



**MARKHAM PUBLIC ART ADVISORY COMMITTEE
ONTARIO ROOM, MARKHAM CIVIC CENTRE**

Minutes

Meeting No. 1

Wednesday, February 28, 2018

6:00 p.m.

PRESENT

Members

Stephen Lusk, Chair
Paul Cosburn
Frankie Ip
Adam Keung

Guests

Carol McAulay, Vice President Finance and
Administration, York University
Christopher Wong, Director Transportation
and Master Planning, York University
Gregory Colucci, Principal, Diamond Schmitt
Architects

Markham Public Realm Advisory Committee

Tanya Lewinberg, Public Realm Coordinator
Yvonne Yeung, Senior Urban Design Planner
Councillor Alex Chiu

Staff

Stephen Chait, Director of Economic Growth,
Culture and Entrepreneurship
Niamh O'Laoghaire, Manager, Varley Art Gallery
Yan Wu, Public Art Coordinator
Bev Shugg Barbeito, Committee Coordinator

REGRETS

Taleen Der Haroutiounian
Rahul Shastri
Alina Tarbhai
Julie Tiefenbach
Jenny Tung
Ken Wightman
Karen Lui, Markham Public Realm Advisory
Committee
Councillor Alan Ho

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Public Art Advisory Committee was called to order at 6:06 pm with Stephen Lusk presiding as Chair. Because of the number of guests attending the meeting, introductions were made.

2. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

None was declared.

3. CHANGES OR ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

The agenda was accepted as distributed.

4. YORK UNIVERSITY PRESENTATION

Christopher Wong, Director Transportation and Master Planning, York University presented material providing (i) an overview of planning for the new York University campus to be located on five acres of land adjacent to the Markham Pan Am Centre and (ii) information specific to the interests of the Markham Public Art Advisory Committee and the Markham Public Realm Advisory Committee. Phase 1 is scheduled to open in September 2021 offering a diverse range of programs to approximately 1,000 students; this number is expected to grow to 4,400 students over time. When Phase 2 and Phase 3 are completed, it is expected the campus will be home to 10,000 students. The new campus will offer limited services so York University will rely on amenities available in Markham; likewise, only a limited number of parking spaces will be available so transit to the campus will be of key importance. It is expected that the new campus will generate up to \$37 million for the economy of Markham.

Mr. Wong advised that some of the guiding principles for the campus design include safety for students, staff, and visitors; sustainability, connectedness, accessibility, and vibrancy. The Phase 1 building will be approximately 400,000 sq. ft. over ten storeys. He noted that the campus design is connected with Public Realm concepts and vision: pedestrian access, for instance to and from the Markham Pan Am Centre; circulation in and around the building; and common areas as gathering spaces. Mr. Wong advised that there is a long tradition of art at York University's Keele Campus and this tradition will be carried forward in the design of the Markham campus. It was advised that an Accessibility Consultant is part of the design team; a similar presentation has been made to the Markham Accessibility Advisory Committee and members were pleased with the accessibility plans of the project.

Gregory Colucci, Principal, Diamond Schmitt Architects, presented and discussed the design layout of each of the ten floors of the Phase 1 building. Markham Public Art Advisory Committee members were impressed with the design as presented.

Carol McAulay, Christopher Wong, Gregory Colucci, Tanya Lewinberg, and Yvonne Yeung left the meeting at 7:05 pm.

**5. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE MARKHAM PUBLIC ART
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON OCTOBER 25, 2017**

As there was no quorum, adoption of the minutes was deferred to the next meeting.

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

None was reported.

7. PUBLIC ART MASTER PLAN

Niamh O’Laoghaire advised that Yan Wu, Public Art Coordinator, has drafted the Request for Proposal (RFP) for a consultant to develop a Public Art Master Plan. This was circulated to the Committee in advance of the February 28, 2018 meeting to ensure adequate time for its review. The goals of the Public Art Master Plan are to develop a strategic framework to address short and medium term requirements of the Public Art program in Markham for a five year period, identify and prioritize potential sites and opportunities for new public art projects within Markham, and identify best practices for the implementation and administration of the Public Art program. Niamh O’Laoghaire and Yan Wu requested comments and feedback on the Draft RFP. In response to queries they indicated it is expected that the final Public Art Master Plan would be delivered no later than 32 weeks following the bid award announcement. The bids will be reviewed by a jury composed of Niamh O’Laoghaire, Yan Wu, and a representative from Markham’s Purchasing department. Consideration may be given to Committee representation, if the Committee wishes to nominate one member to participate. It was noted that Markham staff appreciate that the Committee has championed the need for a Public Art Master Plan. The response of Committee Members present towards the plan was very positive.

8. PUBLIC ART UPDATES

Niamh O’Laoghaire reported on the following public art projects:

Benjamin Thorne

This project has been completed; the unveiling has been scheduled for May 12, 2018.

Plaques

Yan Wu, Public Art Coordinator, reported that Markham plans to introduce plaques that will identify public art pieces and the design will be finalized soon.

Aaniin Community Centre

The community centre is open, landscaping has begun and the large top is under construction. It is expected that installation will take place in summer 2018.

Downtown Markham Public Art Installation

The geotechnical survey of the site for Jill Anholt’s statue called “Living Light” revealed that it is located on the site of a sanitary sewer and that York Region has an easement on the site. It is necessary to move the proposed placement slightly; this has resulted in the need for Markham to negotiate with Remington for a small piece of land. It is expected that the new placement location will result in greater visibility of the finished work.

Local Art

Yan Wu will select quality artwork from the existing public art collection (paintings and prints), mostly by local artists, and arrange to have them hung throughout the Markham Civic Centre. She suggested arranging tours to show off the artwork to the public and staff.

Cenotaph

A wonderful design has been finalized and the cement has been poured. It is expected that the project will be completed soon.

Rizal Statue

Markham staff and the Filipino Canadian community, represented by Councillor Alex Chiu, are pleased with the design of the monument of Dr. Jose P. Rizal to be located in the Boxgrove Community Park. The design site has been enhanced by Markham Planning and Design. Installation of the statue has been scheduled for August 2018.

Charity sculpture

Stephen Chait, Director of Economic Growth, Culture and Entrepreneurship advised that Markham Council has voted to relocate the sculpture and that the donor has not responded to Markham's requests for input on a new location. The sculpture will be kept in place until Council approves another location within the same community.

9. NEW BUSINESS

None was identified.

10. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting of the Public Art Advisory Committee will be at the call of the Chair in conjunction with the Public Art Coordinator.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The Markham Public Art Advisory Committee adjourned at 7:35 pm.