

City Policy

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Council Report:	
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Next Review: 2025/January/1	2019/October/23
Policy Owner: Manager, Social & Cultural Development	
Title: Civic Art and Cultural Collections Policy	

1.0 Policy Statement

The City of Regina supports cultural heritage, artists and the arts, and reflects the cultural aspirations of Regina's diverse residents, through investment and stewardship of its art and cultural collections.

2.0 Purpose

This policy provides direction and governance for the City's management of its art and cultural collections in support of Regina's Cultural Plan. The objectives of the policy are to:

- Align the City's collection management with leading practice and incorporate sustainable lifecycle maintenance and strategic resourcing
- Provide transparency to artists and other partners and stakeholders about when and how the City considers accessioning of new art, artefacts, and pieces of cultural heritage
- Engage with residents and stakeholders in managing community impacts of the collection, specifically in the creation and installation of new public art, and the consideration of historical legacies as represented by items in the collection
- Ensure a path for reuse of heritage building materials in a manner that recognizes Regina's civic identity and celebration of our shared heritage
- Increase visibility and opportunity for First Nation and Métis culture and history in public art
- Continued and expanded support of local Indigenous artists and truth-telling through art and ways of remembering, as an opportunity to promote dialogue and acknowledgement of shared histories.
- Ensure investments acknowledge the whole story of Regina

This policy applies to the Civic Art Collection, plaques, monuments and heritage building material. It does not apply to private memorials in cemeteries, the *Mayor's Collection* or *City of Regina Archives*.

3.0 Definitions

Accession

The formal process used to accept an artwork into the Civic Art Collection and record an item as a *collection object*.

Acquisition

An asset or object purchased or obtained (ex. through donation) to be added to a collection.

Art

The expression and application of creativity. (e.g. studio arts, film & video, theatre, music, dance and literary arts).

Artist

Any person who creates or gives creative expression to, or re-creates works of art, who considers their artistic creation to be an essential part of their life, who contributes in this way to the development of art and culture and who is or asks to be recognized as an artist, whether or not they are bound by any relations of employment or association.

Artist Intervention

Art designed specifically to interact with an existing structure or situation, be it another artwork, the audience, an institution or in the public domain.

Civic Art Collection

Objects created by artists and acquired by the City of Regina with the specific intention of being sited on or staged in municipally owned public space.

Copyright

In accordance with the Copyright Act, a form of protection to the creators and owners of "original works of authorship," including literary, dramatic, musical, artistic, and certain other intellectual works.

Counter Monument

A sculptural response to an existing *legacy sculpture*, often highlighting missing or misrepresented perspectives and experiences relating to the event, person, or values memorialized in the original piece.

Cultural Property

The physical items that are part of the cultural heritage of a community. They include artefacts, art, archaeological sites, and legacies.

De-accession

The formal process to permanently remove an object from a collection.

Ephemeral Art

A work of art that only occurs once or a work whose natural degradation is an element of its impact and therefore cannot be fully embodied in any lasting object.

Ethnographic Materials

Refers to material culture, often utilitarian in nature, and for which cultural or anthropological context.

Functional Art

A work created by an artist that serves a functional purpose, such as lighting or seating.

Heritage Building Material

Materials from civic buildings, usually reflective of significant architectural themes, styles, and heritage features, that may be considered for salvage and preservation during the demolition process.

Legacy Sculpture

A work created by an artist primarily to honour a person, group of people, or event.

Mayor's Collection

A collection of gifts, art, and objects that have been given to the Mayor and the Mayor's Office. The Mayor's Collection is kept within the Mayor's Office at City Hall.

Monument

A marker, plaque, or site to honour an individual, group of people, event, or place of importance.

Mural

An artwork applied directly onto an existing building or structure.

Placemaking

A holistic and community-based planning approach that capitalizes on unique assets and potential to promote the personal well-being, community character and development, and places of lasting value.

Public Art

Works of art, in any media, that have been planned and executed with the specific intention of being sited or staged in the public domain, often incorporating elements of site-specificity, cultural heritage, community engagement, and collaboration.

4.0 Related Policies and Guiding Documents

The City of Regina follows the Canadian Museums' Association's Guidelines, Ethics and Expectations, which align with the standards set by the International Council on Museums.

"[C]ollections are a significant public inheritance, have a special position in law and are protected by international legislation. Inherent in this public trust is the notion of stewardship that includes rightful ownership, provenance, permanence, documentation, accessibility and responsible disposal." (International Council on Museums, Paris, May 2011)

The City of Regina commits to responding to the Truth and Reconciliation Council of Canada's Calls to Action and the United Nations' Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples through the management and care of its Civic Art and Cultural Collections.

Contracts between the City of Regina and artists meet the requirements of The Arts Professions Act (Saskatchewan)

Copyright Act (R.S.C., 1985, c. C-42)

5.0 Policy

Civic Art Collection

1. Investment in Public Art:
 - a. Support artists and the arts through allocations to public art in the capital budget.
 - b. Ensure commissions target under-represented voices, diverse perspectives, and provide space to tell the whole story of Regina through public art.
 - c. Ensure that commissions are conducted transparently including a public call, ethical selection process, and fair pay in alignment with CARFAC's most up-to-date schedule of fees.
2. Expert and Stakeholder Engagement:
 - a. A sector reference group, representative of art practices in Regina, will be assembled as necessary to provide advice and context to City staff on specific issues that arise through this policy.
 - b. Experts and stakeholders will be engaged when new art is installed or existing art is altered in a manner that impacts neighbourhoods, cultural communities, or other groups.
 - c. Stakeholders will be engaged regarding interpretation and contextualization of new and existing legacy sculpture. Where legacies

reflect issues of colonialism and cultural restitution, representatives of the affected community will be engaged.

3. Capacity:

- a. The City of Regina commits to care for collections according to international standards. This includes physical space, staff time, collection resourcing, and ensuring public access through exhibitions and programming. Specifically, the City will:
 - i. Maintain adequate human resources and budget for maintenance through the annual budget process
 - ii. Maintain adequate facilities for administration, maintenance and storage of the collection and associated records to care for the collection
 - iii. If capacity changes the Administration will:
 1. reduce the collection through proper deaccessioning methods; or,
 2. reduce the level of service to the collection as a whole.

4. Authority for Commission and Purchase

- a. The City will target investment in new public art through open calls to commission unique works, and through purchase of existing works.
- b. Investment in new public art will prioritize opportunities to increase visibility and opportunity for underrepresented voices including First Nation, Métis, and newcomer culture, history, and perspectives.
- c. Under the authority of the Manager of Social & Cultural Development, an item not of value exceeding \$100,000.00 may be commissioned or purchased when:
 - i. It meets an identified gap within the collection, has significance to Regina's cultural heritage and/or is the product of a partnership/collaboration with an external agency
 - ii. Resources are available within a budget line for purchase or creation, or the item has been donated
 - iii. Resources are available for installation, where applicable
 - iv. Resources are available for lifecycle maintenance
- d. Under the authority of the Director, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services, an item of a value exceeding \$100,000.00 but not exceeding \$200,000.00 may be commissioned or purchased when:
 - i. It meets an identified gap within the collection, has significance to Regina's cultural heritage and/or is the product of a partnership/collaboration with an external agency
 - ii. Resources are available for purchase or creation, or the item has been donated
 - iii. Resources are available for installation, where applicable
 - iv. Resources are available for lifecycle maintenance

5. Authority for Accession

- a. Under the authority of the Manager of Social & Cultural Development, any item of art or cultural heritage that is commissioned, purchased, or accepted by donation may be accessioned.

- b. Objects will be accepted through donation when they meet an identified gap in the collection and resources allow for appropriate care and life cycle maintenance.
- c. The City will not accept or accession cultural objects that are better suited in the care of another group or organization (Indigenous cultural objects, ethnographic objects, art without acceptable provenance, etc.).

6. Care and Maintenance

- a. The City commits to care for and maintain collection pieces until a determined end date, reflective of a reasonable lifespan based on materials, environment, and cost.
- b. In accordance with 3. *Capacity*, the City commits to regular investment in care and maintenance such that the item is maintained for the benefit of the public throughout its life cycle
- c. At the conclusion of the established life cycle, the City will evaluate condition, relevancy, and opportunities for restoration or investment in new work in order to determine whether to deaccession and dispose of the item.
- d. In the event of major damage due to accidents, acts of god etc., the City will evaluate condition, relevancy, and opportunities for restoration or investment in new work in order to determine whether to deaccession and dispose of the item.
- e. The Civic Art Collection will be covered under the City's insurance policy according to their purchase or appraised value. Insurance will be collected for lost and stolen pieces, and new acquisitions will be made according to identified collection gaps. Insurance for damaged pieces will be directed to maintenance and repairs.
- f. Collection valuation will be conducted as required for insurance purposes based on purchase cost, material cost, and in some cases, appraisal.

7. Authority for Deaccession

- a. Collection objects will be ethically deaccessioned and divested according to the Canadian Museums Association's Deaccessioning Guidelines and Canada Revenue Agency requirements.
- b. Under the authority of the Manager of Social & Cultural Development, an item may be deaccessioned when:
 - i. An internal subject matter expert or the sector reference group has advised that the object does not address an identified gap;
 - ii. The theme, period, or artist represented by the object is not unique within the collection or does not make a distinct contribution to the cultural heritage of Regina;
 - iii. An object has deteriorated significantly;
 - iv. It is a duplicate;
 - v. The work, methodology, or purpose is no longer relevant;
 - vi. An object is better suited in another collection;
 - vii. An object is or has become hazardous in nature;
 - viii. A work requires care beyond resource capacity;

- ix. An object has reached the conclusion of its established life cycle;
 - x. Or if a work is otherwise inappropriate for the collection.
 - c. Deaccessioned objects will be dismantled and/or physically removed from City space for disposal.
 - d. Deaccessioned objects will be divested through appropriate channels including other collections, and third parties.
 - e. Revenue generated through the sale of collection objects will be reinvested in collection management and acquisitions.
- 8. Collection Value
 - a. Insurance is maintained for the collection based on purchase cost and current market value.
 - b. Appraisals will be conducted only in exceptional circumstances and where resources are available.
- 9. Copyright:
 - a. All new acquisitions will be subjected to a standardized copyright agreement that allows the City of Regina use of the image, exhibition rights, and exhibition loan rights, for an agreed-upon fee.
 - b. The City of Regina respects, affirms and recognizes Indigenous peoples' ownership of their traditional and living respective Indigenous knowledge, in alignment with UNDRIP.
- 10. Records:
 - a. The City of Regina will maintain collection records including provenance, life cycle management and date of conclusion, insurance, condition reports, copyright, artist agreements and object history, to support education, access, research and consistent care over the life cycle of each item.
- 11. Ethnographic Materials:
 - a. The City of Regina is not a collector of *ethnographic materials*. In the case that ethnographic materials are discovered within the collection, the City will seek out an appropriate agency and arrange for transfer.
- 12. Life Cycles:
 - a. To support new public art and an evolving cultural landscape, new acquisitions will be subjected to an expected life cycle and date of conclusion set by the City in consultation with the artist, based on item specifications and industry research
 - b. The date of conclusion for existing pieces will be set based on degradation and cost of repair or replacement.
- 13. Public Access and Curatorial Control:
 - a. The City of Regina commits to ensuring public access to the collection through display, exhibition, interpretation, and contextualization.
 - b. Administration will maintain curatorial control over all display and exhibition decisions.

- c. The City of Regina will support community access to the collection for the purpose of cultural practices (including smudging), research, and building understanding.

14. Review of Legacy Sculpture and Monuments

- a. In the service of truth telling, legacy sculpture and monuments may be contextualized, re-interpreted, replaced, or removed to increase understanding and visibility of the diverse peoples in Regina and their respective histories.
- b. Review of a legacy sculpture or monument may be initiated in response to:
 - i. Recognition of abuse of human rights or other harms by people or events commemorated in the legacy sculpture or monument.
 - ii. Research, inquiries, or other initiatives that uncover new information about historical figures or events commemorated in a legacy sculpture or monuments, or that call for increased visibility for different perspectives and experiences.
 - iii. Requests from Regina residents and cultural groups to address either of the above.

Other Cultural Collections

15. Authority for salvage and re-use of *heritage building materials*

- a. Under the authority of the Manager of Social & Cultural Development *heritage building materials* may be preserved from demolition projects when:
 - i. The materials reflect unique or important architectural elements, as determined by a subject matter expert;
 - ii. The structural integrity of the material is intact;
 - iii. There is capacity for careful removal, storage, and maintenance of the material until such a time as they may be re-used or divested to an appropriate agency.
- b. Under the authority of the Manager of Social & Cultural Development, *heritage building material* may be considered for re-use by the City or other agencies when:
 - i. The material adds aesthetic, cultural, and/or structural value to a project;
 - ii. The cost for re-use is not prohibitive to the City;
 - iii. The re-used material does not shorten the expected life cycle of the project.

16. Unacknowledged Public Art and Monuments

- a. Public art and monuments on City property without verified ownership or that are not being maintained by others will be maintained by the City when resources and capacity allow

- b. In the absence of appropriate resources, or when the item reaches end of life, the item will be decommissioned and removed.

6.0 Related Policies or Bylaws

Regina’s Cultural Plan (2016)
 Official Community Plan (2013)
 Donations Policy (2016)

7.0 Reviews (mandatory)

Date of Policy Owner’s Review	High Level Description

8.0 Amendments (mandatory)

Date of Council Decision	Council Report #	Main Committee	Date of Main Committee Review	Description