



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee **Date:** February 3, 2025

From: Marie Fenwick, Director, Arts, Culture and Heritage Services **File:** 11-7000-09-01/2024-Vol 01

Re: ***Arrival of the S.V. Titania Painting Loan Request***

Staff Recommendation

That the *Arrival of the S.V. Titania* painting loan request, as described in the staff report titled, "*Arrival of the S.V. Titania Painting Loan Request*", dated February 3, 2025, from the Director, Arts, Culture and Heritage Services be approved.

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

Att. 1

REPORT CONCURRENCE	
CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER	
<i>BJF</i>	
SENIOR STAFF REPORT REVIEW	INITIALS:
	<i>AB</i>
APPROVED BY CAO	
<i>Green</i>	

Staff Report

Origin

The purpose of this report is to seek Council endorsement for the temporary loan of the *Arrival of the S.V. Titania* painting in response to a request from the artist John Horton.

The artist has asked to borrow the painting for a retrospective exhibition of his work to be presented at the Maritime Museum of British Columbia in Victoria from March 31 to June 2, 2025.

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

Background

At the regular Council meeting on January 9, 2017, Council directed staff to commission a painting, funded through the Council Provision, by John M. Horton to commemorate Canada's 150th anniversary of Confederation. The painting depicts the first docking of the Hudson's Bay Company sailing ship, S.V. Titania, at the Britannia Cannery wharf in 1889. The work was officially unveiled on May 23, 2017, and remains on display near the entrance to Council Chambers. (Attachment 1)

John M. Horton is a well-known maritime painter and was a long-time resident of Richmond before moving to Delta. Born in England, he immigrated to Canada in 1966 to establish an architectural rendering practice and eventually began taking on commissions of tugs, freighters, fishing boats and naval vessels. Today, his paintings are in collections all over the world. Horton is an official Canadian naval war artist and a member of the Canadian Society of Marine Artists, the Federation of Canadian Artists and the Honorable Company of Master Mariners of Canada.

The *Arrival of the S.V. Titania* (oil on board, 24" x 35") was commissioned by the City of Richmond in 2017 at a cost of \$50,000.

Maritime Museum of British Columbia Exhibition

The exhibition, entitled *John Horton's Art from 9 to 90* will take place between March 31 and June 2, 2025, at the Maritime Museum of British Columbia in Victoria.

The Maritime Museum of British Columbia engages people with the maritime culture and history of the Pacific Northwest through rotating exhibits, educational and community-based programs and research services.

Next Steps

Should Council endorse the loan of the *Arrival of the S.V. Titania* for the purposes of this temporary exhibition, staff will follow standard best practices for loaning works of art for exhibition elsewhere. This will include:

- A signed lending agreement between the City of Richmond and the artist;
- Condition assessments prior to the work being moved and upon its return;
- Confirmation of appropriate packaging and shipping arrangement; and
- Proof of appropriate insurance coverage for the value of the painting.

For the period of the artwork's absence from City Hall, a work of art from the Richmond Art Gallery permanent collection will be hung in its place with a notice that the *Arrival of the S.V. Titania* is temporarily on loan.

Financial Impact

None. All costs associated with the art loan as outlined in the lending agreement will be covered by the borrower.

Conclusion

It is recommend that Council endorse the temporary loan of the *Arrival of the S.V. Titania* painting to artist John Horton for the purposes of a temporary exhibition at Maritime Museum of British Columbia.

Arrival of the S.V. Titania painting serves as an homage to an important milestone that took place in Steveston, as well as a legacy piece to commemorate Canada's 150 anniversary of Confederation. Council's endorsement is sought to lend this valuable artwork to the Maritime Museum of BC for the purposes of a retrospective exhibition for the artist, John M. Horton.


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

Att. 1: *Arrival of the S.V. Titania* painting installed in Richmond City Hall



Arrival of S.V. Titania Painting at Richmond City Hall