

## Background and Previous Council Direction

Per Notice of Motion C2019-1263 (Independence and Governance in Delivering the City of Calgary Public Art Program), Administration retained third-party consultant ART + PUBLIC UnLtd to evaluate The City's Public Art Program and provide recommendations for future operations. On 2019 November 18, Council approved the Consultant's recommendations to move to an independent, arms-length model and directed Administration to proceed with a competitive selection process to secure a Program Operator.

### Context

Administration reviewed previous research, including best practices for successful Public Art arms-length operations, and conducted an internal continuity needs assessment of the current program. Previous stakeholder engagement also contributed to building the foundational elements as part of the search for a suitable operator.

### Previous Council Direction

On 2020 April 6, Council adopted the summary of elements that will be used to develop the Request For Proposal as presented in Attachment 1 CPS2020-0335.

On 2019 March 18, Council approved Amendments to the following Administration Recommendations That with respect to Report CPS2019-0014, the following be adopted:  
That Council:

1. Direct Administration to complete the transfer of previously-approved budgets to a Corporate Public Art program: capital activity 446510; and
2. Direct Administration to report back to Council through the SPC on Community and Protective Services no later than Q1 2020 on a public art workplan and strategy for 2020 – 2022, and review the suspension of the Public Art Policy at that time

On 2017 September 13, Council approved NM2017-32, Amendments to the Corporate Public Art Policy, directing Administration to report back with a progress update in Q1 2018 and again in Q2, 2018 with recommendations on a new process including the following:

- a) Best practices around fully engaging the public with the public policies, practices and The Public Art Policy Management Framework.
- b) Mechanisms for the prioritization and allocation of tax dollars for art funding during economic downturns and Council engagement.
- c) How to accommodate concept submissions from artists that foster and enhance local, regional, national, and culturally appropriate artists.
- d) How Council can be briefed on short-listed submissions by the Public Art Board, and how, in turn, the public can be engaged for their feedback.
- e) Who will make the selection of a successful candidate and how it will be communicated back to the public and to Council.
- f) When and how the suspension of the Corporate Public Art Policy should be lifted.
- g) Report back on the outcomes/progress of the 2014 Notice of Motion.

Council also directed Administration to suspend all new public art projects scheduled for RFP until Q2, 2018. At the same time, Council recognized that there were many art projects that had been tendered and contracted in accordance with current Council approved policy and process, and would, therefore, continue to completion.

On 2013 December 16, Council approved NM2013-34, directing administration to undertake a review of the Public Art Policy, including:

- developing options for a sliding scale of percentage funding based on the amount of capital budget for projects, including consideration of placing a maximum dollar amount for any capital project;
- developing options for greater public participation including but not limited to changing the composition of project selection juries, the method of selection of the project jury, as well as increasing opportunities for input by the general public into the selection process for the public art;
- developing a strategy to help build local capacity of artists to compete for public art projects locally, nationally and internationally;
- amending the policy for greater flexibility in the use of a portion of public art funding for the restoration and/or enhancement of on-site heritage assets;
- amending the policy for greater flexibility in incorporating public art as functional components of the infrastructure; and
- developing a strategy for pooling of funds in locations with a high public benefit or for long-term creation of large iconic or monumental pieces of public art at key locations within the city.

Additional Council direction on this Notice of Motion included:

- reiterate that all City business units must comply with the policy in the development of capital projects;
- The City of Calgary lobby the provincial government that any new capital funding programs for municipalities allow for greater flexibility, as per the Policy, to pool funds for greater public benefit; and
- Administration consults with members of Council and brings a report to Council no later than 2014 May.

As a result of the investigation and analysis into the six areas, five amendments were made to the Corporate Public Art Policy, as follows:

1. Changing the public art allocation to a sliding scale with a cap instead of a consistent 1% across all capital projects.
2. Simplifying the eligibility requirements for capital projects to include public art.
3. Amending the description of public art to clarify that it can be functional.
4. Adding that the Policy allows for the use of a portion of the public art allocation for specific projects to be used to restore on-site heritage assets as determined on a case by- case basis.
5. Adding that private sector donations toward public art will be accepted.

In addition, Administration undertook a number of changes and additions to the public art process that were identified as opportunities for improvement that surfaced during the review and did not require Policy amendments. These were captured in a Public Art Policy Management Framework that serves as an operational guide for all City staff.