

Vancouver Island School of Art

# New home for VISA

- Project is an unprecedented collaboration between a private developer and a community arts organization in the City of Victoria
- The new space for VISA will include classrooms, artist studios for rent and an art gallery
- VISA will continue to be the only non-profit organization offering community art courses to the City of Victoria
- VISA will fulfill the mandate of both the City of Victoria and the CRD's arts and culture policies: provide more spaces for artists to work and to exhibit their work
- Project has inspired other developers to follow the lead of private and public partnerships (Bluebridge Theatre)

# Thank you to School District 61

- SD 61 made it possible for VISA to develop into the strong organization that it has become over the last 13 years
- For offering alternative locations for VISA

# An alternate plan for space issues?

- Is retrofitting a 100-year old building for 1.7 million for 50 students the best plan?
- The building is less than ideal for planned purposes (two staircases to get to main floor, asbestos in walls and floors, not enough electrical power, no foundation, etc.)
- With the Quadra/Hillside area predicting the highest demographics of families in the Greater Victoria area, a more forward-thinking plan would be to build a new school on the property that could accommodate at least 200-300 students

# Our request

- Extension of lease at 2549 Quadra for two more years (until August 2020), while School District considers and plans for the optimum use of the space

# Partnership with SD 61

- VISA and SD 61 have similar goals: to make the City of Victoria a better place for our children, their parents as well as other members of the community
- By partnering with VISA with an extension of our lease for 2 years, and by working with us on the new multi-use development project, you are making our city a more dynamic and culturally vibrant place for your students, their parents and the community at large; you will be truly creating “One Learning Community”
- We ask you to join with us to make this a good news story for School District 61, The City of Victoria and the Vancouver Island School of Art