of the provincial Monuments and Observances Working Group, the Cultural Action Plan Advisory Committee and the Selection Committee for the Public Service Awards of Excellence.



Brian LaSaga, **Winter Silence**, 13 X 20, Acrylic on panel, 2021 (St. George's).



## Outcomes of Objectives

### Issue 1: Reflect, Review, Revise and Reframe its Role

In March 2020, on the eve of its fifteenth year, the Corporation found itself amidst a global pandemic, forcing the temporary closure of cultural institutions around the world. At this time, the intersection of a milestone year and iconic world event provided ideal conditions for The Rooms to reflect on the institution it has been over the past 15 years and review its programs and services. The Rooms has identified this as an opportunity to revise what the institution could be moving forward, and use this time to reframe how it wishes to be viewed locally, provincially and globally.

Over the next three years, The Rooms and its Regional Museums will evaluate its audiences – identify repeat, new and diverse audience segments to attract moving forward – and develop a plan to reframe the Corporation as a visitor-focused, emotionally, physically and intellectually accessible institution that engages with diverse populations, in particular, the Indigenous Peoples of Newfoundland and Labrador.

The positive impacts of reframing The Rooms and its Regional Museums as a visitor-focused, emotionally, physically and intellectually accessible institution that engages with diverse populations, in particular, the Indigenous Peoples of Newfoundland and Labrador, supports the Government's strategic directions for a better economy, healthier people and a brighter future.

44

### Three Year Goal (2020-23)

By March 31, 2023, The Rooms and its Regional Museums will have reframed the Corporation as a visitor-focused, accessible institution that engages with diverse populations, in particular, the Indigenous Peoples of Newfoundland and Labrador.



The Rooms staff participating in Orange Shirt Day in front of the 94 Calls to Action in observation of the first ever **National Day for Truth and Reconciliation**.



**Second Year Objective (2021-22):**

By March 31, 2022, The Rooms and its Regional Museums will have developed a plan to reframe the Corporation as a visitor-focused, accessible institution that engages with diverse populations, specifically the Indigenous Peoples of Newfoundland and Labrador.

The indicators for first year objective are:

Objective Indicators	Results and Benefits
<p>The Rooms will have revisited and revised its mission statement</p>	<p><b>Variance:</b> During 2021-22, several members of The Rooms Board of Directors had completed their term serving on the Board. Three new Board Members were appointed in May 2021; five Board Members, including Board Chair, Margaret Allan were re-appointed in July 2021; and, three new Board Members were appointed in February 2022. The Rooms has deferred revising its mission statement for one year to provide time for these newly appointed Board Members to become better acquainted with the Corporation.</p>
<p>A research plan to identify and better understand our current and potential audience will have been developed</p>	<p>A research plan to identify and better understand our current and potential audience has been developed.</p> <p>The plan outlines the Corporation’s research goals which include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A deeper understanding of who uses The Rooms;</li> <li>• Understanding why they use The Rooms – what they do when they visit;</li> <li>• Identifying what the public is looking for from the organization;</li> <li>• Identifying growth opportunities;</li> <li>• Insight into improving visitor experience; and,</li> <li>• Applying the information learned in the plan to inform funding opportunities including grants, sponsorships and donations.</li> </ul>

<p>A plan to incorporate a mental health lens/ focus for visitor experiences will have been implemented</p>	<p>A plan to incorporate a mental health lens/focus for visitor experiences has been developed and implemented.</p> <p>The plan enables The Rooms to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve visitor-focused programs by offering more enriching experiences;</li> <li>• Remain relevant to the community it serves;</li> <li>• Focus on increasing accessibility;</li> <li>• Engage with more diverse populations;</li> <li>• Become more inclusive;</li> <li>• Fulfill its commitment to being a respectful, diverse and welcoming environment where we are stronger together; and,</li> <li>• Deepen its relationship with the Indigenous Peoples of Newfoundland and Labrador.</li> </ul>
<p>An action plan to reach and engage diverse populations in-person and virtually will have been implemented</p>	<p>An action plan to reach and engage diverse populations in-person and virtually has been developed and the following actions have been implemented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Joint programming opportunities for collaboration with urban Indigenous community have been identified with <b>First Light Friendship Centre</b>;</li> <li>• New programs have been created for the <b>Association for New Canadians</b> clientele;</li> <li>• A new Memorandum of Understanding was signed with <b>Canoo – the Cultural Access Pass</b> for new immigrants and new citizens to Canada;</li> <li>• A proposal to develop a new literacy program customized for The Rooms has been received;</li> <li>• The Rooms programming staff have been re-assigned with new duties and priorities that expand access to diverse audiences, especially outside of St. John’s;</li> <li>• Infrastructure funding has been used to purchase new automatic mechanisms to gallery doors throughout The Rooms. These mechanisms have been installed;</li> </ul>



<p>The Rooms will have continued to grow its relationship with the Indigenous Peoples of Newfoundland and Labrador</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Broader use of QR codes has increased access to more audiovisual material;</li> <li>• Labels and exhibition texts checked for legibility and accessibility; and,</li> <li>• Digital Technology Committee is reviewing new technologies and new ways for visitors to access exhibition content.</li> </ul> <p>The Rooms continues to grow its relationship with the Indigenous Peoples of Newfoundland and Labrador. The following actions were completed in 2021-22:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public consultation on the renaming of the Mary March Provincial Museum was completed in December of 2021 and in March 2022, the Mary March Provincial Museum was renamed Demasduit Regional Museum;</li> <li>• Review of outdated, colonial language institution-wide;</li> <li>• Updated exhibitions for Demasduit Regional Museum (formerly Mary March Provincial Museum);</li> <li>• <b>Inuit Futures Partnership</b> with Concordia University supporting mentoring of Inuit students wishing to work in the arts;</li> <li>• Completed initial stage of consultation regarding access to human remains and related protocols;</li> <li>• New smudging protocols for building spaces developed in cooperation with <b>First Light Friendship Centre</b>;</li> <li>• <b>In Their Own Words, the Healing and Commemorations</b> exhibit about residential school experiences in this province that opened in September 2020 continues to be on display outside the Archives Reference Room. Many of the artifacts will be sent to Them Days in Labrador;</li> <li>• In spring 2021, <b>Healing and Commemoration Edukits</b> were sent out to eight schools to date: Nain, Makkovik, Rigolet, North West River, Goose Bay, Postville, Hopedale and St. Paul’s in St. John’s;</li> </ul>
--	---

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• After a pause due to COVID-19, a project proposal and Memorandum of Understanding has been prepared and submitted to the Federal Department of Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada to resume this Healing and Commemoration Project. This second phase of the project will involve the traveling of a special exhibition to six northern Labrador communities and the potential collection of more documentation/ stories relating to residential schools in the province;</li> <li>• The James Andersen collection partnership began with Library Archives Canada to promote access, reformatting and study.</li> <li>• The Rooms partnered with CBC to produce two Facebook Livestream Events in association with current exhibitions:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o <b>Helping Hands: 30 Years at Kinngait Studios</b> featured The Rooms Curator of Contemporary Art, Mireille Eagan interviewing exhibition curator Nakasuk Alariaq, who is based in London, Ontario. Artists and their friends and families living in Kinngait were able to join the livestreams and hear more about their works on exhibition at The Rooms; and</li> <li>o Rigolet artist Eldred Allen was featured in a CBC livestream with Education and Public Programming Officer, Jason Sellars. Eldred's work was featured in two exhibitions: <b>Resemblance</b> and <b>Disappearing Ice: Changing Seascapes</b>, an exhibition offered in partnership with SmartIce, looking at climate change and the innovation needed to travel over sea ice safely. Many of the Rigolet elders featured in the portraits in the <b>Resemblance</b> exhibition were able to see the exhibition for the first time via the Livestream Event.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
--	---



### **Discussion of Results:**

Between April 1, 2021 and March 31, 2022, the Corporation has developed a research plan to identify and better understand its current and potential audiences; has implemented a plan to incorporate a mental health focus for visitor experiences, as well as an action plan to reach and engage diverse populations in-person and virtually; and, The Rooms and its Regional Museums have continued to grow their relationship with the Indigenous Peoples of Newfoundland and Labrador. The completion of these indicators, advances the Corporation's three-year goal to continue to reframe itself as a visitor-focused, accessible institution that engages with diverse populations, specifically the Indigenous Peoples of Newfoundland and Labrador.

### **Third Year Objective (2022-2023):**

By March 31, 2023, The Rooms and its Regional Museums will have implemented a plan to reframe the Corporation as a visitor-focused, accessible institution that engages with diverse populations, specifically the Indigenous Peoples of Newfoundland and Labrador.

The indicators for the third year objective are:

- The Rooms will have revisited and revised its mission statement;
- Recommendations from the accessibility audit will have continued to be implemented;
- The Rooms will have grown its relationship with the Indigenous Peoples of Newfoundland and Labrador; and,
- An effective marketing strategy that promotes an emotional connection for the visitor will have been developed.

## Issue 2: Deepening Our Connections with the Community

Unprecedented times can be ripe with opportunity. Our community finds itself navigating a new landscape. The Rooms and its Regional Museums can use this time to confirm their place as leaders within their communities.

By incorporating Priority 1, to reflect, review, revise and reframe, The Rooms can apply this learning to deepen its connection with the people it serves, creating partnerships with organizations and expanding its audiences. Present circumstances have moved technology to the forefront of all communication – providing optimal conditions for engaging our audience through digital platforms, resulting in an expanded audience and reach.

Over the next three years, The Rooms will work to promote a more integrated role for its Regional Museums within their communities; will continue to build its relationships with the Indigenous Peoples of Newfoundland and Labrador to work towards decolonizing The Rooms; will continue to seek new partnerships reaching out to diverse populations and finding new ways to engage these populations; and, will expand its online offering and digital engagement.

Deepening connection between The Rooms and its Regional Museums within their respective communities will support the Government's strategic directions for a better economy, healthier people, better living and a brighter future.

### Three Year Goal (2020-23)

By March 31, 2023, The Rooms and its Regional Museums will have deepened their connections with the communities they serve.



**Second Year Objective (2021-22):**

By March 31, 2022, The Rooms will have moved towards decolonizing the institution and deepening its relationship with the Indigenous Peoples of Newfoundland and Labrador.

<b>Objective Indicators</b>	<b>Results and Benefits</b>
<p>The Truth and Reconciliation Committee's (TRC's) national framework for reconciliation within heritage and cultural organizations will have been reviewed</p>	<p>Staff of The Rooms and its Regional Museums have reviewed The Truth and Reconciliation Committee's (TRC's) national framework for reconciliation within heritage and cultural organizations.</p> <p>This important document was a resource for those involved in working directly with Indigenous materials and researchers. It guided all work done by the Archives related to the partnered project with <b>Crown and Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs</b> and the Advisory Committee who were involved with the project.</p> <p>To mark the first ever National Day for Truth and Reconciliation on September 30, 2021, The Rooms printed the TRC Calls to Action in large format and mounted them in our Level 3 Atrium. We offered free admission and asked visitors to respond to the <b>94 Calls to Action</b> prepared by the <b>Truth and Reconciliation Commission</b> by leaving personal messages on orange post-it notes in response to a series of questions posted on our windows. <b>More than 1200</b> people came to The Rooms that day to learn more about Truth and Reconciliation and to reflect on the legacy of Residential Schools in Canada.</p>

<p>A policy for working with Indigenous materials within the Archives, Art Gallery and Museum using TRC's national framework for reconciliation within heritage and cultural organizations as a guide will have been created</p>	<p>In 2021-22, the Archives Division used the TRC national framework for reconciliation to re-examine the way it catalogues and described visual material such as photographs and film within its holdings. A new policy was created for photographs dealing with Indigenous people, communities and cultural activities that are prioritized for description and re-description as standards change. In creating and improving descriptions, The Rooms aims to include correct names for people, places, artifacts, etc., and using social media, staff began working with individuals interested in Labrador photographs to help identify people and locations. To date, The Rooms has updated over 100 photographs with this invaluable assistance from the public and staff continue to follow national newsgroups for discussions of best practices and changing standards that have resulted from the Truth and Reconciliation report.</p> <p>Several national cultural organizations have worked with Indigenous Communities to develop frameworks to guide their respective industries in decolonization.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In February 2022, Library and Archives Canada released the report: <b>RECONCILIATION FRAMEWORK The Response to the Report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Taskforce</b>. This document has been adopted by The Rooms Archival Staff as a resource for best practices.</li> <li>• As part of its TRC calls to action, The Canadian Museums Association is working closely with its Reconciliation Council and other stakeholders across the Country to survey and collect feedback, identify key issues, and ultimately produce an d disseminate a report with clear recommendations for the inclusion and representation of Indigenous communities within museums and cultural centres. A final report by the Canadian Museums Association is expected to be completed in the fall of 2022. This document will inform a framework for The Rooms Museum Division.</li> </ul>
--	---



- In winter 2022, the Canadian Artist Representation Le Front des Artistes Canadiens (CARFAC) released the report **Indigenous Protocols dot Art: Indigenous Protocols for the Visual Arts**. This document, as well as **Standards of Achievement for the Relationship Between Indigenous Peoples & Cultural Institutions in Canada**, and **A Culture Of Exploitation: “Reconciliation” and the Institutions of Canadian Art**, both prepared by Yellowhead Institute are resources informing the Art Gallery division best practices.

An action plan incorporating TRC’s Calls to Action for Indigenous Heritage has been established and includes the following recommendations:

- Ensure that The Rooms collections juries have Indigenous members;
- Work with Indigenous partners to ensure that Inuit, Innu and Mi’kmaq histories and experiences are represented in current exhibitions, programs and publications;
- Consult with current Indigenous groups and governments regarding exhibition, reproduction, storage and representation of collections materials made by their ancestors and contemporary members. Work towards repatriation of cultural materials as appropriate;
- Purchase and display artworks by Indigenous artists;
- Present films by Indigenous filmmakers;
- Integrate more Inuktitut, Mi’kmaq and Innu-aimun into exhibitions, programs and publications, especially those that are related culturally;
- Build partnerships with local Indigenous groups and communities at regional museums in Grand Falls-Windsor and North West River so that their needs are reflected in programming and exhibitions at those locations;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide space and programming for the community to dialogue and work together towards reconciliation, especially on September 30 but also through the year;</li> <li>• Provide opportunities for people to learn about the experiences of former residential school students in this province through distributing Edukits, a travelling exhibition, and an online database of related texts and resources;</li> <li>• Question critically the activities of The Rooms: Does the activity present the experiences of Indigenous people first hand? Does it move the conversation of reconciliation forward? Does it breakdown and challenge colonial stereotypes, assumptions and misconceptions?</li> <li>• Complete consultation regarding access to human remains and related protocols;</li> <li>• Implement new smudging protocols for building spaces;</li> <li>• Review of language used in school programs;</li> <li>• Review of collections access protocols, particularly regarding artifacts from burials, and respectful/accurate representations of Indigenous Peoples and cultures;</li> <li>• A collections policy review will take place following the implementation of the new organizational structure:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Areas of focus have been identified for digitization and streamlining permissions, processing deaccessions, incorporating more consultation with Indigenous communities about collections care, and identifying different levels of care for working collections;</li> <li>o Work has begun in the streamlining of permissions for collections use (a new reproductions contract and process for use of Art Gallery collections);</li> <li>o New name for the former Archeology and Ethnography Collection – now Archeology and Indigenous Peoples Collections;</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
--	---



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Management and staff are endeavouring to look at their core function through an Indigenous lens;</li> <li>• Decolonizing work – use of language, advisory committees, partnerships;</li> <li>• Expanding the perspectives they portray beyond those of the dominant cultural group;</li> <li>• Sharing authority for the documentation and interpretation of all cultures;</li> <li>• Adjustments to Way of Thinking include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Who are the people who make decisions about the exhibitions?</li> <li>o What is shown in the exhibitions?</li> <li>o How is the story told?</li> <li>o Do the decision-makers have a decolonial mindset?</li> <li>o Are they aware of their own biases?</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Position The Rooms as part of a learning community rather than an impenetrable centre of experts;</li> <li>• The following actions have been identified for implementation in the future: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Employ more Indigenous people as staff and contractors;</li> <li>o Create a standing committee of Indigenous community members to advise on exhibition content, programs, and collections procedures policies related to Indigenous peoples and cultures;</li> <li>o Work with local Indigenous people/ representatives in Labrador to assist in identifying information in existing records (such as faces in unknown photographs) for The Rooms to provide accurate descriptive and cataloguing information to the public;</li> <li>o Review existing catalogue descriptions for culturally insensitive language which could be flagged and addressed via an overall/ general statement explaining the context in which the records were created;</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
--	--

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Exchange information with Them Days Archives in North West River about collections of Indigenous material; and,</li> <li>o Review existing backlogged/unprocessed collections currently in storage for possible prioritization for cataloguing projects to make this material available to the public as quickly as possible.</li> </ul>
--	---

**Discussion of Results:**

The Rooms continues its goal to move towards decolonization and has continued working to deepen its relationship with the Indigenous Peoples of Newfoundland and Labrador. The staff of The Rooms and its Regional Museums have reviewed **The Truth and Reconciliation Committee’s** national framework for reconciliation within heritage and cultural organizations; a policy for working with Indigenous Materials using TRC’s national framework for reconciliation within heritage and cultural organizations as a guide has been created; and, an action plan to incorporate TRC’s **Calls to Action for Indigenous Heritage has been established.**

**Third Year Objective (2022-23):**

By March 31, 2023, The Rooms will have expanded its online offering and digital engagement.

The indicators for the third year objective are:

- An action plan to demonstrate The Rooms place as a leader within the community will have been established;
- A policy for working with Indigenous Materials within the Archives, Art Gallery and Museum using Truth and Reconciliation Committee’s (TRC’s) national framework for reconciliation within heritage and cultural organizations as a guide will have been implemented;
- Ways to focus on personal connections with visitors will have been identified; and,
- A digital engagement plan for The Rooms and its Regional Museums will have been developed.



### **Issue 3: Securing the Future**

The Rooms is faced with several external challenges affecting its ability to continue to provide the high quality experience it is known for delivering. The Rooms and its Regional Museums must address economic, social and environmental challenges that threaten to deplete resources thereby reducing the quality of experience they have to offer.

The Rooms must create a plan that incorporates the principles of sustainability: economic (profit/revenue), societal (people/ programs), and environmental (climate change/physical assets) including its collections. The organization will build upon a collaborative workplace culture across all divisions.

To support the sustainability of The Rooms and its regional operations, public and occupational safety will be a priority for the organization.

Over the next three years, The Rooms and its Regional Museums will work towards securing their futures by replacing diminishing revenue sources; re-establishing pre-COVID-19 visitation and programming attendance levels; and, by maintaining and promoting their internal and external usable spaces.

Implementing a plan for sustainability for The Rooms and its Regional Museums will support the Government's strategic directions for a better economy, healthier people, better living, a bright future and a more efficient public sector.

#### **Three Year Goal (2020-23)**

By March 31, 2023, The Rooms will have worked to secure its future and that of the Regional Museums by implementing a plan for sustainability.

## Second Year Objective (2021-22):

By March 31, 2022, The Rooms will have reviewed the sustainability of its collections policy.

The indicators for second year objective are:

Objective Indicators	Results and Benefits
<p>A collections policy to encompass sustainability will have been reviewed and updated</p>	<p><b>Variance:</b> The Rooms organizational review has been completed and work is underway with the public service commission to implement the new organizational structure, however the new positions on the revised organizational structure are in the process of being filled. These new positions are required to be in place in order to finalize updating the current collections policy. While this is being finalized the following steps have been taken towards the review and updating of a collections policy for The Rooms that encompasses sustainability:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A conservation policy has been developed and implemented;</li> <li>• The conservation policy and a security review were required for indemnification for a major exhibition being mounted at The Rooms in summer 2022;</li> <li>• As part of the indemnification process, security protocols and conservation polices for the organization were reviewed;</li> <li>• A facilities review of The Rooms off-site collections buildings has been conducted;</li> <li>• The Canadian Conservation Institute has conducted a review of The Rooms Natural History Unit, which included reviewing the Natural History facilities as well as a review of the province’s Natural History Collection;</li> <li>• Standardized collections forms have been implemented;</li> <li>• The Art Gallery has completed a multi-year analysis of the costs associated with appraisals; and,</li> </ul>



<p>The Rooms relationship with stakeholders will have grown</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The CEO and Marketing Manager for The Rooms continued working with a Fund Development Coach from RBR Development Associates Ltd. The Rooms hosted its first ever Donor Loyal Tea event in May 2021. This event recognized donor John Perlin for his many contributions including financial contributions as well as significant artifacts, artworks and archival documents to The Rooms collections.</li> <li>• In November 2021, the organization participated in Giving Tuesday for the first time with a social media campaign and new donation boxes.</li> <li>• A donation section was added to The Rooms website and online donations are now able to be accepted.</li> <li>• The Rooms Chair of the Board, Margaret Allan, and CEO, Anne Chafe, hosted a VIP donor event to celebrate A Night at the Circus event in partnership with the St. John’s International Circus Fest.</li> <li>• A 2020-21 Donor Report was sent to donors with this year’s Seasonal Cards.</li> <li>• New partnerships were established with the Association for New Canadians, MusicNL, Shakespeare by the Sea, St. John’s International Circusfest, the National Film Board of Canada, Memorial University’s Black Students Association, Sound Symposium, Newfoundland Labrador Craft Council, First Light Friendship Centre and Inuit Futures.</li> </ul>
<p>An organizational review will have been completed</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An organization review was completed by the Senior Management Team following staff and Board input.</li> <li>• The Rooms Board of Directors approved the proposed new organizational structure on May 21, 2021.</li> <li>• The proposed new organization structure was sent for Departmental review.</li> <li>• Following review, a request to update The Rooms organizational structure was submitted.</li> </ul>

<p>A plan to maximize internal and external usable spaces will have been implemented</p> <p>The Rooms will have examined ways to divert materials from the exhibition development process to a reuse/recycling stream.</p>	<p>A Space Committee was formed and the committee identified and evaluated existing and potential storage spaces for use. As a result of this review, a number of spaces were re-purposed and/or reassigned for alternative storage needs, or use by other divisional staff.</p> <p>The following ways to divert materials from the exhibition development process to a reuse/recycling stream have been identified and implemented.</p> <p>The following items have been donated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Custom-made tables were donated to St. Michael’s printshop;</li> <li>• A dry moulder was donated to Memorial University Grenfell Campus;</li> <li>• Library reference books were donated to the Grenfell Art Gallery and public libraries; and,</li> <li>• Ladders (3) were donated to the St. John’s Tool Library for household use. (Ladders were identified by the OHS committee as non-compliant).</li> </ul> <p>The following items have been repurposed/reused:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Repurposed unused track: A length of track that was installed elsewhere in the building that wasn’t being utilized was relocated to hang panels rather than purchasing new track.</li> <li>• Repurpose banners: Old exhibition banners (vinyl and paper) are repurposed in education programs.</li> <li>• Reuse framing materials: Works are unframed post exhibition and reused in the next framing job. An inventory of old frame stock is underway and unused frames will be donated to other smaller galleries.</li> <li>• Reuse crate material: materials from existing crates are recycled to make new crates of a different size.</li> </ul>
--	--



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Using waste tail and off-cuts: Panels were fabricated in-house utilizing the waste tail of MDF from another project rather than ordering new material or sending the job out for fabrication.</li><li>• Printing on the waste tail: When a full sheet of paper is not used the waste tail is saved to print smaller projects on. And ruined sheets are kept and reused for test prints. Also, we try to keep printing in-house whenever possible.</li><li>• Upcycle: The conservation staff are recycling used carpet rolls for collections storage. Courtesy of the Carpet Factory, Logy Bay Road.</li><li>• A borrowed overhead projector was donated to The Rooms: A manual overhead projector that was used during the In/Play exhibition in summer 2021 has been donated to us from Memorial University.</li><li>• A Battery Recycling program has been established.</li></ul>
--	---

## Discussion of Results:

During the fiscal year 2021-22, a collections policy to encompass sustainability was reviewed and updated; a plan to maximize internal and external usable spaces was implemented; and, ways to divert materials from the exhibition development process to a reuse/recycling stream were identified. Through the completion of these actions, The Rooms has reviewed and advanced the sustainability of its collections policy.

## Third Year Objective (2022-23):

By March 31, 2023, The Rooms will have implemented a plan to maintain their internal and external usable spaces and complete physical plant reserve studies for the Regional Museums.

The indicators for the third-year objective are:

- A development plan will have been implemented;
- An organizational review will have been completed;
- An audit of The Rooms internal business processes will have been completed;
- A collection policy to encompass sustainability will have been updated;
- An incident tracking system for The Rooms and its Regional Museums will have been implemented; and,
- A respectful workplace board statement consistent with the government respectful workplace policy, while recognizing other areas of respect – inclusion, diversity, and anti-racism, will have been developed and implemented.



## Opportunities and Challenges Ahead

### Challenges

The COVID-19 global pandemic continues to bring staffing challenges include pivoting to work from home when sick, staff working at a different pace, staff recruitment and an increase in the number of sick days. All of these situations often leave operations short-staffed.

Reduced capacity in the area of exhibitions and collections work has meant extra duties have had to be re-assigned to other staff. Individuals have willingly taken on these additional responsibilities and have shared the extra workload but it is hoped that this staffing shortfall will be remedied soon with the approval of The Rooms new organizational structure.

Costs for the raw materials needed to renovate the space have increased significantly as a result of supply shortages due to the global pandemic. Supply chain issues continue to delay the Corporation's ability to undertake repairs, implement new initiatives and order technical equipment and building furniture.

There is a lack of local appraisers to do external valuations of archival materials, artifacts and artworks. At the present time, there are few qualified appraisers available in each area to perform this important service yet the number of requests is increasing regularly. It may be necessary to bring in appraisers from out of province in the future, which will mean increased costs for the organization to cover accommodations, travel and other expenses. The Art Gallery has had to engage the Art Dealers Association of Canada, based in Ontario, for a number of appraisals which is very costly.

64

The most urgent collections matter and immediate priority is the mitigation of a mold problem at an offsite facility. This was discovered by The Rooms Conservator who took prompt action to address the situation in order to protect the collection.

The Content Management System (Drupal 7) used to create The Rooms website, will reach end-of-life in spring 2023. This means official community and Drupal Association support will no longer be provided. There will be no updates, security fixes or enhancements to the platform. As a result, The Rooms will require a website rebuild. An evaluation of a potential internal solution is being conducted and preliminary work on an Request for Proposals is underway.



The Rooms partnered with MusicNL and the Association for New Canadians during the summer of 2021 to offer the first ever **Global Music Series**. This event was a big success and will be offered again in August 2022.



## Opportunities

Visitation continues to increase and The Rooms is anticipating a strong tourism season with the province's **Come Home Year** initiatives. This is an opportunity for The Rooms to build back its audience as it will be a key venue for **Come Home Year** programming. The Corporation is also able to re-establish an on-site volunteer program for the upcoming summer 2022 season.

The Rooms continues to experience strong membership renewal. A new recruitment campaign will be in-market by fall 2022. It is hoped that an initiative to expand

e-newsletter subscriptions to include all who are interested in subscribing will generate increased admissions and ticket sales; and, convert new subscribers into members.

The Rooms and its Regional Museums have received \$2,677,064 in funding from the Federal and Provincial Governments through the **Department of Canadian Heritage Canada Cultural Spaces Fund** and from the Federal Government through the **COVID-19 Emergency Support Fund**. This financial support has enabled the Corporation to make necessary infrastructure improvements, update its security systems, add new accessibility features to the building and purchase new audio visual equipment to assist in delivering in-person and digital programming. Work has been undertaken to ensure the organization's collections are maintained safely and to improve and sustain the health of the organization's buildings for staff, visitors and volunteers.

The Rooms will be a key venue for **Come Home Year** activities. The corporation has proposed an exciting array of programs, including public art installations, a new outdoor projection program and concerts. Guest curator, Eshan Mohammadi and the **Association for New Canadians** will be presenting a new exhibition **At Home: Too Far, Too Close**, profiling the immigration experiences of 14 participants. This exhibition will provide The Rooms with an opportunity to reach new and diverse audiences.

Opening late June 2022, **Generations: The Sobey Family and Canadian Art** offers visitors a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to explore one of Canada's most legendary private collections. This exhibition is the largest and most valuable exhibition ever to come to Newfoundland and Labrador and features approximately 240 artworks including major artists who are household names – Emily Carr, Kent Monkman, Tom Thompson, Arthur Lismer, Alex Colville, Robert Pilot, Christopher Pratt and many more.

As the world continues to emerge from the pandemic, the coming year promises many opportunities for The Rooms and its Regional Museums, positioning the Corporation in a good place to meet its three-year goals from the **2020-23 Strategic Plan**.



# Generations

THE SOBEY FAMILY & CANADIAN ART



Top to bottom: Kent Monkman (b. 1965), **Study for “mistikôsiwak (Wooden Boat People): Resurgence of the People,”** (Final Variation) (detail), 2019, acrylic on canvas, 107.3 x 213.4 cm, Collection of the Sobeys Art Foundation, © Kent Monkman; Cornelius Krieghoff (1815–1872), **Crossing the St. Lawrence with the Royal Mail at Quebec** (detail), 1859, oil on canvas, 43.8 x 61.6 cm, Collection of the Sobeys Art Foundation



**THE ROOMS CORPORATION OF  
NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**MARCH 31, 2022**



OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL  
NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Chairperson and Members  
The Rooms Corporation  
of Newfoundland and Labrador  
St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador

### Opinion

I have audited the financial statements of The Rooms Corporation of Newfoundland and Labrador (the Corporation), which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2022, and the statements of operations, statement of change in net financial assets and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In my opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Corporation as at March 31, 2022, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards.

### Basis for Opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of my report. I am independent of the Corporation in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to my audit of the financial statements in Canada, and I have fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

### Other Information

Management is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, but does not include the financial statements and my auditor's report thereon. The annual report is expected to be made available to me after the date of this auditor's report.

My opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and I will not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with my audit of the financial statements, my responsibility is to read the other information identified above when it becomes available and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or my knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. When I read the annual report, if I conclude that there is a material misstatement therein, I am required to communicate the matter to those charged with governance.

## **Independent Auditor's Report (cont.)**

### **Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Corporation's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Corporation or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Corporation's financial reporting process.

### **Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements**

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, I exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Corporation's internal controls.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Corporation's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit

## **Independent Auditor's Report (cont.)**

evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Corporation to cease to continue as a going concern.

- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.



**DENISE HANRAHAN, CPA, CMA, MBA, ICD.D**  
**Auditor General**

September 14, 2022  
St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador

**THE ROOMS CORPORATION OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**

As at March 31

2022

2021

**FINANCIAL ASSETS**

Cash	\$ 2,802,020	\$ 2,315,783
Accounts receivable (Note 3)	3,379,516	2,934,431
Inventory held for resale	199,500	197,717
Restricted cash (Note 4)	1,125,843	861,654
	<u>7,506,879</u>	<u>6,309,585</u>

**LIABILITIES**

Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (Note 5)	1,203,180	903,993
Employee future benefits (Note 6)	107,505	102,828
Deferred revenue (Note 7)	2,003,634	1,422,853
	<u>3,314,319</u>	<u>2,429,674</u>

**Net financial assets** 4,192,560 3,879,911

**NON-FINANCIAL ASSETS**

Prepaid expenses	44,209	733
Tangible capital assets (Note 8)	11,666,284	11,524,348
	<u>11,710,493</u>	<u>11,525,081</u>

**Accumulated surplus** \$15,903,053 \$15,404,992

Trusts (Note 12)

Contractual obligations (Note 13)

The accompanying notes and supplementary schedule are an integral part of these financial statements.

Signed on behalf of the Board:

  
 Chairperson

  
 Member

**THE ROOMS CORPORATION OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR**  
**STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS**  
For the Year Ended March 31

	2022 Budget	2022 Actual	2021 Actual
	(Note 15)		
<b>REVENUES (Schedule 1)</b>			
Province of Newfoundland and Labrador (Note 11)			
Operating grants	\$ 6,321,600	\$ 6,475,374	\$ 6,338,600
Contributions to employee benefits	-	648,114	653,086
Commercial operations (Note 10)	1,333,800	934,993	449,898
Government of Canada	250,000	821,478	528,801
Corporate sponsorship	390,000	336,250	175,976
External funding	-	10,234	3,652
	<u>8,295,400</u>	<u>9,226,443</u>	<u>8,150,013</u>
<b>EXPENSES (Schedule 1)</b>			
Archives division	776,501	806,349	870,169
Art gallery division	1,042,410	864,410	870,561
Corporate services and building operations	4,801,751	5,253,523	4,771,847
Education programs	632,681	546,383	466,156
Museum division and regional museums	1,173,583	1,257,717	1,106,687
	<u>8,426,926</u>	<u>8,728,382</u>	<u>8,085,420</u>
<b>Annual surplus (deficit)</b>	<b>(131,526)</b>	<b>498,061</b>	<b>64,593</b>
<b>Accumulated surplus, beginning of year</b>	<b>15,404,992</b>	<b>15,404,992</b>	<b>15,340,399</b>
<b>Accumulated surplus, end of year</b>	<b>\$ 15,273,466</b>	<b>\$ 15,903,053</b>	<b>\$ 15,404,992</b>

The accompanying notes and supplementary schedule are an integral part of these financial statements.

**THE ROOMS CORPORATION OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR**  
**STATEMENT OF CHANGE IN NET FINANCIAL ASSETS**  
For the Year Ended March 31

	2022 Budget	2022 Actual	2021 Actual
	(Note 15)		
Annual surplus	\$ -	\$ 498,061	\$ 64,593
<b>Changes in tangible capital assets</b>			
Acquisition of tangible capital assets	-	(923,495)	(183,566)
Amortization of tangible capital assets	-	781,559	830,333
	-	(141,936)	646,767
<b>Changes in other non-financial assets</b>			
Net (acquisition) use of prepaid expenses	-	(43,476)	2,510
	-	(43,476)	2,510
<b>Increase in net financial assets</b>	-	312,649	713,870
<b>Net financial assets, beginning of year</b>	<b>3,879,911</b>	<b>3,879,911</b>	<b>3,166,041</b>
<b>Net financial assets, end of year</b>	<b>\$ 3,879,911</b>	<b>\$ 4,192,560</b>	<b>\$ 3,879,911</b>

The accompanying notes and supplementary schedule are an  
integral part of these financial statements.

**THE ROOMS CORPORATION OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR**  
**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**  
For the Year Ended March 31

	2022	2021
<b>Operating transactions</b>		
Annual surplus	\$ 498,061	\$ 64,593
Adjustment for non-cash items		
Amortization	781,559	830,333
	1,279,620	894,926
Change in non-cash operating items		
Accounts receivable	(445,085)	(1,608,044)
Inventory held for resale	(1,783)	20,890
Restricted cash	(264,189)	(294,024)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	299,187	(185,891)
Employee future benefits	4,677	4,411
Deferred revenue	580,781	855,223
Prepaid expenses	(43,476)	2,510
<b>Cash provided from (applied to) operating transactions</b>	<b>1,409,732</b>	<b>(309,999)</b>
<b>Capital transactions</b>		
Purchase of tangible capital assets	(923,495)	(183,566)
<b>Cash applied to capital transactions</b>	<b>(923,495)</b>	<b>(183,566)</b>
<b>Increase (decrease) in cash</b>	<b>486,237</b>	<b>(493,565)</b>
<b>Cash, beginning of year</b>	<b>2,315,783</b>	<b>2,809,348</b>
<b>Cash, end of year</b>	<b>\$ 2,802,020</b>	<b>\$ 2,315,783</b>

The accompanying notes and supplementary schedule are an integral part of these financial statements.

**THE ROOMS CORPORATION OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**March 31, 2022**

---

**1. Nature of operations**

The Rooms Corporation of Newfoundland and Labrador (the Corporation) was established as a corporation under the Rooms Act on May 19, 2005. In accordance with the Rooms Act, the Corporation assumed title to and has been vested with all of the rights, liabilities, assets and property of The Rooms Corporation of Newfoundland and Labrador Inc. established as a corporation under the Corporations Act on November 18, 2002. The Corporation was established to: collect, preserve, present and make available for research, historic artifacts, natural history specimens and archival records that represent and illustrate the significant history, culture and natural heritage of the Province; conduct research with respect to the history, natural history, culture and heritage of the Province; collect and present provincial, national and international contemporary and historic art; advance and promote the works of contemporary visual artists of the Province; support the development of cultural industries in the Province; strengthen the culture of the Province; and provide and enhance client services and partnerships to promote the cultural collections of the Province and to show other national and international collections. The Corporation is an agent of the Crown. The affairs of the Corporation are governed by a Board of Directors appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council. The Rooms is located in St. John's, with regional facilities located in Grand Falls-Windsor (Demasduit Regional Museum), Grand Bank (Provincial Seamen's Museum), and North West River (Labrador Interpretation Centre).

The Corporation is a Crown entity of the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador and as such is not subject to Provincial or Federal income taxes under Section 149(1)(d) of the Income Tax Act.

**2. Summary of significant accounting policies**

**(a) Basis of accounting**

The Corporation is classified as a Government Not-For-Profit Organization as defined by Canadian Public Sector Accounting Standards (CPSAS). These financial statements have been prepared by the Corporation's management in accordance with CPSAS for provincial reporting entities established by the Canadian Public Sector Accounting Board (PSAB). The Corporation does not prepare a statement of remeasurement gains and losses as the Corporation does not enter into relevant transactions or circumstances that are being addressed by this statement. Outlined below are the significant accounting policies followed.

**(b) Financial instruments**

The Corporation's financial instruments recognized in the statement of financial position consist of cash, restricted cash, accounts receivable, accounts payable and accrued liabilities. The Corporation generally recognizes a financial instrument when it enters into a contract which creates a financial asset or financial liability. Financial assets and financial liabilities are initially measured at cost, which is the fair value at the time of acquisition.

**THE ROOMS CORPORATION OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**March 31, 2022**

---

**2. Summary of significant accounting policies (cont.)**

**(b) Financial instruments (cont.)**

The Corporation subsequently measures all of its financial assets and financial liabilities at cost. Financial assets measured at cost include cash, restricted cash and accounts receivable. Financial liabilities measured at cost include accounts payable and accrued liabilities.

The carrying values of cash, restricted cash, accounts receivable, accounts payable and accrued liabilities approximate current fair value due to their nature and/or the short-term maturity associated with these instruments.

Income attributable to financial instruments is reported in the statement of operations.

**(c) Cash**

Cash includes operational floats and balances with banks that fluctuate from positive to negative.

**(d) Inventory held for resale**

Inventory includes items purchased for resale in the gift shop and are recorded at the lower of cost and net realizable value. Cost is determined on a first-in, first-out basis.

**(e) Collections**

The collections of art work, archival documents and historical and cultural artifacts form the largest part of the assets of the Corporation. These collections are not presented in the statement of financial position due to the practical difficulties of determining a meaningful value for these assets. The acquisition of purchased works of art and artifacts is recorded as an expense.

**(f) Tangible capital assets**

Tangible capital assets to which the Corporation has title are recorded at cost at the time of acquisition.

The cost, less residual value, of the tangible capital assets, excluding land, is amortized on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful lives as follows:

Furniture	7 years
Equipment	3 years
Motor vehicles	5 years
Building improvements	7 to 40 years

**THE ROOMS CORPORATION OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**March 31, 2022**

---

**2. Summary of significant accounting policies (cont.)**

**(f) Tangible capital assets (cont.)**

Work in progress is considered to be a tangible capital asset, however, it is not amortized as it is not yet available for use. Upon completion, these assets will be recorded in the appropriate category.

Tangible capital assets are written down when conditions indicate that they no longer contribute to the ability of the Corporation to provide goods and services, or when the value of future economic benefits associated with the tangible capital assets are less than their net book value. The net write-downs are accounted for as expenses in the statement of operations.

Contributed tangible capital assets are recorded as revenue at their fair market value on the date of donation, except in circumstances where fair value cannot be reasonably determined, when they are then recognized at nominal value. Transfers of tangible capital assets from related parties are recorded at carrying value.

**(g) Employee future benefits**

- (i) The cost of accumulating, non-vesting sick leave benefits is calculated based upon management's best estimate of its employees' sick leave utilization rates, sick leave balances, annual sick leave entitlements and current salary levels.
- (ii) Under the Rooms Act, Corporation employees are considered to be employed in the public service for the purposes of the Public Service Pensions Act, 2019. Employee contributions are matched by the Province and remitted to Provident<sup>10</sup> from which pensions will be paid to employees when they retire. This pension plan is a multi-employer, defined benefit plan, providing a pension on retirement based on the member's age at retirement, length of service and the average of their best six years of earnings for service on or after January 1, 2015, and, for service before January 1, 2015, the higher of the average of the frozen best five years of earnings up to January 1, 2015, or the average of the best six years of earnings for all service.

The contributions of the Corporation to the plan is recorded as an expense for the year.

**THE ROOMS CORPORATION OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**March 31, 2022**

---

**2. Summary of significant accounting policies (cont.)**

**(h) Revenues**

Revenues are recognized in the period in which the transaction or events occurred that gave rise to the revenues. All revenues are recorded on an accrual basis, except when the accruals cannot be determined with a reasonable degree of certainty or when the estimation is impracticable.

Government transfers (Province of Newfoundland and Labrador grants and Government of Canada grants) are recognized as revenues when the transfer is authorized and any eligibility criteria are met, except when and to the extent that transfer stipulations give rise to an obligation that meets the definition of a liability. Transfers are recognized as deferred revenue when transfer stipulations give rise to a liability. Transfer revenue is recognized in the statement of operations as the stipulations giving rise to the liabilities are settled.

**(i) Donations**

Donations are comprised of contributions received from individuals, foundations and corporations.

Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the statement of operations when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

Contributions externally restricted for specific projects or expenses are recognized as deferred revenue in the statement of financial position and recognized in the statement of operations in the fiscal year in which the related expenses are incurred.

**(j) Expenses**

Expenses are reported on an accrual basis. The cost of all goods consumed and services received during the year are recorded as an expense in that year.

**(k) Volunteers**

During normal operations, volunteers contribute significant hours in support of the Corporation. Their activities include guided gallery and museum tours and a variety of programs that enrich the visitor's experience. Due to the ongoing global COVID-19 pandemic, volunteers were not readily utilized by the Corporation during the 2021 and 2022 fiscal years. Due to the complexity involved in valuing these services under normal operating circumstances, they are not reflected in the financial statements.

**THE ROOMS CORPORATION OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**March 31, 2022**

---

**2. Summary of significant accounting policies (cont.)**

**(l) Measurement uncertainty**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with CPSAS requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reporting amounts of assets and liabilities, and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities, at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of the revenues and expenses during the period. Items requiring the use of significant estimates include the expected useful life of tangible capital assets, estimated employee future benefits and the valuation of donated acquisitions.

Estimates are based on the best information available at the time of preparation of the financial statements and are reviewed annually to reflect new information as it becomes available. Measurement uncertainty exists in these financial statements. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

**(m) Accounting pronouncement**

The PSAB has issued PS 3280 - Asset Retirement Obligations which is effective for fiscal years beginning on or after April 1, 2022. This is a new standard on how to account for and report legal obligations associated with the retirement of tangible capital assets. The standard has not been applied in these financial statements.

The Corporation plans to adopt this standard by the effective date and is currently analyzing the impact the standard will have on the financial statements.

**3. Accounts receivable**

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
Province of Newfoundland and Labrador	<b>\$ 2,495,585</b>	\$ 2,060,430
Government of Canada	<b>608,250</b>	750,000
Harmonized Sales Tax	<b>159,513</b>	73,186
Other	<b>116,168</b>	50,815
	<b>\$ 3,379,516</b>	\$ 2,934,431

There is no allowance for doubtful accounts as all amounts are considered collectible.

**THE ROOMS CORPORATION OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**March 31, 2022**

---

**4. Restricted cash**

The following funds, which have external conditions placed on their use, have been received and deposited with the Corporation's general funds and are reported in these financial statements as restricted cash.

	2022	2021
Corporate Donor – Educational Programming	\$ -	\$ 310,274
Canada Council – Art Gallery	50,000	-
Art Bank – Indigenous Artwork Acquisitions	170,000	-
Art Gallery – Private Donor Art Acquisition	4,763	-
Art Gallery – Permanent Collections Donations	25,625	25,625
Private Donor – B-17 Bomber Exhibit	1,600	1,600
Private Donors – First World War Exhibition	416,772	316,772
Private Donor – Regional Museums	5,000	5,000
Provincial Government – Public Programming	267,500	30,000
Provincial Government – Regional Museums	6,650	6,650
Private Donor – Archives	1,000	-
Acquisitions Fund	11,200	-
The Rooms Foundation - FWW Exhibit Fund	165,733	165,733
	<b>\$ 1,125,843</b>	<b>\$ 861,654</b>

**5. Accounts payable and accrued liabilities**

	2022	2021
Trade accounts payable	\$ 843,954	\$ 580,586
Accrued salaries	31,230	17,304
Accrued overtime and leave	327,996	306,103
	<b>\$ 1,203,180</b>	<b>\$ 903,993</b>

**6. Employee future benefits**

**(a) Employee future benefits liability**

Employee future benefits consist of:

	2022	2021
Severance pay	\$ 30,737	\$ 30,737
Accumulating, non-vesting sick leave benefit liability	76,768	72,091
	<b>\$ 107,505</b>	<b>\$ 102,828</b>

**6. Employee future benefits (cont.)**

**(b) Employee future benefits**

**(i) Severance pay**

Severance was traditionally payable when the non-unionized employee ceased employment with the Corporation, provided no severance had been paid by Government or another Crown corporation or agency for the same period.

During the 2017-18 fiscal year, the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador signed a new collective agreement with the union representing the Corporation's unionized employees. The Corporation's unionized employees with at least one year of service were entitled to one week of salary for each complete year of service to March 31, 2018, to a maximum of 20 weeks. Unionized employees will not accrue severance after March 31, 2018.

Unionized employees had the option of receiving their severance entitlement prior to March 31, 2019 or deferring the receipt of their entitlement to a later date.

Severance was accounted for on an accrual basis and was calculated based upon years of service and current salary levels.

There were no severance payments to employees in 2021-22. The remaining severance liability payable to employees at March 31, 2022 is \$30,737 (2021 - \$30,737), representing severance owing to employees who deferred receiving their severance entitlement.

On May 31, 2018, the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador enacted legislation affecting severance pay for executives, managers and non-management/non-union employees. Effective June 1, 2018, these non-unionized employees with at least one year of continuous service were entitled to one week of salary for each complete year of service to a maximum of 20 weeks. The value of severance was based on an employee's rate of pay as of May 31, 2018, and no additional severance accrued beyond May 31, 2018. Employees had the option to receive all of their entitlement by March 31, 2019, or to defer receiving their entitlement to a later date. There is no remaining severance liability at March 31, 2022 for these employees.

**6. Employee future benefits (cont.)**

**(b) Employee future benefits (cont.)**

**(ii) Accumulating, non-vesting sick leave benefits**

All unionized employees hired before May 4, 2004, are credited with 2 days per month and all unionized employees hired thereafter are credited with 1 day per month for use as paid absences in the year due to illness. Employees are allowed to accumulate unused sick day credits each year, up to the allowable maximum provided in their respective employment agreement. Accumulated credits may be used in future years to the extent that the employee's illness exceeds the current year's allocation of credits. The use of accumulated sick days for sick leave compensation ceases on termination of employment.

**(iii) Pension contributions**

The Corporation and its employees contribute to the Public Service Pension Plan in accordance with the Public Service Pensions Act, 2019 (the Act). The plan is administered by Provident<sup>10</sup>, including payment of pension benefits to employees to whom the Act applies.

The maximum contribution rate for eligible employees was 11.85% (2021 - 11.85%). The Corporation's contributions equal the employee contributions to the plan. The pension expense for the Corporation for the year ended March 31, 2022 was \$332,509 (2021 - \$350,669).

Employees who do not qualify to participate in the Public Service Pension Plan (for example, part-time employees) participate in the Government Money Purchase Pension Plan (GMPP). The GMPP is a defined contribution plan which was established under the Government Money Purchase Pension Plan Act. Employees are required to contribute 5% of regular earnings which is matched by the Corporation. Employees may make additional voluntary contributions, however, the maximum amount for all contributions may not exceed the lesser of 18% of an employee's earnings and the maximum amount allowed as specified under the Income Tax Act. Total GMPP expense for the Corporation for the year ended March 31, 2022 was \$14,369 (2021 - \$11,045).

**THE ROOMS CORPORATION OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**March 31, 2022**

---

**7. Deferred revenue**

Deferred revenues are set aside for specific purposes as required either by legislation, regulation or agreement. Since the conditions relating to their use have not been met, recognition of the revenues has been deferred and the funds received are recorded as restricted cash as disclosed in Note 4. As at March 31, 2022, funds received or receivable are reported as follows:

	<b>Balance at beginning of year</b>	<b>Receipts during year</b>	<b>Transferred to revenue</b>	<b>Balance at end of year</b>
Donations	\$ 825,004	\$ 239,189	\$ (336,250)	\$ 727,943
Federal Government	561,199	658,250	(571,478)	647,971
Provincial Government	36,650	617,070	(26,000)	627,720
	<b>\$ 1,422,853</b>	<b>\$ 1,514,509</b>	<b>\$ (933,728)</b>	<b>\$ 2,003,634</b>

**8. Tangible capital assets**

**Original Cost**

	<b>Balance March 31, 2021</b>	<b>Additions</b>	<b>Disposals/ Transfers</b>	<b>Balance March 31, 2022</b>
Furniture	\$ 860,762	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 860,762
Equipment	1,240,811	112,157	-	1,352,968
Motor vehicles	37,430	-	-	37,430
Building improvements	15,453,445	338,319	10,970	15,802,734
Capital assets transferred (Note 9)	1	-	-	1
Work in progress	217,802	473,019	(10,970)	679,851
	<b>\$ 17,810,251</b>	<b>\$ 923,495</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 18,733,746</b>

**THE ROOMS CORPORATION OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**March 31, 2022**

---

**8. Tangible capital assets (cont.)**

**Accumulated Amortization**

	Balance March 31, 2021	Amortization	Disposals	Balance March 31, 2022	Net book value March 31, 2022	Net book value March 31, 2021
Furniture	\$ 772,900	\$ 26,900	\$ -	\$ 799,800	\$ 60,962	\$ 87,862
Equipment	1,158,694	67,697	-	1,226,391	126,577	82,117
Motor vehicles	29,409	3,209	-	32,618	4,812	8,021
Building Improvements	4,324,899	683,753	-	5,008,652	10,794,082	11,128,546
Capital assets transferred (Note 9)	1	-	-	1	-	-
Work in progress	-	-	-	-	679,851	217,802
	<b>\$ 6,285,903</b>	<b>\$ 781,559</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 7,067,462</b>	<b>\$ 11,666,284</b>	<b>\$ 11,524,348</b>

These financial statements do not include the value of "The Rooms" building out of which the Provincial Archives, Art Gallery and Museum Divisions of the Corporation operate. Ownership of the building, which cost \$49.3 million to construct, is held by the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure on behalf of the Province. Ownership of buildings located throughout the Province which house regional museums are also held by the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure on behalf of the Province.

**9. Capital assets transferred to the Corporation**

During 2003-04, The Rooms Corporation of Newfoundland and Labrador Inc. assumed title to the capital assets of the Provincial Archives, the Provincial Museum and the Art Gallery of Newfoundland and Labrador. These assets have been transferred to the Corporation. The costs and accumulated amortization of these assets are unknown and a reasonable estimate of the amounts involved could not be determined. Therefore, the cost has been recorded as \$1 and the accumulated amortization has been recorded at \$1.

**THE ROOMS CORPORATION OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**March 31, 2022**

---

**10. Commercial operations**

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
Admission revenue	<b>\$ 376,423</b>	\$ 96,002
Gift shop sales	<b>277,216</b>	119,181
Parking revenue	<b>38,583</b>	12,823
Other revenue	<b>169,851</b>	150,886
Interest income	<b>72,920</b>	71,006
	<b>\$ 934,993</b>	<b>\$ 449,898</b>

**11. Related party transactions**

Province of Newfoundland and Labrador

The Corporation is a Crown Corporation of the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador reporting through the Minister of the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts and Recreation. During the year, the Corporation recognized \$7,123,488 (2021 - \$6,991,686) in grant revenue from the Province, including deferred revenue recognized in the fiscal year in which it is spent.

Expenses incurred by the Province related to salaries and contributions to employee benefits during the year totaled \$4,274,399 (2021 - \$4,226,288). Included in these totals are employer paid benefit costs of \$648,114 (2021 - \$653,086). These amounts are reflected in the financial statements as salary expense and are offset by the grant revenue received from the Province.

There were no amounts paid during the current or prior year related to the settlement of employee severance benefits.

The Rooms Corporation operates in four (4) provincially owned buildings located across the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador including: The Rooms, 9 Bonaventure Avenue, St. John's; Provincial Seamen's Museum, Grand Bank; Demasduit Regional Museum, Grand Falls-Windsor; and the Labrador Interpretation Centre, Northwest River, Labrador.

The Province provides the Corporation with buildings and space, and related building services, for use as regional museums, storage and workshops in various locations throughout the Province at no cost to the Corporation. Information technology services and legal services are also provided to the Corporation by the Province at no cost. The value of these spaces and the services provided is not readily determinable and therefore are not reflected in these financial statements.

Accounts receivable includes \$2,495,585 (2021 - \$2,060,430) due from the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador through the normal course of business.

**THE ROOMS CORPORATION OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**March 31, 2022**

---

**12. Colonial Building Political History Interpretation Project**

Under a Memorandum of Understanding between the Corporation and the Province signed on March 31, 2009, the Corporation, as Project sponsor, became responsible for financial administration of a Project to renovate the Colonial Building into a heritage interpretation centre. The original Memorandum of Understanding was replaced by a new Memorandum of Understanding that was signed on December 14, 2011. Under the new Memorandum of Understanding, the Corporation continued as Project sponsor until the Project's expected completion.

On December 1, 2008, an Agreement (the Agreement) respecting a Project called "Colonial Building Political History Interpretation" was signed between the Corporation and the Government of Canada. The Agreement provided funding for the renovation of the Colonial Building in the maximum amount of \$748,335. On March 8, 2010, the Agreement was amended to reduce the maximum contribution from the Government of Canada to \$695,512.

As title to and use of the Colonial Building remains with the Province, the Corporation does not capitalize the renovations to the Colonial Building. Additionally, expenses of the project are not reported on the Corporation's statement of operations, and the unexpended funds held in trust are not reported on the Corporation's statement of financial position. The Corporation is provided with an annual administration fee that is recorded as revenue. In addition, interest earned on the funds held in trust is recorded as revenue by the Corporation.

Since the start of the Agreement to March 31, 2022, the Corporation has received funds totaling \$22,465,112 (2021 - \$22,465,112) and incurred expenses totaling \$19,515,015 (2021 - \$17,403,461) related to the Project. During the year ended March 31, 2022, expenses of \$2,111,554 (2021 - \$320,445) were incurred related to the Project. The balance of funds held in trust by the Corporation as at March 31, 2022 was \$2,950,097 (2021 - \$5,061,651). During 2021-22, the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador committed an additional \$1,150,000 in funding to the Colonial building restoration project. The amount was receivable at March 31, 2022, and subsequently received by the Corporation in April 2022.

**13. Contractual obligations**

**(a) Facility Management Contract**

In October 2018, the Corporation awarded a new facility management contract to Brookfield Global Integrated Solutions Canada for an initial 5 year term with an option to renew. This contract represents commitments of approximately \$132,000 per month through September 2023.

**THE ROOMS CORPORATION OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**March 31, 2022**

---

**13. Contractual obligations (cont.)**

(b) Equipment Lease

The Corporation has entered into lease agreement for the rental of office equipment. Approximate payment of these obligations in future years is as follows:

2023	2,448
2024	2,448
	<u>\$ 4,896</u>

**14. Donated acquisitions**

Donated acquisitions, or non-cash gifts, are gifts of art work, archival documents and historical and cultural artifacts that the Corporation has received, and for which a tax receipt has been issued to the donor based on an appraised value, and are included in the Corporation's permanent collections. Donated acquisitions are not reflected in the Corporation's financial statements. During the year, the Corporation issued receipts for non-cash donations of \$486,937 (2021 - \$861,598).

**15. Budget**

Budgeted figures, which have been prepared on a cash basis, are provided for comparison purposes and have been derived from the estimates approved by the Corporation's Board.

**16. Financial risk management**

The Corporation recognizes the importance of managing risks and this includes policies, procedures and oversight designed to reduce risks identified to an appropriate threshold. The Corporation is exposed to credit risk, liquidity risk and market risk through its financial instruments. There were no significant changes in the Corporation's exposure to these risks or its processes for managing these risks from the prior year.

Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that one party to a financial instrument will cause a financial loss for the other party by failing to discharge an obligation. The Corporation's main credit risk relates to cash, restricted cash and accounts receivable. The Corporation's maximum exposure to credit risk is the carrying amounts of these financial instruments.

The Corporation is not exposed to significant credit risk with its cash and restricted cash because this financial instrument is held with a Chartered Bank. The Corporation is not exposed to significant credit risk related to its accounts receivable as it has policies and

**16. Financial risk management (cont.)**

procedures for the monitoring and collection of its accounts receivable so as to mitigate potential credit losses. Any estimated impairment of these accounts receivable has been provided for through a provision for doubtful accounts as disclosed in Note 3.

Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Corporation will be unable to meet its contractual obligations and financial liabilities. The Corporation's exposure to liquidity risk relates mainly to its accounts payable and accrued liabilities, and its contractual obligations. The Corporation manages liquidity risk by monitoring its cash flows and ensuring that it has sufficient resources available to meet its contractual obligations and financial liabilities. The future minimum payments required from the Corporation in relation to its contractual obligations are outlined in Note 13.

Market risk

Market risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. Common market risks include currency (foreign exchange) risk, interest rate risk and commodity (price) risk. The Corporation is not exposed to significant market risk due to the nature of its operations.

**17. Non-financial assets**

The recognition and measurement of non-financial assets is based on their service potential. These assets will not provide resources to discharge liabilities of the Corporation. For non-financial assets, the future economic benefit consists of their capacity to render service to further the Corporation's objectives.

**18. Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on results and operations**

The COVID-19 pandemic, declared March 11, 2020, resulted in The Rooms building closing to the public on March 17, 2020. While the financial impact on the Corporation in the 2019-20 fiscal year were minimal, impacts were felt much more extensively during 2020-21. On June 29, 2020, The Rooms and the regional museums reopened to the public for the 2020 tourist season. Upon reopening there were significantly reduced visitation due to the ongoing global pandemic and almost non-existent tourism activity, which resulted in dramatically reduced revenues for the year ending March 31, 2021. A second closure announced on February 11, 2021 resulted in an additional month of lost revenue and visitation until reopening on March 16, 2021.

While there were no closures of The Rooms to the public during 2021-22, normalized visitation and revenues have not yet returned. Due to the unpredictability and unknown duration of any future COVID-19 restrictions that may be placed on operations, it is difficult to ascertain the potential future impacts.

**THE ROOMS CORPORATION OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**March 31, 2022**

---

**19. Unrecoverable HST**

The Rooms status as a registered charity limits the amount of HST rebate available to HST paid on operating expenses by the Corporation. As a result, a significant amount of unrecoverable HST is realized annually.

Effective March 31, 2020, the unrecoverable HST amount previously disclosed in the financial statements on Schedule 1 was reallocated to the various HST applicable expenses reflected on Schedule 1.

During 2021-22, unrecoverable HST totaling \$202,985 (2021 - \$179,460) was reallocated among the Corporate Services & Building Operations expenses. For fiscal years including, and prior to, March 31, 2020, unrecoverable HST was presented as a separate line item on Schedule 1.

**THE ROOMS CORPORATION OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR**  
**REVENUES AND EXPENSES BY SECTOR**  
For the Year Ended March 31, 2022

**SCHEDULE 1**

	Corporate Services and Building Operations	Archives Division	Art Gallery Division	Museum Division and Regional Museums	Education Programs	2022 Total	2021 Total
<b>REVENUES</b>							
Province of Newfoundland & Labrador							
Operating grants	\$ 4,146,118	\$ 652,118	\$ 427,225	\$ 1,077,491	\$ 172,422	\$ 6,475,374	\$ 6,338,600
Contribution to employee benefits (Note 11)	167,222	139,387	103,640	164,936	72,929	648,114	653,086
Commercial operations (Note 10)	814,536	8,844	83,545	13,286	14,782	934,993	449,898
Government of Canada	571,478	-	250,000	-	-	821,478	528,801
Corporate sponsorship	50,000	-	-	-	286,250	336,250	175,976
External funding	2,230	6,000	-	2,004	-	10,234	3,652
	<u>5,751,584</u>	<u>806,349</u>	<u>864,410</u>	<u>1,257,717</u>	<u>546,383</u>	<u>9,226,443</u>	<u>8,150,013</u>
<b>EXPENSES (Note 19)</b>							
Advertising and promotion	72,603	-	2,391	-	-	74,994	93,173
Amortization	781,559	-	-	-	-	781,559	830,333
Appraisals and acquisitions	-	10,999	90,359	262	-	101,620	105,288
Building expenses	2,396,538	-	50,818	46,300	6,297	2,499,953	2,055,686
Conference and registration fees	3,467	2,112	726	1,135	150	7,590	10,990
Core programming	42,122	10,012	218,909	24,907	24,008	319,958	293,621
Cost of gift shop	348,442	-	-	1,994	-	350,436	228,845
Employee future benefits	185,264	142,091	101,607	166,623	79,099	674,684	671,380
Meeting expenses	1,128	137	215	5	-	1,485	1,307
Office equipment and supplies	30,410	3,602	2,001	7,377	4,131	47,521	51,477
Professional services	102,405	45	23,006	8,060	23,176	156,692	91,318
Salaries	1,238,061	635,829	364,073	981,568	406,754	3,626,285	3,573,202
Telecommunications and courier	41,321	1,522	3,255	9,114	2,768	57,980	53,567
Travel	10,203	-	7,050	10,372	-	27,625	25,233
	<u>5,253,523</u>	<u>806,349</u>	<u>864,410</u>	<u>1,257,717</u>	<u>546,383</u>	<u>8,728,382</u>	<u>8,085,420</u>
Annual surplus	\$ 498,061	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 498,061	\$ 64,593