



PUBLIC**ART**PROGRAM

# Annual Report 2009 – 2010



*Great Art. Great City.*



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*The Public Art Program is responsible for:*

- ▶ *Implementing the Public Art Policy.*
- ▶ *Managing The Public Art Collection.*
- ▶ *Collaborating with civic partners, private developers and community members doing public art.*
- ▶ *Providing Public Programming and Community Development initiatives around public art.*

#### COVER:

Sources: River of Light

Laurent Louyer and  
Creatmosphere Studio

Installation on the Bow River  
(Calgary)

Photo taken by Carlos Amat



## PUBLICARTPROGRAM

The Public Art Board is mandated to report to Council on an annual basis to share developments and successes of the Public Art Program and make recommendations for improvement. This report covers the period June 2009 – December 2010.

## Message from Charles Burgess, Incoming Chair, Public Art Board



Calgary's Public Art Policy has inspired a cutting edge Public Art Program, recognized across North America and beyond as the new standard in public art. Much has been accomplished through the hard work and vision of the Public Art Board and City of Calgary staff, with support of our Mayor, City Council and partners. While we have much to be proud of, it is important that we continue to build upon past successes. As we embark upon the 2010 – 2011 program year, we look forward to seeing the Public Art Program continue to grow, bringing vibrancy and engagement to Calgary as public art touches the lives of residents and visitors.

I look forward to the ongoing support of Council, City Administration, Arts and Culture, Public Art staff and my Board colleagues as we continue to break through stereotypes and boundaries by incorporating unique and beautiful public art into our daily lives.

**Charles D. Burgess**  
BA, LLB

# Message from Tom Tittlemore,

## Outgoing Chair, Public Art Board



Reflecting on the 2009 – 2010 Public Art Board term, significant action was taken following our first annual Board Retreat in the winter of 2010. Our advisory Board's principal goals during this period of time were twofold: first, we were intent on improving the efficacy of both the Board and Public Art Program, and second; we wished to be recognized as an effective advocate for the value and benefits of public art to Calgarians.

### Highlights of the 2009 – 2010 Board term included:

- ▶ Engaging Calgary Arts Development Authority (CADA) directly in Board activity as a standing member of the Board.
- ▶ Overseeing implementation of the revised Public Art Policy (2009) by City departments in liaison with the Public Art Program.
- ▶ Further collaboration with the Calgary Allied Arts Foundation (CAAF) on management of the Civic Art Collection.
- ▶ Improved liaison with various civic partners through the implementation of their respective public art projects.
- ▶ Creating an important public art "partner" with the East Village.
- ▶ Developing a vision for public art in Calgary, with accompanying documents that, once complete, will educate and inspire everyone engaged in public art —

the general public, City Council, City Administration and artists alike — on the worth, goals and purpose of the Public Art Program.

- ▶ Continued support of numerous local, national and international public artists, all of whom have contributed to making Calgary a "Great City" through their creative, engaging and provocative project work.

The fall of 2010 brings to an end my six years of involvement on the Calgary Public Art Board, the last two serving as Board Chair. This period of time has witnessed the steady maturity of our Board coupled with the inspiring growth and repute of the Public Art Program. I wish to express my sincere thanks and gratitude to Council, City Administration, Arts and Culture, Program staff and my volunteer Board colleagues for making my tenure a most fulfilling and memorable experience.



**Tom Tittlemore**  
Architect AAA, MAIBC, MRAIC

*"The Calgary Public Art Program has quickly leapt to the top of the international stage for meaningful and engaging public art...leading the way in commissioning and collaborating with artists, both informed and dedicated to the most innovative and contemporary ways of working."*

Sans Facon, Artist Team,  
Glasgow, Scotland

# Message from Rachael Seupersad,

## Superintendent, Public Art Program



The Public Art Program has experienced many firsts over the past 18 months, beginning with Council's unanimous support of the amended Public Art Policy in July 2009. This support led to refinement of our Strategic Platform, guiding our everyday work as outlined in the following pages. We produced our first iPhone app, first temporary public art celebration and first collaborative public art installation with Calgary Municipal Land Corporation (CMLC). Our programs have benefited from our first-ever sponsorship by McLennan Ross LLP and our first co-production with TRUCK Contemporary Art.

Culture advocate Jon Hawkes contends that culture is the necessary fourth pillar of sustainability. He notes that, "(as) the embodied set of values that any city has... culture must be brought to bear on all city planning and policy making."

The City of Calgary has taken an important step forward in its Recreation Master Plan by making culture and the arts a priority. The City recognizes that public art is a vital aspect of our vibrant culture, enabling us to tell our stories, express our feelings and record our thinking.

Public art is only one aspect of our city's rich culture, but it is an essential one. Public art helps us understand ourselves in the context of our city, which is by definition public. The art serves as a way to reorient ourselves within our surroundings time and time again. As University of Toronto Philosophy professor Mark Kingswell states, "Art has a particular de-stabilizing effect on a city that is vital to its existence and experience."

Art is about the making of meaning, and cities are places where meaning is exchanged. Public art is not just about the art, it is equally about the place and therefore about an experience. Matthew Lennon, the director of Civic Art with the Houston Arts Alliance, expresses it this way: "public art is informed by the city and informs the city." The formula goes something like this: **Art + Place = Experience → LOVE of your city → Sustainability through Culture.**



**Rachael Seupersad**  
BA, BFA

*"Great art is transcendental, that is to say it is universal, timeless and intriguing to different people in different ways. It is so many things that it is nothing that can really be expressed in words because it is about an experience."*

**Rachael Seupersad,**  
Public Art Superintendent,  
City of Calgary

*"...the connection between art and everyday life is paramount to a livable and viable exciting community."*

**Stuart Keeler, artist**

*Art is a verb.*

*Cities are people.*

*Culture is a way.*

# The City of Calgary Public Art Program

Calgary is a hub of creative energy. Ground-breaking ideas come to life in this city where brazen conviction mingles with sophisticated candour and a furtive willingness to support ingenuity. By continually renewing itself, Calgary remains a frontier city with boundless potential. It is a city where people want to live, work, play and visit.

The Public Art Program presents its vision and strategic direction for public art at The City of Calgary, outlining goals, objectives and priorities along with guiding principles and value statements that support a clear mission and mandate.

## Vision

*Great Art. Great City.*

Calgarians recognize that great art has the power to change a city, to propel it towards greatness in a way that informs the world yet speaks to the soul of an individual. Public art in Calgary must be bold, provocative and reflective of the dynamic and enterprising spirit of this city. In order to be an intrinsic part of the Calgary experience, public art must resonate in a way that renders citizens proud of their city. The Public Art Program is committed to acquiring great art through a consistent approach to the artful development of public places at The City of Calgary.

## Mission

Guide the evolution of a distinct and vibrant artistic character for the city's public places.

In 2004, Calgary joined the ranks of leading cities around the world when Council adopted a Public Art Policy. The Public Art Program was created to lead The City's efforts in guiding "the evolution of a distinct and vibrant artistic character for the city's public places." Today, public art is impacting Calgary's urban landscape and transforming the way Calgarians see and think about their city.

## Mandate

Lead, facilitate and support the acquisition and stewardship of public art for The City of Calgary.

The City of Calgary Arts & Culture Division has become recognized as a global leader in the field of public art through its commitment to best practice, collaboration and innovation. The Public Art Program is staffed by a dedicated team of professionals who consistently strive to uphold and enhance The City's reputation by ensuring the highest levels of accountability and transparency in the execution of fiduciary responsibility.

*Public Art creates jobs, attracts people and instigates civic dialogue through community engagement, forging a common identity for all Calgarians.*

## Community Cultural Development

Community Cultural Development (CCD) is collaboration between artists and communities using art making to address cultural issues and to foster social development and change.

CCD is process-based and has no one model. In all cases, the relationship between artists and their community is an equal one. The concept of shared culture is important: through collective experience communities gain understanding and appreciation for their own and others' histories, abilities, hopes, and dreams.

Community-based public art takes a variety of forms, from art installed outdoors that intersects with daily life, to art for social change. The Public Art Program believes that public art provides both intellectual nourishment and social benefit, and that community-based public art benefits the participating communities as well as the artists that work with them.

The Public Art Program provides resources and opportunities to build community capacity through public art projects. In such projects, the artist facilitates and empowers the community through the creative process, rather than realizing their own personal artistic vision.

## iPhone Application

The Public Art Program launched The City's first iPhone application in May 2010. The app includes photographs, audio and details about 16 public art pieces within a four-block radius of Calgary's downtown. The iPhone App and its GPS co-ordinates guide the user through the circuit of installations and translates the richness, history and stories behind each artwork.

There is also a podcast of downloadable audio files on the website: [calgary.ca/publicart](http://calgary.ca/publicart).





# Public programming

## Open Spaces: Windows to a View

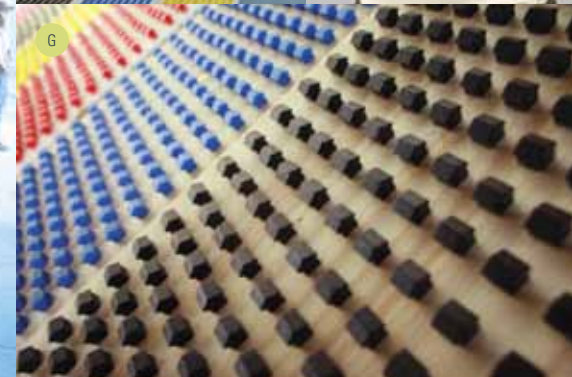
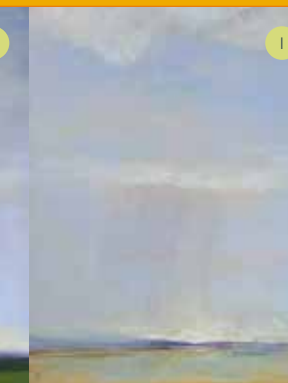
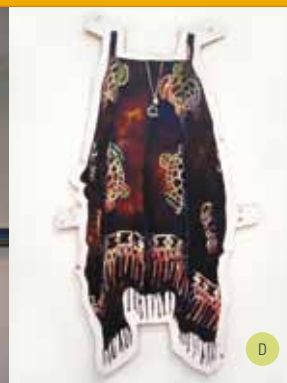
began May 2009 to celebrate the diversity and quality of Calgary artists while enlivening the downtown Seventh Avenue transportation corridor. The program has featured more than a dozen artists, chosen from an open call process.

In 2010, Open Spaces received great news when the law firm of McLennan Ross LLP stepped forward to sponsor the program for three years.

“The program invites artists to consider civic and community spaces and focus on the process of creating socially engaging art in public settings,” says Quyen Hoang, program co-ordinator.



- A Billie Rae Busby
- B In-Definite Arts Society
- C Daniel Kirk
- D Roxanne Driediger
- E Julie Chapdelaine
- F Erin Belanger
- G Marjan Eggermont
- H Sarah Fuller
- I Judy Ueda
- J Terry Reynoldson and Studio C
- K Nikki Gour
- L Doug Driediger





# Civic Art Collection

The Public Art Program is responsible for managing the Civic Art Collection, which consists of approximately 1,000 works of art valued at \$5 million.

Program staff ensure access to the Collection through exhibits, loans, interpretation and research. The Program is also accountable for acquisitions, documentation, record keeping, care and preservation.

During 2009 – 2010, the Program was pleased to loan 196 works to external organizations, including Mount Royal University, Bow Valley College, Triangle Gallery of Visual Arts and Glenbow Museum. An additional 239 works were exhibited throughout City buildings, facilities and public places.

Leo Mol's *Twin Bears* and *Bird of Spring* by Etungat were re-located to Connaught Park and Bakers Park respectively.

Twelve City artworks were conserved at a cost of \$58,000.

Two larger projects included the refurbishment of *Balancing Act* by Roy Leadbeater and the on-going remounting of Robert Oldrich's mural, *Alberta*.

Other significant conservation projects included:

- ▶ *Emerald Two* by George Mihalcheon
- ▶ *Loaded Code* by John Eisler
- ▶ *General Wolfe* by John Massey Rhind
- ▶ *The Conversation* by William McElcherson
- ▶ *Downtown Adventure* by Glen Semple

The City added 30 new works to the Civic Art Collection through gifts, donations and transfers valued at \$190,000.

## Acquisitions

ARTIST	TITLE
Ahmad Al-Shaikly	1 <i>Natural Harmonics</i>
Averns, Dick	2 <i>Airman Duff</i>
Averns, Dick	3 <i>Fervent Prayer</i>
Bates, Maxwell	4 <i>Archie Key</i>
Bos, Dianne	5 <i>Stampede Midway 1</i>
Brawn, Lisa	6 <i>Sam Livingston</i>
Brawn, Lisa	7 <i>Untitled</i>
Bynoe, David	8 <i>Cedar Wings</i>
Dave and Jenn	9 <i>Round About and Back Again</i>
Dicey, Mark	10 <i>Beacon</i>
Golley, Trudy	11 <i>Aurora (Japan)</i>
Houle, Terrance	12 <i>C-Train #6</i>
Houle, Terrance	13 <i>C-Train #7</i>
Kirschenmann, Dale	14 <i>The Road</i>
Leadbeater, Roy	15 <i>Balancing Act</i>
McInnis, RFM	16 <i>Alberta Prairie</i>
McInnis, RFM	17 <i>White on Black (Joanne)</i>
Milosz, Tom	18 <i>Downtown Calgary</i>
Milosz, Tom	19 <i>Colonel Walker House Back</i>
Milosz, Tom	20 <i>Colonel Walker House</i>
Mullin, Mark	21 <i>A Dissolving Unsound Structure</i>
Pugh, David	22 <i>Moose Mountain</i>
Reid, Bill	23 <i>Haida Dog</i>
Sawaii, Noboru	24 <i>Northern Lights</i>
Slipper, Paul	25 <i>Self Made Woman</i>
Smith, Laurel	26 <i>Glee</i>
Un-Jin Cho, Diana	27 <i>Chogak Colour 25</i>
von Tiesenhausen, Peter	28 <i>Untitled (100 prints)</i>
White, Carl	29 <i>I Wrote Your Name in Crayon</i>
Will, Mary Shannon	30 <i>Intersection</i>



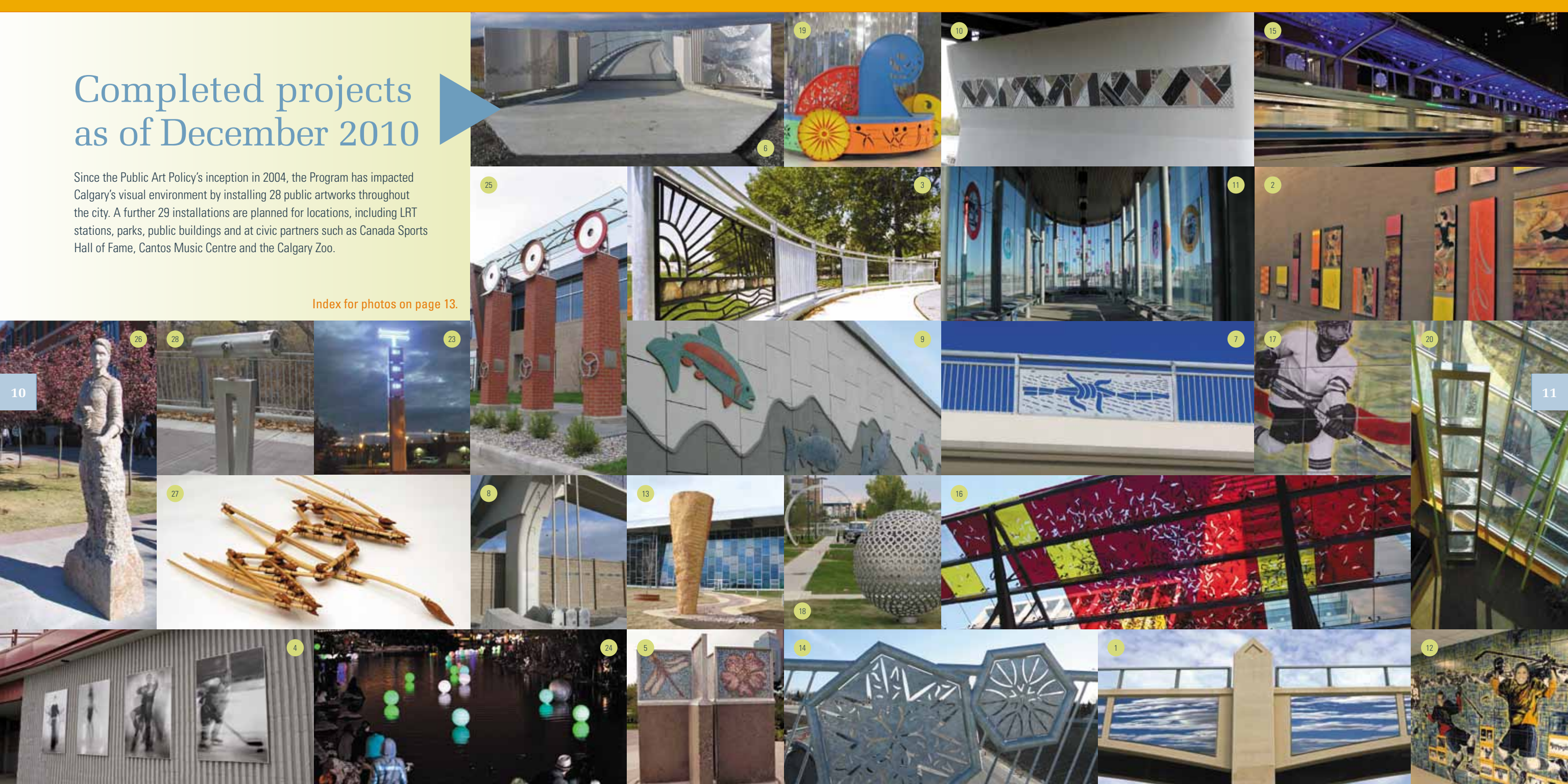
Some photos depict partial details of the works.



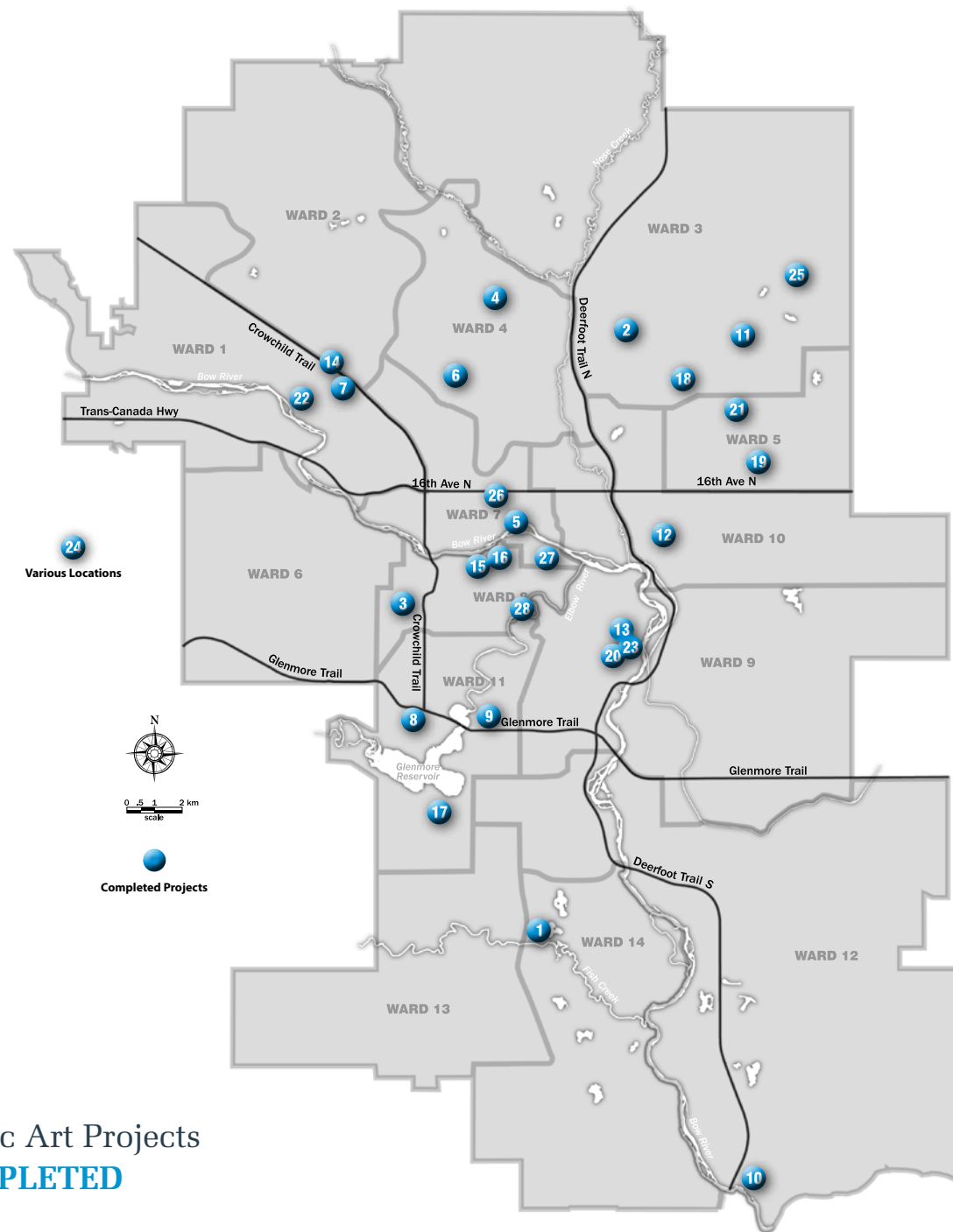
# Completed projects as of December 2010

Since the Public Art Policy's inception in 2004, the Program has impacted Calgary's visual environment by installing 28 public artworks throughout the city. A further 29 installations are planned for locations, including LRT stations, parks, public buildings and at civic partners such as Canada Sports Hall of Fame, Cantos Music Centre and the Calgary Zoo.

Index for photos on page 13.





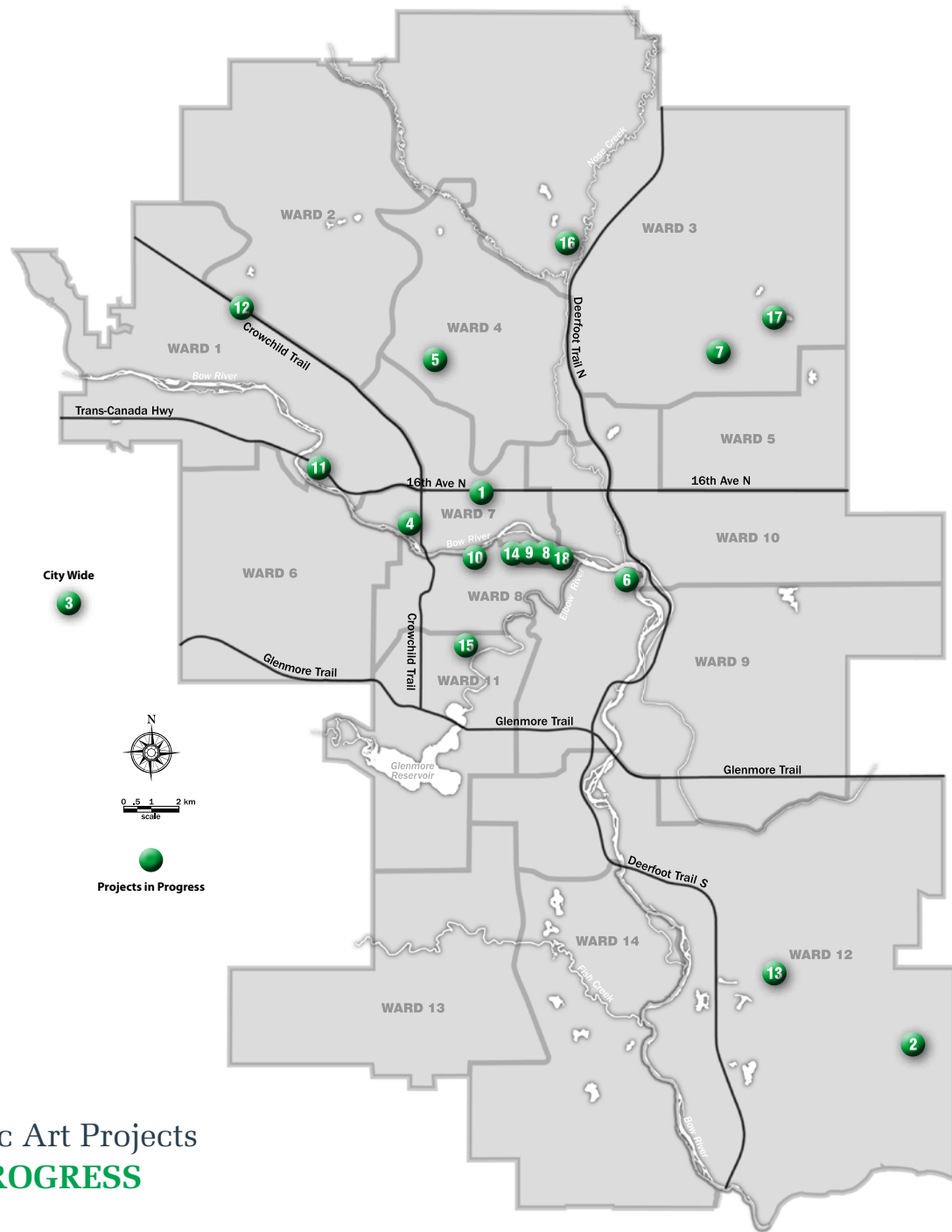


## Public Art Projects COMPLETED

## Index to Public Art Projects: **COMPLETED** as of December 2010

LOCATION		TITLE/PROJECT NAME	ARTIST	WARD
Macleod Tr. and Canyon Meadows Dr. S.E.	<b>1</b>	<i>Skywalk</i>	Derek Besant	13/14
Cardel Place (11950 Country Village Link N.E.)	<b>2</b>	<i>Celebrations</i>	Barbara Amos	3
Killarney Dry Pond (28th Ave. and 30th St. S.W.)	<b>3</b>	<i>From the Clouds to the Water</i>	George Duncan	8
Thornhill Aquatic Centre (6715 Centre St. N.W.)	<b>4</b>	<i>The Language of Life</i>	James Holroyd	4
Prince's Island Park N.W.	<b>5</b>	<i>An Auspicious Find</i>	Lori Sobkowich	7
John Laurie Blvd./Brisebois Dr. N.W.	<b>6</b>	<i>Crenellated Habitat</i>	Tony Bloom	4
Crowfoot Tr. and Sarcee Tr. N.W.	<b>7</b>	<i>Strung II</i>	Gord Ferguson	1
Glenmore Tr. and Legsby Rd. S.W.	<b>8</b>	<i>Bridge, Abridged</i>	Adam Kuby	1
Glenmore Tr./Elbow Trail/Fifth St. S.W.	<b>9</b>	<i>Jumping Trout</i>	Violet Costello/ Bob Thomasson	11
Marquis de Lorne Tr./Hwy. 22X S.E.	<b>10</b>	<i>Tracking the Trail</i>	Roger Gaudreau	12
McKnight Blvd. and Westwinds LRT N.E.	<b>11</b>	<i>Recollections</i>	Jim Hirschfield and Sonya Ishii	3
Max Bell Centre NE (1221 Barlow Tr. S.E.)	<b>12</b>	<i>Frozen Dreams</i>	Blake Williams	10
Water Centre (25th Ave. and Spiller Rd. S.E.)	<b>13</b>	<i>Steward</i>	Thomas Sayre	9
Crowfoot LRT N.W. (Crowfoot Dr. and Nosehill Dr. N.W.)	<b>14</b>	<i>The Colour of Snow</i>	Barbara Grygutis	1/2
Seventh Ave. and Seventh St. LRT	<b>15</b>	<i>Arrival Time, Departure Time</i>	Living Lenses	8
Seventh Ave. and Sixth St. LRT	<b>16</b>	<i>Swarm</i>	Stuart Keeler	8
Southland Leisure Centre, 2000 Southland Dr. S.W.	<b>17</b>	<i>Mind Body Spirit</i>	Blake Williams	11
Apparatus Repair and Maintenance Facility, Calgary Fire Department (1755 18th Ave. N.E.)	<b>18</b>	<i>bearing</i>	Douglas Senft	3
Village Square Leisure Centre (2623 56th St. N.E.)	<b>19</b>	<i>Rhythms</i>	Karen Hofatt	5
Water Centre 25th Ave. and Spiller Rd. S.E.	<b>20</b>	<i>Water Garden</i>	Linda Covit	9
McKnight Blvd. and 47th St. N.E.	<b>21</b>	<i>Pedestrian Overpass</i>	Leigh Mayoh	1
Stony Trail and Scenic Acres Link N.W.	<b>22</b>	<i>Pedestrian Overpass</i>	Leigh Mayoh	5
Manchester Complex (651 25th Ave. S.E.)	<b>23</b>	<i>Guardian</i>	Tony Stallard	9
Bow River – various locations	<b>24</b>	<i>Celebration of the Bow River 2010</i>	Various	Various
Saddleridge Tri Services (80th Ave. and Saddletowne Cl. N.E.)	<b>25</b>	<i>Triclopse</i>	Luke Blackstone	3
Southern Alberta Institute of Technology, Victoria Hall, 16th Ave and 10th St N.W.	<b>26</b>	<i>Self Made Woman</i>	Paul Slipper	7
Epcor Centre for Performing Arts, 225 Eighth Ave. S.E.	<b>27</b>	<i>Cedar Wings</i>	David Bynoe	7
Mission Promenade Pedestrian Bridge, Elbow Dr. and Fourth St. S.W.	<b>28</b>	<i>The Realidoscope</i>	Silverlight Art Projects	8
<b>TOTAL PROJECTS: 28</b>				
<b>TOTAL VALUE ≈ \$5 MILLION</b>				





Public Art Projects  
**IN PROGRESS**

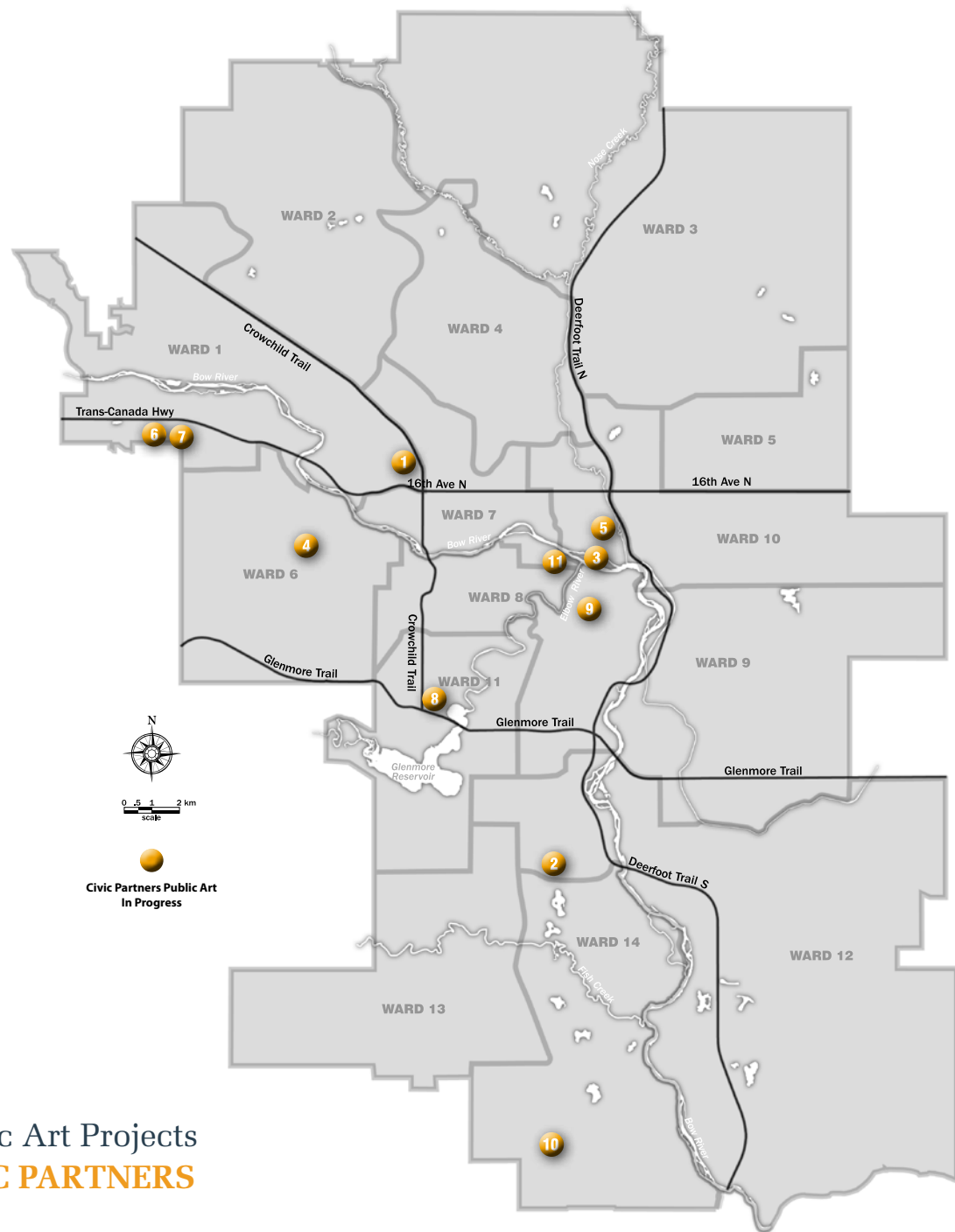
Index to Public Art Projects: **IN PROGRESS** as of December 2010

LOCATION	TITLE/PROJECT NAME	ARTIST	WARD
617 First St. N.E.	<b>1</b> <i>Emergency Operations Centre</i>	Stephen Glassman	7
Ralph Klein Legacy Park S.E.	<b>2</b> <i>Hawk Hills Calgary Sentinels</i>	Beverly Pepper	12
City Wide	<b>3</b> <i>Visual Language Project - Watershed +</i>	Sans Façon	city-wide
Memorial Dr./Parkdale Blvd. N.W.	<b>4</b> <i>Landscape of Memory</i>	Brian Tolle	7
64th Ave./Nose Creek Valley N.W.	<b>5</b> <i>Laycock Park/Nose Creek Restoration</i>	Sans Façon	4
Pearce Estate Park/17A St. S.E.	<b>6</b> <i>River Passage Park</i>	Lorna Jordan	9
Martindale Blvd. N.E.	<b>7</b> <i>Martindale LRT Station</i>	TBD	3
City Hall/Bow Valley College/ Calgary Public Library LRT Station	<b>8</b> <i>East 7th Ave. Gateway LRT Station</i>	TBD	7
Seventh Ave. and Centre St. S.	<b>9</b> <i>Telus Convention Centre LRT Platform</i>	Jill Anholt	7
Seventh Ave. and 11th St. S.W.	<b>10</b> <i>West 7th Ave. Gateway LRT Station</i>	TBD	8
16th Ave. and Home Rd. N.W.	<b>11</b> <i>Shouldice Park</i>	TBD	1/7
Crowchild Tr. and Rocky Ridge Rd. N.W.	<b>12</b> <i>Tuscany LRT Station</i>	TBD	1/2
New Brighton	<b>13</b> <i>Athletic Park</i>	TBD	12
317 Seventh Ave. S.W.	<b>14</b> <i>Devonian Gardens</i>	TBD	7
3129 14th St. S.W.	<b>15</b> <i>Fire Station #5</i>	Jill Anholt	11
95th Ave. N.E.	<b>16</b> <i>95th Ave. Extension</i>	TBD	3
7556 Falconridge Blvd. N.E.	<b>17</b> <i>Genesis Wellness Centre</i>	Living Lenses	3
Riverwalk, East Village	<b>18</b> <i>I am the River</i>	Derek Besant	7
<b>TOTAL PROJECTS: 18</b>			
<b>TOTAL VALUE ~ \$10 MILLION</b>			



Sentinels, Photo: Charles Hope

Genesis concept



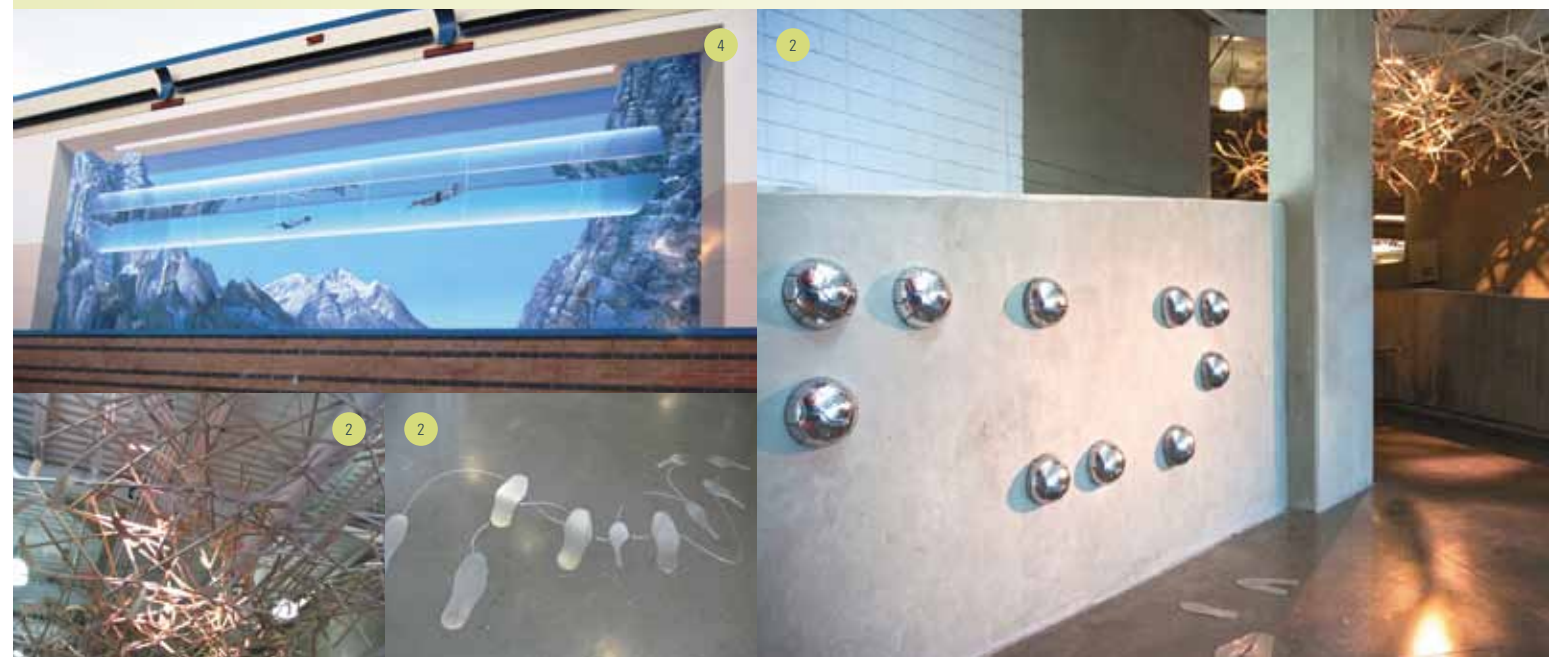
Public Art Projects  
CIVIC PARTNERS

Index to Civic Partners Public Art Projects: **IN PROGRESS** as of December 2010

LOCATION		FACILITY	ARTIST	WARD
University of Calgary, 2500 University Dr. N.W.	1	Nickle Art Museum	TBD	1
11159 Bonaventure Dr. S.E.	2	Trico Centre for Family Wellness	Metz & Chew (COMPLETE)	12
1300 Zoo Rd. N.E.	3	Calgary Zoo	TBD	9
2000 69th St. S.W.	4	Westside Recreation Centre	John Pugh	6
St. George's Dr. and Centre Ave. N.W.	5	Telus Science Centre	TBD	9
Canada Olympic Park	6	WinSport (CODA)	TBD	1
Canada Olympic Park	7	Canada Sports Hall of Fame	TBD	1
Richmond Rd. and Mt. Royal Cl. S.W.	8	Mt Royal Conservatory	TBD	11
1215 10th Ave. S.E.	9	Folk Festival Music Hall	TBD	9
Shawville Boulevard	10	South Fish Creek Twin Arenas	TBD	14
438 Eighth Ave. S.E.	11	Cantos Music Centre	TBD	7

**TOTAL PROJECTS: 11**

**TOTAL VALUE ~ \$1.5 MILLION**





# Community Impact

The City's first temporary public art series: **Celebration of the Bow River 2010** took place during summer 2010, with six projects focusing on environmental stewardship of the Bow River.

The project website received almost 45,000 visits. A social marketing campaign also included Facebook, Google and other ads that drove almost 9,000 users to [calgary.ca/bow](http://calgary.ca/bow). Clippings and positive news coverage were unprecedented — more than two dozen articles, interviews and blog mentions in local and national media.

CELEBRATION  
OF  
THE **BOW**  
RIVER 2010

[calgary.ca/bow](http://calgary.ca/bow)



C



C



E

F



A

B



- A Laurent Louyer (Founder – Creatmosphere), *Sources: River of Light*
- B Derek Besant, *I am the River*
- C Cecile Belmont, *Letter Performances*
- D Lewis & Taggart, *The Museum of Bow*
- E José Luis Torres, *The Observatory*
- F Peter Von Tiesenhausen, *Passages*

“Good public art projects that excite and rally citizens around a common cause result in positive communal experience, build community confidence, and change ways of thinking. Embracing and championing the Public Art Program and all it can offer will help to raise consciousness among citizens, establish a positive community identity, and instill a greater sense of pride in place.”

Gail Goldman & Gretchen Freeman,  
Regarding Calgary: Public Art in Context.



D





# River of Light

Approximately 8,000 Calgarians attended the Sources and River of Light event on Aug. 21, 2010. Sources and River of Light, together with five other projects marked the first foray into the world of temporary public art for The City's Public Art Program.

Truck Contemporary Gallery partnered with The City on three of these projects.



*The inspiration for Celebration comes from the Utilities & Environmental Protection (UEP) Public Art Plan (2007), founded on the principle that public art, in collaboration with other disciplines, can create remarkable places that encourage sustainability and stewardship of the environment.*

Laurent Loyer (Founder – Creatmosphere),  
Sources: River of Light  
Photos: Carlos Amat



Courtesy Calgary Herald

## A collaborative approach

Public Art is a City of Calgary corporate-wide program that requires numerous City staff to work across traditional boundaries and outside comfort zones. The process demands willful participation, a commitment to collaboration and steadfast resolve that everyone is working toward the same ends. The Public Art Program's strategic platform clearly outlines what those ends are. All City of Calgary departments and capital project teams work with the Public Art Program to realize the full potential of public art as an enabler of economic, social, environmental and cultural sustainability.

The City's Public Art Program is only one means through which public art will be integrated into Calgary's urban landscape and built environment. This strategic platform is meant to establish a cohesive vision for public art in Calgary, regardless of the commissioning body. A diverse proliferation of public art throughout the city will only serve to strengthen The City's efforts and contributions; therefore, this is also an open invitation for engagement and participation. In order to truly maximize the potential of public art, it must be a collective undertaking, encompassing the efforts, passion and creativity of the community in which it occurs.



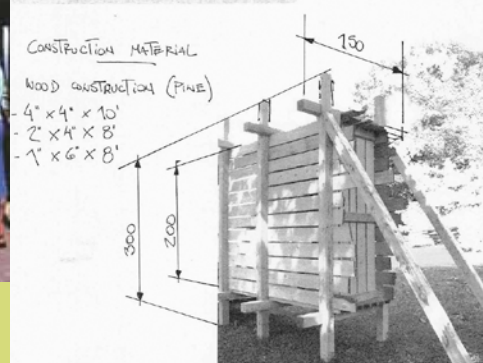
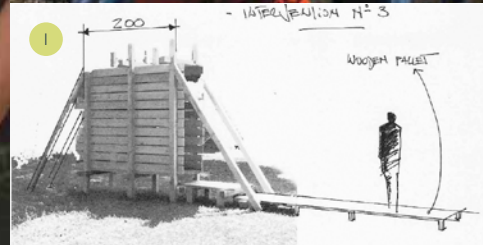
Derek Besant, *I am the River*  
RiverWalk, East Village

*"What drives us is a belief that art and art practice need not be separated from the daily life, that creative thinking can and should be integrated within the fabric of our environment, that art need not simply be decoration or serve a symbolic function. Rather that it can participate and contribute to a depth, richness and understanding of our world."*

Sans Facon,  
Artist Team, Glasgow, Scotland.







A Derek Besant, *I am the River*

B Blake Williams, *Mind, Body, Spirit*

C Barbara Grygutis, *Colour of Snow*

D Lewis and Taggart, *Museum of Bow*

E Thomas Sayre, *Steward*

F Linda Covit, *Water Garden*

G Lewis and Taggart  
(with TRUCK Contemporary Art 'Camper'),  
*Museum of Bow*

H Roy Leadbeater, *Balancing Act*

I Jose Luis Torres, *The Observatory*

J Peter Von Tiesenhausen, *Passages*

# A strategic platform

Since the fall of 2008, the Public Art Program has been renewing itself through an intensive policy and program review (amended Policy – June 2009), followed by a reflective strategic planning process. The outcome is a strategic platform that drives a holistic approach to The City's investment in public art for the next five to ten years. It outlines a clear strategic direction supported by the guiding principles and value statements that work together to position the Public Art Program as an intrinsic collaborator in the development of The City's public places.

*"One hundred boats released by human hands, destination unknown, tiny cargos of silt to become field, fish or sea."*

From the artist's statement  
Peter Von Tiesenhausen,  
*Passages – Celebration of the  
Bow River 2010*



# Strategic Direction

STRATEGIC GOALS	STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIC PRIORITIES
<b>Calgary is internationally recognized for the quality of its public art.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To maximize the potential of public art in Calgary.</li> <li>To use public art as a mechanism to attract people to Calgary.</li> <li>To encourage a diversity of approaches and opportunities for public art in Calgary.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage and capitalize on partnerships, collaborations and opportunities that promote unconventional and/or innovative approaches to public art.</li> <li>Maintain a high level of awareness about the current and ever-evolving field of public art and share this information.</li> <li>Implement and advocate for processes and procedures that uphold the principles of artistic freedom and expression, and emphasize the importance of art and the role of the artist in society.</li> <li>Position variety (i.e., representation of a spectrum of artists, approaches, disciplines and opportunities) as a priority in all planning and project initiatives.</li> <li>Adopt a culture of inquiry and innovation that supports experimentation, risk-taking and creative problem solving.</li> <li>Continually explore all the possibilities of public art.</li> </ul>
<b>Calgarians are proud of their Public Art Collection.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To encourage a sense of shared ownership and investment.</li> <li>To lead by example.</li> <li>To provide opportunities for participation and involvement.</li> <li>To be inclusive.</li> <li>To educate.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Care for, maintain and conserve the Collection in accordance with acceptable industry standards and within a "best practice" model.</li> <li>Encourage and seek out partnerships and collaborations to leverage resources, engage stakeholders and build capacity throughout the community.</li> <li>Ensure geographic dispersal of public art installations, displays and initiatives.</li> <li>Resource appropriate (permanent) facilities and sites for exhibit and storage of the Public Art Collection.</li> <li>Consider access for disabled persons in the planning and execution of all projects.</li> <li>Incorporate public art experiences into centres of daily life, such as transportation systems, schools, community and business centres, leisure attractions, as well as formal and informal gathering places.</li> <li>Use a variety of approaches, avenues and vehicles, both physical and virtual, to provide access to public art.</li> <li>Develop and implement contextually relevant interpretive and educational programming that resonates with Calgarians.</li> </ul>

STRATEGIC GOALS	STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIC PRIORITIES
<b>People enjoy and discuss public art in Calgary.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To communicate what we do and celebrate public art.</li> <li>To instigate, monitor and contribute to the dialogue.</li> <li>To provide meaningful experiences.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify the needs of our stakeholders in relation to their participation and engagement in public art and create audience-specific communication to meet those needs.</li> <li>Ensure all information is timely, relevant, accurate and appropriately disseminated to be best received by the intended audience.</li> <li>Establish and maintain open lines of communication, and prioritize the gathering of feedback, to ensure two-way dialogue.</li> <li>Develop and implement communication plans and mechanisms that are strategic, effective and sustainable.</li> <li>Facilitate forums for dialogue and discussion and participate in hosted events of a similar nature.</li> </ul>
<b>The City of Calgary is a leader in the field of public art.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To pursue internal and external service integration that improves efficiencies, processes and outcomes.</li> <li>To ensure the sustainability of the Program.</li> <li>To work within industry standards and continually strive for best practices.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Incorporate an integrated planning approach across The Corporation and with community partners that captures our collaborative potential.</li> <li>Implement a sustainable funding framework that includes capital and operation budgets, as well as reserves for future maintenance and conservation.</li> <li>Continually review all tools, processes and procedures within The Corporation for compliance with industry standards and to identify areas for improvement towards best practice.</li> <li>Ensure collections management processes and procedures meet legal, social and ethical obligations as trustees of a public art collection.</li> <li>Establish management processes and procedures to ensure accountability, transparency and best use of resources.</li> </ul>

*"We have found that those cities which retain their dominions over mankind achieve that result through the harmony and beauty of their civic works."*

Daniel Burnham, 19<sup>th</sup> century American city builder.



# Guiding Principles and Value Statements

## Open and Transparent Processes

The Public Art Program will rely on open and transparent processes to ensure equitable and respectful practices for all, e.g., calls to artists and juried selections.

## Community Input and Engagement

The Public Art Program values community engagement and will provide a variety of opportunities for public input, involvement and enjoyment.

## Sustainable Funding and Responsible Management

The Public Art Program believes that a successful and enduring public art presence in Calgary relies on sustainable funding, responsible management and strategic planning.

## Inclusiveness and Accessibility

The Public Art Program strives to provide visual art opportunities and initiatives that are accessible to all members of the public.

## A Diversity of Opportunities for a Diversity of Artists

The Public Art Program is committed to providing a wide range of public art opportunities for a diversity of artists, i.e., from local to international, emerging to established.

## Support Artists and their Intellectual Property

The Public Art Program will pursue fair, respectful and professional working relationships with artists. The City acknowledges the artist as full owner of copyright, including moral rights, and will negotiate the transfer of certain rights through individual artist contracts.

## Integrity and Stewardship

The City acknowledges its role as trustee of the Public Art Collection on behalf of the citizens of Calgary and the Public Art Program shall preserve the integrity and security of public art through comprehensive collection management systems, standards and procedures.

## Capacity Building

The Public Art Program is committed to providing public education opportunities that foster learning, inquiry and dialogue.

## Inter-disciplinary Collaboration

The Public Art Program believes in the notion of collective creativity and a shared cohesive vision for Calgary's public art. The program actively encourages inter-disciplinary collaboration with artists.

# Thanks to the volunteers who made our program a success in 2009 – 2010.

## Public Art Board members

Gail Anderson	Gary Olson
Peter Boyd	Dr. Verna Reid
Charles Burgess	Monika Smith
Helena Hadala	Tom Tittmore
Bonnie Laycock	

## Civic Art Collection Committee members

Gail Anderson	Daniel Lindley
Paul Brown	Audrey Mabee
Debra Dedyluk	Colleen Sharpe
Bonnie Laycock	

## Jury members

Gail Anderson	Denise Mullen
Marg Beeston	Robin Murphy
Marc Boutin	Trish Neufeld
Jeff De Boer	Shelley Ouellet
David Down	Colleen Philippi
Gord Ferguson	Evan Polowick
Pierre Ferronato	William Rathwell
Gavin Fitch	Colleen Sharpe
Dee Fontans	Nancy Stalker
Joan Irvin	Greg Stewart
Khalil Karbani	Jennifer Symcox
Karen Klassen	Sylvia Trosch
Lylia Klimek	Pam Weber
Shelley Miller	Tim Westbury

We also thank our community collaborators.



*“It is not only the outcome of public artworks which is to be desired but the process of making public art which is to be encouraged — to generate, collaborate, create, propel, think, move, attract, shift, and to be.”*

Kristy Trinier, Public Art Director, Edmonton Arts Council.

# The City of Calgary Public Art Program staff

## Heather Aitken, Project co-ordinator



Heather obtained her BFA Honours degree in drawing with a minor in painting from the University of Manitoba. She has worked in the field of arts administration for the past 25 years and has been employed by The City of Calgary for the past 16+ years, as Visual Arts co-ordinator, Community Arts Development co-ordinator and most recently in Public Art Program development and project management. Prior to her time at the City, Heather worked at the Leighton Centre and was also Director of Culture for the Town of High River. She currently is responsible for the Utilities & Environmental Protection public art portfolio.

## Lisa Hickey-Besserer, Project co-ordinator



Lisa earned an honours BA specialist degree from the University of Toronto in arts management and a major in fine art history. She has worked as an administrator and consultant with commercial art galleries in Toronto and Calgary, as well holding the role of coordinator with the municipal arts council Arts Etobicoke and The City of Calgary Public Art Program. She has volunteered with the Art Gallery of Ontario, CONTACT photography festival and is a former board member of the Calgary Artwalk Society. Lisa looks after the public art portfolio for: Community Services & Protective Services, Corporate Properties and civic partners.

## Dawn Ford, Program co-ordinator



Dawn received a BA in Drama from the University of Toronto and an MFA in Theatre Studies from the University of Calgary, specializing in performance creation with marginalized groups, allowing people who have little voice the opportunity to express themselves through the arts. She went on to develop a theatre company that practised the work of her MFA thesis with youth, youth at risk, people with disabilities and mental health issues and LGBT community, touring shows through Europe and Canada, as well receiving multiple awards. Dawn has been working in the Community Cultural Development Portfolio for Arts & Culture for the past four years where she is proud to continue the valuable contribution of working with marginalized peoples through arts projects like ArtsCan, This is My City and graffiti mentorship programs.

## Beth Gignac, Manager



Arts and Culture Manager Beth Gignac hails from Windsor, Ontario, where she obtained her BA in drama and education. She has also completed several programs in arts management. Prior to joining The City of Calgary, Beth worked with the City of Mississauga for fourteen years and has been president of the Creative City Network of Canada, board member of Parks and Recreation Ontario, and Chair of Play Works Ontario. She has also owned a theatre company, an art gallery and has toured as a singer/songwriter in Canada and the US. As the manager of Arts and Culture for The City of Calgary, Beth brings her enthusiasm and expertise to direct policy and operations in several key areas: public art, event planning and services, cultural centres, community arts development and liaison work with major cultural attraction partners. Her work is dedicated to community building through placemaking to provide active, healthy and creative opportunities for all Calgarians.

## Barb Greendale, Program specialist



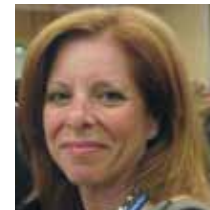
Barbara received her BFA from the Alberta College of Art and Design in visual communications and has taught several workshops in textile surface design and printing. She worked at the Glenbow Museum in the art department as registrar/collections technician for 16 years. She received a peer recognition award for service, as well as an award for innovation as part of a team that implemented the museum's collections management system. She joined The City of Calgary in 2007 as program specialist working with the collections for the Public Art Program.

## Quyên Hoang, Program co-ordinator



Born in Hanoi, Vietnam, Quyên came to Canada when she was eight years old. She studied painting and art history at the University of Calgary (BFA, BA) and received her MA in art history through Concordia University, Montreal. Quyên has a strong background in collections management, intellectual property, research and curatorial projects, including web content development. She was an art curator at the Glenbow Museum for five years where she curated such exhibitions as *Foreign and Familiar: Reconsidering the Everyday* (2004), *Honouring Tradition: Reframing Native Art* (2008), *Tracing History: Presenting the Unpresentable* (2008), and many others. Her curatorial practice has emphasized artist and community collaboration in exhibition development. She is program co-ordinator in charge of the collections for the Public Art Program.

## Robin Murphy, Project co-ordinator



Robin Murphy is an arts professional, artist and sculptor and has been involved in the private development and public art domain in Calgary over the last number of years. Robin obtained her MBA (McGill) in finance and marketing, BA (Concordia) in psychology and BFA (ACAD) in sculpture and has worked in

finance, marketing and the arts in Montreal, Toronto and Calgary. She has acted on several community boards and holds seats on various public arts committees. She maintains an art practice and is recipient of a number of arts awards. Having travelled extensively and lived in different global cities, she shares her passion and excitement for art and culture with The City of Calgary as a project co-ordinator for the Public Art Program — Transportation portfolio.

## Rachael Seupersad, Superintendent



Rachael was born and raised on the islands of Trinidad and Tobago in the West Indies, until moving to Calgary with her family in 1990. She obtained her BFA in painting and drawing, as well as a BA in art history with a minor in management and society from the University of Calgary. Her post-graduate studies in cultural resource management were completed through the University of Victoria. Rachael has been employed with The City of Calgary Arts & Culture Division for over 11 years and has worked in public programming and collection management; she is currently the superintendent of the Public Art Program.

## Dianne Quan, Program co-ordinator



Dianne obtained her BBA from Acadia University in Wolfville, Nova Scotia. She has held communications marketing positions with the B.C. Ministry of Tourism and Culture, the Ministry of Education and the Buy BC program, promoting B.C.'s food and beverage industry. Prior to this, Dianne worked at the Calgary Board of Education, the Banff School of Fine Arts and in Japan. Dianne joined The City of Calgary in 2002. She's currently the Public Art Program co-ordinator in charge of communications.





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