

TO:	CHAIR AND MEMBERS INVESTMENT AND ECONOMIC PROSPERITY COMMITTEE MEETING ON DECEMBER 2, 2013
FROM:	HARVEY FILGER DIRECTOR, CORPORATE INVESTMENTS AND PARTNERSHIPS
SUBJECT:	DONATION OF THE "SENTINEL" PUBLIC ART FROM THE BLACKBURN FOUNDATION

RECOMMENDATIONS

That, on the recommendation of the Director of Corporate Investments and Partnerships:

- (a) The "Sentinel" public art **BE ACQUIRED** by the City of London under its Public Art Program through a Donation Agreement which transfers ownership of the artwork from the Blackburn Foundation to the City of London;
- (b) the by-law attached hereto as Appendix A, **BE INTRODUCED** at the Municipal Council meeting to be held on December 17, 2013 to authorize the Mayor and Clerk to sign the permanent Donation Agreement with the Blackburn Foundation to transfer the ownership of the "Sentinel" public art to the City of London and issue a tax receipt to the Blackburn Foundation for their donation, attached as Schedule A to the by-law; and,
- (c) The "Sentinel" public art **BE LOCATED** on City of London property in Mitch Baran Park in close proximity to the Walter J. Blackburn Memorial Fountain at the Forks of the Thames (see Appendix B for a map of the proposed location).

PREVIOUS REPORTS PERTINENT TO THIS MATTER

- Public Art Policy - Board of Control, January 2009
- The "Sentinel" Public Art – Creative City Committee, October 10, 2012

BACKGROUND

"At its meeting held on October 10, 2012, the Creative City Committee heard a verbal presentation from B. Brady, on behalf of the London Blackburn Foundation, with respect to the possible donation of the 'Sentinel' public art to the City of London. Pursuant to the Public Art Policy, the Creative City Committee forwarded the potential donation of the "Sentinel" to the London Arts Council Public Art Jury to determine whether or not the City should take possession of the piece; it being noted that, depending upon the recommendation of the Public Art Jury, the preference would be to display the art at the Forks of the Thames."

The "Sentinel" is an aluminum sculpture 20 feet high and 8 feet wide, created in 1986 by one of Canada's renowned artists and former Londoner, Gino Lorcini (see Appendix C for photos of the artwork). This artwork, assessed by Thielsen Gallery in 2013 is valued at \$125,000 and is a memorial to Mr. Blackburn from Mrs. Blackburn (see Appendix D for valuation of the artwork).

Recommendation of the London Arts Council Public Art Review Team that the City Acquire the “Sentinel” Artwork

The London Arts Council (LAC) Public Art Review Team has adjudicated the Blackburn Foundation proposal which included the model of the artwork, and background information about the artworks’ valuation, ownership, specifications, installation, maintenance and insurance considerations.

The LAC Public Art Review Team has recommended to the Culture Office that the City should assume responsibility for acquiring this artwork as it is a quality piece. If this recommendation is approved by Council, the City would enter into a permanent donation agreement with the Blackburn Foundation to transfer the ownership of this artwork to the City and relocate this artwork (see Appendix E for the recommendation from the London Arts Council Public Art Review Team).

Proposed Site Location

The Blackburn Foundation would like this artwork to be relocated from the CTV lands (1 Communications Drive) to a more prominent location in close proximity to the Walter J. Blackburn Memorial Fountain at the Forks of the Thames.

The City of London’s Public Art Site Selection Team (PASST) met to review possible potential site locations for placement of this public art. The Team consisted of representatives from various City Divisions and the Executive Directors of Museum London and the London Arts Council (LAC). The Team considered the artists’ wish to relocate the artwork to a more prominent pastoral setting and recommended to the London Arts Council Public Art Review Team that two potential sites be considered.

The LAC Public Art Review Team reviewed the two sites and recommended to the Culture Office that The “Sentinel” public art be located on City of London property which is in close proximity to the Walter J. Blackburn Memorial Fountain at the Forks of the Thames in Mitch Baran Park (see Appendix B for a map of the proposed location). The representatives of the Blackburn Foundation and artist are in support of this proposed location.

Financial Implications to the City of London

Removal of the artwork from 1 Communications Road, London, Ontario, transportation to and reinstallation at the new location shall be the sole responsibility of the City. All costs associated with the removal, transportation to and reinstallation at the new location shall be the responsibility of the City. All costs shall include, without limitation to, the development of stamped engineered technical drawings, the removal of the artwork, storage and transportation to the installation location, insurance, site remediation at 1 Communications Road, site preparation and remediation at the installation location, artist’s consulting fees and any and all repairs, alteration or restoration of the artwork that may be required. The Blackburn Foundation has agreed to provide to the City the sum of \$20,000 as the Donor’s contribution toward the costs associated with the removal of the artwork, transportation to and reinstallation at the new location. The Blackburn Foundation has approved the attached agreement.

There is no cost to maintain this public art as it is made of aluminum which withstands the elements.

The cost of this relocation can be accommodated through existing funding from the Culture Office Public Art Acquisition Reserve Fund.

PREPARED BY:	SUBMITTED BY:
STEPHANIE JONES MUNICIPAL POLICY SPECIALIST CULTURE	ROBIN ARMISTEAD MANAGER OF CULTURE AND MUNICIPAL POLICY

RECOMMENDED BY:
HARVEY FILGER DIRECTOR, CORPORATE INVESTMENTS AND PARTNERSHIPS

cc:

Elizabeth Abbott, Executive Assistant of the Blackburn Foundation
 Andrea Halwa, Executive Director of the London Arts Council
 Jim Klingenberger, Manager Operations Facilities Division
 Barry Lorcini, Representing the Artist, Gino Lorcini
 Andrew MacPherson, Manager Parks Planning and Design

Attachments:

Appendix A: By-Law for Donation Agreement
 Appendix B: Map of Proposed Location of artwork
 Appendix C: Photos of artwork
 Appendix D: Valuation of the artwork
 Appendix E: Recommendation from the London Arts Council Public Art Review Team