
CITY OF KELOWNA

MEMORANDUM

Date: May 8, 2002
File No.: 7800-01

To: City Manager

From: Director of Planning & Development Services

Subject: Donation of Public Art for the Parkinson Recreation Centre

RECOMMENDATION

THAT City Council approve the expenditure of \$13,000 from the Public Art Fund for the installation of "Toy Amenity" by Mowry Baden, donated to the Kelowna Art Gallery and displayed permanently in front of the Parkinson Recreation Centre

BACKGROUND

The Kelowna Art Gallery has agreed to accept the donation of "Toy Amenity", a large interactive sculpture by Mowry Baden, a respected Canadian artist, through the Canadian Cultural Property Export Review Board. The value of this piece of art is estimated at \$80,000. This sculpture will be added to the Gallery's permanent collection and consists of an arrangement of large metal pieces. It has been on display in Justin Herman Plaza, the Embarcadero, San Francisco as part of a collaborative that integrates the disciplines of architecture and art.

Because of the size of the piece, the Kelowna Art Gallery is unable to properly display the sculpture on its grounds. The Public Art Committee is recommending the Parkinson Recreation Centre as a suitable, prominent and central site for the sculpture, and is also recommending that the cost of the installation be funded from the Public Art Fund. In its budget planning exercises, the Public Art Committee has allocated the sum of \$30,000 for future art installations at the Parkinson Recreation Centre and feels that this is consistent with that intent. Both the Public Art Committee and the Kelowna Art Gallery feel Kelowna is fortunate to be able to acquire such a significant piece from this sculptor in this way.

The Public Art Committee has worked with staff from the Parks Department and the artist on the details of installation. The cost estimate includes: redoing the existing lawn and irrigation, pouring concrete footings, installation of the sculpture in a bed of pea gravel, as well as shipping the piece from Victoria where it is stored, and the artist's time assembling it on site and supervising the installation.

Hazel Christy, MBA, MCIP
Special Projects Planning Manager

Approved for inclusion

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

HC/hb