Dear Mayor and Council,

Please find attached a memo from Kathleen Llewellyn-Thomas, GM of Community Services, regarding the removal and restoration of The Birds. A short summary is provided below.

Two monumental sculptures that make up the public artwork The Birds by artist Myfanwy MacLeod, located in Creekside Plaza in southeast False Creek, are currently undergoing a process of temporary removal that will impact local residents and businesses.

The artwork is showing signs of extreme damage and disrepair, in part due to its popularity and appeal, which sees members of the public climbing, riding bicycles and skateboarding on large sections of the sculptures.

The estimated cost of removal, rebuild and reinstallation is expected to be $390,000, excluding taxes plus contingency (approximately a total of $425,000-$430,000). This restoration will ensure that a beloved work of art will stay with us for a very long time.

It is expected that the fully rebuilt sculptures will be reinstalled at the Creekside site in time for the 27th International Ornithological Congress (August 19-28, 2018), a prestigious event for bird scientists being hosted in the City of Vancouver.

Should you have any questions, please contact Branislav Henselmann, Managing Director, Cultural Services at 604-871-6455/Branislav.Henselmann@vancouver.ca or Eric Fredericksen, Public Art Program Manager at 604-871-6002/Eric.Fredericksen@vancouver.ca.

Thank you,

Paul
MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and Council
Commissioners, Vancouver Board of Parks & Recreation

CC: Sadhu Johnston, City Manager
Paul Mochrie, Deputy City Manager
Janice MacKenzie, City Clerk
Lynda Graves, Manager, Administration Services, City Manager’s Office
Rena Kendall-Craden, Director, Communications
Kevin Quinlan, Chief of Staff, Mayor’s Office
Katie Robb, Director, Communications, Mayor’s Office
Naveen Girn, Director of Community Relations, Mayor’s Office
Bill Aujla, General Manager, Real Estate and Facilities Management
Malcolm Bromley, General Manager, Park Board
Jerry Dobrovolny, General Manager, Engineering Services
Patrice Impye, General Manager, Finance, Risk and Supply Chain Management
Gil Kelley, General Manager, Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability

FROM: Kathleen Llewellyn-Thomas, General Manager, Community Services

SUBJECT: Public Art - The Birds - Removal and Restoration

Dear Mayor and Council,

Two monumental sculptures that make up the public artwork The Birds by artist Myfanwy MacLeod, located in Creekside Plaza in southeast False Creek, are currently undergoing a process of temporary removal that will impact local residents and businesses. The artwork is showing signs of extreme damage and disrepair, in part due to their popularity and appeal, which sees members of the public climbing, riding bicycles and skateboarding on large sections of the sculptures.

In consultation with the artist, repair work will involve rebuilding the sculptures with an aluminum outer shell cast from the original sculptures. The new aluminum sculptures will
then be painted to match the originals. The durability of aluminum will provide greater strength and rigidity, offering the best protection against future wear and tear as well as greater ease of repair. In addition, a skateboarding deterrent should be installed on the surface area surrounding the sculptures.

The estimated cost of removal, rebuild and reinstallation is expected to be $390,000, excluding taxes plus contingency (approximately a total of $425,000-$430,000). This restoration will ensure that a beloved work of art will stay with us for a very long time.

It is expected that the fully rebuilt sculptures will be reinstalled at the Creekside site in time for the 27th International Ornithological Congress (August 19-28, 2018), a prestigious event for bird scientists being hosted in the City of Vancouver.

Please contact me or Branislav Henselmann, Managing Director, Cultural Services, 604-871-6455 or Eric Fredericksen, Public Art Program Manager, 604-871-6002, if you have questions.

Kathleen Llewellyn-Thomas, P. Eng.
General Manager, Community Services
(T) 604.871.6858
(E) kathleen.llewellyn-thomas@vancouver.ca