



**Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee
Electronic Meeting**

**Council Chambers, City Hall
6911 No. 3 Road
Tuesday, October 24, 2023
4:00 p.m.**

Pg. # ITEM

MINUTES

PRCS-4 *Motion to adopt the **minutes** of the meeting of the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee held on September 26, 2023.*



NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING DATE

November 28, 2023, (tentative date) at 4:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

COMMUNITY SERVICES DIVISION

1. **COMMUNITY SERVICES – SUMMER PROGRAMS UPDATE 2023**
(File Ref. No. 11-7375-01) (REDMS No. 7366911)

PRCS-8

See Page PRCS-8 for full report

Designated Speaker: Yvonne Comfort

**Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee Agenda –
Tuesday, October 24, 2023**

Pg. # ITEM

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the staff report titled, “Community Services – Summer Programs Update 2023,” dated September 20, 2023, from the Director, Recreation and Sport Services, be received for information.

☐

2. **RICHMOND ARTS FACILITIES NEEDS ASSESSMENT**

(File Ref. No. 11-7000-11-01) (REDMS No. 7367861)

PRCS-14

See Page **PRCS-14** for full report

Designated Speaker: Liesl Jauk

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

- (1) *That the proposed scope of work for the Richmond Arts Facilities Needs Assessment as presented in the report titled, “Richmond Arts Facilities Needs Assessment,” dated September 6, 2023, from the Director, Arts, Culture and Heritage Services, be endorsed; and*
- (2) *That one-time funding of \$75,000 be considered in the 2024 budget process.*

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3. **STEVESTON COMMUNITY CENTRE AND LIBRARY SIGNATURE
OUTDOOR ARTWORK CONCEPT PROPOSAL**

(File Ref. No. 11-7000-09-20-334) (REDMS No. 7367419)

PRCS-19

See Page **PRCS-19** for full report

Designated Speaker: Biliana Velkova

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the Concept Proposal for the Steveston Community Centre and Library Signature Outdoor Artwork as presented in the report titled, “Steveston Community Centre and Library Signature Outdoor Artwork Concept Proposal,” dated September 6, 2023, from the Director, Arts, Culture and Heritage Services, be approved.

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**Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee Agenda –
Tuesday, October 24, 2023**

Pg. # ITEM

4. **STEVESTON HERITAGE INTERPRETIVE FRAMEWORK**
(File Ref. No. 11-7141-01) (REDMS No. 7359279)

PRCS-48

See Page PRCS-48 for full report

Designated Speaker: Rebecca Clarke

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the Steveston Heritage Interpretive Framework as detailed in the staff report titled “Steveston Heritage Interpretive Framework,” dated September 15, 2023, from the Director, Arts, Culture and Heritage Services be endorsed for the purpose of guiding the future development of interpretive programs, exhibits and initiatives in Steveston.

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5. **MANAGER’S REPORT**

ADJOURNMENT

☐



Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee

Date: Tuesday, September 26, 2023

Place: Council Chambers
Richmond City Hall

Present: Councillor Chak Au, Chair
Councillor Michael Wolfe (by teleconference)
Councillor Laura Gillanders
Councillor Andy Hobbs
Councillor Bill McNulty

Call to Order: The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

MINUTES

It was moved and seconded

That the minutes of the meeting of the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee held on July 19, 2023, be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

DELEGATION

1. Jerome Dickey shared his concerns about the lack of safety for dogs, pedestrians and cyclists at the No. 3 Road Bark Park and submitted a petition titled "Safety Improvements to Bark Park" (copy on file).

Wendy Gillespie, Richmond resident, expressed concerns regarding the layout of the park.

Staff provided an update, noting that an internal review is underway, including a best practices audit and public engagement process, and a report to Committee is forthcoming.

Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Committee
Tuesday, September 26, 2023

In reply to queries from Committee, staff advised that (i) a survey will be distributed to various user groups to ensure broad engagement, (ii) interim safety measures have been implemented, and (iii) park users were consulted prior to park reconstruction to get input on suitable materials.

COMMUNITY SERVICES DIVISION

2. **BLUE CABIN FLOATING ARTIST RESIDENCY TERM EXTENSION AT IMPERIAL LANDING**

(File Ref. No. 11-7000-09-20-310) (REDMS No. 7315503)

In reply to queries from Committee, staff advised that (i) the Blue Cabin has hosted 7 artists in residence since its inception, (ii) it has generated great interest from the public, and (iii) the intention is for the Blue Cabin to move to different locations across the lower mainland every couple of years.

It was moved and seconded

That the Blue Cabin Floating Artist Residency extension request as detailed in the staff report titled, “Blue Cabin Floating Artist Residency Term Extension at Imperial Landing” dated August 17, 2023, from the Director, Arts, Culture and Heritage Services, be endorsed.

CARRIED

3. **MANAGER’S REPORT**

(i) London/Steveston Dog Off-Leash Area

Staff provided an update on the public engagement process, which includes a survey on Let’s Talk Richmond available from September 26-October 22, 2023, on site signage, postcard invitations to participate in the public engagement process, and public open houses held on site at London/Steveston Park on October 14 and 18. Following public consultation, staff will evaluate the input received and report to Committee with recommendations.

(ii) Playground Upgrades

In response to a query from Committee, staff noted that they are preparing capital submissions for upgrades to playgrounds at Minoru Park and Burkeville Neighbourhood Park.

(iii) Culture Days

Staff shared that Richmond Culture Days, held from September 22 – October 15, 2023, is off to an excellent start and offers over 80 in-person events.

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(iv) *National Day for Truth and Reconciliation*

Staff advised that a flag commemorating the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation will be raised in City Hall. In addition, the 'Together' statue at Minoru Centre for Active Living will be illuminated in orange. The community can commemorate National Truth and Reconciliation and Orange Shirt Day through various events listed on the City website.

(v) *Second Annual Tree Sale*

Staff provided an update on the second annual tree sale, where City residents could purchase up to two trees through the MyRichmond online portal from August 28 through September 22, 2023, highlighting that over 600 trees were sold, an approximate 37% increase from 2022.

(vi) *Public Parks Programming Events*

Staff provided highlights on various public programming events, including invasive plant removals, shoreline cleanups, and volunteer tree planting events.

(vii) *Event at Minoru Park Track*

Staff noted that a memorandum with further details will be provided to Committee.

(viii) *Richmond Nature Park Infrastructure Renewals*

In response to queries from Committee, staff noted that construction for the project, which includes the replacement of the two existing onsite septic systems, has not yet begun, and staff will provide a memorandum with further background information.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded
That the meeting adjourn (4:41 p.m.).

CARRIED

Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Committee
Tuesday, September 26, 2023

Certified a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the meeting of the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee of the Council of the City of Richmond held on Tuesday, September 26, 2023.

Councillor Chak Au
Chair

Shannon Unrau
Legislative Services Associate



City of Richmond




Report to Council

To: Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee
From: Keith Miller
Director, Recreation and Sport Services
Date: September 20, 2023
File: 11-7375-01/2023-Vol 01
Re: Community Services – Summer Programs Update 2023

Staff Recommendation

That the staff report titled, “Community Services – Summer Programs Update 2023,” dated September 20, 2023, from the Director, Recreation and Sport Services, be received for information.

Keith Miller
Director, Recreation and Sport Services
(604-247-4475)

REPORT CONCURRENCE		
ROUTED TO:	CONCURRENCE	CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER
Arts, Culture & Heritage Parks Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
SENIOR STAFF REPORT REVIEW	INITIALS: 	APPROVED BY CAO 

Staff Report

Origin

Summer is a highly anticipated season in community facilities characterized by distinct programming opportunities for the City and our community partners. This report provides a summary of the Community Services Division's registered program and community event opportunities for children, youth and families over the summer months, all which meet multiple objectives related to Council-approved strategies including the Recreation and Sport Strategy (2019-2024), Community Wellness Strategy (2018-2023), the Arts Strategy (2019-2024), and the Richmond Youth Strategy (2022-2032).

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.

6.4 Support vulnerable populations through collaborative and sustainable programs and services.

Analysis

Summer is an important time for children, youth and families, and the summer season provides many unique opportunities with children and youth out of school, warmer weather and longer days, outdoor pools and school facilities available for use, and youth and young adults available to volunteer and work. Through the City's community-driven relationship-based service model, the Community Services Division and Community Associations and Societies provided a wide variety of summer camps, programs, and activities to meet the social, physical, and cultural needs and interests of Richmond residents.

As in previous years, a diverse array of accessible and inclusive summer programs and activities were offered. With many parents and guardians working during the summer, full day camps continue to be a valued option. However, half-day specialty camps and registered summer programs were also in high demand. These activities provide fun and engaging opportunities to be active, creative, to spend time outdoors, and to develop new skills.

Overall participation in summer camps and registered programs continues to grow, with 2023 registration totals increasing by almost 12 per cent over the previous year. Summer program registration has increased each year since the pandemic with some program areas regaining or surpassing pre-pandemic levels of participation. As new staff are hired in key program areas, such as aquatics, arts and sports, it is expected that participation in summer camps and programs will continue to increase in future years.

Table 1 below provides participation numbers for the past two summers for children and youth enrolled in day camps and other registered programs offered by the Community Services Division.

Table 1: Community Services Summer Registration – Day Camps and Registered Programs for Children and Youth (0 to 18 years)

Program Category	2022 Registrations	2023 Registrations
Summer Day Camps	7,183	8,226
Registered Programs	11,892	13,056
Total	19,075	21,282

Table 2 below provides further enrollment numbers for registered summer programs by program category. These numbers exclude summer day camp registrations.

Table 2: Community Services Summer Registration – Registered Programs by Category for Children and Youth (0 to 18 years)

Program Category	2022 Registrations	2023 Registrations
Aquatics	3,369	3,692
Arenas	1,203	987
Arts	2,495	2,515
Computers, Technology and Social Media	77	219
Cooking	19	40
General Interest	179	510
Language	101	78
Martial Arts	555	484
Nature and Science	416	789
Online	10	–
Racquet Sports	912	896
Sports/Fitness/Health	2,556	2,846
Total	11,892	13,056

Summer Camps

Summer camps provide engaging opportunities for children and youth to be active, try new pursuits, learn new skills, build relationships, and foster a sense of belonging. Full day summer camps also provide a fun alternative to traditional child care options.

As in previous years, summer camps were offered at community centres, the Richmond Arts Centre, the Richmond Nature Park, Minoru Arenas, the Richmond Curling Centre and the Richmond Museum. Day camp programs also took place in public schools as part of the City's joint use agreement with School District No. 38 (Richmond).

Although full day camps continue to be popular for working families and caregivers, specialty camps were also offered to provide a variety of options for families. These camps were shorter in duration and focused on specialized skills and activities such as art exploration, cooking, science, and various sports.

Preteen and Youth Activities

Youth engagement during the summer months is an important priority and the City is committed to delivering a wide variety of accessible activities for preteens and youth. Summer programming included age specific day camps, expanded youth drop-in social programs, sports programs, cooking classes and creative activities that allow youth to stay physically and mentally active and connect socially throughout the summer break.

This year, several youth programs provided opportunities for youth to develop leadership and job related skills, including advanced aquatic training courses that certify participants that are interested in future job opportunities as a lifeguard or swim instructor, and the West Richmond Summer Slam program that provided an opportunity for 36 youth staff and volunteers to lead a grassroots basketball development program. In addition, the Skills for Success – High School Prep Camp offered students an opportunity to connect with other youth and build relationships before starting high school in the fall. For many of the youth enrolled, this was their first time participating in a day camp and it was a very positive connection to youth programs offered in the community.

The Richmond Youth Media Program (RYMP) also continued to host free weekly drop-in sessions for youth throughout the summer and introduced a new music-oriented drop-in session on Fridays called, Friday Night Jam Nights. This created a space where youth could learn and play the guitar, DJ, experiment with music production, music mixing and other sound engineering techniques.

Free and Low Cost Activities

There were a variety of free and low cost programs and events for children, youth, and families. These activities provided residents with unstructured opportunities to enjoy physical, creative, cultural and social activities. Some highlights are identified below:

- Weekly open gyms and youth hangouts provided safe places for youth to spend time while being active and social;
- The Richmond Art Truck partnered with the Richmond Public Library to offer a free Art Club for school age children;
- Outdoor Concerts, such as the Minoru Seniors Society's Summer Concerts at the Minoru Outdoor Plaza, City Centre Community Association's Concerts in the Park at Garden City, and the Steveston Folk Guild Concerts at Britannia Shipyards;
- Neighborhood special events, such as West Richmond Community Association's West Fest at Hugh Boyd Park, South Arm Community Association's Block Party and East Richmond Community Association's Open House and barbeque; and

- Outdoor movie nights, such as the poolside movie at South Arm Outdoor Pool and Hamilton's Night Out in McLean Park, which featured community information booths, family games and activities.

Summer 2023 also saw the expansion of the \$29 Summer Active Pass to include additional drop-in activities for children and youth aged 5 to 18 years, up from 16 years in 2022. This low cost pass provided unlimited drop-in access to public swim sessions at indoor and outdoor pools, public skating at the Richmond Ice Centre, and weekday admissions to the West Richmond Pitch and Putt, as well as drop-in access to fitness centres (13 years and older), group fitness classes, and other select activities at community recreation centres from June 6 to September 4, 2023. As a result, pass sales increased this year by 79 per cent, totalling 5,913 passes sold, which were used for almost 60,000 visits over the course of the summer.

Volunteer and Employment Opportunities

Volunteers are vital to the delivery of summer programs and events. In addition to building community capacity, volunteer opportunities allow youth to develop leadership and social skills, and increase competence and confidence. Summer program volunteer positions often lead to employment as a day camp leader, youth leader or program instructor in future years. Volunteer involvement in summer programs increased in 2023, with more than double the individuals contributing 2,025 more hours of service compared to 2022.

Table 3 below provides further details on Community Services summer volunteer contributions.

Table 3: Community Services Summer Programs Volunteer Contributions

	Summer 2022	Summer 2023
Individuals Volunteering	110	221
Volunteer Hours	6,400	8,425

In 2023, summer day camps provided employment opportunities for 157 staff, many of whom were youth. This year, 12 students were hired through the Canada Summer Jobs Grant, which provided \$65,106 in funding to support summer employment. In addition, the City's Summer Grant contributed \$37,017 to support the delivery of low cost or no-cost programs, summer support workers, supplies and staff, and volunteer training and development. Many young people find the skills developed while leading summer camps and programs are highly valued in future careers. These skills include leadership, critical thinking, decision-making, creative problem solving and teamwork.

Participant Feedback

Summer program participants shared their appreciation for the programs and the benefits they and their children experienced. Comments received conveyed appreciation for the variety of different programs available for participation and the many opportunities to try new activities and learn new skills. Youth specifically highlighted the social connections they made through the various activities, and participants of all ages and their parents and guardians expressed gratitude for the staff and volunteers that helped create memorable and positive experiences throughout

the summer. The feedback received highlights the positive impacts that summer programs bring to the community.

Financial Impact

None.

Conclusion

Summer programs provide meaningful opportunities for participants of all ages to meet new friends, remain physically and mentally active, develop new skills and build confidence. Summer programs also assist in building stronger and more resilient neighbourhoods. The provision of a wide variety of summer programs is fundamental to achieving the City's Recreation and Sport Strategy vision for Richmond to be a leader in the planning and delivery of recreation and sport opportunities while inspiring individuals and communities to be active, connected and healthy for a lifetime.



Yvonne Comfort
Manager, Community Recreation Services
(604-247-4461)



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services
Committee

Date: September 6, 2023

From: Marie Fenwick
Director, Arts, Culture and Heritage Services

File: 11-7000-11-01/2023-
Vol 01

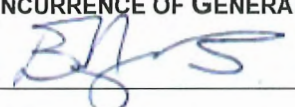

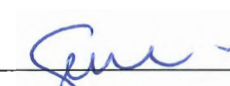
Re: **Richmond Arts Facilities Needs Assessment**

Staff Recommendation

1. That the proposed scope of work for the Richmond Arts Facilities Needs Assessment as presented in the report titled, "Richmond Arts Facilities Needs Assessment," dated September 6, 2023, from the Director, Arts, Culture and Heritage Services, be endorsed; and
2. That one-time funding of \$75,000 be considered in the 2024 budget process.

CM Fenwick

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

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

Staff Report

Origin

At the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee meeting on April 25, 2023, representatives from the Richmond Arts Coalition, Richmond Delta Youth Orchestra (RDYO) and Richmond Community Concert Band (RCCB) delegated on the topic of arts space needs.

Following the presentation, staff received the following referral:

1. That staff investigate:
 - (a) interim support with these immediate and emerging Musical Arts Space Needs;
 - (b) launching an External Arts Needs Assessment; and
 - (c) long-term vision to build purpose-built space for Music and Performing Arts in Richmond; and
2. That staff consult with Richmond School District No. 38 to explore opportunities to utilize any potential space; and report back.

Staff responded to items 1(a) and 2 in a memo to Mayor and Councillors dated July 5, 2023, that described staff support for the two groups facing displacement due to the slated June 2023 closure of Brighthouse United Church. Since that date, RCCB has secured a new location and RYDO has found a temporary solution to their space needs.

The purpose of this report is to respond to item 1(b) to launch an Arts Facilities Needs Assessment.

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.

1.3 Increase the reach of communication and engagement efforts to connect with Richmond's diverse community.

This report supports Council's Strategic Plan 2022-2026 Focus Area #2 Strategic and Sustainable Community Growth:

Strategic and sustainable growth that supports long-term community needs and a well-planned and prosperous city.

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.

6.5 Enhance and preserve arts and heritage assets in the community.

This report supports the Council-approved Richmond Arts Strategy 2019-2024 Strategic Direction #3 Invest in the Arts:

3.1 Build creative capacity through planning and development.

3.1.4 Identify priority cultural amenity opportunities through development.

3.5 Integrate the arts at a strategic level in community, economic, tourism, environmental and wellness planning.

3.5.4 Conduct a deeper analysis of the data collected through the community engagement process and connect, where applicable, to relevant data from other sources.

This report supports the Council-approved Richmond Arts Strategy 2019-2024 Strategic Direction #5 Activate public spaces through (and for) the arts:

5.1 Work towards meeting the demand for creative spaces and cultural facilities.

5.1.6 Complete a Cultural Facilities Needs Assessment and conduct feasibility studies as may arise from it.

5.1.11 Plan for future arts facilities to address the demand for Arts Education and Program Space.

Background

As per the Council referral and the Richmond Arts Strategy, a Richmond Arts Facility Needs Assessment (Needs Assessment) will enable staff to gain a better understanding of the needs and opportunities for expanding the number and type of purpose-built arts spaces in Richmond. Arts and cultural spaces are unique to the communities they serve and therefore there is no industry-standard benchmarking specific to the provision of arts and culture spaces and programs. While multi-purpose spaces can be used for some creative programs, many arts practices require facilities that are designed and equipped especially for them. This project will give the City a better understanding of the needs and aspirations unique to Richmond.

Arts facilities help promote liveability and individual well-being by encouraging social inclusion through the provision of community spaces with affordable arts programs and services as well as a range of opportunities to experience the arts. These are key places for positive social interaction and creative expression that can transcend language, of particular importance to new immigrants and youth.

The arts are integral to quality of life and quality of place. Cities that distinguish themselves from other cities based on strong or profitable identities, cultures, or arts and crafts, gain a competitive advantage as “destination cities” for cultural tourism. As well, arts amenities and the availability of cultural experiences are tied to the ability of urban centres to attract skilled workers.

The City of Richmond currently owns and/or operates three facilities with purpose-built arts spaces:

- Gateway Theatre (1984);
- Richmond Cultural Centre: Richmond Arts Centre, Richmond Art Gallery, Performance Hall (1993); and
- Richmond Cultural Centre Annex (Opening in 2023).

During the 30-year period since the opening of the Cultural Centre, Richmond has experienced a 69% increase in population overall (with the highest percentage increase in the City Centre) and a significant shift in demographics. This has brought a commensurate increased interest in and demand for community spaces and cultural experiences of all kinds. The Needs Assessment will allow us to get a better understanding of needs and aspirations for a range of arts spaces in Richmond.

Analysis

Scope of Work

The following proposed scope of work, which is in alignment with the delegation’s request and strategic directions of the Richmond Arts Strategy, will include:

- Richmond context
 - o Population, demographics, land area
 - o Trends and leading practices
 - o Regional considerations
- Community input and engagement
 - o Targeted stakeholder interviews and data collection
 - o Previously collected survey data from stakeholders and general public
- Asset Analysis of existing City of Richmond arts spaces
 - o Description, condition, usage, gaps
 - o Includes spaces for performance, exhibition, production, rehearsal, education, storage, and other ancillary uses
- Needs and Opportunities
- Recommendations

The Needs Assessment will provide important material to inform decisions around arts spaces including those regarding capital requests and amenity space opportunities in City Centre, such as in the growing Arts District, per the Official Community Plan. Moreover, it is an essential step towards responding to the final section of the April 25, 2023, staff referral regarding a long-term vision to build purpose-built space specifically for music and performing arts.

Timing

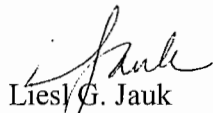
Should the project be approved as part of the 2024 budget process, the project will be initiated in Q2 with a report to council anticipated by end of the year.

Financial Impact

A request for one-time funding of \$75,000 will be brought forward as part of the 2024 budget process.

Conclusion

Arts facilities play a vital role in creating an inclusive, healthy and vibrant community and can be exciting economic drivers to attract tourism and skilled workers. The Richmond Arts Facilities Needs Assessment is needed in order to make sound decisions regarding future investments in the health and growth of Richmond's arts and culture eco-system, to meet the current and future needs.



Liesl G. Jauk
Manager, Arts Services
(604-204-8672)



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee
From: Marie Fenwick
Director, Arts, Culture and Heritage Services
Date: September 6, 2023
File: 11-7000-09-20-334/Vol 01
Re: **Steveston Community Centre and Library Signature Outdoor Artwork Concept Proposal**

Staff Recommendation

That the Concept Proposal for the Steveston Community Centre and Library Signature Outdoor Artwork as presented in the report titled, "Steveston Community Centre and Library Signature Outdoor Artwork Concept Proposal," dated September 6, 2023, from the Director, Arts, Culture and Heritage Services, be approved.

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

Att. 2

REPORT CONCURRENCE		
ROUTED TO:	CONCURRENCE	CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER
Finance Department	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Library	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Parks Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Recreation & Sport Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Facility Services & Project Development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
SENIOR STAFF REPORT REVIEW	INITIALS: 	APPROVED BY CAO

Staff Report

Origin

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.

On March 13, 2023, Council approved the Steveston Community Centre and Library Signature Outdoor Artwork Terms of Reference. The Terms of Reference recommends an outdoor sculptural work of art to support wayfinding and create a sense of arrival and welcome for community members, visitors and staff.

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

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.

6.2 Enhance the City's network of parks, trails and open spaces.

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

6.4 Support vulnerable populations through collaborative and sustainable programs and services.

6.5 Enhance and preserve arts and heritage assets in the community.

Analysis

Terms of Reference

As per the Council-approved Steveston Community Centre and Library Public Art Plan, the Public Art Terms of Reference for the Steveston Community Centre and Library Signature Outdoor Artwork (Attachment 1) was developed in collaboration and consultation with members of the Steveston Community Society and the Richmond Public Library Board. The Terms of Reference describes the art opportunity, themes, site description, scope of work, budget, eligibility criteria, selection process, selection criteria, project schedule and submission requirements.

The Terms of Reference for the Steveston Community Centre and Library Signature Outdoor Artwork was endorsed by the Richmond Public Art Advisory Committee at their meeting on January 17, 2023 and approved by Council on March 13, 2023.

Public Art Artist Selection Process

The artist call was posted on March 15, 2023 and closed on April 21, 2023. Thirty-three submissions by artists from across British Columbia were received during the first stage of the selection process. On April 27, 2023, following the Public Art Program's administrative procedures for artist selection for civic public art projects, a five-person selection panel comprised of professional artists, project stakeholders and community representatives reviewed the submissions. The selection panel included the following individuals:

- Alan Sakai – Steveston Community Society Member;
- Emily de Boer– Steveston Community Society Member;
- Sherine Merhi – Richmond Public Library Board Member;
- Joseph Fry – Landscape Architect and Richmond Resident; and
- Diamond Point – Artist

City staff facilitated and attended the selection panel meeting to provide project background for the selection panel and to address technical questions.

In addition, two members of the Richmond Public Art Advisory Committee participated in the selection process as observers:

- Bronwyn Bailey; and
- Frank Ducote

In reviewing the submissions, the selection panel considered how the proposal responded to the theme and objectives identified in the artist call and the potential to create a compelling signature outdoor work of art as evidenced in the samples of past projects provided by the applicants. Following discussion and deliberations, the panel shortlisted five artists and artist teams to develop a concept proposal and presentation for the second stage of the selection process.

The shortlisted artists were:

- Cameron Kerr;
- Jacqueline Metz and Nancy Chew;
- Nathan Lee;
- Susan Point; and
- James Harry and Lauren Brevner

Following the Terms of Reference, the shortlisted finalists were invited to attend an artist orientation meeting with staff and the project design team on May 11, 2023. The meeting provided an opportunity for staff and the project team to share additional information about the site context and review the objectives and opportunities for this project. The artists also asked questions related to materials, installation parameters, schedule and budget.

The shortlisted artists were provided a deadline for their concept proposals for June 12, 2023. Artists were able to submit draft concept proposals and project budgets in advance of the deadline to receive technical feedback from staff, including identifying any concerns from a

maintenance or operations perspective prior to their presentation to the selection panel. Staff also shared the artist information with the selection panelists prior to the final artist selection panel meeting. This process serves to support the finalists in presenting the most feasible proposals to the selection panel for their evaluation and deliberation.

On June 22, 2023, the selection panel convened to interview the shortlisted finalists. Each artist presented their concept proposal followed by a Question & Answer period. Following a lengthy and thoughtfully considered deliberation, the panel recommended the concept proposal *Homecoming* by artist Susan Point for the Steveston Community Centre and Library Signature Outdoor opportunity. (Attachment 2)

The Richmond Public Art Advisory Committee endorsed the recommended concept proposal at their meeting on September 19, 2023.

Recommended Artist

Susan Point is an accomplished Musqueam Coast Salish artist who lives on the Musqueam First Nation reserve in Vancouver. She is a self-taught artist who learned about Coast Salish art and culture from her uncle, Professor Michael Kew, her aunt, Dorothy Kew, and from Dominic Point and Edna Grant Point. She began her art career in 1981 and has created numerous high profile public art works including those at the Vancouver International Airport, Stanley Park, National Museum of the American Indian in Washington D.C., Museum of Anthropology at UBC and others. Susan Point is a recipient of the Order of Canada.

Recommended Public Art Concept Proposal

Homecoming is comprised of four stylized Salish paddles atop basalt boulder bases. The size of the paddles will be approximately 78" tall and 18" wide. Each of the stone bases will be roughly 30" x 30" x 30" making the total sculpture height approximately 9 feet. The paddles — made out of corten steel — will depict salmon swimming upwards on their way up the river to spawn, carved out of 1" thick architectural anodized aluminum plate.

The paddle structures will be designed so that they are not climbable and each carved salmon element can be removed if in need of repair or replacement. All of the proposed materials are durable and capable of withstanding the coastal climate. Two siting options are proposed: either within the planted "outdoor living room" or surrounding it. The artist will work with staff and the project design team to develop the most appropriate locations for the structures. (Attachment 2).

The artist describes the artwork as follows:

"This site, Steveston Community Centre and Library, is definitely a beautiful site for placement of Coast Salish public art honouring the Coast Salish fishing heritage area as well as the history of Steveston over the years. I can only imagine the amount of activity this site has generated over the last 3,500 years. In honour of our people, I want to do something special.

The importance of four in Musqueam and other First Nations cultures is relevant. It represents the four-year cycle of salmon, as well as the four winds, the four directions, the four seasons, the four moons, the four elements- earth, water, air and fire, and so on."

Next Steps

Following Council endorsement of the concept proposal, staff will work with the artist to execute a contract and move into the development and fabrication phase with installation of the artwork in 2025.

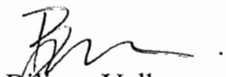
Financial Impact

The total budget for the Steveston Community Centre and Library Signature Outdoor Artwork Concept Proposal 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 annual maintenance is estimated at \$3000.00.

Conclusion

The Steveston Community Centre and Library Signature Outdoor Artwork Concept Proposal 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
2: Steveston Community Centre and Library Signature Outdoor Concept Proposal

call to artists

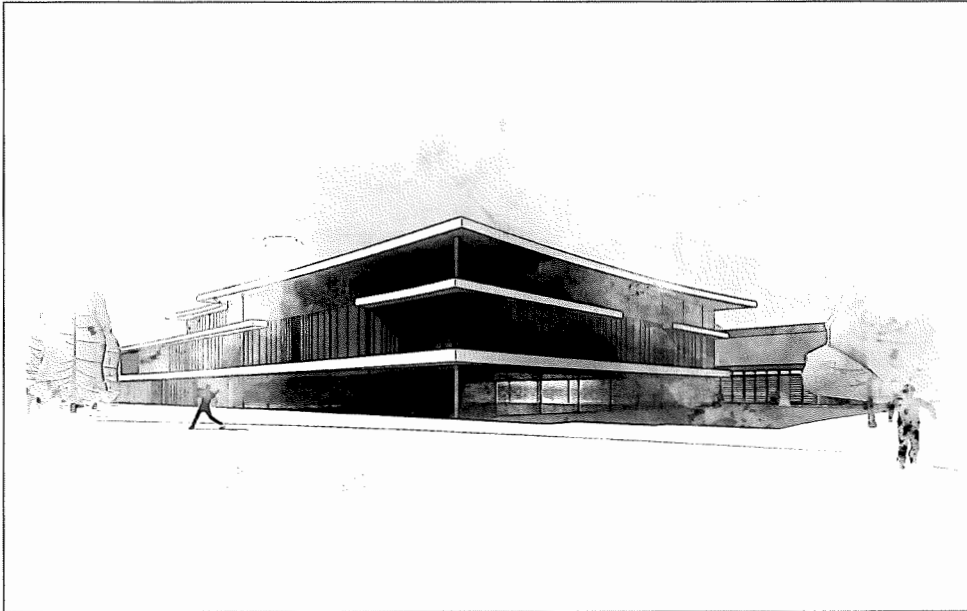


Figure 1. Steveston Community Centre and Library Rendering

Steveston Community Centre and Library Signature Outdoor Artwork

City of Richmond

Request for Qualifications (RFQ)

March 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: April 21, 2023

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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PUBLIC ART
RICHMOND

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

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PUBLIC ART
RICHMOND

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.

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:	April 21, 2023
Shortlisted Artist Orientation:	May 11, 2023*
Shortlisted Artist Interviews:	June 22, 2023*
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](#)

[Steveston Community Centre and Library Public Art Plan](#)

call to artists

PUBLIC ART
RICHMOND

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

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 April 21, 2023. 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 or Tel: 604-204-8671

QUESTIONS

Please contact the Richmond Public Art Program:
PublicArt@Richmond.ca or Tel: 604-204-8671

SUBMISSION DEADLINE

April 21, 2023

SUBMISSION ADDRESS

PublicArt@Richmond.ca

call to artists

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

call to artists

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

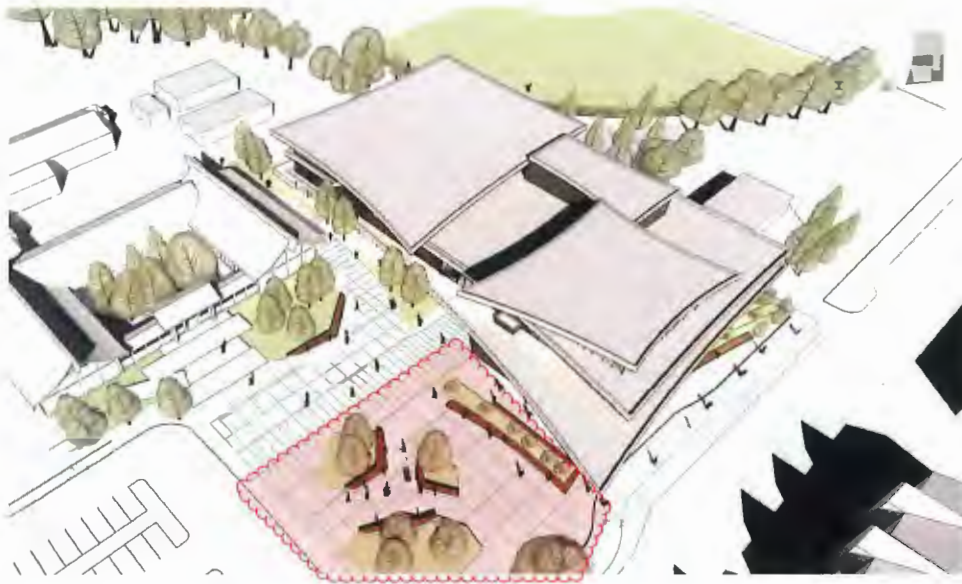


Figure 4. Steveston Community Centre and Library public artwork location

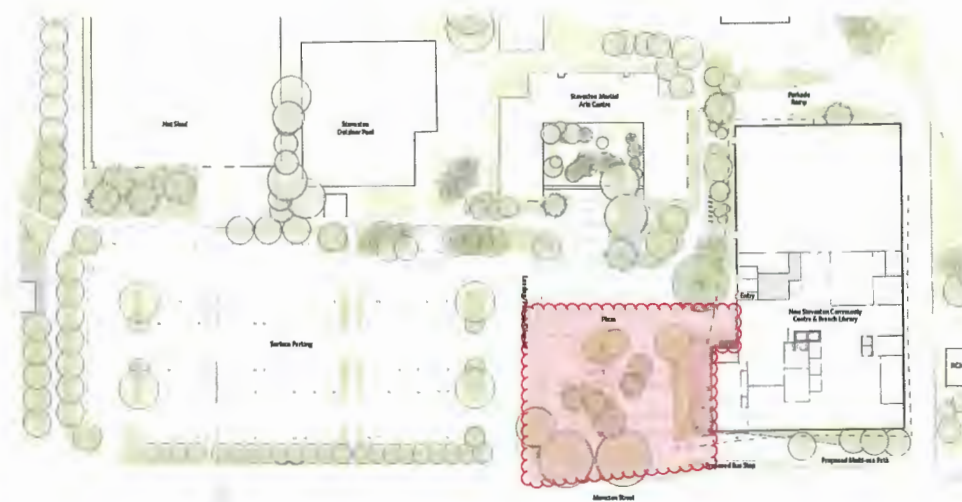


Figure 5. Steveston Community Centre and Library public artwork location

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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

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.

Homecoming:

Steveston Community Centre and Library,

City of Richmond

Susan Point

June 2023

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST AND CONCEPTUAL APPROACH:

Since January 1981, I have done extensive research on my Coast Salish peoples art ... which was an almost lost art form at that time ... whereby very little traditional Coast Salish imagery was documented and thus unavailable to me. Limited to what I collected in my research, I began designing and creating Coast Salish art in my own personal contemporary art style ... eventually creating art pieces in various mediums. One of the most important things that I learned over time (which is probably the most important) is that although our ancestors from various Nations all shared a common visual language ... they each had their own personal expression of our unique Salish art ... and this is what separates Coast Salish art from all other historic First Nation art forms along the Pacific Northwest Coast.

I am of Native American heritage ... and a professional Coast Salish artist from the Musqueam Nation in Vancouver, B.C. My people's territory, the Coast Salish, entails all of Vancouver, B.C. and its surrounding areas; the northern tip of Vancouver Island; and extends into the Washington State. We were, and always will be, "one people", with a common history rooted in the same family tree. Our tradition as Salish people is to share and welcome!

As a contemporary Coast Salish artist, I have encountered many pre-conceived ideas of what Coast Salish art is. Nevertheless, I am always happy to surprise the public with artwork that is universal in its appeal yet still honors our heritage ... while embracing new techniques and subject matter. I strongly feel that it is important for my First Nations peoples to re-establish our Coast Salish footprint upon our unceded lands ... creating a visual expression of the link between the past, present and future that is both accessible and people friendly. In creating large scale public art, I work in a wide range of materials ... from the traditional carved red/yellow cedar to non-traditional contemporary mediums such as glass, metals, polymers, etc. ... depending on the requirements and context of site-specific projects. If selected for this Public Art Opportunity, I cannot wait to expand on all initial thoughts/ideas I have towards this exciting

project ... creating a unique and original public art piece with emphasis on the cultural and historic importance of the area ... the traditional ancestral home of the Musqueam People.

In every project that I have done over the years, I have always done full research on the sites where my public art is to be installed so as to follow protocol. Designing imagery on my site-specific public art reflects on this research and the strong connection to the site itself ... contemporary Coast Salish imagery that relates to all peoples and cultures.

I truly believe I have the public art experience and qualifications as a First Nations contemporary Coast Salish artist to make this Public Art Project a successful realization of diverse communities and cultures in a sensitive social environment. I will positively be able to exemplify the community context and importance of the fishing heritage of our peoples living on the Salish Sea in a meaningful and lasting way for Steveston residents and visitors as well as the nuances of all Coast Salish peoples and the broader Native people's iconography across North America in the modern viewpoint of public art. In all of my public art commissions, I have successfully undertaken and executed the project in accordance with the scope, budget, and timeline.

For this specific Project, it is my intent to bring a unique perspective to the viewer by creating multiple viewing angles and different values from each view ... adding a distinctive visual character to the plaza space (room) which honors the diversity of people living nearby and afar in line with the world-renowned reputation of Coast Salish communities as a welcoming place for friendly people from all walks of life. As these lands are originally/traditionally a part of the immense Musqueam territories, a traditional sacred village site, our community members are important watchmen for these lands and the people living within the surrounding areas ... which I fully understand and I want to honor my ancestors heritage within my proposed artwork. In fact, my last name comes from the point at Steveston, where my father's family and ancestors lived for centuries.

In designing and creating an "original" public artwork for this site, my goal is to be successful in combining several components ... something that is engaging to people from all over the world and is respectful and agreeable to the original stewards of these lands. Viewers of any age will be able to recognize and appreciate the originality of my design ... which will be fabricated in a material(s) that would be maintenance free as well as addressing longevity, vandalism, walking traffic and public safety ... in a human sized scale ... but still being an intimate piece of art that fits the scale of the Plaza Garden. This artwork will leave a lasting impression and significance for the Native peoples of this area as well as residents, guests, and visitors.

ARTWORK PROJECT NARRATIVE:

Upon reviewing the "Request for Qualifications", I was very excited. The information contained in the RFP was so familiar!

This site, Steveston Community Centre and Library, is definitely a beautiful site for placement of Coast Salish public art honoring the Coast Salish Fishing Heritage area as well as the history of Steveston over the years! I can only imagine the amount of activity this site has generated over the last 3500 years. In honor of our people, I want to do something special!

I am presenting you with visual options for your imagination and to consider the feasibility. I noticed that there is power very close to my proposed location in the outdoor living room. When the site is further developed, will there be the opportunity to bring lighting to the proposed artwork? I think it is an important feature that will not only enhance the artwork in the evening and morning hours but from experience, lighting has been a key deterrent for vandals.

My concept proposal, conceptually speaking, is to create **four** stylized Salish paddles. The contour of the paddle will be comprised of 1" CORTEN steel ... integral for strength. The size of the paddles approximately 78" tall x 18" wide.

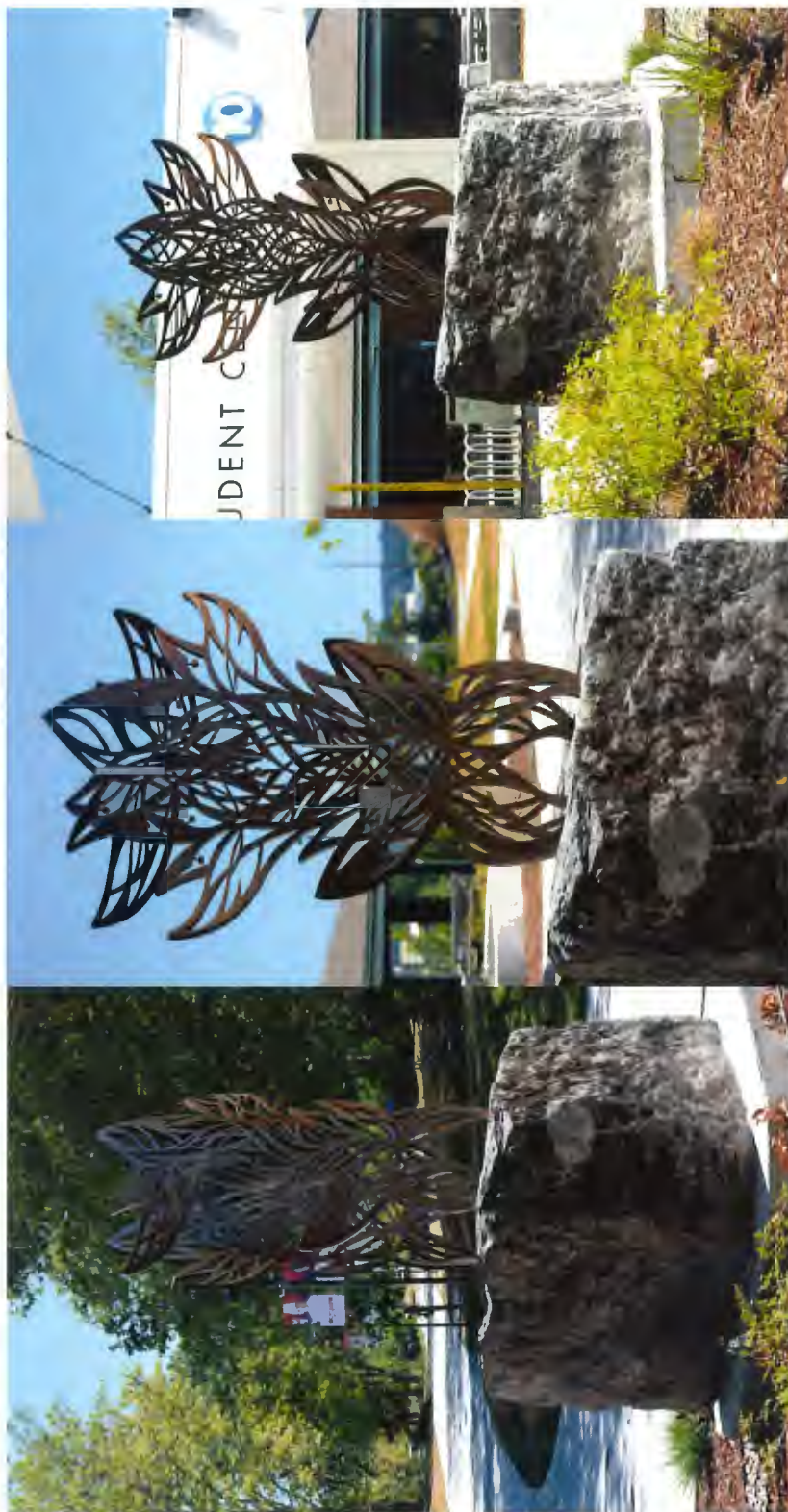


Attached to each paddle on both sides would-be salmon carved from 1" thick architectural anodized aluminum swimming upwards on their way up the river to spawn. I have made a maquette, but it does not show the detail of the carving that I would incorporate into each salmon, these are only generic fish shapes in the rendering but I would adorn them with traditional shapes and also, I would incorporate salmon eggs.

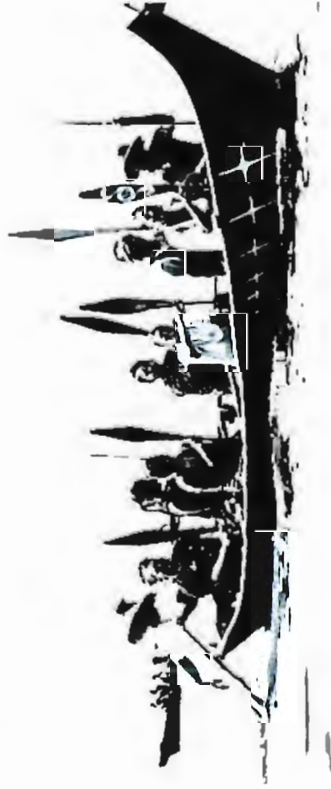
The importance of four in Musqueam and other first nations cultures is relevant. It represents the 4 year cycle of salmon, as well as the four winds, the four directions, the four seasons, the four moons, the four elements- earth, water, air and fire, and so on.



Each of the four paddles sit atop their own Basalt stone base, similar to a sculpture I created in Bremerton Wa. In 2022
Each of these stone bases is roughly 30" x 30" x 30" making the total sculpture height 108 inches tall, 9 feet.



Within paddle contours, on each side I have created different swimming imagery for a total of 8 designs. I am conscious of addressing any possible site view ... which is why I have created interest from any site view using a weave pattern (while moving around the artwork, it will always look like you are right in front).



Paddles held upside down symbolize peaceful connections. The paddles allows light to come through during the day, and they have a much lighter ornamental "gateway" feeling. The viewer will see design features at any time of day ... no matter what side the sun is on (positive and negative with light and shadow). If the site provides artwork lighting, this will allow the same effect at night but in reverse ... reversing the positive and negative imagery the paddles will be lit, and pierced areas will be dark.

As the sun moves, this will highlight different contours of design ... as well as adding aspect creating an interesting form and possibly a shadow after its installed.



CONCISE CONSIDERATIONS:

- The materials I am planning to use are marine grade aluminum, CORTEN steel, concrete foundation and Basalt Plinths. All of these materials are durable and capable of withstanding our coastal climate. The Corten will be pre patinated to prevent runoff staining. The Anodized Aluminum will not be dyed with colour but would stay in the bronze and gold spectrum to ensure longevity.
- I am aware of the considerations of creating foundations in this type of location whereby it is in a planted garden bed.
- I am willing to work with Parks to incorporate into the garden and select appropriate tree options.
- These concepts are rough and would be refined for safety and aesthetics. I will make the paddles in such a way that they are not climbable. Also, Each Salmon will be removable if damaged and needs repair or replacement.
- I will add a level of detail seen in images from my example of works submitted in stage one.
- I will be able to create this work within the requested timeline and within budget.
- The paddles will be double-sided with pierced open areas. The piercing allows light to come through during the day, and it will have a much lighter ornamental feeling. The viewer will see design features at any time of day ... no matter what side the sun is on (positive and negative with light and shadow). If the site provides artwork lighting, this will allow the same effect at night but in reverse ... reversing the positive and negative imagery the paddle will be lit, and pierced areas will be dark.

- My artworks are always changing and evolving and growing. The designs in this proposal are for you to see my concept. Nothing is written in stone; if there is a design that you think should be referenced, I will incorporate it in my style.
- I've carefully considered that the nature of the design has to fit the scale and location of the landscape design ... I've aspired to the highest level of original creativity and excellence in design, creating a landmark work for the Steveston community.

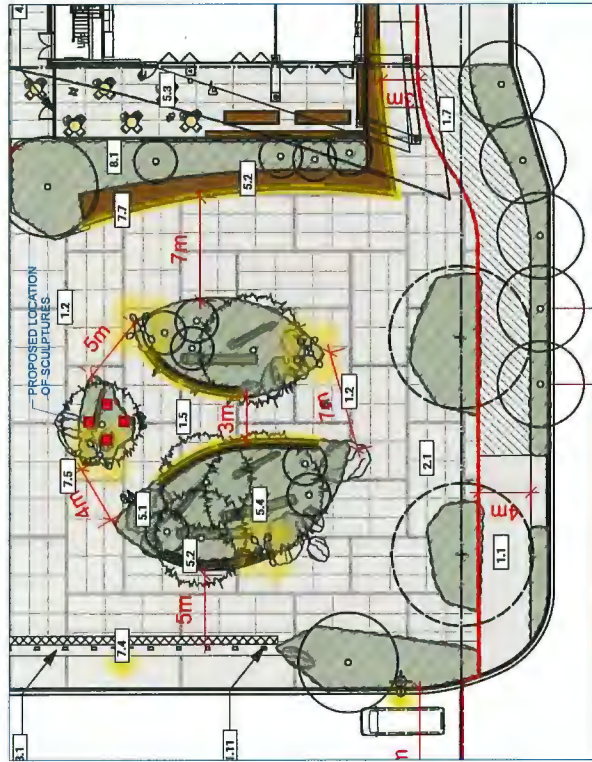
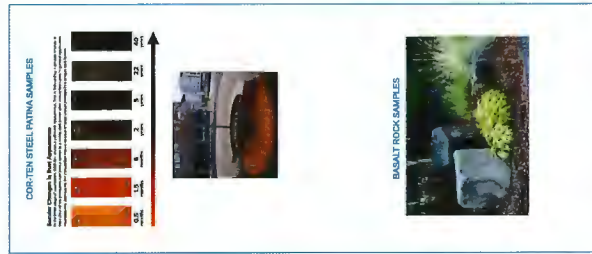
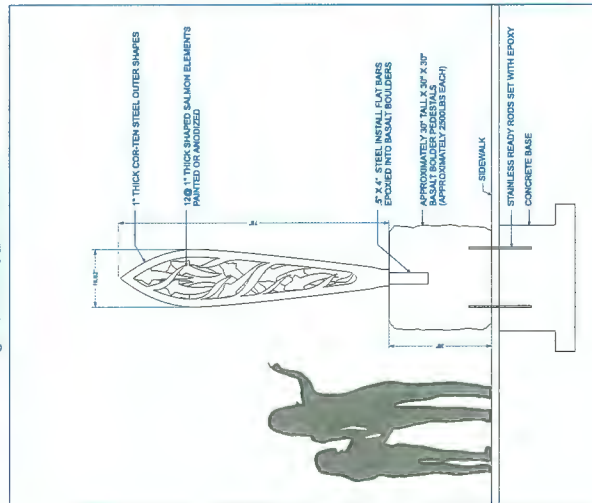
When addressing public art, I have three obligations to fulfil: the criteria and the vision of the art committee and the community; paying respect to my ancestors in a way which honors our traditions of welcome and sharing, and to challenge myself so that I can make the best public art piece I can within the budget. I hope you will see that I have strived to address all of the design criteria desired for this opportunity, be it: Exceptional, Sustainable, Accessible, Synergistic and Connected to the site.

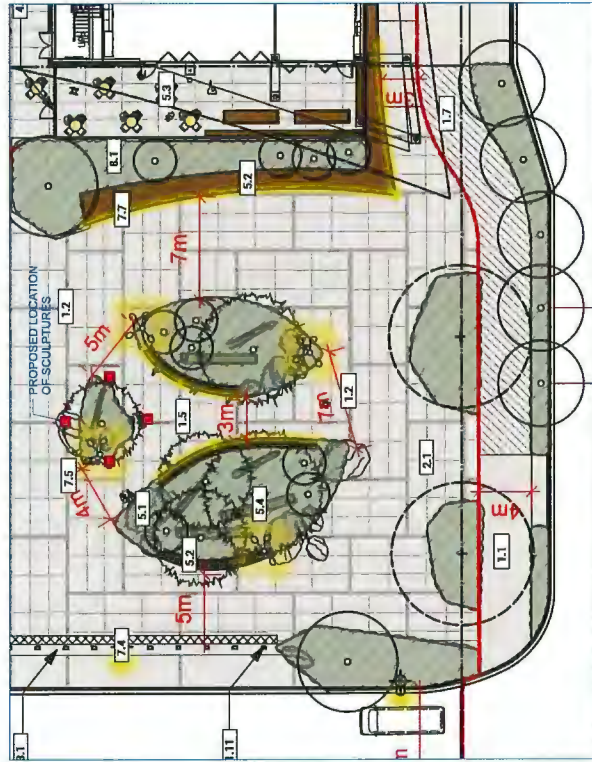
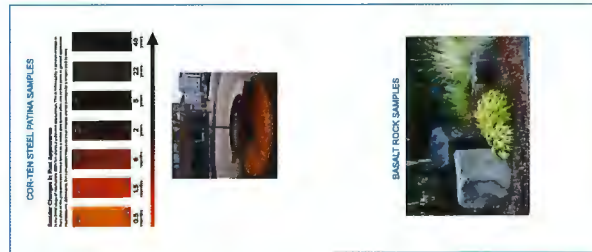
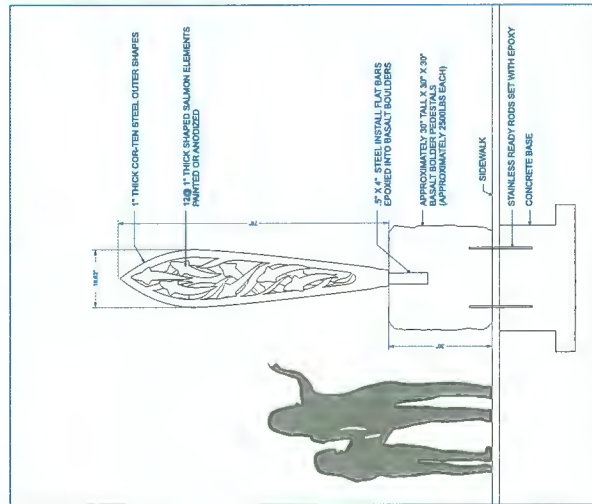
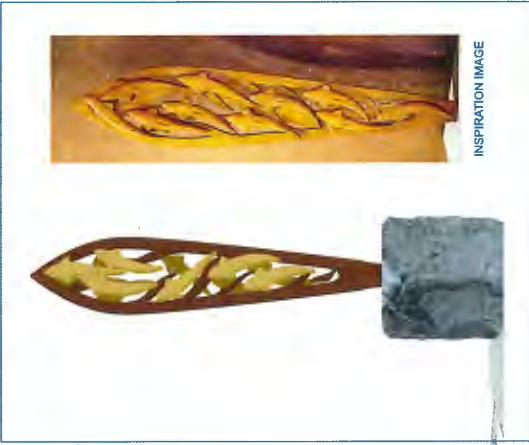
BUDGET:

\$35,000	Materials (Inclusive)
\$125,000	Fabrication
\$10,000	Installation
\$2,000	Comprehensive Shipping
\$4,000	Meetings / Conference Calls / Travel
\$8,500	Final Design & Engineered Drawings
\$3,000	Insurance
\$50,000	Artist Fee 20 %
\$12,500	Contingency 5%
<hr/>	
\$250,000	Total Budget



40' 10\"/>







City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services
Committee

From: Marie Fenwick
Director, Arts, Culture and Heritage Services

Re: **Steveston Heritage Interpretive Framework**

Date: September 15, 2023

File: 11-7141-01/2023-Vol
01

Staff Recommendation

That the Steveston Heritage Interpretive Framework as detailed in the staff report titled "Steveston Heritage Interpretive Framework," dated September 15, 2023, from the Director, Arts, Culture and Heritage Services be endorsed for the purpose of guiding the future development of interpretive programs, exhibits and initiatives in Steveston.

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

Att. 2

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

Staff Report

Origin

This report responds to the following referral from Council on November 8, 2021.

(1) That the Draft Steveston Heritage Interpretive Framework as detailed in the staff report titled "Steveston Heritage Interpretive Framework," dated September 21, 2021, from the Director, Arts, Culture and Heritage Services be endorsed for the purpose of seeking stakeholder and public feedback; and

(2) That the final Steveston Heritage Interpretive Framework, including the results of the stakeholder and public feedback, be reported back to Council.

This report supports Council's Strategic Plan 2022-2026 Strategy #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.

6.5 Enhance and preserve arts and heritage assets in the community.

Analysis

Background

Steveston is home to six City-owned heritage sites, Britannia Shipyards National Historic Site, London Farm, Steveston Tram, Steveston Museum and Post Office, Branscombe House and Scotch Pond which offer a variety of interpretive opportunities. Additionally, Steveston is home to the Gulf of Georgia Cannery National Historic Site owned by Parks Canada and many other landscapes, places, objects, public art pieces, and activities that support the presentation of its unique heritage. Collectively these things tell the story of Steveston and as such, would benefit from the guidance of a holistic Interpretive Framework.

Interpretive plans are important guiding documents for heritage institutions and other informal learning facilities, providing direction for the design and operation of heritage facilities including conservation, landscaping, exhibits and programs. A key element of an interpretive plan is the interpretive framework. This framework sets out the key themes and stories told which guide decisions on how to communicate key messages and information to audiences through meaningful experiences, site management and business planning.

The Steveston Heritage Interpretive Framework (Interpretive Framework – Attachment 1) considers the overarching interpretation of Steveston's heritage at the City-owned heritage sites and other assets in Steveston, including the waterfront and natural areas. Developed through an integrated interpretive planning process, working with community members, the Interpretive Framework is intended to support the creation and delivery of interpretation in a more holistic

manner by informing future site planning, exhibit development, signage, conservation-related projects, and programs.

The Interpretive Framework provides long-term guidance that may evolve in response to societal shifts in our understanding of history and its importance or as the community of Steveston changes. While it is recommended that the Interpretive Framework be reviewed every 10 years it may be revised and updated at any time should new information emerge and / or feedback be received from key contributors

The Interpretive Framework provides guidance to site-specific interpretive plans. Currently, four of the City-owned heritage sites have working interpretive plans. These plans outline in more detail the themes, audiences and methods of interpretation at that site. These plans are living documents that will change as the circumstances surrounding the site's operation and interpretation changes. Additional interpretative plans may be developed for other sites at a later date and will be informed by the Interpretive Framework.

The Interpretive Framework was first presented to Committee at the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee on November 8, 2021. Following Council's endorsement in principle, further community engagement was undertaken and minor changes made in response to the feedback received. This report outlines that engagement and the resulting changes.

Engagement

The initial development of the Interpretive Framework was done in collaboration with the societies that support the operation of City-owned heritage sites' as well as other groups interested in the heritage interpretation of Steveston. Engagement began with a workshop in January 2020 focused on defining intended audiences, interpretive themes, and desired interpretive methods for each site and across Steveston. The following groups participated in this workshop:

- Britannia Shipyards National Historic Site Society;
- London Heritage Farm Society;
- Steveston Historical Society;
- Gulf of Georgia Cannery Society;
- Scotch Pond Cooperative; and
- Tourism Richmond.

Throughout 2020 and 2021, staff had numerous discussions with these groups individually, further refining the proposed audiences, themes, and methods for each site. The results of these discussions, combined with a thorough review of previous heritage planning work and historical documentation, provided the foundation for the draft Interpretive Framework.

In the previous report to Council, staff committed to engaging "groups who participated in the creation of the draft Interpretive Framework (Britannia Shipyards National Historic Site Society, London Heritage Farm Society, Steveston Historical Society, Gulf of Georgia Cannery Society, Scotch Pond Cooperative and Tourism Richmond) and others who we anticipate will help to

advance both ongoing and future strategic actions related to the plan. These groups include the Musqueam Indian Band, Steveston Harbour Authority, Steveston Community Society and the Richmond Heritage Commission.” These groups, along with members the Steveston Japanese Canadian community, were all invited to comment.

Feedback received through this engagement has been accommodated with minor changes made to the draft Framework as discussed below. All groups and community members engaged endorse the Framework as presented in this report.

Staff reached out to the Musqueam Indian Band for input in the development of the Interpretive Framework as well as for input on the draft Interpretive Framework. While there was initial interest in providing input, no formal response has been received at this time. The Interpretive Framework is intended to be a living document. Staff will continue to invite Musqueam participation in projects related to the interpretation of Steveston heritage as well as future planning work relating to the Interpretive Framework and Council will be advised accordingly.

Steveston Heritage Interpretive Framework

Much of the Interpretive Framework draws on the Historical Context Statement developed for the Steveston Village Heritage Conservation Area Program in 2009 to help identify and preserve the buildings and features in Steveston Village. The Interpretive Framework considers the themes presented in the 2009 document in the current context of interpretation and as they relate to the interpretive opportunities at the heritage places in Steveston.

An overview of the Interpretive Framework is provided here. Since Council’s endorsement in principle in 2021, the following minor changes were made to accommodate additional input from the community.

- The addition of other places of interpretation;
- The addition of information related to the experience of Japanese Canadians;
- The addition of a new sub-story to the Farming story to highlight the natural bounty of Steveston’s lands; and
- An update to the Interpretive Goals for the Steveston Museum and Post Office.

Additional detail, including descriptions of themes and stories, is included in the attached full version. The full Interpretive Framework also includes specific interpretive goals for each City-owned heritage site which will direct the methods of presentation of the themes and stories outlined below.

The themes identified in the Interpretive Framework include:

- **Cultural Diversity** – Steveston was and is a culturally diverse area, attracting people from around the globe for economic opportunities and natural beauty.
- **Connection to the Fraser River** – Steveston exists in its current form in large part because of the physical and natural environment found in its location at the mouth of the Fraser River.

- **The Past in our Present** – While today’s Steveston looks very different than that of one hundred years ago, the legacies of what was built then, still lives on in its people, places and activities.

The four stories outlined in the Interpretive Framework include:

1. **Fishing** - Fishing has been a central driver of settlement in the Steveston area, which served as a place for fishers to collect and process their harvest for many generations. This was seen in the rich traditions of Indigenous Peoples fishing the Fraser River and remains true for the hundreds of commercial vessels in today’s Steveston Harbour.
2. **Farming** - While today’s farmland is found largely on the outskirts of Steveston, farming has been an important activity shaping the area’s development. From Chinese market gardens, to family dairy farms, to large-scale grain farms, to the berry and vegetable farms in today’s Agricultural Land Reserve, each of these illustrates unique features of the land and the people who work it.
3. **Community Life** - Located in the southwest corner of Richmond surrounded by river and open fields, Steveston has always been set apart from other populated areas. Because of this, community members took it upon themselves to build what it needed, developing a strong sense of independence. Community Life reflects this enterprising spirit and illustrates how people from diverse backgrounds come together to form a community.
4. **Transportation Hub** - In today’s world, it is difficult to imagine the large steamships of the early twentieth century that visited Steveston’s port and the ferries and interurban tram that took people from the busy Steveston town to the neighbouring areas of New Westminster or Vancouver. With each change in transportation came changes to the development of Steveston and the lifestyle of people travelling and moving goods.

The full Interpretive Framework also includes specific interpretive goals for City-owned heritage sites which will direct the presentation of the themes and stories outlined in the table below.

THEMES		
Cultural Diversity	Connection to the Fraser River	The Past in our Present
Stories	Sub-Stories	
Fishing	a) The Catch b) Fishing Techniques and Traditions c) Processing the Catch d) The Fishing Fleet	
Farming	a) The Natural Bounty of the Land b) Land Management and Stewardship c) A Farming Community d) The Business of Farming	
Community Life	a) Building Community b) Home Life c) Staying Connected	

THEMES		
Cultural Diversity	Connection to the Fraser River	The Past in our Present
Stories	Sub-Stories	
	d) Nikkei Contributions	
Transportation Hub	a) Evolution of Transportation b) The “Sockeye Special” c) The Backbone of Commerce	

Next Steps

To successfully implement the Interpretive Framework, it is recommended that future heritage interpretation initiatives:

1. Align with the themes and goals identified in this Interpretive Framework;
2. Put the visitor’s experience first; and
3. Link the stories and sites in Steveston.

There are a number of current initiatives in progress that build on the stories identified in the Interpretive Framework. (Attachment 2) Additionally, the following areas of interpretation will be further developed at various locations across the Steveston area:

- Stories of Indigenous Peoples and their changing relationship to the area;
- The significance of the Fraser River in Steveston’s development and the impact of that development on the River;
- The evolution of West Coast fishing methods and boats;
- The history of Cannery Row and how the canneries shaped the Steveston community;
- Stories of commercial farming and agriculture in Steveston past and present;
- The diversity and evolution of communication for Steveston residents; and
- The story of Steveston as an international port.

Addressing these gaps should be considered priorities for future interpretative initiatives, such as exhibits, programs, events, signage at existing sites and elsewhere in Steveston as opportunities arise. Based on input from community and an assessment of current opportunities, staff recommend these priority actions to address the identified interpretive gaps.

- Britannia Shipyards Plan – A new plan for Britannia Shipyards would provide a vision for park signage, landscaping and displays that address gaps in interpretation of the River, local ecology, and fishing boats.
- London Farmhouse Displays – Display upgrades in the London Farmhouse would provide opportunities to expand on the story of the London family and interpret new stories related to the Steveston communities that supported farming.
- Field trip programs at heritage sites – Expand the development and delivery of curriculum-related school programs at the four City-owned heritage sites.

- Steveston interpretive signage – A comprehensive interpretive signage program would support linkages between heritage sites and stories and could build on existing signage found at Imperial Landing, the Dyke Trails, Garry Point Park and elsewhere.
- Interpretation of Fraser River at Scotch Pond – Scotch Pond is uniquely situated in Garry Point Park adjacent to Sturgeon Bank. As such, this location could offer excellent opportunities to introduce new interpretation of the Fraser River.

The Council-endorsed Interpretive Framework will provide direction for future responses to existing referrals and on-going projects related to the heritage sites in Steveston. Staff, working with community stakeholders, will develop and support new initiatives to take advantage of interpretive opportunities in parks and other heritage places over the coming years. These initiatives will be the subject of future reports to Council and funding requests.

Steveston heritage sites initiatives and others relating to the implementation of the Interpretive Framework will be brought to Council as part of the Annual Year-in Review reporting. Should Council endorse the proposed Steveston Heritage Interpretive Framework, staff will circulate the document to interested community members and groups.

Financial Impact

There is no financial impact at this time. Any recommendations of the Interpretive Framework that require additional funding will be the subject of future reports to Council and the annual budget processes.

Conclusion

Staff recommend Council endorse the Interpretive Framework for the purposes of guiding how the stories of Steveston are shared at different heritage sites and locations throughout the area. The Interpretive Framework will provide direction for undertaking interpretation in a more holistic manner and inform future site planning, exhibit development, signage, conservation-related projects, and programs, at City-owned heritage sites.



Rebecca Clarke
Manager, Museum and Heritage Services
(604-247-8330)

Att. 1: Steveston Heritage Sites Interpretive Framework

Att. 2: Current Interpretive Initiatives at Steveston Heritage Sites



ATTACHMENT 1



CITY OF RICHMOND STEVESTON HERITAGE INTERPRETIVE FRAMEWORK

September 15, 2023



Thematic Framework

Overview

Interpretive themes		
Cultural Diversity		
Connection to the Fraser River		
The Past in our Present		
Stories	Sub-Stories	Interpretive Locations
Fishing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The Catch b) Fishing Techniques and Traditions c) Processing the Catch d) The Fishing Fleet 	<p>Primary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gulf of Georgia Cannery National Historic Site • Britannia Shipyards National Historic Site <p>Secondary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steveston Harbour • Scotch Pond • Imperial Landing • Fisherman's Park • Garry Point Park • Steveston Fishermen's Memorial • Nikkei Fishermen's Memorial
Farming	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The Natural Bounty of the Land b) Land Management and Stewardship c) A Farming Community d) The Business of Farming 	<p>Primary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • London Farm • Dyke Trail <p>Secondary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Branscombe House • London Wharf Park
Community Life	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Building Community b) Home Life c) Staying Connected d) Nikkei Contributions 	<p>Primary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steveston Museum and Post Office • Britannia Shipyards National Historic Site • London Farm <p>Secondary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steveston Tram • Steveston Village • Branscombe House • Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre • Steveston Nikkei Memorial • Steveston Community Centre • Steveston Martial Arts Centre • Kuno Garden & Cherry Trees at Garry Point • Suikinkutsu Japanese Garden in Town Square
Transportation Hub	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Evolution of Transportation b) The "Sockeye Special" c) The Backbone of Commerce 	<p>Primary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steveston Tram <p>Secondary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Britannia Shipyards National Historic Site • Steveston Museum and Post Office • London Farm • Railway Greenway • Steveston Harbour • Imperial Landing • Steveston Community Park • London Wharf Park

Interpretive Themes

The following interpretive themes, or central concepts, can be seen in all of Steveston's heritage places and activities. These concepts are important lenses through which Steveston's history and heritage can be viewed and its stories told.

These themes, and the stories that follow, highlight Steveston's unique heritage and offer opportunities to illustrate how these histories are part of the larger story of British Columbia and Canada.

A. Cultural Diversity – Steveston was and is a culturally diverse area, attracting people from around the globe for economic opportunities and natural bounty.

Since before contact, Indigenous peoples have been drawn to the areas' rich resources. Later Chinese, Japanese, South Asian and European populations came and developed commercial fishing and farming industries. Changes in community populations through the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries were representative of larger socio-economic trends and government policies such as:

- Establishment of the reserve and residential school systems for First Nations people outlined in the Indian Act;
- Criminalization of Indigenous peoples' cultural heritage practices such as fishing, potlatches, and speaking Indigenous languages;
- Race-based immigration policies that discriminated against people of non-European descent such as the Chinese Exclusion Act and the Continuous Journey Regulation;
- Race-based awarding of fishing licenses that discriminated against people of non-European descent;
- Racial segregation of public schools that discriminated against people of non-European descent;
- Land ownership and enfranchisement laws that privileged men and people of European descent; and
- Forced internment of Japanese Canadians and dispossession of their property and businesses during the Second World War and four years after.

These policies shaped both the fishing and farming industries that were the backbone of Steveston's community.

In response, members of the Steveston community were at the forefront of social change, showing leadership by:

- Starting the movement to unionize the fishing industry;
- Establishing Richmond's first hospital and the first socialized health care system in Canada;
- Establishing Richmond's first racially integrated school, home to BC's first certified Japanese Canadian teacher; and
- Winning the right to vote for Japanese Canadians in BC elections.

Despite numerous challenges, people continued to come from around the world, creating a unique mix of cultures and working together to build a community that supported each other's well-being. While racism has been a persistent factor in Steveston's history, so has the cultural harmony that was fostered through shared working and living experiences.

B. Connection to the Fraser River – The Fraser River is a designated Canadian Heritage River with a rich natural and cultural heritage. Steveston exists in its current form in large part because of the physical and natural environment found in its location at the mouth of the Fraser River. The estuary surrounding Steveston is considered an environmentally sensitive area due to its unique ecology of tidal marshes, tidal sloughs, mud flats, traces of surviving indigenous vegetation, riverine and terrestrial habitat.

This River and its rich estuary have supported the people who settled in the area since time immemorial by providing food, fertile soil, a means of transportation and a place of beauty and recreation. The importance of the River as a connector and provider is at the heart of every story from its beginnings to today.

C. The Past in our Present – The village of Steveston and the surrounding area have maintained a strong identity despite, or perhaps because of numerous ups and downs throughout history. Communities of peoples have come and gone and come back again. The industries of fishing and farming have changed significantly over the years, but are still well-represented in the area with many residents connected to those earlier ways of life.

Preservation of heritage places and practices that long distinguished Steveston have played an important role in this continuity. So has a turn toward a new economic basis in tourism. While today's community looks very different than that of the past, the legacies of what was created then, still lives on in its people, places and activities.



Image: Steveston Waterfront circa 1943, COR 1985 4 14

Stories / Sub-stories

Although Steveston has many stories to tell, this plan focuses on four central stories which provide a rich basis for interpretation and offer opportunities to bring each story to life through existing places, objects and activities.

A. Fishing

Fishing has been a central driver of settlement in the area for millennia. Settlements initially served as a base from which fishers could collect and process their harvest. This was seen in the rich traditions of Indigenous Peoples fishing the Fraser River and Salish Sea and remains true for the more than 500 commercial vessels in the modern day Steveston Harbour.

Contained within the Fishing storyline are a number of sub-stories that speak to not only the technical aspects of the work but also the people doing the work and their experiences of hardship and success.

- **The Catch** describes the many species of fish and other sea life that have provided sustenance for people over the years. In addition to fish traditionally found in the Fraser River, the Catch tells about the species commercially fished up and down BC's coast by the vessels and fishers of Steveston.
- **Fishing Techniques and Traditions** focuses on the methods of fishing and their technological and cultural evolution. From the highly productive, and carefully regulated, traditional Indigenous fishing techniques, to gillnets, Seine nets and Easthope engines, each fishing method is unique to a people and time and sets the stage for the day-to-day experiences of Steveston's fishers and their families.
- **Processing the Catch** highlights the prolific fish processing industry that shaped Steveston's development during the twentieth century. This story is dominated by the salmon canneries that lined Steveston's Cannery Row, but also includes Indigenous practices of salmon preserving and modern practices of reduction and freezing.
- **The Fishing Fleet** tells the story of the vessels that supported fishers and the unique craftsmanship that went into their design and maintenance. In particular, this includes the history of the many boat works that were owned by Japanese Canadians who brought their unique boatbuilding skills with them from Japan.

The prominence of fishing in Steveston's development allows for numerous interpretive opportunities, highlighted by two National Historic Sites – the Gulf of Georgia Cannery and the Britannia Shipyards – and brought to life today at the Steveston Harbour.

B. Farming

While today's farmland is found largely on the outskirts of Steveston, historically farming was central to the area's development. Throughout the twentieth century, farming in Steveston has taken many shapes, evolving to suit the people, economic markets and technology of the time. From Chinese market gardens, to family dairy farms, to large-scale grain farms, to the berry and vegetable farms in today's Agricultural Land Reserve, each of these illustrates unique features of the land and the people who work it.

- **The Natural Bounty of the Land** tells the story of the richness of the area. Fueled by the fertile soils of the Fraser River estuary, the land that Steveston was built upon is home to many native species of plants and animals that have provided agricultural economies for the peoples of the area for millennia.
- **Land Management and Stewardship** shares how farming in Steveston shaped and was shaped by the River and its ecology. From the creation of the dyke system to maximize use of the rich delta soil to management of "pests", and the use of chemicals to increase production, farming has had a significant impact of the ecology of the River estuary.

- **A Farming Community** tells the story of Steveston's many farming families and how together, they worked the land. These stories of resilience and resourcefulness share how farmers, their families, labourers and community worked together to make a living off the land. These stories also illustrate the class, gender and racial divides that were part of twentieth century farming culture.
- **The Business of Farming** speaks to the evolution of farming methods and how farmers worked not only to feed their families, but to produce crops that supported a sustainable business. From the types of crops planted, to the farming implements used, to the means of transportation to get to market, each decision set the course for how successful a farm business would be.

The story of farming is primarily told at London Farm with supporting interpretation in parks spaces and along the dyke trail.

C. Community Life

Located in the Southwest corner of Richmond surrounded by river and open fields, Steveston has always been set apart from other populated areas. Because of this, community members took it upon themselves to build what they needed, developing a strong sense of independence. The story of Community Life reflects this enterprising spirit and illustrates how people from diverse backgrounds can come together to form a community.

- **Building Community** focuses on the amenities and activities that developed in Steveston as the community grew. From hospitals and schools to celebrations and commerce, these places and activities characterize the life of the peoples that settled in the area known as Steveston.
- **Home Life** illustrates how the people working in the fishing, canning and farming industries lived. The opportunities offered by this work attracted people and families from around the world who lived in different circumstances, practicing a variety of cultural traditions.
- **Staying Connected** speaks to the evolution of communication methods that the diversity of people in Steveston used to maintain connections with their families in distant lands.
- **Nikkei Contributions** tells the story of the Japanese Canadians who played a significant role in the shaping of the Steveston community. From the first settler from Mio, Japan, to the forced removal of Japanese Canadians, to the modern contributions to Steveston's community, the ups and downs faced by the Nikkei people have put an indelible mark on the community known today.

The story of Community Life is told at many places throughout Steveston. The Steveston Museum and Post Office serves as a focal point, while Britannia Shipyards and London Farm offer immersive experiences.

D. Transportation Hub

The story of Steveston as a Transportation Hub is the only story that is largely situated in the past. In today's world of highways and cars, it is difficult to imagine the large steamships of the early twentieth century that visited Steveston's port regularly to transport salmon across the sea. Also lost are the ferries and interurban tram that took people from the busy Steveston town to the neighbouring areas of New Westminster or Vancouver. With each change in transportation came changes to the development of Steveston and the lifestyle of people travelling and moving goods.

- **Evolution of Transportation** tells the story of the changes to how people and goods moved from Steveston to other places in the region or world. It includes the early international ships, local travel by canoe, ferry or horse, as well as the interurban tram system and modern day transit and roads.
- **The "Sockeye Special"** was the affectionate name locals gave to the interurban rail, reflecting the importance of the Tram to the people of Steveston. This story shares the experiences of the people who travelled on the Tram for work and going to and from social events in Richmond and Vancouver.
- **The Backbone of Commerce** describes how various transportation systems supported the commercial development of Steveston. This includes systems that brought workers into Steveston during the fishing and canning seasons and provided producers with a reliable method of marketing and transporting their products.

This story is primarily told at the Steveston Tram with supporting interpretation at the Steveston Museum and Post Office and London Farm.



Images, top to bottom, left to right: Wood working displays at Britannia Shipyards, Tram passenger display, Doing laundry at London Farm

Interpretive Goals for Heritage Sites

Interpretive goals help direct the presentation of the themes and stories described above. These interpretive goals focus on the primary points of interpretation at City-owned facilities and places. The Gulf of Georgia Cannery National Historic Site is guided by its own interpretive plan which is in development with input from community, including the City of Richmond.

Britannia Shipyards National Historic Site Goals

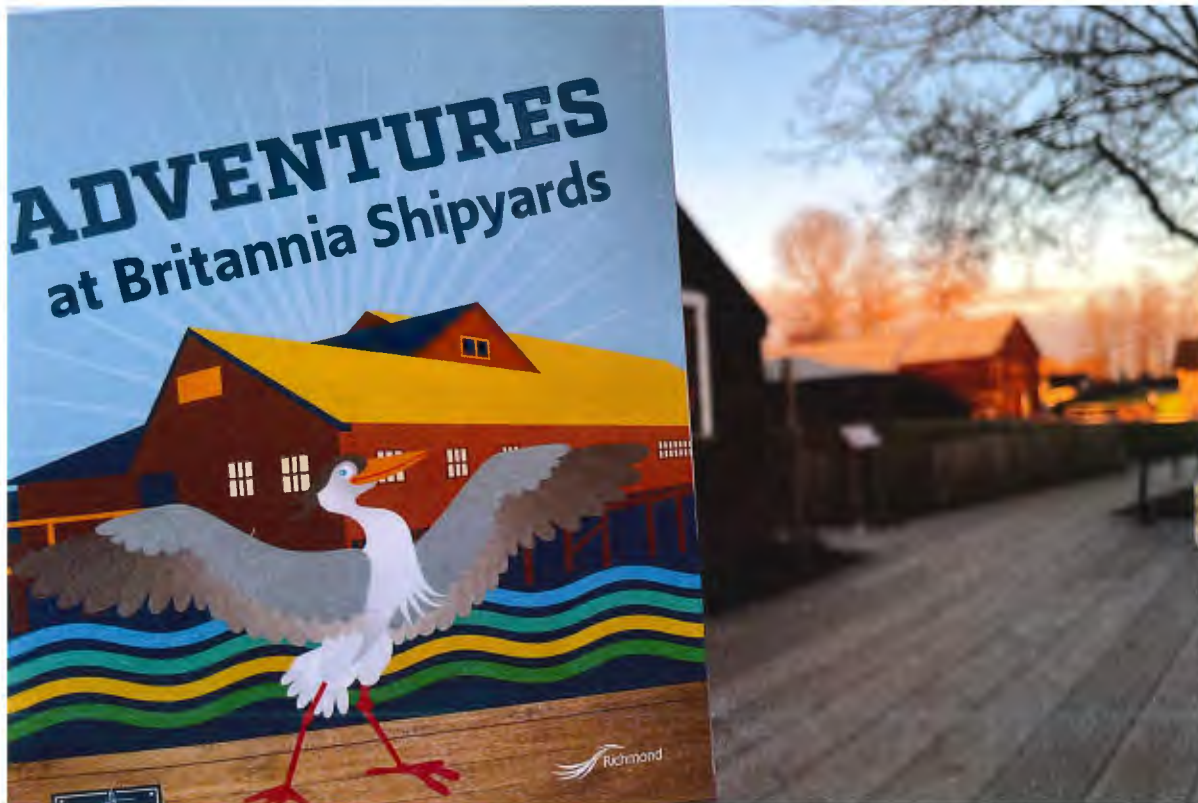
Interpretation at this site is designed to...

- Create authentic and immersive experiences of the daily life of the people who worked in West Coast fishing and boatbuilding;
- Foster greater understanding of the cultural diversity of people that supported West Coast fishing and boatbuilding;
- Encourage discovery of the complex workings of West Coast fishing and boatbuilding industry; and
- Inspire connections to and stewardship of West Coast maritime heritage and the Fraser River.

London Farm Goals

Interpretation at this site is designed to...

- Inspire connections to and stewardship of the land and the site;
- Create an environment of curiosity and remembering of early twentieth century farm life;
- Foster greater understanding of agricultural and farm practices of early twentieth century farming; and
- Encourage discovery of the people and complexity of Richmond's farm society.



Kids activity book at Britannia Shipyards

Steveston Museum and Post Office Goals

Interpretation at this site is designed to...

- Evoke memories of and curiosity for the Steveston community;
- Foster greater understanding of the experiences and contributions of Steveston's Nikkei community;
- Highlight the past and present communication methods of Steveston people; and
- Encourage exploration of Steveston's unique history and heritage beyond the Museum's walls.



Image: School program at Steveston Museum and Post Office

Steveston Tram Goals

Interpretation at this site is designed to...

- Immerse visitors in the authentic experience of an interurban tram from the first half of the twentieth century;
- Foster a greater understanding of the significance of interurban transportation to Richmond; {
- Encourage discovery of the streetcar technology and operation; and
- Inspire connections to Richmond's transportation history.

List of supporting resources (by area of interest)

Branscombe House

Branscombe House Conservation Plan,
Don Luxton and Associates, 2013

Britannia Shipyards National Historic Site

The Britannia/Phoenix Heritage Study,
Duncan Stacey, 1983

A Heritage Overview of "Area E" at the Britannia Waterfront, Leonard Ham, 1988

City Bylaw 5585 for Heritage Designation,
City of Richmond, 1990

Britannia Information Report,
City of Richmond, June 1990

Britannia Complex Phase II,
Robert Lemon Architecture, Sept. 1990

1991 Agenda Paper HSMB of Canada,
Parks Canada, 1991

Britannia Shipyards National Historic Site Statement of Significance, Historic Sites and Monuments Board, 1991

Some Tree Ring Dates for buildings at the Britannia Heritage Shipyard – Dendrochronology Report,
M L Parker Co., Mar. 1992

The Britannia Heritage Shipyard Marketing Research Study, MDM Marketing Consultants, May 1998

Steveston Community Industrial Adjustment Study: Final Report Feasibility Analysis, Cornerstone Planning Group, May 1998

Britannia Heritage Shipyard Business Plan, Britannia Business Plan Steering Committee, Sept. 2000

Britannia Heritage Shipyard Historic Zone Interpretive Plan, Denise Cook Design, Sept. 2006

Britannia Heritage Shipyard Marketing Project – Steveston Resident Discussion Group Plan,
Mitchell James Marketing, 2006

Britannia Heritage Shipyard Marketing Project – Multi-year Marketing and Communications Roadmap,
Mitchell James Marketing, 2007

Britannia Shipyards NHS Strategic Plan 2014-2018,
City of Richmond, 2014

How We Lived: Stories of Work and Play at Britannia,
City of Richmond, Feb. 2009

Britannia Shipyards NHS Site Entryways and Wayfinding Concept, Denise Cook Design, Mar. 2010

Voices of Britannia: The People, the Stories and the Future" Community Engagement Project – Final Report, City of Richmond, Nov. 2013

Seine Net Loft Design Brief, City of Richmond, Jan. 2015

Britannia Heritage Shipyard Conservation Plan,
Don Luxton and Associates, 2015

Waterlot Management Plan, City of Richmond, 2016

Japanese Duplex and First Nations Bunkhouse Historical Literature Review, Denise Cook Design,
May 2016

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Current Interpretive Initiatives at Steveston Heritage Sites

There are a number of initiatives currently underway which support the implementation of the Interpretive Framework at the City's heritage sites. These are outlined by location in the following section.

Britannia Shipyards

Britannia Shipyards is a large site with numerous interpretive opportunities and significant investment in preservation and displays in recent years. However, two buildings, the First Nations Bunkhouse and Japanese Duplex, remain unrestored. At the regular Council meeting on February 8, 2021, Council endorsed a proposed program plan for the First Nations Bunkhouse and at the regular Council meeting on April 11, 2022, Council endorsed a proposed program plan for the Japanese Duplex. More detailed information about the proposed program and levels of service for the First Nations Bunkhouse and Japanese Duplex will be the subject of subsequent reports.

Additionally, Council has approved a number of interpretive experiences at Britannia Shipyards that support the stories and goals outlined in the Interpretive Framework. These include:

- Program planning and fit-out for boat restoration and building in the Richmond Boat Builders;
- Planning for heritage boat preservation and display;
- Recruitment of heritage vessels for rotating display at Britannia Shipyards docks; and
- Improved interpretive signage along the boardwalk and in the park.

Staff are currently working to complete these projects.

London Farm

At the regular Council meeting on February 8, 2021, Council endorsed a new Master Plan to guide the future development and operation of London Heritage Farm site. This Master Plan advances the Interpretive Framework by identifying specific infrastructure improvements in the London Farm Park. In June 2023, the first phase of this Master Plan was implemented and many of the elements identified in the Plan have now been completed. The remaining elements will be the subject of future reports to Council and budget requests.

Steveston Museum and Post Office

After consultation with the community, Steveston Historical Society and Tourism Richmond through 2020 and 2021, a number of new activities were proposed which would support the interpretative themes and goals identified in this Interpretive Framework and improve the visitor experience at the Steveston Museum. Council approved the following improvements to the Steveston Museum and Post Office at the November 8, 2021 meeting:

- Providing additional interpretation connecting the post office to Steveston's history and heritage;
- Working with local artists and artisans to offer rotating displays in the Northern Bank building;

- Raising profile of the Japanese Fishermen's Benevolent Society (JFBS) exhibits and providing easier access in summer season;
- Working with the local Japanese Canadian community to enhance interpretation in the JFBS building; and
- Refreshing displays of Steveston history in the Northern Bank building to allow for additional stories to be told.

At this time, upgrades to the Steveston Museum post office room are complete and the Steveston Historical Society has been offering a pop-up artists program there since 2022. This program has been popular with locals and visitors and helps to animate the site with local artists.

Staff are working to complete the initiatives approved as part of the 2022 capital project to help to address gaps in the current interpretation of Steveston's stories as well as build on the existing community programming and JFBS exhibits which have proven popular over past years.

Steveston Tram

In January 2023, new displays were opened at the Steveston Tram. These displays complete the Tram restoration project by providing the historical context for the Interurban Tram system and its importance to Richmond and Steveston. These new family-friendly displays support the themes and stories identified in the Interpretive Framework. The new displays have been well received and have significantly increased visitation to the Tram.

Phoenix Net Loft

Staff currently have a referral to explore a variety of program options for the future use of the Phoenix Net Loft. Any program option will offer interpretive opportunities to share the story of the Phoenix Net Loft and its former use.

Other Initiatives

In addition to City-led projects, two significant initiatives are being undertaken by other community groups that will contribute to the interpretation of the Steveston area.

In 2023, the Steveston Harbour Authority, in partnership with Tourism Richmond, began planning for the Fishers' Walk. This project will add interpretation of today's fishing industry along the Harbour property that connects the Gulf of Georgia Cannery to Garry Point Park.

The Gulf of Georgia Cannery National Historic Site is currently renewing its interpretive plan. City heritage sites staff are participating in this project with the goal of sharing unique Steveston stories in a collaborative way across sites.