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INTRODUCTION

1698 West Georgia Street, prominently located at the gateway to Downtown in Vancouver’s West End neighbourhood, presents an exciting opportunity to feature an engaging public artwork. Fostering a variety of vibrant social activities, the development aspires to establish a welcoming public realm, creating numerous opportunities for diverse community interaction. Anthem Properties is committed to hosting a captivating public artwork that speaks to the spirit and character of one of Vancouver’s key urban communities.

To ensure the highest quality and ingenuity of the public artwork, Anthem Properties has chosen to pursue the Option A selection process, engaging the services of Ballard Fine Art Ltd. to provide public art consultation. The developer looks forward to working with the City of Vancouver and the selected artist to facilitate a notable public artwork that will contribute to the artistic and cultural landscape of Vancouver in a meaningful and enduring way.
PROJECT DETAILS

PROJECT ADDRESS 1698 GEORGIA STREET, VANCOUVER, BC

LEGAL ADDRESS LOT A (REFERENCE PLAN 1653) OF LOTS 5 AND 6 BLOCK 55 DISTRICT LOT 185 PLAN 92 LOT B (EXPLANATORY PLAN 2559) OF LOTS 5 AND 6 BLOCK 55 DISTRICT LOT 185 PLAN 92 B1 LOT M BLOCK 55 DISTRICT LOT 185 PLAN LMP18253

TOTAL FSR 177,902 sq. ft.

PUBLIC ART BUDGET $352,245.96

PROJECT CONTACTS

PROJECT OWNER | ANTHEM PROPERTIES GROUP LTD.
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WEST VANCOUVER, BC V7T 1H3
JAN BALLARD
604 922 6843
JAN@BALLARDFINEART.COM
CONTEXT MAP

1698 Georgia Street, Vancouver
SITE PLAN
1698 West Georgia Street is a landmark residential development located along the major throughway of Georgia Street, marking the gateway to the heart of Downtown Vancouver via the North Shore and Stanley Park. Bounded by Bidwell Street to the west, Georgia Street to the north, Alberni Street to the south, and an adjacent proposed development to the east, 1689 West Georgia Street has a total floor area of 177,903 sq. ft. and a proposed FAR of 9.39. Once completed, the project will include a 33-storey high-rise tower with a total of 127 market residential studio, 1-, 2-, and 3-bedroom units.

Designed by world-renowned New York City-based Kohn Pederson Fox (KPF), with Chris Dikeakos Architects, 1698 West Georgia Street is inspired by the unique balance of city and nature within Vancouver, paying homage to the bold yet subtle presence of the mountains as backdrop while also acknowledging the distinctly urban feel of the site.

Rising noticeably lower than the rest of the upcoming and proposed developments in the neighborhood, the building height at 1698 West Georgia Street respects the descending skyline, moving from downtown Vancouver towards Stanley Park. The asymmetrical tower top ensures a gradual transition of the skyline along both West Georgia and Bidwell streets, and also brings diversity to the mostly uniform skyline of the neighborhood.
Interlocking and stepping, the dynamic massing composition of the tower, located at the corner of West Georgia and Bidwell streets, represents the design character of mountainous rocks, organic in expression and texture. This high-visibility corner of the tower, visible from the gateway to Vancouver as you emerge from Stanley Park, features cascading greens on the upper terraces that continue down the tower facade through the form of balcony edge planting. Reminiscent of mountain foothills, the greens envelop the tower before spreading out to the podium terraces, then below to the ground level landscaping.

The facade design takes inspiration from the fine textures of mountain rocks, expressed through numerous facets and cracks. Gently twisting in profile and subtly varying in color, the uniquely designed vertical facade fins help break up the monotony and the severity of an all-glass tower, creating a dynamic facade that animates the building through different views and angles of sunlight. On the exterior of the building, details appear grounded on the podium levels, but become more delicate as they reach the top of the tower.

The podium design underscores the prominence of the ceremonial corner of West Georgia and Bidwell streets, opening into a landscaped plaza that thoughtfully respects the design guidelines for West Georgia street. Stepping beyond conventional planting, greens on the horizontal surfaces have been introduced into the podium design. The horizontally integrated wall planting will bring the design concept of the mountain to life. A two-storey waterfall, with a strong visual presence, is at the centre of the plaza, creating an ambient white noise to assist with sounds of traffic. The waterfall also recycles stormwater runoff from the site. Organically textured podium walls provide an appealing backdrop for the waterfalls. The podium walls will also stand as a strong design element on their own, should water have to be controlled for conservation purposes.
PUBLIC REALM

1698 West Georgia Street is envisioned as a warm and animated community environment, positioned to become a dynamic part of Vancouver’s West End district. Existing within a context that benefits from both urban and natural qualities, 1698 West Georgia Street offers a plethora of amenities all within a walkable distance. Featuring frontages that activate the street and surrounding area, the development provides an excellent revitalization to the streetscape, creating a welcoming atmosphere for this bustling community.

1698 West Georgia will include a multi-faceted, interconnected public realm with open spaces and pedestrian pathways surrounding the building site. Well-serviced by transit and bike lanes, 1698 West Georgia Street will assist in fostering a robust culture that supports the surrounding shops and services while enhancing the everyday life of residents and visitors to the site. Enabling both quiet and bustling moments to be enjoyed throughout the development, a reinvigoration of previously existing features will increase permeability through the development. Providing additional ease of movement and spaces for gathering, 1698 West Georgia Street’s public realm will ensure a variety of dynamic social activity, increasing community connectivity and enhancing Downtown Vancouver’s livability for all.

1698 West Georgia’s landscape concept responds to the context of the site as one of the most prominent in downtown Vancouver. Inspired by the local mountains, the landscape borrows from the beautiful natural setting of Vancouver, creating a green base of natural materials from which the tower emerges. The design incorporates a highly urban palette of materials and finishes while softening the city character with a layered approach to planting and the incorporation of a distinctive water element. These layers turn into gently climbing terraces as needed to maintain the seamless integration of the tower base and the ground plain along both Georgia and Bidwell streets.
1. West Georgia St.
2. Alberni Townhomes
3. East Mews
4. Large Stone Slab Stairs
5. Terraced Plantings
6. Terraced Water Feature
The paving treatment at the ground level creates a legible and coherent arrival experience at the main lobby entry on Bidwell street by utilizing a unified paving pattern while maintaining the Georgia street sidewalk standard treatment. This urban language extends to the south side of the site where a series of townhomes on a terraced landscape interface with the neighbouring property along the mid-block connection. The Alberni street frontage blends in with the context of the neighbouring blocks with a series of townhomes, creating a small scale and walkable streetscape with elevated front patios and layers of planting.

The ground level also includes a variety of seating opportunities, created as an important, integrated element of the site design. Trees are placed strategically in coordination with these seating opportunities to provide canopy and an added layer of comfort. In addition to the trees, a combination of low growing evergreen and hanging plants create low maintenance but visually striking green edges. As well, in order to provide much needed privacy protection for the ground level units and to secure functional paths for pedestrians, the proposed design adopts the linear hedge landscaping strategy from the neighbouring blocks, helping to preserve the continuity of the streetscape along Alberni street.

The combination of on-site indoor and outdoor amenities, as well as off-site public realm improvements, will establish the project as a desirable address in this historical area. Enhancing the development’s livability for all residents and visitors, the public art opportunity at 1698 West Georgia Street will inspire and foster a resilient, sustainable, and safe community. The open design will encourage and facilitate greater engagement and interaction, creating a welcoming and accessible destination for all.
COMMUNITY CONTEXT

1698 West Georgia Street is centrally located in between Downtown Vancouver’s West End neighbourhood, along the major ceremonial throughway of Georgia Street. A beacon at the entrance to Vancouver from the North Shore and Stanley Park, 1698 West Georgia Street forms an urban pivot where the city’s grid meets, uniquely situated at the crossroads between the City to the south, Stanley Park to the north, and the waterfronts to both the east and west. Positioned in one of Vancouver’s most historically rich areas, this distinctive community fosters an exciting mix of people and places contributing to the city’s vibrancy and resilience.
West Georgia is an arterial street of central importance to Vancouver’s history. Sited in the heart of downtown, it locates the city’s financial and central business districts, and is the major transportation corridor connecting downtown Vancouver with the North Shore by way of the Lions Gate Bridge. Named in 1886 after King George III, the street originally ran between Chilco and Beatty linking the West End to the downtown core. The first Georgia Viaduct opened in 1915, connecting the street’s eastern end to the rest of the city. The second Georgia Viaduct opened nearly 60 years later, in 1972.

Present day West Georgia continues to make significant contributions to Vancouver’s cultural and economic vitality. Many of the city’s major architectural, historic and cultural landmarks are located along it, including Vancouver’s tallest building the Shangri-La, the historic Hotel Vancouver and Rosewood Hotel Georgia, the Vancouver Art Gallery’s Offsite, and the Hudson’s Bay Company’s flagship Vancouver store. Georgia Street is also the home of many of Vancouver’s upscale shops and luxury services, and is noted as one of the most prominent and prestigious locales in the City.
History of the Area
Prior to colonial settlement, the Musqueam, Tsleil-Waututh, and later Squamish peoples fished along the resource-rich shorelines of what is today Downtown Vancouver, setting up villages in Stanley Park and Coal Harbour. The mid-1850s saw the first European occupation settlement, but it was not until the Canadian Pacific Railroad arrived in the 1880s that the City’s population substantially grew with new industry and building activity throughout Vancouver’s West End and downtown, including many warehouses, as well as shipyards, a lumber mill, and the Boeing Seaplane factory and test site in Coal Harbour.

As the area continued to develop, English Bay became a popular recreational destination, connected to the rest of the West End by wooded trails. A series of bathhouses and a long pier, since demolished, animated the area and aided in its establishment as a neighbourhood of large houses and grand estates. The First World War resulted in demographic changes, with a number of large, old houses being converted into divided suites as workers and new immigrants moved into the area. Most estates were redeveloped, and many three-storey wood framed apartment buildings were built in the 1920s and 1930s.
In the 1950s, zoning changes allowed for increased building height and density to encourage those who might be inclined to move outside the city to stay in the area. The subsequent influx of residents contributed to the West End’s cultural diversity, and also resulted in the growth of a large LGBTQ community in the area. Though many of the West End’s heritage buildings have been removed or repurposed over the course of the past 80 years, in 1986 City Council created the Vancouver Heritage Register to identify and protect sites that hold heritage value. Currently, 121 such sites exist, contributing to the community’s sense of place and cohesion.

Today, the area is recognized for its unique and inclusive social identity, with an eclectic mix of residents, housing, restaurants, and shops that contribute to the distinctive character of the neighbourhood. The West End and neighbouring Downtown areas are surrounded by world-class beaches and parks, including Stanley Park and the Sea Wall, Lost Lagoon, and Devonian Harbour Park; greenspace is never more than a few minutes away, contributing to the livability of this high-density zone.

The public art opportunity at 1698 West Georgia Street seeks to engage a wide range of audiences on a multitude of levels, playing an integral role in this exciting new development. 1698 West Georgia Street will foster neighbourhood creativity, dialogue, and connectivity, enhancing community identity while supporting the vitality of this culturally abundant area.
PUBLIC ART CONTEXT

Public art has the power to punctuate everyday environments, energizing public space and inspire community participation in the creation of our urban landscape. Downtown Vancouver’s rich cultural heritage provides a unique context for 1698 Georgia’s public art.

Prominently situated adjacent to the ceremonial and art-filled Georgia Street, 1698 Georgia is positioned to contribute to the shaping of this culturally diverse neighbourhood in a significant and exciting way. 1698 Georgia’s proximity to many important arts institutions and event venues, including numerous critically acclaimed galleries and Vancouver Art Gallery’s “Offsite”, allows for further engagement with the rich creative discourse in the downtown core.

The public art at 1698 Georgia Street will activate and enliven the public realm, creating a vibrant addition to the City’s wider public art context. The following is a comprehensive listing of existing public art in the area surrounding 1698 Georgia.
1. Aerodynamic Forms in Space  
   Rodney Graham  
   2010

2. Untitled (Relief)  
   Jordi Bonet  
   unknown

3. Solo  
   Natalie McHaffie  
   1986

4. Search  
   J Seward Johnson Jr  
   1975

5. WECCestoration  
   Tiko Kerr  
   1995

6. Leaf Stream  
   Douglas Senft  
   2002

7. Vancouver Overture, Opus One  
   Don Vaughn  
   1998

8. Curtained Skies  
   Clay Ellis  
   2002

9. Make West  
   Bill Pechet  
   1997

10. Sliding Edge  
    Nancy Chew  
    2003

11. Scopes of Site  
    Jill Anholt  
    2006

12. Milky Way  
    Katherine Kerr  
    1999

13. Solo  
    Natalie McHaffie  
    1986

14. Search  
    J Seward Johnson Jr  
    1975

15. WECCestoration  
    Tiko Kerr  
    1995

16. Leaf Stream  
    Douglas Senft  
    2002

17. Vancouver Overture, Opus One  
    Don Vaughn  
    1998

18. Curtained Skies  
    Clay Ellis  
    2002

19. Make West  
    Bill Pechet  
    1997

20. Transformation  
    Abraham Archer  
    unknown

21. Landscape: Processing  
    Numerous Peaks and Ripples  
    Huang Zhiyang  
    2016

22. Vancouver Art Gallery: Offsite  
    Pictured installation: EITHER / OR  
    Tsang Kin-Wah  
    2017

23. Spirits in a Landscape  
    Abraham Anghik Ruben  
    1992
About Vancouver Art Gallery “Offsite”

Offsite is an outdoor public art space run by the Vancouver Art Gallery. Located just west of the Shangri-La Hotel, at 1100 West Georgia between Thurlow and Bute Streets, Offsite is at the heart of downtown Vancouver. Offsite presents an innovative program of temporary public art projects, acting as site for both local and international contemporary artists to exhibit works that relate and respond to the surrounding urban context. Considering the site-specific potential of art within the public realm, featured artists are invited to think through the ever-shifting social and cultural conditions of our contemporary world. With new projects installed in the spring and fall, recent Offsite installations have included work by Polit-Sheer-Form Office, Shigeru Ban, Asim Waqif, Tsang Kin-Wah, Kahn Lee, Marina Roy, and Elizabeth Zvonar.
PUBLIC ART OPPORTUNITY

Following a detailed site analysis with the Anthem design team, the large public plaza at the prominent corner of Georgia and Bidwell Street has been identified as the prime site location for a public artwork. The public artwork site offers the opportunity for a single or expanded series of related works that may involve an integrated approach in concert with the landscape design and hardscape features. The public art opportunity includes a range of approach in three-dimensional form and material, including light. The public plaza measures approximately 12m x 7m and features a unique two-story waterfall fronting the adjacent building facade and proposed landscape areas.

The corner location of the plaza offers high public visibility and accessibility by motorists, cyclists, and pedestrians along Georgia and Bidwell Street. The central plaza location will provide a wide range of public encounters for a diverse array of users. The public art will act as a significant marker for the development, contributing to a dynamic, connected and enjoyable public realm within the community. The public art site has been chosen to support social activity and promote neighbourhood interconnectedness in a welcoming built environment. As a social gathering space, the public art at the plaza will foster and encourage community engagement, supporting the lively bustle of everyday life as well as moments of quiet and reflection.
The artist or artist team selected will be given as much creative license as possible to activate the identified site location, integrating art to the architectural and landscape design as well as community context in a meaningful and lasting way. An artist will be selected early in the development process with the opportunity to engage with the design team. The public art will be carefully considered, in keeping with the vision of the development as well as the City of Vancouver public art program and its commitment to visual art. Anthem proposes to host an enduring artwork that speaks to diverse audiences, inviting engagement and dialogue on many levels while celebrating and enhancing local culture in the West End neighborhood.
PRECEDENT IMAGES

Roxy Paine, Graft, 2008-2009
Stainless steel and concrete
Sculpture Garden, National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C., USA

Jean-Michel Othoniel, Agora, 2019
stainless steel
Perrotin, Paris

Kimsooja, Deductive Object, 2016
Painted welded steel, aluminum mirror panels
National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, Korea

Yayoi Kusama, Narcissus Garden, 2016
1,300 reflective, steel spheres
Philip Johnson Glass House, New Canaan, Conn, USA

**Please note: Budgets for precedent images have been confirmed to be within range of the public art opportunity.**
PRECEDENT IMAGES

Brian Jungen, *The ghosts on top of my head*, 2010-2011
painted stainless steel
The Banff Centre, Banff, AB

Mary Anne Barkhouse and Michael Belmore, *lichen*, 1998
bronze
McMichael Canadian Art Collection, Kleinburg, ON

Mary Anne Barkhouse, *Locavore*, 2016
bronze and stone
Carleton University, Ottawa, ON

**Please note: Budgets for precedent images have been confirmed to be within range of the public art opportunity.**
PRECEDENT IMAGES

Peter Gazendam, *A Long Conversation (for Oona)*, 2017
bronze
Columbia College, Vancouver BC

stainless steel
Yorkshire Sculpture Park, Wakefield UK

Omer Arbel, *Particles for the Built World*, 2019
concrete
Surrey Art Gallery, Surrey BC

**Please note: Budgets for precedent images have been confirmed to be within range of the public art opportunity.**
PUBLIC ART BUDGET

The total public art budget for the 1698 West Georgia Street development project adheres to the City of Vancouver Public Art Policy, calculated as $1.98 x each square foot contributing to the FSR calculation. An estimated Total Public Art Budget of $352,245.96 is based on the eligible project FSR of 177,902 square feet.

The total public art work budget will be allocated to administrative costs, the public artwork, developer contingency, an attribution plaque, and 10% art fund fee paid to the City of Vancouver.

Administrative costs will include art consultant fees, the artist selection process, and artist, selection panel and advisory honorariums. The amount allocated for the public artwork includes the artist fees, artwork fabrication, storage, transportation, installation, engineering certificates, construction coordination and site preparation, lighting, final documentation, professional images of completed work and insurance, plus applicable taxes.

Public Artwork ......................................................................................... $250,000.00
Public Art Administration........................................................................... $50,400.00
Selection Process and Honoraria....................................................... $20,400.00
Shortlist Artist Honoraria ($5,000 x 3) ..... $15,000.00
Community Advisors ($600 x 3) ...............$1,800.00
Selection Panel Honoraria ($1,200 x 3)...... $3,600.00
Public Art Consultant ........................................……... $30,000.00
Developer’s Contingency................................................................. $15,121.36
Attribution Plaque .............................................................................. $1,500.00
10% Civic Program Contribution ..................................................... $35,224.60

TOTAL PUBLIC ART BUDGET ....................................................................... $352,245.96
TIMELINES

TARGET PROJECT TIMELINE

DP Application ............................................................... Fall 2019
Rezoning Enactment ....................................................... March 2020
DP Issuance .................................................................. Summer 2020
Construction Start ........................................................... Early 2021
Occupancy ..................................................................... Early 2024

TARGET PUBLIC ART TIMELINE

Preliminary Public Art Plan Presentation ......................... July 2019
Detailed Public Art Plan Presentation ................................. October 2019
Selection Panel Meeting – Review Long List of Artist .......... November 2019
Short-listed Artists’ Invitation ........................................... November 2019
Community Consultation (Three meetings) ...................... November - April 2019
Short-list Artists Orientation Meeting ............................... January 2020
Selection Panel Meeting – Artist Presentations ................ April 2020
Final Artist Selection ...................................................... April 2020
Artist Contract ............................................................... May 2020
Art Installation ............................................................... Early 2024

* DATES ARE BEST ESTIMATED TARGETS AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY

Community consultation and public engagement will be thoughtfully considered throughout the 1698 West Georgia Street public art selection process. A non-voting community advisory will be established and consist of three representatives (3) from the local West End and Coal Harbour communities. The relationship of 1698 West Georgia Street to the Squamish, Musqueam and Tsleil-waututh village site of Xwáýxway (now Stanley Park) will be a central consideration by the advisory members.

The advisory members will include one representative from the Squamish, Musqueam, and Tsleil-waututh Nations (1); one member from the local neighborhood house (1); and one West End or Coal Harbour Community resident who is also a professional artist (1). The role of the community advisory will be to provide feedback and commentary to the selection panel and shortlisted artists. The advisory will meet with the selection panel to provide insights into the community aspirations around public art and potential artists. In addition, the community advisory will meet with the shortlisted artists during the artist orientation meeting and provide input towards the development of the artist concept proposals.

The community advisors will play an integral role in the selection process, providing a voice for the community as well as guidance regarding opportunities for the celebration of the work upon completion. Advisors will be paid an honorarium of $600.00 for their work.

Smaller informal coffee meetings may be hosted by the consultant with members of the local community for further feedback and input on the public art opportunity.

Proposed Community Advisors:
Debra Sparrow, Artist, Musqueam Nation
Linda Johnson, President Board of Directors, West End Community Centre Association
Lyse Lemieux, Artist, Local Resident

Alternates:
David Scott, West End Community Centre Organization
Diamond Point, Artist, Musqueam Nation
Siobhan Powlowski, Senior Director, Gordon Neighbourhood House
Al McWilliams, Artist, Local Resident
James Harry, Artist, Squamish Nation
Cease Wyse, Skwxwu7mesh/Sto:Lo/Metis/Hawaiian/Swiss Artist
SELECTION PROCESS

All stages of the selection process will be facilitated by public art consultant Ballard Fine Art. The community advisory will provide commentary and feedback throughout this process.

The selection process will be a two-stage invitational to professional artist/artist teams with a selection panel. The selection panel will consist of 5 members and will include 3 members from the Vancouver Art Community and 2 members from the 1698 West Georgia design team. Members of the selection panel, excluding members from the 1698 West Georgia design team, will be paid an honorarium of $1,200.00 for their work.

**Proposed Selection Panel Members:**
Vanessa Kwan, Program Director, Grunt
Xwalacktun (Rick Harry), Artist, Squamish Nation
Diana Freundl, Associate Curator, Asian Art, Vancouver Art Gallery
Paul Faibish, Vice President Development, Anthem
Architect Representative, Chris Dikeakos Architecture

**Alternates:**
Tania Willard, Artist & Curator
Thomas Cannell, Artist, Musqueam Nation
Devon Knowles, Artist
Liz Magor, Artist
Brian McBay, Executive Director 221A

**Stage One**
In stage one of the selection process, the selection panel will be oriented to the 1698 West Georgia development project, the public art opportunity and the community context. With an opportunity to meet with the community advisory, the consultant and the selection panel will conduct in-depth research and nominate a long list of 18-20 suitable artists or artist teams for consideration. The selection panel will collectively discuss the merits of the nominated artist’s past work and potential fit with the respective public art opportunity. Upon review, the selection panel will determine a short-list of 3 artists to develop a concept proposal.

**Stage Two**
In stage two, the short-listed artists will be invited to develop a concept proposal. The short-listed artist will be provided with an in-depth orientation to the project and site, the public art opportunity, and the community contexts, with an opportunity to meet the design team and community advisory. The short-listed artist will be provided with an honorarium of $5,000.00 for their work, paid upon receipt and presentation of their concept proposal.

Following the selection panel’s review of the short-listed artist proposals, a final artist and artwork will be recommended for selection. Prior to notifying the final artist nominated, 1698 West Georgia and its design team will have an opportunity to review the nominated artist’s concept. The final artist/artist team selected will enter a contract agreement with Anthem to complete the proposed artwork on time and budget.
Artist/Artist Team Selection Criteria for Stage Two

i) High quality and innovative concept with a clear vision of the final artwork
ii) Demonstrated understanding of the public space and the impact on the proposed site
iii) Understanding of the project architecture, the site and its contexts
iv) Demonstrated feasibility in terms of a detailed budget, timeline, implementation, safety, maintenance
v) Artistic quality of artwork presented in the documentation of past work
vi) Availability

Please note: If no submission warrants consideration, Anthem reserves the right not to award the commission.

Please direct any questions to:
Ballard Fine Art Ltd.
604 922 6843 | info@ballardfineart.com