



Art & Water Cultural Group
600 Fleet Street, Unit 703
Toronto, ON
M5V 1B7

July 12, 2022 – DRAFT FOR SIGNATORY REVIEW – V2

Dear Mayor Tory and Members of the Executive Committee,
RE: EX34.4 Priority Downtown Parks and Public Realm Opportunities

[Art & Water](#), a registered charity, multi-disciplinary arts & cultural organization and marine passenger vessel operator presenting [Pirate Life Children's Theatre](#), [Dockside Concerts](#), [Muskoka Chair Murals](#) and a Water Taxi Service is in support of the proposed Bathurst Quay signature waterfront park.

We see the proposed park plan as a beautification of a neglected space, an important provision of public access to the waterfront, and an opportunity for our organization, the City's only Not For Profit/Charitable Tenant of the Portland slip to continue to improve our services to the community and increasing the impact of our activities on the city and its visitors.

Art & Water presents over 100 free, public stumble upon dockside events as a part of our [100 Days Summer Festival](#), 400 children's theatre presentations through our production of Pirate Life Theatre, 40 Muskoka Chair Murals that are renewed every year.

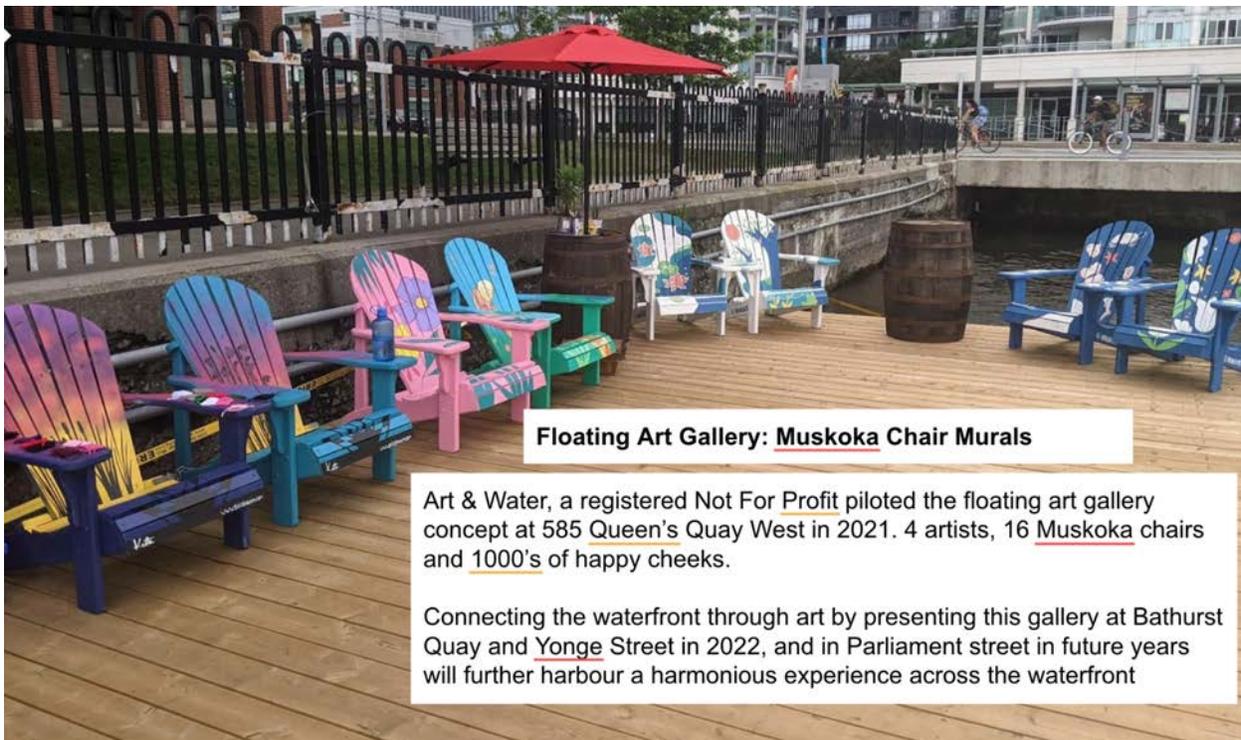
Our organization has grown during 2020-2021 with an enhanced vision to bring Art & Water together, connecting people, places and performance on the waterfront, where residents, visitors and all walks of life can stumble upon public performance, support local artists and experience art & culture in the public realm, inspiring them to pursue art & culture in more traditional venues.

As Toronto continues to grow, it's important to continue to provide space for not for profit, charitable organizations in an already gentrifying downtown core, where costs of "commercial" space continue to rise and retail fronts are filled with big box brand names/chains instead of local flavours and small businesses. Toronto's waterfront remains one of those places where organizations like ours can see the light - we hope to develop in partnership with the city a project we call "Afloat", supported by the Toronto Main Street Revitalization Grant, Afloat will create an "STACKT market concept" on the water. Providing multi use space for community organizations and small businesses to thrive, while simultaneously creating new destination on the waterfront, we see this "AFLOAT" concept as the perfect pairing for Portland + Parliament Slips. We look forward to growing and working with the City of Toronto regarding this project.



**Outdoor, safe, free public performances,
Stumble upon the arts & reconnect**

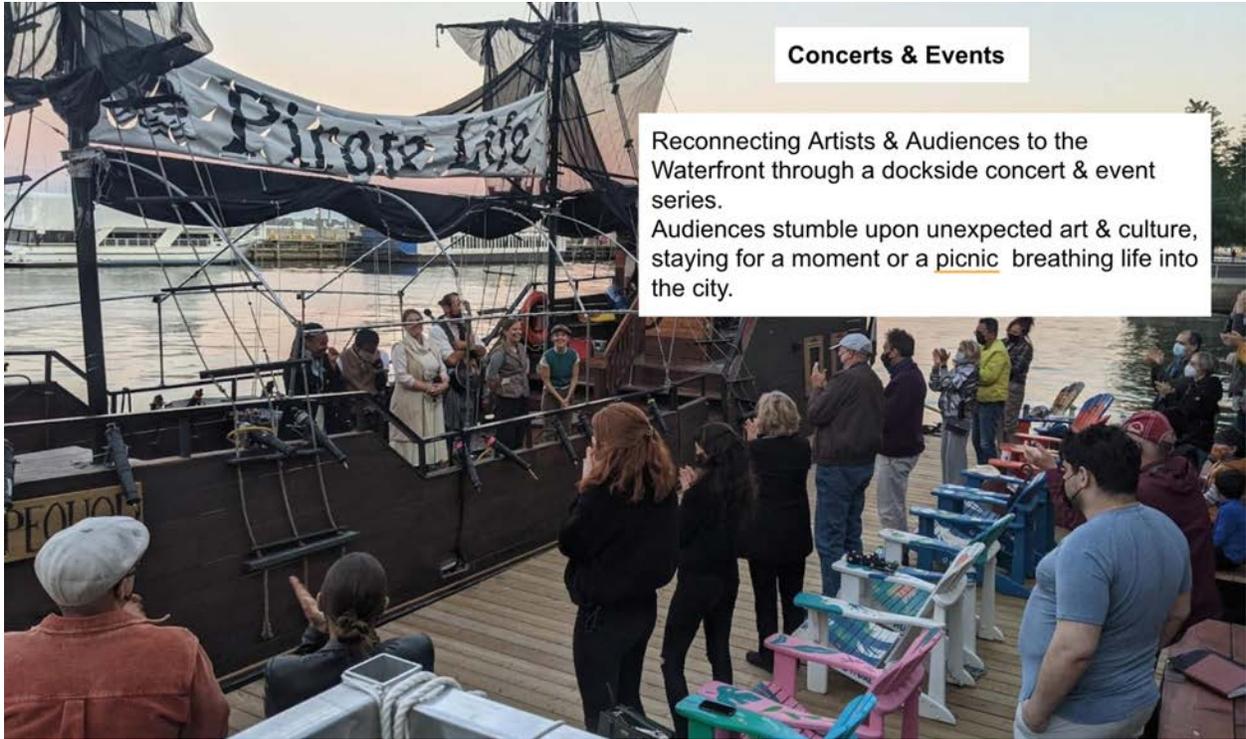
2022 100 Days of Summer
100+ events, 2 waterfront Locations
Portland Slip + Yonge Slip
50+ artists,
1000's of audience participants



Floating Art Gallery: Muskoka Chair Murals

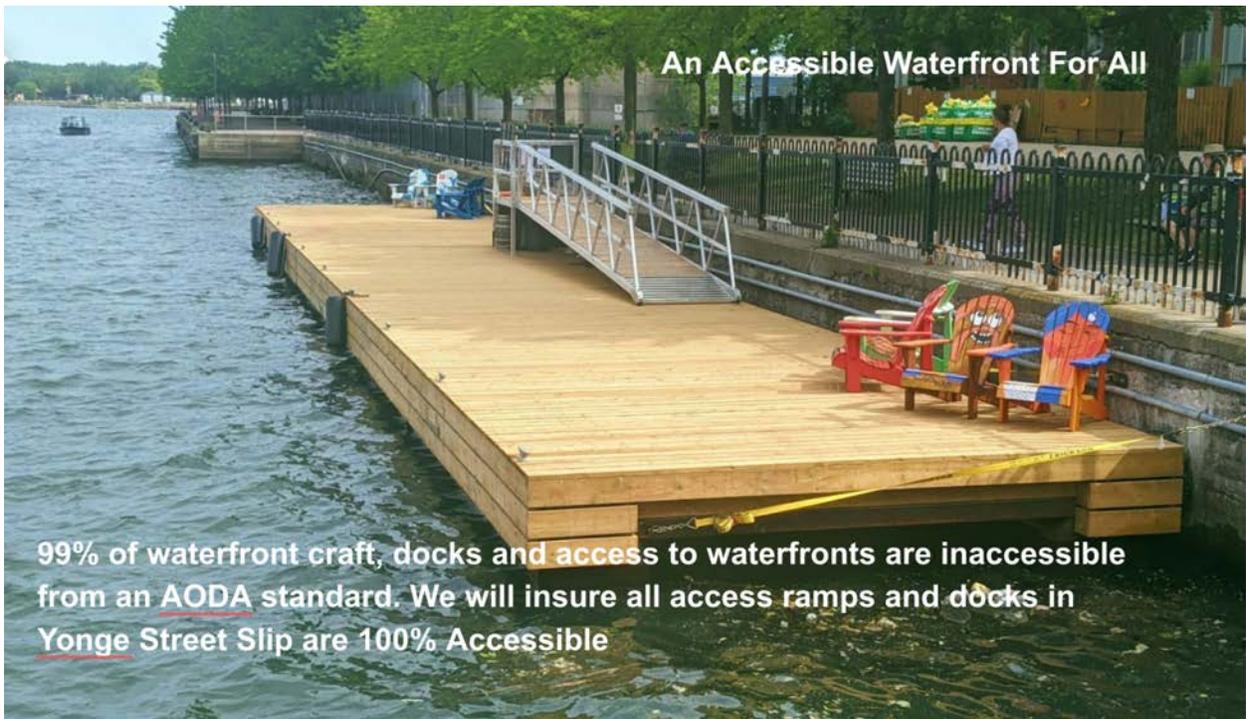
Art & Water, a registered Not For Profit piloted the floating art gallery concept at 585 Queen's Quay West in 2021. 4 artists, 16 Muskoka chairs and 1000's of happy cheeks.

Connecting the waterfront through art by presenting this gallery at Bathurst Quay and Yonge Street in 2022, and in Parliament street in future years will further harbour a harmonious experience across the waterfront



Concerts & Events

Reconnecting Artists & Audiences to the Waterfront through a dockside concert & event series. Audiences stumble upon unexpected art & culture, staying for a moment or a picnic breathing life into the city.



An Accessible Waterfront For All

99% of waterfront craft, docks and access to waterfronts are inaccessible from an AODA standard. We will insure all access ramps and docks in Yonge Street Slip are 100% Accessible

