



# **Corporate** NO: R170

# **Report** COUNCIL DATE: July 17, 2000

## **REGULAR**

**TO: Mayor & Council**    **DATE: July 12, 2000**

**FROM: Don Hunter, General Manager**  
**Parks, Recreation and Culture Department**    **FILE: 0042-077**

**SUBJECT: Public Art Advisory Committee Report - April to June, 2000**

## **RECOMMENDATION**

That Council receive this report for information.

## **BACKGROUND**

The Public Art Policy for Surrey was adopted in principle on June 23, 1997 and confirmed as City Policy No. R-21 on May 4, 1998 (R98-1293A). The Public Art Advisory Committee (PAAC) was officially appointed by City Council October 13, 1998. In November 1999, the Committee completed their first term.

This report summarizes the activities of the Public Art Advisory Committee for the second quarter of 2000.

## **DISCUSSION**

The Public Art Advisory Committee has held three regular meetings in this quarter. These were held on April 14, May 5 and June 2. In order to carry out their responsibilities in an active manner and to provide input and suggestions for program refinements, each member has identified two projects that they would like to serve in a role of liaison.

At their meeting on May 5, 2000, PAAC received the letter from former committee member, D. Klassen. During the thorough discussion, the Chair removed himself from the meeting. Please see the motion made at this meeting at the end of this report. The Committee also accepted an invitation from the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission to have a liaison meeting in the fall.

On June 2, PAAC members were pleased to welcomed the new Council appointee to the Committee, Mr

Ravinder Singh Dhir. On June 19, PAAC members attended a workshop coordinated by staff on Architect/Artist Design Teams. Presentations were made by Barbara Goldstein, Seattle Arts Commission-Public Art Program Manager and Alan Storey, a Vancouver based artist currently involved on design teams for the TransLink Project. This workshop was well attended by PAAC members, members of Surrey's inter-departmental Arts team as well as employees of other municipalities throughout the Lower Mainland and Fraser Valley

As part of their ongoing interest in exploring different approaches to art creation and community interaction, PAAC has been receiving, reading and discussing a multitude of articles and project information. This information has covered a wide range of topics ranging from artist residency projects, community-based public art projects, to artists collaborating with architects.

## **Public Art Projects**

### *Quibble Creek Pump Station:*

The contract, having been reviewed and approved internally, has gone forward to the artists. The project is anticipated to be completed by the end of August, 2000.

### *Ocean Park Library*

In April, PAAC appointed the members of the Ocean Park Library selection panel. This selection panel met on April 25 to review and identify a short list of artists, and met again on June 1 when the short listed artists presented their preliminary proposals. At the June 2 meeting, PAAC accepted the recommendation from the selection panel regarding an artist selection. The final decision regarding the accepted proposal would be made at the July 7 meeting. The project is expected to be completed by November, 2000.

### *Guildford Library*

At their April 14 meeting, PAAC approved the draft of the Call to Artists for the Guildford Library public art project. This project invites interested artists and artist teams to submit credentials to propose public art for the children's area in the soon-to-be renovated Guildford Library. Serving as an artist in residence by engaging the community in the process, the artist or artist team will design and fabricate a storytelling throne and a proscenium for the puppet stage in the children's area. The total value of the public art proposal will be \$13,950.

A selection panel was appointed by PAAC on June 2 and this panel met on June 14 to review the submissions and develop a short list. It is anticipated that an artist will be selected by early August and the project completed by March, 2001.

### *Surrey Arts Centre Redevelopment*

At their April 14 meeting, PAAC was informed that the Surrey Arts Centre re-development had been fast tracked for completion in May 2002. Staff recommended working the timeline for the artist selection to match the timeline for the architect. At their May 5 meeting PAAC was advised that if it is their intention to have an equal relationship between architect and artist it will be necessary to have the artist selected as soon as possible. A meeting between staff and the three PAAC liaisons to the Surrey Arts Centre re-development project was coordinated to consider the advantages and disadvantages to the design team approach. PAAC was also informed of the June 19 Design Team Workshop (mentioned above).

At their June 2 meeting PAAC decided the appropriate approach to artist selection and involvement on the architectural design team. The decision supported the creation of a short list of artists, pre-qualified by a panel

of community representatives, and that the short listed artist submissions be made available for the short listed architects to select from.

### *Beecher Street/Crescent Beach Foreshore Restoration*

At their April 14 meeting PAAC discussed the merits of combining the budgets and the scope of these two projects into one; the decision to combine them was reached. PAAC stated that it is important that a tangible object and the seeds for continuing activities in the community be the outcomes. PAAC was advised that a meeting was planned with the Crescent Beach Property Owners Association to be held on May 2 and attended by staff and the PAAC project liaise.

At their May 5 meeting PAAC was informed that as a result of the May 2 meeting the Crescent Beach Property owners association put together an art committee to work with PAAC and staff in the development of the call to artists. PAAC members felt that this presents an opportunity to work with the community to raise awareness of the potential of community public art. PAAC also confirmed that they would prefer that the call for artists not be limited to the South Surrey area.

### **Public Art Master Plan 2000-2002**

At their April 14 meeting PAAC approved the revised Public Art Master Plan budget and redistribution of funds. The necessity for the revision and redistribution resulted from a reduction in funds.

### **Public Art Policy**

At the Monday, May 1, 2000 Regular Council meeting, Council passed the following resolution:

*That Section C.3.1 of the City's Public Art Policy be amended to read as follows:*

*Members of PAAC and ad hoc PAAC selection committees are disqualified from directly or indirectly benefiting from their participation in the Public Art Policy Committee during their tenure and for a period of twelve (12) months following the completion of their term on the committee are not permitted to participate in PAAC projects.*

## **CONCLUSION**

The Public Art Advisory Committee concludes the very busy second quarter of 2000 with a clear and dedicated focus as the projects in the Master Plan begin to take form under their direction.

Don Hunter, General Manager

Parks, Recreation and Culture

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