

## **Acceptance of Artwork Donation from Charles Pachter**

<b>Date:</b>	February 27, 2013
<b>To:</b>	Economic Development Committee
<b>From:</b>	General Manager, Economic Development and Culture
<b>Wards:</b>	All
<b>Reference Number:</b>	

### **SUMMARY**

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This report recommends that Council approve the acceptance of a major artwork donation from Canadian artist Charles Pachter. The proposed donation comprises 11 paintings from Pachter's "1812: The Art of War" series. If accepted, the paintings will be exhibited in the new Fort York Visitor Centre.

Council approval is required because the proposed donation is likely in excess of the General Manager of Economic Development and Culture's delegated approval authority for cultural transactions of up to a value of \$100,000.00.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

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The General Manager of Economic Development and Culture recommends that:

1. City Council approve the acceptance of a donation of 11 paintings from Charles Pachter for inclusion in the City of Toronto's Historical Collection, and convey its thanks to Mr. Pachter for his generous donation.
2. City Council delegate signing authority to the General Manager of Economic Development and Culture for the deed of gift and Canadian Cultural Property application relating to this donation.

## **Financial Impact**

There is no financial impact resulting from the adoption of this report.

The Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer has reviewed this report and agrees with the financial impact information.

## **DECISION HISTORY**

On May 11, 2011, Council amended the conditions under which City Council approval is required for cultural matters otherwise delegated to the General Manager of Economic Development and Culture, or his designate. The General Manager was given the authority to sign matters in which the net value of the contract or object does not exceed \$100,000.00 <http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2011.ED3.1>

## **ISSUE BACKGROUND**

Artist Charles Pachter approached Museum Services staff with an offer to donate 11 paintings from his series "1812: The Art of War."

Staff are of the opinion that the total value of the proposed donation is in excess of \$100,000.00, thus requiring Council approval. Should Council approve the donation, staff will commission independent appraisals of the artwork and apply to the Canadian Cultural Property Review Board to have the paintings certified as cultural property of national significance for income tax purposes.

## **COMMENTS**

The 11 paintings in the "1812: The Art of War" series provide an important contemporary perspective on the War of 1812 by a renowned Canadian artist. One of the paintings has been featured in advertising materials related to the City of Toronto's bicentennial commemoration of the War of 1812.

Charles Pachter is a painter, printmaker, sculptor, designer, historian, and lecturer. He studied French literature at the Sorbonne, art history at the University of Toronto, and painting and graphics at the Cranbrook Academy of Art in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan.

His work has been shown at the Art Gallery of Ontario, the Royal Ontario Museum and the McMichael Canadiana Gallery. His paintings hang in the Toronto Stock Exchange, in the Canadian Embassy in Washington and in the Parliament Buildings in Ottawa. His mural, *Hockey Knights in Canada, Les Rois de l'Arène*, can be seen at track level in Toronto's College subway station.

Mr. Pachter holds honorary doctorates from Brock University, the Ontario College of Art & Design and the University of Toronto. He was named a Member of the Order of Canada in 1999 and was promoted to Officer in 2011.

## **CONTACT**

Terry Nicholson  
Acting Director, Cultural Services  
Economic Development and Culture  
Tel: (416) 392-4166  
Fax: (416) 392-5600  
[tnichols@toronto.ca](mailto:tnichols@toronto.ca)

## **SIGNATURE**

Michael H. Williams, General Manager  
Economic Development and Culture