

To:	Community Safety Committee	Date:	September 30, 2010
From:	Jane Fernyhough Director, Arts, Culture & Heritage Services	File:	11-7000-09-20-104/Vol 01
Re:	Fire Hall No. 2 – Steveston Public Art Project		

#### **Staff Recommendation**

That the concept proposal and installation of the Fire Hall No. 2 – Steveston Public Art Project "Roots of Our Future" by artist Blake Williams, as presented in the report from the Director, Arts, Culture & Heritage Services dated September 30, 2010, be endorsed.

Jane Fernyhough Director, Arts, Culture & Heritage Services (604-276-4288) Att. 3

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ROUTED TO:	CONCURRENCE	CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER					
Budgets	YMND	fellalle					
Fire Rescue	YVND	· ·					
Project Development	YEND						
REVIEWED BY TAG	YES NO	REVIEWED BY CAO					

#### Staff Report

#### Origin

On December 10, 2007 Council endorsed the 2008 Community Safety Building Capital Budget that included an allocation of 1% of the construction budget for the development of a public art project as part of the new Fire Hall No. 2 - Steveston.

This report presents the recommended "Fire Hall No. 2 - Steveston Public Art Project" concept proposal for Council's consideration and endorsement.

The inclusion of public art at Fire Hall No. 2 - Steveston contributes to Council Term Goals to advance the City's destination status and ensure our continued development as a vibrant cultural city.

#### Analysis

#### Terms of Reference - Fire Hall No. 2 - Steveston Public Art

The public art terms of reference for the Fire Hall No. 2 – Steveston Public Art Call (Attachment 1) describes the art opportunity, site description, scope of work, budget, selection process, design schedule and submission requirements. The Terms of Reference were reviewed and endorsed by the Public Art Advisory Committee.

#### Public Art Selection Process

The chart outlining the public art decision-making process for a City initiated public art project is presented as Attachment 2.

#### Fire Hall No. 2 - Steveston - Public Art Project Panel

Eighteen public art submissions were received in response to the call for expression of interest. The five member selection panel reviewed the submission and selected five artists for interviews. The members of the selection panel included:

- Bill Miloglav, Richmond Fire and Rescue, Retired
- Jane Kinegal, Richmond resident, Artist, Teacher
- Chris Charlebois, Richmond resident, Artist
- Jeanette Jarville, Richmond resident, Artist
- Jay Lin, Project Architect for New Fire Hall No. 2 Steveston

### Recommended Public Art Project - "Roots of Our Future"

Following the interviews with the five shortlisted artists, the artist Blake Williams was unanimously recommended by the Public Art Project Panel for Fire Hall No. 2 - Steveston. Next, the artist collaborated with the design team for Fire Hall No. 2 - Steveston, including representation from the Richmond Fire Department, to develop the detailed concept design "Roots of Our Future" for Council approval.

### CS - 8

The sculpture's proposed siting is near the fire hall's entrance walkway from No 2 Road. The work consists of photo-imagery on glass tiles mounted onto the front and back of an undulating, wave-like form.

The artwork evokes the following message to the passer-by:

"The image of the tree is a stylized section of a Pacific Crabapple tree. These trees line the banks of Scotch pond adjacent to Garry Point Park in Steveston. Onto the branches of the tree, text will be etched that represents the history of Steveston, providing a glimpse into the lives of those that made up this community. The roots of a tree, as the roots of a community, are unseen, but they nourish both. The text also represents these community roots that continue to nourish and run through Steveston's branches".

Attachment 3 provides further information about the proposed artwork, materials, size and structure, and location.

#### Financial Impact

A public art budget of \$35,640 was allocated in the construction budget for Fire Hall No. 2 -Steveston. A budget of \$35,000 is provided to the artist for the design, fabrication and installation of the artwork including all related artist expenses. The remaining \$640 in the approved budget is for administration of the project, including selection panel expenses and honoraria. The operating budget impact (OBI) for cleaning and maintenance of the art work are included in the approved OBI for the 2010 Public Art Program capital project.

#### Conclusion

The new community safety building represents an opportunity to provide public art to enhance the identity and vibrancy of the new Fire Hall No. 2 - Steveston and the Steveston community. Staff recommend that Council endorse the concept proposal and installation of the Fire Hall No. 2 -Steveston public art project "Roots of Our Future" by artist Blake Williams, as presented in this report.

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Eric Fiss Public Art Planner (604-247-4612)

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## Attachment 1

## CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST AND QUALIFICATIONS OPEN TO BRITISH COLUMBIA ARTISTS



The Richmond Public Art Commission, on behalf of the City of Richmond, invites artist(s)/teams to participate in a two-stage selection process to develop an original site-specific, integrated work of public art for the Steveston Fire Hall replacement at 11011 No. 2 Road. This open call is held in accordance with the City of Richmond Public Art Program, Facilities Department and the Richmond Fire Department. This opportunity is open to professional British Columbian artists. Each artist(s)/team is limited to one entry. All information about the project is contained herein.

Budget: Deadline for Submissions: Installation: \$35,000 (maximum, excluding applicable taxes [note: could be HST]) 4:00 PM, October 02, 2009 Spring 2010

## **SCOPE OF WORK**

This project is an opportunity for an artist/artist team to collaborate with the Design Team on an integrated art/design/landscape project. This artwork should be designed to enhance the Steveston Fire Hall's green space and identify this site as a gateway to the Steveston neighbourhood. The work should intrigue and inspire residents, pedestrians and visitors of the Steveston Community. Finally, as an integrated element of the design and landscape of the Fire Hall replacement, the public art project must adhere to the building's LEED silver requirements.

#### Site

Steveston Fire Hall is the fire and rescue station serving the Steveston area of Richmond. This Fire Hall will be situated at the southwest intersection of No. 2 Road and Steveston Hwy, a major gateway to the Steveston community.

#### Community

The Fire Hall will serve the diverse neighbourhood comprised of mixed single- and multi-family residential housing and commercial uses. Immediately to the east, in the Agricultural Land Reserve' is a modest two-story commercial multi-tenant building and an agricultural zoned property with a single family home and open storage. Single family homes are immediately to the southwest and mixed multi-family townhouse developments and large single family lots can be found to the north.

#### Location for the art work

The new Fire Hall will be located on a prominent corner site along the busy Steveston Highway, one of the main vehicular routes to the Steveston neighbourhood and waterfront. There are three potential site options for public art at the fire hall:

Site A: The most visible location, the hose and training tower on the northeast side of the building, suitable for a green wall or other environmental aesthetic, or other concept entirely. This area will be highly visible by both vehicular and pedestrian traffic, making it an ideal location for public art.

Site B: The flag poles in the southeast corner of the site leading to the fire hall entrance, this area will include a walkway and green space.

Site C: The prominent green space area in the northeast corner of the site, this site would be ideal for a landscape component at this focal point on the intersection.

The work should be integrated into the landscape and/or architectural design and comply with LEED Silver requirements while identifying the site as a gateway to the Steveston community.

#### **Selection Process**

- The recommended art work will be chosen through a two-stage selection process under the mandate of the Richmond Public Art Commission.
- Artists will respond to this invitation with examples of past work and a written expression of interest, and approach to the project.
- Selection panel to select up to five short-listed artists/artist teams to interview and prepare a design concept.
- Site orientation for short-listed artists/artist teams.
- Short-listed artists to prepare a preliminary concept approach for the art work.
- Short-listed artists to be paid \$1,000 per team upon submission of concept approach and completion of interview stage.
- Selection panel meets to interview and select recommended artist. The selection panel is under no obligation to select an artist for the commission.
- Selected artist/artist team contracted to prepare detailed design concept in collaboration with the Design Team.
- Selected artist/artist team collaborates with the Design Team to develop detailed concept design.
- Selection panel recommendation reported to City Council for endorsement to proceed with detailed design, fabrication and installation.
- The City of Richmond reserves the right to cancel the public art call or the public art project.

#### **Selection Panel Composition**

The five member selection panel will be composed of a retired member of Richmond Fire-Rescue, a representative of Hughes Condon Marler Architects, an independent art professional familiar with the community, an artist, and a Richmond resident.

#### **Criteria for Selection**

The submissions will be reviewed and recommendations made based on:

- Compliance with the term of reference requirements;
- Artist(s)/team previous experience working in the field of public art, including artistic achievements;
- Experience and ability to collaborate and work with an integrated design approach;
- Artistic excellence, imagination, and artistic merit.

#### Schedule

Proposal Call:	September 2009
Short-list concept Development:	October 2009
Selection of Recommended artist/artist team and concept Proposal:	October 2009
Concept and design collaboration with Design Team:	November 2009

#### Submission Requirements for Stage 1

Artist applying for this project must submit the following materials with applicant's name and contact information on every page:

• A typed letter of Interest, including the artist's intent, rational and a preliminary description of approach for this particular public art project (2 page max);

## CS - 12

- Resume of past work, including any public art commissions;
- Up to 10 digital images of past work. Each image must be labelled with artist name and numbered to correspond to the annotated images list.
  - File format submit only "high" quality JPGs (do not use GIFs, TIFFs or other formats
  - File size files must be less than 500kb per image
  - o Do not embed images into PowerPoint or submit moving images or audio files. A
- An Annotated Images List with artist's name and contact information, title of artwork, medium, date of artwork, dimensions, budget and the corresponding image number. Artists are encouraged to include a brief description on integrated artwork, design team collaborative work or installations;
- A list of two professional references who have knowledge of the artist's work and methods;
- A 9"x12" self-addressed stamped envelop of the return of application materials, if requested.

Submissions not meeting the above requirements may not be considered.

#### **Submission Delivery**

All submissions must be delivered by 4:00 PM October 02, 2009

Please email to publicart@richmond.ca or mail to:

Michelle Brunet Public Art Assistant City of Richmond 6911 NO. 3 Road Richmond, BC V6Y 2C1

#### Contract

A contract between the recommended artist(s)/team and the City of Richmond will be drawn up with the assistance of the City. The contract will include a schedule of payment for fabrication and installation. The budget for the commission must include all costs including artist's fees, other fees, GST/HST, insurance, fabrication, delivery, installation, clean-up and any consultation's fees. The artist(s)/team will also be expected to produce regular progress reports to the City.

The final work and requisite documentation will become the property of the City, and joint copyright will be held by both the Artist and the City. At project completion, the artist will provide the City with a detailed project record and maintenance manual.

#### Confidentiality

All information provided to, or created by the artist(s)/team and selection panel shall be considered confidential until such time as it has been released or made public by the City of Richmond.

# For more information about these Terms of Reference and the Steveston Fire Hall public art opportunity, please contact:

 Eric Fiss, Public Art Planner Tel: 604-247-4612 Email: <u>efiss@richmond.ca</u> Web: <u>www.richmond.ca/publicart</u>

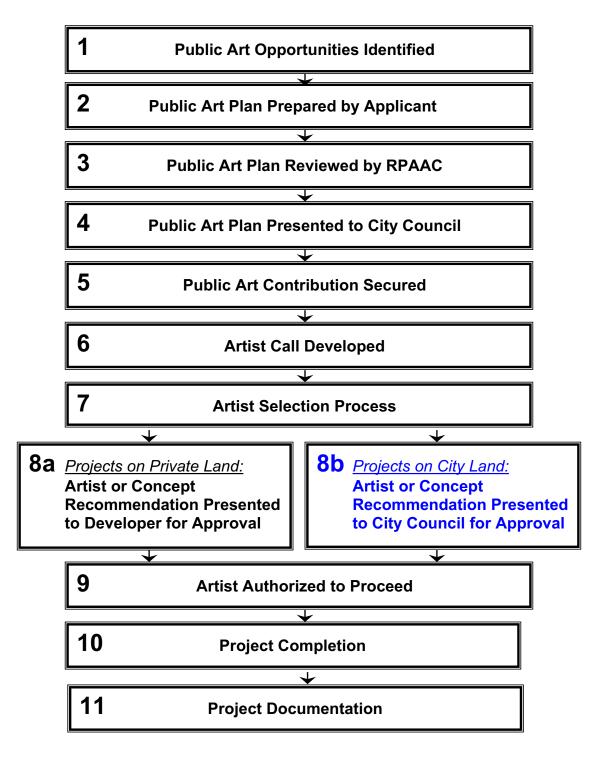
## Architectural Visual Rendering

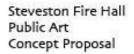




## **Richmond Public Art Process**

Civic • Private • Community





Roots Of Our Future



Blake Williams 1318 Grant Street Vancouver BC V5L 2X5 604 688 6265



## Proposed Artwork

Photo montage exploring the form of the sculpture and its relationship to the site.

Organized fire fighting began in Steveston around 1912 when the cannery community was in need of fire protection and from these beginnings has grown into the modern force that it is today. My proposal for the Steveston Fire Hall is to honor the history and current activities of the Richmond Fire Department while also representing the community of Steveston.

I will create an undulating steel, concrete and glass form that echoes a wave-like motion. A steel structure will frame glass inserts and glass cladding. Photo-imagery that reflect the department's and region's history and changing character will be applied using layered, kiln fired and fused enamels and glazes. The resulting surface is easily cleanable and highly resistant to vandalism and graffiti.

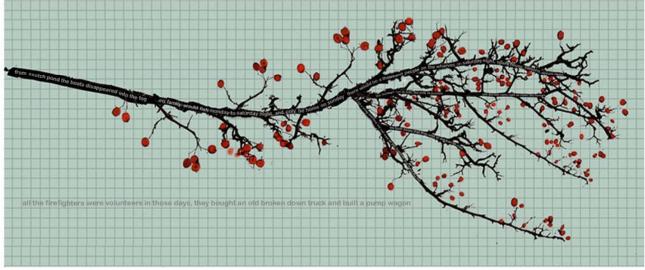


Overall image of the art work facing the street and entrance walkway. "We'd be fishing on the wharf but when we heard the siren we'd jump on our bikes and chase the trucks"

#### Artist statement:

The image of the tree is a stylized section of a Pacific Crabapple tree. These trees line the banks of Scotch pond adjacent to Garry Point Park in Steveston. They are hardy, robust trees with small red fruit and while standing beside these trees on a cold winter day I felt that they represented the strength and resilience of the fishers who have moored their boats here for generations. They stand in silent vigil with their bent, spiked branches mirroring weathered, gnarled hands, the result of a lifetime at sea. The small red fruit bright against the fog appeared as a symbol of hope for the fisher's safe return.

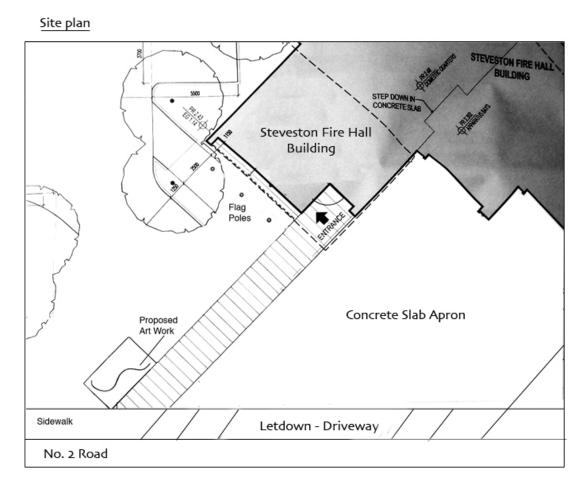
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Overall image facing the landscaped area between the walkway and the parking area

"all the firefighters were volunteers in those days, they bought an old broken down truck and built a pump wagon"

**CS - 19** 



Preliminary P	roduction Schedule
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image research and preparation	June 15 - 30 2010		
Steel structure fabrication	July 20 - 30		
Application of concrete board	August 1 - August 31		
printing of imagery and color applications Including glass kiln firing	September 1 - November 1		
Glass installation	November 1 - December 31		
Site installation	March - May 2011 (tbd)		



