

From: "Johnston, Sadhu" <Sadhu.Johnston@vancouver.ca>
To: "Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"
CC: "City Manager's Correspondence Group - DL"
"Singh, Sandra" <Sandra.Singh@vancouver.ca>
"Henselmann, Branislav" <Branislav.Henselmann@vancouver.ca>
Date: 2/26/2019 4:25:42 PM
Subject: Public Art Boost Report

Greetings Mayor and Council

Below are a few questions from Council along with answers from staff regarding the public art boost report.

- 1) I want to confirm that of the \$1.5M originally allocated for this initiative a total of \$87,555 is remaining, correct?
Staff response: Correct.
- 2) I reviewed RTS 11505, along with the original motion for the Public Art Boost, and the direction to staff was to implement this program for two years -2017 and 2018 named (date of RTS 11505 being June 2016 – that would take us to June/fall 2018). I'm curious why additional spending and recommendations are coming forward at this time given the time bound nature of the motion?
Staff response: Innovation funding requires significant matching resources: the organizations typically have to fundraise for at least half the budget of the new project. Investing in truly innovative public art projects that require such matching funds, as well as identifying appropriate, impactful opportunities for collaboration and co-creation, is inherently a longer process.
- 3) I also reviewed the council authority and past decisions related to the public art boost and I'm specifically looking for the policy direction that flowed from the original motion. I see reference to the culture plan, the Maximizing Investment in the Public Arts Program and the motion itself; however, I could not locate a city policy governing this grant program.
Staff response: The Boost Motion enabled the public art program to operate in a nimble and adaptive manner in supporting partnership projects through emerging opportunities. While the capital dollars portion of the Public Art Boost that supported the Public Art Grants and Public Art Community Grants was subject to Cultural Services Granting policies, the Innovation Funds portion of the Boost has relied on policies for the Fund. Innovation Funds are by design strategically invested through a discretionary process. Particularly in this round, we have been guided by emerging directions from the Creative City Strategy. All funding allocation recommendations are brought to Council for approval.

Best

Sadhu

Sadhu Aufochs Johnston | City Manager
Office of the City Manager | City of Vancouver
sadhu.johnston@vancouver.ca
604.873.7627



The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh peoples.