



# City of Richmond

## Report to Committee

**To:** Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee      **Date:** February 7, 2022

**From:** Marie Fenwick, Director, Arts, Culture and Heritage Services      **File:** 11-7000-09-01/2022-Vol 01

**Re:** **Richmond Public Art Program 2021 Annual Highlights and Public Art Advisory Committee 2022 Work Plan**

### Staff Recommendation

That the Richmond Public Art Advisory Committee 2022 Work Plan, as presented in the staff report titled "Richmond Public Art Program 2021 Annual Highlights and Public Art Advisory Committee 2022 Work Plan", dated February 7, 2022, from the Director, Arts, Culture and Heritage Services, be approved.

*Marie Fenwick*  
 Marie Fenwick  
 Director, Arts, Culture and Heritage Services  
 (604-276-4288)

Att. 1

<b>REPORT CONCURRENCE</b>	
<b>CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER</b>	
<i>Sevens</i>	
<b>SENIOR STAFF REPORT REVIEW</b>	<b>INITIALS:</b>
	<i>MS</i>
<b>APPROVED BY CAO</b>	
<i>[Signature]</i>	

## Staff Report

### Origin

On July 27, 2010, Council approved the updated Richmond Public Art Program Policy 8703 and Terms of Reference for the Richmond Public Art Advisory Committee (RPAAC). The RPAAC provides advice and acts as a resource to City Council and staff on the City's Public Art Program.

This report presents the 2021 highlights of the Richmond Public Art Program to Council for information and the proposed RPAAC 2022 Work Plan for approval.

This report supports Council's Strategic Plan 2018-2022 Strategy #3 One Community Together:

*Vibrant and diverse arts and cultural activities and opportunities for community engagement and connection.*

This report supports Council's Strategic Plan 2018-2022 Strategy #4 An Active and Thriving Richmond:

*An active and thriving community characterized by diverse social and wellness programs, services and spaces that foster health and well-being for all.*

### Analysis

#### Richmond Public Art Program

The Public Art Program plays a key role in shaping, animating and enriching the public space, instilling civic pride and contributing to community identity. Artwork placed in the public realm has the power to engage the public, celebrate culture, broaden the diversity of arts experiences and opportunities, serve as an educational resource to expand public awareness and understanding of the arts, stimulate conversations, strengthen and support the arts community, and inspire creativity.

Since Council's adoption of the Public Art Program Policy in 1997, the Public Art Program's collection has grown to a total of 344 works of public art with 192 works currently on display around Richmond. Documentation of public art that is performance-based or otherwise ephemeral in nature is archived on the Public Art Program website.

Public art adds value to public and private development, enriches the public realm for residents and visitors to Richmond and advances Richmond's standing as a model for high quality urban development. The City provides leadership in integrating public art with major civic facilities as well as small-scale public infrastructure. The private sector has demonstrated that an investment in public art enhances their reputations as progressive city builders, while creating a liveable and desirable place to live and work. The Community Public Art Program engages members of the community in art making, discussions and public events. The Public Art Education Program provides learning opportunities for both the general public and emerging, professional artists.

### 2021 Richmond Public Art Program Highlights

The following represents the key activities and achievements of the City's Public Art Program through the civic, community, private development and educational programs in 2021:

- Through the Richmond Community Mural Program, six new murals were completed throughout Richmond.
- Public Art partnered with Major Events to offer a Public Art Salmon-Themed Scavenger Hunt as part of the Canada Day at Home celebrations presented by the Steveston Salmon Festival.
- Works by six Richmond-based artists were featured at the No. 3 Road Art Columns located at Aberdeen and Lansdowne Canada Line Stations.
- The following works were commissioned through the Civic Public Art Program:
  - *From Earth to Water* by Bagua Artists Collective at Alexandra Greenway
  - *Portals to the Future* (relocation project) by Mark Gallant, Yoli Garcia, Gilles B Herbert, Michael Hilde, Kathy Hill, Vedran Jelincic, Reto Marti, Noemi Pullvers, Alberto Replanski, Sandra C. Sinclair and Erik Stainsby at Tait West Park;
- Three community engagement projects were completed as part of the Engaging Artists in Community Program. Since its inception in 2016, the program has reached more than 10,000 Richmond residents and has offered participants and audiences hands-on art making activities and opportunities for individual creative expression and participation in the arts. The 2021 projects were:
  - *Whimsical Garden* with Creative Café Collective at William Cook Elementary School;
  - *Exploring Ecology Through Place* by Rachel Rozanski at Richmond Public Library; and
  - *Stories of Home – Past and Present* by Jean Bradbury in partnership with Richmond Multicultural Community Services.
- Five new works were installed through the Private Development Public Art Program:
  - *Water off a Duck's Back* by Douglas Coupland;
  - *Lily Tree* by Devon Knowles;
  - *Bell* by Khan Lee;
  - *High-Fives* by Lucien Durey and Jeff Kulak; and
  - *koyo-te, through the bog* by Jacqueline Metz & Nancy Chew.
- Three Public Art Tours were organized:
  - Richmond Olympic Oval Precinct Public Art Tour;
  - Richmond Public Art Self-Guided Mural Tour; and
  - Richmond Public Art Advisory Committee Public Art Tour.

- Ten traffic cabinets were wrapped in partnership with Engineering and Transportation with works by Richmond-based artists.
- Two photo-based works at Lansdowne and Aberdeen Canada Line stations were installed as part of the Capture Photography Festival in partnership with Richmond Art Gallery.
- Three virtual public art professional development workshops for artists were presented as part of the Art at Work Program.
- A neighbourhood public art brochure was created to include artworks installed at the Minoru Cultural Precinct.
- Public Art engaged in collaboration with 12 Community Groups to inform and create public art projects.

#### 2021 Richmond Public Art Advisory Committee Highlights

In 2021, the Richmond Public Art Advisory Committee (RPAAC) provided informed advice to staff and Council on a range of projects. Highlights of the 2021 Work Plan included:

- Ten monthly meetings with high attendance;
- Participation in educational opportunities and public events, such as the annual RPAAC Public Art Tour and unveiling of public art works;
- Reviews and recommendations on private development public art project plans and monthly updates on Advisory Design Panel reviews;
- Input to staff on civic Artist Calls;
- Observing roles at civic and private public art selection panel meetings; and
- Advice on Public Art Policy.

#### 2022 Richmond Public Art Advisory Committee Work Plan

The Richmond Public Art Advisory Committee's 2022 Work Plan (Attachment 1) outlines the proposed activities for the volunteer committee in 2022. The Work Plan has been reviewed by the Richmond Public Art Advisory Committee.

As a Council appointed Advisory Committee, RPAAC advises on all aspects of public art policy, planning, education and promotion, including the allocation of funds from the City's designated Public Art Reserve. Highlights of the 2022 Work Plan are noted below:

- Raise awareness and understanding of the importance of public art in the City through promotion and participation in educational opportunities and public events.

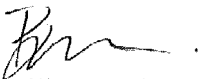
- Advise on strategies, policies and programs to achieve excellence in art in the public realm including researching best practices and advising on opportunities for artists.
- Propose and support City programs, initiatives and events that advance public art in the City including Lulu Speaker Series, Doors Open Richmond and Culture Days.
- Review and, through staff reports, provide recommendations to Council on public art project plans developed by City staff and private development public art consultants.
- Provide input to staff in the development of an annual Public Art Program report to Council, including an RPAAC annual work plan.

**Financial Impact**

None.

**Conclusion**

Public art animates the built and natural environment with meaning, contributing to a vibrant city in which to live, work and visit. The 2021 highlights of the Richmond Public Art Program and proposed Public Art Advisory Committee 2022 Work Plan demonstrate a high level of professionalism, volunteerism and commitment to quality public art in Richmond.



Biliana Velkova  
Public Art Planner  
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Att. 1: Richmond Public Art Advisory Committee 2022 Work Plan

## Richmond Public Art Advisory Committee 2022 Work Plan

The RPAAC 2022 Work Plan is based on the Terms of Reference for the Committee and is proposed as follows:

Strategy/Initiative	RPAAC Actions/Steps	Expected Outcome of RPAAC Actions	Indicator of RPAAC Success	Stakeholders
<b>1. Raise awareness and understanding of the importance of public art in the City</b>				
a. Public involvement in the selection process for public art	Encourage community members to participate on public art selection panels through an open call for volunteers	Richmond residents are involved in civic and community cultural life	Community support of the public art selection process	Community Centre Associations, Richmond Arts Coalition (RAC), Richmond Artist Guild (RAG), Richmond Art Gallery Association (RAGA) and others
b. Public involvement in development of Neighbourhood Public Art Plans	Encourage public engagement in development of Public Art Plan	Greater awareness of public art in Richmond communities	Public Art contributes to neighbourhood recognition and identity	Neighbourhood organizations, private developers and artists
c. Education and professional development for RPAAC members (workshops, bus tours, local conferences and symposiums)	Identify and register for professional development opportunities and City programs (such as Art at Work)	Develop and expand knowledge of best practices	Greater confidence in best practice advice to staff and Council	Creative City Network of Canada, Alliance for the Arts, Canadian Artists' Representation/Le Front des artistes canadiens (CARFAC)
d. Guest speakers for RPAAC meetings	Identify key guest speakers for RPAAC meetings for 2022	RPAAC members better informed on public art issues and equipped to share this information with Council, as and when directed	Guest speaker series for 2022 devised and implemented	Kwantlen Polytechnic University, Emily Carr University of Art + Design, other universities, artists, consultants and conservators

<b>Strategy/Initiative</b>	<b>RPAAC Actions/Steps</b>	<b>Expected Outcome of RPAAC Actions</b>	<b>Indicator of RPAAC Success</b>	<b>Stakeholders</b>
e. Support public art communication platforms	Promote existing and future platforms (mobile, print and web) that showcase the Public Art Collection	Public better informed about the public art collection, location, and artists	Increased public awareness of public art throughout the community	Residents, tourists, Community Centre Associations and Tourism Richmond
<b>2. Advise on strategies, policies and programs to achieve excellence in art in the public realm</b>				
a. Program Policy and Best Practices	Participate in review processes and, as needed, identify and prioritize potential research on policy and administration	Policy and administrative procedures are reviewed	Policy and administrative procedures are updated	City Council
b. Neighbourhood Public Art Plans	Provide advice and recommendations to staff regarding neighbourhood Public Art Plans	Neighbourhoods Art Plans are reviewed by RPAAC prior to Council review and endorsement	Council receives Plans that are vetted as per Policy	City Council
c. Terms of Reference (TOR) and Selected Artworks for Civic Projects	Provide advice and recommendations to staff regarding Terms of Reference and selected artworks	TOR and selected artworks are reviewed by RPAAC prior to Council review and endorsement	Council endorses Terms of Reference and selected artworks as per Policy	City Council
d. Community Public Art Programs	Advise on development and implementation of the Community Public Art Programs	Promote the Community Public Art Program	Continuous development of the Community Public Art Program	Community Centre Associations and community organizations

<b>Strategy/Initiative</b>	<b>RPAAC Actions/Steps</b>	<b>Expected Outcome of RPAAC Actions</b>	<b>Indicator of RPAAC Success</b>	<b>Stakeholders</b>
d. Artwork conservation, de-commissioning and maintenance of the Civic Public Art Collection	Review as required	Review priorities for conservation and maintenance as required	Public Art collection is well maintained	Public Works and Parks
e. RPAAC representation on public art juries for Civic projects	Represent RPAAC on public art juries for Civic projects as observers	Policy and administrative procedures are followed	Public Art selection process is transparent and follows policy and administrative procedures	Artists and community partners
<b>3. Support City programs, initiatives and events that advance public art in the City</b>				
a. Promote public art	Encourage community members to participate in City programs (such as Culture Days, Doors Open, etc.)	Develop community connection and awareness of public art	Increased attendance and appreciation of the arts	Arts Centre, RAC, Community Centre Associations and Heritage sites
<b>4. Review and submit recommendations on private development public art plans</b>				
a. Private Development Public Art Plans including Terms of Reference for public art projects	Review private development public art plans	Provide advice and recommendations to consultants and staff	Public Art collection is growing, making Richmond a more vibrant, and connected City	Artists, community partners, private developers
b. RPAAC representation on public art juries for private projects	Represent RPAAC on public art juries for private projects as observers	Policy and administrative procedures are followed	Public Art selection process is transparent and follows policy and administrative procedures	Artists, community partners, private developers



Strategy/Initiative	RPAAC Actions/Steps	Expected Outcome of RPAAC Actions	Indicator of RPAAC Success	Stakeholders
<b>5. Provide input to staff in the development of an annual Public Art Program shared with Council, including an RPAAC annual work plan</b>				
a. 2022 RPAAC Annual Work Plan to City Council	Advise as required prior to sharing with Council	RPAAC Work Plan is shared with Council and the public	Public Art contributes to making Richmond a more vibrant, active and connected City	Council, community partners, private developers