

O-Zone Report 2013-14

- This year was a major challenge to our OZone Board as we lost our secretary, Don Rampone, who was the “Master Organizer” and communicator to all. He has had a running dispute with Theatre BC regarding his Information Newsletter, that we all agreed as Zone members, was amazing, and it was certainly in compliance with what the Theatre BC constitution was about. He left a very big hole to fill in a short amount of time but we scrambled and managed to put together, under Penny Bayne’s leadership, a fairly successful Zone Festival hosted again by Vernon. Strategically, being a combined effort and only HOSTED by Vernon did lead to challenges but, for the most part, they were overcome. It was decided, Vernon would be the venue again in May 2015 with assistance from other clubs, albeit later in the month.
- Shuswap Theatre did well at the Ozone Festival. We brought home five awards including Best Ensemble. We also had one of the best attendances during the Festival with our play!
- The winning play “Red” presented by Fred Skeleton Theatre of Kelowna went on to win Main Stage in Kamloops in July! We hosted a performance of the play just before MainStage here at Shuswap Theatre and had an excellent turnout, one of the largest they had! We had 84 people for that performance and the show was well received here. As a group they appreciated the opportunity to perform just before Festival and thanks go to Marcus, Aidan, and Kim for getting their performance here.
- As a result of the issues with Theatre BC, we have a new Zone Secretary, Andrew Powell, of Kelowna and a new Vice Chair, Adele Kuyck who has a lot experience in the Zone on the Board and the Theatre BC Board in past years. Deb Nicholson was encouraged to stay on as chair, as she had done an amazing job for her first term.
- The Zone is hoping that the 2015-16 Festival will move to either Kelowna or Penticton ☺

Respectfully submitted by Cilla Budda