

Public Art Committee
Tuesday, February 6, 2023 at 4:00pm
Frank Jameson Community Centre at 810 6th Avenue

The purpose of the Public Art Committee is to assist the Town with providing advice and recommendations to Council on specific Public Art projects, including selection processes, acceptance of grants, gifts, donations, bequests and deaccession as referred by Council.

The Public Art Committee has two functions:

- (a) To advise the Town on public art issues and trends relevant to public art initiative in Town.*
 - (b) To advise on specific issues, such as donations, deaccession, and commissions of work.*
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1. Call to Order and Acknowledgement

The Town of Ladysmith acknowledges with gratitude that this meeting takes place on the unceded territory of the Stz'uminus First Nation.

2. Agenda Approval

3. Minutes

- a) Minutes of the meeting held on December 4th, 2023

4. New Business

- a) Community Banner Program 2024 – selection and recommendation to Council
- b) Mayor Katheleen (Kay) Grouhel Recognition

5. Old Business

- a) Update on Holland Creek culverts
- b) Review/Update on Town of Ladysmith Flag – process recommendation for Council
- c) Update on Deaccession of Public Art of Julian North Collection

6. Adjournment

Next Meeting: To be determined by Committee.

STAFF REPORT TO COUNCIL

Report Prepared By: Chris Barfoot, Director Parks, Recreation and Culture
Report Reviewed By: **Allison McCarrick, CAO**
Meeting Date: July 20, 2021
File No:
Re: **Public Recognition for Former Mayor Kathleen ‘Kay’ Grouhel**

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council direct staff to include \$8,000 in the 2022-2026 Financial Plan for the installation of a historical interpretive sign and a poem embedded into concrete to recognize former Mayor Kathleen Grouhel.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Mayor Kathleen ‘Kay’ Grouhel played an important role in the vision for much of Ladysmith’s defining amenities, most notably Transfer Beach. At its closed meeting held July 6, 2021, Council approved the installation of a historical interpretive sign as well as a poem embedded in concrete along the pathway leading to Transfer Beach, in her honour.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL DIRECTION:

Resolution	Meeting Date	Resolution Details
CE 2021-100	07/06/2021	That Council approve the installation of a historical interpretive sign with a short biography of former Mayor Kathleen ‘Kay’ Grouhel, including her notable contributions to the Town.
CE 2021-101	07/06/2021	That Council direct staff to issue a ‘call for poetry’ themed around Kathleen ‘Kay’ Grouhel, with the selected poem stamped (embedded) in concrete along the pathway leading to Transfer Beach. OPPOSED: Councillor Johnson

INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND:

At the encouragement of her father, Kathleen ‘Kay’ Grouhel ran for office and was elected Ladysmith’s first female mayor in 1964. During her term, Kay also became the first female president of the Union of BC Municipalities in its 70 year history.

She had a distinguished career as mayor of Ladysmith for twelve years, played an integral role in the vision of Transfer Beach, and achieved many other accomplishments, including:

- the building of the fire hall and public works buildings;
- acquiring the Town’s first new fire truck in years;



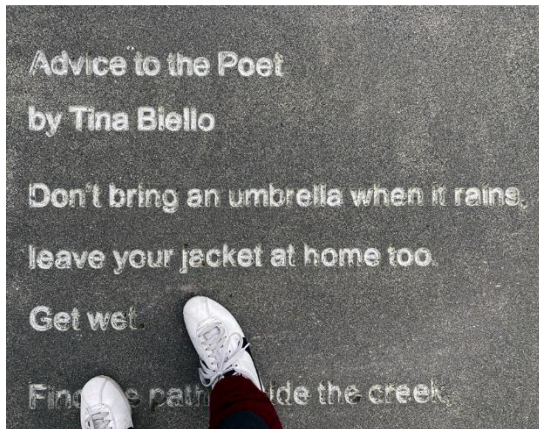
- the planting of Dogwood trees along the highway (since removed); and
- the redesign of the sidewalks downtown to improve appearance and increase pedestrian safety.

This last initiative earned her the nickname of “Concrete Kay”.

Council has approved the installation of a historical interpretive sign with a short biography of Kathleen Grouhel and her contributions to the Town as well as placement of a poem stamped (embedded) in concrete along the pathway leading down to Transfer Beach. The poem embedded into the sidewalk will not only recognize the contributions Ms. Grouhel made for the Town, but will also promote art and literature. This is an effective method of placemaking by transforming ordinary elements of the public realm, such as sidewalks in this proposal, into something unique and exciting.

Staff have been in contact with Ms. Grouhel’s family members who are in support of the initiative. The family will be invited to participate in the development of the poem to be embedded into the concrete.

Two examples of stamped concrete are shown below.



ALTERNATIVES:

Council can choose to:

1. Provide input and direct staff to investigate alternative options.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

	<i>ESTIMATED COSTS</i>
Interpretive Signage (Design and Installation)	\$2,500
Poem Embedded into Concrete	\$5,000
Poet Honorarium	\$500
ESTIMATED TOTAL	\$8,000

The cost of the project is expected to be \$8,000; annual maintenance is anticipated to be minimal. If approved, the project will be included in the Capital Plan for 2022 with the funds to come from property taxation.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:

N/A

CITIZEN/PUBLIC RELATIONS IMPLICATIONS:

N/A

INTERDEPARTMENTAL INVOLVEMENT/IMPLICATIONS:

N/A

ALIGNMENT WITH SUSTAINABILITY VISIONING REPORT:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Complete Community Land Use | <input type="checkbox"/> Low Impact Transportation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Green Buildings | <input type="checkbox"/> Multi-Use Landscapes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Innovative Infrastructure | <input type="checkbox"/> Local Food Systems |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Healthy Community | <input type="checkbox"/> Local, Diverse Economy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable | |

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Infrastructure | <input type="checkbox"/> Economy |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community | <input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Waterfront | |

I approve the report and recommendation(s).

Allison McCarrick, Chief Administrative Officer