



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Parks, Recreation and Cultural Service
Committee

Date: April 25, 2005

From: Terry Crowe
Manager, Policy Planning

File: 01-0100-20-RPAR1-01

Re: PUBLIC ART COMMISSION 2004 ANNUAL REPORT AND 2005 WORK PLAN

Staff Recommendation

1. That as per the report dated April 25 2005 from the Manager, Policy Planning:
The Richmond Public Art Commission 2005 Work Plan be approved.
2. \$125,000 be transferred from the Public Art Provision Account (#2441) to Public Art
Project #40853, to be used for foreseeable future public art projects.

Terry Crowe
Manager, Policy Planning

Att. 1

FOR ORIGINATING DIVISION USE ONLY					
ROUTED TO:		CONCURRENCE		CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER	
Budgets.....	Y	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N		
Recreation & Cultural Services.....	Y	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N		
Parks.....	Y	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N		
REVIEWED BY TAG		YES	NO	REVIEWED BY CAO	
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Staff Report

Origin

The purpose of the report is to present the Public Art Commission’s 2004 Annual Report and 2005 work program for approval.

Findings Of Fact

Program Purpose and Context

The purpose of the Richmond Public Art Program is enhance people’s quality of life and enjoyment of their community through the integration of public art into parks, streets, public spaces, public and private developments. The Richmond Public Art Program assists in achieving Richmond’s vision “to be the most appealing, liveable and well-managed community in Canada”.

Public Art Program Implementation

There are several ways in which public art is funded and created in Richmond:

1. City public art projects, which are funded from City and private contributions.
2. Private sector public art projects, which are voluntarily funded from private contributions.
3. Community public art projects, which are funded from City, community and non-profit contributions.

2004 Annual Report & Year 2005 Work Plan

The Public Art Commission 2004 Annual Report and Year 2005 Work Plan (**Attachment 1**) highlight the key activities undertaken in 2004 and proposed work tasks for 2005.

Public Art Funding Accounts

The current funding for public art is as follows:

Public Art Program Accounts	Public Art Funding	Proposed Action	Balance
Public Art Statutory Reserve (unauthorized)	\$261,818	Leave in Reserve	\$261,818
Public Art Project #40802	\$ 29,000	\$45,000 is proposed for the East Richmond Gathering Place Project (Council report pending)	0
Public Art Project #40853	+\$16,000 \$ 45,000		
Public Art Provision Account (#2441)	\$250,000	\$125,000 is proposed to be transferred to be spent in 2005/06	\$125,000
Total	\$556,818	\$171,000 to be spent in 2005/06	\$386,818

Current Public Art Project Status

With the recent Council approvals to allocate public art funds to “The Steveston Legacy Project” and the “Gateway Theatre Fly Tower Wall Art Project”, the remaining public art funds from approved project #40802 and #40853 is \$45,000.

The \$46,000 has already been earmarked for the East Richmond Gathering Place Project, which is to be presented for Council's consideration in the spring of 2005. (The Gathering Place Project is a community collaborative project that includes considerable participation from the East Richmond Community Association and the corporate community.)

Status of Public Art Funding

On December 31, 2001, Council transferred \$250,000 from the 2001 Public Art Statutory Reserve to the Public Art Provision Account (#2441), subject to staff undertaking a review of the program.

In 2001, the Public Art Program were reviewed, and it was concluded that the Program provided substantial merit, investment and vibrancy to the City, and that there is considerable community support for this Program. These findings were presented to Council on July 9th, 2002.

With Council's interest to support future public art projects (e.g., Minoru Horse Statue Project) and to take advantage of upcoming public art project opportunities and partnerships, as they arise, staff recommend that in 2005 \$125,000 from the Public Art Provision Account (#2441) be approved for spending in 2005/06 as per the 2005 Public Art Commission Work Program. This involves Council approval to transfer \$125,000 from the Public Art Provision Account (#2441) to be spent in 2005/06.

Anticipated 2005 Public Art Projects

On average, the City approves 4 to 8 public art projects each year, ranging from \$30,000 to \$60,000 each.

At this point, it is anticipated that the \$125,000 will be spent on the following projects to be approved by Council:

- King George Park (e.g. East Richmond Gathering Place Project)
- Terra Nova North west Quadrant Rural Park
- McLennan South Park
- No. 1 Road Pump Station
- Shell Road Greenway
- Garden City Community Park
- Steveston Water Park
- Others, as may arise

Analysis

The 2004 Annual Report and proposed 2005 Work Plan demonstrate a high level of volunteerism, professionalism and commitment to quality public art in Richmond.

Financial Impact

It is recommended that \$125,000 be transferred from the Public Art Provision Account (#2441) to Public Art Project # 40853, to be spent in 2005/06.

Conclusion

The Public Art Commission's 2004 Annual Report is presented and the 2005 Work Plan is recommended for approval.



Kari Huhtala
Senior Planner
(4188)
KEH:cas

**2004 Annual Report
&
2005 Work Plan
Richmond Public Art Commission**



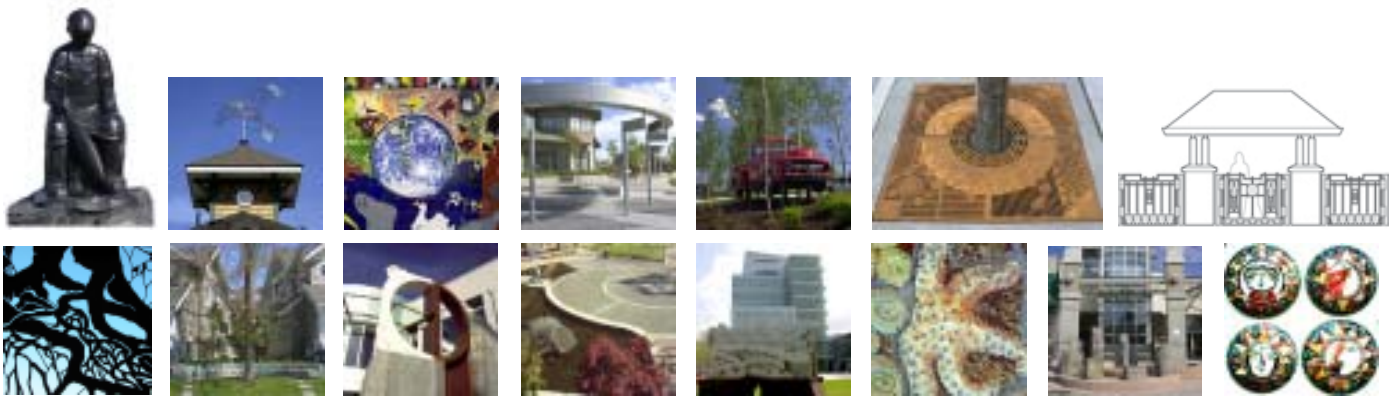
2004 Annual Report

Richmond Public Art Commission (RPAC)



April 19, 2005

RICHMOND
*Better in **Every** Way*



2004 Annual Report

Richmond Public Art Commission (RPAC)

2004 Public Art Commission

Diana (Willa) Walsh, *Chair*

Leo Mol, *Vice Chair*

Detlef (Dick) Aporta

Dan Campbell

Valerie Jones

Chris Keatley

Alex Schick

Cliff Vincenzi

Council Liaison: Linda Barnes

City Staff: Kari Huhtala & Suzanne Greening

Richmond Arts Strategy

On August 30, 2004, City Council endorsed the *Richmond Arts Strategy* that provides a vision and direction for the arts in Richmond. It identifies needs and gaps within the community, areas of focus for the City and opportunities for expanding the economic contribution of the cultural sector.

The arts in Richmond encompass a vast array: visual arts, performing arts, literary arts, professional and amateur arts, arts festivals, cultural industries, artists, participants and patrons, and public and community art projects.

Vision for the Arts in Richmond

Richmond believes that a diversity of arts experiences and the arts and artists who express them are integral to an enriched quality of life. Therefore, Richmond's vision for the arts is: Richmond is a welcoming and inclusive community where culture and arts activity are celebrated and supported.

State of the Public Art Program

At this point the Public Art Program has achieved the following:

For Council:

- ❑ Leadership in working towards the City vision “the most appealing, livable and well-managed community in Canada.”
- ❑ Council’s leadership and support is acknowledged and appreciated.

For developers:

- ❑ Continue to voluntarily contribute to projects and funding to achieve the City’s identity and image.
- ❑ Support the arts.

For the artists:

- ❑ Enjoy the opportunity to be creative and help make Richmond appealing.

For the community:

- ❑ Individuals and groups have embraced the public art projects through participation and sponsorships.
- ❑ Community identity is achieved through experiences in public art.
- ❑ Community belonging is achieved through participation in meaningful projects, which have Richmond rich heritage and creativity.
- ❑ A sense of beauty and well being.

Overall

There have been 25 successful public art projects to date. Richmond is considered as a municipal leader in public art development in B.C. and Canada. Public art is now accepted as an integral part of Richmond’s fabric and in its efforts to create a livable and vibrant city.

There is now a Citywide expectation of looking forward to the next public art project. Public art is an indication that Richmond is becoming a cosmopolitan city.

2004 Public Art Project Developments

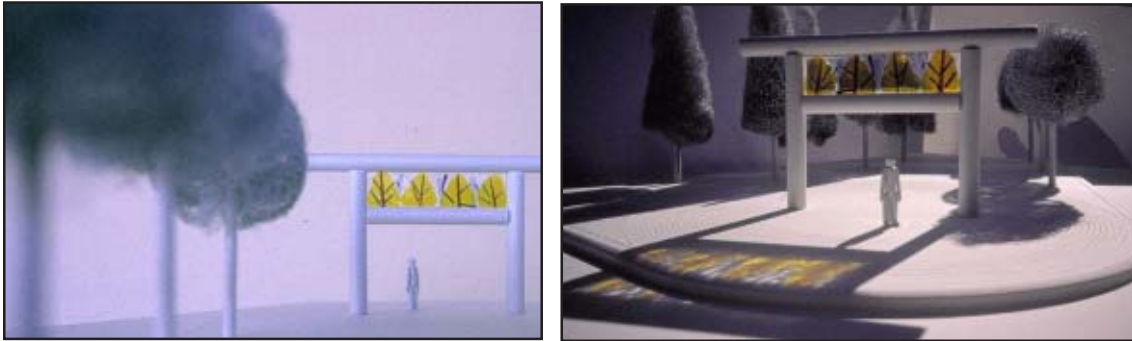
Public Contact, Education and Awareness

Through a joint effort between Tourism Richmond, the Parks Department and the Public Art Commission, a public art walk was included on Tourism Richmond’s 2004 tourist map, along with descriptions and photos of public artworks in the Golden Village and Steveston Village. 100,000 of these large, informative maps were distributed this year for the use of visitors and residents. A Public Art Tour in October 2004 for Commission members and community members took place. Councillor Linda Barnes attended. All the completed artworks during a delightful half day were visited.

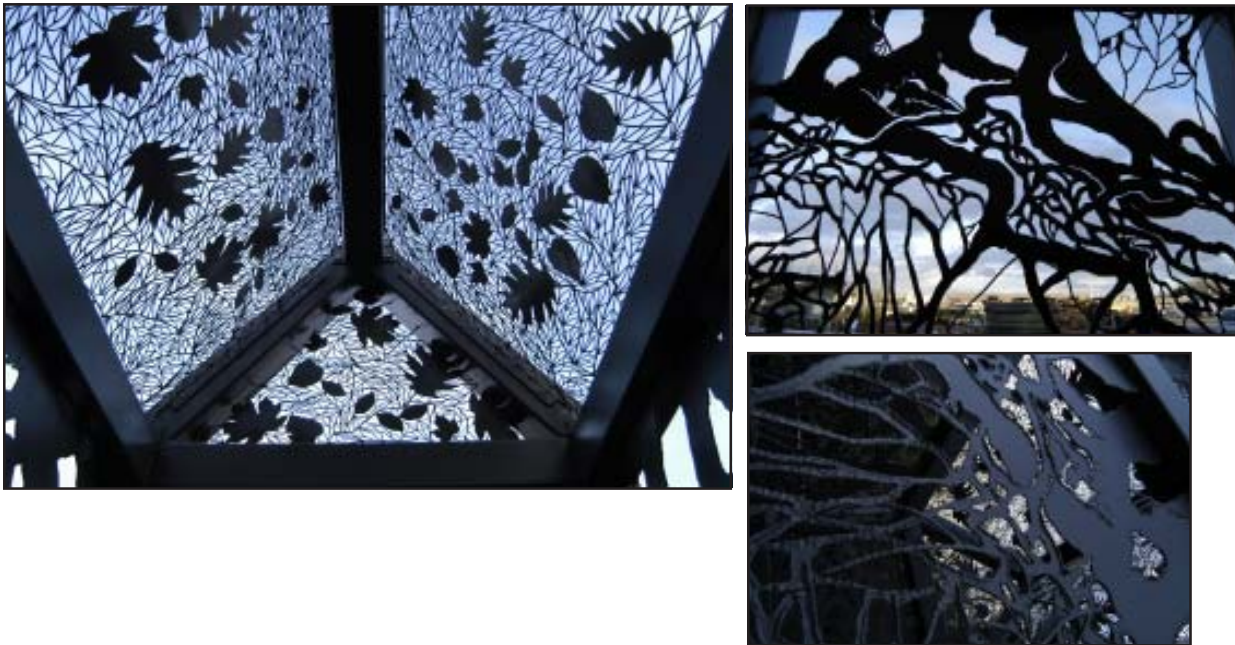
Public Art Projects

These 2004 initiatives have increased public awareness and participation in the public art process.

“Katsura Gate” (a City initiative) by *Claudia Cuesta and Bill Baker* will be situated in the Katsura Neighbourhood Park, McLennan North in 2005. This artwork is funded by **Cressey Developments**. It is a large, gate artwork structure which integrates the community to the site, to nature and to myth and ritual. It uses universal symbols which are recognized by all cultures. The art glass panels reflect the history, light and vegetation of the area.



“House of Roots” (a City initiative) by *Jeanette Lee* will be placed in the new McLennan South Park in early 2005. The artwork is funded by **Amacon Development**. The four-sided peak-roofed structure speaks to the idea of “home” – a place where people live, and a place of growth and nurturing. It symbolically connects the roots of the new surrounding community to its former landscaped past.



“Garden Gate” and “Bug Gate” by *Phillipp and Kirsty Robbins*, located at Leighton Green and Wellington Court residential developments in the North McLennan neighbourhood, depict whimsical garden tools and insects embedded in the community’s iron gates and surrounding fences. These artworks were funded by **Polygon Homes**.

“Garden Gate”



“Bug Gate”



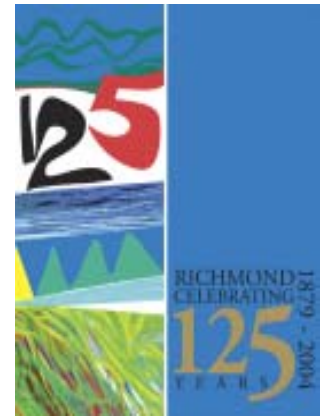
“Seeking Harmony, Respecting Diversity” is a community public art project located at Tomekichi Homma Elementary School in Steveston. The Project Coordinator was *Mark Glavina*, a local artist, who involved the school’s students, parents and Parent Advisory Committee. The process of creating art was emphasized throughout this indepth learning experience for the students and community members. A gathering place inspired the development of three benches (titled Homma Dream, Middle Earth and Great Blue) using COB, (i.e. earth mixed with sand and straw) an ecologically sensitive building method. The purpose was to facilitate conversation among the children and youth community about issues concerning them.



“Grassland and Waterscapes” (a City initiative) by *Sylvia Tait* showcases artist-designed street banners that celebrate Richmond’s 125th birthday.

“Grasslands and WaterScapes” celebrates Richmond - Rich-Mond: considerable, large, as in ‘mondo, multilingual, multi faceted— a place of diversity and activity; a place of farmlands, water, grasses and Big Sky...flourishing....a place for Art and Industry and Invention.

These banners were placed around City Hall and various entry points into Richmond (e.g., No. 2 Road Bridge, Garden City Road and Sea Island Way).



“The Lions” by *Arthur Cheng* is located at the southwest corner of Alderbridge Way and Garden City Road, and is immediately adjacent to The Lions Park residential development. The artwork was funded by **Polygon Homes**. The sculptor used a realism style to portray the pair of lions. The artwork (measuring 9 feet high, 6 feet wide and 9 feet long) sits on a sculpted stone. The bronze sculpture was cast in one piece in China and transported to Richmond.

The male lion represents loyalty, duty and honour, while the female lion provides calm and peaceful support. Together the lions symbolize harmony, happiness and stability.



“Shaping Hands” (a City initiative) by *Bart Habermiller & Emily Barnett* will be located at the new Sea Island Fire Hall, adjacent to Burkeville. The sculpture “Shaping Hands” links awareness of the individual’s contribution to a community’s strength and safety. The single hand shape is an individual gesture that is combined with multiple hands to form a woven solid sphere. The sphere represents unity, as all the hands connect with each other in an uninterrupted flow.

The approach is to create a public artwork that provides an opportunity for community involvement and visually demonstrates that activity. The artistic team has taken hand impressions of Burkeville residents and firefighters from Fire Hall No. 4. Approximately 90 individual hand impressions will be used for the sculpture.



“Spotty the Dog” whirligig (a City initiative) by *Doug Taylor* will be a technically executed wind machine located at the new Hamilton Fire Hall. The artwork is approximately 10 feet long with a 6 foot diameter propeller. It will sit on top of a 20 foot high pole. The piece will continually turn to face the oncoming wind - like a weathervane. It will be made of cast aluminum with the rest of the materials consisting of stainless steel and aluminum with delrin (i.e. nylon) bushings to reduce noise.



“Spotty the Dog” symbolizes the fire station Dalmatian, one of the most recognized symbols of the fire service.

The artwork also includes the image of a large firefighter’s helmet that helps to direct the position of the whirligig on windy days. On the helmet itself you can see the image of the Maltese Cross that all firefighters wear, a symbol of protection and a badge of honour.

Media Coverage of Richmond’s Public Art

2004 was a great year for media coverage for the arts in general in Richmond with many full pages devoted to public art and the ever popular **Lulu Series** events. Both local newspapers, *The Richmond Review* and the *Richmond News*, ran items and full columns covering the opening of “The Lions” public art sculpture, the art process at Homma’s community Cob project, the four presentations for the Lulu Series, a feature guest spot on “The Function of Art: Public Art should be more than colourful signage,” (*Richmond Review*, April 15/04) and the stone sculptures on the Middle Arm dyke. The most coverage resulted from the Sea Island “Shaping Hands” art project for the new fire hall. 140 people of that tightly knit neighbourhood turned out to cast their hands for this unique artwork (*Richmond News*, Sep 01/04). *The Vancouver Sun* (Jan 03/04) ran a long article on Doug Taylor the artist who created the “Spotty the Dog” artwork for the new Hamilton area Fire Hall.

City’s Website (*Public Art Section*)

The redesigned City’s website includes comprehensive information about public art in Richmond. It includes guidelines and annual reports on the program, competitions and project updates. The website received approximately 42,378 visits to view, read or print information about Richmond’s Public Art Program. This number of website visits increased four times the previous year’s amount. In the future, the website will include the complete Public Art Archives and the Artists’ Directory presently being worked on by the Commission. This will broaden an understanding of how public art is selected and made, and assist developers who wish to choose an artist for a project.

In 2004, public comments indicated strong support for continuance of the Public Art Program.



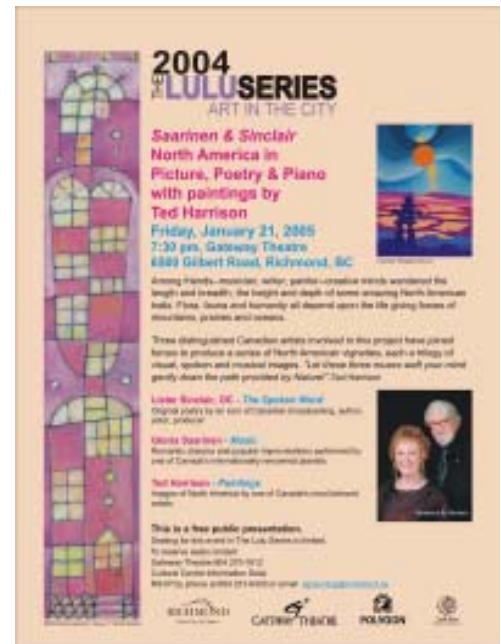
The Lulu Series 2004 – Art in the City

A City initiative: The winning combination of a public lecture, audience participation and an artistic performance continues to draw an enthusiastic audience to the City’s Council Chambers. Four programs enticed citizens out on dark, rainy nights to learn about:

- ❑ The arts and the economy from Mavor Moore,
- ❑ Environmental art from Patrick Dougherty and William Moore, and
- ❑ The new Creative Class of urbanites who are changing the structure of innovative cities from Glen Murray.

The series culminated on January 21/05 at The Gateway Theatre with a free night of the arts featuring:

- ❑ Lister Sinclair (poetry),
- ❑ Gloria Saarinen (pianist) and
- ❑ Ted Harrison (painter).



Over 300 people attended this highly successful evening. The performers received a standing ovation! This was a cultural gift to our city.

Community Public Art Projects

In 2004 these community public art projects were begun:

- ❑ **West Richmond Community Centre and Hugh Boyd High School project.** This is a unique combination of community centre, school and public art initiatives. An “artist in residence” Mark Glavina is working with art teachers at Hugh Boyd school to have students create public art for the adjoining West Richmond Community Centre. So far, three ideas have been presented and will be implemented in 2005.
- ❑ **East Richmond Community Centre “Gathering Place” project.** The community centre will be working with the Pomegranate Centre to create a “Gathering Place” which will be the heart or centre of the East Richmond community. Often a neglected area of the city, East Richmond now has its own

library branch at Cambie and No. 5 Road. The Gathering Place will be situated at the nearby public park. Further workshops will take place in 2005 with completion in the near future.

2005 Public Art Program Work Plan

2005 Public Art Commission

Diana (Willa) Walsh, *Chair*

Leo Mol, *Vice Chair*

Dan Campbell

Alison Cormack

Colleen Dixon

Valerie Jones

Alex Schick

Cliff Vincenzi

The year 2005 work plan focuses on the following:

1. Bring forward the De-accession Guidelines for approval.
2. Continue to expand and manage public and private development participation in the creation of public art.

Public art projects are presently being considered for the following locations:

- King George Park (e.g. East Richmond Gathering Place Project)
- Terra Nova North west Quadrant Rural Park
- McLennan South Park
- No. 1 Road Pump Station
- Shell Road Greenway
- Garden City Community Park
- Steveston Water Park

3. Expand public awareness by a concentrated “branding” approach through:
 - Transit shelter ads,
 - An information brochure explaining public art, postcards, and
 - Banners all having a similar, arresting design featuring public art images alongside the City’s logo.
 - Four, new major artworks will be covered by the press and other media.
 - The Lulu Series** will continue to provide a forum about art in the city
4. Continue the work begun on a comprehensive Artists’ Directory and Public Art Archives for the city.
5. Monitor the public art plan for the Terra Nova Northwest Quadrant.
6. Implement some of the public art goals of the City Action Plan in the new *Richmond Arts Strategy*.

Summary

2004 was the busiest year ever for the Richmond Public Art Program. There were many issues to address – meetings about the park at Terra Nova Northwest Quadrant, major civic projects being chosen for the new fire

halls, one accident involving a public artwork, and the first series of public art walks being published on Tourism Richmond's visitors' map.

The *Richmond Arts Strategy* document presented a wonderful vision of the arts and culture scene for Richmond, giving us a blueprint for the future. Many goals specifically outlined were for public art.

Neighbourhoods were intensely involved with the public art process and this emphasized the participation aspect of public art. East and West Richmond communities became engaged in public art initiatives and many alliances were reinforced. This has all had a great impact on the creative energy of our city.

The City is wise to support an innovative public art program for Richmond. Cities with vibrant arts and culture attract the creative thinkers who produce economic wealth and cultural health. Who knows, Richmond may yet make it to the North American Creative City list!

Recommendations

1. That City Council accept the Richmond Public Art Commission 2004 Annual Report.
2. That City Council approve the Richmond Public Art Commission 2005 Work Plan.

Willa Walsh,

Chair, Richmond Public Art Commission