



# City of Richmond

## Report to Committee

**To:** Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee      **Date:** January 18, 2023

**From:** Marie Fenwick, Director, Arts, Culture and Heritage Services      **File:** 11-7000-09-20-334/Vol 01

**Re:** **Steveston Community Centre and Library Signature Outdoor Artwork Terms of Reference**

### Staff Recommendation

That the Terms of Reference for the Steveston Community Centre and Library Signature Outdoor Artwork as presented in the report titled, "Steveston Community Centre and Library Signature Outdoor Artwork Terms of Reference," dated January 18, 2023, 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		
ROUTED TO:	CONCURRENCE	CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER
Finance Department	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Facility Services & Project Development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Recreation & Sport Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Parks Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Library	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>SENIOR STAFF REPORT REVIEW</b>	INITIALS: 	<b>APPROVED BY CAO</b> 

## Staff Report

### Origin

On September 23, 2019, Council approved the 60,350 sq. ft. program for the Steveston Community Centre and Library. The new facility will host a wide range of recreation, sport, wellness and library programs as well as regional tournaments and events.

In accordance with the Public Art Program Policy No. 8703, the project budget includes an allocation of one per cent of the construction budget for public art. The one per cent public art contribution for this project is \$450,000.

On December 21, 2022, Council approved the Steveston Community Centre and Library Public Art Plan. The Plan recommends a large-scale signature artwork to be located in the outdoor plaza as well as additional artworks for the interior of the facility.

This report presents the proposed Terms of Reference for a signature outdoor artwork at Steveston Community Centre and Library for Council's consideration.

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.*

This report supports Council's Strategic Plan 2018-2022 Strategy #6 Strategic and Well-Planned Growth:

*Leadership in effective and sustainable growth that supports Richmond's physical and social needs.*

### Analysis

#### Steveston Community Centre and Library Background

The Steveston Community Centre and Library is envisioned to be the heart of the Steveston community, where residents will come to recreate, learn, play and connect in a welcoming and accessible environment. With the goal to serve the community into the future, the new 60,350 square foot three-storey facility will include: two gymnasiums, a fitness centre, community "living room," library and study areas, as well as several multipurpose rooms for community use. In addition to community centre and library programs, the facility will host local and regional tournaments and events.

The form and character of the building draws inspiration from various buildings and landmarks around the Steveston area, reflecting elements such as the platforms and docks at the Steveston waterfront, canopies and fascia trims from the Steveston Tram building, the traditional Japanese curved roof form of the Martial Arts Centre, as well as materials and patterns from the surrounding industrial buildings. All these elements are cohesively incorporated to form a modern contemporary design.

#### Steveston Community Centre and Library Signature Outdoor Artwork Opportunity

The artwork will be an outdoor sculptural work of scale to support wayfinding and create a sense of arrival and welcome for community members, visitors and staff.

Staff worked with members of the Steveston Community Society and Richmond Public Library Board to inform the Terms of Reference for this public art opportunity.

The corresponding Terms of Reference for an Artist Call is provided in Attachment 1. It reflects the collective perspective of the community members who participated in the process.

The Public Art Advisory Committee endorsed the Terms of Reference at its meeting on January 17, 2023.

#### Proposed Location

The public artwork will be located at the entrance plaza to the west of the facility. This is a high profile site, visible from Moncton Street, situated in historic Steveston Village.

A landmark, signature artwork at this location is anticipated to attract people to gather, pose for photos and create a sense of place and arrival. The artwork may be a single, stand-alone artwork, or series of sequential pieces.

#### Selection Process for Artists and Artworks

A two-stage artist selection process will be implemented and will follow the Richmond Public Art Program Policy guidelines as outlined in the Public Art Program Administrative Procedures Manual. The Artist Call will be open to artists residing in British Columbia.

Following the selection process, the preferred artwork concept proposal will be brought forward to Council for endorsement in the third quarter of 2023, in order to proceed with the detailed design and installation phases of the artwork in 2025/2026.

#### **Financial Impact**

The total budget for the Steveston Community Centre and Library Signature Outdoor Artwork is \$250,000. The budget will cover all implementation expenses including design, production, fabrication, taxes and other associated costs to deliver a completed artwork on site.

The Steveston Community Centre and Library Signature Outdoor Artwork is funded from the approved Steveston Community Centre and Library capital project. Any maintenance and repairs

required to the artwork will be the responsibility of the Public Art Program and will be included as part of the future OBI submission for the facility.

The remaining Steveston Community Centre and Library public art budget of \$200,000 is allocated for the integrated and installed artwork in the interior of the facility as per the Steveston Community Centre and Library Public Art Plan, subject to future Reports to Council.

### **Conclusion**

The Steveston Community Centre and Library Signature Outdoor Artwork supports the approved Steveston Community Centre and Library Public Art Plan. A signature outdoor artwork at this location will contribute to the neighbourhood character and foster a sense of identity and belonging for residents and visitors. The artwork will create a sense of arrival and welcome for community members, visitors and staff and will enhance the community connection to the facility.



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

Att. 1: Steveston Community Centre and Library Signature Outdoor Artwork Terms of Reference

# call to artists

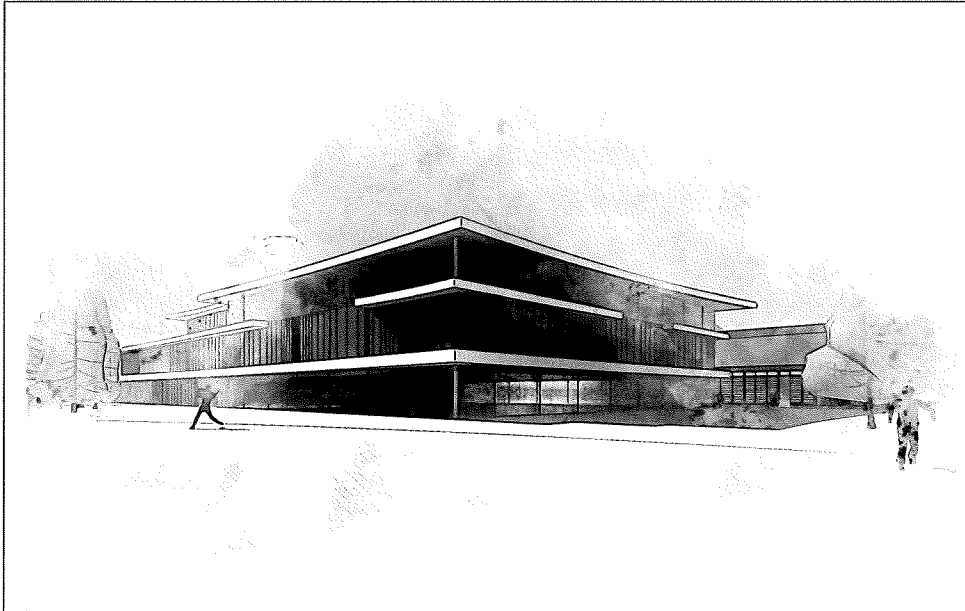


Figure 1. Steveston Community Centre and Library Rendering

## Steveston Community Centre and Library Signature Outdoor Artwork

City of Richmond

## Request for Qualifications (RFQ)

January 2023

### OPPORTUNITY

The Richmond Public Art Program is seeking an artist or artist team to create a landmark signature artwork for the new Steveston Community Centre and Library in Richmond, BC. The public artwork will be located at the entrance plaza of the facility to function as a wayfinding feature that creates a sense of arrival and welcome to the site. All information about the project is described below.

This is a two-stage open artist call. Following review of the submitted artists' statements of interest and their qualifications, up to five artists will be shortlisted by the selection panel and invited to attend a site orientation before preparing a concept proposal for presentation with an interview.

**Budget:** \$250,000 CAD

**Eligibility Requirements:** Open to professional artists and artist teams residing in British Columbia.

**Deadline for Submissions:** TBC

**Installation:** 2025/2026

# call to artists

## BACKGROUND

A replacement facility for the Steveston Community Centre and Library was approved by Richmond City Council in its priority list of major facility projects for 2016-2026. Following extensive community consultation, Council approved the program for a new facility in September 2019, and the site for this facility in December 2020.

The Steveston Community Centre and Library is envisioned to be the heart of the Steveston community, where residents will come to recreate, learn, play and connect in a welcoming and accessible environment. With the goal to serve the community into the future, the new 60,350 square foot three-storey facility will include: two gymnasiums, a fitness centre, community “living room”, library and study areas, as well as several multipurpose rooms for community use. In addition to community centre and library programs, the facility will host local and regional tournaments and events.

## STEVESTON VILLAGE

Steveston is a historic fishing village located in the southwest corner of Richmond, BC. Known for its rich ecology at the mouth of the Fraser River, it was a place where Indigenous Peoples fished and gathered food for generations. Settled in the second half of the 1800s, early Steveston supported robust canning, fishing, and boatbuilding industries. Fishing industries drew workers from near and far, especially Indigenous Peoples of coastal BC, Japan, China, and Europe. After many prosperous years, Steveston was challenged by a number of tragic events—a drastic decline in salmon stocks, a devastating fire in the village, the Great Depression, and the internment of its large Japanese population in 1942. Despite these challenges, Steveston continued to thrive as a fishing village throughout the 20th century and is still home to the largest fishing harbour in Canada. In recent decades, Steveston has undergone significant growth and development, but retains its small town feel, historic character and fishing traditions.

## STEVESTON COMMUNITY CENTRE AND LIBRARY BUILDING

The 60,350 square foot facility -- with a 36,000 square foot footprint -- will be a three-storey building plus one level of underground parking. The designs will follow a balanced approach where program synergies are realized, impacts on green space and trees are minimized, and views and connections to the park are achieved from many of the program spaces.

The form and character of the building draws inspiration from various buildings and landmarks around the Steveston area, reflecting elements such as the platforms and docks at the Steveston waterfront, canopies and fascia trims from the Steveston Tram Shed, the traditional Japanese curved roof form of the Martial Arts Centre, as well as materiality and patterns from the surrounding industrial buildings. All these elements are cohesively incorporated to form a modern contemporary design.

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## LOCATION

The public artwork will be located at the entrance plaza to the west of the facility. This is a high profile site, visible from Moncton Road, situated in historic Steveston Village with close proximity to the mouth of the Fraser River. See Site Plan in Appendix 1.

A landmark, signature artwork at this location is anticipated to attract people to gather, pose for photos and create a sense of place and arrival. The siting of the proposed artwork should not impede on future programming and community access at the entrance plaza.

The artwork may be a single stand-alone artwork, or series of sequential pieces, to further address the themes mentioned below.

## BUDGET

The total budget for this project is \$250,000 CAD. The budget includes (but is not limited to) artist fees, design, travel, permitting as needed, engineering fees, fabrication, installation, administration, photography, insurance and all taxes (GST excluded).

## ARTIST ELIGIBILITY

This opportunity is open to artists or artist teams residing in British Columbia, Canada. Qualified artists will have proven experience developing artworks, specifically for civic projects. City of Richmond staff and its Public Art Advisory Committee members, selection panel members, project personnel, and immediate family members of all of the above are not eligible. Richmond-based artists are urged to consider this opportunity.

Artists that are currently under contract with the City in a public art project are ineligible for other projects until the current contract is deemed complete.

## THEMES

Artists are encouraged to explore any of the following themes for the Steveston Community Centre and Library while ensuring room for artistic expression, enjoyment, play, colour and interactivity. The artwork should appeal to all ages and engage the community.

### *Indigenous Culture*

For generations, Indigenous Peoples were drawn to the area's rich natural resources. Local Indigenous groups used the area to harvest its bounty including fish, shellfish, berries and crabapples.

### *Steveston Fishing Industry*

Fishing has been the central driver of settlement in the Steveston area, which has served as a base for fishers to collect and process their harvest for hundreds of years. It is inherent to the long traditions of Indigenous Peoples fishing the Fraser River and Salish Sea. The early fishing industry served as

# call to artists

the foundation upon which the community was built and it remains true for the more than 500 commercial vessels in Steveston Harbour today.

## ***Japanese Canadian History***

Canadians of Japanese descent have been fundamental to the development and growth of Steveston. In the early 20th century, Steveston was home to a vibrant Japanese Canadian (Nikkei) culture, which included the Steveston Japanese School, Japanese Hospital, boatworks buildings, kendo club and a significant wooden boat fishing fleet.

## ***Fraser River and Local Ecology***

Steveston exists in its current state in large part because of its physical and natural environment at the mouth of the Fraser River. Significant natural heritage can be found in the ecology of the tidal marshes, sloughs and mud flats. While many of the original natural features have been lost, traces of native vegetation, shoreline wildlife, marshes and sloughs are still present.

## **SELECTION PROCESS**

A selection panel will recommend the artist or artist team to City Council at the conclusion of a two-stage open call process.

A selection panel comprised of two art or design professionals and three representatives from the Steveston Community Society and Richmond Public Library Board will review the applicants' submissions. Representatives from the Parks, Recreation and Sport, and Engineering Departments will serve as advisors to the panel. Based on the selection criteria listed below, the panel will select up to five finalists to develop their concept proposals and attend an interview. A fee of \$2,000 will be paid to each of the shortlisted artists or artist teams.

### **Stage 1**

- Artists submit a written Statement of Interest, Approach to the Site and their Qualifications in the format outlined in the Submission Requirements below.
- Selection Panel to shortlist up to five artists or artist teams for Stage 2.

### **Stage 2**

- Shortlisted artists enter into an Agreement with the City to prepare a Detailed Concept Proposal based on their initial Approach.
- Artists to be provided with detailed site information and responses to questions about the site from City staff.
- Shortlisted artists to attend an interview (in-person or virtual) with the selection panel to present a Detailed Concept Proposal.
- Selection panel to recommend one artist or artist team to Council for endorsement. Selection panel reserves the right to make no recommendations from the submitted applications and artist interviews.



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## ARTIST SELECTION CRITERIA

### Stage One: Selection Criteria

- Artistic merit of artist statement of interest.
- Experience in producing work that reflects community identity and assists in building meaningful cultural places.
- Understanding of the relevance of the site and its histories.
- Potential for making engaging artwork, suitable for multiple audiences.
- Demonstrated capacity to complete work within established project schedules and timelines.
- Demonstrated ability to work with multiple project stakeholders.

### Stage Two: Selection Criteria

- Ability of concept proposal to reflect arrival and welcome, community identity and contribute to building the character and identity of the neighbourhood.
- Ability of the 3D artist visualizations (such as digital renderings, maquettes or models) to communicate the concept and how it responds to the existing character of the site by taking into account scale, colour, material, texture, content and the physical characteristics and design parameters of the location.
- Appropriateness of the proposed project budget including, but not limited to: artist fees, materials, fabrication, administration, insurance, installation, documentation and consultant fees.
- Concept proposal sensitivity to durability, life span and environmental concerns with respect to artwork materials, method of fabrication, installation and maintenance.
- Artist response to any feedback and follow-up questions from Selection Panel regarding artistic merit of the concept proposal in response to project opportunity.
- Appropriateness of the proposal to the City of Richmond's [Public Art Program Goals](#).

## SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Email all documentation as one (1) PDF document, not to exceed a file size of 5 MB to [publicart@richmond.ca](mailto:publicart@richmond.ca).

### Stage One

- INFORMATION FORM:** please complete the information form attached to this document.
- STATEMENT OF INTEREST:** no more than 300 words, describing artist or creative practice and experience of work and themes/topics of interest you would like to explore for this opportunity. Please consider

# call to artists

and reference the Stage One Selection Criteria (above) in your Statement. Please do not include text descriptions of a concept proposal. This information will not be accepted and will be removed by staff prior to review with the Selection Panel.

- ARTIST CV:** two-page maximum. If submitting as an artist team, please submit maximum one pages per team member.
- WORK SAMPLES:** up to ten (10) supporting image examples of previous work. One image per page. Please include artist name(s), title, year, location and medium information to be on each image page.
- REFERENCES:** three (3) references who can speak to your skills and experience. Please only provide the names, titles and Email and/or telephone contact information for each individual. Only references for shortlisted artists will be contacted.

## Stage Two (shortlisted artists ONLY)

- CONCEPT PROPOSAL:** no more than 500 words, describing concept, rationale in response to the public art opportunity, materials and location/site.
- CONCEPT VISUALIZATION:** may include digital artist renderings, maquettes/models to fully communicate dimensions, scale, colour, viewer experience, materials and relationship to site features.
- PROJECT BUDGET:** to outline the allocation for expenses, including but not limited to artist fee, administration, materials, production, fabrication, installation, insurance, documentation, engineering design fees, and other consultant fees.

**PRESENTATION/INTERVIEW:** 15–20 minute artist presentation to the Selection Panel followed by a Q+A to present the concept proposal for consideration.

## PROJECT TIMELINE

Submission Deadline:	TBC
Finalist Notifications:	TBC
Shortlisted Artist Interviews:	TBC
Installation:	2025/2026

\*All applicants are asked to reserve this date on their calendars.

## SOURCES FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

[Richmond Public Art Program](#)

[City of Richmond Archives](#)

[Museums and Heritage Sites](#)

[Steveston Village Conservation Program](#)

# call to artists

## SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

1. All supporting documents must be complete and strictly adhere to these guidelines and submission requirements (above) or risk not being considered.
2. All submissions must be formatted to 8.5 x 11 inch pages, portrait format.
3. Submission files must be 5 MB or smaller.
4. If submitting as a team, the team should designate one representative to complete the entry form. Each team member must submit an individual resume/curriculum vitae. (See Submission Requirements)
5. All documents must be sent by email to: [PublicArt@Richmond.ca](mailto:PublicArt@Richmond.ca)

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

1. The selected artist will be required to show proof of WCB coverage and \$5,000,000 general liability insurance.
2. Please be advised that the City and the selection panel are not obliged to accept any of the submissions and may reject all submissions. The City reserves the right to reissue the Artist Call as required.
3. All submissions to this Artist Call become the property of the City. All information provided under the submission is subject to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (BC) and shall only be withheld from release if an exemption from release is permitted by the Act. The artist shall retain copyright in the concept proposal. While every precaution will be taken to prevent the loss or damage of submissions, the City and its agents shall not be liable for any loss or damage, however caused.
4. Submissions must be received by TBC. Extensions to this deadline will not be granted under any circumstances. Submissions received after the deadline and those that are found to be incomplete will not be reviewed.
5. If an artist requires accessibility support, please contact the Richmond Public Art Program.

## ACCESSIBILITY SUPPORT

The City of Richmond strives to create artist opportunities that are inclusive and accessible. If you require assistance in completing the written application for any reason, please contact: [PublicArt@Richmond.ca](mailto:PublicArt@Richmond.ca) or Tel: 604-204-8671

## QUESTIONS

Please contact the Richmond Public Art Program:  
[PublicArt@Richmond.ca](mailto:PublicArt@Richmond.ca) or Tel: 604-204-8671

## SUBMISSION DEADLINE

TBC

## SUBMISSION ADDRESS

[PublicArt@Richmond.ca](mailto:PublicArt@Richmond.ca)

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## APPENDIX 1 STEVESTON COMMUNITY CENTRE AND LIBRARY LOCATION

Steveston has many significant human history and natural attractions that give the community a distinct sense of place, and the Steveston Community Centre and Library site is at the geographic centre of it all. The Gulf of Georgia Cannery, Garry Point Park, Imperial Landing Waterfront Park, and other major community amenities are within a short walking distance of Steveston Park. (Figure 2)



Figure 2. Steveston Context

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The Steveston Community Centre and Library is ideally located to be the epicentre of social life in Steveston. The site is within easy walking distance for most residents of Steveston. (Figure 3).

1. New Steveston Community Centre & Branch Library
2. Existing Steveston Community Centre & Branch Library (to be demolished)
3. 177 Surface Parking Stalls & Plaza
4. Steveston Martial Arts Centre
5. Net Shed Building
6. Steveston Outdoor Pool
7. Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre
8. Festival Storage
9. Caretaker Building
10. Community Police Station
11. Steveston Interurban Tram Building
12. Playground
13. Waterplay Area
14. Fast Pitch Diamond
15. Sherwood Forest
16. Off Leash Dog Area
17. Slow Pitch Diamond
18. Outdoor Tennis Courts
19. Lacrosse Box
20. Steveston Community Park Boundary Line

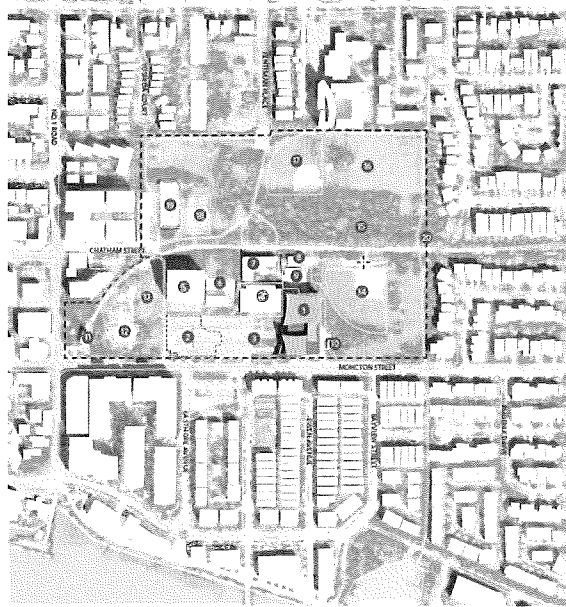


Figure 3. Steveston Community Centre and Library site plan

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The artwork will be located at the entrance plaza to the West of the Steveston Community Centre and Library. (Figures 4 and 5).

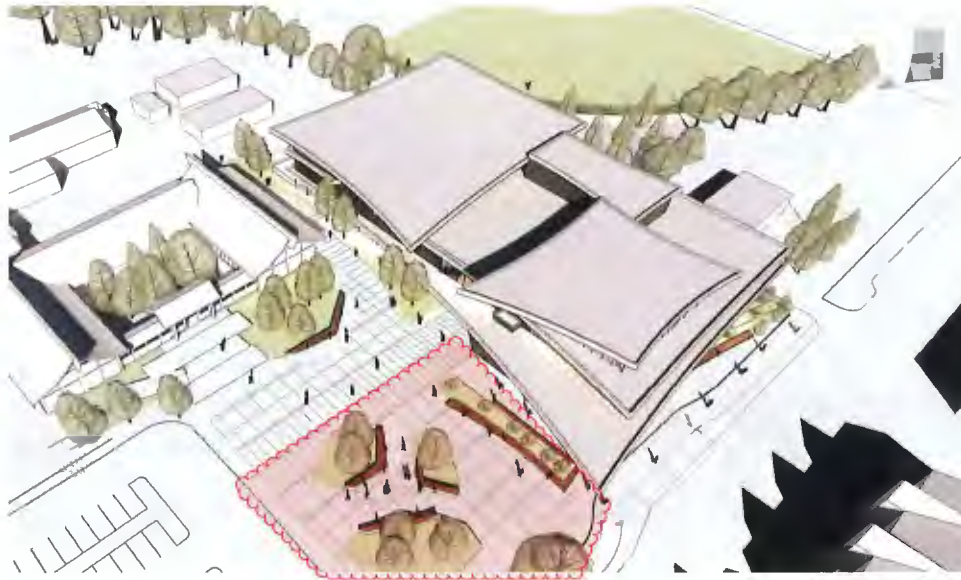


Figure 4. Steveston Community Centre and Library public artwork location

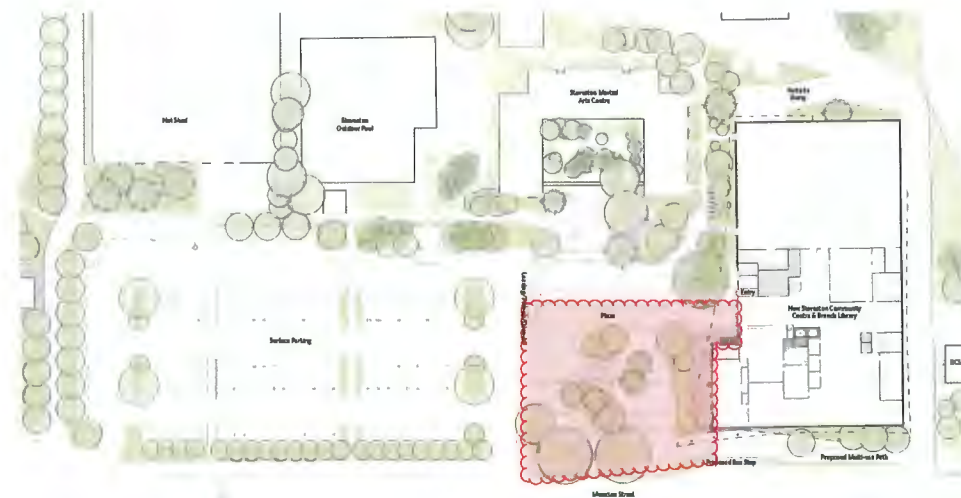


Figure 5. Steveston Community Centre and Library public artwork location

# call to artists

## RFQ: Steveston Community Centre and Library Signature Outdoor Artwork

Attach one (1) copy of this form as the first page of the submission.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Secondary Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Website: \_\_\_\_\_  
(One website or blog only)

Incomplete submissions will not be accepted. Emailed submissions over 5 MB will not be accepted. Information beyond what is listed in the Submission Requirements will not be reviewed.

Optional: Do you self-identify as a member of an equity-seeking and/or underrepresented community? (examples: Indigenous, person of colour, LGBTQ2S+, mixed ability, newcomer, Deaf, hard of hearing, living with a disability, etc.) If so, please specify:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

If applicable, please indicate additional members of your artist team:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Would you like to receive direct emails from the Richmond Public Art Program?  Yes  No

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Submit applications by email to: [PublicArt@Richmond.ca](mailto:PublicArt@Richmond.ca)

### Additional Information

Please be advised that the City and the selection panel are not obliged to accept any of the submissions and may reject all submissions. The City reserves the right to reissue the EOI/RFP, as required. All submissions to this EOI/RFP become the property of the City. All information provided under the submission is subject to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (BC) and shall only be withheld from release if an exemption from release is permitted by the Act. The artist shall retain copyright of the submitted documents. While every precaution will be taken to prevent the loss or damage of submissions, the City and its agents shall not be liable for any loss or damage, however caused.