

From: "Johnston, Sadhu" <Sadhu.Johnston@vancouver.ca>

To: "Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"

CC: "City Manager's Correspondence Group - DL"

Date: 11/27/2019 12:59:30 PM

Subject: Memo - Spinning Chandelier public artwork under the Granville Bridge

Attachments: ACCS - GM - Memo (Council) - Spinning Chandelier public artwork (2019-11....pdf)

Dear Mayor and Council,

Attached is a memo from Sandra Singh, General Manager of Arts, Culture, and Community Services regarding a new major public art installation being launched on Wed, November 27, 2019. Highlights include:

- The artwork is a custom chandelier with polyurethane crystals, measuring 25 feet in height and 14 in diameter, titled Spinning Chandelier;
- Created by internationally recognized Vancouver artist Rodney Graham, *Spinning Chandelier* is installed underneath the Granville Bridge, at the intersection of Granville Street and Beach Avenue;
- Spinning Chandelier was commissioned to satisfy the private sector public art requirement, for Vancouver House, the Bjarke Ingels Group-designed tower adjacent to the bridge.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to email Sandra Singh at Sandra.singh@vancouver.ca.

Best,
Sadhu

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

Pronouns: he, him, his



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

MEMORANDUM

November 27, 2019

TO: Mayor and Council

CC: Sadhu Johnston, City Manager
Paul Mochrie, Deputy City Manager
Lynda Graves, Administration Services Manager, City Manager's Office
Rena Kendall-Craden, Communications Director
Katrina Leckovic, City Clerk
Neil Monckton, Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office
Alvin Singh, Communications Director, Mayor's Office
Anita Zaenker, Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office
Branislav Henselmann, Managing Director, Cultural Services

FROM: Sandra Singh
General Manager, Arts, Culture and Community Services

SUBJECT: Rodney Graham's "Spinning Chandelier" public artwork under the Granville Bridge

PURPOSE

The purpose of this memo is to update Council on a major new public artwork being launched on Wednesday, November 27.

CONTEXT

On Wednesday, November 27, at 6:30 pm, a major new public artwork titled *Spinning Chandelier* will make its formal debut during an event organized by Westbank, the commissioner of the artwork. Created by internationally recognized Vancouver artist Rodney Graham, *Spinning Chandelier* is installed underneath the Granville Bridge, at the intersection of Granville Street and Beach Avenue. The artwork is a custom chandelier with polyurethane "crystals," measuring 25 feet in height and 14 in diameter, and was inspired by two sources: an experiment in motion by Isaac Newton and by a dramatic moment from the 1952 movie *Scaramouche*—a chandelier collapsing to the floor during a sword duel. Twice a day, the chandelier will descend, begin slowly spinning, and build up speed, making a spectacular sight and dramatically marking the time of day, like the 9 O'Clock Gun or the Gastown Steam Clock.

BACKGROUND

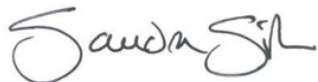
- Spinning Chandelier was commissioned to satisfy the private sector public art requirement, for Vancouver House, the Bjarke Ingels Group-designed tower adjacent to the bridge. All private sector rezonings greater than 100,000 square feet to contribute \$1.98 per buildable square foot to a public art process approved by the City, which has resulted in huge community benefit contributing to the creativity of our city and helping making Vancouver the vibrant and diverse city it is.
- The City worked with Westbank and their art consultant, curator and Polygon Gallery director Reid Shier, to pool funds from several other Westbank developments to build a budget that could realize this ambitious project. Since 2014, the City has worked to support the creation of major artworks through both the Civic Program and Private Sector Program. That year, the City created the Signature Projects Reserve to build funds for major commissions from the Civic Program. City public art staff have also worked with private sector projects in recent years to support the realization of more significant projects by pooling required public art budgets from multiple rezonings. *Spinning Chandelier* is the most prominent artwork delivered through pooled private funds to date.
- The artwork is mounted on city infrastructure through a license agreement with the City, but the City does not own the work and is not responsible for its maintenance.

About the Artist

Rodney Graham was born in Abbotsford and educated at UBC and Simon Fraser University. He has been a working artist in Vancouver since the 1970s. He represented Canada at the 1997 Venice Biennale, and his mid-career survey *A Little Thought*, which opened at the Art Gallery of Ontario in 2005, toured to the Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, the Vancouver Art Gallery, and the Institute of Contemporary Art, Philadelphia. He has been given solo exhibitions at museums across North America and Europe, including the Kunsthalle Zurich, Jeu de Paume, Paris, the Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin, and the Art Institute of Chicago, which acquired "Torqued Chandelier Release," the film installation which preceded and inspired this new public artwork. He has permanent public artworks in Vancouver's [civic collection](#) and on the [UBC campus](#).

If there are any questions or Councillors need additional information, please feel free to contact me directly at sandra.singh@vancouver.ca.

Sincerely,



Sandra Singh, General Manager
Arts, Culture and Community Services
604.871.6858 | sandra.singh@vancouver.ca