Sent: Thursday, March 14, 2024 9:46:13 AM

Personal information
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Delegation information
Committee: Executive Policy Committee
Committee - council: N/A
Committee - other: N/A
Agenda item (number and title): Winnipeg Arts Council - Public Art Program

Service inquiry: Submit Comments in writing
Participation preference: N/A
Comments in writing:

His Worship Mayor Gillingham and Members of Executive Policy Committee,

Re: Winnipeg Arts Council Public Art Program

I am urging you to restore funding to the Winnipeg Arts Council's Public Art Program.

Art beautifies our city, reminds us of the power of community, and helps in reconciliation with the city's history. Two examples stand across from City Hall-the REDACTED light display and the street car replica marking the 1919 General Strike. Two more examples of public art are on the grounds of the City Hall campus-installations of Lights on the Exchange 2024.

My spouse and I had the pleasure of attending a recent Art Walk by the Public Art Program, showcasing light and sound installations in the Exchange District. Ironically, the light installation outside the doors of City Hall was unlit that evening. I sincerely hope this was not an symbol of Council's level of commitment to the arts.

To put my request in context, the modest funding previously given to the public art program is a minute portion of what in spent to build and maintain roads and provide police services. Allocating a small fraction of funds for public art will make a powerful statement that investing in a vibrant, beautified, healthy city for all is a priority.

Please restore the funding to this important program. Thank you for your consideration.

Steve West
Winnipeg