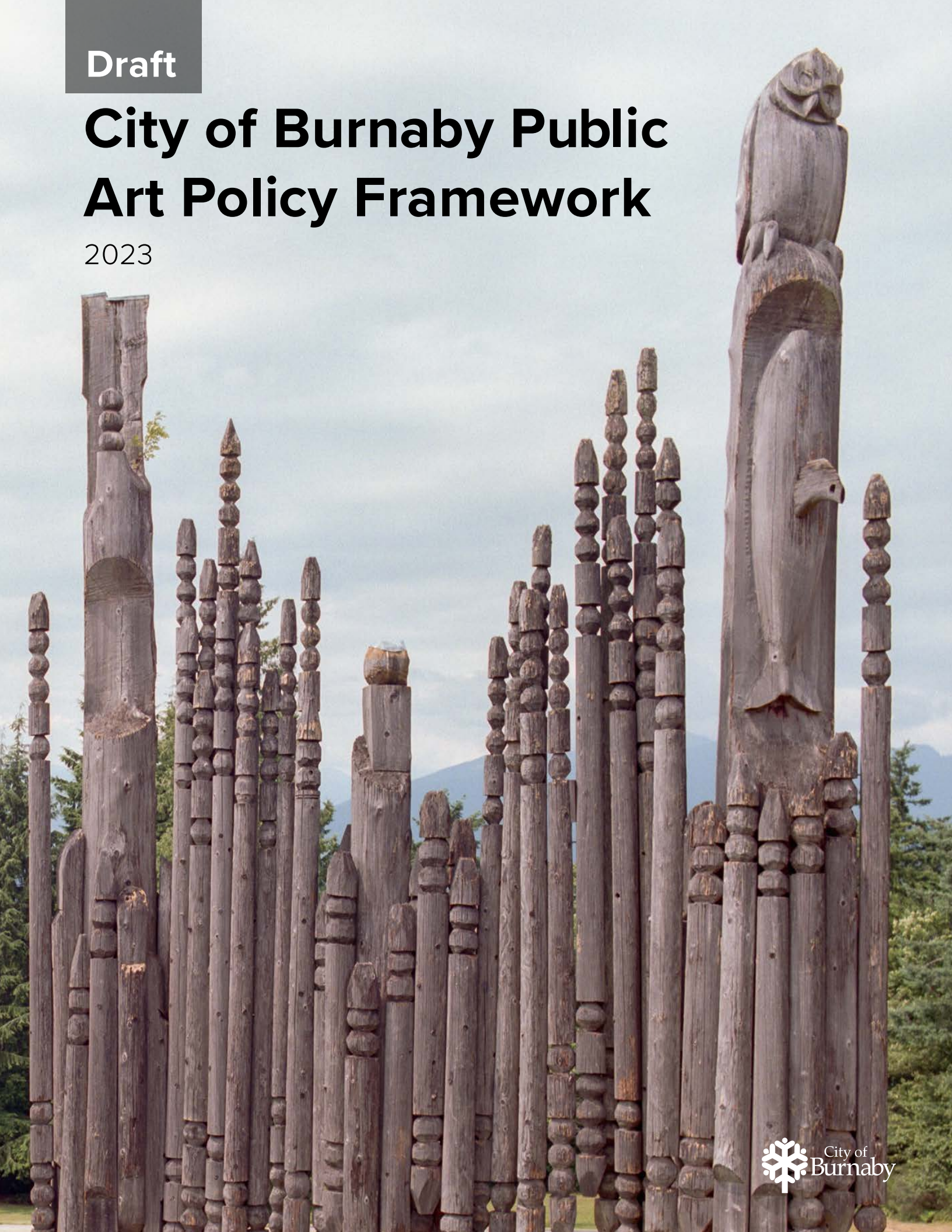


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City of Burnaby Public Art Policy Framework

2023



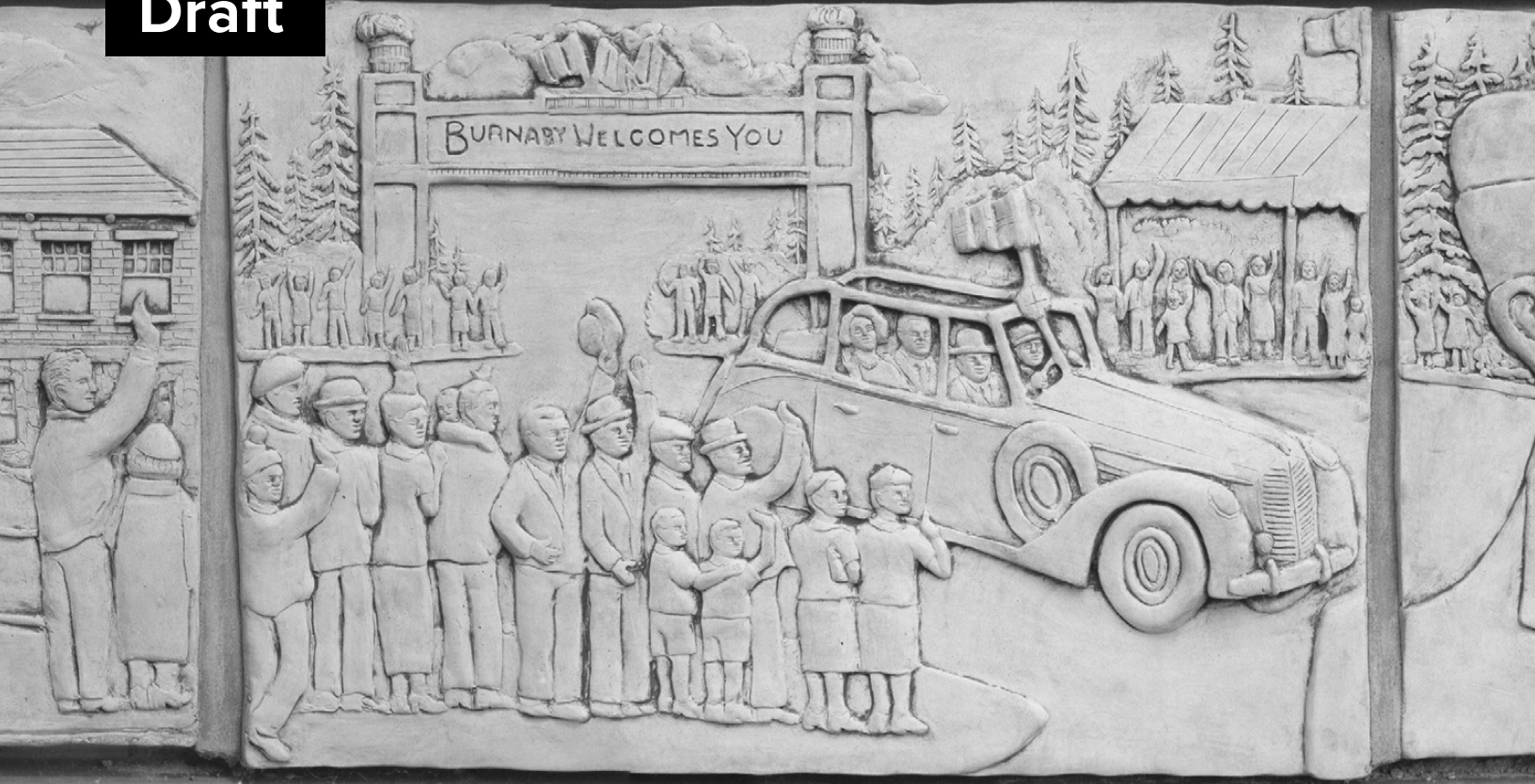
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Territorial acknowledgement

The City of Burnaby respectfully acknowledges that Burnaby is located on the ancestral and unceded homelands of the hən̓q̓əmiñəm̓ and Skwxwú7mesh speaking peoples.

We invite and welcome the ongoing involvement of these host Nations in shaping the nature of public art on these lands. We also acknowledge the broader communities of Inuit, Métis and First Nations people living outside their traditional territories who call Burnaby home.



Steve Cassidy Francis-Arduh, *Spirit of Edmonds*, 2011

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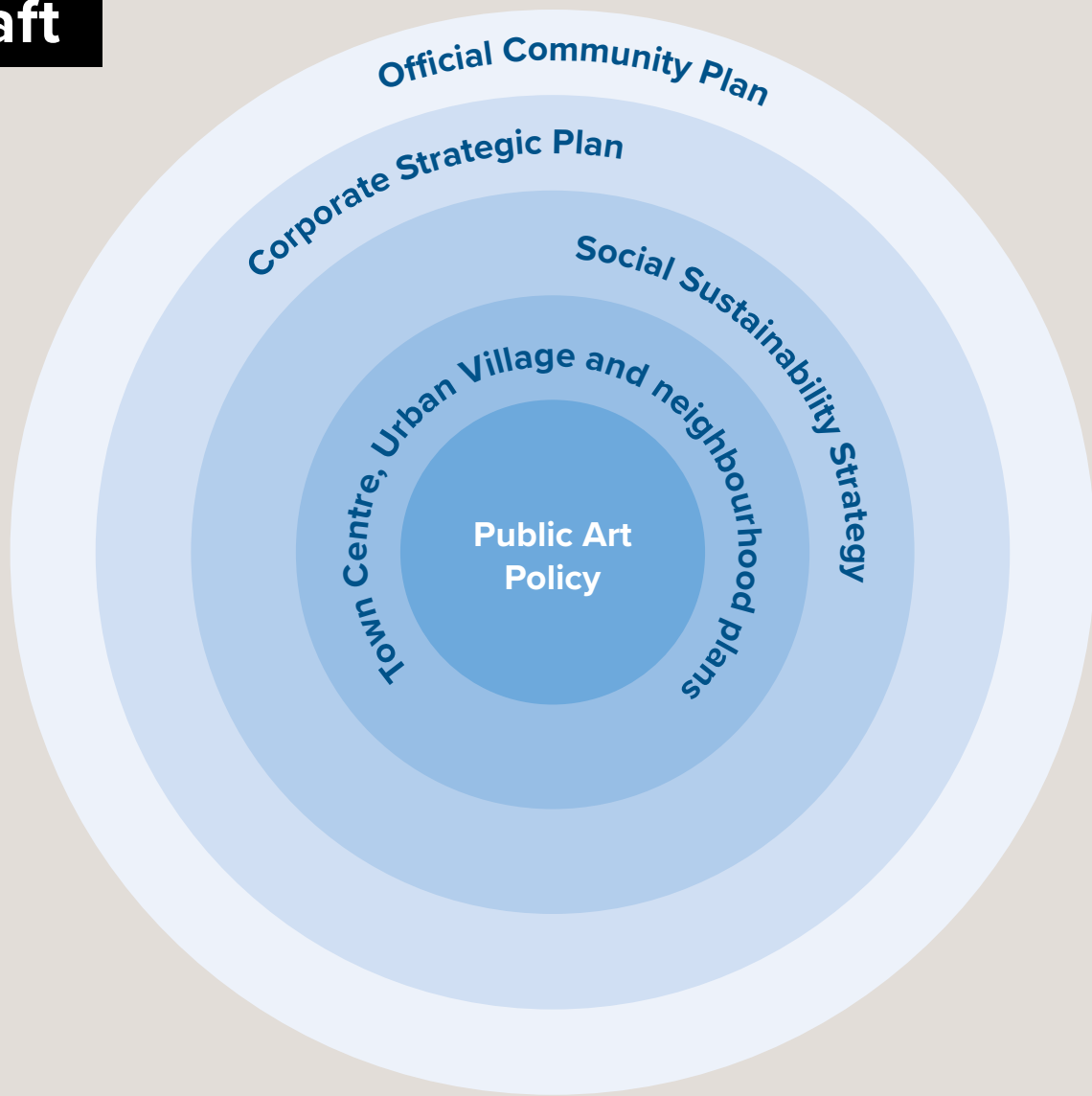
Jennifer Marman and Daniel Borins, *Rite of Passage*, 2018

Introduction

Why a public art policy?

Public art contributes to a vibrant community by promoting a sense of place and inclusion, and uplifting and sometimes challenging our shared values. Public art takes many forms and has the power to energize public space. The City of Burnaby recognizes the role of diverse artists and cultural

practitioners and encourages excellence and innovation. The Public Art Policy Framework and accompanying Policy, Program and Procedures ensure that Burnaby's Public Art Program promotes inclusivity and transparency through clear guidelines.



Aligning our plans and values

The values of the Public Art Policy are embedded within Burnaby’s Official Community Plan, Corporate Strategic Plan and Social Sustainability Strategy, as well as individual Town Centre, Urban Village and neighbourhood plans.

These plans guide policy and programming at a local level.



Nathan Lee, *Hak Chu/Pak Chu*, 2021

Scope

Who

Public art policy affects a number of civic groups, including:

- » City Council
- » City staff: full, part-time and contract workers within many departments of the City of Burnaby—Parks, Recreation and Culture, Planning and Building, Indigenous Relations Management, Finance, Engineering, Legal and Lands
- » private sector developers working within the City of Burnaby
- » Indigenous host Nations—the Squamish, Musqueam, Tsleil-Waututh and Kwikwetlem First Nations, acknowledging the ancestral and unceded lands that Burnaby is situated upon
- » artists
- » communities who want to be involved in public art processes or creation
- » Burnaby’s citizens and visitors; anyone who experiences and enjoys the public realm



Scope

What

Public art is on display to enhance public space and may take many forms or mediums. Prominent examples of works include sculpture and installation work, murals, or other interventions in civic spaces. Artwork in public space may also use sound, digital media, performance, or other social activities and actions.

Common among all approaches is a central ingredient: engagement with and impact in the public realm.

Public art is created with the intention of being experienced and appreciated by the public.

Julian Yi-Zhong Hou, *Crossroads*, 2021

The benefits of public art

- » **Enhances public spaces:** Public art adds an element to urban and suburban environments that increases livability by offering vibrant spaces for residents and visitors.
- » **Distinguishes neighbourhood character:** Public art can carry cultural histories, associations and meanings.
- » **Promotes cultural diversity:** Art is made in all cultures. Public art can offer insight into the fabric of a community by instilling unique perspectives and traditions. Over time this promotes tolerance, understanding and appreciation of different cultures and people.
- » **Encourages lively civic activity:** Public art can act as a motivator for neighbours to interact and engage with their surroundings and each other, creating opportunities for community building and social cohesion.
- » **Improves mental health and well-being:** Public art can have a positive impact on mental health and well-being, providing a source of inspiration and connection.
- » **Educates and inspires:** Public art can convey messages and ideas in a creative and accessible way, stimulating curiosity, imagination and critical thinking.
- » **Increases public awareness and appreciation of the visual arts:** Public art reflects a wide range of professional artistic and cultural expression and practice, demonstrating excellence, quality and innovation.

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schematic drawing for James Harry and Lauren Brevner, *Shù7mayus*, 2022

Internal policy development and consultation

2005

Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission adopted the City of Burnaby *Art in Public Places Policy*, providing a guideline for processes to acquire, maintain and deaccession works, primarily in City-owned public places.

2014

2014-2022

Policy updated after the Parks, Recreation and Culture team conducted a consultation process among all relevant City departments: Parks, Recreation and Culture, Planning and Building, Indigenous Relations, Finance, Engineering, Legal and Lands; Burnaby's Public Art Advisory Committee; the BC Public Art Network; feedback from host Nations and artists working closely with municipal and private sector programs, as well as research of local and municipal leading practices.

City of Burnaby Internal Audit initiated by the Finance Department; significant public artworks owned by the City formally accessioned into the City of Burnaby Public Art Collection. The City of Burnaby begins requiring all private sector rezoning development in town centres to include an allocation of 1% of the construction budget for public art.

2023

New Public Art Policy recommendations will be presented to Executive Committee and City Council for consideration, with the goal of enhancing, clarifying and confirming the City's commitment to achieving public art in Burnaby.



left: Joe Fafard, *Bay Bébé II*, 2012, right: Joe Fafard, *Evangeline*, 2015

External analysis and consultation

A review was undertaken of sectoral policy and leading practices of area municipalities, Canadian municipalities of comparable size, civic program delivery models, private sector regulations, and procedures that could impact/enhance policy direction. Reviews included:

- » City of Vancouver, *Public Art Policy and Procedures for Rezoned Developments*, 2014
- » City of Victoria, *Art in Public Places Policy*, 2018
- » City of Surrey *Public Art Policy*, 2018 and City of Surrey Private
- » Development Public Art Program, 2011
- » City of New Westminster, *Public Art Policy*, 2012/2020
- » City of Richmond *Policy Manual-Public Art Program*, 2020 and Richmond City Centre *Public Art Plan*, 2011
- » City of North Vancouver, *Public Art Private Sector Guidelines*

Policy development included leading practice workshoping as a member of Provincial and National Committees, including a review of the Creative City Network of Canada (CCNC) *Public Art Toolkit* (2010) for national recommendations in processes, an in-practice evaluation of policy application and project case analysis reviews. Key sector networks include:

- » BC Public Art Network
- » CCNC's Public Art Network



James Harry and Lauren Brevner, *Shù7mayus*, 2022

What resources do we provide?

In addition to the City of Burnaby Public Art Policy, which guides all work, several useful documents are available to the public:

- » **City of Burnaby Public Art Program & Procedures:** Detailed program information for civic project teams and staff, artists, developers and other parties who wish to undertake public art. This document outlines key procedures for public art initiatives.
- » **Private Sector Development Guidelines:** A how-to reference guide that offers steps for undertaking a project through its development.
- » **Public Art Consultant Guidelines:** A reference guide outlining the expected role, qualifications, procedures and outcomes for public art consultants.
- » **Public Art Donation Guidelines:** A how-to reference guide that offers steps for initiating and evaluating an artwork donation.
- » **Community Art Guidelines (in development):** A how-to reference guide for those wishing to undertake a community-based public art project.

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Burnaby.ca/PublicArt

Toko Nuburi and Shusei Nuburi, *Kamui Mintara*, 1992