

# **Report to Committee**

To:

Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee

Date:

April 12, 2011

From:

Jane Fernyhough

File:

11-7000-09-20-118/Vol

Director, Arts, Culture & Heritage Services

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Re:

Metal Volleyball Player Sculpture Donation by Mander Family

#### Staff Recommendation

That the Mander family donation of the proposed metal *Volleyball Player* sculpture by artist Cory Fuhr and installation within the Richmond Olympic Oval, as presented in the report from the Director, Arts, Culture & Heritage Services dated April 12, 2011, be endorsed.

Jane Fernyhough

Director, Arts, Culture & Heritage Services

(604-276-4288)

Att. 1

FOR ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT USE ONLY			
ROUTED TO:		ONCURRENCE	CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER
Richmond Olympic Oval Project Development		YMND	Mike King
REVIEWED BY TAG	YES JAK	NO	REVIEWED BY CAO

#### **Staff Report**

## Origin

On July 27, 2010, Council approved the updated "Richmond Public Art Program", which included the Public Art Program Administrative Procedures Manual. The Administrative Procedures Manual provides guidelines for the review and acceptance of donations of public art to the City.

This project supports Council goals to incorporate public art within the public realm to animate the built and natural environment with meaning, contributing to a vibrant city in which to live and visit.

This report presents for Council consideration a proposed donation by the Mander family of a metal sculpture to be installed in the Richmond Olympic Oval.

## **Analysis**

#### Narinder Mander

Dave Mander and his family are proposing a gift to the City in memory of the late Narinder "Ned" Mander. The family have lived and worked in Richmond since 1974. Ned was a graduate of Richmond Secondary School in 1991 and a nationally ranked volleyball player. According to the RCMP, Ned Mander disappeared ten years ago at age 28 as an innocent victim caught in the crossfire of a kidnapping.

The Mander family has established an Athletic Scholarship at Richmond Secondary School in Ned's name and is providing an annual sponsorship program in support of the school lunch program to Richmond Outreach Services Horizon School on Minoru Boulevard. Additionally, they propose the gift of a metal volleyball player sculpture in memory of Ned.

# Proposed Volleyball Sculpture

The Volleyball Centre of Excellence began programs in September 2010 at the Richmond Olympic Oval as part of the Community Legacy Program. Given Ned's passion for the sport, the Mander family propose the donation of a metal sculpture in the form of a volleyball player to be located at the Richmond Olympic Oval similar in style to the *Speed Skater* sculpture, created by artist Cory Fuhr. The artist has been contacted and the proposed completion of the project will be on or before October 2011, subject to Council approval.

The family upon approval will provide the funds for the project including installation and maintenance. The artwork will be under the City's ownership and management.

# Procedures for reviewing proposed gifts to the City

The Public Art Program Administrative Procedures Manual provides guidelines for the review and acceptance of private donations. In accordance with these guidelines, the proposed gift was presented to the Public Art Advisory Committee (RPAAC) for discussion on February 15, 2011.

On March 30, 2011, a City appointed review committee composed of Jeanette Lee, artist; John Mills, General Manager of the Richmond Olympic Oval; and Dawna Sales, Coordinator for the Volleyball Centre of Excellence, met to consider the proposal. They reviewed the proposal based

on the criteria of site, theme, relevance, artistic excellence, physical durability, public safety, environmental sustainability, cost and legal considerations.

The proposal was enthusiastically supported on all criteria. The panel noted the high quality of artistic merit and public popularity of the existing *Speed Skater* artwork by Cory Fuhr located in the Richmond Olympic Oval and felt that this additional work by the artist would be an appropriate companion piece. The panel reviewed several prominent public locations for the work and recommends that it be located in the building in a publicly accessible and visible area. It is recommended that the artist consider a "ready to serve" volleyball pose and consider scaling up the work to improve interest and relationship to the size of the Oval and its space.

## **Financial Impact**

The City considers 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 ongoing maintenance of the work without prior approval from City Council. As proposed, the Mander family will provide all the necessary funds, including a fund for ongoing maintenance, typically 2% of the cost of the work annually.

#### Conclusion

Public art animates the built and natural environment with meaning, contributing to a vibrant city in which to live and visit. Gifts of appropriate artworks contribute to and enhance the City's public art collection.

This report presents the proposed donation by the Mander family of a metal Volleyball Player sculpture by artist Cory Fuhr in memory of Ned Mander, for installation within the Richmond Olympic Oval, for approval.

**Eric Fiss** 

Public Art Planner (604-247-4612)

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