

**EMPLOYMENT POSTING****Senior Cutter****Seasonal**

Pacific Opera Victoria is currently accepting applications for seasonal production positions for the 2026-2027 season. These positions are seasonal contracts running from July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027 with the Pacific Opera shop typically operating from July to May. All Opera Shop production staff work under the jurisdiction of IATSE Local 168.

**HOURS OF WORK:**

The typical work week is Monday to Friday, 8:30am to 5:00pm. The positions require some evening and weekend work, and hours will vary depending on production schedules.

- Carpentry, 8:00am-4:30pm
- Wardrobe, 8:30am-5:00pm
- Props, 8:30am-5:00pm
- Paint, 8:00am – 4:30pm Wednesday – Sunday

**JOB SUMMARY**

The Senior Cutter's duties shall include but not be limited to the coordination of cutting and construction. They are responsible for fabricating patterns, research, cutting, fitting, building and supervision of the construction of costumes from specific designs and/or sketches provided by the Costume Designer or designate. The Senior Cutter determines yardage and trims for costumes and will assist in selecting materials. They are responsible and involved in alterations of pulled and purchased costumes when required. They are responsible for maintaining construction techniques and finishing standards as deemed appropriate by the Head of Wardrobe.

**SKILLS & RESPONSIBILITIES**

- Pattern drafting, flat patterning, and draping based on designer sketches and specifications
- Construct garments using advanced sewing and garment construction skills, including period and specialty costumes
- Execute accurate and efficient costume fittings and alterations
- Estimate yardage and identify appropriate fabrics and trims to support design and budget requirements
- Translate design drawings into accurate patterns and construction plans with attention to detail
- Apply a wide range of construction techniques and finishing methods to meet production standards
- Oversee the assembly and construction of costumes to ensure consistency and quality
- Support team members in executing complex builds and alterations
- Maintain and organize cutting and sewing workspaces to support efficiency and safety
- Participate in fittings and communicate effectively with performers and designers
- Contribute to costume rehearsal notes, costume maintenance, and provide technical run support

- Contribute to wardrobe pack, load-in, load out, and onstage wardrobe notes
- Operate and maintain wardrobe tools and equipment safely and effectively
- Attend production and company meetings, fittings, and technical rehearsals as required
- Support other production departments as needed, contributing to cross-departmental collaboration
- Ensure a safe, clean, and organized work environment in compliance with safety standards
- Demonstrate problem-solving and adaptability in a fast-paced production environment
- Promote and uphold a respectful, inclusive, and professional workplace
- Communicate clearly, respectfully, and professionally with designers, team members and production staff

## QUALIFICATIONS

- Minimum 3 years of professional experience as a cutter in theatrical wardrobe or costume construction
- Post-secondary training in costume technology, fashion design, theatre production, or equivalent professional experience
- Demonstrated expertise in pattern drafting, draping, and costume fitting
- Experience constructing garments for a range of body types and period styles
- Proficiency in costume alterations and construction techniques
- Working knowledge of wardrobe tools, machines, and safe handling practices
- Experience working in unionized and collaborative production environments an asset
- Strong knowledge of industry safety practices
- Excellent interpersonal, organizational, and time management skills
- Ability to work independently, meet tight deadlines, and adapt to changing priorities
- Strong written and verbal communication skills
- Willingness to work evenings and weekends as required
- Valid Class 5 BC driver's license (asset)
- First Aid certification (asset)
- Physically able to lift up to 50 lbs., use stairs, and operate wardrobe equipment

## COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS:

2025-2026 Hourly Wage: \$35.61 + benefits (2026-2027 rates to be negotiated)

Benefits include:

- 5% in employer RRSP contributions
- 5% vacation pay
- 4% in lieu of benefits
- Access to a health and welfare fund paid for by Pacific Opera and administered by IATSE Local 168
- Guaranteed Minimum Hours for the season: 700

**PRODUCTION DATES:**

Show 1 - (Il trovatore)

Wardrobe Source/Build: Sept 14 – Oct 10, 2026	(4 wks)
Notes as called: Oct 11 – 17, 2026	(1 wk)
Strike/Pack-Up: Oct 24 – 31, 2026	(approx. 40 hrs)

Show 2 - (Hansel & Gretel)

Wardrobe Source/Build: Feb 1 – Feb 13, 2027	(2 wks)
Notes as called: Feb 15 – 19, 2027	(1 wk)
Strike: Feb 27 – March 6, 2027	(approx. 40 hrs)

Show 3 - (Magic Flute)

Wardrobe Source/Build: Feb 22 – March 27, 2027	(5 wks)
Notes as called: March 28 – April 2, 2027	(1 wk)
Strike/ Pack-Up: April 10 – 17, 2027	(approx. 40 hrs)

\*Subject to Change

\*Holiday Shop Closure: Sat Dec 19, 2026 – Sun Jan 3, 2027

**ABOUT PACIFIC OPERA VICTORIA:**

Pacific Opera Victoria is one of the most influential professional opera companies in Canada. Its inspired repertoire comprises original productions of classic favourites and lesser known works, as well as new commissions, co-productions, and collaborations with other companies and arts organizations across the country. From its home in the Baumann Centre, Pacific Opera Victoria creates significant career opportunities for creative and performing artists and curates opera in surprising ways – enticing newcomers and captivating loyal opera-goers.

Pacific Opera Victoria identifies Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Reconciliation among its Core Values and encourages applications from candidates of diverse backgrounds.

**APPLICATIONS:**

**Please submit cover letter, resume and portfolio (if available) electronically by end of day June 15, 2026**

Include in Subject Header: 2026-2027 Seasonal Shop Position – Senior Cutter

Email to: [jobs@pacificopera.ca](mailto:jobs@pacificopera.ca)

ATTN: Christopher Sibbald, Director of Production & Artistic Administration

Applications will be reviewed as received. The positions will remain open until filled

We thank all applicants for their interest. Only candidates selected for an interview will be contacted.