

DECISION/DIRECTION NOTE

Title: Art Procurement 2020

Date Prepared: November 19, 2019

Report To: Committee of the Whole

Councillor and Role: Councillor Debbie Hanlon, Tourism, Culture & Immigration

Ward: N/A

Decision/Direction Required: Approval of the 2020 Art Procurement jury's recommendation to Council regarding purchase of artwork submitted to the 2020 Art Procurement program.

Discussion – Background and Current Status: Following a four-year suspension of the City's Art Procurement program (from 2016-2019 inclusive), the program was reinstated during the budget process for 2020. The Art Procurement program considers submissions by individual artists and commercial art galleries for purchase by the City and subsequent inclusion in the Civic Art Collection. Pieces in the Civic Art Collection are on display throughout City Hall and other City buildings, in offices, boardrooms, public spaces, etc. These artworks are also regularly displayed in Wyatt Hall as a part of seasonal or themed exhibitions intended to share the collection with the general public and encourage engagement with the visual arts.

This year in response to the call for submissions, there were 217 pieces submitted for consideration, from 79 artists. Each artist can submit up to three pieces for consideration.

The jury for the Art Procurement program is comprised of subject matter experts in the area of visual art: practicing artists, art teachers, art writers, curators, and/or other persons knowledgeable in the area of visual art. This year's jury was made up of three such members, and also included non-voting City staff representation (Arts and Cultural Development Coordinator and City Archivist).

The jury met virtually on November 19, 2020 and selected twenty (20) pieces for purchase (please see attached list), totaling \$19,170. The annual budget for Art Procurement is \$20,000.

Upon approval, agreements will be signed between the City and the selected artists and/or the commercial gallery representing them, and the selected artworks will be delivered to the City Archives for cataloguing and inclusion in the Civic Art Collection.

Key Considerations/Implications:

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1. Budget/Financial Implications: The 2020 budget includes \$20,000 for the purchase of artwork through the Art Procurement program. The jury has recommended the purchase of artwork totaling \$19,170.
2. Partners or Other Stakeholders: City staff worked with an external three-member jury to assess and select artworks to be recommended for purchase.
3. Alignment with Strategic Directions/Adopted Plans: Art Procurement addresses the City's strategic plan "Our City, Our Future," specifically "A Connected City:" "Increase and improve opportunities for residents to connect with each other and the City," and "Develop and deliver programs, services and public spaces that build safe, healthy and vibrant communities."

The Art Procurement program also reflects the directions in "Planning for a Creative Future: The City of St. John's Municipal Arts Plan," especially "Strategic Direction A: Financial Support of the Arts: Funding the Future."

4. Legal or Policy Implications: Selected artists and/or the commercial galleries representing them will enter into an agreement with the City indicating both the City's and the Artist's rights to use, copyright, etc.
5. Privacy Implications: N/A
6. Engagement and Communications Considerations: The Call for Submissions was promoted through City channels, and EDCP staff will work with Communications staff to determine the most appropriate means through which an announcement concerning the selected pieces may be shared.
7. Human Resource Implications: N/A
8. Procurement Implications: Once approved, the artworks selected by the Jury will be acquired for inclusion in the Civic Art Collection.
9. Information Technology Implications: N/A
10. Other Implications: N/A

Recommendation:

That Council approve the Art Procurement Jury's recommendation as attached.

Prepared by: Théa Morash, Arts & Cultural Development Coordinator

Approved by:

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	Art Procurement 2020.docx
Attachments:	- 2020 Art Procurement Program - Artworks Recommended for Purchase.pdf
Final Approval Date:	Nov 20, 2020

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Elizabeth Lawrence - Nov 20, 2020 - 4:05 PM

Tanya Haywood - Nov 20, 2020 - 5:36 PM