



REPORT

REPORT TO: Mayor Bonnette and Members of Council

REPORT FROM: Catherine McLeod, Senior Arts and Culture Specialist

DATE: February 1, 2021

REPORT NO.: ADMIN-2021-0010

RE: Updates to Public Art Advisory Board Terms of Reference

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Report No. ADMIN-2021-0010, dated February 1, 2021, regarding Updates to the Terms of Reference for the Public Art Advisory Board be received;

AND FURTHER THAT Council approve the updated Public Art Advisory Board's Terms of Reference as set out in Appendix 1.

BACKGROUND:

The Town's Public Art Advisory Board (PAAB) was established in February 2018 following Council's approval of the recommended members (report ADMIN-2018-0003). The latter report also provided the framework for the Terms of Reference, outlined the responsibilities of the Board, and identified the next steps in its work plan. The PAAB developed draft Terms of Reference which members agreed to and tested during the first term of the new Board. This first iteration of the PAAB was instrumental in the development of the Public Art Master Plan (2018) and implemented the first two public art projects (After Nature and Under Wraps). The Mission of the Public Art Advisory Board is to support the implementation of the Public Art Policy (2017) and the Public Art Master Plan.

The Public Art Advisory Board is a Committee of Council. However, there is no Council representative on the Board, as per best practices and report COMMSERV-2016-0002 which laid out the structure and membership of the PAAB. The Public Art Advisory Board is comprised of three staff members with roles of significance to the public art program (i.e. art, culture, infrastructure, capital projects), and four representatives from the local cultural community, including a representative of the Arts and Culture Working Group.

PAAB members serve for a period of three years. The Terms of Reference developed in 2018 focused on the development of the Public Art Master Plan. Now that this Plan is in place and the PAAB's new term is set to begin in March 2021, the Terms of Reference need to be updated to reflect the current state of the Town's Public Art Program, and respond to lessons learned in the first term of the Board.

COMMENTS:

Key updates to the PAAB's Terms of Reference (ToR) are highlighted in Appendix 1 and include:

- Updating the activities of the PAAB to reflect the ongoing needs of implementing the Public Art Program. The previous ToR had a focus on developing the new Public Art Master Plan and launching the Public Art Program under which the first public art project (Temporary Art Banner Project) was approved in 2019.
- Expanding the criteria for potential staff members that could be included as representatives on the Board to include staff from Recreation and Parks, and Planning and Development. Their area of expertise (e.g. infrastructure, capital projects, facilities, planning and heritage, landscape architecture, urban design) have relevance for public art. Previously all staff representatives had cultural responsibilities in their portfolios.
- Updating the community representative section to:
 - Include a representative from the Arts and Culture Working Group. When the PAAB was first formed it was indicated that there was to be a representative of the Halton Hills Cultural Roundtable (HHCR). The latter has ceased operations. A representative from the Arts and Culture Working Group will provide the same function as the HHCR did in the past by linking the Board to a community group of cultural representatives
 - Expand eligibility to include those having their artistic practice in Halton Hills, recognizing that some people who are very active in the local arts and cultural sector may rent studio space in Halton Hills but live outside of the Town.
 - Expanding qualifications beyond practicing artists to include other relevant areas of expertise in the arts sector, including curators, collectors, patrons and other art professionals.
 - Allowing for additional terms for PAAB members to provide continuity and align with longer timelines associated with larger public art projects. PAAB members who wish to continue will need to re-apply and their application will be considered along with any new applicants. This will help ensure that the Board has the balance of required skills and experience.

- Provide a vacant seat clause to allow for the removal of an inactive Board member(s).

RELATIONSHIP TO STRATEGIC PLAN:

Updating the PAAB's Terms of Reference and the work of the PAAB supports the Strategic Plan's vision and mission, and relates to numerous priorities and values, including:

- Shaping Growth
- Foster a Prosperous Economy
- Provide Responsive, Effective Municipal Government

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

There are no financial impacts associated with this report.

CONSULTATION:

The current PAAB members were consulted on the updates to the Terms of Reference. Clerks staff were also consulted.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT:

The updated Terms of Reference will continue to facilitate effective public and stakeholder engagement in public art matters.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS:

The Town is committed to implementing our Community Sustainability Strategy, Imagine Halton Hills. Doing so will lead to a higher quality of life.

The recommendation outlined in this report advances the Strategy's implementation.

This report supports the Cultural Vibrancy, Economic Prosperity and Social Well-being pillars of Sustainability, and in summary the alignment of this report with the Community Sustainability Strategy is Excellent.

COMMUNICATIONS:

The updated Terms of Reference will be communicated to the new PAAB at the beginning of its term. They will be uploaded to the Public Art page of the Town's website.

CONCLUSION:

The PAAB is a key resource to assist the Town in implementing its Public Art Program. The proposed updated Terms of Reference will ensure the Board's continued engagement and effectiveness.

Reviewed and Approved by,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Damian Szybalski". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Damian Szybalski, Director of Economic Development, Innovation & Culture

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "C. Mills". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Chris Mills, Acting Chief Administrative Officer