

Public Art and Monuments Donation Policy

Date: June 19, 2017
To: The Board of Governors of Exhibition Place
From: Dianne Young, Chief Executive Officer
Wards: All Wards

SUMMARY

This report provides information on the *Public Art and Monuments Donation Policy* which was adopted by City Council on January 31, 2017 and which applies to property owned or managed by the City or its Agencies, including Exhibition Place. The *Public Art and Monuments Donation Policy* will help to ensure all works donated to the City of Toronto and its Agencies demonstrate a clear relationship to the City and reflect the diversity of its local public spaces.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Chief Executive Officer recommends that:

1. The Board direct the Chief Executive Officer to work with the City of Toronto to implement the Public Art and Monuments Donation Policy within the guidelines and report further with any recommended modifications to reflect the unique nature of the Exhibition Place grounds.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There are no negative financial implications of this report.

DECISION HISTORY

The Exhibition Place 2017 – 2019 Strategic Plan has a Recognition and Public Understanding Goal to reaffirm and enhance the profile of the Exhibition Place cultural mandate and as a Strategy to enhance our archeological understanding of the site through assessment and development of heritage plans.

At its meeting of February 4, 5 and 6, 2003, City Council adopted *Harmonized Policies and Procedures for Memorials* on City Property which sets out a policy framework for

permitting memorials on City property, and includes the *Official Gifts and Donations Policy* adopted in 2001.

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/2003/minutes/council/cc030204.pdf>

At its meeting of October 2, 3 and 4, 2001, City Council adopted a policy that outlines the process to be followed when an individual or organization offers to donate to the City of Toronto, an official gift of public art, a commemoration, or the installation of a public tribute or major public recognition.

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/2001/minutes/council/cc011002.pdf>

At its meeting of January 31, 2017, City Council adopted an updated policy for accepting donations of public art and commemorative monuments - *The Public Art and Monuments Donation Policy*.

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2017/ex/bgrd/backgroundfile-99620.pdf>)

COMMENTS

The City of Toronto and its agencies have a long history of working with communities and local organizations to accept donations of public art, including those that memorialize and commemorate individuals or events. Currently, the City has just over 200 pieces in its public art collection, of which approximately 34% can be considered monuments or commemorative pieces.

Exhibition Place also has approximately 100 pieces of public art and in addition, Exhibition Place has approximately 100 commemorative memorials or plaques which not be governed by the new City policy. The oldest piece is the stone memorial at Fort Rouillé placed by the City of Toronto in 1878. Recently, Exhibition Place accepted a proposal by the Ukrainian community for a Holodomor Monument commemorating the 1932-1933 famine. In developing the terms of the agreement for the Holodomor Monument, Exhibition Place worked with City staff and the agreement incorporated all City requirements.

Generally, the new City policy which is attached in full in Appendix "A" includes the following directions / highlights:

- Implementation - Staff aim to have the Public Art and Monuments Donation Policy come into effect in 2017 which timing will allow stakeholders and staff sufficient time to develop online and printed materials to ensure the public is aware of the updated Policy and approval requirements and to develop the forms, procedures and other technical documents required to streamline the effective administration of the Policy.
- Background - Currently, proponents wishing to donate a work of public art or monument on City lands provide a written submission, including a detailed description of the gift and the relevance of the subject matter to the City. The submission is reviewed against policy criteria by a staff committee and if approved, a report is presented for consideration to Community Council or the appropriate Committee of City Council. For the Holodomor Monument, a written submission was

sent to Exhibition Place and then jointly with City staff the submission was reviewed and a report and recommendation was presented for approval to the Board and City Council.

The new *Public Art and Monuments Donation Policy* will establish a two-phase submission process as well as criteria to evaluate thematic relevance, technical and aesthetic aspects, location selection and the means for public consultation and approval. Proposals that are approved by the internal review panel and have met all relevant criteria will be submitted through report to the applicable Agency Board or Committee Proposals. The details of this new review format are being developed as part of the Guidelines and Exhibition Place staff will be included in this development.

- Funding - All costs associated with a donation proposed under the public *Art and Monuments Donation Policy* shall be the sole responsibility of the applicant. To account for projected maintenance costs, the applicant must also submit a maintenance plan and provide a minimum of 10% of the overall project costs to the City's Public Art Reserve Fund, managed by Economic Development & Culture.

CONTACT

Hardat Persaud, Chief Financial Officer & Corporate Secretary, 416-263-3031,
hpersaud@explace.on.ca

SIGNATURE

Dianne Young
Chief Executive Officer

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment "A" - Public Art and Monuments Donation Policy