
CITY OF KELOWNA

MEMORANDUM

Date: March 20, 2007
File No.: 2300-20
To: City Manager
From: Sandra Kochan, Public Art Coordinator
Subject: Approval of Public Art Committee recommendations for project expenditures from the Public Art Reserve Fund

RECOMMENDATIONS:

#1 Re: Glenmore Linear Park Public Art Project

THAT City Council approve the recommendation of the Public Art Committee to award to Karl Ciesluk of Ottawa the commission for the design, fabrication and installation of 'Growth' (a stone sculpture in 6 parts) in a number of selected locations in the Glenmore Linear Park system.

AND THAT the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to sign a contract with Karl Ciesluk for an amount not to exceed \$40,000 (funded from the Public Art Reserve) for the design, fabrication and installation of the artwork.

#2 Re: Community Spirit Public Art Project

THAT City Council approve the recommendation of the Public Art Committee to award to Geert Maas of Kelowna the commission for 'The Spirit of Kelowna', a collaborative community public art project, to be permanently installed in City Hall upon completion.

AND THAT the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to sign a contract with Geert Maas for an amount not to exceed \$60,000 (funded from the Public Art Reserve) for the design, fabrication and installation of the artwork.

BACKGROUND:

PROJECT	Glenmore Linear Park Project	Community Spirit Project
PRE-COMPETITION CONSULTATIONS WITH:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public Art Committee Glenmore Valley Community Assoc. City of Kelowna Parks Department 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public Art Committee Okanagan Mountain Park Fire Recovery Society City of Kelowna Parks and Civic Properties Departments
COMPETITION LAUNCH DATE	August 23, 2006	August 23, 2006
VALUE OF COMMISSION	\$40,000	\$60,000 Note: this includes a contribution of \$33,680 from the Fire Recovery Society
SUBMISSIONS RECEIVED & EVALUATED & ORIGIN	October 26, 2006 Received: 16 Evaluated: 9 (Okanagan-4, BC-2, ONT-2, USA-1)	October 26, 2006 Received: 11 Evaluated: 7 (Okanagan-3, BC-3, ONT-1)
SHORTLISTED SUBMISSIONS & MAQUETTES -- all maquettes on view	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Karl Ciesluk, Ottawa: 'Growth'</i>** Crystal Przybille, Winfield: 'Reach' Stewart Steinhauer, Kelowna: 'Blue Heron' Moriyuki Kono, Abbotsford: 'What a Nice Day!' 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Geert Maas, Kelowna: 'Spirit of Kelowna'</i>** Eric Neighbour, Vancouver: 'Uprooted' Lori Mairs, Kelowna: 'The Pentowna'
FINAL SELECTION CONSULTATIONS (January, 2007)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public Art Committee Glenmore Valley Community Assoc. Kelowna Museums Conservator City of Kelowna Parks, Purchasing, Civic Properties, Works and Environment Departments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public Art Committee Okanagan Mountain Park Fire Recovery Society Kelowna Museums Conservator City of Kelowna Parks, Purchasing, Works and Civic Properties Departments
<i>**Recommended for approval by the Public Art Committee</i>		

Information about the proposals recommended by the Public Art Committee:**1. Glenmore Linear Park Project: 'Growth' by Karl Ciesluk**

The competition brief for this project encouraged artists to reflect on the Glenmore area's agricultural heritage as well as the sensitive ecology of the linear pathway system. Artists were further encouraged to consider the diverse ages and activities of park users.

Karl Ciesluk's proposed work 'Growth' is a series of six functional sculptures suggesting fruits with their seeds exposed. Each sculpture is made from a single boulder approximately three to four feet in diameter, cut in half horizontally to create a seat between 16-24 inches high. Some of the exposed surfaces will be polished or carved and others will be covered with terrazzo or ceramic mosaic tile. The 'seed' in the center of each sculpture is another stone, anchored into the surface with metal pins and epoxy.

The exact location for the works will be determined with the assistance of the Parks Department. At the time of installation, we will be seeking additional advice and either a Natural Environment Development Permit or Waiver of same from the City's environmental staff.

Based upon the evaluations of the Kelowna Museum conservator and staff from the City's Parks and Works Department, we can advise that maintenance of these works will be straightforward.

A contract has been negotiated with the artist, and he is prepared to commence work on this project immediately.

Karl Ciesluk completed his formal art education in Ontario, Greece and Germany and over the last 25 years has developed an extensive international portfolio of exhibitions, residencies and public art commissions, including work in Canada, the United States, Ireland, Germany, Brazil, Poland, Japan, Denmark and the UK.

2. Community Spirit Project: 'Spirit of Kelowna' by Geert Maas

This unique project combines a community collaborative process, an exploration of community spirit and identity, and the creation of a permanent work of public art which will provide a tribute to, and a legacy for, the people of Kelowna.

The genesis of this project was the 2003 Okanagan Mountain Park Fire. The Fire Recovery Society, with its contribution of approximately \$33,000 of funding remaining when their activities were concluded, suggested that a work of art be commissioned to recognize and celebrate Kelowna's Community Spirit. Artists were encouraged to submit proposals which, while not about the fire itself, would be capable of expressing the community's compassion, generosity, determination and energy. Artists were also required to include in their proposals a collaborative process whereby Kelowna residents would be actively engaged in the making of the artwork itself.

Geert Maas is an internationally renowned local sculptor. His plans for this project include:

- A series of ten, free, three-day studio workshops from May to September, 2007, during which residents of Kelowna will have the opportunity to work with Geert Maas to create a bronze medallion which expresses their personal interpretation of 'community spirit.'
- A permanent installation of the medallions in City Hall.
- Recognition of all community participants through a photographic and narrative documentary record which will form part of the permanent installation.
- Two community-focused events: one for participants at the artist's studio in September, 2007, and a second for the general public in conjunction with the final unveiling and dedication of the work, anticipated in late 2007 or early 2008.

The Public Art Committee and Geert Maas would like to personally invite Mayor and Council to participate in a workshop. This is a rare opportunity to directly take part in the creation of a permanent work of public art which will provide a special legacy for the community.

A contract has been negotiated with the artist, and he is prepared to start work immediately upon approval from Council.

Geert Maas has an international sculpture practice spanning nearly 40 years, and his work is represented in prestigious public, corporate and private collections all over the world. In the last 3 years, he has participated in exhibitions in Washington, Michigan, California, British Columbia, Ontario and Portugal. His studio, gallery and sculpture garden are open to the public and are an important cultural tourism destination in the Okanagan.

INTERNAL CIRCULATION TO: (various consultations detailed above)

- Randy Cleveland, Civic Properties Manager
- Corey Davis, Environmental Technician
- Ed Kinnear, Foreman – Building Trades
- Maureen MacGillivray, Purchasing Manager
- Barbara Davidson, Park and Landscape Planner, Parks Department

EXISTING POLICY:

The Public Art Committee submits these recommendations pursuant to its Terms of Reference and Arts & Cultural Policy 274.

EXTERNAL AGENCY/PUBLIC COMMENTS: (various consultations detailed above)

ALTERNATE RECOMMENDATIONS:

#1 THAT the selection of the artwork and artist for the Glenmore Linear Park public art project be referred back to the Public Art Committee for further review and development of a revised recommendation to Council at a later date.

#2 THAT the selection of the artwork and artist for the Community Spirit public art project be referred back to the Public Art Committee for further review and development of a revised recommendation to Council at a later date.

Considerations that were not applicable to this report:

- LEGAL/STATUTORY AUTHORITY**
- LEGAL/STATUTORY PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS**
- FINANCIAL/BUDGETARY CONSIDERATIONS**
- PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS**
- TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS**

Submitted by:

S. Kochan, Public Art Coordinator

Approved for Inclusion:



David Graham, Director, Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services

Cc:

- Randy Cleveland, Civic Properties Manager
- Corey Davis, Environmental Technician
- Ed Kinnear, Foreman – Building Trades
- Maureen MacGillivray, Purchasing Manager
- Barbara Davidson, Park and Landscape Planner, Parks Department