MAKING TOMORROW BETTER

Taking Digital Action in the Performing Arts

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Module 2:
Building / rebuilding your
website

Arts Council of Ladysmith and District
Ladysmith, BC

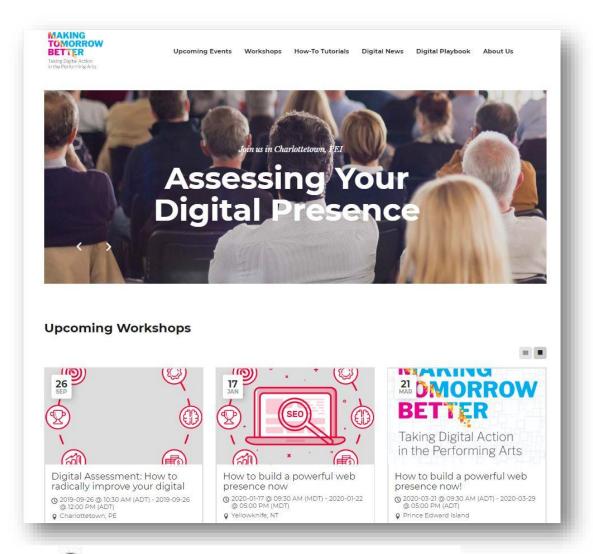
Created and presented by Inga Petri, Strategic Moves November 26, 2019 1 pm to 5 pm



We acknowledge that we live, work, meet and travel on the traditional territories of Indigenous peoples that have cared for this land now called Canada since time immemorial.

We acknowledge that we are on territory of the Coast Salish Peoples, including the territories of the Snuneymuxw, Stz'uminus, Hul'qumi'num Treaty Group.

In Whitehorse, Yukon I am grateful to live and work on the Traditional Territories of the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council and Kwanlin Dün First Nation, self-governing nations that negotiated modern treaties (2002; 2005) under the Umbrella Final Agreement between the 14 Yukon First Nations and the Governments of Canada and Yukon.







https://DigitalArtsNation.ca/ How-to tutorials Digital News Digital Playbook

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Introductions



- 1. Your name
- 2. Your interest in arts and culture
- 3. What is something you've been frustrated about when it comes to being online?



Groups of 3



What is a website and how does it work? Discuss!

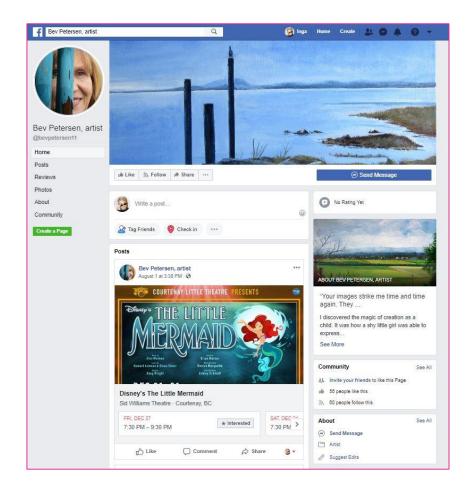


What is a website?













The opportunity

Canadians heaviest Internet users



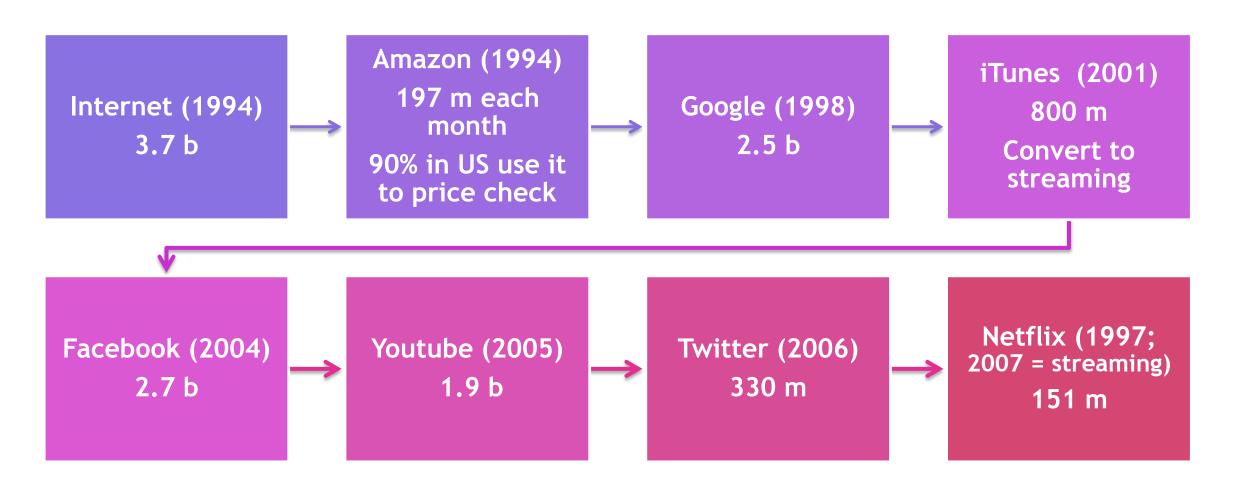
- 96% (35 million) have Internet
- Half use mobile devices to access web
 - 57% of 55+ do so
- 87% made an online purchase
- 46% made a purchase from mobile device
- 20% have voice-activated assistant

Main activities

- 1. Email
- 2. Banking
- 3. Social media
- 4. News
- 5. Shopping

Internet has tremendous reach









Connecting purpose and audience

In groups of 3



- Write down what you want to accomplish with your website
- Share your purpose
- Discuss and refine ask why is this important?
- Settle on one or two big goals







Who is your target audience?

What do they want?



What do you want them to do?



Website

Email marketing

Your
Digital
Footprint

Search Engines

Review sites Marketplaces

Social Media Networks

- Web 1.0 (1990-2000) Static websites connected by hyperlinks. Like printed brochures, websites were designed to be visually engaging while conveying information to visitors (Inbound marketing)
- Web 2.0 (2000-2010) The internet becomes dynamic and interactive.
 Web users can access dynamic content, connect and interact with other people through social networks, blogs, web-based services like wikis.
 (Search)
- Web 3.0 (2010-present) The Semantic Web. It creates a way for search engines and other machines to discern the meaning of data/ information. Powered by structured data standards, individual points of information are linked to create powerful knowledge. The Google Knowledge graph is a key innovation. (Discover)

Web 2.0 ways of doing things



Information Architecture/Navigation

User cases help understand tasks people want to accomplish and organize information for greatest ease of access, clarity and logical page flows to complete tasks

Usability

Apply user-centred design methods to build a site that behaves in predictable and reliable ways, makes it easy to complete tasks and is easy to understand and use for humans.

Old-style Web 2.0 Website Development

Graphic Design

Establishes the look and feel through graphic design elements, like fonts, colour palette, imagery and placement of elements to support usability while providing a visually compelling experience

Content

Web content is written for humans. It is easy to scan on the page, with keyword consideration, coding for search engine optimization.





How to build a great web 3.0 site

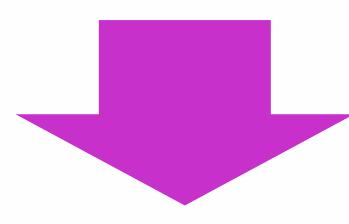
Major changes



- Mobile devices / small screens
- Video rules
- Voice-based virtual assistants (Siri, Alexa)
- Structured data powers the semantic web
- Google provides answers
- Being seen as authoritative, trusted content provider is critical

Meaning making

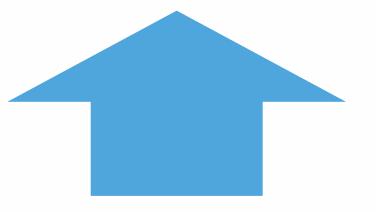




How machines read



How humans read







On the web

- Web site
- Drive traffic to site
- Social media
- Closed system
- Google gives ranked website listings

In the web

- Database
- Discoverability of content
- Common metadata standard
- Open, linked data
- Google gives answers

Data about data = meta data



- Semantic = Meaning of a word, phrase, text
- Semantic web = machine-readable data
- Meta data standards (for search it's schema.org)
- Many directories ISNI, Wikidata, Wikimedia, VIAF National Libraries, specialized directories (MusicBrainz, SongKick)



Consider these building blocks



Content Management Systems

Google tools

Databases (wikidata, wikimedia)

SSL encryption

Speakable by virtual assistants

Social network integration

Search engine optimization (SEO) and marketing (SEM)

Machinereadable structured data

Mobile web

Know your audience





Writing

Explore existing pages

Writing your web site for people



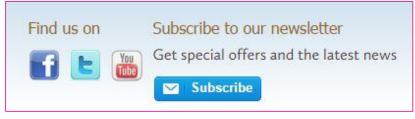
- Authentic voice
- Start with 8 to 12 important keywords
 - Balance: interesting read that flows well with consistent keywords
 - Second tier keywords important in body text, because first tier keywords dominant in structure
- Make the page easily scan-able
 - Headers and short paragraphs
 - Editorial use of images, video
 - Minimize on 'features' in body text, like colour, bold, underline, italics; they make reading harder

- Your content includes text for page urls and tags
 - What is your page about in 3 to 5
 words = Specify the title tag <title>
 - Important keywords on the page (8 to 12 most used words, words used in headings and body text) = <keyword> tag
 - One sentence summary (10 to 15 words) = <description> tag
 - Describe what is in your supplied images = <image ALT> tag

SPEAK your content like Alexa, Siri, Google assistant

Social Utilities

Connect with us

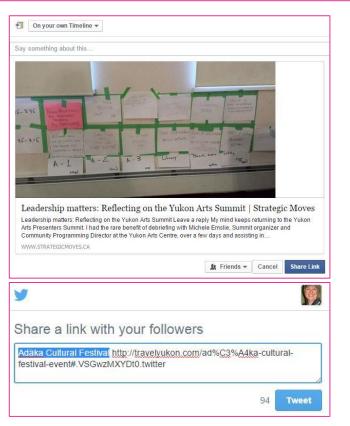






(include image on page for FB) Amplify our message





(Mostly) Traditional SEO — machine-readable



- URL (uniform resource locator) = web address
 - Use words not acronyms or numbers
- URL page names
 - Each service / product / experience on own page
 - Use relevant keywords
- Title tags
 - Appears on browser tab
 - · Search engine uses them as the header in search listings
 - Facebook does, too
- Image Alt tags
 - Use the "image ALT" text for keyword-rich descriptive text
- Description meta tag
 - This is a real summary sentence for a specific page
 - Search engines, and other sites, can use them in result displays
- Keywords meta tag
 - When a search engine cannot read your content, they may evaluate your keywords meta tag
- Code content for discoverability structured data meta tags (schema.org)

Fast load times (no high res images, no autoplay videos) SSL (secure socket layer) Sitemap.xml and robot.txt

https://technicalseo.com

https://search.google.com/search-console/about

Demonstration of WordPress site



- Digitalartsnation.ca
 - · front-end and back-end
 - Templates
 - Styles
 - Structured data
 - Yoast plug-in

Usability testing



- Iterate in design and production stages
 - Identify user groups
 - 4 to 6 people per distinct user group
- Consider task-based scenarios always start with a blank screen or start them on Google screen
 - Can they complete them with ease and certainty
 - What are difficulties they encounter
- Testing with people
 - On functionality "if you could do this, would you?"
 - On wire frames
 - Usability of prototype
- Testing technology
 - Load times
 - Coding (w3c), meta-data tags

Website Brief



Atlantic Presenters Association

STATEMENT OF WORK

PURPOS

Redevelopment of Atlantic Presenters Association (APA) web site presence, located at atlanticpresenters as and contacteast as to meet the contemporary 828 web users expectations.

Our new site must be fully optimized for Google search and use structured data standards (Schema.org) to describe our content.

OBJECTIVES

- 1. Consolidate the current two websites into one, housed at atlanticpresenters.ca
- 2. Develop the new site using a WordPress CMS
- Develop the site with the latest search engine optimization considerations in mind, with the relevant and appropriate plug igg for SEO, structuring event, news article and membership information.
- 4. Must be mobile friendly in navigation, graphic design, content and function
- Consider and provide advice on any near-future (within 2 years) linked, open data approaches we can leverage for the site today.

ABOUT ATLANTIC PRESENTERS ASSOCIATION

The Atlantic Presenter's Association (APA) is the regional arts presenter's organization for Newfoundland and Labrador, Prince Edward Island, News Scotla and New Burnewick: We are a leader in the presentation of the performing arts and promote the development of performing arts touring in the Atlantic Canadian region. Our mission is to enable our members to enhance, promote, and facilitate diverse, quality live performances, and to provide an exchange of best practices and kleas. In so doing, the lives of Atlantic Canadians are enriched because of the strong, vital presenters providing live interformance considerates.

We organize two conferences annually (Contact East Showcase conference and <u>Shiftchange</u> for festival), in addition to professional development workshops and a spring retreat for members:

SCOP

Several major developments have changed how the web works and APA requires a web presence that places it at the leading edge again of these changes:

 The rise of mobile devices and tablets used to access web content, which has resulted in a preference for touch controlled, scrolling sites and shorter, more concise writing for small screens.

- Energence of structured data standards power the emergence of the semantic web and Google now provides answers instead of merely search results linking to websites; without ever sending web users to the originating website
- Voice-based virtual assistants (Siri, Alexa) are changing how users interact with the web, and require new ways of preparing the written content of websites.
- In an era of fake news and IT security breaches, being seen as an authoritative, trusted and secure content consider is critical.
- . Integrating with social media networks is key to building a seamless web presence

APA does not have any significant consumer facing needs, but we must provide a contemporary web experience that reflects our leadership position in our field in Canada. APA has a history of embracing leading technologies to enable the business of presenting; however our website has not kept up in recent years due.

We consider our web presence to span all of these properties.



REQUIREMENTS

- We need contemporary semantically structured web presence that project team members (not developers) can update on the fly.
- Must use the off-the-shelf CMS, like WordPress. We request that the supplier recommends a template that suites this project's aims.
- Must have structured data so that our events, news and member information will surface in Google searches
 - See https://developers.google.com/search/docs/data-types/how-to
 - There are several plug ins for SEO and structured data applications using schema.org

- The site will employ traditional SEO to ensure it can be searched and found, as such web page
 upis, title tags and description tags have to be implemented to be keyword-rich and specific.
- . Each event or activity requires its own page for best SEO impact
- . Must use SSL encryption or better security for the entire site.
- For larger events we use <u>Tickethro</u> to handle registration and payments, so there is no ecommerce component to this site.
- Accessibility by people with various disabilities what are any additional standards we can follow to ensure greatest accessibility? Any advice appreciated!
- Use Google Analytics for traffic and behaviour analysis as this is critical for reporting.

Additional considerations

- How do we best deal with appaining texts used by Siri, Alexa and other voice-based virtual assistants?
- Note: there will be no password protected members area anymore. Instead the gated resources
 will be published on the public site.

DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

We seek a supplier that can identify the best WordPress template for our needs and complete the initial WordPress implementation for so within 2 weeks of award of the contract. The template largely sets the visual parameters of WordPress sites. Nosetheless, we require the contractor to supply graphic design advice (imagery, font choice) and ensure that the visuals and content used are effective in positioning APA as a survey leader white providing important information to our current and potential members.

We also seek advice on the final sitemap of our site to aid us in ensuring the most effective information architecture.

(Note: some templates come with numerous pre-designed template pages. To aid in maintaining our focus, please deliver the initial implementation as a clean slate, i.e. without any unnecessary sample pages!

All APA staff will be trained on the use of the WordPress backend as each has a role in updating the site.

APA staff, with the support of the contractor, will implement the new content including writing web gut, title taps and other SEO guggadata.

PRELIMINARY SITE MAP

The following site map offers a preliminary structure to feature our most important content. It is not necessarily complete at this stage of the process.

A few tools



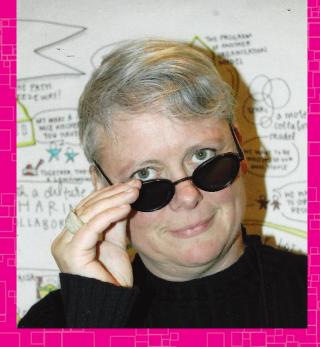
- Google Developer
- Google Search Console
- Google Analytics
- Google Adwords (keyword tools)
- http://www.browseo.net/
- https://technicalseo.com/
- http://www.webseoanalytics.com/free/seo-tools/page-analyzerkeyword-density-tool.php
- http://validator.w3.org
- https://ahrefs.com/
- https://moz.com/

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LET'S STAY IN TOUCH

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