
REPORT TITLE: William G. Davis Memorial Sculpture at Peel Art Gallery, Museum, and Archives

FROM: Patricia Caza, Chief Financial Officer and Commissioner of Corporate Services

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That the proposal for a memorial sculpture in honour of the former Premier of Ontario, William (Bill) Davis be approved for installation on the grounds of the Peel Art Gallery, Museum, and Archives; and**
- 2. That the draft Public Art and Monuments Policy and Guidelines included as Appendix I to the report of the Chief Financial Officer and Commissioner of Corporate Services, listed on the June 8, 2023 Regional Council agenda titled “William G. Davis Memorial Sculpture at Peel Art Gallery, Museum, and Archives” be approved; and**
- 3. That Peel’s signing officers be authorized to execute all documents necessary or advisable for the completion of the installation, ongoing maintenance, and other ancillary matters, in a form satisfactory to the Regional Solicitor.**

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

- A memorial artwork in honour of former Premier of Ontario, William G. Davis, has been proposed for installation on the grounds of PAMA by the Davis family and City of Brampton staff.
- Staff conducted research of policy and guideline documents from neighbouring municipalities to develop a Public Art and Monuments policy and set of guidelines to assess the viability of all public art and monuments proposed for Region of Peel owned and operated properties or land.
- Staff have met with members of the Davis family and City of Brampton staff to identify a preferred location on the grounds of PAMA. The location has been agreed upon by all parties.
- The project will be funded with a \$100,000 commitment from the City of Brampton and \$150,000 from the Province of Ontario.
- The proposed memorial work in recognition of William G. Davis will allow Region of Peel residents to honour and learn about the exceptional work of Mr. Davis.

DISCUSSION

1. Background

In 2021, former City of Brampton Mayor, Peter Robertson, approached staff to propose the installation of a memorial artwork on the grounds of the Peel Art Gallery, Museum and Archives (PAMA) in honour of former Premier of Ontario, William G. Davis.

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On April 22, 2021, Resolution Number 2021-284 was approved by Regional Council.

'That staff report back to Regional Council with respect to a policy on monuments and with recommendations for a proposed monument in honour of former Premier of Ontario, Bill Davis, on the grounds of the Peel Art Gallery, Museum and Archives (PAMA) in Brampton.'

Staff conducted research of policy and guideline documents from neighbouring municipalities to develop a Public Art and Monuments policy and set of guidelines to assess the viability of all public art and monuments proposed for Region of Peel owned and operated properties or land.

Following a June 23, 2021, delegation to Brampton City Council by Mr. Peter Robertson, the following motion was passed by Brampton City Council:

CW357-2021

1. That \$100,000 be allocated by the City of Brampton, from an account to be determined by Finance, for the establishment of a Monument to Premier Bill Davis within Brampton;
2. That a local procurement process, in accordance with the Purchasing By-law and City policy, be commenced; and
3. That the additional sum of support required be sought from another order of government and/or various interested organizations.

On October 28, 2021, Resolution Number 2021-1070 was approved by Regional Council.

That the establishment of a Public Art and Monuments Committee with a makeup and guidelines as set out in the draft policy, attached as Appendix I to the report of the Commissioner of Service Excellence and Innovation, listed on the October 28, 2021, Regional Council agenda titled "Public Art and Monuments Policy", be approved.

The City of Brampton originally considered Gage Park as the future site for the Davis Memorial Sculpture. In May 2022, City staff advised Regional staff that the family of William G. Davis named PAMA as their preferred memorial site.

On March 29, 2023, Item 12.2.2 City of Brampton Staff Report re: Preferred Site for William G. Davis Memorial Sculpture (Appendix II) was presented to City of Brampton Council. A motion to refer the report to the April 6 council meeting carried.

a) Current Situation

Staff have met with members of the Davis family and City of Brampton staff to identify a preferred location on the grounds of PAMA. The location has been agreed upon by all parties pending approval from Regional Council.

The Ontario Heritage Trust has provided preliminary site approval, contingent upon final design drawings. The final design and installation will require a formal alteration request and approval from the Trust.

The Trust recommends that the call for proposals include the stipulation that the sculpture appropriately reflect the heritage and history of the space.

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Utility locates have been conducted at the proposed site and recommend a 1.00-meter setback from the sidewalk.

2. Proposed Direction

City of Brampton and PAMA staff have agreed to the following, in accordance with the Public Art and Monuments policy;

a) Public engagement strategy:

- Focussed on education and learning about Davis' legacy.
- Positioned as an opportunity for community engagement and education.
- Workshops developed in collaboration with PAMA.
- Engagement of students and possibly designed to speak to grade 3 curriculum unit on local history.
- Interactive QR code.
- Opportunity to tie into future exhibitions at PAMA on Bill Davis based on local political history.

b) Overview of design concept:

- Artist scope will be seeking something that symbolizes Davis' legacy OR is the work of an artist of such stature as to speak to the level of contribution Davis made to the province.
Work will not be figurative.

c) Procurement:

- The procurement process will be undertaken by the City of Brampton.
- Direct commission in adherence with Purchasing by-laws, Request for Proposal (RFP) or a call for interest.
- Committee decision preferred
- Selection Committee includes representatives from:
 - PAMA
 - City of Brampton - Culture Planning / Public Art
 - City of Brampton - Heritage Planning
 - Davis Family
 - Heritage Trust*
+ minimum of 2 peer assessors**A thorough list of parameters from the Ontario Heritage Trust may be embedded into the scope of work guidelines and evaluation matrix, in place of committee representation.*
- Two stage competition:
 - Stage 1 - Expression of Interest (artists submit previous works and CV for consideration)
 - Stage 2 - Request for Proposals (artists are shortlisted and compensated for the development of full proposal)

d) Maintenance schedule/commitment:

- The City of Brampton will be responsible for maintenance and state of good repair in collaboration with the Region of Peel.

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- A formal schedule and agreement will be developed in consideration of final design.
- Legal staff for both Region of Peel and City of Brampton will be required for document preparation.

RISK CONSIDERATIONS

Region of Peel Archives have conducted research to identify any historical issues connected to Mr. Davis. Research has not identified any concerns related to character, works, or personal beliefs that would prohibit the proposed sculpture from being installed at PAMA.

City of Brampton, Heritage staff have reviewed the proposed location for the potential of requiring an archaeological assessment. Staff have determined that an archaeological assessment will not be required.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The project will be funded with a \$100,000 commitment from the City of Brampton and \$150,000 from the Province of Ontario (pending agreement execution). There will be no net financial impact to the Region of Peel.

The City of Brampton will work to ensure that all costs associated with the project are included in the scope of work and initial budget, including funding to support:

- Lighting
- Sculpture pad installation
- Cabling
- Contingency costs

CONCLUSION

Public Art and Monuments play a vital role in a Community for Life by reflecting a rich history, diverse experiences, and shared social values. Public Art humanizes urban spaces through creativity, beautification, and interaction. It provides a sense of place, a focal point of gathering and encourages discussions.

The proposed memorial work in recognition of William G. Davis will allow Region of Peel residents to honour and learn about the exceptional work of Mr. Davis.

APPENDICES

Appendix I – Public Art and Monuments Policy and Guidelines

Appendix II - City of Brampton Staff Report re: Preferred Site for William G. Davis Memorial Sculpture



Patricia Caza, Chief Financial Officer and Commissioner of Corporate Services

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