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February 25, 2021

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Bowen Library and Arts Council Awarded \$398,000 in Provincial infrastructure funds
Completing the Snug Cove Cultural Corner at Cove Commons in 2021

Bowen Island, BC – Bowen Island Public Library Foundation and The Hearth - Arts on Bowen are thrilled to announce that we have been successful in our grant application for funding to complete the Snug Cove Cultural Corner. The Library Foundation has been awarded \$398,000 from the Province of BC's Community Economic Recovery Infrastructure Program (CERIP) to construct a public community square at the Cove Commons. The project includes an outdoor covered stage, additional covered seating areas, expansion of the plaza and walkways, and completion of hard and soft landscaping around both the Library and the Gallery.

The funding is part of BC's Community Economic Recovery Infrastructure Program (CERIP), a \$100-million provincially funded umbrella program providing one-time infrastructure funding grants. The Bowen Library Foundation is receiving funding through CERIP's Community Economic Resilience stream investing in small scale public use infrastructure projects to support economic recovery.

Chief Librarian Tina Nielsen was more than thrilled to receive the news. *"The timeline for the grant application was very tight, but we essentially had a shovel ready project coming from the original vision of the Cove Commons plaza"* said Nielsen.

This project has been part of the vision for the Cove Commons since 2018. Successful fundraising in 2016 and 2017 allowed for the construction of a 2800 square foot addition to the Library building which is shared by the Hearth's Gallery and the Library's Annex. The creation of a cultural corner has been the vision for the Cove Commons and funds are now available to complete that vision.

Library Board Chair, Susan Munro, says *"expect to see construction this summer and fall! The project could be completed by the end of 2021 or perhaps earlier. This will be a wonderful addition to our civic spaces."* Jami Scheffer, the Hearth Executive Director added, *"the Snug Cove Cultural Corner, in the heart of Snug Cove, will offer residents and visitors opportunities to participate in cultural events, enjoy public art and to safely socialize in a beautiful outdoor setting."*

Bowen Island Public Library Foundation supports the work and services of the Bowen Island Public Library and has previously partnered with the Hearth-Arts on Bowen (Bowen Island Arts Council) to construct the Cove Commons addition to the Library building.

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