



Date: March 24, 2014

TO: Board Members - Vancouver Park Board
FROM: General Manager - Parks and Recreation
SUBJECT: Vancouver International Sculpture Biennale

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Park Board approve three sculptures to remain in currently installed sites as part of the 2014-2015 Vancouver Biennale's temporary exhibition, as outlined in Appendix A.

POLICY

The Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation adopted the *Arts Policy and Recommendations* in November 1993 and a renewed *Arts Policy* in December 2003. The *Arts Policy* states that the Park Board provides a vibrant public realm and supports the experience of public art and cultural events in parks.

The Park Board controls and approves the use of park land and park facilities. When artworks are proposed for sites under their jurisdiction, the Park Board ascertains that Park Board processes and policies were properly implemented and makes its decision based on the results of technical analysis conducted by staff, consultation with the public, and the aesthetic and artistic merit as assessed by arts and design professionals.

In August 2005, the Park Board and Vancouver International Sculpture Biennale signed an agreement to install temporary sculptures in public parks for a ten-year period ending in 2015. Each exhibition period is up to 18 months in duration.

On February 16, 2009, the Board approved a recommendation that allows sculptures temporarily installed as part of the Biennale to remain on park land beyond the originally agreed-to 18 month period, and that sculptures removed after one exhibition may return as part of a subsequent exhibition.

BACKGROUND

The next temporary exhibition period begins in spring/summer of 2014. Among the sculpture pieces considered for this installation are three works that have already been part of previous exhibitions. The sites proposed are locations previously approved for the exhibition of Biennale sculptures.

In the fall of 2012, organizers of the Vancouver Biennale Foundation requested the Park Board consider permitting three sculpture pieces to remain in a current site, for the upcoming temporary exhibition period. Staff have examined each of these requests in accordance with the established process of technical and artistic review.

DISCUSSION

The three sculpture pieces and locations which have been proposed are listed below, along with information on the previous exhibitions. A photograph of each sculpture and a map showing the proposed location are indicated in Appendix A.

- 1) Engagement, Dennis Oppenheim
Originally installed in 2005 in current location at English Bay Beach Park
- 2) 217.5 Arcs x 13, Bernar Venet
Originally installed in 2005 in current location at Sunset Beach Park
- 3) Freezing Water #7, Ren Jun
Originally installed in 2009 in current location at Vanier Park

SUMMARY

Based on the positive response the three pieces have received during the previous exhibitions, staff recommend that the Board approve the continuation of these sculptures as temporary installations for a period of 18 months.

Prepared by:
Arts, Culture and Environment
Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation
Vancouver, BC

2) Bernar Venet (France) 217.5 Arcs x 13



Proposed Site: Sunset Beach Park



3) Ren Jun (China) *Freezing Water #7*



Proposed Site: Vanier Park

