



CITY OF RICHMOND

REPORT TO COMMITTEE

TO: Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee **DATE:** August 20, 2001
FROM: Yvonne Stich **FILE:** 0060-20-BCWA1
Park Planner

RE: Nikkei Fishermen's Tribute Monument Proposal

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive this report for information only.

M. Rafferty per
Yvonne Stich
Park Planner

Att. 2

FOR ORIGINATING DIVISION USE ONLY

CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER

DeLoe

STAFF REPORT

ORIGIN

In June 2001, a letter was received, from Dr. Tanaka of the Wakayama Kenjin Kai, concerning a proposal to donate a sculpture to honour the Japanese fisherman's contribution to the BC and the Steveston fishing industry.

This report presents for Council's information a summary of the discussions and meetings that staff have had with Dr. Tanaka regarding this proposed gift to the City to date.

ANALYSIS

The Wakayama Kenjin Kai have successfully worked with the City on a number of community projects over the years such as the Kuno Gardens and the cherry tree planting in Garry Point Park.

This new project is to honour the pioneering fishermen and the successive generations of fishermen that have contributed to the industry and community of Steveston. Dr. Tanaka and the Association are requesting approval to donate a sculpture to the City and would like to locate this proposed monument in the future park to be constructed on the BC Packers site.

The Wakayama Kenjin Kai proposes to undertake a fundraising initiative to raise sufficient funding (\$200,000+/-) to cover the cost of creating the artwork and for its installation on a site. It is expected that the project fundraising will take several years.

Before the City considers and reviews the merits of this donation, a number of steps must be followed and a number of concerns addressed.

The following is a summary of the meetings and discussions that staff has had with Dr. Tanaka:

June 15, 2001- Parks Staff Meeting

Parks staff met with Dr. Tanaka and Junichiro Iwase, the artist, to review the proposed park plans for the BC Packers site and to conduct a site visit.

At that meeting, the following points were raised:

- The park plan has already been designed in detail and approved by Council.
- There are many artefacts, site furniture, and interpretation features already designed and located throughout the site that thematically focus on the history of BC Packers.
- If another structure/sculpture were to go into this site then it would need to respond to these features in the park and the environment rather than be designed in isolation and just placed on the site.
- This proposal is considered a sculpture gift to the City and that it would be beneficial for Dr. Tanaka to make a presentation to the Richmond Public Art Commission who would advise on the procedures to be followed.

July 18, 2001- Richmond Public Art Commission Meeting

Dr. Tanaka and Junichiro Iwase presented their concept and proposal for the Nikkei Fisherman's Tribute Project to the Public Art Commission.

At that meeting general discussion ensued and the members of the Commission advised the following:

- Any public art gifts or donations to the City are to be evaluated under the acceptance conditions, criteria, and procedures as outlined in the Council endorsed "Guidelines for Private Donations of Public Artwork to the City of Richmond" (Attachment 1).
- The artist is to work with the Parks Department to develop a workable location, site plan, design, and implementation program.
- The formal presentation to the City should include such details as the rationale, the theme, timelines, a site plan, visual presentation materials, detailed budget, and maintenance program, as outlined in the "Guidelines for Private Donations of Public Artwork to the City of Richmond".
- When the formal proposal is made to the City by the prospective donor, City Council will be advise of the receipt, and after the donation has been reviewed by an independent panel, the panel's recommendations will be presented for Council's consideration for acceptance or refusal of the proposed gift.

It is our understanding that Dr. Tanaka and the artist are now working on this formal proposal for presentation to the City in the fall, 2001.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There are no financial implications.

CONCLUSION

This report is presented as an update to a letter sent in June 2001(Attachment 2) addressed to Dave Semple and copied to City Councillors from Dr. Tanaka, President of the Wakayama Kenjin Kai. This letter outlined a proposal to build a tribute sculpture to the Nikkei fishermen of Steveston along the waterfront on the BC Packers Land. Staff and the Richmond Public Art Commission have met with Dr. Tanaka and explained the procedures to be followed before approval can be given by City Council for this proposal. Dr. Tanaka is now working on this formal proposal.

The proposed gift to the City will be evaluated under the conditions and procedures set out in the City's "Guidelines for Private Donations of Public Artwork to the City of Richmond".


Yvonne Stich
Park Planner


Kari Huhtala
Senior Planner

YS:sw

June 2001

Re: Nikkei Fishermen's Tribute Project-Monument

Dear Mr. Dave Semple,

The purpose of this letter is to inform the Parks Department and to seek your support of the project that we (Paul Kariya, Dan Nomura and myself) decided to facilitate to honor and pay tribute to the pioneering Japanese fishermen and all generations of Japanese Canadian fishermen that followed. As you know, the Japanese fishermen have contributed greatly to the B.C. fishing industry as well as the development of the coastal communities and inter-cultural relationships, especially in Steveston since the arrival of Mr. Gihei Kuno from Mio village in Wakayama Prefecture in June 1888.

Since the B.C. Packers land will be developed in the near future, on behalf of the project committee, I would appreciate receiving your cooperation and support of erecting a commemorative monument that will be a legacy for the future generations especially in Steveston. With the support of the Parks Department and the City of Richmond, this worthwhile project can be realized from a vision to a reality to honor and pay tribute to Nikkei fishermen in recognition of their courage, determination, leadership and contributions to the communities.

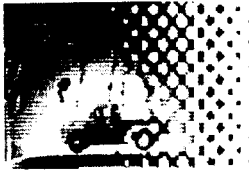
It is not only timely but also appropriate to implement a project of this nature and magnitude to preserve and leave a legacy and heritage of Nikkei fishermen for the future generations. The timing, I believe is of essence as today's living fishing legends are becoming few in number every year.

This project has three components:

1. To host a tribute dinner for all the surviving Nikkei fishermen and their spouses in Canada on November 3, 2001 at Steveston Buddhist Church.
2. To erect a commemorative monument overlooking the Fraser River in Steveston to honor and pay tribute to the Japanese fishermen.
3. To publish a photo-history and stories of the contribution of Japanese Canadian fishermen to the B.C. fishing industry and coastal communities especially Steveston.

To this date, the organizing committee has initiated and accomplished the following:

1. Nikkei Fishermen's Reunion Dinner will be held on November 3, 2001 at the Steveston Buddhist Temple.
2. Enormous task of building a database of Nikkei Fishermen is initiated and in the process of being collected.
3. News release to the Japanese communities was made as well as the notices were placed in Japanese newspapers and bulletins across Canada.



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Guidelines for Private Donations of Public Artwork to the City of Richmond

Background Statement & Intent

These Guidelines have been established to evaluate proposed voluntary public art gifts from private sources.

Gifts of artwork to the City are an important part of Richmond's growing Public Art Collection. Proposed gifts of artwork(s) namely, those privately purchased or commissioned and located on City sites will be reviewed before being placed into the City's Public Art Collection.

There are very limited City funds to preserve and conserve these works of art. There is also a limited number of suitable sites on City property for gifted artworks.

The Guidelines are founded on the conviction that the acquisition of valid public art, like the City's long-term investment in capital works and social development, is contingent on the incorporation of professional advice and community representation.

All proposed gifts are to receive independent assessments by a public art review committee, which will include artists, other members of the professional art community, and by representatives of the neighbourhoods involved, based on the Guidelines below, which complement the current Public Art Program.

While the following guidelines have been written specifically for the gifting of artworks, other proposals for creative or innovative public art projects are welcomed and encouraged, for example:

- Provision of a site and/or an endowment for an artist residency or a public art symposium
- Provision of a site and/or an endowment for a changing exhibition of public art, sculpture garden, etc.

These proposals are also subject to the guidelines below.

Guideline Objectives

1. To encourage and ensure that the City acquires public art that meets a high standard and is appropriate and meaningful for the community.
2. To provide a procedure for reviewing proposed gifts to the City of art works intended for placement in public places under the City's jurisdiction.
3. To acquire works that contribute to and enhance the City's Public Art Collection.

☉ Definitions

Public Art: Artwork (e.g. sculptures, paintings, statues, etc.) intended for placement or installation at indoor and outdoor areas of public use under the City's jurisdiction.

Richmond Public Art Commission (RPAC): The City Council appointed citizen advisory committee board, made up of art professionals, urban designers, individuals from the development industry and from the community at large.

Gift: An existing or proposed work of art or funded project offered as a donation by someone to the City for placement at a public site under the City's jurisdiction.

Sponsor: An individual or group, other than the artist, who proposes a donation of a work of art or funded project for placement on a public site under the City's jurisdiction.

Role of Sponsor: The Sponsor's principal role is to state the intent of the donation and provide the funding for its manufacturing, installation, and maintenance. Community groups or corporations can act as a sponsor, provided that they are capable of demonstrating community support for the proposal and clear financial responsibility for its acquisition, production, installation, and maintenance at the time of the proposal.

Note: Demonstrating community support reinforces the public nature of the proposal.

☉ Acceptance Conditions

1. The City will consider gifts of works of art for placement at City owned sites on the understanding that no City funds will be required for production, siting, installation or maintenance of the work.
2. A work of art must have a sponsor or co-sponsors who will present the proposal and, when necessary, be responsible for raising or providing the necessary funds in accordance with the budget that they presented to the City and the Public Art Commission.
3. No gift of an artwork will be accepted by the City until all funds for its development and siting have been secured (e.g. by cheque, cash, etc.).
4. The City will consider the following types of proposals for works of art intended for placement at a public site under the City's jurisdiction:
 - a) A sponsor's offer of an already completed work of art.
 - b) A sponsor's offer to commission an artwork by a specific artist or artists.
 - c) A sponsor's offer to commission an artwork by means of a public competition as described in the Public Art Program, Policy Plan and Implementation Actions.

☉ Public Art Selection Criteria

The Public Art Program encourages the creation of work of the highest standards, that is deemed relevant to the community, and that allows the public to be inspired, make connections and understand relationships among the works in the collection and the community. City staff will review all proposals of gifts of artwork based on the following criteria, and refer them to the Public Art Commission, its review panels and City Council.

1. City Sites:

Gifted public artwork must be for sites under the City's jurisdiction (e.g. City owned, City managed (e.g. public right of way).

4. The Bulletin (published monthly by the Greater Vancouver Japanese Canadian Citizens Association (J.C.C.A)) featured the project along with a profile of a fisherman. The Bulletin will continue to feature the same till and including the November edition.
5. A letter of support was forwarded to the office of the Consul General of Japan (Cultural Affair Dept.). The Consul General of Japan, Mr. Kusumoto, is aware of our project.
6. Received a grant in the amount of \$3000 from the NAJC (National Association of Japanese Canadians) towards this project.
7. Fortunate to retain a young, local Japanese Canadian artist-sculptor, Junichiro (Jun) Iwase, who will be in charge of designing and fabricating a commemorative monument.
8. The fundraising will be officially launched within the next two weeks.
9. Ms. Yvonne Stitch graciously accommodated us (Jun Iwase and myself) on her day off to explain and walk us through the potential sites on the B.C. Packers land on Friday June 15, 2001.

It is hoped this project meets the approval of the Parks Department and the City of Richmond in association with the Richmond Public Art Commission. Thanking you in advance for your cooperation and support of this invaluable project. I can be reached Monday through Thursday (8-5 pm) at 274-4222 or 274-7410 or at home 274-1684.

Enclosed please find the up to date information and the intent of the project for your approval and support.

Sincerely submitted,



Jim Tanaka D.D.S.

President, Wakayama Kenjin Kai
Project Facilitator

pc: Ms. Yvonne Stitch, Park Planner
Mr. Kari Huhtala, Senior Planner
Councillors: Kiichi Kumagai
Bill McNulty
Harold Steeves
Lyn Greenhill
Malcom Brodie
Derek Dang
Linda Baines

2. Theme:

A stated theme of the artwork, which is consistent with the goals, objectives and mandate of the City and the Richmond Public Art Program must be identified.

3. Relevance:

Works of art must be appropriate for the proposed site and its surroundings, and complement surrounding architecture, topography, history and the social dynamic of the particular community in which the art will be placed.

4. Artistic Excellence:

The work of art shall merit placement in a City public place.

A demonstrated ability and potential of the artist to execute the proposed piece, based on previous artistic achievement and experience must be shown.

In the case of a donation of an existing work of art, the quality of the work(s) must be supported by documentation from an independent professional evaluator.

In addition, the artwork must enhance the public art collection.

5. Physical Durability

Consideration of the artwork's long-term durability against theft, vandalism, and weather must be addressed.

6. Public Safety

All proposals must address public safety concerns.

7. Costs

All costs of the proposed artwork, including production, acquisition, siting, installation, and maintenance must be provided by the sponsor and be detailed in the proposal.

8. Legal

Consideration will be given to the proposed terms of donation, legal title, copyright authenticity, artist right to reproduce, liability and other issues as appropriate.

⊕ Acquisition Procedures & Process

1. All offers of artwork proposed for sites under City jurisdiction must be in writing and be submitted to the Public Art Commission which is responsible for reviewing proposals, designating review panels, and reporting its recommendations to City Council.

Richmond Public Art Commission
c/o City of Richmond
Urban Development Division
6911 No. 3 Road
Richmond, B.C. V6Y 2C1

2. The sponsor will be asked to submit a detailed proposal to the City and Public Art Commission prior to its consideration. The proposal must contain:
 - A rationale for the proposed gift
 - A brief statement of proposed artwork and theme from the artist
 - A project time line
 - Project ownership, transfer to the City and stakeholder responsibilities
 - A site plan showing the work in relation to the site
 - Visual presentation material of the work on the proposed site(s) and community, including drawing(s), photograph(s) and model(s) of the proposed work with scale and materials indicated
 - A detailed budget, with projected costs for the project, including: materials, installation, documentation, construction, maintenance, insurance, etc.
 - Funds committed to date and proposed source(s) of funds
 - Anticipated maintenance for completed and/or donated artwork
 - Artist's resume and any additional supporting material
 - All other program criteria should be addressed in the proposal
3. The Commission and City staff will review offers of artwork to determine whether they meet initial criteria for the City's public art collection.
4. All those qualifying will be put on a list of possible donations.
5. The Commission will appoint and instruct a panel(s) to review the offers and sites for compatibility and make recommendations to the Commission.
6. The panel of no fewer than three members and no more than 5 persons with suitable expertise, including art professionals and at least one neighbourhood representative, if appropriate, to evaluate the work according to the criteria and the choice of site.
7. The panel chair will report the panel's decision in writing to the Commission.
8. Public Art Commission accepts or rejects the panel's decision.
9. Public Art Commission makes a recommendation to City Council on accepted proposals.
10. If the proposal is accepted by the City Council, a formal agreement will be drawn up outlining the responsibilities of each party (the City, the sponsor, the artist and outside contractors, where applicable). The agreement will address project funding, insurance, siting, maintenance, project supervision, vandalism, the plaque, the right of removal or transfer, public safety and other issues as necessary.
11. If the panel, Public Art Commission, or City Council decides against selecting the proposal, City staff will notify the sponsor and the artist with the rationale for their decision.

Integrity and Registration of the Artwork

1. The City will be the owner of the artwork and reserves the right to move or alter the work to meet public safety or other City concerns. Any such change, will be made in consultation with artist and sponsor, and the Public Art Commission.
2. The completed and installed work of art will be registered in the City's Public Art Inventory together with the artist's statement of purpose.

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