

# **Report to Committee**

To:

General Purposes Committee

Date:

November 3, 2016

From:

Jane Fernyhough

File:

11-7000-09-20-228/Vol

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Re:

Canada 150 Celebrations Public Art Plan

Director, Arts, Culture and Heritage Services

#### Staff Recommendation

That the staff report titled, "Canada 150 Celebrations Public Art Plan," dated November 3, 2016, from the Director of Arts, Culture and Heritage Services, be endorsed as the guiding plan for public art opportunities in support of Canada 150 celebrations and major event programming in 2017.

Jane Fernyhough

Director, Arts, Culture and Heritage Services

(604-276-4288)

Att. 3

| REPORT CONCURRENCE                                       |             |                                |  |  |  |
|--|-------------|--------------------------------|--|--|--|
| ROUTED TO:   | CONCURRENCE | CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER |  |  |  |
| Finance Department Parks Services Facility Services      |             | beleastite.                    |  |  |  |
| REVIEWED BY STAFF REPORT /<br>AGENDA REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE | DW          | APPROVED BY CAO for The Every  |  |  |  |

#### **Staff Report**

#### Origin

Canada's 150 Celebrations in 2017 presents the opportunity to mark the occasion with new works of public art in Richmond.

On March 14, 2016, at the regular Council meeting, Council adopted the "Richmond Celebrates Canada 150—Proposed Program" which includes several proposed locations for a public art commemorative legacy project.

On September 20, 2016, at the Canada 150 Steering Committee meeting, the Committee reviewed public art commemorative legacy opportunities and provided feedback on the theme, type and location of public artwork projects appropriate for the Canada 150 celebrations in Richmond.

This report presents, for Council's consideration, the guiding plan for public art opportunities in support of Canada 150 celebration programming and recommendations for implementation.

This report supports Council's 2014–2018 Term Goal #2 A Vibrant, Active and Connected City:

Continue the development and implementation of an excellent and accessible system of programs, services, and public spaces that reflect Richmond's demographics, rich heritage, diverse needs, and unique opportunities, and that facilitate active, caring, and connected communities.

- 2.1 Strong neighbourhoods.
- 2.3. Outstanding places, programs and services that support active living, wellness and a sense of belonging.
- 2.4. Vibrant arts, culture and heritage opportunities.

#### **Analysis**

#### Canada 150 Celebrations Public Art Plan Vision

It is the intention of the Canada 150 Celebrations Public Art Plan to support the overall programming established by the Canada 150 Steering Committee. The public art plan will provide opportunities for permanent and temporary artworks to engage diverse and multigenerational audiences.

The public artwork opportunities will strive to support exceptional, sustainable and accessible public spaces and the public artwork recommendations will be driven by the following guiding principles:

- contributing to a sense of place;
- · creating artworks of the highest quality;
- · reflecting the principles of sustainability; and
- achieving synergies between City staff, the artists and the community.

#### Themes for Canada 150 Celebrations Public Artwork

It is proposed that the following three themes be used to inform the artist call Terms of Reference for public artwork opportunities:

#### • History, Culture, Diversity

Artwork to reflect Richmond's rich tapestry of cultures, recognizing the original First Nations residents, early European settlers and the immigrants from a multiplicity of cultures that have since made their homes here.

#### • Fraser River, Working River

Artwork to explore Richmond's vital relationship to the Fraser River and reflect on the development of Lulu Island with the key industries of fisheries, agriculture, shipping and other fields.

#### • Agricultural Sustainability

Artwork to celebrate Richmond's relationship to the land, from the first inhabitants, to farmers who recognized and nurtured the bounty of the region's rich delta soils, to recent food security initiatives and innovation in urban agriculture.

#### **Public Art Opportunities**

The Canada 150 Celebrations Public Art Plan recommends a total of three artwork opportunities:

| Opportunity                                | Timing         | Description   | Terms of Reference   | Budget    |
|--|----------------|---|--|-----------|
| Legacy Artwork<br>at Richmond<br>City Hall | Fall 2017      | A permanent artwork to recognize one or more of the Canada 150 themes. Opportunities exist for a life size sculpture or low-relief sculpture mounted on the concrete retaining wall and/or stage along Granville Avenue at Richmond City Hall. (Attachment 1) | Professional Artists residing in Canada will be invited to submit concept proposals and engage the community to develop their artwork.                 | \$150,000 |
| Canada 150<br>Commemorative<br>Mural       | Summer<br>2017 | An outdoor wall mural by eminent Richmond maritime artist John Horton to celebrate Richmond's history and diversity, at an appropriate location in Steveston, under a new community mural program. (Attachment 2)   | Professional mural<br>artists residing in BC will<br>be invited to submit<br>proposals to collaborate<br>with John Horton and<br>implement the design. | \$35,000  |
| Artist-Designed<br>Benches                 | Fall<br>2017   | A series of portable or permanently installed artist-designed benches in response to identified themes. Location to be determined working with Parks Services. (Attachment 3)   | For professional artists residing in BC. The selected artist may be a professional furniture designer or sculptor.                                     | \$40,000  |
| Total                                      |                |   |  | \$225,000 |

### Richmond Community Mural Program

The Richmond Public Art Program initiated a community mural program in 2016 with the St. Albans Peace Labyrinth mural pilot project by Joey Mallett at 7260 St Albans Rd. For 2017, the community mural program will have a distinct Canada 150 theme, referencing the Canada 150 Celebrations vision. In subsequent years, the community mural program will expand to various locations throughout Richmond.

#### Selection Process for Artists and Artworks

The selection of artists and artworks for all projects will follow the guidelines as outlined in the Public Art Program Administrative Procedures Manual. The Canada 150 Celebrations Public Art Plan includes a recommendation to have a design review process that allows the selected artists to develop a concept proposal with input from staff and project stakeholders.

Once endorsed by Council, the proposed artworks will be implemented and coordinated by staff, working closely with the artist, professional consultants and representatives from community stakeholders.

### **Financial Impact**

The propsed Canada 150 Celebrations Public Art Plan budget, of up to \$225,000, is provided to the artists and consultants for the design, fabrication and installation of artwork, including all related artist expenses. This is funded from the Public Art Reserve. The ongoing maintenance for these artworks will be the responsibility of the Public Art Program, from existing funds set aside for maintenance.

#### Conclusion

The Canada 150 Celebrations Public Art Plan provides a framework for including art in creating a culturally rich environment in a vibrant, healthy and sustainable city.

The Public Art Advisory Committee has reviewed and contributed to the development of the art plan. Following selection of artists and development of concepts with the design teams, the individual concept proposals will be brought forward to Council for endorsement, in order to proceed with the artwork.

Eric Fiss

Public Art Planner (604-247-4612)

Att. 1: Artwork Examples at Richmond City Hall

2: Examples of John Horton paintings

3: Artist-designed benches in public spaces

## Mock-Up Examples of Artworks at Richmond City Hall



Figure 1.1 – Example collage of life-size bronze herons on existing concrete stage, Granville Avenue, Richmond City Hall.

Artwork shown: Great Blue Heron by Elliot Offner, Minneapolis, USA



Figure 1.2 – Example collage of low-relief bronze sculpture on existing concrete retaining wall, Granville Avenue, Richmond City Hall.

Artwork shown: Stafford Faces by Glynis Owen, Stafford, UK.



Figure 1.3 – Example collage of figurative artwork using contemporary materials and methods of production, Granville Avenue, Richmond City Hall.

Artwork shown: Singapore Soul by Jaume Plensa, Singapore.



Figure 1.4 – Example collage of First Nations and indigenous steel sculpture to recognize indigenous communities in Richmond, Granville Avenue, Richmond City Hall.

Artwork shown: Salmon Spindle Whorl by Jody Broomfield, Park Royal Mall, West Vancouver

## Examples of John Horton Paintings for a Commemorative Canada 150 Mural in Steveston



Figure 2.1 – Loading for the Morning Tide by John M. Horton, a maritime artist



Figure 2.2 – Days of Glory by John M. Horton, a maritime artist

## Examples of Artist-Designed Portable and Permanent Benches



Figure 3.1 – Contemporary design of portable benches at Round House Plaza in Vancouver.



Figure 3.2 – Heritage inspired permanent artist-designed bench. *Waterway 15* by Elizabeth Conner, Seattle, Washington.