

Kindle Arts Society

IMBY Afterburn

report

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Executive report

Overall, IMBY was an exceptional success. This is partly attributed to incredible weather that we could not have predicted, but this is proof that the date selected was a great choice. We aim for a similar date in 2019. Another factor in the success of IMBY was that both co-leads were committed to a focus on a few select main goals. We continually revisited them throughout the planning process, and made sure all decisions made were in support of the goals.

IMBY main goals:

- Build a relationship with the city, fire department and police department
- Keep the list of happenings and art projects manageable and not overly controversial
- Showcase the burner style and 10 principles (decommodification, inclusion, gifting, expression) to the wider Victoria population

One of our main challenges was recruiting team leads. There is the challenge of trying to demonstrate our vision when there is no concrete example or event to point to. Doing something new is always going to have this challenge. We were initially concerned about the amount of art and theme camps expressing interest in attending, but in the end, were overwhelmed by the level of participation and had to expand our placement plan in order to fit everything at the venue. We anticipate it being significantly easier to recruit sufficient team leads for the 2019 event now that the community has seen what the event will look like.

The City has already asked us to come back and let us know that we are eligible for grants to help make IMBY 2019 happen. In addition, lots of theme camps and artists have good ideas for next year, having seen it happen this year. We have some recommendations for the lead team next year to avoid over-work and improve the visuals of the event.

DPW

What went well

- Almost everyone showed up for their shift.
- It was an "easy" event with many hands on deck and not much to do in the first year

What could be improved

- We have to get a list of "things we can touch and or erect/assemble".
 - It's better that we don't do anything if we aren't sure of the instructions. Leaving the paid help work so strange things don't happen - and if they do it's under the supervision of those people.
 - No one does anything for the on-site host employees unless it has gone through the lead first. Period.

- That includes if a different task is to be performed, then the lead has to approve that task for that person also.
- We were over-staffed
 - We need to reflect more on actual needs ahead of time
- I thought that volunteers from the teams were defaulted to the sign-in list - but they weren't
 - It makes the most sense for the person who is printing the list for the teams to print off everyone; as opposed to having the team leads submit lists of people. (Unknown if Volcor has the ability to print those in a *TeamName->PersonNameList* format)

Rangers

IMBY was supported by BC Rangers through delivery of both ranger services and pre-event training for returning and prospective rangers. This event took place earlier than usual in the summer event cycle, which was challenging for BCR trainers, and may have affected turnout. Ranger turnout for both the training and the event was good, with only one person who trained, and then did not show up for the shift that was assigned to them. We're unclear if this was a no-show or a communications issue where the ranger might not have even known that they were scheduled.

Because some rangers were unable to attend the training, a ride along program was proposed and implemented.

Pilot Program: Ranger Ride Along

Ranger Ride Along is a new and experimental initiative to invite the ranger-curious to shadow a pair of experienced rangers on their shift. This offers them an opportunity observe rangers in action, and gives rangers an opportunity to show what we're all about. To sign up, prospective rangers should report to Ranger HQ and ask Khaki for a Ride Along. Returning rangers who have not yet trained in 2018 are also welcome in Ride Along slots!

There was also some feedback received around the messaging that went out regarding the emphasis on calling for "experienced rangers" which may have deterred some people from attending the training, which was not our intention. Better care will be taken for future events with similar messaging.

No ranger incidents were logged, and the event proceeded with many smiling faces all around. The only issue of note was a bit of yelling between two persons at the venue who were not associated with the event. That interaction was concluded without ranger intervention and the arguing parties separated and left the area travelling in different directions.

Overall, this was a fun event, and we look forward to doing it again in future years.

Stage/Live performance

What went well:

- all artists showed up on time, with their music. Karina came to perform in stilts.
- everyone (performers and audiences) was happy to perform and no one complain (to my knowledge :/)

- timing and orga with Zaireeka went well, no overlap, all artists were able to perform with their music
- I did not anticipated that I would have to announce the artists on the MIC, but that went well.
- Flow jam was great too.
- The tech guy from the city was really helpful, and when he got a tech issue, he was able to get assistance right away. I think he enjoyed the Zaireeka show a lot too ;)

What could have been better:

- unfortunately, Alice only got one attendee to her Playshop, she was a bit disappointed by this.
- I forgot to send a thank you email, was exhausted and was sick the whole week after ... but yeah I forgot. Will do now. Plus I would really would like the artists to be able to fill that feedback form!
- I haven't anticipated to bring music to fill the sound when nothing was happening on stage. Thanks Megan for providing music for a while (it was your phone right?)
- I was a bit stressed about the group of skaters that live on the back of the stage, as I definitely did not want to let them feel excluded from the event, but as I also wanted to create the best stage experience for the performers and the audience. They were nice to talk too and they switched spots when I told them that we needed the stage. However I did not monitor the stage before the fire show and it seems that they were some hiccups between them and some others (music not appropriate, skaters crossing the fire perimeter). I did not anticipate this .
- Dee did cancel her participation cause she could not do a full burlesque show. Hopefully the guidelines for next year will allow her to perform.
- I don't have much a graphic hand so the planning I put together was a bit dry. Thanks to who beautified it a bit (Gabriel ?)

For next year:

- Bring music to broadcast when nothing is on
- be prepared to present artists on stage
- be prepared to brief the skaters crowd that we will use most of the space (on stage, space for the audience and space for the fire show)
- be prepared to monitor the stage when nothing on.
- be prepared to be the main point of contact for the tech guy from the city (really easy :))
- work with the city to see if we can "loosen" the guidelines for burlesque performance.
- advertise more about What-Who-When ? Most artists advertised themselves on Facebook so I don't know what could be done better regarding this.

Fire Show

The fire show at IMBY went well, 11 performers, 4 fire techs and 4 perimeter "wow'd the crowd" There were no incidents or injuries.

Unfortunately, there were three volunteer cancellations the day of, and one cancellation the day prior to IMBY, causing a shift in roles of the attending volunteers.

Thank you Heather for letting us move the fire show over to in front of the McPherson windows area, the level ground and far more open space, provided a far safer area for the performers to show off their talents and the safeties to perform their duties.

The biggest issue experienced was the performer roster. With the short time and small space, it would have been exceptionally difficult to include everyone. But the local location and free cost, had "everyone"

wanting to perform.... Aside from the original 12 performers, I was approached by almost 23 other people requesting to perform, two thirds of those had never been involved with a Kindle fire show in the past. Only two seemed upset they hadn't been included.

The music went well, Dave Dirk provided us with an original soundtrack, both the audience and the performers enjoyed. It was also awesome for the performers to actually hear the music which has been a major issue at other Kindle events in the past.

There is room for a few more performers next year, should another fire show be desired in that location.

LNT

What went well - good support from producers, Volcor is awesome at organizing and wrangling volunteers, community support and engagement, great culture of volunteerism makes things easy. We know how to LNT well!

City-provided garbage bins made it particularly easy, as there was always a bin nearby. Well prepared with large, sturdy garbage bags and gloves for volunteers.

What didn't go well - not recognizing that the city-provided bins would need to be emptied! Ew. Gross. But managed due to previously mentioned awesome volunteers equipped with gloves and sturdy garbage bags :)

For next time, make sure you buy the GOOD garbage bags again. And maybe some small bags for MOOP teams to easily carry around when on patrol.

Budget

We asked KindleArts for a maximum of \$5,000 and came in just under \$4,000. Next year we can apply for City of Victoria grants. We would also recommend not using City infrastructure to save a large portion of the rental cost and hourly wages, plus the potential for damage. Theme camps can get creative or apply for grants for their own!

Item	Projected Amount	Confirmed Amount
Portapotties	\$450	\$450
Insurance	\$500	\$750
Volunteer supplies	\$500	\$200
First Aid St John's Ambulance	\$500	\$400
Noise Exemption Fee	\$50	\$0
Sign printing	\$100	\$54
Stickers	\$80	\$160

Incidentals	\$200	\$300
Infrastructure	\$500	\$500
Damage to canopy	\$0	\$250
City / sound hourly wage	\$2,000	\$1180
LNT	\$23	\$23
Total	\$4,800	\$3,994

Recommendations for 2019

Critical

- Application / standard criteria for entry for fire show- was not inclusive, caused hurt feelings, feels like the popular kids versus not popular
- Split each team lead into two on-duty times so shorter days / enforced breaks
- 3 pm to 11 pm- day was too long and night portion was too short
- Official regional status (since everyone is calling it Burning Man anyways)
- Don't use city equipment (looks industrial and the labor makes it more expensive than it appears; also the potential for breakage)
- More solid plan for wrap up (logistics, what needs to happen and who is responsible) and communicate this plan to all (artists and leads)
- Work with city on recycling/compost/garbage plan
- Placement lead as a necessary role

Suggested

- Darker area for fire show
- Flame effects (Hiltz should have a poofier that doesn't require permitting, but also suggest working with fire department)
- Encourage camps and artists to have better decorations, more space-filling projects
 - Budget in some infrastructure or maybe some decor?
- Encourage applications for chill spaces / home bases
- Call it TWIMBY
- Booth with participation ideas - gifts to re-gift, costume pieces to wear or take
 - Maybe if we get approved for an increased budget we can have event-specific grants and Burning Glam could come?