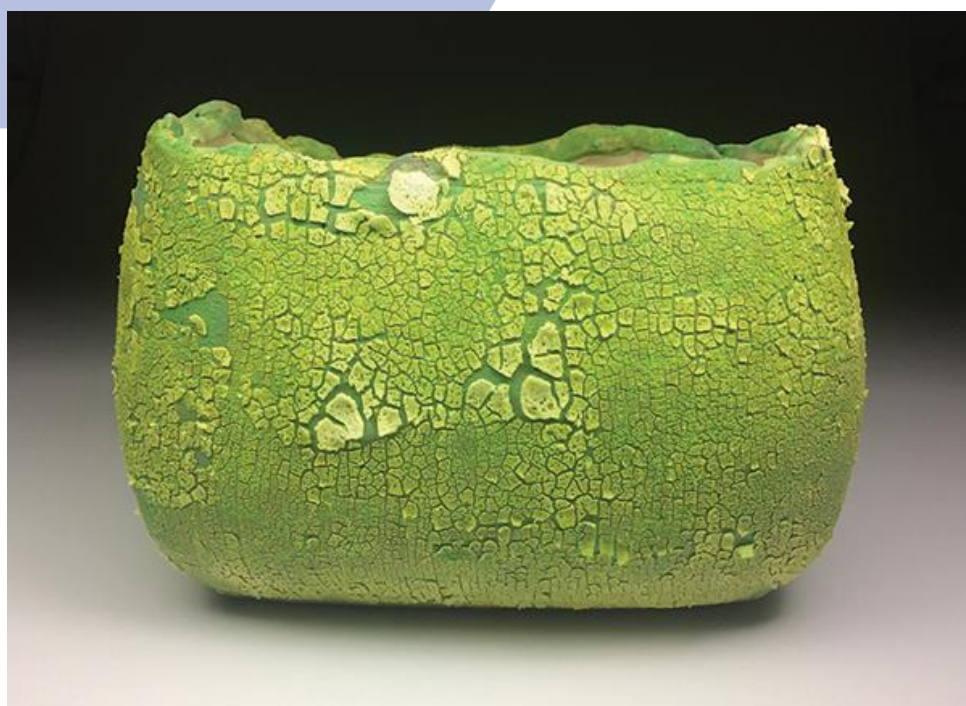


# Maine-New Brunswick Cultural Initiative Task Force

## Phase 5 Report 2017-2018



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# Introduction

## Phase Report

This Phase Report was developed by the New Brunswick Department of Tourism, Heritage and Culture in collaboration with the members of the Maine-New Brunswick Cultural Task Force to highlight initiatives and cross-border collaborative projects over the years of 2017 and 2018. The information included in this report results from the 2010 Memorandum of Understanding between the State of Maine and the Province of New Brunswick. This report is intended to elaborate on important initiatives and partnership events undertaken by the members of the Maine-New Brunswick Cultural Initiative that reflect the continued meaningful collaborative relationship between artists, organization leaders, communities, and cultural stakeholders from Maine and New Brunswick.

The Phase I Report (December 2010), Phase 2 Report (October 2011), Phase 3 Report (October 2014), and Phase 4 Report (December 2016) encompass an overview of the status, priorities, and possibilities outlined in the original agreement. Each report identifies steps taken and tangible initiatives being considered or implemented.

## Task Force Summary

A Memorandum of Understanding Between the State of Maine and the Province of New Brunswick was signed in July 2010 by the former Premier of New Brunswick, the Honorable Shawn Graham, and the former Governor of the State of Maine, Governor John Baldacci with the mandate to “Enhance the Mutual Benefits of Maine/New Brunswick Cultural Relations through the Establishment of a Maine/New Brunswick Cultural Initiative”.

A Task Force was established with representatives from arts and cultural organizations in Maine and New Brunswick. This group is co-administered by representatives of the New Brunswick Department of Tourism, Heritage and Culture (then Department of Wellness, Culture and Sport) and the Maine Arts Commission. The Maine New Brunswick Cultural Task Force continues to hold annual meetings, telephone meetings at regular intervals, and occasional mid-term meetings, while pursuing the goals and objectives outlined in the original document. In addition, the group has supported a series of collaborative exchanges, joint projects, and initiatives that demonstrate successes of the ongoing work of the group.

# Projects & Events

## An Overview



Maine-New Brunswick Cultural Task Force delegates.

### 2017 In-Person Meeting: Saint John, New Brunswick

The 2017 in-person meeting of the Maine-New Brunswick Cultural Task Force took place on May 1 at the New Brunswick Museum in Saint John, NB. The meeting consisted of presentations from: Julie Richard, Maine Arts Commission, about their Cultural Plan; Carmen Gibbs, Association Acadienne des Artistes Professionnel du N.-B. (AAAPNB), about their approach to bringing arts and culture to the heart of Acadian society; Andy McLean and Dean Stairs, East Coast Music Association, regarding the 2018 ECMA Industry Conference, awards, export buyers program, and public outreach; Victoria Clarke, Discover Saint John, about their funding structure. A discussion took place regarding artist-in-residence programs including Hugh French from the Tides Institute & Museum of Art and Peter Larocque of the New Brunswick Museum. This was followed by a general discussion surrounding cultural planning initiatives and measurement tools for implementation.

## 2017 East Coast Music Awards

The 29<sup>th</sup> celebration of the East Coast Music Awards (ECMA) took place in Saint John, NB from April 26 – 30, 2017. ECMA included a festival featuring live showcase performances by emerging and established musicians, a live-streamed awards show, a songwriters' circle, an industry conference, and an international export buyers program. The 2017 Industry Conference engaged artists and industry professionals in educational workshops and peer-to-peer sessions as well as networking and mentorship sessions with regional and international delegates. Over 75 delegates attended the 2017 Export Buyers Program from Canada, the United States, Europe, and the United Kingdom, providing the opportunity to showcase Atlantic Canadian artists to international agents, event and festival programmers, film and music supervisors and media representatives. The following events and centers were represented by delegates from Maine: American Folk Festival on the Bangor Waterfront, the Portland Music Hall, State Theatre, All Roads Music Festival, and New England Celtic Arts. Activities included interactive export business development sessions, one-on-one meetings, networking opportunities, and live performances. A complete list of the 2017 ECMA Awards Show Winners can be found online at [www.ecma.com](http://www.ecma.com).



Maine-New Brunswick Cultural Task Force delegates.

## 2018 In-Person Meeting: Bar Harbour, Maine

The 2018 in-person meeting of the Maine-New Brunswick Cultural Task Force took place May 18 – 19 at the Criterion Theatre in Bar Harbor, Maine. 22 Task Force members were in attendance representing

Maine and New Brunswick. The meeting consisted of a presentation on the Abbe Museum by Cinnamon Catlin-Legutko on the first annual Indian Marketplace. Following that presentation, members provided updates on initiatives and exciting news from their organization or region. Some of the topics discussed include:

- Development of Public Art Policy in New Brunswick, with input provided by Julie Horn from Maine Arts Commission
- Artslink NB Arts Education research project
- Fine Craft in Maine Initiative
- Acadian World Congress 2019 in NB and PEI
- Craft NB Beneath the Surface residency in Fundy National Park

Artist Dawn Spears, the producer of the Indian Market, then offered a special presentation about her work and the event. Tamara Crowley of the Criterion Theatre presented on the history of the theatre, their partner relationships, and strategic plan. This was followed by two discussions. The first topic was Indigenous Initiatives and Potential Partnerships. Key leaders of the discussion were Deborah Donnelly, who provided a debrief on APA Indigenous artists conference and an anti-colonial, inclusive approach to curation and events, and Megan Mainwaring. Mainwaring discussed Indigenous relations with the New Brunswick Museum. Artslink also presented a video on native collections and the Truth and Reconciliation Report was discussed. The second topic was Apprenticeships and Mentorships, led by Kathleen Mundell and Julie Horn. Mundell addressed Maine Traditional Arts Apprenticeships and Horn discussed Apprenticeships in Fine Craft.

At 5:00 pm following the meeting, participants attended the Indian Market Opening Reception at the Abbe Museum.



Photograph courtesy of Abbe Museum in Bar Harbor, Maine.

## Abbe Museum Indian Market

The inaugural Abbe Museum Indian Market took place May 18 – 20, 2018 in Bar Harbor, Maine. The event included Native American performers and artists from 40 Nations from the U.S and Canada, including several Indigenous artists who live in New Brunswick. The inclusion of New Brunswick-based Indigenous artists was a direct result of collaboration between delegates from Maine and New Brunswick. The market featured an Indigenous Film Festival, performances and demonstrations, a Native American Fashion Show, and a Ladies of Native Comedy show. Several Task Force members have identified the Indian Market as a key event with potential for future collaborations between organizations and Indigenous artists from the Maritimes.

## Maine Conference for the Arts

The third biennial Maine International Conference on the Arts (MICA) took place September 27 – 28, 2018 at the University of Southern Maine, Abromson Community Education Centre in Portland, ME. The conference included a Rural Arts Development Pre-Conference, an Opening Reception, the inaugural Maine Arts Awards, professional development sessions, networking opportunities, and pop-up performances. The Maine Arts Awards is a new program to formally recognize excellence and celebrate the arts in Maine communities. Professional development sessions included: Leveraging Investment; Building Capacity; Visibility of the Arts & Cultural Sector; Arts Education & Lifelong Learning; Promoting Cultural Tourism. New Brunswick delegates attended and participated in this event.

## Cross-Border Architecture Publication: A Nine-Year Maine-NB Collaboration

In September 2018, the Tides Institute & Museum of Art (TIMA) of Eastport, Maine co-published the architecture book, *Eastport* with Anchorage Press of Jolicure, New Brunswick. The 216-page hardbound book contains 175 black and white photographs and six thematic essays on the architecture, landscape and community of Eastport, Maine. The photographs are wide ranging and include exterior and interior views of historic buildings, wider streetscape and landscape views, and a series of portraits of trees. The book is the result of a nine-year collaboration between TIMA and NB photographer, Thaddeus Holownia, and NB architect and curator, John Leroux. TIMA sponsored the project throughout the nine years including the publication. Copies of the book can be purchased online through TIMA ([www.tidesinstitute.org](http://www.tidesinstitute.org)) or Anchorage Press (<https://anchoragepress.ca/publications/eastport/>).



Photograph from the Eastport: Architecture Book showing three styles of Eastport, Maine architecture dating from 1824 to 1880. Photograph by Thaddeus Holownia.

## **NB Architect and Curator, John Leroux, Joins Board of Trustees of Tides Institute & Museum of Art**

Fredericton, New Brunswick based architect, curator, historian, and cultural advocate John Leroux has recently joined the board of trustees of the Eastport, Maine based Tides Institute & Museum of Art (TIMA). Leroux is the first Canadian to become a member of TIMA's board of trustees. Leroux has worked at award-winning architecture firms in Toronto, Atlanta, and Fredericton, and was selected to be a team member in Canada's entry at the 2012 Venice Biennale in Architecture. He has won many awards for architectural and public art projects throughout Canada, and has taught at St. Thomas University, the New Brunswick College of Craft & Design, and the University of New Brunswick. He was recently hired as the Manager of Collections and Exhibitions at the Beaverbrook Art Gallery in Fredericton.

## **Artslink NB: Arts Education Research in Collaboration with Maine**

In 2018, Artslink NB launched a new research project to review the state of K-12 arts education throughout New Brunswick in Anglophone and Francophone school districts. In embarking on this research, Artslink consulted with colleagues in Maine, including Argy Ness, Julie Horn, and Julie Richard of the Maine Arts Commission. Maine colleagues shared their successes, process, survey questions, best practices and research to aid in the development of Artslink's strategy for the new research project. Artslink will soon publish a report on this research.

## **Two Nation Vacation**

In 2013 regional tourism offices began to discuss ways to create awareness, increase incremental visitation, and reciprocate marketing efforts while building on the allure of an international trip closer to home. Both



NB and Maine committed \$125,000 and jointly signed a four-year cooperation agreement (2014 to 2018) totaling a one-million-dollar investment to build and deliver a campaign. The identified goal was to attract visitors from Boston, NY, and Philadelphia to Downeast Maine and New Brunswick and encourage existing visitors to stay longer.

The marketing focus of the Two Nation Vacation is to:

1. Develop and implement an integrated marketing campaign
2. Build on the activities, tools, and assets that connect the region
3. Engage the industry through cuisine, attractions, and hospitality
4. Integrate cross border initiatives already in place (ME-NB Cultural Task Force)

## Darren Emenau – University of Maine Museum of Art

From September – December 2018, New Brunswick ceramic artist Darren Emenau exhibited works at the University of Maine Museum of Art in the exhibition *Olio*. *Olio* consisted of a collection of experimental, highly saturated sculptural works that ranged in scale and form. Organic forms were incorporated into the installation as well as visual references to bark, cracked earth, and lichen. The work produced for the exhibition was the result of a Creation Grant from the New Brunswick Arts Board.

More information can be found at <https://umma.umaine.edu/olio-darren-emenau>.



**MUSEUM  
OF  
ART**

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# DARREN EMENAU

## OLIO

September 14 - December 29, 2018

**DARREN EMENAU** (Canadian, born 1970)  
front:  
*Big Blue* (detail)

this side:  
*Big Blue*, 2018  
White earthenware, multi-fired custom glazes  
Courtesy of the artist

*UMMA is a cultural resource of the University of Maine*  
The University of Maine is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution.

## Task Force Overview

Updated - December 2018

### Task Force Mission

The Maine-New Brunswick Cultural Task Force was formed in 2010 as a product of a Memorandum of Understanding for Cultural Relations (MOU). The MOU is between the state of Maine and the province of New Brunswick with the primary directive to undertake five tasks.

- Examine any manner of simplifying and streamlining border-crossing processes for artists, performers, cultural institutions, and creative businesses.
- Explore the potential of enhancing the exchange of cultural information.
- Explore the potential for collaborative cross-border cultural projects.
- Identify possible new and/or expanded cross-border business and/or cultural tourism opportunities.
- Explore the differences and similarities between approaches to the creative economy and creative communities in Maine and New Brunswick and assess how successes may be mirrored.

### Task Force Operations

The Maine-New Brunswick Cultural Task Force will meet annually to confirm membership and to discuss initiatives within the following guidelines:

- There will be no more than twenty and no fewer than six members serving on the Maine-New Brunswick Cultural Task Force.
- There must be at least three representatives from Maine and three representatives from New Brunswick serving on the Maine-New Brunswick Cultural Task Force at all times.
- The Task Force membership may be supplemented by additional representatives from each jurisdiction to help address a particular Task Force focus. Generally, these representatives will participate for a year and be given the title of *Advisor*.
- The Task Force will meet in person at least once a year and remotely on a regular basis. Hosting of remote and in-person meetings will be shared between the two jurisdictions on a rotating basis.

### Task Force Membership and Schedule for 2018

Unless otherwise agreed upon, conference call meetings will take place at 9am (Eastern Standard Time) 10:00 am (Atlantic Standard Time).

- January 25, 2018  
In Person,  
Fredericton New Brunswick  
Beaverbrook Art Gallery  
Shivering Songs Event
- Autumn In-Person  
Date & Location TBD

January 25	In Person (Fredericton)
March 07	Conference call
April 18	Leads call
May 30	Conference call
July 11	Leads call
August 22	Conference call
September 03	Leads call
November 14	Conference call

Member	Organization		Location	Email
<b>2018 Maine Members</b>				
Julie Richard Executive Director	Maine Arts Commission	Government	Augusta	<a href="mailto:julie.richard@maine.gov">julie.richard@maine.gov</a>
Kerstin Gilg Performing Arts Director	Maine Arts Commission	Government	Augusta	<a href="mailto:kerstin.gilg@maine.gov">kerstin.gilg@maine.gov</a>
Hugh French Executive Director	Tides Institute	Museum	Eastport	<a href="mailto:hfrench@tidesinstitute.org">hfrench@tidesinstitute.org</a>
Julie Horn Visual Arts Director	Maine Arts Commission	Government	Augusta	<a href="mailto:julie.horn@maine.gov">julie.horn@maine.gov</a>
George Kinghorn Executive Director	University of Maine Museum of Art	University	Bangor	<a href="mailto:george.kinghorn@maine.edu">george.kinghorn@maine.edu</a>
Hayden Anderson Executive Director	Maine Humanities Council	Service Org	Portland	<a href="mailto:hayden@mainehumanities.org">hayden@mainehumanities.org</a>
Mitch Thomas Executive Director	Franco-American Center	Service Org	Lewiston	<a href="mailto:mthomas@francocenter.org">mthomas@francocenter.org</a>
<b>2018 New Brunswick Members</b>				
Jane Matthews-Clark Manager	Arts and Cultural Industries, Tourism, Heritage and Culture	Government	Fredericton	<a href="mailto:Jane.Matthews-Clark@gnb.ca">Jane.Matthews-Clark@gnb.ca</a>
Claire Shiplett Program Consultant	Arts and Cultural Industries, Tourism, Heritage and Culture	Government	Fredericton	<a href="mailto:Claire.Shiplett@gnb.ca">Claire.Shiplett@gnb.ca</a>
Joss Richer Executive Director	NB Arts Board (ArtsNB)	Public Arts Funder	Fredericton	<a href="mailto:direct@artsnb.ca">direct@artsnb.ca</a>
Clotilde Heibing Coordonnatrice (SPAASI)	La Stratégie de promotion des artistes acadiens sur la scène internationale	Service Org	Dieppe	<a href="mailto:clotilde.heibing@snacadie.org">clotilde.heibing@snacadie.org</a>
Véronique Mallet Direction générale	Société Nationale de l'Acadie (SNA)	Service Org	Dieppe	<a href="mailto:veronique.mallet@snacadie.org">veronique.mallet@snacadie.org</a>
Megan Mainwaring Program Officer	New Brunswick Museum	Museum	Saint John	<a href="mailto:megan.mainwaring@nbm-mnb.ca">megan.mainwaring@nbm-mnb.ca</a>
Jean-Pierre Caissie Communications	Association acadienne des artistes professionnel.le.s du N-B (AAAPNB)	Service Org	Moncton	<a href="mailto:Jeanpierre.caissie@aaapnb.ca">Jeanpierre.caissie@aaapnb.ca</a>
Julie Whitenect Executive Director	ArtsLinkNB	Service Org	Saint John	<a href="mailto:julie@artslinknb.com">julie@artslinknb.com</a>
Gilles Bourque Manager	Heritage Branch, Tourism, Heritage and Culture	Government	Fredericton	<a href="mailto:Gilles.Bourque@gnb.ca">Gilles.Bourque@gnb.ca</a>
Roland Bryar	CulturePlus	Service Org	Moncton	<a href="mailto:roland@cultureplus.ca">roland@cultureplus.ca</a>
Jean Surette Executive Director	Music NB	Service Org	Moncton	<a href="mailto:jean@musicnb.org">jean@musicnb.org</a>
Alison Murphy Executive Director	Craft NB	Service Org	Fredericton	<a href="mailto:director@craftnb.ca">director@craftnb.ca</a>
Koral Lavorgna Executive Director	Association Heritage NB	Service Org	Fredericton	<a href="mailto:koral.lavorgna@amnb.ca">koral.lavorgna@amnb.ca</a>
*Kevin Flanagan	AL McCain Art Gallery	ArtsOrg	Florenceville- Bristol	<a href="mailto:kevinaflanagan@gmail.com">kevinaflanagan@gmail.com</a>

## Conclusion

The Maine-New Brunswick Cultural Task Force continued to be a valuable group in developing the arts and culture sector for both jurisdictions through 2017 and 2018.

The Task Force and stakeholders on both sides of the border continue to contribute to the development of cultural networks in Maine and New Brunswick through collaboration, innovation and sharing of resources and knowledge. The Task Force strengthens meaningful relationships and professional networks between Maine and New Brunswick and approaches current and future issues with a positive, cooperative approach. Open communication and a willingness to share information are integral to the health and development of both jurisdictions.

Moving forward, the Maine-New Brunswick Cultural Task Force strives to set the stage for the successful activities of artists, cultural workers, organization leaders, and cultural stakeholders in Maine and New Brunswick. The Task Force aims to lead by example as a model of positive and effective international partnership.



