
CITY OF KELOWNA

MEMORANDUM

Date: November 26, 2002
File No.: 7800-01
To: City Manager
From: Director of Planning & Development Services
Subject: 2002 Public Art Committee Report

RECOMMENDATION

THAT City Council receive the 2002 report of the Public Art Committee dated November 26, 2002 for information.

BACKGROUND

The year 2002 was a very busy one for the volunteer Public Art Committee. The Committee continues to work energetically toward its goal of "increasing the livability and artistic richness of the community, and stimulating the growth of arts and arts-related businesses through the provision of public art".

Currently the membership of the Committee stands at seven, and consists of:

Paul Skutshek, Chairman	
Michael Griffin	Don McIntosh
Gordon Hartley	Dona Moore
Doug Kirk	Shaida Langley

Robert Belton, Fern Helfand, Roxane Wyma stepped down as committee members during the year.

Staff support is provided by the Special Projects Planning Manager with assistance from Planning, Leisure Services and Civic Properties as required. A student of the Okanagan University College Fine Arts program was hired for the summer months to assist with ongoing activities and to prepare material for display on the City's website to promote and document the public art program.

ACTIVITIES

This year, five pieces of art were installed through the Public Art Program in 2002:

1. H2O by Philip and Kirsty Robbins (dedicated March 2002)
The Committee worked jointly with the Athans Aquatic Centre Building Committee and the architect from the early stages of project design to ensure that the public art was well integrated with the form and function of the space. H2O is a simple but graphic design, based on the water molecule, that enlivens the lobby entrance floor tiles as well as the glass walls visible from the pool and change room area. This was a \$42,000 commission.
2. Fruit Stand by Glen Anderson and Tom Thomas (dedicated July 2002)
This is a series of concrete and mosaic tile fruit images embellishing the existing concrete benches along the Artwalk connecting the Library to the Rotary Arts Centre. This \$85,000 commission was the first of several installed Kelowna's Cultural District this summer.
3. On the Beach by Geert Maas (dedicated August 2002)
This piece consists of five bronze figures on a concrete base designed by the artist. It is installed at the south end of Tugboat Bay adjacent to the boardwalk. The \$50,000 sculpture was acquired directly from the artist early in 2002.
4. Dancing Pedestrians by Jock Hildebrand (dedicated October 2002)
The Committee was pleased that the Bank of Montreal was willing to partner with the City to provide a substantial piece of public art on the corner adjacent to its new downtown branch. The two piece abstract bronze sculpture enhances the high profile pedestrian area. The former fountain was demolished and new footings for the sculpture were prepared through the bank's construction process and as part of their contribution. The commission is valued at \$70,000.
5. Tree Grates by Crystal Pryzbille (dedicated November 2002)
A custom tree grate design was designed by a local artist in 2000. After working with both artist and foundry pattern-maker, a proto-type grate was put in place at the corner of Water and Clement near the Art Gallery in 2002. With the completion of Skyreach Place landscaping and the Rotary Centre for the Arts along Clement, over a dozen of the custom grates are now in place. The grates were also used selectively in phase one of the Abbott Street roadway improvements. The custom grate is proposed for extensive use throughout the City's Town Centres and in Kelowna's Cultural District wherever new trees are proposed. Value of design and custom pattern is \$8,500.

PARTNERING ACTIVITIES

In addition to the partnership with the Bank of Montreal mentioned above, the Public Art Committee was an active partner on other art initiatives during 2002. These included:

The City of Kelowna Official Flower Competition

The Public Art Committee joined with Coldwell Banker Horizon Realty and the Diggers and Weeders Club to sponsor a competition to supply a two dimensional rendition of the city's official flower to be prominently displayed in City Hall. The competition was very successful, generating over one hundred submissions. The finalists were displayed at the Diggers and Weeders Garden tour in the spring and the winning painting by Jo Scott-B was donated to the City and is on display in the front lobby of City Hall. Coldwell Banker Horizon Realty sponsored the artist fee of \$1000 and the Public Art Committee assisted with advertising and reviewing submissions. The acrylic painting was donated to the City by Coldwell Banker Horizon Realty in June of 2002.

Okanagan Thompson Sculpture Symposium (OTISS)

The symposium generated a lot of interest in sculpture up and down the valley. Five commissioned artists from the United Kingdom, China, as well as eastern and western Canada worked at locations within Kelowna's Cultural District during the summer months to complete their sculpture proposals. Several more non-commissioned artists worked alongside. All artists were open to questions / interaction with the public throughout the summer as work progressed. The Public Art Committee was involved in artist selection and site selection for both the working sites and those for the finished pieces. Five pieces were acquired by the City as a legacy from the symposium. These are displayed prominently throughout the Cultural District. They are:

Running Man by Marion Lea Jamieson in the Queensway Transit Mall

Sentinel by Dawn McNutt at the south end of the Artwalk

Concept to Creation by Philip Bews and Diana Gorvin at the southern entrance to the Rotary Centre for the Arts

I had a Dream by Zhao Lai at the northern end of Tugboat Bay adjacent to the beach, and

Sentinel 2 by Dawn McNutt, still in storage, but contemplated for installation in City Hall once renovations are complete.

The Public Art Fund contributed \$78,000. An additional \$18,000 came from the Festivals Fund and \$39,400 from Council's contingency for a total of \$135,400. Estimated value of the sculpture is well in excess of \$200,000.

Kelowna Art Gallery

Toy Amenity by renown artist Mowry Baden was acquired by the Kelowna Art Gallery through their acquisitions program, and installed in front of the Parkinson Recreation Centre in November 2002. The artwork is owned by the Gallery and it's estimated value is \$60,000 (newspaper reports of \$80,000 at the time of installation were incorrect). The Public Art Fund was used to install the work in consultation with the artist at an estimated cost of \$11,000.

FUTURE ACTIVITIES

The Committee is looking forward to a busy year in 2003. The Committee is looking to acquire suitable pieces of public art to enhance priority sites wherever the opportunity arises. The Committee's Terms of Reference allow for acquisition of public art through open competition, limited competition, direct selection and the acceptance of gifts or donations. The Committee intends to pursue all of these means for enhancing the City's collection of public art, having in mind the highest and best use of the Public Art Fund.

Since the inception of the Public Art Program in late 1997, fifteen pieces of public art (mostly sculpture) have been added to the City's collection. In 2003, the committee will begin to work with the Conservation Lab of the Kelowna Museum to develop a maintenance manual that will outline specific requirements for each piece. While ease of maintenance and durability in a public place are key criteria in the selection of artwork, this manual will ensure that the pro-active work necessary to maintain the public art inventory is undertaken in a prudent, cost effective manner.

The Public Art Committee is open to partnering and cost sharing with the private sector. An opportunity has been identified within the Mission District Park, and the Committee is excited about the potential that this offers. Working with the Art Gallery (through its "B" status, which increases donor tax incentives) the Public Art Committee may be able to recommend sites for significant pieces that would otherwise not be available for the enjoyment of the public.

Priorities for public art identified for 2003 include:

Abbott Street Linear Corridor
Ben Lee Park
Mission District Park
Rutland Town Centre

Other opportunities may arise in 2003 that would add to this list.

CONCLUSION

The Committee thanks Council for the opportunity to contribute to the artistic enhancement of our community, and appreciates Council's willingness to accept Committee recommendations on artistic matters.

Hazel Christy, MBA, MCIP
Special Projects Planning Manager

Approved for inclusion

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

Schedule A: City of Kelowna Public Art Committee 5 Year Budget Projections									
/FISCAL ITEM/	1 1998	2 1999	3 2000	4 2001	SUB TOTAL 1	5 2002	6 2003	7 2004	8 2005
Library	\$					\$			

	40,000.00			40,000.00					
Airpt Atrium	\$	\$		\$					
	20,000.00	10,000.00		30,000.00					
Com.Theatre	\$	\$		\$					
	13,500.00	1,500.00		15,000.00					
Art Wk 2000	\$	\$	\$	\$			\$	\$	
	12,500.00	48,500.00	24,000.00	85,000.00			20,000.00	10,000.00	
BenLeePark				\$		\$			
				-		20,000.00			
S. Pan. TC		\$		\$					
	20,000.00			20,000.00					
Water Street				\$					
			50,000.00	50,000.00					
Rutland TC				\$	\$	\$			
				-	10,000.00	20,000.00			
Transit Mall				\$	\$			\$	
				-	20,000.00		25,000.00		
Tree Grates			\$	\$					
			8,500.00	8,500.00					
Arts Centre				\$	\$				
				-	35,000.00				
Athans			\$	\$	\$				
			20,000.00	25,000.00	45,000.00				
Parkinson				\$	\$				
				-	30,000.00				
Mission Dist Pk						\$			
						40,000.00			
OTISS	\$	\$		\$					
	12,000.00	6,000.00		18,000.00					
Waterways				\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
				-	9,000.00		20,000.00	20,000.00	
Gateways				\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	
				-	9,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00		
Sm. Projects			\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
			7,500.00	20,000.00	27,500.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	
Acquisitions		\$	\$	\$	\$		\$	\$	\$
	14,000.00	40,000.00	11,000.00	65,000.00			10,000.00	10,000.00	
Jim Stuart				\$					\$
				-				50,000.00	
Assoc. Exp.	\$			\$					
	2,000.00			2,000.00					
Unallocated				\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
			7,000.00	7,000.00		3,000.00	8,000.00	13,000.00	

Totals ##### ##### ##### ##### ##### ##### ##### ##### #####

Jan 3 2002