

# REPORT TO COUNCIL



**Date:** November 2, 2011  
**File:** 1340-40  
**To:** City Manager  
**From:** Public Art Coordinator  
**Subject:** H2O Adventure + Fitness Centre Public Art Installation

---

## **Recommendation:**

THAT Council receives, for information, the report from the Public Art Coordinator dated November 2, 2011, with respect to the H2O Adventure + Fitness Centre Public Art Installation.

AND THAT Council approves the project objectives and process for the proposed H2O Adventure + Fitness Centre Public Art Installation as outlined in the report from the Public Art Coordinator dated November 2, 2011.

## **Purpose:**

To gain Council support in proceeding with a public art installation at the H2O Adventure + Fitness Centre.

## **Background:**

The H2O Adventure + Fitness Centre was built in 2008 and the design of the building envisioned an art installation on the western façade along Gordon Drive. The intent of the artwork was to provide visual interest to the high profile public facility. An RFP process was undertaken in 2007 that did not result in an acceptable submission.

## Objectives

A set of project objectives has been developed by the Public Art Committee and staff to guide the development of the project. Objectives include:

- To provide a human scale to the exterior of the building;
- To respond to the specific site conditions through scale, materials, forms and concept;
- To enhance the character, sense of place and local identity of the area;
- To provide a visual presence during both day and night, in all seasons;
- To develop the artwork to be resistant to vandalism and give consideration to life-cycle operation and maintenance costs; and
- To develop ideas in the artwork that will enrich our cultural identity.

A handwritten signature in the bottom right corner of the page.

### Inspiration

The artwork will draw inspiration from a pertinent community-based theme. Broad-based examples include:

- Exercise as a basis for physical and psychological well-being for all ages;
- Building tolerance and understanding through recreation and sport;
- The value of goal-setting and personal achievement;
- The role of sport and recreation in developing leadership skills among youth; and
- Promoting social interaction through community recreation.

### Process

Staff has developed the following proposed process and timeline:

Council Report	November 2011
Expression of Interest	November 2011
Request for Proposals	February 2011
Selection of Artist	March 2012
Report Back to Council	April 2012
Design Development	to be determined after artist is selected
Installation & Fabrication	TBD
Completion Date	TBD

A public open house will be held prior to issuance of the RFP. This session will set out the process and expected timeline for the project. More importantly, it will solicit input from the community on pertinent themes that could be expressed in the artwork. This information will be included in the RFP and subsequently used by the Committee in the evaluation of the proposals.

### Program Review

Council endorsed a review of the Public Art Program in July, 2011. The final report is expected to come before Council in Spring 2012. This will provide recommendations for improving the effectiveness and efficiency of the Program and clarify the community's expectations for Public Art. The process of engagement in the H2O Adventure + Fitness Centre Project will contribute to the Program Review.

### **Internal Circulation:**

Director, Financial Services  
Communications  
Real Estate and Building Services

### **Existing Policy:**

These recommendations are submitted pursuant to the Public Art Committee Terms of Reference, Arts & Cultural Policy 274, and Chapter 9 of the Official Community Plan.

### **Financial/Budgetary Considerations:**

The Public Art Committee and staff are proposing a maximum budget allocation of \$200,000 inclusive of soft and hard costs. The project is proposed to be funded from the Public Art Reserve. A budget item for this amount will be included in the 2012 Capital Budget.

**External Agency/Public Comments:**

The H2O Adventure + Fitness Centre (YMCA/YWCA) is involved in this project.

**Considerations not applicable to this report:**

Legal/Statutory Authority:

Legal/Statutory Procedural Requirements:

Personnel Implications:

Communications Comments:

Alternate Recommendation:

Submitted by:



P. McCormick, Public Art Coordinator

Approved for inclusion:



R. Cleveland, Director, Infrastructure Planning

Attachment: Photograph of west facade

cc: General Manager, Community Sustainability  
Director, Real Estate & Building Services  
Director, Communications  
Director, Financial Services  
Chair, Public Art Committee





Attachment 1: Photograph of west façade of the H2O Adventure + Fitness Centre

