

Theatre On The Edge Annual Report

From the first meeting I attended somewhere around January 2015 full of enthusiastic dreaming, to the first day of the festival, July 24, when we grinned like idiots to see all the people coming to the first show, it's been a blast! Thanks to the board of Shuswap Theatre for trusting me to steer this 'little festival that could'.

The fact that almost 800 tickets were sold over the weekend, that we provided a place for seven different plays to be seen over the weekend, and that people raved about the unique experience of the festival has been, I believe, proof of the concept.

In many ways, the technical aspect of the festival was our shining light. I know that the artists felt that their needs were all looked after and then some. For such a tight and gruelling schedule, almost every show ran on time, a testament to the commitment and professionalism of our tech crew. Mike Nash was everyone's anchor - unfailingly positive, enthusiastic and thoroughly proficient!

The Edge Club turned out to be a really essential part of the Theatre on the Edge experience. It provided a relaxed and animated space for people to hang out between shows, and meet friends and performers. The live music was a huge part of creating that 'buzz' that we had initially envisioned for the festival.

The budget showed a profit of \$1028 on about a \$12000 budget. Every artist/group that came made at least \$100 above their registration fee of \$200, and some took home considerably more. Most items came in fairly close to what was budgeted, or under. Fortunately RBC came on board with a \$1000 sponsorship, as SASCU's contribution came in at only \$500.

What's next: The first planning meeting will be held near the end of October. There is no shortage of good ideas! I suggest that we create a slightly more formal steering committee structure to ensure that everyone's enthusiasm and good ideas get put to the best use. Respectfully submitted
Jaci Metivier

