



# Policy

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## POL.COR.12.15 Public Art Policy

<b>Policy Type:</b>	Corporate Policy (Approved by Council)
<b>Date Approved:</b>	October 9, 2018
<b>Department:</b>	Administration
<b>Staff Report:</b>	PAEC.12.2, FAF.17.48, FAF.18.135, FAF.23.022
<b>By-Law No.:</b>	2018-56
<b>Date Revised:</b>	March 6, 2023

### Policy Statement

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The Public Art Policy will serve to define the overall goals and procedures of the Town of The Blue Mountains towards public art. The strategies are formulated to provide a framework for art policy decision-making in regard to all public art for the municipality.

The aims of the Public Art Policy are:

- to serve artists in the region by providing an opportunity to showcase their work;
- to bring art to the public in a way that engages, educates, enlivens and enriches their experience of the Town;
- to demonstrate the municipality's commitment to contemporary art and culture as one of the pillars of "Our Sustainable Path"; and
- to provide an opportunity for a broad exchange of creative endeavours between the public, municipal staff and the arts community.

### Purpose

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The purpose of this policy is to ensure that art in or on municipally-owned public space is consistent with the Policy statement outlined above.

This policy provides guidelines for:

- the administration, acquisition, safe-keeping, and de-accessioning of permanent art (herein called the Collection).

## Application

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This public art policy applies to all art that is displayed in or on municipally-owned public space with the exception of Town Hall, The Blue Mountains Public Library, and the Craigleith Depot.

The policy has application for those involved with the consideration of “Art” to be displayed on or in municipally owned public space .

Those persons and groups include, but are not limited to: Council, Staff, the, The Blue Mountains Public Library Board Art Advisory Committee, artists, and donors.

This policy will be used as a reference tool for The Blue Mountains Public Library Art Advisory Committee. The policy will be approved by Council and monitored and adhered to by Town Staff.

## Definitions

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**Acquisition** is defined as obtaining ownership. Acquisition can take the form of donated art, purchased art or commissioned art.

**Artist** is defined as a person who possesses skill, training and/or expertise in an artistic discipline, is active in and committed to his or her art practice and has a history of public presentation.

**Collection** (also referred to as the Permanent Art Collection) is defined as art works owned by the Town of The Blue Mountains.

**Commissioned Art** is defined as a work of art created by a selected artist and for a specific site.

**De-accession** applies to art that is currently owned by the municipality, referred to as the Collection, and is defined as:

- The return of public art to the artist or donor of the art;
- The sale of a piece of art;
- Gifting of a piece of art to another institution
- Destruction of a piece of art;
- Disposition of a piece of art in a manner which has been agreed to in writing at the time of acquisition by the Town from the artist or the donor of art.

**Donated Art** is defined as art given to the Town in the form of a bequest or a gift.

**On-loan Art** is defined as:

- Art loaned to the Town through the M.A.P.;
- Art loaned to the Town, outside of M.A.P.

**Public Art** (also referred to as Art) includes art that is part of the Collection for the purpose of making the art accessible to the public in or on municipally-owned public space.

**Purchased Art** is defined as art that is bought by the Town from an artist, gallery or through another direct method.

**Safe-keeping** is defined as reasonable and best efforts to care for art, whether part of the Collection including site selection, installation, maintenance, storage and insurance.

## Procedures

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### 1. Administration

The Town will provide assistance for installation, removal and logistical matters relating to the Collection.

### 2. Public Art Committee

The Library Board will appoint a Public Art Committee. The term shall coincide with the Term of Town Council.

The Public Art Committee shall be responsible for the following:

- Evaluate proposed donations, with appropriate proposals passed on as recommendations to Council;
- Make recommendations to the Library Board and Council on the acquisition, safe-keeping, and de-accessioning of art in the Collection;
- Review of the Public Art Policy, recommending changes and providing updates to the Library Board and Town Council, as dictated by the policy review cycle.

### 3. Loaned Art

Loaned art is acquired in consultation with Council and the Public Art Committee.

### 4. Acquired Art

Art may be acquired through donation, purchase or commissioning and is acquired exclusively as part of the Collection.

## **5. Donation**

Subject to the provisions of Article 5 individuals who wish to donate a work of art to the Town will make a submission to Town Council, in writing, for the Town Staff consideration and other individuals that may be delegated based on specific expertise and skillset.

A recommendation from the CAO to accept a work of art into the Collection will be done in a manner to ensure that the piece is appropriate for the environment.

Only that art deemed to be appropriate by Town Staff will be put forward for consideration by Council. The donor will be notified by the Town with respect to the outcome of their submission.

## **6. Donation Agreement**

If art is accepted into the Collection, an agreement will be signed by both parties, arrangements will be made for the Town to receive the piece, tax receipts will be issued if the donor supplies an independent third party appraisal, and the piece will be installed.

## **7. Cost Associated with Acquisition**

Site selection, installation, maintenance, storage, and insurance are costs to be considered on a case-by-case basis and detailed at the time of acquisition.

## **8. Site Selection**

Through a decision of Council, and upon the recommendation of the Public Art Committee and Town Staff, the Town will coordinate site selection of art in or on municipally-owned public space.

## **9. Installation**

Installation of acquired art will involve a member of staff, any contractor required for the installation of the piece, and may involve the artist. Contractual requirements with an artist or contractor will be overseen by the Town.

## **10. Storage**

Long-term storage is limited to the Collection of the Town of The Blue Mountains.

## **11. De-accessioning**

De-accessioning is relevant to the Collection only.

The reasons for de-accessioning of art may include but are not limited to the following:

- the art in question is no longer relevant to the Town's public art inventory; or
- the public art installation has become unsafe or has been deemed unsafe by existing or new policies or legislation.

## **12. Revenue Received**

Revenue realized through the sale of de-accessioned public art or received by donation or bequest designated for public art will be placed into a fund for future art projects and programs, in conjunction with the recommendation of Town Staff and the advice of the Director of Finance and upon approval of Council.

## **13. Insurance**

Public Art will be insured under the Town's insurance policy and budgeted for accordingly through the Town's annual budget process.

## **Exclusions**

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Corporate awards, plaques and equivalents are excluded from the policy. However, the Public Art Committee will make itself available to consult and advise on the placement of such items.

The Blue Mountains Public Library, the Craighleith Heritage Depot and enclosed administrative office space within Town Hall are excluded from this policy.

## **Consequences of Non-Compliance**

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None

## **Review Cycle**

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The review cycle for this policy is once per term of the Committee.