



Corporate NO: R052

Report COUNCIL DATE: March 12, 2001

REGULAR

TO: Mayor & Council **DATE: March 5, 2001**

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

SUBJECT: Public Art Advisory Committee Report – October to December 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 a City Policy No. R-21 on May 4, 1998 (R98-1293A). The Public Art Advisory Committee was officially appointed by City Council October 13, 1998.

This report summarizes the activities of the Public Art Advisory Committee for the final quarter of 2000. The Committee held three regular meetings in this quarter.

DISCUSSION

Public Art Projects

Quibble Creek Pump Station: On December 15, the art work “Route+Canal,” designed by Susan Ockwell and Alex Percy, was unveiled and the Pump Station was officially opened. An open house was held prior to the official ceremonies to offer students and members of the public an opportunity to learn more about the artwork and the inner workings of the pump station. Response has been positive to this project.

Ocean Park Library: Gwen Curry's art work “brings the library into the garden and the garden into the library”. Her design echoes the elegance and classical architecture of the building. The opening for this project

was set for February 10, 2001.

Surrey Arts Centre Redevelopment: On October 10, PAAC approved the recommendation of the Selection Panel to select Alan Storey as the public artist. Since being selected, Alan has been working in cooperation with members of the architectural consulting team and has designed artwork that will be integral to the structure and concept of the Surrey Arts Centre and surrounding landscape. To ensure a clear understanding of the tentatively titled proposal “Out of Thin Air”, PAAC invited Alan Storey to make a presentation at the first PAAC meeting of 2001. Alan is also working with the Diversity Advisory Committee to ensure that aspects of language included in his work are responsive to the community.

Crescent Beach Community Art Project: The Selection Committee of five members was approved by PAAC at the October 10 meeting. At the December 12 meeting, PAAC approved the recommendation of the Selection Committee to select Tina Farmilo for the Crescent Beach Community Art Project. Tina Farmilo's proposal, tentatively titled “Memory Stones”, entails involving the community in the process of gathering stories and images based on the community's memories of the area. The artist will transfer a selection of these onto stones that will be placed on City land throughout the community. The project is expected to be completed by June 2001.

Brownsville Bar/Fraser River Boardwalk: On October 10, June Christy and Steve Whitton of the Parks, Recreation and Culture Department provided an update on the Brownsville Bar Park and Fraser River Boardwalk projects. With this information, PAAC will begin to determine the best approach to these sites in terms of public and community art opportunities.

Civic Banner Report

At their December meeting, PAAC was advised that the Banner Report was approved by Council on December 11. They will be bringing together a Banner Selection Committee in early 2001.

FLEETWOOD COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Rick Hart, President of the Fleetwood Community Association, made a presentation on October 10th regarding the proposed bronze sculpture to commemorate Arthur Fleetwood. Following this presentation, a letter was sent on behalf of PAAC outlining their responsibilities and concerns. It was determined that further discussions and a possible joint meeting of the Community Association and PAAC be organized to ensure that the process meets the mandate of the Public Art Policy.

Public Art Policy Review

In accordance with Section D.5, Overall Policy Review Cycle, PAAC and the Inter-departmental Art Team have been examining the policy since September to consider any changes or updates. The specific areas of the review include the funding strategy as it relates to the private sector, and has broadened to include refinement of PAAC membership limits, and terms of reference for Selection Panel Advisors.

Procedural and Policy Developments: Related to the policy review, PAAC will be developing Procedures for Art Acquisitions, Donations and Gifts and Procedures for De-accessioning. It is anticipated that these procedures will be submitted to Council for consideration and adoption by June 2001. In drafting these procedures, any existing acquisitions/de-accessioning corporate policies will be reviewed in order to ensure no unnecessary overlapping and to determine if amendments to existing policies are required. A Memorials Policy

will also be drafted, with similar consideration of City-wide implications and existing corporate policies.

PUBLIC ART MASTER PLAN 2001-2003 UPDATE

PAAC, with support from the Inter-departmental Art Team, has been reviewing projects for eligibility for inclusion in the Public Art Master Plan. It is intended that the Plan will be ready for Council consideration in April 2001.

CONCLUSION

In the two years since the formation of the Public Art Advisory Committee, five projects have come to fruition and the Committee has provided solid and considered direction to the overall Public Art Program. The review of the policy and the internal processes will serve to further develop an already successful and responsive program.

Don Hunter, General Manager

Parks, Recreation and Culture

LP:dlg