

CITY OF KELOWNA

MEMORANDUM

Date: April 10, 2002
File No.: 7800-01

To: City Manager

From: Acting Cultural Services Manager / Special Projects Planning Manager

Subject: Okanagan Thompson International Sculpture Symposium –
Additional Funding

RECOMMENDATION

THAT City Council approve an additional \$35,000 from the Public Art Fund to the Okanagan Thompson International Sculpture Symposium to increase the size and scope of one sculpture to be located at the Rotary Centre for the Arts, as per clause 19 of the City's agreement dated November 19, 2001, with the Okanagan Thompson International Sculpture Symposium.

DISCUSSION

On September 17, 2001, Council approved the allocation of \$18,000 from the Festivals Fund and \$18,000 from the Public Art Fund to support the Okanagan Thompson International Sculpture Symposium (OTISS) according to terms and conditions to be identified through an agreement with OTISS. That agreement with OTISS is now executed, and the agreement specifies the progress payment dates for activities and the selection of the four permanent sculptures that the City will be acquiring. City staff and the Public Art Committee have been working with OTISS to select appropriate artists and to identify temporary working sites and permanent installation sites. The Public Art Committee is very pleased with the calibre of artist that has been chosen for Kelowna.

One of the sites selected for a sculpture is on the terrace by the Atrium of the Rotary Centre for the Arts (RCA). Realizing the significance of the RCA, proximity to the Artwalk, and the location in the heart of Kelowna's Cultural District, the Public Art Committee had already allocated Public Art Funds for the RCA. Once the artists, Philip Bews and Diana Gorvin of England were selected, they were asked to expand the basic concept that utilized the proposed OTISS funding to include an additional contribution from the Public Art Fund, in order to produce a larger, more comprehensive sculpture for public art. Negotiations on the design, scope, size and costs for the final sculpture have been completed, and at the meeting of April 5, 2002, the Public Art Committee passed a resolution in support of this initiative.

Staff will present a letter to OTISS identifying this change, contributing \$30,000 to Philip Bews and Diana Gorvin, and retaining \$5,000 for site specific installation costs.

THE PROPOSED ARTWORK

The artists have prepared a concept that the Public Art Committee feels will express the form and function of the Rotary Centre for the Arts. Called "Concept to Creation", the sculpture expresses the idea that all creativity starts with a thought which then leads to action/creation. The proposal comprises the assembly of various sculptural elements that combine together to present a dramatic gateway into the site. The attached sketches illustrate the concept, which includes:

- Three tall sculptured western red cedar **Obelisks**, supporting
- One stainless steel **Arc**,
- Two cast bronze sculptures, **Thinking Head** and **Acrobat**, and
- Three sculptured **Podiums**.

The artists have presented the Public Art Committee with an extensive portfolio of existing work. It is clear that the artists have the ability and the experience to produce a highly significant piece that will help the Rotary Centre for the Arts become a real focal point for the Cultural District.

Hazel Christy
Special Projects Planning Manger

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Acting Cultural Services Manager

P/c Deputy City Clerk / Legislative & Records Supervisor

Approved for inclusion

R.L. (Ron) Mattiussi, ACP, MCIP
Director of Planning and Development Services

RO/HC/hb