

NO: R041

COUNCIL DATE: April 3, 2023

REGULAR COUNCIL

TO: **Mayor & Council** DATE: **March 30, 2023**
FROM: **General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Culture** FILE: **7800-01**
SUBJECT: **Recommendation for 2023 Public Art Street Banners**

RECOMMENDATION

The Parks, Recreation and Culture Department recommends that Council:

1. Receive this report for information; and
2. Authorize staff to contract artist Tanya Bub to complete the design for the 2023 Public Art Street Banners as generally described in this report and attached as Appendix "I".

INTENT

The purpose of this report is to obtain Council approval to enter into contract with artist, Tanya Bub to complete the design for the 2023 Public Art Street Banners.

BACKGROUND

Annually, the Public Art Program commissions a unique design to be featured on approximately 100 street poles near significant cultural and community destinations in the City, such as the Surrey Arts Centre, City Centre Library, Newton Cultural Centre, and the South Surrey Recreation and Arts Centre.

DISCUSSION

Public art street banners provide an opportunity for artists to share their creativity with the community, while also beautifying the City through enhancing the experience of the streetscape for drivers, cyclists, transit riders and pedestrians. The opportunity alternates annually between an open call to all artists, or a direct invitation to a significant artist. Fabrication and installation of the banners is coordinated as part of the City's Town Centre Street Banner Program where banners are installed each Spring at 1015 locations across the City. Types of banners include Town Centre Identity Banners, Surrey Gateway Banners, Public Art Banners, and Community Group Banners.

On November 21, 2022, an open call process was issued to identify concept design proposal for the 2023 banners around the theme of civic cooperation and collective action. The call was distributed through City of Surrey media channels and other online channels.

On March 4, 2023, staff convened a selection panel to review the artists' concept designs proposed for the banners; 60 design proposals were received by 48 artists. The selection panel supported by public art staff, consisted of an artist from Semiahmoo First Nation and two individuals who are residents of Surrey and active City volunteers. The selection panel voted unanimously to recommend the concept design by Tanya Bub, attached as Appendix "I".

Parks, Recreation & Culture Committee Review

In previous years, following the selection panels review and recommendation, the proposed concept design for the annual Public Art Street Banner has been shared with a City Advisory Committee to endorse the design and the General Manager of Parks, Recreation & Culture to prepare a Corporate Report, seeking Council support for the recommended design. Given the timing of this years establishment of Council Advisory Committees, the recommendation has been advanced directly to Council. In future years, the Arts & Culture Advisory Committee will be engaged in the Public Art Street Banner design.

About the Artist and Artwork

Tanya Bub is a BC based artist and graduate of the Emily Carr University of Art & Design and the San Francisco Art Institute. Her practice is rooted in exploring issues of sustainability. She has exhibited at UBC, the Langley Centennial Museum and in Deer Lake Park, among other venues.

Bub's design for the street banners celebrates the importance of collaboration, knowledge and collective action. The owl is a symbol of wisdom and understanding, representing the importance of coming together and using our intelligence to find solutions to the issues affecting Surrey residents. The bee is a symbol of hard work and cooperation, representing the importance of industry and collaboration to achieve common goals. The owl and bee are composed of petals and leaves to underscore the fact that we are one with the environment and must operate in harmony with our surroundings when addressing issues affecting our communities.

FUNDING

Funding for this contract will be available in the 2023 Parks, Recreation and Culture Operating Budget.

The artist fee for the public art street banner design is \$3,000.

CONCLUSION

The Parks, Recreation & Culture Department recommends that Council authorize staff to enter into a contract with Tanya Bub to complete the design for the 2023 Public Art Street Banners.

Laurie Cavan
General Manager,
Parks, Recreation & Culture

Appendix: "I" – Concept Design by Tanya Bub

Concept Design by Tanya Bub

