

CITY OF BARRIE PUBLIC ART POLICY

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CITY OF BARRIE PUBLIC ART POLICY  
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## INTRODUCTION: THE VALUE OF PUBLIC ART

The value of public art must include its social value as a means through which to express, reflect and enjoy our city. Public art works make walking through the City's streets and open spaces an interesting and thought-provoking experience for people living, working and visiting. It contributes to the identity and character of a place by marking out an area as unique within the city, and supports economic development.

Public art programs have long been central to the development and revitalization of major urban centres like Toronto, Chicago or New York, and smaller cities like Barrie. Whether small neighbourhood pleasures or large icons, public art works can make a city known more widely, encourage cultural tourism and play a critical role in a city's cultural development.

The value of public art must include its impact as a significant economic driver. Public art is identified as a mechanism that improves the competitive advantage of a municipality, attracting professionals to live and work in the area and making it a more desirable place to locate businesses. Arts bring economic development and revitalization to neighbourhoods.

## SECTION 1: PURPOSE AND GOALS

### **Purpose of the Barrie Public Art Policy**

Art in public spaces enhances the quality of life for its citizens, strengthens community pride, improves the aesthetic of the public environment, and contributes to the City's cultural aspirations, social well-being and economic vitality.

A public art policy for a city ensures that the process for commissioning, acquiring and managing public art works is open, equitable and fair and meets professional standards; it also outlines funding sources to create and maintain public art. Such a policy protects and maintains public art as a valuable part of the built environment and makes space for public art available and a priority in the development of the city's streetscape. A public art policy encourages the allocation of a percent for public art in the budgets of all significant public and private sector developments across the city.

Further, a public art policy for a city ensures that professional artists are involved in its creation and fosters innovation and quality works of art, evolving from the culture plan for that city.

### **Goals**

The goals of the Public Art Policy for the City of Barrie are:

- To ensure the artistic merit, quality and integrity of the artworks owned by the City of Barrie and intended for public spaces;
- To provide a range of opportunities for artists at various stages of their careers to make public art through establishing a set of processes and procedures that allow for innovation, that value the artists and the artistic process, that respect the creative rights of artists and defines standards and establish criteria for the selection of Public Art.
- To enhance the community's sense of ownership and value by commissioning works that are site-specific and encouraging awareness of collective heritages, neighbourhood identities and the value of creativity and creative processes in urban living;

- To ensure that all artworks in the City of Barrie collection will be part of a coherent program of maintenance, conservation and preservation;
- To build upon existing relationships between the City, artists and arts organizations and community members in order to improve the opportunities for citizens to participate in the arts in the course of their daily lives, encourage civic discussion about public art and make possible the expression of a variety of cultural voices;
- To recognize and stimulate a high calibre of urban design by enhancing the aesthetic quality of the built environment and incorporating original artworks into the infrastructure of the City;
- To promote Barrie as a Creative City recognized nationally as valuing the arts and as a destination for cultural tourism, while acting as a stimulus for economic development; and
- To use City resources wisely to develop projects in a strategic and cost effective manner.

### **Engaging Community in Public Art**

The City of Barrie's Economic and Creative Development Department will provide opportunities for the public to learn about and become involved with the art in their streets through:

Publicized artist competition calls;  
 Public art walking and driving tour guides;  
 Community engagement and feedback opportunities for proposed projects (where appropriate), policy and master plan development;  
 Dedicated section on the City of Barrie website to house information related to the City's public art program.

## SECTION 2: DEFINITIONS

### **Public Art**

Public art can be defined most simply as visual art that exists in the public realm. It includes all works that are commissioned, purchased by, or donated to the City to be located in publicly accessible spaces. Public art may be functional as well as aesthetic, free standing or fully integrated into the structure of a site.

This definition includes:

- permanent installations in all media;
- artists' collaborations on architecture, landscaping or amenity design; and
- temporary installations in all media located in the public sphere.

It does not include:

- directional elements;
- art objects that are stock items or mass-produced;
- art objects that are portable or easily moved; and
- playground equipment, statuary projects, landscape architecture, landscape gardening, fountains and greening projects unless these elements are integral to the work of art itself or a collaboration among design professionals including at least one artist.

## Public Space

A Public space is any space in the City accessible or visible to the public and includes:

**City-Owned:** any space owned, operated or managed by the City of Barrie that is accessible or visible to the general public or any space that is accessible or visible to the general public and approved by the City as a viable public art project site.

This includes, but is not limited to, the City's parks and squares, boulevards, streets, road allowances, courtyards, squares, bridges, as well as the architectural facades, concourses and publicly accessible interior areas of City-owned facilities.

**Privately Owned and Publicly Accessible:** any outdoor space accessible to the general public that is private property such as courtyards, entrance plazas, forecourts, lanes, etc.

**Privately Owned and Visible to the Public -** Private property and features such as building facades, retaining walls, hoarding, and fences that are visible from a public place and contribute to the character of the adjacent public place.

## Artwork

A monument, marker, statue, mural, projection, sound or other feature created by or in collaboration with an artist.

## Public Art

An artwork created by artists, or in collaboration with artists that is installed on publicly accessible City of Barrie property and is owned and maintained by the City.

## Publicly Commissioned Art

An artwork created by artists, or in collaboration with artists, through a public process and existing in a publicly accessible City of Barrie owned or managed location. This art is created to reflect and/or engage the community and has undergone a formal Call for Artists selection process administered by City staff or their representatives.

## Donated Public Art

Artworks given to the City of Barrie as a gift, bequeath or sponsored acquisition to be installed in a City-owned outdoor public place.

## Community-Engaged Art

Public art projects proposed for artwork in a City-owned, operated or managed space proposed by and led by an artist, community members or organizations or arts groups. Art projects may be temporary or permanent in nature.

## Temporary Art Project

An artwork created by an artist or in collaboration with an artist for exhibition in a public place that is intended to be installed for a limited amount of time; from several hours to several years (less than 5 years). Its temporary nature allows for less rigorous selection and maintenance requirements.

## Privately Commissioned Art in Public Places

Artwork installed on publicly accessible/visible private property that contributes to the quality of the adjacent public place that is commissioned by the private property owner.

## Visual Artist

A professional visual artist is a person who has specialized training in the artistic field (not necessarily in academic institutions); is recognized as a professional by his or her peers; has produced an

independent body of work and seeks payment for their work. Has maintained an independent professional practice for at least three years following the completion of specialized training in the field; and has had at least three public presentations of their work in a professional visual arts context over a three-year period.

#### Other Visual Arts Professionals

A visual arts professional, in this context, is a person who is recognized as a professional curator in the visual arts, visual arts critic, visual arts educator, architect or landscape architect; possesses skill, training (formal or informal) and experience in the applicable discipline; is active and committed to his or her practice; has a minimum three-year history of public presentation, public projects and/or publishing in this discipline; seeks payment for his or her work in this discipline; and is recognized by his or her peers as a visual arts professional.

#### Barrie Public Art Committee

The Barrie Public Art Committee is a volunteer working committee, supported by the City of Barrie's Department of Economic and Creative Development and is comprised of two members of Council of the City of Barrie, and volunteer professionals of the art, design, and architecture industries and interested community members.

The Barrie Public Art Committee is governed by an established Terms of Reference approved by the Council of the City of Barrie.

### **SECTION 3: PROCESSES AND PROTOCOLS**

#### 3.1 Publicly Commissioned Art

The City of Barrie endeavours to commission innovative public art works that are of the highest quality, are relevant to their prospective community and context, and enrich the urban experience of Barrie's residents and visitors. The City aims to carry out this ambition through equitable and objective selection processes with valuable input from community members and guidance from relevant art professionals.

##### 3.1.1 Artist Selection Process

The process by which an artist is selected for a commission has a significant impact on the project's success. The City of Barrie operates competitions as its primary form of artist selection. Depending on requirements specific to the project, the competition may be open, limited/invitational, or by direct selection. Following are definitions of these three forms of competition:

- **Open Competition:** A competition that is broadly advertized—provincially, nationally and internationally—and open to any artist interested in submitting materials for consideration according to the guidelines established in the “call to artists”. This is the process most favoured by the City of Barrie and adhered to whenever the project budget and timeframe allow.
- **Invited/Limited Competition:** In a limited competition, a select number of artists are recommended by a selection panel, program staff or public art consultant and invited to submit materials for consideration. Limited competitions may be staged when a project requires a specific art form, or there are pressing time restrictions on its completion.
- **Direct Selection:** The commission of a work by an artist or the purchase of an existing work of art, as recommended as a curatorial choice by a selection panel. A direct selection may be warranted when there is a single clear choice or a sole source in terms of the artistic solution for a project. A direct selection may also be appropriate where there is a time constraint or an extremely limited project budget.

The form of competition to be used for a particular project is determined by the Barrie Public Art Committee in consultation with City staff and the art consultant, should there be one contracted for the

project.

### 3.1.2 Selection Panels

The role of the selection panel is to measure the artist's present proposal and past work against the general goals of the City's Public Art Policy as identified in Section 1, and the specific objectives of the commission at hand. In order to establish the efficiency of the process and the quality of discussion, the number of participants on a selection panel or jury will comprise not less than three and not more than five in a number while respecting the need to involve stakeholders and a breadth of informed perspectives.

Qualified selection panels are chosen comprising a majority of recognized visual arts professionals as well as representatives of the community with interests in the site. These selection panels select short-listed and winning artists for public art projects for properties under the City of Barrie's jurisdiction.

Selection panel members are recognized 'Visual Artists' or 'Other Visual Artists Professionals' as defined in Section 1. Representatives of the community with interests in the site may include cultural organizations, neighbourhood community representatives, Advisory Committees of Council, and other such members as deemed relevant by the Barrie Public Art Committee and City Staff.

Art dealers and art consultants are not allowed to participate on selection panels.

Members of the Barrie Public Art Committee are not allowed to sit on any selection panels or juries during their tenure on the Committee but may recommend selection panel members.

### 3.1.3 Project Management

Permanent Projects may be managed by the City Staff, or at the discretion of City Staff in consultation with the Public Art Committee, an external public art consultant may be contracted by the Economic & Creative Development Department to co-ordinate the commission. Recruitment for contracted public art consultant will be completed by City Staff with input from the Barrie Public Art Committee. Recruitment and selection will follow the City's standard policies and practices associated with consulting work.

Where an independent consultant is retained to manage a Public Commissioned Art project, the retained consultant will report into the appropriate staff of the Economic and Creative Development Department and will facilitate all aspects of the project through the City. The consultant will co-ordinate the competition for artist submissions, conduct community consultation, assemble and manage the Selection Panel, and oversee all aspects of the commissioning process through to the installation of the public art work. The artist's brief, call for submissions, and Selection Panel composition are devised in consultation with City staff and are all reviewed by the Barrie Public Art Committee.

## **3.2 Donations/Official Gifts**

Official gifts of art are directed to the Barrie Public Art Committee for review and consideration to ensure the integrity of the donation process, the desired location of the artwork, any conditions accompanying the gift, the meeting of specific aesthetic and technical criteria, and a cash donation or provisions agreed upon towards future maintenance and conservation of the artwork.

### 3.2.1 Criteria

- suitability of the donation as determined by the guidelines and mandate of the Barrie Public Art Committee;
- quality of the artwork, based on a professional assessment of the work, detailed written proposal, drawing and/or maquette, or photographs;

- suitability of the theme of the artwork to a public venue;
- appropriateness of the artwork to the site, in the case where a site has been identified;
- appropriateness of the process for selecting the artist/artwork;
- qualifications of the artist based on documentation of past work and the artist's professional qualifications;
- financial implication based on the costs of the project implementation, the installation of the work, and the ongoing maintenance of the artwork;
- provision by the donor for ongoing maintenance of the artwork;
- absence of restrictive conditions imposed by the donor;
- susceptibility of the work to wear and vandalism and potential danger to the public;
- suitability of the artwork to the technical requirements of installation in a public space;
- durability of the work under outdoor environmental conditions of public display; and
- ease of maintenance and repair.

These criteria as well as relevance of the subject matter to the City of Barrie guide the evaluation to ensure the integrity of the process.

### 3.2.2 Finished Work Donations

If the donation in question is a finished work, the piece will first be reviewed by an art conservator or qualified individual to assess the condition and feasibility of preservation in a public location. If the work is deemed feasible to include in the City's collection maintenance program, staff, in consultation with the Barrie Public Art Committee will review the piece against the above selection criteria and with consideration to possible locations. If the piece is deemed eligible to become part of the City's collection, and a suitable location can be agreed upon, Economic and Creative Development will consult with all impacted City Departments (ie. Parks Planning, Facilities) for recommendation regarding feasibility and support to accept the donation. City of Barrie Council will then be provided a report by Economic and Creative Development to consider the recommendation of the Barrie Public Art Committee and Staff to accept a donation.

### 3.2.3 Donation for the Commission of New Work

If the donor is proposing the commission of a new work not yet in existence, the proposal is reviewed by the Barrie Public Art Committee and staff of the Economic and Creative Development Department. The proposal may then be accepted conditionally, based on a process for commissioning undertaken in collaboration with the donor as identified in Section 3.1 of the Public Art Policy.

### 3.2.4 Procedure

The offer to make a donation of an official gift of public art or the installation of an artistic tribute to acknowledge a significant historic event should be sent in writing to the City of Barrie's Economic and Creative Development Department to bring to the Barrie Public Art Committee for consideration.

The submission should include a detailed description of the gift (Appendix ii, Public Art Donation Process Information), the relevance of the subject matter to the City of Barrie and contact names for follow up.

### 3.2.5 Procurement

Work purchased for the City of Barrie's collection must be considered to be of high standing within its artistic field, both conceptually and aesthetically, and with regard to technical execution. The City of Barrie seldom purchases pre-existing artworks for its public art collection and does not acquire work with the intent to profit on disposal at a later date.



In some cases the City of Barrie may, in lieu of purchasing a work, acquire it as part of the City's collection by assisting the artist or possessing organization in receiving a tax credit for the fair market value of the work. In order to do this the City must be able to prove to the federal government that the artwork is of national importance and that the City is prepared and able to maintain it as such.

### 3.3 Community Engaged Art Projects

An artwork in a public place, the design and implementation of which is led by an artist and involves community members directly in its creation through collaboration, production, and/or dialogue.

Public art projects proposed by external community or arts groups are subject to the Community Engaged Art Policy as outlined in 'Appendix i'.

### 3.4 Temporary Public Art Projects

The City of Barrie provides a venue for innumerable artistic projects. The City's Economic and Creative Development Department will continue to work with a variety of arts organizations to produce challenging and innovative public art projects on a temporary basis (under 5-years) and shall be governed as outlined in Section 5.

Temporary visual art projects provide opportunities to artists to experiment with the scope and scale of artwork and serves to increase public awareness of contemporary artistic practice and ideas about the public realm.

From time to time, the City of Barrie will allocate funds specifically for temporary projects and will provide support for projects initiated by artists, arts organizations or communities.

A Sub-Committee of the Barrie Public Art Committee will be developed to review and recommend temporary public art projects (visual arts specific).

### 3.5 Privately Commissioned Art in Public Spaces

Development applications submitted for planning approval that include artwork installed on publicly accessible/visible private property shall be circulated to the Barrie Public Art Committee for comments in relation to the goals of public art for the City.

## **SECTION 4: MANAGEMENT OF THE CITY OF BARRIE'S PUBLIC ART COLLECTION**

### **Maintenance and Conservation**

It is the responsibility of the City of Barrie to maintain all permanent works of art within the Public Art Inventory, in accordance with the approved maintenance plan and/or conservation plan required for each piece.

The following public art projects are not a part of the City of Barrie's Public Art Inventory and as such, will not be maintained by the city:

1. Temporary public art that has a defined start and end date (i.e. ephemeral installations, video screenings, performance or time-based art, etc.) and a clear de-installation plan.
2. Artwork created through the Community Engaged Public Art Program
3. Artwork that is installed on private property

The City of Barrie's Public Art Maintenance Program is comprised of 2 core functions:

1. Routine maintenance and inspection of all works in the City's collection according to a pre-determined schedule.
2. Identifies all artworks in need of capital or restorative conservation and categorizes the collection in terms of high, medium and low priority projects for restorative maintenance and implements a conservation plan by identifying restoration needs and overseeing conversation activities.

The Public Art Maintenance Program is funded through the Public Art Maintenance Reserve Fund (as outlined in section 6.0 of the Public Art Policy). Eligible expenditures include:

- Conservation and repairs, related materials and equipment.
- Relocation expenditures, transportation and installation.
- Annual inventory and documentation.
- Administration costs related to the Maintenance Program.

The Artist is responsible for developing a maintenance plan for each Public Art artistic work. The maintenance plan must be submitted for review and consideration along with the proposal to select the artistic work for acquisition. The complexity of the maintenance plan may vary based on the size, nature and material of the artistic work.

Maintenance plans must meet the satisfaction of Economic & Creative Development Department in consultation with the Barrie Public Art Committee and City Departments impacted by the installation (ie. Parks Planning, Operations, etc.). Maintenance plans will include, but are not limited to, maintenance specifications, budget implications, shop drawings, manufacturer lists, and key contacts, including the Artist. Staff may, if deemed necessary, retain a qualified consultant to undertake the review.

The City will be responsible for the care and maintenance of the artwork, in accordance with the approved maintenance plan and will be incorporated into a Public Art Maintenance Program. Economic & Creative Development staff will monitor the maintenance plan. The appropriate City staff will undertake an inspection of the artistic work according to a pre-determined schedule. Staff may, if deemed necessary, retain a qualified art restorer to undertake the inspection.

## **Public Art Inventory**

Staff in Economic and Creative Development will maintain and regularly update an inventory of permanent public art assets in the City's collection. These records will include a detailed description of the artwork, its fabrication, site conditions, conservation and maintenance plan, and visual documentation of the artwork in situ. The inventory is updated when new works are acquired and following routine inspections, maintenance and conservation.

Temporary works will also be identified by date of installation and de-accession date.

## **Collection Evaluation and Insurance**

The City of Barrie's maintains insurance coverage for all artistic works owned by the City through purchase, commission and/or donation and are the property of the City.

The policy will protect the collection against all risks of direct physical loss or damage, while in transit and at all City owned/leased locations, and while in storage or on display. The public art collection is not evaluated as a whole; individual pieces are evaluated for insurance purposes, but appraisals may become out of date due to changes in the art market and the state of the work. The City of Barrie's public art collection is to be insured as property of the City of Barrie for vandalism, liability and theft, and each piece as acquired should be appraised based on market value and re-evaluated as needed.

For all borrowed public art, the Artist will submit proof, satisfactory to the City, of insurance coverage for the artistic work, and a waiver freeing the City from liability in case of accidental loss, theft, damage or vandalism. In addition, the Artist will submit a complete list of the displayed artistic work(s) which will include the title(s), dimensions, medium/media and appraised value(s).

## **De-Accessioning**

De-Accession is the process by which an artwork is formally removed from the City of Barrie's Public Art Collection. It may involve the relocation, removal or disposal of an artwork provided that these actions are not in conflict with the terms on which the City acquired the work.

The City of Barrie retains the right and may de-accession Public Art when necessary. All reasonable efforts will first be made to resolve problems or re-site the Public Art, in consultation with the Artist and/or donor, where appropriate. Reasons for de-accession include, but are not limited to:

- endangerment of public safety
- excessive repair or maintenance
- irreparable damage
- no longer accessible to the public
- site redevelopment or demolition of the site incorporating the Public Art
- expiry of lifespan

In the event of theft, vandalism or accidental loss, the City may determine whether replacement or de-accession of the artistic work is appropriate.

No artistic work will be de-accessioned and disposed of without consultation with the Public Art Committee. Recommendations of the Public Art Committee regarding the need for and method of de-accession will be made to Economic and Creative Development Staff and must be approved by City Council.

## **Evaluation & Disposition**

The de-accession of an artwork from the City of Barrie's public art collection is evaluated with consideration of the following:

- the original acquisition contract between the artist or benefactor and the City of Barrie, and other contractual agreements pertaining to the acquisition of the work and its potential removal;
- consultation with the artist or benefactor;
- advisement of impartial, relevant professionals (i.e., curators, artists, conservators, art historians, architects, landscape architects, engineers, etc.), where required; and
- the quality or significance of the piece and its relation to the public context.

The Barrie Public Art Committee will appoint a non-partisan panel of visual art professionals and community members to elect the most appropriate from the following methods of de-accession.

The de-accessioned artistic work may be moved, sold, returned to the Artist or destroyed, with any monies received through a sale allocated to the Public Art Reserve Fund.

Removal of the work from the collection by means of selling, trading or gifting the work. Fair market value of the work is established through independent professional appraisal. Proceeds from the sales of any public art will go the Public Art Reserve Fund, with a percentage payable to the artist based on recommendations established by CARFAC (Canadian Artists Representation).

Destruction of the work is carried out when a mode can be established that respects the integrity of the original commission, and the interests of the City of Barrie and its public.

## **SECTION 5: ROLES & GOVERNANCE**

### **Governance**

Barrie City Council approves all policies initiated by the Barrie Public Art Committee and approves the budget allocated for Public Art annually through the City's municipal budget process.

Barrie City Council approves the final acceptance of all permanent public artworks commissioned by or donated to the City of Barrie as endorsed by the Barrie Public Art Committee, as well as annual budgets for the maintenance and cleaning of the City's public art collection.

Barrie City Council may request the advice of the Barrie Public Art Committee in matters it is contemplating associated with, or may impact public art programming, policies or installations.

The Barrie Public Art Committee may recommend acceptance of temporary public artworks of not more than 5 years, commissioned by, or donated to the City of Barrie through the Economic and Creative Development Department.

Final acceptance will be provided through the Economic and Creative Development Department provided projects are:

- In compliance with City approved public art approved and principles;
- In compliance with Federal, provincial and municipal legislations applicable;

- In compliance with Urban design and land use planning documents, strategic, master and other guiding documents of the City (ie. Waterfront Master Plan);
- Within the Barrie Public Art budget, and total contribution to a project does not exceed more than \$25,000.

### Conflict Resolution

Where there is not alignment between City Staff and the Public Art Committee on a recommendation of acceptance or non-acceptance of a public art donation/gift/temporary project, that the project, via staff report, be presented to the City Building Committee of Council for decision.

### Role of Barrie Public Art Committee

The Barrie Public Art Committee (BPAC) is a working group authorized by City Council. The Committee has been established in accordance with a Terms of Reference approved by City Council.

The Committee shall report to City Council through the City Building Committee. Decisions of the Committee are not final, until approved by City Council unless delegated authority is granted by Council.

The Terms of Reference for the Barrie Public Art Committee identifies the membership structure and the obligations of the Committee and shall be posted on the City's website.

### Role of City of Barrie Staff

The Department of Economic and Creative Development manages all issues relating to public art on City-owned lands and supports the development and implementation of a series of public art and art in public places projects through the Barrie Public Art Committee and in keeping with the City's Public Art Policy and cultural best practices. Specifically staff:

- Develop, manage, audit, maintain and promote the City of Barrie's public art collection and program;
- Serve as the key liaison to the Barrie Public Art Committee, providing services in project management, public art planning, public consultation, facilitation, capital and operating budgeting and estimating, technical detailing, site inspection, construction administration when required, preparation of reports and graphics, representing the department on various committees, researching, developing methodologies, and completing specialized assignments, ensuring adherence with the City's policies and practices;
- In collaboration with the Chair of the Barrie Public Art Committee, supports the development of annual workplans, budget allocation and policy adherence with the municipality's policies and practices;
- Ensures all public art and community engaged public art projects are developed in compliance with City approved planning documents and federal, provincial and municipal legislations applicable to urban design and land use planning;
- Coordinates with Barrie Public Art Committee on all aspects related to the artwork's siting and installation, including dedication/unveiling ceremonies as required;

- Facilitates collaboration and integration across the several Departments of the City, including Development Services, Finance, Recreation & Culture, Legal & Real Estate Service amongst others to facilitate technical reviews of concept, fabrication, and installation;
- Facilitate artist selection process, drafting requests for proposals/qualifications, contract negotiations and payment to artists in consultation with the City's legal, procurement and financial services to develop artist contracts and ensuring adherence to budget requirements;
- Provide primary administrative support for the Barrie Public Art Committee;
- Writes technical and project reports, correspondence to Council, memos, meeting minutes, and other project related documents required for review and approval for public art projects by City Council.

## **SECTION 6: FUNDING**

### Donations

The City of Barrie will develop a donor program that will provide stewardship to individuals, families and businesses who seek to donate to the City of Barrie's Public Art Program. A donor program will ensure that those passionate about the evolution of their City find opportunities to participate in increasing the City's artistic assets in the public sphere.

### Public Art Reserve Fund

An allocation of \$25,000 to the Public Art Reserve was approved for the 2014 Business Plan (Motion 12-G-252) and the amount will be increased annually in future years by 10% for a maximum of ten years.

A Public Art Reserve will receive cash contributions from public and private donors, and operate in accordance with Barrie's financial policies. The Public Art Reserve is used to fund and maintain projects in accordance with the City of Barrie's Public Art Policy.

All funds to be used for Public Art, regardless of origin, will be held in the Public Art Reserve Fund. This fund is to be used to fund Public Art and Maintenance projects approved by the Barrie Public Art Committee, through its selection, recommendation and with City Council approval, as identified in the Public Art Policy.

Staff will be encouraged to seek contributions from private donations in support of the Public Art Policy. Further, staff will explore opportunities under the Planning Act to support recommendations related to developer contributions for public art.

### Public Art Maintenance Reserve Fund

The City of Barrie is responsible for the maintenance of all public art in the City's collection, whether commissioned or donated. Therefore; any design or donation proposal must include up to 10% of the project budget for future maintenance. The conservation plan will be evaluated by the Barrie Public Art Committee to recommend an appropriate donation value to reflect the future maintenance costs of the donation.

These funds are to be held as a dedicated Public Art Maintenance Reserve Fund within the Public Art

Reserve Fund from which the Economic and Creative Development Department may draw upon annually approved sums for cleaning and restoring the City's public art per an established maintenance schedule.

In the case where unforeseen design flaws result in accelerated and unanticipated degeneration of a work, a Public Art Conservator will be retained to develop a treatment program that will address and remedy the unforeseen damage and draw funds specifically for that program from the Public Art Maintenance Reserve Fund.

During the Artist's lifetime, the Artist will have the right to approve all major repairs and restorations, provided, however, that the Artist can be readily reached and will not unreasonably withhold approval for any repair or restoration of the work. If the Artist unreasonably fails to approve any repair or restoration, the Department of Economic and Creative Development will have the right to supervise significant repairs and restorations, to the extent practical. The Artist, during the Artist's lifetime, will be given the opportunity to make or personally supervise significant repairs and restorations and will be paid a reasonable fee for any such services, provided that the Department of Economic and Creative Development and the Artist will agree in writing, prior to the commencement of any significant repairs or restorations. All repairs and restorations will be made in accordance with recognized principles of conservation.



**CITY OF BARRIE  
COMMUNITY ENGAGED ART POLICY**

**2021**



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## **INTRODUCTION: THE IMPORTANCE OF COMMUNITY ENGAGED ART**

### **COMMUNITY ENGAGED ART:**

Community-engaged art practices are forms of collective artistic expression. In this field, individuals who are not professional artists actively participate in the artistic process, and the artistic process is considered as important as the final artistic product. Both the social and artistic outcomes of community engaged art have value.

Over the past 40 years, the field of community engaged art in Canada has been shaped by a number of intertwined impulses and political commitments. Historically marginalized artists, including those who identify as Indigenous, feminist, queer, Marxist, black, artists of colour, artists with disabilities and artists who are homeless, have created new spaces for their own voices, concerns, aesthetics and audiences, often ones that value community engagement and mentorship. At the same time, educators, activists and artists committed to social justice and the principles associated with popular education have integrated the arts into their efforts to engage, educate and challenge mainstream perspectives. And community organizers and organizations have increasingly understood the arts as powerful vehicles for expression, dialogue and relationship building. The common thread between all of these movements has been a commitment to “radical inclusion,” rather than exclusionary practices and institutions, and an understanding that art and social life are intertwined. Over the past few decades, governments, funders, cultural institutions and postsecondary institutions have come to recognize community-engaged art as a formidable movement that deserves a respected place within the Canadian arts ecology.<sup>1</sup>

### **GOALS OF THIS POLICY**

One of the aims of the Barrie Public Art Policy is to recognize that Barrie consists of a number of diverse communities and, where appropriate, to identify and involve communities in the creative planning process thereby encouraging civic pride. Through the Community Engaged Art Policy, the Barrie Public Art Committee (BPAC) strives to achieve the goal of enhancing the community’s sense of ownership and value by commissioning works that are site-specific and encouraging awareness of collective heritages, neighbourhood identities and the value of creativity and creative processes in urban living.

### **PROCESS AND PROTOCOL**

#### **INITIATING A COMMUNITY ENGAGED ART PIECE:**

##### **1. COMMUNITY ENGAGED PUBLIC ART PROPOSAL FORM**

Interested stakeholders and other City of Barrie departments are invited to approach our working group with requests to partner for a community engaged art piece should they have bare walls/construction hoarding/other opportunities to engage an artist. The working group will provide the project lead with a Community Engaged Art Project Proposal Form (Appendix ‘A’) to be completed and submitted to the Barrie Public Art Committee and relevant City departments for recommendations, guidance and approval. The form addresses the items below and will help to form the scope of the proposed project.

Parties interested in working on a community engaged art project with the committee must provide a budget in accordance with CARFAC a minimum of 6 weeks before any work can be done on the site itself. In these 6 weeks (or longer as needed) the working group will:

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<sup>1</sup> “FRAMING COMMUNITY: A Community Engaged Art Workbook,” *Ontario Arts Council*. Pgs. 5-7. 2016. <<http://www.arts.on.ca/oac/media/oac/Publications/Framing-Community-A-Community-Engaged-Art-Workbook.pdf>> October, 2019.

## **2. IDENTIFY THE SITE:**

A site visit must be done by the subcommittee and owners of the space. The site must be photographed and documented, measurements taken, etc. by the working group. If the proposed site is on City property, staff from relevant City departments will need to be engaged and sign off on the proposed site and project scope before any other work can proceed. Approval by Barrie City Council may be required depending on the location, scope or other elements of the proposed project. Staff can provide guidance in this regard if necessary.

## **3. IDENTIFY THE OBJECTIVE:**

What is the purpose of the project? If there is a desired theme for the piece, stakeholders/property owners must outline their intention to take into consideration in the preliminary planning process.

## **4. COMMUNITY ENGAGED ART PROJECT WORKING GROUP:**

This project-specific working group must consist of a staff member, multiple BPAC members, a member from the interested party, and/or community members depending on the place and desired theme of the piece (i.e., if the piece has an Indigenous focus, members of the local Indigenous communities should be engaged, if the piece is focused around a neighbourhood like Letitia Heights, active and involved community members from the area should be included).

### **The working group will:**

- a) Confirm scope, budget and materials for project (budget must be in accordance with CARFAC fees to ensure the artist is paid fairly. This includes compensation for preliminary work as well)
- b) Ensure funding is in place and determine a pay schedule
- c) Create a timeline
- d) Assess conservation needs and maintenance requirements
- e) Ensure compliance to City By-laws and regulations (the integrity of historical buildings or buildings with architectural importance should not be altered in any way)
- f) Seek approvals from other City departments, (ie. Parks, Facilities, Recreation & Culture Services, Environmental, By-Law), government agencies, or in some cases, City Council

## **5. ARTIST SELECTION:**

The Barrie Public Art Policy states in section 2.1.1 that artists can be selected through:

- a) **Open Competition:** A competition that is broadly advertized—provincially, nationally and internationally—and open to any artist interested in submitting materials for consideration according to the guidelines established in the “call to artists”. This is the process most favoured by the City of Barrie and adhered to whenever the project budget and timeframe allowed.
- b) **Invited/Limited Competition:** In a limited competition, a select number of artists are recommended by a selection panel, programme staff or public art consultant and invited to submit materials for consideration. Limited competitions may be staged when a project requires a specific art form, or there are pressing time restrictions on its completion.
- c) **Direct Selection:** The commission of a work by an artist or the purchase of an existing work of art, as recommended as a curatorial choice by a selection panel. A direct selection may be warranted when there is a single clear choice or a sole

source in terms of the artistic solution for a project. A direct selection may also be appropriate where there is a time constraint or an extremely limited project budget.<sup>2</sup>

Depending on the scope of the project, budget, and timeline, one of these options will be selected by the committee. Because of the small-scale, temporary nature of these projects, emerging artists should be engaged, either in a mentorship capacity, individually, or with the help of a team. The working group is welcome to select from a list of young/emerging artists pre-approved by BPAC.

Once funding is confirmed and approvals are in place, an artist can be selected, if one is not already tied to the project. Artwork designs may be submitted as part of the artist selection process or following the artist's selection. The working group will approve the artwork design based on the project scope accordingly.

## **6. AGREEMENTS:**

Once the artist is selected, the working group will:

- a) Write and sign a contract with the property owner and artist
- b) Determine who must provide liability insurance and secure copies as needed
- c) Purchase materials and arrange for equipment hire

Upon signing of the agreement and confirmation of insurance, work may begin.

## **APPENDIX 'A'**

### **Community-Engaged Art Project Proposal Form**

Interested parties are required to fill out this form to provide the Community Engaged Art Working Group/Barrie Public Art Committee with the necessary information to evaluate your project and discuss next steps.

1. Name / Organization:
2. Project Name (If Applicable):
3. Project Description / Intention:
4. Project Location (attach images/map):
5. Do you know what type of materials are or may be required for your project? (ie. Paint, primer, wood, metal, stone, etc)
6. Project Theme / Message:
7. How will your proposed project engage a particular community and/or help to enhance the City of Barrie?
8. Who will execute this project / what groups are partnering with you to make this project happen?
9. What is the budget for the project? Include as much detail as possible regarding the budget breakdown.

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<sup>2</sup> "City of Barrie Public Art Policy," *City of Barrie*. Pg. 8. 2012.

<<https://www.barrie.ca/Culture/Documents/City%20of%20Barrie%20Public%20Art%20Policy.pdf>>  
October, 2019.

10. Do you have funds secured for this project?

11. Do you have a timeline or deadline for this project? Please provide information about your preferred/required project timeline and/or end date.

12. Have you already engaged an artist/artists for this project?

13. What outcome do you want for this project?

14. Do you have any previous experience in community engaged art that is relevant to this project? Provide details if applicable

## Appendix ii – Public Art Donation Process Information

### Phase one:

The following information is needed to determine if a City of Barrie location would be suitable for the proposed art donation.

What are the dimensions of the proposed sculpture?

height  
width and depth  
area of base  
weight

What is the material of the sculpture? Is it resistant to outdoor urban Canadian conditions (acid rain, smog, snow, frost, salt, etc.)? This will be followed up with more specific questions regarding the surface texture of the sculpture.

How was this piece fabricated and where? Was there a foundry or fabricator associated with the piece? Please provide details.

What kind of foundation does the sculpture require (both above and beneath the surface of the ground)? Please provide foundation and installation drawings for review.

How will the sculpture be affixed to the foundation?

What is the proposed site for the sculpture?

What is the projected budget for the installation of the artwork?

cost of shipping and/or storage  
cost of site preparation  
cost of installation

Are you willing to provide up to 10 % of the value of the artwork to support the ongoing maintenance of the project?

Please provide photograph(s) and technical drawings of the work as well as photographs of other works by the artist and the artist's resume.

### **Appendix iii - Material Selection Guidelines for Outdoor Artworks**

Artwork being considered for the City of Barrie's Outdoor Art and Monument Program will be assessed from a maintenance and conservation perspective to determine the piece's durability outdoors and potential maintenance costs to the City.

The City of Barrie will endeavour to keep its commissioning processes relevant to contemporary art practices by considering new materials or media after thorough research.

The materials selected can make a significant difference regarding the lifespan of an artwork in the outdoor environment. Material selection alone, however, is not the only determining factor; quality of workmanship, fabrication and finishing methods, design details and siting all play a significant role in an artwork's durability.

**Appendix iv: Technical and Conservation Manual Information**

Artwork Title:
Artist's Name:
Address:
Telephone Number: Home    Cell:
E-mail:
Location of Artwork:
Installation Date:
Primary Materials:

To be able to maintain this artwork in the future, it is necessary that the City of Barrie have detailed information on all materials, methods, fabricators and suppliers used in its production. Please provide, upon completion of the project, the following information in the form of a Technical and Conservation Manual.

List in order of prominence all materials used in the artwork and outline methods and materials used to achieve the finished product. Use the sheets provided and photocopy as needed. Use one sheet for each material.

Primary materials to be described:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

Additional information to be included:

All product information supplied by manufacturer and fabricators, including maintenance recommendations.

Drawings and/or photographs illustrating the fabrication and installation process.  
All engineer-approved drawings, where applicable.



Information on Materials used in Artwork (one sheet for each primary material)

Artwork Title:
Primary Material:
Application:
Fabricator: Telephone Number:
Address:
Supplier: (list product names and sources of materials)
Found materials and source/location:
Fabrication methods: (list all techniques and methods used)
Surface applications: (mechanical, chemical, coatings)
Pigments and paint samples: (list all pigments used and proportions; list colour codes available on commercial products; provide paint/colour samples where applicable)

Provide details on any other materials used in association with this material: (e.g. screws, caulking, compound, mortar, etc.)


How do you recommend maintaining this material?


Over time, what is unacceptable to you, in terms of the appearance of this material?


Is there anything else the City of Barrie needs to know to ensure that this piece is properly conserved?


Completed by:  
Date: