

# **ATTACHMENT B**

**Excerpt from:**  
**COMMUNITY PLAN FOR PUBLIC ART**  
**Adopted May 2010**

## **TOOLKIT 4 – GUIDELINES TO DE-ACCESSION PUBLIC ART**

### **PUBLIC ART DE-ACCESSIONING GUIDELINES**

De-accessioning is the process of removing existing installations of artwork from the public collection. These guidelines recognize that over time there may be reasons to de-accession artwork.

Reasons for de-accessioning may include, but not be limited to, situations where artwork has been damaged beyond reasonable repair, where artwork is deemed inappropriate, or requires removal because of new developments in the direction of the public art collection. The Cultural Committee shall review any proposed deaccessioning of public art, and shall forward a recommendation to Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission for action.

### **SUMMARY OF DE-ACCESSIONING PROCESS**

- 1) A review for consideration for de-accessioning may be implemented by direction of Council, or by the Parks, Recreation, and Culture Commission as part of the annual art plan.
- 2) The Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission and the Cultural Committee will review the consideration for de-accessioning according to the guidelines. As part of the review process, the Cultural Committee will establish an independent panel, then review and make recommendations on the public art to be de-accessioned.
- 3) The Cultural Committee will forward a recommendation to the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission regarding de-accessioning.
- 4) Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission will forward their recommendation to Council.
- 5) The Council, by majority vote, can order the de-accessioning of the artwork.

### **DE-ACCESSIONING POLICY AND PROCEDURE**

#### **1) Eligible Artworks**

Works eligible for consideration for de-accessioning through this policy include all artwork in the official City of Nanaimo Public Art Collections.

These works include:

- a. Artworks purchased or commissioned through the Public Art Program.
- b. Gifts of artwork accepted by the City of Nanaimo in accordance with the gift acceptance policies of the Public Art Program.
- c. All other artwork previously purchased by the City or received as a gift by the City.

### *De-accessioning Procedure*

- 1) From time to time the Cultural Committee will review the public art collection to determine those public art projects that might warrant de-accessioning.
- 2) The Cultural Committee may consider de-accessioning of artwork for one or more of the following reasons:
  - a. The artwork has been determined to be of inferior quality relative to the quality of other works in the collection.
  - b. The artwork has been determined to be incompatible with the intent of the collection.
  - c. The artwork has been damaged or has deteriorated to the point where restoration is impractical or unfeasible, or the cost of restoration is excessive in relation to the appraised value of the artwork.
  - d. The artwork endangers public safety.
  - e. Significant changes in the use, character or actual design of the site require a re-evaluation of the relationship of the artwork to the site.
  - f. The work is not or is rarely on display.
  - g. The artwork requires excessive maintenance or has faults of design or workmanship, and the City cannot properly maintain the artwork.

### *Sequence of action to De-accession:*

- 1) The Cultural Committee determines that an artwork meets one or more of the criteria established above.
- 2) The Cultural Committee shall inform the artist, if still alive, and the donor, if the artwork was a gift to the City, that the artwork is being reviewed for consideration of de-accessioning.
- 3) The Cultural Committee sets an independent panel review meeting to consider a recommendation to Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission to de-accession a work of art. If the review panel votes to recommend de-accessioning of a work of art, that recommendation will be forwarded to the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission.
- 4) Acting on the independent panel review recommendation, the City Council considers de-accessioning the artwork. If the City Council votes to de-accession a public artwork, the Cultural Committee shall consider the following courses of action, (in order of priority) to deaccession the identified artwork:
  - a. Sale or Trade**
    - i. Regarding either sale or trade of artwork, the City shall offer the right of first refusal to the artist, if still alive, and/or the original donor, if the artwork was a gift to the City.
    - ii. Sale through auction, art gallery, or dealer resale, or direct bidding by individuals, in compliance with City law and policies governing surplus property.
    - iii. Trade through artist, gallery, museum, or other institution for one or more other artwork(s) of comparable value by the same artist.
    - iv. Funds from the sale of public art shall go to the Public Art Fund.
    - v. Donate to another governmental entity.