

NO: R024

COUNCIL DATE: February 12, 2024

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## REGULAR COUNCIL

TO: **Mayor & Council**

DATE: **February 7, 2024**

FROM: **General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Culture**

FILE: **0550 - 01**

SUBJECT: **Recommended Public Art at Edgewood Park**

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## RECOMMENDATION

The Parks, Recreation & Culture Department recommends that Council:

1. Receive this report for information; and
2. Authorize staff to contract Edward Fu-Chen Juan to complete a public artwork at Edgewood Park, as generally described in this report and attached as Appendix "I".

## INTENT

The purpose of this report is to obtain Council approval to proceed with the implementation of Edward Fu-Chen Juan's artwork design at Edgewood Park.

## BACKGROUND

Over the years, Edgewood Park has evolved to align with the community's changing needs. Following extensive community engagement, the park was transformed with a new design and amenities that opened to the public in 2021. New amenities included a playground, walking trails, basketball and hockey courts, soccer nets, ping pong tables, and a pollinator meadow. The park is a lively hub for the community and the neighbouring school, Edgewood Elementary.

A new washroom facility has been constructed at the park and was identified as an opportunity for a public artwork (See Appendix "II"). Similar projects were completed in recent years at Forsyth Park, Maple Green Park and Chimney Heights Park. The washroom facility will be enhanced by a creative gate panel, replacing the standard washroom gate, and a custom artwork panel affixed to the back of the structure. Both panels will be fabricated out of metal that has been cut and powder coated.

## DISCUSSION

The artist and design were determined through an open artist call and community selection process. Public Art staff developed an artist call which was distributed through City of Surrey media outlets and other online channels.

On January 13, 2024, staff convened a community selection panel to review all the artists' concept designs proposed for Edgewood Park. Selection panelists were comprised of three Surrey residents, including an artist and representatives from Edgewood Elementary.

The selection panel reviewed 52 design proposals by 50 artists. After a process of deliberation, the community selection panel voted unanimously to recommend one design by Edward Fu-Chen Juan (See Appendix "I").

### **About The Artist & Artwork**

Edward Fu-Chen Juan is contemporary visual artist based in Vancouver, BC. He identifies as a queer Taiwanese Canadian with ethnic roots from the Hakka and the Plains First Nation People of Taiwan. Edward's art practice focuses primarily on printmaking and papermaking with plant-based material of significant cultural importance. His previous local public art projects are with the Vancouver Pride Society 2020, City of Richmond Public Artist Residency 2022, and presently the City of Vancouver Artist in Community Residency 2023.

This artwork celebrates the Indigenous vegetation of South Surrey. Represented on the gate panel are four native plants that continue to thrive in the South Surrey environment: Creeping Dogwood, Goatsbeard, Pacific Goldenrod, and Pacific Aster. Each plant is essential to the pollinators and has historical medicinal usage in Coast Salish culture. On the wall panel, is an illustration of the marsh and forest view of the coastal mountain range. It acts as a reminder of the nature that binds the urban and the parkland of the various South Surrey neighborhoods.

### **FUNDING**

Funding for this public art project draws from 1.25% of civic monies from the expansion of the washroom facility and is augmented by public art reserve funding for South Surrey. Total public art costs for the project are \$25,000 including artist fees, design development, fabrication and on-going maintenance.

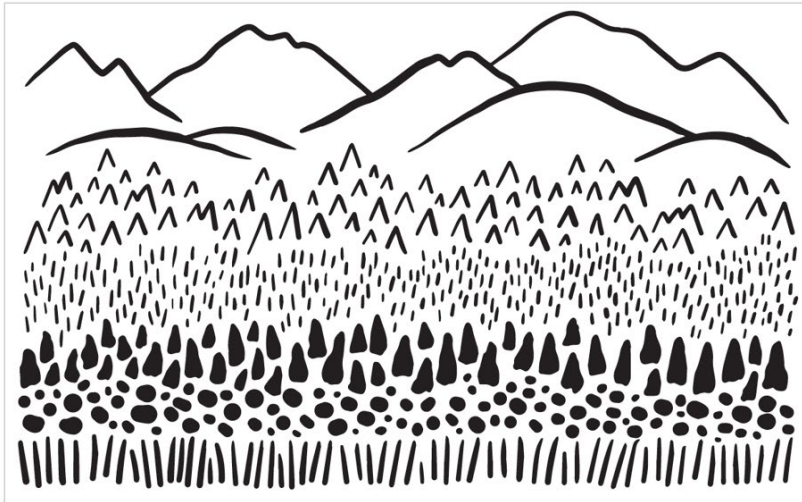
### **CONCLUSION**

The Parks, Recreation & Culture Department recommends that Council authorize staff to proceed to engage Edward Fu-Chen Juan to implement a public artwork at the Edgewood Park Washroom, as generally described in this report.

Laurie Cavan  
General Manager,  
Parks, Recreation & Culture

Appendix: "I": Recommended public artwork by Edward Fu-Chen Juan  
Appendix: "II": Proposed Artwork Location: Edgewood Park Washroom

Recommended public artwork by Edward Fu-Chen Juan



**APPENDIX "II"**

**Edgewood Park Washroom – Site Map & Photo**

