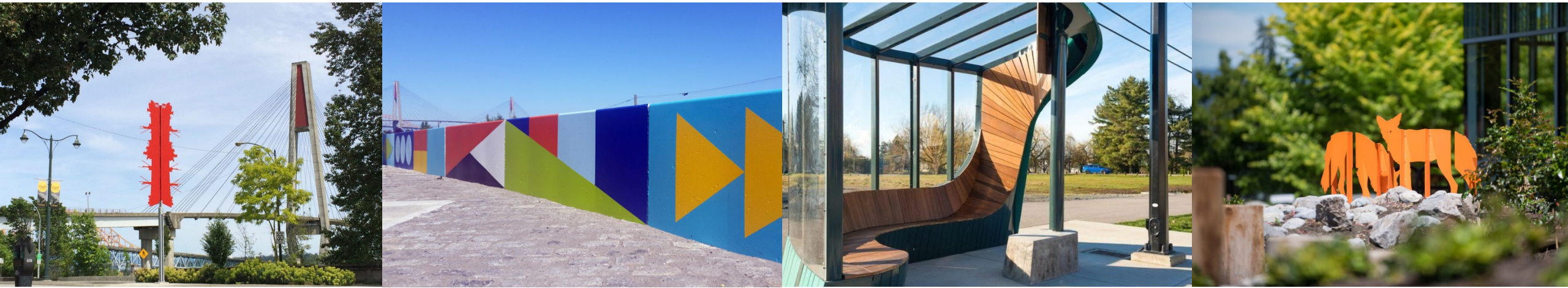


Public Art Policy Orientation

Presentation to the Arts Advisory Committee

March 3, 2022



Left to right: *rorschach/sentinel*, Jacqueline Metz & Nancy Chew; *Flow*, Sandeep Johal; *Furled Trail*, Studio HUIZENGA; *Welcome to the Zoo*, Nathan Lee

Background

Adopted in 2012, the existing Public Art Policy established a foundation for the Public Art Program.

Supported through a 'percent for art' funding mechanism from capital projects and annual municipal allocations, the Public Art Program, under the advisement of the Public Art Advisory Committee (PAAC), has commissioned numerous site-responsive projects and temporary installations over the years.

In 2021, with guidance from the Public Art Advisory Committee and in response to recommendations included in the City's Arts Strategy, staff initiated a review of the Policy. The intention was to ensure that the Policy is aligned with key City policies and priorities and supports a more responsive, diverse, equitable and sustainable program.

The policy review process was informed by best practices research, internal reviews with Arts, Heritage, Planning, Finance and Purchasing staff and consultation with the Public Art Advisory Committee, the Reconciliation, Social Inclusion and Engagement Task Force, the Culture and Economic Development Task Force.

The final revised Public Art Policy was endorsed by the Public Art Advisory Committee and has been approved by Council.

Approved Revisions to the Policy

Removal of Administrative Procedures

The administrative processes have been removed from the Policy to be captured in an Administrative Procedures Manual.

Guiding Principles

Guiding Principles have been added, building upon the goals identified in the Arts Strategy and aligning with City priorities related to Reconciliation, social justice and equity.

Clarifying Roles and Responsibilities

Roles and responsibilities have been clarified and defined in alignment with the City's financial processes and Procurement Policy.

Diversification of Artist Selection Processes

The revised Policy outlines a diversity of approaches for selecting and hiring artists to respond to varying project needs and address systemic inequities.

Funding

The revised Policy clarifies the funding mechanisms that support public art, simplifies private developer contributions and allows for ability to pool funds.

Guiding Principles

Builds upon previous work such as the Arts Strategy and align with City priorities related to Reconciliation and equity.

Value - The Public Art Policy and supporting processes value the role of artists and public art in civic life. Artists should be trusted and supported to ask questions and take risks. Public art engages history and place and has the capacity to create dialogue and inspire social progress.

Respect - The Public Art Policy and supporting processes ensure respectful practices for artists and their rights, for the land and environment and for everyone involved.

Reconciliation - The Public Art Policy and its supporting processes reflect a commitment to Reconciliation and recognize the rights of Indigenous peoples. Public art is planned, developed and executed on the unceded territory of the Halkomelem speaking peoples and has a responsibility to decolonize its practices and ensure the voices, traditions and knowledge of the Halkomelem speaking peoples are respected and represented on their lands.

Equity - The Public Art Policy and supporting processes commit to anti-oppressive, anti-racist and anti-assimilation approaches and strive to ensure that all artists and community members are represented and have opportunities to participate, access and experience public art.

Capacity Building- The Public Art Policy and supporting processes commit to developing artists through programs, projects and educational opportunities that foster learning and build capacity.

Innovation - The Public Art Policy and supporting processes encourage and foster brave, experimental and innovative ideas and approaches.

Stewardship - The Public Art Policy and supporting processes promote responsible management and stewardship of the funding for the development and implementation of public art projects as well as the maintenance and conservation of artworks in the Public Art Collection and the ongoing engagement with public art.

Roles and Responsibilities

The Public Art Policy is administered by **Public Art Program staff**:

- The Public Art Program staff work collaboratively with the City's appointed AAC to advise and bring recommendations to Council to authorize expenditures, policy changes, plans and projects as per the Policy;
- Implementation of the Public Art Policy is guided by the supporting Administrative Procedures Manual that is a living, continually responsive document.

The AAC's role is to provide expert community input on public art, and to:

- Promote awareness and encourage dialogue around public art;
- Recommend and advise on public art policies, guidelines, plans and issues;
- Review public art project plans and allocations to ensure alignment with the Policy and guiding principles;
- Act as a resource to City Council and staff;
- Advise the City on public art issues and current topics relevant to public art;
- Advise and consult on specific issues, such as donations or deaccessioning of public art;
- Nominate one of their members to serve on the selection panel for specific art projects as a non-voting representative;
- Support Public Art staff in carrying out the purpose of the Public Art Policy.

Selection Panels will review submissions and make recommendations to staff for artist selection based on project criteria. The composition of each panel will ensure representation of diverse perspectives and worldviews. Members are paid for their time and expertise.

Additional Advisors and Advisory Bodies

Additional advisors such as curators, public art consultants, Elders or Knowledge Keepers or ad-hoc, formal and existing advisory bodies representing various community stakeholders may be formed and/or engaged as needed to inform processes, guidelines and procedures.

Artist Selection Processes

To provide a diversity of approaches and flexibility in selecting and hiring artists; to be responsive to different needs, remove systemic barriers and ensure equity in opportunities for artists.

- **Open Call**- An open competition that is widely distributed often in the form of a Call to Artists to submit materials for consideration.
- **Invitational**- In a limited competition, a select number of artists are recommended by a curator, public art consultant, Elders or Knowledge Keepers, advisory panel or program staff to submit materials for consideration. An invitational approach may be needed to address systemic inequities and facilitate decolonial practices.
- **Direct Award** - The commission of an artist or the purchase of an existing work of art that has been recommended by a curator, public art consultant, Elders or Knowledge Keepers, advisory panel or program staff. A direct award may be needed when there is a single clear choice in terms of the artistic opportunity or to address systemic inequities and facilitate decolonial practices.

Alternative approaches to selecting or engaging artists may be considered based on desired outcomes. The appropriate selection process will be determined for each project in consultation with the AAC, approved as required and guided by the Public Art Administrative Procedures Manual.

Funding

To clearly articulate funding sources, costs supported by funding and allow for pooling of funds in order to develop projects in a more strategic and intentional way and ensure equity.

Percentage for Art and Annual Municipal Contributions

Public art continues to be supported by a percent for art funding strategy. The 'percent for public art' will be calculated at 1% of total capital project costs for eligible capital projects with budgets over \$1 million and at 0.5% for projects in the \$500,000 to \$1 million range.

The City will also provide an annual contribution equal to \$2.00 per citizen from property taxes to be used for public art.

Private Development Contributions

When a private developer opts to include public art in their project, the policy states that public art staff can work with applicants as part of the development review process to ensure their public art proposals are consistent with best practice and City policy.

Public art in private development projects are subject to the processes and guidelines outlined in the Public Art Policy and the Administrative Procedures Manual.

What Public Art funding supports

Articulates the full costs of public art that includes Engagement, communication, programming and educational initiatives.

Funding

Pooling of Funds

To allow for a more thoughtful and strategic approach to the implementation of the Policy and provide flexibility to respond to the needs of artists and the community.

- Generally, public art allocations from capital projects reside with the initiating department as part of the overall capital project for development of public art on the site.
- Pooling allows for more investment for projects on sites outside of capital projects where impact and need may be greater.
- Pooling processes will be in compliance with the City's Financial Policies and approved and reported through the City's budget processes.
- Where possible pooled funding will not be tied to specific capital project timelines to allow for long-term planning, integration of public art across the city and to ensure equity.

Questions & Comments



Left to right: *rorschach/sentinel*, Jacqueline Metz & Nancy Chew; *Flow*, Sandeep Johal; *Furled Trail*, Studio HUIZENGA; *Welcome to the Zoo*, Nathan Lee