

Innovations Advisory Panelists - January 2006

Charles Campbell edited the *Georgia Straight* for 11 years and worked as the entertainment editor and an editorial board member at the *Vancouver Sun* for five years. He is a frequent judge for national and regional journalism competitions, and has even won a few honours, including the 2005 Western Magazine Award for public-issue features. In 2000-01, he was a Southam Fellow at the University of Toronto's Massey College. He currently works as a freelance writer and is a contributing editor to the B.C. news and culture website *The Tyee*.

Kym Gouchie is a member of the Lheidli T'enneh Nation near Prince George, BC. She is a professional musician, painter, new media artist, filmmaker and advocate for the arts. She has worked in the arts and culture industry for more than 15 years and has worked as an arts and culture teacher and an after school child care manager up in the Peace River Territory for 8 years which eventually led her into the arts administration field. She moved to Penticton in 2002 and was hired as the Indigenous Arts Service Organization (IASO)'s Provincial Festival Coordinator and arts administrative assistant. Since 2003, Kym has been coordinating Multidisciplinary Indigenous Arts Festivals in three different Indigenous BC communities each summer as well as coordinating Indigenous Film Exhibitions in the Okanagan Valley. Arts and culture continues to play an important role in all aspects of Kym's life... something that she has generously passed on to her four children.

Robb Mowbray has served as Executive Director for Theatre BC, the provincial arts service organization representing community theatre, since 1999. Prior to that he spent over ten years on Theatre BC's Board of Directors, including two years as President (1992-1994), before being hired on as staff in the provincial office in 1996. Robb also served as Theatre BC's representative on the Artsconnect.bc.ca *Communities Connect* website project, involving seven Arts Service Organizations. He worked on website projects for Theatre BC and the Crafts Association of BC. His involvement in the arts includes experience in dance, music and theatre.

Bill Usher is a senior artist who recently moved from Ontario to Golden. Throughout a 40 year career as a writer, performer and producer, Bill has received numerous awards including three Juno Awards, and artist grants from the Canada Council, the Ontario Arts Council and ArtStarts. Bill has been active in the business of the arts working in both the private sector as a managing owner of two record companies (Elephant Records, Kids' Records) and in the public sector with the Ontario Arts Council, the Toronto Arts Council, the Ministry of Culture (Ontario), Kicking Horse Culture in Golden. Bill is Vice Chair of the Columbia Kootenay Cultural Alliance Steering Committee and sits on the Board of ArtStarts in Schools. Read more about Bill's new album of "good-getting-older" love songs at www.billusher.com.