



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

**Anderson Room, City Hall
6911 No. 3 Road**

**Tuesday, November 26, 2024
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 October 22, 2024.*



NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING DATE

December 18, 2024, (tentative date) at 4:00 p.m. in the Anderson Room.

PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE DIVISION

- WHARVES REGULATION BYLAW NO. 10182 UPDATE AND AMENDMENTS**

(File Ref. No. 06-2345-20-ILAN1) (REDMS No. 7786022)

PRCS-9

See Page PRCS-9 for full report

Designated Speakers: Beayue Louie & Alex Kurnicki

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

- That Wharves Regulation Bylaw No. 10182, Amendment Bylaw No. 10605, be introduced and given first, second and third reading; and*

Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee Agenda
Tuesday, November 26, 2024

Pg. # ITEM

- (2) *That Notice of Bylaw Violation Dispute Adjudication Bylaw No. 8122, Amendment Bylaw No. 10606, be introduced and given first, second and third readings.*



2. **ARRIVAL OF THE S.V. TITANIA MURAL CONDITION REPORT AND PROPOSED OPTIONS**

(File Ref. No. 11-7000-09-20-228) (REDMS No. 7693480)

PRCS-16

See Page PRCS-16 for full report

Designated Speaker: Biliana Velkova

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That Option 1, remove the mural by painting over it, as described in the staff report titled, “Arrival of the S.V. Titania Mural Condition Report and Proposed Options”, dated October 24, 2024, from the Director, Arts, Culture and Heritage Services be approved.



3. **STEVESTON COMMUNITY CENTRE AND LIBRARY INTERIOR ARTWORK TERMS OF REFERENCE**

(File Ref. No. 11-7000-09-20-334) (REDMS No. 7807631)

PRCS-24

See Page PRCS-24 for full report

Designated Speaker: Biliana Velkova

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the Terms of Reference for the Steveston Community Centre and Library Interior Artwork as presented in the report titled, “Steveston Community Centre and Library Interior Artwork Terms of Reference”, dated October 28, 2024, from the Director, Arts, Culture and Heritage Services, be approved.



**Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee Agenda
Tuesday, November 26, 2024**

Pg. # ITEM

4. **NEW CAPSTAN VILLAGE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK PUBLIC
ARTWORK CONCEPT**

(File Ref. No. 11-7000-09-20-335) (REDMS No. 7831155)

PRCS-39

See Page PRCS-39 for full report

Designated Speaker: Biliana Velkova

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

*That the concept for the New Capstan Village Neighbourhood Park public artwork **The Potato Wars** by artist Nathan Lee, as presented in the report titled “New Capstan Village Neighbourhood Park Public Artwork Concept”, dated October 24, 2024, from the Director, Arts, Culture and Heritage Services, be approved.*

5. **MANAGER’S REPORT**

ADJOURNMENT



Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee

Date: Tuesday, October 22, 2024

Place: Anderson Room
Richmond City Hall

Present: Councillor Chak Au, Chair
Councillor Michael Wolfe
Councillor Laura Gillanders
Councillor Andy Hobbs
Councillor Bill McNulty

Also Present: Councillor Carol Day

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 September 24, 2024, be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING DATE

November 26, 2024, (tentative date) at 4:00 p.m. in the Anderson Room.

AGENDA ADDITION

It was moved and seconded

That Expression of Interests for Rabbits be added to the agenda as Item No. 3A.

CARRIED

PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURE DIVISION

1. STREET BANNERS PROGRAM UPDATE

(File Ref. No. 11-7200-20-SBAN1) (REDMS No. 7786596)

Discussion took place on the cost and options for banners along the Highway to Heaven section of No. 5 Road, and in response to queries from Committee, staff advised that (i) the estimated cost noted in the report is for removal and replacement of new poles, and (ii) an engineering assessment for retrofitting would include reviewing the existing pole's load capacity and condition.

Discussion then ensued regarding (i) options to retrofit existing poles along the Highway to Heaven section of No. 5 Road, (ii) options to add street banners only on the north and south end of the Highway to Heaven section of No. 5 Road, (iii) developing a plan to expand of the Street Banner program in other areas of the city, (iv) reviewing potential federal and provincial grants available and funding from community partners for the Street Banner program, and (v) referencing a staff report related to street banners in Steveston.

As a result of the discussion the following **referral motion** was introduced:

It was moved and seconded

That the staff report, "Street Banners Program Update", dated September 26, 2024, from the Director, Parks Services, be referred back to staff to provide additional information on:

- (1) retrofitting options for existing poles along the Highway to Heaven section of No. 5 Road, including load capacities and estimated cost of retrofitting poles or replacing poles;*
- (2) various banner configuration options along the Highway to Heaven section of No. 5 Road, including installation of banners only on the north and south end of the section, only the east-side of the section or only in front of the religious institutions in the section;*
- (3) other potential sources of funding for the program, including grants and community partnerships; and*
- (4) expansion of the Street Banner Program in other areas of Richmond; and report back.*

CARRIED

2.

Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Committee
Tuesday, October 22, 2024

2. **ASPAC RIVER GREEN LOT 1 PUBLIC ARTWORK TERMS OF REFERENCE**

(File Ref. No. 11-7000-09-20-228) (REDMS No. 7808271)

In response to queries from Committee, staff noted that (i) the theme of the artwork is based on the City Centre Public Art Plan, (ii) Aspac will be funding the public art project, and (iii) the artwork will be in one location.

It was moved and seconded

That the Aspac River Green Lot 1 Public Art Terms of Reference for the public artwork at 6011 River Road, as presented in the report titled “Aspac River Green Lot 1 Public Artwork Terms of Reference”, from the Director, Arts, Culture and Heritage Services, dated September 23, 2024, be approved.

CARRIED

3. **RAILWAY GREENWAY LIGHTING – ENGAGEMENT RESULTS AND NEXT STEPS**

(File Ref. No. 06-2400-20-RAIL1) (REDMS No. 7786781)

Discussion took place on (i) costs for lighting, (ii) necessity for lighting, and (iii) options to provide ambient lighting in specific darks areas along the path.

In response to queries from Committee, staff noted that (i) data can be obtained to determine how many people use the path at night, (ii) there have been few complaints regarding safety on the greenway, and (iii) speed bumps are not recommended as it may present as a barrier for individuals with mobility issues.

As a result of the discussion the following **motion** was introduced:

It was moved and seconded

(1) *That Option 3 - Status Quo, Continue to Monitor Conditions and Community Need, as outlined in the staff report titled “Railway Greenway Lighting – Engagement Results and Next Steps”, dated September 26, 2024, from the Director, Parks Services, be endorsed; and*

(2) *That staff examine the feasibility and cost implications of ambient lighting in dark areas along the Railway Greenway, and report back.*

CARRIED

Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Committee
Tuesday, October 22, 2024

3A. **EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR RABBITS**

(File Ref. No.)

Discussion ensued with regard to the expression of interest (EOI) process for rabbit management, and in response to queries from Committee, staff advised that the expression of interest is an invitation for groups to communicate their interest to provide the service. Following this initial step, a formal bid would require interested groups submit background and costing analysis. Staff added that the EOI process was extended to November 1, 2024, and that historical rabbit pilot projects were successful.

As a result of the discussion, it was suggested for staff to report back on the expression of interest proposal process at the next Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee meeting.

4. **MANAGER'S REPORT**

(i) Bark Park Construction

Staff noted that (i) a portion of the site base preparation has been completed, (ii) the remainder of the path will be completed by end of October 2024, and (iii) park fencing will be installed starting on November 2024.

(ii) Steveston London Park Off-Leash Area

Staff advised that the off-leash area in Steveston London Park was completed this summer and the City has not received any negative feedback from adjacent residents.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded

That the meeting adjourn (4:55 p.m.).

CARRIED

Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Committee
Tuesday, October 22, 2024

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, October 22, 2024.

Councillor Chak Au
Chair

Sarah Goddard
Legislative Services Associate



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee

Date: November 8, 2024

From: Todd Gross
Director, Parks Services

File: 06-2345-20-ILAN1/Vol 01

Mark Corrado
Director, Community Bylaws and Licencing

Re: Wharves Regulation Bylaw No. 10182 Update and Amendments

Staff Recommendations

1. That Wharves Regulation Bylaw No. 10182, Amendment Bylaw No. 10605, be introduced and given first, second and third readings; and
2. That Notice of Bylaw Violation Dispute Adjudication Bylaw No. 8122, Amendment Bylaw No. 10606, be introduced and given first, second and third readings.

Todd Gross
Director, Parks Services
(604-247-4942)

Mark Corrado
Director, Community Bylaws and Licencing
(604-204-8673)

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

Staff Report

Origin

On July 24, 2023, Council adopted the Wharves Regulation Bylaw No. 10182 and the following amendment bylaws to effectively manage waterfront activities:

1. Consolidated Fees Bylaw No. 8636, Amendment Bylaw No. 10286;
2. Bylaw Violation Dispute Adjudication Bylaw No. 8122, Amendment Bylaw No. 10285; and
3. Municipal Ticket Information Authorization Bylaw No. 7321, Amendment Bylaw No. 10306;

Staff was also directed to report back to Council in one year to provide a status update regarding the implementation and enforcement results following adoption of the Wharves Regulation Bylaw No. 10182.

This report provides an update on the bylaw status and enforcement activity following the first year of operation. This report also introduces a proposed amendment to Wharves Regulation Bylaw No. 10182 (the Bylaw) to include additional language to better manage transient moorage activities.

This report supports Council's Strategic Plan 2022–2026 Focus Area #3 A Safe and Prepared Community:

Community safety and preparedness through effective planning, strategic partnerships and proactive programs.

This report supports Council's Strategic Plan 2022–2026 Focus Area #4 Responsible Financial Management and Governance:

Responsible financial management and efficient use of public resources to meet the needs of the community.

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.

Background

The Bylaw was adopted in July 2023 to effectively manage activities on the waterfront. The Bylaw only applies to City water lots, with its primary application having been applied to regulating activities at the Imperial Landing dock. The usage of the Imperial Landing remains primarily divided between seasonal recreational boaters and recreational fishing activities.

Analysis

Status Update

Since the Bylaw came into effect, programming-related inquiries have been managed by the Parks Department, while enforcement-related concerns are directed to Community Bylaws. The Bylaw introduced 60 potential fineable offenses for which Bylaw Officers may issue fines.

Since its adoption, the City has received 12 calls for service, which have been opened and investigated. The majority of these calls relate to vessels exceeding the maximum three-day stay permitted under the Bylaw. Each call required attendance to the wharf and contact to be made with vessel owner, as owners are not always on board multiple visits are often required. With a continued presence, the majority of vessels chose to depart with no further enforcement action needed. To date, two tickets were issued to the same boat owner pertaining to failure to pay moorage fee and failure to provide proof of ownership.

To date, there has been only one call regarding a purported derelict vessel. Following a joint investigation with Transport Canada and the Steveston Harbour Authority, the vessel's owner was located and subsequently removed the vessel from Imperial Landing. The introduction of the Bylaw has proven beneficial in regulating vessel moorage at Imperial Landing.

Recommended Bylaw Amendments

Staff have identified a need to add language to address "rafting" by boaters. Rafting is defined as two or more boats tying up to one another (akin to "double parking" for road vehicles). This activity is problematic because it obstructs access to and from Imperial Landing as well as obstructs the waterway. The current Bylaw does not include any prohibition of "rafting". The proposed amendment would prohibit this activity unless so authorised by staff, such as part of a special event or function.

In addition to this text amendment, staff are also recommending an update to the Notice to Bylaw Violation Dispute Adjunction Bylaw No. 8122, to introduce a fine for unauthorized rafting. This amendment is also included with this report.

Staff met with the Britannia Shipyards National Historic Site Society Moorage Committee to discuss the proposed bylaw amendment. The Britannia Shipyards National Historic Site Society Board endorsed the amendment at the November 7, 2024, meeting.

Financial Impact

None.

Conclusion

Since the Bylaw was adopted and put into effect in July 2023, staff have been provided the regulatory framework to effectively manage waterfront recreational activities in the community. The proposed amendments will enable staff to better enforce and regulate the Wharves Regulation Bylaw No. 10182.

November 8, 2024

- 4 -

Staff will continue to monitor activities through the course of their regular duties enforcing the Bylaw. Should additional revisions be required to more effectively manage activities, staff will bring forward the appropriate Amendments for Council's consideration as the need arises.



Alexander Kurnicki
Manager, Parks Programs
(604-276-4099)



Geoffrey Bramhill
Manager, Community Bylaws Operations
(604-276-4136)



Wharves Regulation Bylaw No. 10182
Amendment Bylaw No. 10605

The Council of the City of Richmond enacts as follows:

- 1. Wharves Regulation Bylaw No. 10182, as amended, is further amended by deleting in Subsection 2.3.1(q), line 4 the word "or".
2. Wharves Regulation Bylaw No. 10182, as amended, is further amended by deleting the "." at the end of the Subsection and replacing with "; or".
3. Wharves Regulation Bylaw No. 10182, as amended, is further amended by adding the following as Subsection 2.3.1(s) and appropriately re-lettering the remaining subsection: "(s) raft a vessel in a waterlot area."
4. Wharves Regulation Bylaw No. 10182, as amended, is further amended by adding the following definition in Section 8.1 in the appropriate alphabetical placing: "RAFT means when one or more vessels is secured to another vessel by means of lines or cables."
5. This Bylaw is cited as, "Wharves Regulation Bylaw No. 10182, Amendment Bylaw No. 10605".

FIRST READING

SECOND READING

THIRD READING

ADOPTED

Four horizontal lines for signature or date entry.

Table with approval stamps: CITY OF RICHMOND, APPROVED for content by originating dept. (JC), APPROVED for legality by Solicitor (LB).

MAYOR

CORPORATE OFFICER



Notice of Bylaw Violation Dispute Adjudication Bylaw No. 8122, Amendment Bylaw No. 10606

The Council of the City of Richmond enacts as follows:

- 1. Notice of Bylaw Violation Dispute Adjudication Bylaw No. 8122, as amended, is further amended by adding the content of the table in Schedule A attached to and forming part of this Bylaw, to Schedule A of Bylaw No. 8122 to modify "Schedule - Wharves Regulation Bylaw No. 10182".
2. This Bylaw is cited as "Notice of Bylaw Violation Dispute Adjudication Bylaw No. 8122, Amendment Bylaw No. 10606".

FIRST READING

SECOND READING

THIRD READING

ADOPTED

Four horizontal lines for signature or date entry.

Table with approval stamps: CITY OF RICHMOND, APPROVED for content by originating dept. (JC), APPROVED for legality by Solicitor (LB).

MAYOR

CORPORATE OFFICER

Schedule A to Bylaw No. 8122

Schedule – Wharves Regulation Bylaw No. 10182 (2023)							
Designated Bylaw Contraventions and Corresponding Penalties							
A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	A7	A8
Bylaw	Description of Contravention	Section	Compliance Agreement Available	Penalty	Early Payment Option	Late Payment Amount	Compliance Agreement Discount
Wharves Regulation Bylaw No. 10182	Period of Time from Receipt (inclusive)		N/A	29 to 60 days	1 to 28 days	61 days or more	N/A
	Prohibited rafting of vessel(s)	2.3.1(s)	No	\$ 200.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 250.00	N/A



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee **Date:** October 24, 2024

From: Marie Fenwick, Director, Arts, Culture and Heritage Services **File:** 11-7000-09-20-228/Vol 01

Re: ***Arrival of the S.V. Titania Mural Condition Report and Proposed Options***

Staff Recommendation

That Option 1, remove the mural by painting over it, as described in the staff report titled, “*Arrival of the S.V. Titania Mural Condition Report and Proposed Options*”, dated October 24, 2024, from the Director, Arts, Culture and Heritage Services be approved.

CM Fenwick

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"/>	<i>[Signature]</i>
SENIOR STAFF REPORT REVIEW	INITIALS:	APPROVED BY CAO
	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>

Staff Report

Origin

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

As part of this project, artists Dean and Christina Lauze were contracted as part of the Canada 150 Public Art Program to install a large-scale reproduction of the painting on the south façade of the Steveston Hotel that same year.

The mural has deteriorated beyond repair. This report provides Council with information regarding the mural's condition and seeks direction regarding next steps.

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.

Analysis

Background

Following the City's purchase of the John M. Horton painting, the mural version of *Arrival of the S.V. Titania* was commissioned for painting on the Steveston Hotel in 2017, at a cost of \$25,000 funded by the Richmond Public Art Reserve Fund. The City entered into a five-year agreement with the owner of the Steveston Hotel that expired on August 15, 2022. The agreement outlines that the City is responsible for the maintenance of the mural for five years and has authority to remove it at any time, with 30 days notice to the property representative, if it is excessively damaged.

The mural was completed prior to the establishment of the City's Community Mural Program, which was established in 2019, and did not follow the processes that are now in place for that Program. In contrast, murals commissioned through the Community Mural Program obligate the property owner who applied to the program to keep and maintain their mural for minimum of

five years. Following this period, the property owner can continue to maintain the mural or remove it at their sole discretion and expense.

Current Condition

Staff received a complaint from a member of the public in regards to the condition of the mural. In response, staff reviewed the condition and determined that a condition assessment was warranted to determine if remediation of the mural was possible. The assessment determined that the artwork has deteriorated significantly and repair is not recommended (Attachment 1). The painted layer is delaminating and there are multiple patches of paint loss on the surface. The south-facing position of the wall exposes the mural to afternoon sun and heat, accelerating its decline. See photos in Attachment 2.

The property representative was consulted and has indicated that they would support the City either removing the mural by painting over it or replacing the mural onsite at the City's sole expense.

Options

As evidenced in the photos, the mural could be considered unsightly. Patching or repairing it to its original condition is not possible. Leaving it as-is to continue to deteriorate is not recommended. Staff are seeking direction to pursue one of three options:

1. Remove the mural by painting over it (Recommended). Under this option, following the terms of the agreement, staff would provide 30 days notice to the property representative and paint over the mural. The timing of this work is weather dependant. It would not be replicated elsewhere.
2. Remove the mural by painting over it, and explore options to have the *Arrival of the S.V. Titania* painting replicated elsewhere (Not Recommended). Under this option, the mural would be painted over as detailed in Option 1 and a staff report with a new location and costing options would be brought forward for consideration. The cost of a new mural of a similar size is estimated to be \$30,000 depending on a range of factors including the location and condition of the wall.
3. Replace the mural onsite (Not Recommended). Under this option, staff would seek permission of the property owner to replace the mural in the same location. Given the south-facing position of the wall and the exposure to elements, and the lack of interest from the property owner in contributing to a replacement mural, this option is not recommended. The estimated cost to replace the mural in this location is \$30,000, including prepping of the wall, materials and anti-graffiti coating.

Option 1 is recommended because:

- Should the City take no action, the mural will continue to deteriorate. This will be unsightly, may generate public complaints, and presents a reputational risk to the City.

- As part of the Canada 150 Public Art Program, the replication of the painting as a mural was commissioned with an agreement to remain in place for five years; like most murals, it is considered to be a temporary installation.
- The south-facing location, condition of the wall and deterioration of the mural's surface indicate that efforts to remediate the artwork will not be successful.
- Since the *Arrival of the S.V. Titania* mural commission, the City has developed and launched a robust Community Mural Program that has added an additional 28 murals throughout the City, including five in Steveston that depict Steveston's fishing industry, Japanese Canadian history as well as Fraser river ecology and local environmental themes. The Program continues to commission new murals that will activate the community and add vibrancy to the public realm.

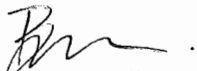
Financial Impact

The estimated cost to remove the mural is \$5,250 and can be accommodated within the existing Public Art operating budget.

Conclusion

The *Arrival of the S.V. Titania* mural was one of the City's first mural commissions and is now at end of life. Since the commission, the City's active Community Mural Program has continued to add murals on an annual basis that add vibrancy to our public spaces, foster community identity and civic pride, engage youth and deter graffiti.

The creation of murals brings together artists, community groups, residents and local businesses to transform the places where we live, work and play into welcoming environments that invite interaction and appreciation of art and culture.



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

- Att. 1: *Arrival of the S.V. Titania* mural condition assessment
2: *Arrival of the S.V. Titania* mural current condition

Condition Report

Arrival of the S.V. Titania Mural

Artist: Dean and Christina Lauzé
Media: Acrylic paint on concrete block
Dimensions: H 10' x W 21'
Location: Steveston Hotel, 12111 Third Ave.
Installed: 2017

Catalogue Description Commissioned in honour of the 150th anniversary of Canada's confederation in 2017, the mural *Arrival of the S.V. Titania* is based on the oil painting of the same title by eminent marine artist, John M. Horton. The original painting is on display at City Hall.

Condition

Since the 2022 Condition Survey, the mural has further deteriorated from the action of heat due to sun exposure on the South-facing wall. Several additional losses to the paint are noted in scattered areas on the mural. The failure of adhesion of the paint to the concrete are due a combination of contributing factors:

- The action of heat exposure on the south-facing wall where the mural is located serving to exacerbate the above-mentioned points
- Incompatibility of the paint with the building's existing wall paint at the time of application and/or poor preparation or priming of the concrete substrate

Recommendations

It is not recommended that the mural is restored due to the continued paint loss that will occur due to inherently problematic location of the wall. It is recommended that the mural be removed.

In future, this location is not recommended for mural work without adequate research into the use of a primer and surface coating. It is not certain whether surface preparation could have guaranteed longevity of the artwork, given the high sun exposure, and this can only be determined by testing.

Report by: Sabina Sutherland, Conservator BFA, MAC

Date: August 8, 2024

Images



Condition of the Mural in 2022



Condition of the mural in 2024

Arrival of the S.V. Titania - mural current condition - May, 2024







City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee **Date:** October 28, 2024

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

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

Staff Recommendation

That the Terms of Reference for the Steveston Community Centre and Library Interior Artwork as presented in the report titled, "Steveston Community Centre and Library Interior Artwork Terms of Reference", dated October 28, 2024, from the Director, Arts, Culture and Heritage Services, be approved.

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

Att. 1

REPORT CONCURRENCE		
ROUTED TO:	CONCURRENCE	CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER
Finance Department	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>EJF</i>
Recreation & Sport Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Facilities & Project Development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Library Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
SENIOR STAFF REPORT REVIEW	INITIALS: <i>CF</i>	APPROVED BY CAO <i>[Signature]</i>

Staff Report

Origin

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

In accordance with the Public Art Program Policy No. 8703, the project budget includes an allocation of one percent of the construction budget for public art. The one percent public art contribution for the entire Steveston Community Centre and Library project is \$450,000. The budget for the interior artwork is \$100,000. \$250,000 has been designated to *Welcome* by Susan Point being installed at the outdoor plaza with the remainder budgeted for the community engaged interior artwork to be installed after the facility is completed.

On December 21, 2022, Council approved the Steveston Community Centre and Library Public Art Plan (the Plan). The Plan recommends a signature artwork to be installed at the outdoor plaza of the Steveston Community Centre and Library, an integrated artwork to be located in the interior of the facility, as well as artwork to be installed inside the facility after it is complete.

This report presents the proposed Terms of Reference for an interior 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.

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

Analysis

Steveston Community Centre and Library Background

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

The form and character of the building draws inspiration from various buildings and landmarks around the Steveston area, reflecting elements such as the docks at the Steveston waterfront, canopies and fascia trims from the Steveston Tram building, the traditional Japanese curved roof form of the Martial Arts Centre, as well as materials and patterns from the surrounding industrial

buildings. All these elements are cohesively incorporated to form a modern contemporary design.

Steveston Community Centre and Library Interior Artwork Opportunity

The artwork will be an integrated glass mosaic tile design located in the lobby of the Steveston Community Centre and Library that will aim to create a sense of arrival and welcome to the facility.

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

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

The Public Art Advisory Committee endorsed the Terms of Reference at its meeting on October 15, 2024.

Proposed Location

The mosaic artwork will be integrated in the curved architectural element above the front desk reception area in the lobby of the Steveston Community Centre and Library. As a hub of visitor activity, this is a prominent location of high visibility from multiple directions.

The commissioned artist will be required to work with glass tile mosaic types specified by the City of Richmond to develop and create a unique design. The installation of the tiled artwork design will be carried out by City-contracted professionals.

Selection Process for Artists and Artworks

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

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

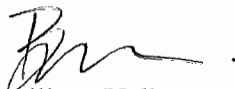
Financial Impact

The total budget for the Steveston Community Centre and Library interior artwork is \$100,000. The commissioned artist will be provided with an artist fee of \$15,000 out of this budget. The artist fee will include administration and coordination of meetings with City staff and City contractors, submission of a digital artwork file, and documentation photography. The remainder of the budget will be used for fabrication and installation of the artwork, administration and contingency.

The Steveston Community Centre and Library interior artwork is funded from the approved Steveston Community Centre and Library capital project. Any maintenance and repairs required for the artwork will be the responsibility of the Public Art Program and is included as part of the operating budget for the facility.

Conclusion

The Steveston Community Centre and Library Interior Artwork supports the approved Steveston Community Centre and Library Public Art Plan. The artwork will create a sense of arrival and welcome for community members, visitors and staff, and will enhance community connection to the facility.



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

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

call to artists



Figure 1. Steveston Community Centre and Library Rendering

Steveston Community Centre and Library Interior Artwork City of Richmond

Request for Qualifications (RFQ)

October 2024

OPPORTUNITY

The Richmond Public Art Program is seeking an artist or artist team to propose an integrated mosaic tile artwork design for the new Steveston Community Centre and Library in Richmond, BC. The public artwork will be located in the lobby of the facility and will aim to create a sense of arrival and welcome to the facility. All information about the project is described below.

This is a two-stage, design-only 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. These artists will be invited to attend a project orientation in advance of preparing a concept proposal for presentation with an interview.

Budget: \$15,000 CAD

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

Deadline for Submissions: XXX

Installation: 2026

call to artists

BACKGROUND

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

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 with one level of underground parking. The design 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 docks at the Steveston waterfront, canopies and fascia trims from the Steveston Tram building, the traditional Japanese curved roof form of the Martial Arts Centre, as well as materiality and patterns from the surrounding industrial buildings. All these elements are cohesively incorporated to form a modern contemporary design.

ARTIST OPPORTUNITY

Shortlisted artists will be invited to propose a unique mosaic tile design to be integrated into the curved architectural element above the front desk reception area in the main lobby. The tiles will be square vitreous glass mosaic tiles. More information regarding the type, size and colour options for the mosaic

call to artists

tiles will be provided to shortlisted artists during the second stage of the artist selection process. A \$1,500 artist honorarium will be provided to all shortlisted artists.

The commissioned artist will create and submit a digital artwork file and work with City staff and City contractors to implement their unique design to integrate into the curved element.

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 and used the area to harvest its bounty including fish, shellfish, berries and crab apples.

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 also inherent to the long traditions of Indigenous Peoples fishing the Fraser River and Salish Sea. The early fishing industry served as 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.

LOCATION

The mosaic artwork will be integrated in the curved architectural element above the front desk reception area in the lobby. As a hub of visitor activity, this is a prominent location of high visibility from multiple directions. See Figure 4 in Appendix 1.

call to artists

MATERIALS

The commissioned artist will be required to work with a specialist mosaic fabricator, contracted by the City of Richmond. The installation of the mosaic artwork design will be carried out by City contracted professionals.

BUDGET

An artist fee of \$15,000 CAD, inclusive of all applicable taxes, excluding GST, is available for this project. The artist fee will include administration and coordination meetings with City staff and City contractors, submission of a digital artwork file, and documentation photography. The artist or artist team will not be responsible for fabrication and installation costs of the mosaic tile artwork.

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 and local Indigenous 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.

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. City staff 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 \$1,500 will be paid to each of the shortlisted artists or artist teams.

Stage 1

- Artists to submit a written Statement of Interest as outlined in the Submission Requirements below.
- Selection Panel to shortlist up to five artists or artist teams for Stage 2.

Stage 2

- Artists to be provided with detailed site information and responses to any questions about the project from City staff.
- Shortlisted artists enter into an agreement with the City to prepare a Detailed Concept Proposal based on their initial submission.

call to artists

- 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.

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

- Artistic merit of conceptual response to one or more of the themes for the Steveston Community Centre and Library.
- Ability of the artist visualizations, digital renderings or sketches 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.
- 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:** (Max. 300 words)
 - describe artist or creative practice
 - highlight relevant experience and skillsets in mosaics or similar transferable practices

call to artists

- identify themes or topics of interest you would like to explore for this opportunity. Please consider and reference the Stage One Selection Criteria (above) in your Statement.
 - **Please do not include 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 page per team member.
 - WORK SAMPLES:** up to ten (10) supporting image examples of previous work. Include examples of past mosaic-type work or similar transferable skillsets using other mediums. 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.
- CONCEPT VISUALIZATION:** may include digital artist renderings, maquettes/models to fully communicate dimensions, scale, colour, viewer experience, materials and relationship to site features.

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:	XXX
Shortlisted Artist Orientation:	XXX
Shortlisted Artist Interviews:	XXX
Installation:	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

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. 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 XXX. 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: 604-247-4612

QUESTIONS

Please contact the Richmond Public Art Program:
PublicArt@Richmond.ca or Tel: 604-247-4612

SUBMISSION DEADLINE

XXX

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

call to artists

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 mosaic artwork will be integrated in the curved element above the front desk reception area. (Figure 4).

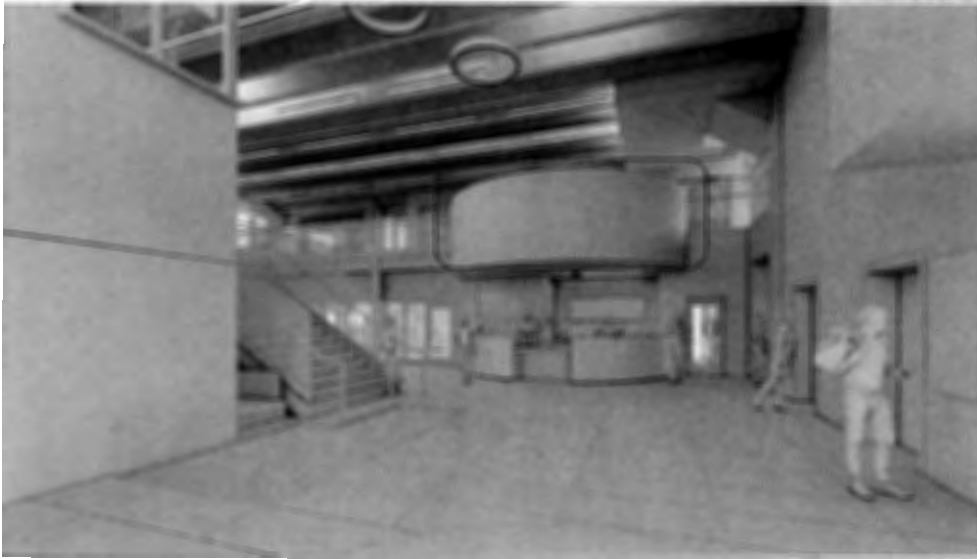


Figure 4. Steveston Community Centre and Library public artwork location

call to artists

PUBLIC ART
RICHMOND

RFQ: Steveston Community Centre and Library Interior 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 EO/RFP, as required. All submissions to this EO/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.



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee **Date:** October 24, 2024

From: Marie Fenwick, Director, Arts, Culture and Heritage Services **File:** 11-7000-09-20-335/Vol 01

Re: **New Capstan Village Neighbourhood Park Public Artwork Concept**

Staff Recommendation

That the concept for the New Capstan Village Neighbourhood Park public artwork *The Potato Wars* by artist Nathan Lee, as presented in the report titled “New Capstan Village Neighbourhood Park Public Artwork Concept”, dated October 24, 2024, 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 Parks Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
SENIOR STAFF REPORT REVIEW	INITIALS: 	APPROVED BY CAO

Staff Report

Origin

The Terms of Reference for the New Capstan Village Neighbourhood Park Public Artwork was approved by Council on March 11, 2024. This report presents the recommended artist concept for the resulting public artwork opportunity for Council's approval.

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.

Analysis

Background

The Polygon Talistar development is a four phase, mid-rise to high-rise, high-density, mixed-use project in the City Centre's Capstan Village. Council approved the development's rezoning application (RZ 18-836123) on June 12, 2023. As secured through the rezoning, the developer will be delivering a public artwork in the New Capstan Village Neighbourhood Park. The New Capstan Village Neighbourhood Park Concept Plan was approved by Council at the regular Council meeting on December 12, 2022. The detailed design process is currently underway with construction expected to take place in 2025.

Working in concert with the overall architecture and landscape design of the Talistar development, the New Capstan Village Neighbourhood Park will invite multi-generational social interaction, with a diversity of multi-purpose open spaces. Supporting lively community activity as well as moments of contemplation, the park will provide residents and visitors a place to play, gather and relax. Refer to Attachment 1 for the location map of the New Capstan Village Neighbourhood Park.

As per the Richmond Public Art Program Policy, the concept for the New Capstan Village Neighbourhood Park public artwork is being brought forward for Council approval because the artwork will be located on civic property and owned by the City. Maintenance will be the responsibility of the City's Public Art Program.

The Council-approved Terms of Reference included:

- Two potential locations - a large circular pathway in the centre of the park or at an outdoor pavilion to be located at the south entrance, off Cambie Road;
- In response to the guiding principles of the City Centre and Capstan Village Public Art Plans, the public artwork will have a strong visual presence to signal arrival and welcome to the new Capstan Village Neighbourhood Park; and
- Themes related to local ecology, sustainability, flora and fauna and were encouraged to explore contemporary forms of artistic expression to create an engaging and tranquil art experience for the area.

Public Art Selection Process

Following Council's approval of Polygon's Terms of Reference, a two-stage artist selection process was implemented and followed the Richmond Public Art Program Policy guidelines as outlined in the Public Art Program Administrative Procedures Manual. The artist call was open to artists residing in British Columbia.

Polygon posted the artist call on March 12, 2024 and closed on April 9, 2024. A total of 21 submissions by artists from across British Columbia were received during the first stage of the selection process. On June 13, 2024, a five-person selection panel comprised of professional artists, project stakeholders and community representatives reviewed the submissions.

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

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 three artists to develop a concept proposal and presentation for the second stage of the selection process.

Following the Terms of Reference, the shortlisted finalists were invited to attend an artist orientation meeting with staff and the project design team on July 23, 2024. 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.

On October 10, 2024, the selection panel convened to interview the shortlisted finalists. Each artist presented their concept proposal followed by a question and answer period. Following a lengthy and thoughtfully considered deliberation, the panel recommended the concept proposal *The Potato Wars* by artist Nathan Lee for the New Capstan Village Neighbourhood Park opportunity (Attachment 2).

The Richmond Public Art Advisory Committee endorsed the recommended concept proposal at their meeting on October 15, 2024.

Recommended Artist

Nathan Lee is a Vancouver-based artist who seeks to engage meaningful social and ecological concepts with a humor and whimsy, while celebrating overlooked natural and cultural narratives. By understanding the unique qualities of each site, his projects are on one hand, refined and richly laden with local meaning, and on the other hand, buildable, durable and responsive to the practical demands of public art.

Recommended Public Art Concept Proposal

The installation consists of a series of over-sized potatoes cast in pigmented concrete and distributed around the proposed entrance pavilion of the New Capstan Village Neighbourhood Park. Laid out in loose rows, their arrangement will mimic typical agricultural planting while also, in a subtle fashion, reference marching soldiers. As tree preservation is one of the key objectives for the park, the placement of the proposed artwork will be integrated with the tree management plan approved as part of the park planning process. The individual elements will not impede circulation, and will provide an integrated and immersive pedestrian experience and welcome interactive play, adding an additional layer of delight, depth, and curiosity to the site.

The artist describes the artwork as follows:

The Potato Wars is a whimsical but thoughtful exploration of local history. The installation is both a recognition of Richmond's proud agricultural history, and a celebration of resilience of a cultural community. It examines the structural inequalities of Richmond's settlement, and playfully explores how it relates to the neighbourhood's current cultural and culinary context. This work encourages curiosity and rewards discovery. It frames how we interpret place and history while delighting us in the experience.

In additional to the Public Art didactic panel, there is also an opportunity to add additional interpretive signage to inform park visitors about this lesser known part of Richmond's history.

Next Steps

Following Council endorsement of the concept proposal, Polygon Talistar will work with the artist to execute a contract and move into the development and fabrication phase with installation of the artwork in 2026.

Financial Impact

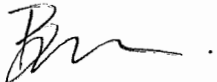
The amount allocated for the artwork is \$175,650. The artwork budget covers all costs associated with the creation of the artwork, including artist fee, artwork design, fabrication and installation. Polygon Talistar will be responsible for all base costs of the pavilion structure and concrete circular pathway.

An annual maintenance budget of \$2,000 will be required to maintain this artwork and will be included in the 2026 budget process when the artwork is expected to be installed.

Conclusion

Council approval of the New Capstan Village Neighbourhood Park Public Artwork will allow Polygon Talistar to move forward with the fabrication and installation of the public artwork at the New Capstan Village Neighbourhood Park.

The Richmond Arts Strategy: 2019-2024 recognizes that the arts are integral to vibrant communities. This public art project will play a significant role in creating inclusive spaces for all within Capstan Village and Richmond's rapidly growing and diverse urban core. By infusing creativity and imagination in our public spaces, residents and visitors alike can experience a greater sense of pride in our communities, contributing to quality of life, health and wellness, and community-building.



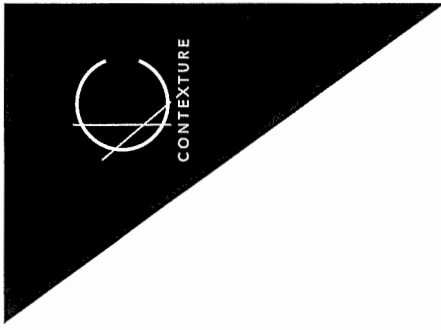
Biliana Velkova
Public Art Planner
(604-247-4612)

Att.1: New Capstan Village Neighbourhood Park Location Map

Att. 2: New Capstan Village Neighbourhood Park Public Artwork Concept – *The Potato Wars*
by Nathan Lee

NEW CAPSTAN VILLAGE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK LOCATION MAP





POTATO WARS

CITY PARK AT TALISTAR

PRCS - 45

DATE:
SEPTEMBER 26, 2024

FROM:
CONTEXTURE DESIGN
NATHAN LEE
NL@CONTEXTURE.CA
604.729.2444
WWW.CONTEXTUR.CA

This work and its area of study are located on the unceded traditional territories of the Hul'q'umi'num' speaking peoples.

APPROACH

Public art is a unique medium. Unlike gallery art whose audience is self-selecting, public art is democratic and open to everyone. On one hand, it has the potential to playfully engage and enhance the public realm. On the other, it has the unique capacity to illuminate and challenge. Truly successful public art can do both. **It can frame how we interpret place and history while delighting us in the experience.**

My **"heavy but light"** creative approach seeks to engage meaningful social and ecological concepts with humour and whimsy, while celebrating overlooked natural and cultural systems. My projects are built on a **foundation of thorough research and richly layered with site-specific meaning.** The end result is relevant and playful, profound and engaging.



SITE HISTORY

Richmond's new City Park at Polygon's Talistar Park development is located within Capstan Village, a neighbourhood experiencing exceptional growth and development. Set within Richmond's ethnically diverse cultural context, this site is located in the heart of the "Golden Village," a unique district that boasts a high concentration of Asian shopping malls, stores, and restaurants. Aberdeen Centre, Continental Centre, Union Square, President Plaza, Yaohan Centre, and Alexandra Road (Food Street) all fall within this area. With hundreds of unique restaurants and an unrivaled reputation for culinary diversity, it's often said that this area serves up the best Asian dining outside of Asia. Make no mistake, **this place is all about food!**

From a historical perspective, this makes sense. **This place has always been about food.** The City of Richmond sits at the mouth of the Fraser River where Indigenous peoples harvested berries and roots, hunted deer and beaver, and fished for salmon and sturgeon. Indigenous peoples were drawn here by the richness of the land and continue to hold important connections to the area.



In P137, Women and children in dugout canoe on Fraser River, 1890

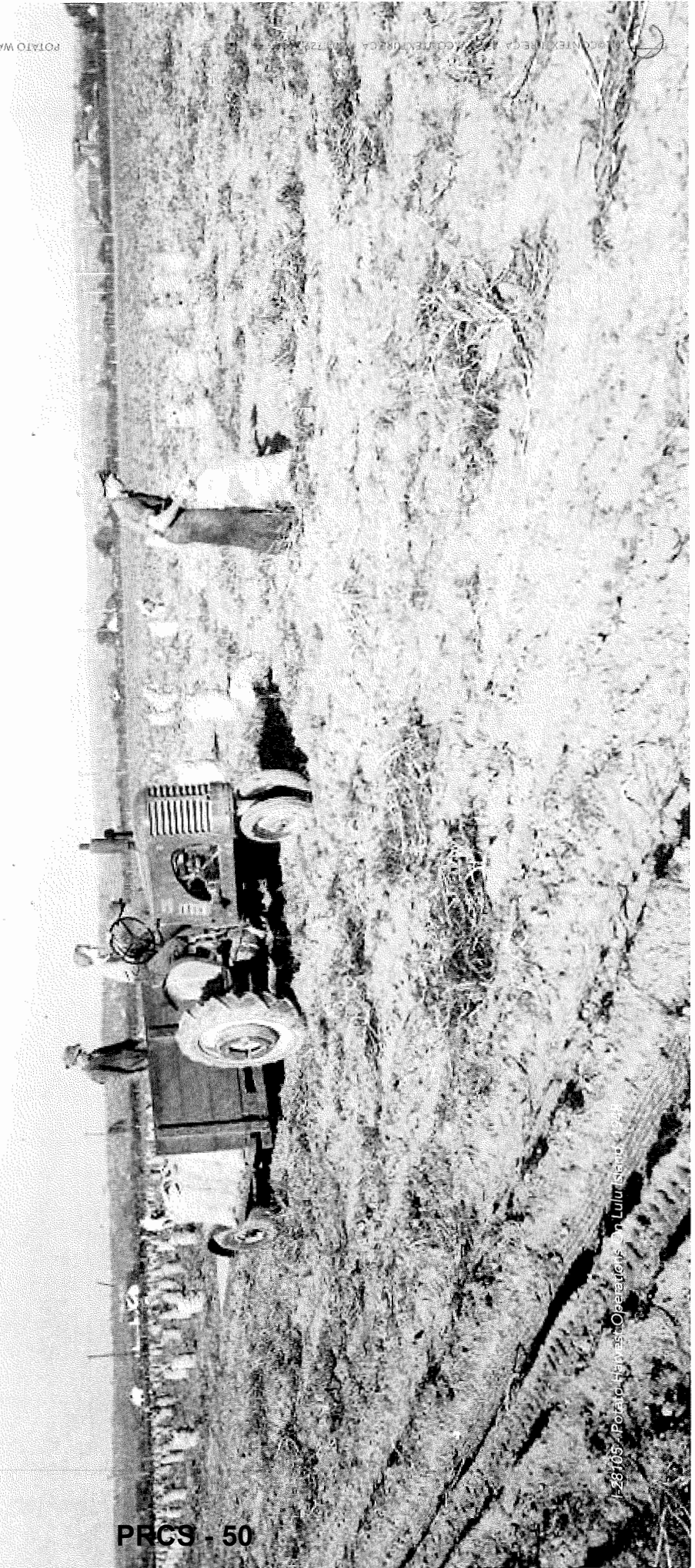


When Europeans arrived in the area, **they were also focused on food.** Agriculture dominated the early settler land use of the future City Park neighbourhood. By the early 1900's, Richmond was supplying food for the growing city of Vancouver, and the entire region.

THE HUMBLE POTATO

One of the many crops proudly grown in Richmond were potatoes. In fact, in 1944 Les Gilmore harvested 900 bushels per acre of "Netted Gem" potatoes, **the highest yield per acre in Canada!** It's no surprise that he was also the first president of the Columbia Growers Association.

PRCS - 50



1-28105 - Potato Harvest Operator in Lularien

In the 1920's potatoes were a part of everyday life in this neighbourhood.

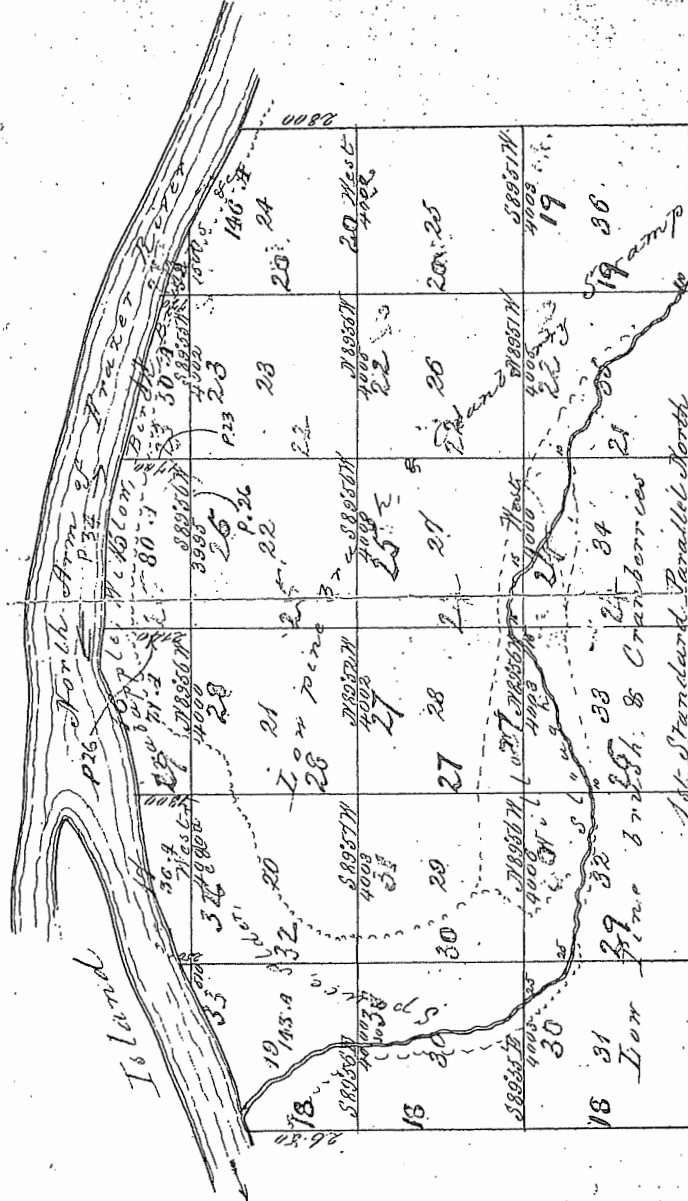
"Teenagers would sometimes steal potatoes from a farmer's field, light a fire behind the Alexandra Station, roast the potatoes and give them to the conductor and motorman."

B.C. Electric Railway's Cambie Station was located across the street from the project site. Alexandra was the next stop, less that 225 meters away.

B.C. Electric Railway Cambie Station, 1951
* The Sockeye Special: the story of the Steveston term and early Lulu Island, by Ron Hyde



Block 5 North Range 5 West Coast Merid



Truch Survey showing Pre-emption lots, 1859

CHINESE MARKET GARDENS

What isn't reflected in these charming archival stories of potatoes is the systemic inequality that existed in agriculture during Richmond's early settlement history. As settlers arrived in British Columbia, Crown land was distributed through Pre-emption, a process that displaced Indigenous people from their traditional territory. It also specifically excluded anyone of Chinese descent from owning land through this process. Despite this, **by the 1920's there were a substantial number of Chinese market farmers in Richmond**, most of whom worked or leased land from early settlers.

By 1921, 90% of BC's vegetables and 55% of potatoes were produced and distributed by Chinese immigrants. While some would consider the agricultural contributions of the early Chinese population an asset, others considered it a threat. In 1935 the BC Coast Vegetable Marketing Board was created, implementing a system of quotas and fixed pricing in order to avoid saturation of all natural goods, including potatoes. Farmers were required to be licensed and allow their product to be tagged in order to be sold in the Lower Mainland's largest produce market, Vancouver.

Farmers selling vegetables in produce warehouse, 1925

Interestingly, roadside stands (a common practice for white farmers) were exempt, but truck farmers and home delivery (a Chinese dominated method of distribution) were not.

After some initial compliance, Chinese farmers began to push back. **Eventually barricades were positioned on bridges from Richmond to Vancouver** to check produce. These were established first by police, and later by angry mobs.



CUA 1923-47 - Whiteville Farmers' Market near New Hope, British and Columbia, 1923

RIOT AT BRIDGE IN POTATO WAR

Men who broke away from the ranks of the rioters and ran to the bridge to help the rioters were shot by the rioters.

Violence In Potato Deadlock

Chinese Beaten by Gang
Of Men on Fraser
Bridge

Farmers Picket
Span With Axes

MARKET BOARD MEN ARE ATTACKED

Chinese Gangster Is Sought
After Trouble in
Warehouse

Bridges Guarded In "Potato War"

VANCOUVER, Aug. 31.—(Pressing)—Many ten-hour skirmishes ended the day as the B.C.'s potato pickets were stopped Friday in the streets of the Fraser valley.

Fires which broke in the streets of the Fraser valley, were the result of the rioting in the streets of the Fraser valley.

POTATO TRUCK EVADES GUARD

Chinese Drives Past Police
Stationed at Marpole
Bridge.

Bootleg Potatoes Seized



Officers of the B. C. Food Inspection Board, which are in charge of the potato market, are today inspecting the potatoes which are being sold in the market.

That certain lots of potatoes which did not pass the test of the B. C. Food Inspection Board were seized in the streets of the Fraser valley.

Police Take Over Bridges

Threats 'War' Pickets to
Workshops

Police have taken over the bridges in the Fraser valley, and the pickets have threatened to start a strike.

On August 12, 1935, 14 Chinese farmers were arrested and beaten for allegedly transporting contraband potatoes into Vancouver. What followed were potato warehouse raids, the harassment of Chinese vegetable peddlers, a lengthy court battle, and civil unrest. The Chinese farmers would take their case to the Supreme Court and eventually lose, but in the process the Board would be audited for financial irregularities. As a result of the audit, the Board was dissolved in 1937, ending the year-and-a-half Potato Wars.

POTATO RUNNERS Face ARREST

MARKET BOARD
PROSECUTIONS

TONS OF 'SPUDS' SEIZED

Vancouver, Aug. 31.—(Special)—Police today seized a large quantity of potatoes which were being sold in the market.

17 Truck Escape In POTATO WAR

ASH THROUGH
ICE BARRIER
MARPOLE

CK DOWN STABLES

Police today seized a large quantity of potatoes which were being sold in the market.

Despite this conflict and the abundance of legislative and social restrictions placed on the early Chinese Canadian community, they would endure and prosper. Along the way, **they would continue to feed a growing region.** Potatoes grown in Richmond Chinese market gardens could be found on green grocer shelves throughout the Lower Mainland, eventually ending on dinner plates in both Asian and European houses. Many of the wholesale and distribution networks that were established at this time still exist today, providing fresh and affordable food to the Lower Mainland's ever-growing population. Even after all this time, **it's still about the food.**



Kin's Farm Market, Richmond

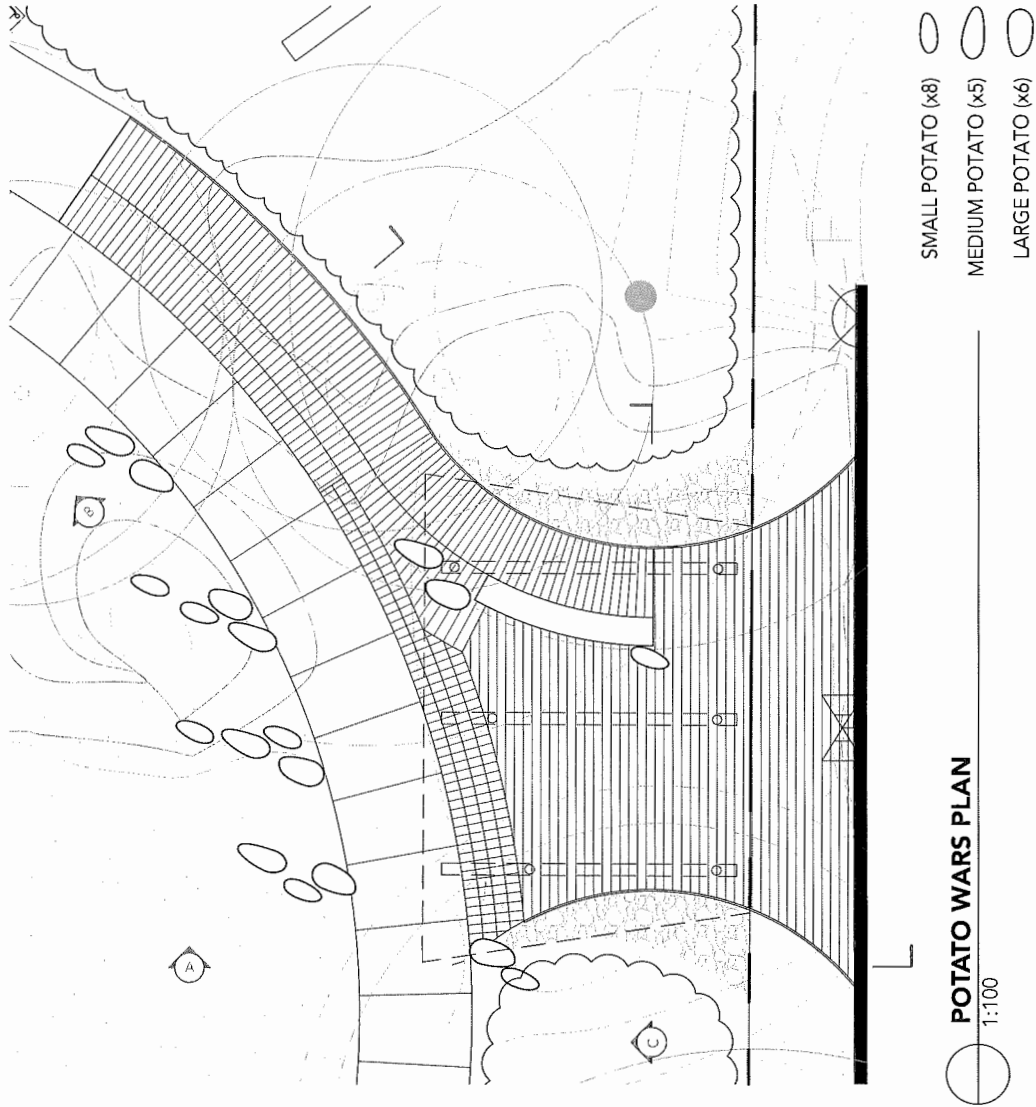


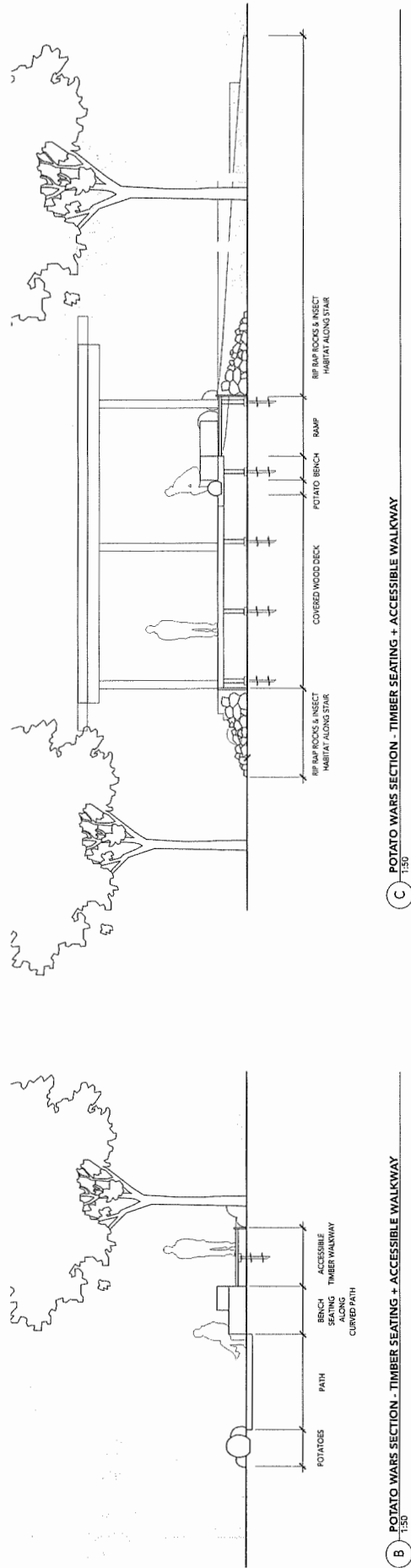
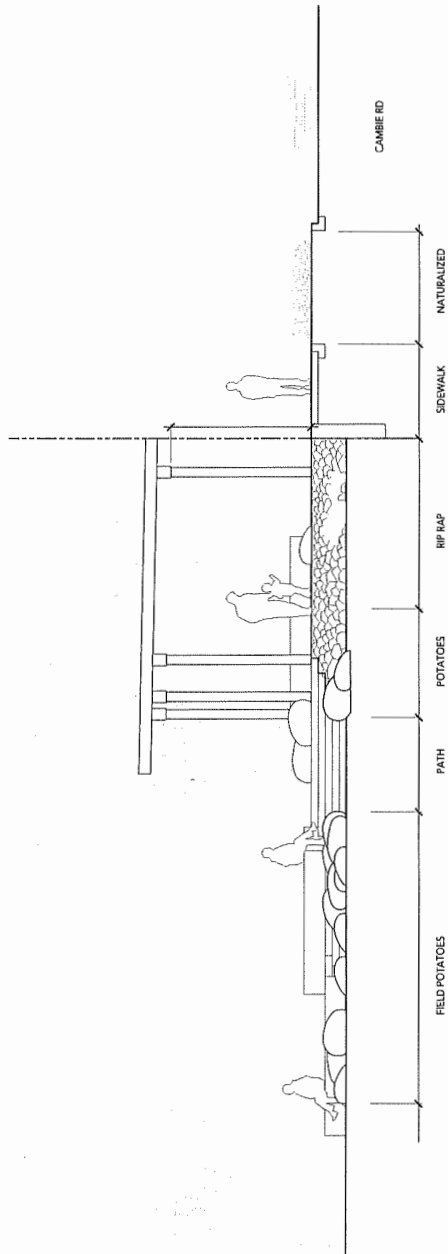
The Potato War is an overlooked historical event with profound significance. The presence of potato farming, and the known abundance of Chinese market gardens in the area make this event particularly relevant to this site. Consisting of a series of super-sized concrete potatoes, this public art installation unearths a forgotten nugget of local history and reintroduces it to the site.





Potatoes will be cast in three sizes and carefully distributed around the proposed Entrance Pavilion of City Park. Laid out in loose rows, their arrangement mimics typical agricultural form while also referencing marching soldiers. The individual elements do not impede circulation, but **provide an integrated and immersive pedestrian experience, adding an additional layer of delight, depth, and curiosity to the site.**







POTATO INSTALLATION



TYPICAL

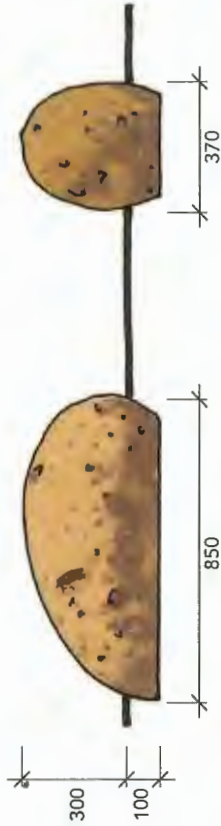


WITHIN CRITICAL ROOT ZONE

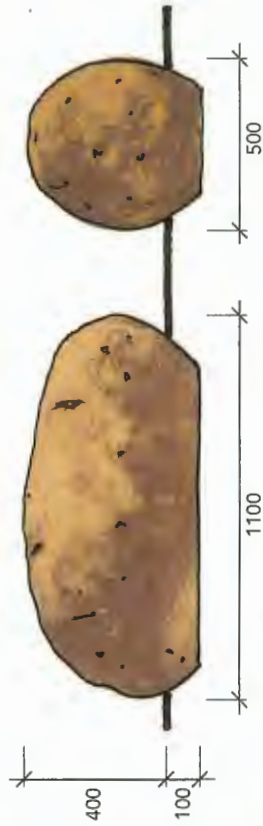


WITHIN PAVILION DECKING

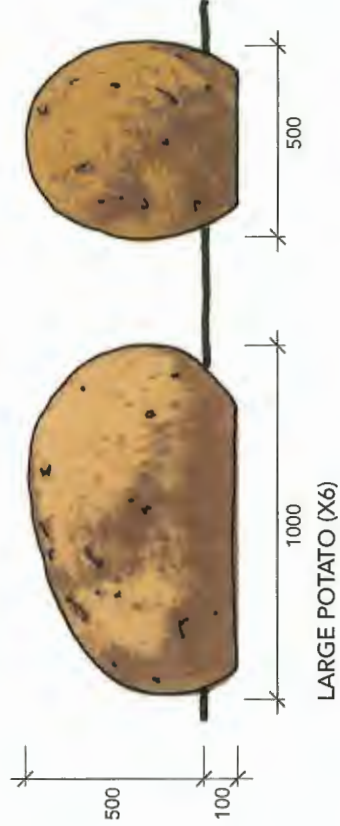
POTATO DETAIL



SMALL POTATO (X8)



MEDIUM POTATO (X5)



LARGE POTATO (X6)

Individual potatoes will be cast in pigmented concrete. The addition of a contrasting pigmented mortar topcoat will bring out the detail in the casting, providing the look of mottled potato skin. Installation will vary, but always be slight below the surface to give the effect of the potatoes being grounded.





Potato Wars is a whimsical but thoughtful exploration of local history. The installation is both a recognition of Richmond's proud agricultural history, and a celebration of resilience of a cultural community. It examines the structural inequalities of Richmond's settlement, and playfully explores how it relates to the neighbourhood's current cultural and culinary context. This work encourages curiosity and rewards discovery. **It frames how we interpret place and history while delighting us in the experience.**



APPENDIX

PRELIMINARY DRAFT BUDGET:

Artist fee* (10%)	\$17,500.00
Detailed Design	\$3,200
Engineering	\$7,000
Fabrication	\$93,000
Installation	\$25,000
Coordination	\$4,500
Contingency (15%)	\$26,350.00
TOTAL	\$176,550.00

Based on anticipated expenses

GST not included

* Includes studio overhead, administration, and insurance

Fabrication for Potato Wars will be carried out by **Sanderson Concrete**, North America's leading producer of custom architectural precast concrete and site furnishings. Working with engineers, architects, and contractors, Sanderson Concrete has built a reputation for providing **CONCRETE SOLUTIONS** to their clients. Sanderson Concrete and Contexture have executed a number of public art installation including Mee Creek and Hak Chu / Park Chu.

Potato Wars will be installed by **Fricia Construction**. For over 40 years Fricia Construction has been actively building commercial, industrial, institutional, and parks & landscape projects throughout the Lower Mainland. Building on three generations of expertise, integrity and fairness, Fricia Construction has a long standing reputation for being a top quality builder in the Fraser Valley. Fricia and Contexture have partnered on many public art projects including Hak Chu / Park Chu, Welcome to the Zoo, Fireside, and the Tugger.

