



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee **Date:** January 19, 2024

From: Marie Fenwick, Director, Arts, Culture and Heritage Services **File:** 01-0100-30-RPAR1-01/2024-Vol 01

Re: **Richmond Public Art Program 2023 Annual Highlights and Public Art Advisory Committee 2024 Work Plan**

Staff Recommendation

That the Richmond Public Art Advisory Committee 2024 Work Plan, as presented in the staff report titled “Richmond Public Art Program 2023 Annual Highlights and Public Art Advisory Committee 2024 Work Plan”, dated January 19, 2024, from the Director, Arts, Culture and Heritage Services, be approved.

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

Att. 1

REPORT CONCURRENCE	
CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER	
SENIOR STAFF REPORT REVIEW	INITIALS:
APPROVED BY CAO	

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). RPAAC provides advice and acts as a resource to City Council and staff on the City's Public Art Program.

This report presents the 2023 highlights of the Richmond Public Art Program to Council for information and the proposed RPAAC 2024 Work Plan found in Attachment 1 for approval.

This report supports Council's Strategic Plan 2022-2026 Focus Area #1 Proactive in Stakeholder and Civic Engagement:

Proactive stakeholder and civic engagement to foster understanding and involvement and advance Richmond's interests.

This report supports Council's Strategic Plan 2022-2026 Focus Area #6 A Vibrant, Resilient and Active Community:

Vibrant, resilient and active communities supported by a wide variety of opportunities to get involved, build relationships and access resources.

Analysis

Richmond Public Art Program

The Public Art Program plays a key role in shaping, animating and enriching 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 406 works of public art with 199 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 development public art program provides an avenue for developers to contribute to creating a liveable and desirable place to live, work and play. The Community Public Art Program engages Richmond residents in art making, discussions and public events. The Public Art Education Program provides learning opportunities for both the general public and emerging, professional artists.

2023 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 2023:

- Through the Richmond Community Mural Program, five new murals were completed throughout Richmond:
 - *Gillnetter at Night* by Mark Anderson at Pacific Net and Twine;
 - *Journey Home* by Nicole Larsen at Steveston Outdoor Pool;
 - *Dog Days* by Rory Doyle at South Arm Outdoor Pool;
 - *Movements That Makes Us* by Ben Evelyn at Mitchell Elementary School; and
 - *Patchwork of Unity* by Ho Lay Hoon at 22855 McLean Avenue.
- Public Art partnered with the Richmond Arts Centre to present an installation by Dolores Altin and Elvira Monteforte at the Library/Cultural Centre plaza on BC Family Day as part of the Richmond Children's Arts Festival. The artwork aimed to raise awareness of plastic pollution in oceans, and water as a precious resource to be protected for future generations.
- Works by six Richmond artists were featured at the No. 3 Road Art Columns located at Aberdeen and Lansdowne Canada Line Stations.
- The following works were installed through the Civic Public Art Program:
 - *Typha* by Charlotte Wall and Puya Khalili at Hollybridge Way at Middle Arm Waterfront Greenway; and
 - *Leaping Home* by Celan Bouillet at the Richmond Animal Shelter.
- Three community engagement projects were completed as part of the Engaging Artists in Community Program:
 - *Creative Community Resilience* by J Peachy with Ferris Elementary School in partnership with Richmond Emergency Programs;
 - *Garden Time* by Aaron Friend Lettner with Sharing Farm and Terra Nova Nature School; and
 - *Weaving Lives Together* by Mariana Frochtengarten in partnership with East Richmond Community Association at Tait Riverfront Park, in collaboration with Tait Elementary School.
- One new work was installed through the Private Development Public Art Program:
 - *Fireside* by Nathan Lee at 6611 Pearson Way.
- There were four Public Art tours:
 - Public Art Bus Tour during Doors Open,
 - Newcomers Public Art Bus Tour during Doors Open,

- Public Art Bus Tour during Culture Days, and
 - Public Art Self-Guided Mural Tour during Culture Days.
- In partnership with Parks Services and Transportation, 14 traffic cabinets and two utility boxes were wrapped with works by Richmond 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.
 - As part of the Art at Work professional development program, three free workshops were offered: Tax Basics for Artists, Conservation and Maintenance: Best Practices for Artists Working in Public Art, and Applying for Public Art Calls.
 - 22 Richmond artists were contracted for Public Art commissions.
 - Public Art — in partnership with Community Social Development and community partners Richmond Multicultural Community Services, Minoru Seniors Society and City Centre Community Association — completed a year-long project to foster awareness, learning and action on topics of anti-racism, discrimination and intersectionality. *Mosaic Firefly: Richmond Edition* engaged 15 youth and 15 seniors through 20 workshops and gatherings, culminating in two public performances. The project was made possible through a \$90,000 grant from the Department of Canadian Heritage.
 - The City of Richmond was awarded the Creative Cities Network of Canada's Public Art Legacy Award at the annual Creative Cities Network of Canada Summit held in St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador. The award honours *Sea to Sky*, completed in 2021, the five-storey integrated glass artwork by Musqueam artist Thomas Cannell located on No. 3 Road as part of the Keltic Development.

2023 Richmond Public Art Advisory Committee Highlights

In 2023, RPAAC provided informed advice to staff and Council on a range of projects. Highlights included:

- nine monthly meetings with high attendance;
- participation in educational opportunities and public events, such as the annual RPAAC Public Art Tour, public art tour of the City of Surrey's public art collection 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; and
- observing roles at civic and private public art selection panel meetings.

2024 Richmond Public Art Advisory Committee Work Plan

The Richmond Public Art Advisory Committee's 2024 Work Plan (Attachment 1) outlines the proposed activities for the volunteer committee in 2024. The Work Plan was reviewed by the Richmond Public Art Advisory Committee on January 16, 2024.

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 2024 Work Plan are noted below:

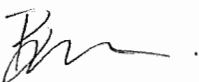
- Raise awareness and understanding of the importance of public art in the City through promotion and participation in educational opportunities and public events;
- Advise on strategies, policies and programs to achieve excellence in art in the public realm including researching best practices and advising 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; and
- 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 2023 highlights of the Richmond Public Art Program and proposed Public Art Advisory Committee 2024 Work Plan demonstrate a high level of professionalism, volunteerism and commitment to quality public art in Richmond.



Biliana Velkova
Public Art Planner
(604-247-4612)

Att. 1: Richmond Public Art Advisory Committee 2024 Work Plan and Membership List

Richmond Public Art Advisory Committee 2024 Work Plan

The RPAAC 2024 Work Plan is based on the Terms of Reference for the Committee and is proposed as follows:

Initiative	Actions	Expected Outcomes
1. Raise awareness and understanding of the importance of public art in the City		
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
b. 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
c. Guest speakers for RPAAC meetings	Identify key guest speakers for RPAAC meetings for 2024	RPAAC members better informed on public art issues and equipped to share this information with Council, as and when directed
d. 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
2. Advise on strategies, policies and programs to achieve excellence in art in the public realm		
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
b. 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
c. Community Public Art Programs	Advise on development and implementation of the Community Public Art Programs	Promote the Community Public Art Program

d. Artwork conservation, de-commissioning and maintenance of the Civic Public Art Collection	Review as required	Review priorities for conservation and maintenance as required
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
3. Support City programs, initiatives and events that advance public art in the City		
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
4. Review and submit recommendations on private development public art plans		
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
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
c. 2024 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

**RICHMOND PUBLIC ART ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Current Membership List 2024**

Total Membership:	9	Authority:	ToR	Staff Liaisons	Biliana Velkova
Total Appts By Cncl:	9	Length Of Term:	1 Yr/2 Yrs	Local:	604.247.4612
Cncl Rep:	Cllr. Kash Heed	Term Limits:	4 terms		

Members	Date First Appointed	Date of Most Current Re-appointment	Date Appointment Expires
Ms. Bronwyn Bailey	11/12/2019	12/20/2023	12/31/2025
Ms. Sabrina Bhojani	12/20/2023	12/20/2023	12/31/2025
Mrs. Ceri Chong	11/12/2019	12/20/2023	12/31/2025
Mr. Paul Dufour	11/12/2019	12/20/2023	12/31/2025
Mr. Frank Ducote	12/21/2022	12/21/2022	12/31/2024
Ms. Victoria Grigorenko	12/21/2022	12/21/2022	12/31/2024
Mr. Jose Larano	11/23/2020	12/21/2022	12/31/2024
Ms. Allison Liu	12/06/2021	12/20/2023	12/31/2025
Mr. Jerome Teo	11/23/2020	12/21/2022	12/31/2024