

PUBLIC ART WOOD BUFFALO WORKPLAN 2022

Introduction

All recommendations presented in this Workplan are supported by the Wood Buffalo Public Art Plan 2021-2030, adopted by Council in May 2021 which provides a framework for delivering a robust region-wide public art program. The Public Art Committee, a Council appointed advisory committee, regulated by the Committees Bylaw No.17/024, endorsed this Work Plan at their June 20, 2022 meeting.

In alignment with Wood Buffalo Public Art Plan, projects are combined into five key program areas:

Acquisitions - Public art acquired through purchase, donation, or commission to be included in the Public Art Collection.

Artist and Community - Public art co-creating by artists and community.

Temporary Art - Public art for a specific event or place for a limited time.

Public Site - Permanent public art in the public realm.

Private Site - Public art on private sector development sites

This workplan outlines a summary of public art projects initiated in 2021 and projects to be initiated in 2022. Funding for each program area is derived from the public art reserve as per the Municipal Art Policy (PRL-160).

2021 Project Overview

Last year (2021) was a busy year with the adoption of the Public Art Plan and the mid-year workplan providing new program areas and direction. Due to the timing of funding allocation and the implementation of new direction and programs, some public art projects from the 2021 workplan will be finalized in 2022. The allocation was \$520,000.00.

Project	Description	Timeline
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ACQUISITIONS PROGRAM

Jubilee Main Floor	Site specific artworks of regional relevance for Jubilee building lobby.	In development
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ARTIST AND COMMUNITY

Artist and Community	New funding program area to be developed and piloted in 2023.	
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TEMPORARY ART

Street Banner Program	Annual street banner art call	Complete
igNIGHT 2021	Biennial exhibition - temporary light-based public art exhibition	Complete

PUBLIC SITES

Council Chamber Artwork	Reconciliation Artwork	Complete
Birchwood Trail Artwork	Acquisition of Artwork for Birchwood Trailhead/Doug Barnes Cabin	Complete
Kiyām Community Park	Art Bench pilot, Pop-Up Photography mural and temporary art enhancements	Q3 - 2022
Waterfront/ Downtown Redevelopment	Indigenous Curator & project development	On-going

2022 Public Art Workplan

The development of the 2022 annual workplan was coordinated by the Community and Protective Services Department, guided by an Interdepartmental Public Art Working Group, and supported by the Public Art Committee.

ACQUISITION PROGRAM

The Public Art Program will acquire works of art that enrich communities, support local artists, and form a visual art history of the region for the use and enjoyment of the Wood Buffalo residents. The focus of this year is to develop the Collection Management process; document the current collection and develop a maintenance and long-term conservation plan for the collection.

ARTIST AND COMMUNITY PROGRAM

The Artist and Community Program will be developed in 2022 with the goal to launch in 2023. This program is to provide support through a small-scale open art call to support local artists and community to co-create projects with shared goals, themes, or ideas. These projects could include but are not limited to local identity, community, social justice, cultural expression, or the environment. Program development will include a series of workshops, that will support artists and community through the application process, increase understanding in developing meaningful public art, increase the profile of local artists, and increase the understanding of art and the artist process.

TEMPORARY PUBLIC ART PROGRAM

Temporary works are public art completed by an artist created for a specific event or place for a specific occasion and timeframe. These works are not considered part of the public art collection. These initiatives include the annual street banner program, graphic wrap program, murals, and public art exhibitions like igNIGHT.

This year, Public Art Wood Buffalo seeks to build capacity of local mural artists in a mentorship development program. The program will also reinvest into the local arts community by leasing artworks for the gallery wall and display case on the main floor of Jubilee building.

PUBLIC SITES PROGRAM

The public sites program supports the creation of permanent public art in public spaces in new and renewed facilities, parks, developments, and infrastructure. Projects can take many forms including discrete sculptural objects, functional elements, the design of a specific element of a building or public space, the design of entire elements of public infrastructure and others. Contemporary approaches that are being used more increasingly are including artist-on-design teams, public art residencies, and curator-driven projects.

Waterfront and Downtown redevelopment are two projects that are under development. The Public Art Wood Buffalo program will explore opportunities to further develop a framework to link these projects together and explore opportunities to amplify the Indigenous narrative.

The Public Art Bench Program will expand the Art Bench program to add another 2 sets of benches to be feature and connect rural and Fort McMurray communities.

Indigenous Curator

The Public Art Plan recommended contracting a local Indigenous Curator to advance Indigenous public art and establish practices that better align with Indigenous processes. They will focus on creating public art opportunities along the waterfront that share the Indigenous narrative and build connection to this land. The Curator will explore the decolonization of typical public art procurement processes and offer approaches that are in harmony with Indigenous practice.

The Curator will build a series of cohesive Indigenous public art opportunities along the waterfront and support other planning initiatives.

2022 Project Overview

The 2022 Public Art Program is proposing to move \$533,000.00 from the existing Public Art Reserve to be used for the 2022 Public Art Workplan.

Program Area	Budget from Reserve
Acquisition Program	\$10,000.00
Artist and Community Program	\$70,000.00
Temporary Art Program	\$82,000.00
Public Sites Program	\$371,000.00
Total 2022 Public Art Reserve Transfer:	\$533,000.00