



# City of Richmond

## Report to Committee

**To:** Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee      **Date:** April 20, 2023

**From:** Marie Fenwick, Director, Arts, Culture and Heritage Services      **File:** 11-7000-09-20-109/Vol 01

**Re:** **Canada Line Station Art Plinth Program Public Art Project Terms of Reference**



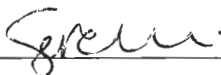
### Staff Recommendation

That the Terms of Reference for the Canada Line Station Art Plinth Program Public Art Project as presented in the staff report titled, "Canada Line Station Art Plinth Program Public Art Project Terms of Reference" dated April 20, 2023 from the Director, Arts, Culture & Heritage Services, be approved.

*Marie Fenwick*

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

Att. 1

REPORT CONCURRENCE		
<b>ROUTED TO:</b>	<b>CONCURRENCE</b>	<b>CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER</b>
Finance Department Transportation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>SENIOR STAFF REPORT REVIEW</b>	<b>INITIALS:</b> 	<b>APPROVED BY CAO</b> 

## Staff Report

### Origin

On April 8, 2013, Council approved the following recommendations:

That the Canada Line Elevated Guideway Terminus Public Art Project Terms of Reference for an artist call, as outlined in the staff report dated March 7, 2013 from the Director, Arts, Culture & Heritage Services, be endorsed.

The endorsed terms of reference for the artist call and Art Plinth Program concern the provision of temporary art installations at the Canada Line terminus located at Richmond-Brighouse Station. Council authorized artist calls for five (5) to eight (8) temporary art projects for this program.

On December 9, 2013, Council approved the first two temporary public artworks: *Cluster* by Carlyn Yandle, installed in September 2014, and *SkyDam* by Nathan Lee, which has been in place since March, 2016.

This report presents for Council's consideration the Terms of Reference for the replacement of *Skydam* with a new temporary public artwork at Richmond-Brighouse Canada Line Terminus Station for the Art Plinth Program.

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.*

*6.1 Advance a variety of program, services, and community amenities to support diverse needs and interests and activate the community.*

*6.3 Foster intercultural harmony, community belonging, and social connections.*

### Analysis

#### Background

In March 2016, *SkyDam* by Nathan Lee was installed at the Canada Line terminus. The sculptural steel work depicts a dam with a family of beavers located at its base. The artist was inspired by the beaver as a keystone species and emblem of Canada.

The temporary artwork has remained on display for an extended period due to the redevelopment of the adjacent site located at 6388 No.3 Road: the Paramount by Keltic Canada Development. Since the completion of the development in 2022, access to the right-of-way and concrete column supporting the Art Plinth platform has been re-established, and new transportation routes now located in the immediate vicinity have created a new context for the artwork. As per the endorsed terms of reference for the Art Plinth Program, the temporary artwork that is currently

installed is to be replaced. The artwork will be dismantled, removed and returned to the artist, or recycled for materials.

### Terms of Reference

The attached Terms of Reference (Attachment 1), provides details for the artist call, including information on the site, opportunity, budget, schedule, selection process and criteria, and submission requirements. Highlights of this artist call include:

- the recommended artist/artist team will be chosen through a two-stage selection process following the Richmond Public Art Program Administrative Guidelines;
- shortlisted artists will respond to this invitation with a visualization, a written statement of intent, examples of past work and past references;
- a five (5) person selection panel consisting of artists, art professionals and community members will convene to recommend up to three (3) shortlisted artists;
- the shortlisted artists will attend an artist information and orientation session with City staff prior to developing their artwork concept proposals;
- the shortlisted artists will attend a final interview with the selection panel to present their concept proposals. At the end of the meeting, the selection panel will recommend one artist/artist team for the commission; and
- the commissioned artwork will be exhibited for a minimum of two (2) years to a maximum of five (5) years.

On April 18, 2023, the Richmond Public Art Advisory Committee endorsed the Artist Call Terms of Reference for this opportunity.

Should Council endorse the Artist Call Terms of Reference for the Art Plinth Public Art Project (Attachment 1), City staff will work with InTransit BC to implement an artist selection process following the Public Art Program Administration Guidelines.

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 to commence in the first quarter of 2024.

### **Financial Impact**

The Art Plinth Public Art Project budget is \$50,000 and is funded by voluntary developer contributions to the Public Art Program Reserve Fund. The amount is included in the City's approved 2023 operating budget as part of the Consolidated 5-Year Financial Plan (2023-2027) adopted by Council.

**Conclusion**

The Art Plinth Program provides an excellent opportunity for the City of Richmond to contribute to and develop a long-term relationship with InTransit BC's public art program.

Richmond's Public Art Program creates opportunities for artists to enhance public spaces across Richmond through a commitment to strong urban design, investment in public art and placemaking. The Art Plinth Program at Richmond-Brighouse Station embraces and explores these goals.



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

Att. 1: Art Plinth Program, Call to Artists and Terms of Reference

# call to artists



Figure 1. *SkyDam*, Nathan Lee, 2016. Brighthouse Canada Line Terminus Station.

## Richmond- Brighthouse Canada Line Terminus Station

### Art Plinth Program (temporary)

### Requests for Qualifications, RFQ

May 2023

## OPPORTUNITY

The City of Richmond Public Art Program seeks artists or artist teams to create a temporary public art installation at the terminus Canada Line station: Richmond-Brighthouse, located at No.3 Road and Cook Road in Richmond, British Columbia.

Richmond-based artists from equity-seeking communities are encouraged to apply.

<b>Artist Budget:</b>	\$50,000
<b>Eligibility:</b>	Creative professionals residing in British Columbia
<b>Deadline:</b>	XX
<b>Installation:</b>	Spring 2024
<b>Duration:</b>	2-5 years

# call to artists

## BACKGROUND

Initiated in 2014, in partnership with InTransit BC, the Art Plinth Program is one of a number of public art initiatives along the Canada Line. In the first phase of the program, two temporary artworks were commissioned for installation at the end of the Canada Line: *Cluster* (2014) by Carlyn Yandle (Figure 4) and *Skydam* (2016) by Nathan Lee (Figure 5).

Following extensive recent development, the site is located in a new urban promenade along No.3 Road, a busy commuter hub located across from Richmond Centre near adjacent restaurants and businesses and a short walking distance from City Hall and Minoru Park.

The commissioned artwork will join a family of public artworks on the Richmond Canada Line, which includes annual installations as part of the Capture Photography Festival and two-dimensional mixed-media artwork installations for the No.3 Road Art Columns Program at Lansdowne and Aberdeen Stations, as well as integrated artwork such as *closer than* by Bill Pechet, viewed from the interior of Richmond-Brighouse Station, and *The Breath Below an Eelgrass Meadow* by Howie Tsui in the Capstan Station to open in Fall 2023.

## ARTIST OPPORTUNITY

This opportunity invites artists and other creative professionals to propose an artwork that signals welcome and arrival, while contemplating the nature of everyday travel and referencing Richmond's culture, history and natural heritage.

The temporary but durable artwork will be securely fixed to a structural steel frame located on the upper ledge of the terminus column at Richmond-Brighouse Station. Public safety in a high voltage environment on the Canada Line tracks is a major consideration; therefore, all proposed attachment methods will be reviewed by InTransit BC to ensure compatibility. While the artwork may extend upwards and outwards from the column, it should not be conducive to people attempting to climb onto the work. Figure 3 illustrates the overall space allowance for the artwork. If selected, the artist will be required to work in cooperation with City and InTransit BC's engineering and public safety guidelines.

## ARTWORK DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

- Maximum Load: 1 tonne (approx. 1,000 kg)
- Structural Frame: 2" x 2" stainless steel hollow tube with 12mm diameter bolt holes @ 4" on centre for various types of fixing solutions
- The artwork will be highly visible by both vehicular and pedestrian traffic and will consider pedestrian and vehicular viewing sight lines
- The artwork will consider the character of the site by taking into account scale, colour and materials.

# call to artists

## BUDGET

The total budget for this project is \$50,000. This budget includes, but is not limited to artist fees, production, fabrication, engineering fees, installation, photography, insurance, WCB and all applicable taxes, excluding GST. Travel to Richmond and/or accommodation is at the artist's expense.

At the end of the exhibition period, the artwork will be dismantled, removed and returned to the artist, or recycled for materials.

## ELIGIBILITY

This opportunity is open to artists and design professionals who reside in British Columbia. Professional Richmond-based artists and artists who self-identify as a member of an equity-seeking community (including but not limited to Indigenous, racialized, LGBTQ2S+, disabled or Deaf) are encouraged to apply.

City of Richmond employees, Richmond Public Art Advisory Members and artists who are currently contracted by the Richmond Public Art Program are not eligible for this opportunity.

## SELECTION PROCESS

A selection panel consisting of professional artists, art professionals and community members will engage in a two-stage artist selection process. At the conclusion of the process, the panel will recommend one artist or artist team for the commission. Upon approval of the artwork concept by City Council, the City will enter into an agreement with the artist or artist team.

## ARTIST SELECTION CRITERIA

Applications and shortlisted concept proposals will be reviewed and evaluated using the following 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 parameters.
- 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, welcome and community identity, and contribute to building the character and identity of the neighbourhood.



# call to artists

- 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 and technical merit of the concept proposal in response to project opportunity.
- Appropriateness of the proposal to the City of Richmond's [Public Art Program Goals](#).
- Compliance with the InTransit BC Public Art Display Policy, which stipulates that the artwork not convey religious messages, present demeaning or derogatory portrayals of individuals or groups, nor contain anything which is likely to cause offence based on generally prevailing community standards

## 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)

- **INFORMATION FORM** – Please complete the information form on page 5 of this document
- **STATEMENT OF INTEREST** – 300 words (max.), a brief bio of the artist, how the proposed artworks respond to the artist opportunity and how the opportunity will inform the artist's practice. 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 (2) pages maximum, including relevant education, training, mentorships, artist residencies and exhibition record.
- **WORK SAMPLES:** Up to ten (10) examples of previous work. Please include artist name(s), title, year, location and medium information as captions on the bottom of each image page. If submitting digital video, please include link to YouTube, Vimeo or similar online platform. Please do not submit digital video files.
- **REFERENCES:** Three references who can speak to your abilities and accomplishments. Provide contact name, title, phone number and email. References will be contacted only if applicant is shortlisted.



# call to artists

## PROJECT TIMELINE

<b>Submission Deadline:</b>	XX, 2023
<b>Finalist Notifications:</b>	XX, 2023
<b>Artist Orientation*:</b>	XX, 2023
<b>Final Artist Selection:</b>	XX 2023
<b>Project Implementation:</b>	2024
<b>Exhibition Schedule:</b>	Spring 2024 installation (in place for a minimum of 2 years and maximum of 5 years)

\*Applicants are asked to reserve this date and time in the event they are shortlisted for the opportunity.

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Richmond Public Art Program:  
[www.Richmond.ca/Culture/PublicArt/WhatsNew](http://www.Richmond.ca/Culture/PublicArt/WhatsNew)

## ACCESSIBILITY SUPPORT

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

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

1. 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.
2. 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.

**Questions?** Please contact [PublicArt@Richmond.ca](mailto:PublicArt@Richmond.ca)

# call to artists

## APPENDIX 1 ART PLINTH AT BRIGHOUSE CANADA LINE STATION



Figure 2. Art Plinth at Richmond-Brighouse Station Location

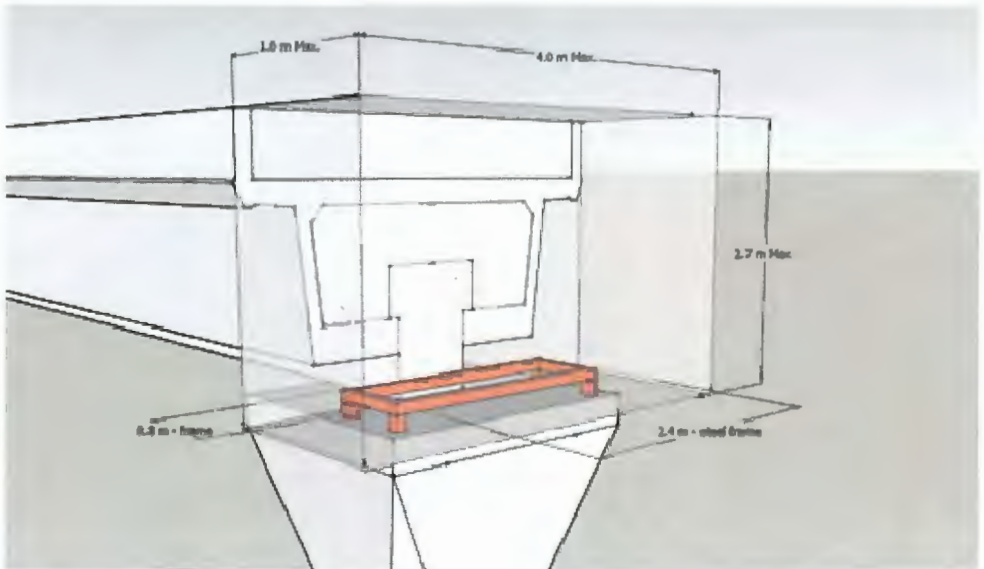


Figure 3. Art plinth structural frame and overall space allowances and dimensions for artwork.

# call to artists



Figure 4. *Cluster*, Carlyn Yandle, 2014. Richmond-Brighouse Canada Line Terminus Station.



Figure 5. *SkyDam*, Nathan Lee, 2016. Richmond-Brighouse Canada Line Terminus Station.



# call to artists

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

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

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

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

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

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ 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.