

**Present:**

Councillor Kooner, Chairperson  
Councillor Stutt, Vice-Chair  
K. Cheung  
C. Girardi  
C. Henry

**Absent:**

L. Wilks  
R. Pandher  
J. Hannah

**Staff Present:**

L. Cavan, General Manager, Parks, Culture & Recreation  
R. Gallagher, Manager, Culture  
J. Monk, Manager, Film  
M. Rukavina, Manager, Film & Events  
P. Yadav, Park Operations Coordinator  
A. Sodha, Administrative Assistant

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**A. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA****1. Adoption of the Agenda**

It was Moved by C. Girardi  
Seconded by Councillor Stutt  
That the agenda of the Arts and Culture  
Advisory Committee meeting of May 16, 2023, be adopted.  
Carried

**2. Adoption of April 18, 2023 Minutes**

It was Moved by C. Girardi  
Seconded by Councillor Stutt  
That the minutes of the Arts and Culture  
Advisory Committee meeting held on April 18, 2023, be adopted.  
Carried

**B. DELEGATIONS**

This section had no items to consider.

**C. STAFF PRESENTATIONS****1. Overview of Filming in Surrey**

James Monk, Manager of Filming, City of Surrey

The Manager of Film, provided a PowerPoint presentation providing an overview on Filming in Surrey and highlighted the following information:

- Filming in the city of Surrey has averaged 372 days per year since 2017.
- The film industry in the city has grown by 400% since 2015.
- Surrey has worked with 644 productions since 2017, including TV series, commercials, feature films, student films, and TV movies.

- TV productions make up 55% of the permits issued, followed by commercials at 27%.
- Notable names that have worked in Surrey include Ryan Reynolds, Sandra Bullock, Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson, and Orlando Bloom.
- Surrey represents 23% of the busiest town centers, with Surrey Central representing 45%.
- Transportation convenience and proximity to highways play a role in choosing filming locations.
- Surrey has worked with major studios like Paramount Pictures, Warner Brothers, HBO, Apple TV, ABC, CW, and CBS.
- The BC film and TV production industry generated \$4.8 billion in 2021 and provided 5,600 jobs to Surrey residents.
- Metro Vancouver is the third-largest motion picture hub after New York and Los Angeles.
- The film industry employs over 61,000 workers in the area and has 120 soundstages.
- COVID-19 affected the industry with a voluntary shutdown and ongoing safety measures.
- The writers' strike has impacted some American TV shows, but Canadian shows and feature films continue production.
- The development of the SkyTrain corridor may attract more filming opportunities.
- Productions often seek specific geographical features that may not be available in Surrey, but downtown Surrey is frequently used as a stand-in for other cities.
- AI technology has had an impact on the motion picture industry, such as using green screens and transforming spaces for filming.
- The tour of the Nordel Studios showcased their ability to create realistic settings, such as a cruise ship on water.
- The film industry relies on a dedicated crew that contributes to the success of productions in Surrey.

## **2. Public Art Updates**

Ryan Gallagher, Manager of Culture, City of Surrey

The Manager of Culture, provided the following Public Art updates:

- The first project discussed was a metro Vancouver facility located in east Newton near the intersection of 67th and 154th street. The project involves enhancing an existing building, and the public art team is considering the use of facade screens and banners throughout the complex. The future public art will focus on sustainability, aligning with the facility's purpose as a recycling center. The committee aims to encourage people to think about a more sustainable future through public artwork. The project is still in progress and is expected to be completed by 2024.
- The 20th Avenue overpass project, which was previously discussed on the April 18, 2023 committee meeting, is now open to the community. A selection panel reviewed proposals from five shortlisted artists for the public art opportunity. The project involves creating an artwork railing consisting of 11 stainless steel panels that will be powder coated. Three community members were involved in the panel to help select the artwork.

The recommended artwork is by artist Silvana Kulyk, a multimedia artist known for children's illustrations, murals, and digital art. The panels will feature repetitive designs, except for one panel in the middle showcasing owls.

In response to questions from the Committee regarding the artwork for the 20th Avenue overpass, staff provided the following information:

- Feedback will be provided to the artist regarding ways to accentuate the figure of a shrew and make it more distinguishable. Committee members expressed concern that the design could be mistaken for rats and suggest considering a different animal or modifications to that specific panel.

It was

Moved by K. Cheung

Seconded by Councillor Stutt

That the Arts and Culture Advisory

Committee recommend that the General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture, prepare a Corporate Report to Council recommending that staff undertake a contract with Silvana Kulyk to create public art for installation on the 20 Avenue overpass.

Carried

- In the vicinity of Old Yale Road, two towers are currently being constructed, with one already finished and the other still under development. An update was provided regarding the completion of the public artwork for the first tower. The artwork, created by artist Judy Chartrand, underwent a two-stage selection process with 6 panelists and features a captivating crow depicted in glass. The artwork is located on the northeast corner of Old Yale Road and 133 Street. Additionally, it was mentioned that another piece of artwork will be situated approximately 40 yards southeast of the current location, near the second tower that is currently under construction.
- Near City Hall on the northeast corner of University Drive and 104 Avenue, the developer advised that artwork by artist Suchi Reddy will be installed. The artwork is described as an arch-shaped border that symbolizes both a gateway and a process of transformation. The piece is made of aluminum, and this unique piece is expected to be installed in August 2023.

### **3. Summer Special Events Overview**

Mary Rukavina, Manager of Film & Events, and Preeti Yadav, Parks Operation Coordinator, City of Surrey

The Manager of Film & Events and the Parks Operation Coordinator provided a PowerPoint presentation providing an overview of Summer Special Events and highlighted the following information:

An update on the city's four signature major events was provided: Party for the Planet, Surrey Canada Day, Fusion Festival, and Tree Lighting Festival.

- Party for the Planet is the city's biggest earth day event. The event was a success with over 10,000 attendees. It featured various attractions such as a

sustainable market, workshop stage, three stages of local family entertainment, and a wide selection of food trucks.

- Surrey Canada Day event is considered one of the biggest and best events in the country. In 2023 it is projected that the City of Surrey will host over 90,000 attendees. The event will include exhibitors, an expanded indigenous village, amusement rides, live music, and a fireworks show.
- The Fusion Festival has won multiple awards and will be held at Holland Park. The event will feature cultural pavilions, ethnic food, music, cultural performances, and a cooking arena showcasing dishes from around the world.
- The Tree Lighting Festival in November 2022 attracted a record-breaking 18,000 attendees. The current plans for the 2023 Tree Lighting Festival include a holiday marketplace, family entertainment, photo opportunities, and the lighting of a 60-foot Christmas tree.
- The four signature events are expected to host over 225,000 people in total, with a significant economic impact. The estimated economic impact for Fusion Festival and Surrey Canada Day alone last year was close to \$150 million.

In response to questions from the Committee, staff provided the following information:

- During the events, partnerships with organizations like the food bank and the firefighters service association are established to facilitate donations.
- The estimate of economic impact is based on a formula similar to the one used by the Government of British Columbia.
- Attendees of events expressed positive feedback in surveys, with a high percentage stating their likelihood of attending future events and appreciating features such as food trucks, family activities, live music, and plant sales.

## **D. REPORTS**

### **1. South Surrey Indigenous Carving Centre**

Kristin Hardie, Manager of Heritage Administration & Facilities, City of Surrey  
File:0360-06

- The venue offers 3,100 square feet of space to support various practices.
- A grand opening event will take place on June 17th from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., and everyone is invited to attend.
- The venue is located at Elgin Heritage Park, which includes the popular heritage site, Stewart Farm. The site already attracts around 130 school classes, and curriculum-based school programs will be developed in collaboration with knowledge keepers and the local school district.

It is recommended that the Arts and Culture Advisory Committee receive the report for information.

It was

Moved by Councillor Stutt

Seconded by K. Cheung

That the Arts and Culture Advisory

Committee receive the report dated May 5, 2023 regarding the South Surrey Indigenous Carving Centre for information.

Carried

**2. Proposed Facility Name for the South Surrey Indigenous Carving Centre – Totest Aleng: Indigenous Learning House**

Kristin Hardie, Manager of Heritage Administration & Facilities, City of Surrey

File:0360-06

- The name "Totest Aleng: Indigneous Learning House" was recommended during an extensive consultation process, taking into consideration the respect for the traditional Semiahmoo territory where the venue is located.
- The proposed name reflects the idea of the venue being a learning center, with an emphasis on indigenous education and knowledge.

It was

Moved by C. Girardi

Seconded by C. Henry

That the Arts and Culture Advisory

Committee:

1. Receive the report for information;
2. Support the name "Totest Aleng: Indigenous Learning House" for the new Indigenous Carving/Learning Centre in Elgin Heritage park; and
3. Recommend that Council endorse the name "Totest Aleng: Indigenous Learning House" for the new facility.

Carried

**E. OTHER BUSINESS**

**1. Verbal Updates**

The Committee was provided the following verbal updates:

- The Semiahmoo Museum currently has three notable exhibits. The featured gallery showcases "Giants, Dragons, and Unicorns: The World of Mythic Creatures" from May until September 17th. The exhibit explores mythical creatures and is expected to be popular. Admission to the museum is free, making it a great option for families.
- In the Indigenous Hall, the exhibit "Weaving Cultural Identities" is on display from May until October. It is a collaborative exploration focusing on weaving traditions and cultural identity.

- The Community Treasures exhibit at the Museum of Surrey highlights Vietnamese textiles. The exhibit runs from mid-June to September 3rd, it showcases the textile and dress traditions of different ethnolinguistic groups in Vietnam.
- The Bear Creek Park Gallery hosted a Family Sunday event on June 4th. Families were invited to participate in art-making activities and enjoy various performances. This event is free and is popular throughout the city.
- Subscriptions for the Arts Club Touring Series at the theaters are on sale for 2023 and 2024. Within the first week, 400 subscriptions were already sold, indicating strong interest in live theater productions.
- A pop-up gallery has reopened at Crescent Beach. The gallery features local artists and is open to the public on Saturdays.

**F. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Arts and Culture Advisory Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, June 20, 2023.

**G. ADJOURNMENT**

It was

Moved by K. Cheung  
Seconded by C. Girardi  
That the Arts and Culture Advisory

Committee meeting be adjourned.

Carried

The Arts and Culture Advisory Committee adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

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Jennifer Ficocelli, City Clerk

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Councillor Kooner, Chairperson

**ARTS AND CULTURE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**RECOMMENDATION INDEX**  
**Tuesday, May 16, 2023**

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**NOTE:** This recommendation was adopted prior to the receipt of the minutes at the June 5, 2023 Regular Council – Public Hearing meeting.

**1. Endorse the name for the Indigenous Carving and Learning Centre in Elgin Heritage Park**

That Council:

1. Receive the report dated May 10, 2023 regarding the proposed Facility Name for the South Surrey Indigenous Carving Centre for information (attached as Appendix I); and
2. Endorse the name “Totest Aleng: Indigenous Learning House” for the new facility.