



TOWN OF HIGH RIVER POLICY

Policy Number:	POL-06-101-00
Policy Name:	Public Art Policy
Related Procedure Number:	PRO-06-101-00
Related Procedure Name:	Public Art Procedure
Approval Date:	August 20, 2012
Revision Date:	
Policy Category:	Community Services
Responsible Department:	Engineering, Planning and Operations

Policy Statement:

The Town of High River believes that Public Art is an essential ingredient for a healthy and vibrant community. It creates a sense of place and identity for residents and visitors. Public Art offers opportunity for community participation and exchange of ideas through involvement in a public process that promotes pride and sense of ownership. Through public art, artists are involved in community building, tourism and economic development. Public Art Policy is a means to enhance Town support for arts and cultural development.

Reason for Policy:

The purpose of this Policy is to:

1. Establish a funding mechanism for the on-going maintenance of existing public art in High River for the purpose of building an inventory that the Town of High River residents can be proud of
2. Provide a framework for the acquisition and integration of artwork into public spaces through a well-administered public art procedure
3. Promote and facilitate the incorporation of art into existing public spaces and within appropriate new developments and capital improvement projects by establishing requirements for public art, drawing on artistic expertise and community involvement

Definitions:

Public Art: Public art refers to visual works in any medium, whether fixed or freestanding, permanent or temporary, within external or internal settings intended for free public access.

Examples of such pieces of art may include the following, but not limited to: Sculpture, statues, murals, cultural or historical artifacts (excluding collections from museums or libraries), tableaux of an illustrative nature that interprets the historical significance of a site and architectural embellishments, street inlays or landscaping features with artistic intent.

Public Art Inventory: Refers to a comprehensive database describing art which is in public view and has been commissioned by various agencies, public and/or private, or is on loan to the Town from another collection.

The inventory of existing public art will detail the following: artist, title, location, material, installation date and current custodian. The inventory will be updated with information about new commissions and changes in locations of existing works with the approval of Council. Additions to the inventory made after the adoption of this policy will include additional information like projected 5 year maintenance plan and an independent appraised value.

Public Art Reserve Fund: A fund that is specifically reserved for the maintenance of public art identified in the Public Art Inventory. Money collected in this fund cannot be used to acquire new public art for the Town of High River, until an Arts and Culture Master Plan has been adopted by Council that establishes a new funding strategy for acquiring new works of public art.

Arts and Culture Master Plan: A document that outlines a vision for the Arts and Culture sector in High River. In relation to this policy, the Arts and Culture Plan will determine suitable public sites for public art placements and recommended funding mechanisms for new public art works projects to be created with new public buildings and capital improvement projects.

Town Staff: Town staff hired specifically to work on the Arts and Culture portfolio for the Town of High River. Such staff member(s) will also be the administrative liaison and a non-voting member of the Arts and Culture Board.

Arts and Culture Board: A committee of Council created for the purpose of advising Council on all matters related to Arts and Culture in the Town of High River.

Public Art Selection Committee: An ad-hoc committee created for the purpose of short-listing and or/ the final selection of a piece of new public art work.

De-accessioning Public Art:

De-accessioning is the process of permanently removing, relocating to another jurisdiction, or destroying public artwork from the Public Art Inventory.

Policy Goals:

- Ensure that the process of acquiring and commissioning works of public art is fair and equitable
- Ensure that the process is integrated into the design, planning, engineering and development process within new developments and capital improvement projects
- Encourage collaboration between public agencies, private sectors and NGOs
- Provide resources for the implementation, maintenance and creation of an inventory of public art

Guiding Principles:

- Public art projects shall be chosen in a fair and equitable manner involving community input, where appropriate
- Support homegrown/local talent, skills and services
- Diversity in artist selection, site selection, media, scale, and style of artwork through experimentation with new art forms as well as traditional forms
- Be integral to the municipal planning, engineering and development process
- Provide for the conservation and ongoing maintenance of permanent pieces of public art
- Embrace good design principles (i.e. engineering, structural, aesthetic, and safety) and comply with Town Bylaws

End of Policy

Approval

This policy shall come into force and effect upon adoption by Council at a Regular or Special Meeting.

August 20, 2012 Meeting of Council
Resolution #413/2012

MAYOR/DEPUTY MAYOR

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER/
DIRECTOR OF LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

DATE