



City of
Peterborough

To: Members of the Arts, Culture & Heritage Advisory Committee

From: Wendy Trusler, Public Art Co-ordinator, Arts, Culture and Heritage Division

Meeting Date: February 14, 2019

Subject: Report ACHAC19-005
Public Art Maintenance Update

Purpose

A report to advise ACHAC on the status of the mural art work on Building 249-251 Simcoe Street.

Recommendation

That the Arts, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee approve the recommendation outlined in Report ACHAC19-005, dated February 14, 2019 of the Public Art Co-ordinator, Arts, Culture and Heritage Division, as follows:

That the ongoing condition assessment of the Simcoe Street Murals continue, and be referred to the incoming Public Art Facilitator and included in the annual public art maintenance review.

Budget and Financial Implications

There are no budgetary or financial implications associated with the recommendation.

Background

A status review to address the future of the Simcoe Street Murals was initiated. The scope of the review included: documentation of the murals and plaques, a public art condition report, a legal inquiry, consultation with the artist, and arts professionals.

Findings

Documentation and an assessment of the murals confirmed that the paint on both murals, although muted, is in good condition, however the stucco on the west façade is badly fractured. The fractures extend beyond the perimeter of the mural which indicates that the mural did not cause the fractures.

The City holds all legal rights to the property and murals and is under no obligation to maintain the murals in perpetuity.

The artist

- Can't recall titles but maintains all information about the fire hall mural and locomotive mural is included on their respective plaques.
- Detailed a fastidious site and surface prep collaboration which involved the use of a tinted acrylic stucco.
- Feels the murals have generally held up well and if the building façade is in good shape they can be touched up with relative ease.
- Advised that cracking indicates there is a moisture problem that should be addressed.
- Is willing to conduct a site assessment, and provide a quote in the spring
- Acknowledged he works in a muted, palette and any touch ups would be blended for consistency.

Arts professionals recommend the building envelope should be assessed and that the changing use in the square adjacent to the library should be considered in determining the future of the murals.

Follow up Review

As part of annual public art maintenance, staff will continue the review after the public art feature is installed and the Library Commons landscaping is completed, in consultation with the Facilities Management Department and the artist.

Submitted by,

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