

COUNCIL POLICY



REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY
OF WOOD BUFFALO

Document Name: Public Art
Department Name: Community and Protective Services
Document Number: PRC-170
Effective Date: September 27, 2022 Next Revision Date: September 27, 2025

STRATEGIC PLAN LINKAGE

- Fiscal Management

PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVE

Public Art is fundamental to building community identity and a sense of place that is unique to the region. The Public Art Policy (the “Policy”) provides a Council framework for implementing the Wood Buffalo Public Art Plan. The Plan demonstrates commitment to a Public Art ecosystem with sustainable structures and supports that foster a connected community, visible Indigenous presence, and vibrant public realm. This Policy establishes and supports the Public Art Program and identifies financing requirements related to the Public Art Reserve for delivery of Public Art programs and projects.

GENERAL PRINCIPLES

1. Definitions:

- 1.1. “Acquisition” means the acquiring of Public Art through commission, purchase, donation, bequest, or Curatorial Process.
- 1.2. “Artist” means a person who:
 - a) is recognized as an artist;
 - b) possesses skill, training, and experience in their artistic discipline;
 - c) is active in and committed to their practice; and
 - d) has a history of public presentation.
- 1.3. “Conservation” means the care of Public Art, including a range of preventative measures and professional treatments.
- 1.4. “Curatorial Process” means the process through which a curator is engaged to develop a narrative and theme for a Public Art project and invites specific Artists to submit proposals, directly purchases Public Art, directly commissions Public Art, or manages an open competition for Artists.
- 1.5. “Indigenous Communities” means Indigenous communities located within the boundaries of the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo.

- 1.6. "Maintenance" means the upkeep of Public Art as recommended in a maintenance package associated with an Acquisition or as otherwise determined by the Public Art Program.
- 1.7. "Municipal Public Art Collection" means an inventoried collection of Public Art owned and held in trust by the Municipality.
- 1.8. "Percent-for-Art" means the percentage of capital construction project costs, as approved by Council through the annual Municipal budget process, to be allocated to the Public Art Reserve.
- 1.9. "Public Art" means artistic and cultural expression as experienced in the public realm. Public art is a place-based creative practice. Unlike a singular, moveable art form, public art embraces a series of creative practices that encompass a variety of forms and approaches, temporary or permanent, that respond to and engage with specific sites and situations. The outcome of an Artist's creative practice can be part of the actual infrastructure of a physical built environment, or it can be part of the community engagement process of establishing or redeveloping an area, a place, or a space. Public Art can be a permanent or temporary space-specific work, it can form part of a festival, be a series of events, or be an intervention co-created with community.
- 1.10. "Public Art Committee" means the Council-appointed committee established through a bylaw for the purpose of advising Council on the implementation of the Public Art Program.
- 1.11. "Public Art Plan" or "Plan" means the Council-adopted Wood Buffalo Public Art Plan.
- 1.12. "Public Art Program" or "Program" means the program adopted by Council and supported through the Public Art Reserve for the purpose of developing, selecting, acquiring, and displaying the Municipal Public Art Collection.
- 1.13. "Public Art Reserve" means the monetary fund established to support activities of the Public Art Program.
- 1.14. "Public Art Workplan" or "Workplan" means an annual prioritized list that sets out Public Art Program areas and projects with associated budgets and approaches.

2. Responsibilities:

2.1. Council to:

- 2.1.1. approve this Policy and any future amendments, as required;
- 2.1.2. annually approve allocations to the Public Art Reserve;
- 2.1.3. appoint members to the Public Art Committee; and
- 2.1.4. consider and support the annual Public Art Workplan.

2.2. Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) to:

- 2.2.1. recommend any amendments to this Policy;
- 2.2.2. support implementation of this Policy; and
- 2.2.3. support staffing requirements to deliver the Public Art Program.

3. General Procedures

3.1. Public Art Program:

- 3.1.1. The Municipality will implement a sustainable and responsive funding strategy for the management and growth of the Public Art Program.
- 3.1.2. For the general benefit of the community, the Municipality will increase the presence of Public Art and build integrity of the Public Art Program through comprehensive standards, procedures, and processes.
- 3.1.3. The Public Art Program will honour Indigenous Communities and cultural ways of knowing.
- 3.1.4. The Public Art Program cultivates an inclusive community where all cultural traditions and expressions are respected, promoted, and equitably resourced and also acknowledges the distinctiveness of communities, people, and cultures.

3.2. Public Art Reserve:

- 3.2.1. The Municipality will support Public Art through a Percent-for-Art sustainable funding model that allocates a small percentage of capital funds toward the Public Art Reserve.
- 3.2.2. The Municipality will allocate to the Public Art Reserve one-half of a percent (0.5%) of the annual construction costs of approved Capital Projects.
- 3.2.3. The Public Art Reserve will hold all Percent-for-Art funds with such funds being utilized to commission Public Art at the associated capital project site or an alternative site.
- 3.2.4. The Public Art Reserve should be applied to support a diversity of accessible Public Art opportunities throughout the Municipality.
- 3.2.5. The Public Art Reserve will support the Conservation of Public Art.
- 3.2.6. Where budgeted funds are not spent or allocated in their entirety within a budget year, such funds will remain in the Public Art Reserve.

3.3. Public Art Workplan:

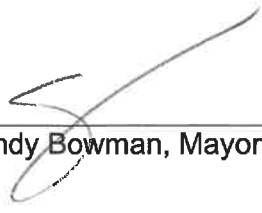
- 3.3.1. An annual Public Art Workplan will be developed in consultation with Municipal departments and the Public Art Committee.
- 3.3.2. The Workplan will align with the goals and objectives of the Public Art Program and be presented to Council in the first quarter.
- 3.3.3. The Workplan will identify the year's Program initiatives. If approved, funds are to come from the Public Art Reserve.

4. Rescind and Replace

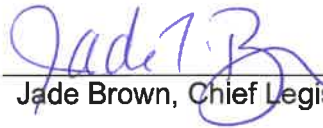
This Policy rescinds and replaces the Municipal Public Art Policy PRL-160, dated September 8, 2015.

APPROVAL

This Policy was approved by Council. It will be reviewed not later than its next Revision Date to determine its effectiveness and appropriateness. It may be assessed before that time, as necessary.



Sandy Bowman, Mayor



Jade Brown, Chief Legislative Officer

September 28, 2022

Date

SUPPORTING REFERENCES AND POSITION RESPONSIBLE

Legal References:	Copyright Act, RSC 1985, c C-42 Municipal Government Act, RSA 2000, c M-26
Cross References:	Fiscal Responsibility Policy FIN-160 Public Art Administrative Procedure PRC-170-P01 Wood Buffalo Public Art Plan 2021-2030
Position Responsible:	Director, Community and Protective Services

COUNCIL POLICY DETAILS AND REVISION HISTORY

Date	Action	Description
July 9, 2014	Introduction	New Municipal Public Art Policy PRL-160.
September 8, 2015	Revision – Minor	Extension of Policy term.
September 27, 2022	Revision – Substantive	Public Art Policy PRC-170 rescinds and replaces Municipal Art Policy PRL-160. Changes were made to definitions, responsibilities, and procedures. Cross references were added. The format was revised to meet requirements for the new Policy template.