



Joe Cressy 周凱捷

City Councillor | Ward 20, Trinity-Spadina

February 12th, 2018

Chair and Members
Economic Development Committee
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Re: Report on Redefining Public Art in Toronto

Dear Chair and Committee Members,

Investing in arts and culture builds a stronger economy and a more liveable city. Public art is a vital element of this, as it increases access to the arts, and enlivens our public spaces.

OCAD University and the University of Toronto have collaborated on an in-depth report entitled *Redefining Public Art in Toronto*, which examines ways to make Toronto a world leader in public art projects. Researchers examined Toronto's history of public art projects dating from 1967 to 2015, and made a number of recommendations including updating the City's public art policy, improving funding mechanisms, and opening up the definition of "public art" to include digital and performance art, while integrating public art into all future planning.

Therefore, it is recommended that the Economic Development Committee:

1) Request the General Manager, Economic Development and Culture, in consultation with the Acting Executive Director and Chief Planner, City Planning, conduct a review of the independent report entitled "Redefining Public Art in Toronto" prepared by OCAD University and the University of Toronto, in consultation with stakeholders including the report's lead authors and comment on the feasibility of recommendations identified in the report, and report back on any recommendations and steps required to enhance the City of Toronto's commitment to public art.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joe Cressy". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline.

Joe Cressy
City Councillor
Ward 20, Trinity-Spadina