



**Report**  
**Staff Report**  
The Corporation of the City of Brampton  
**5/8/2024**

**Date:** 2024-04-22

**Subject:** **William G. Davis Memorial Artwork and Budget Amendment**

**Contact:** **Kelly Stahl, Director, Cultural Services**

**Report number:** Community Services-2024-243

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. That the report from Kelly Stahl, Director, Cultural Services to the Committee of Council Meeting of May 8, 2024, re: **William G. Davis Memorial Artwork and Budget Amendment**, be received; and
2. That Council approve Xiaojing Yan and Lilly Otasevic's (XL) proposal, titled "Contours of Connection," as the winning submission for the RFP William G. Davis Memorial Artwork, as recommended by the Art Selection Committee; and
3. That a budget amendment be approved for Project #246860-002 – William G. Davis Site, in the amount of \$150,000, to be fully funded from the Provincial Government; and
4. That Council delegate the authority to the Commissioner, Community Services to execute such agreement and/or other documents as may be required to implement Council's resolutions and directions relating to the William G. Davis Memorial Artwork including such terms and conditions as may be satisfactory to the Director, Cultural Services and in a form acceptable to the City Solicitor or designate.

**OVERVIEW:**

- In response to Council's resolution [CW357-2021](#), staff initiated plans to establish a monument honouring former Premier William G. Davis in Brampton, with the City's Public Art staff leading the project, in consultation with the Davis Family.
- Following the issuance of a Request for Proposal (RFP) on September 28, 2023, six shortlisted artists or artist teams were invited to propose original artworks, aiming to honour Davis' political legacy and contributions to Brampton and Peel.

- Staff is presenting the recommendation of the Art Selection Committee to award Xiaojing Yan and Lilly Otasevic’s (XL) proposal, titled “Contours of Connection,” which was selected as the successful submission for the RFP William G. Davis Memorial Artwork (Attachment 1) for Council’s approval.
- Staff proposes a budget increase to Project #246860-002 – William G. Davis Site for \$150,000, to be fully funded from the Provincial Government.
- The estimated cost for the William G. Davis Memorial Artwork inclusive of site preparations is \$300,000, where \$100,000 is available from project 211055-002 and \$200,000 from 246860-002 (pending Council approval of budget amendment).

## **BACKGROUND:**

In response to Council’s resolution CW357-2021 to establish a monument to Premier William G. Davis within Brampton, staff responsible for planning and maintaining the City’s Public Art Program were designated as project leads. Staff conducted a series of stakeholder meetings to gather the background information necessary to develop a project plan for the monument, including consultation with the Davis family.

Initially, the creation of a traditional bronze statue of Davis was proposed. However, considering the preferences of the Davis family, best practices for future monuments, and the additional project funding from the Province, staff recommended revising the scope and timeline to develop a contemporary sculpture that reflects the life and legacy of Davis.

In accordance with Council resolution CW128-2023, the artwork is to be situated on the front lawn of the Peel Art Gallery, Museum and Archives (PAMA), near Brampton City Hall and Gage Park. Its design should harmonize with the existing architectural landscape of the site and receive approval from the Ontario Heritage Trust.

On March 1, 2022, the Province of Ontario announced a commitment of up to \$150,000, bringing the artwork budget to a combined total of \$300,000, including the City’s investment.

## **CURRENT SITUATION:**

### **Issuance of Request for Proposal (RFP)**

On September 28, 2023, the City issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) relating to the William G. Davis Memorial Artwork, Phase II, inviting proposals from six shortlisted artists or creative artist teams to create an original work of public art. The purpose of this public art installation is to recognize the significant impact of Davis’ political career

and commemorate his numerous contributions to society throughout his years of service. The artwork is intended to honour his legacy as a distinguished Brampton resident, former Ontario Premier, and Member of Provincial Parliament representing Peel.

The total cost estimate is \$300,000, with \$250,000 allocated to cover all aspects of the artwork, including artist fees, fabrication, and installation, and \$50,000 is earmarked for site preparation, which includes excavation and land preparation, including electrical locates and concrete foundation work.

### **Selection of Winning Proposal**

Xiaojing Yan and Lilly Otasevic's (XL) submitted a proposal to produce an original artwork entitled "Contours of Connection," which was selected by the Art Selection Committee as the successful proposal for the RFP William G. Davis Memorial Artwork (Attachment 1). The Art Selection Committee, comprised of a diverse range of professionals and community members, including art experts like artists, curators, and critics, technical experts such as urban designers and engineers, and community representatives, which included representatives from the Davis family, reviewed all proposals and is recommending Xiaojing Yan and Lilly Otasevic's (XL) proposal for Council's approval.

As PAMA is a designated heritage property, the proposed artwork requires approval from the Ontario Heritage Trust (OHT). OHT staff have conducted a preliminary review, during which no concerns were identified. However, the artist will incorporate any necessary revisions required by the OHT and City staff for reasons such as health and safety, liability, or compliance with applicable municipal, provincial, federal, and international laws, as agreed upon in writing by the parties.

### **CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS:**

**Financial Implications** – This initiative requires a total funding of \$300,000. Staff are recommending a budget amendment of \$150,000 to Project #246860-002 – William G. Davis Site, which will be fully funded from the Provincial Government. Pending Council approval of the budget amendment, there will be sufficient funding from the following projects:

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Approved Funding</b>	<b>Budget Amendment</b>	<b>Total Funding</b>
Project #246860-002 - William Davis Site	Res#4-Asset R&R	\$50,000		\$50,000
Project #246860-002 - William Davis Site	Provincial Grants		\$150,000	\$150,000
Project #211055-001 - Monument to William Davis	Reserve Fund 110	\$100,000		\$100,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$150,000</b>	<b>\$150,000</b>	<b>\$300,000</b>

**Legal Implications** – Legal will review, provide advice on and approve as to form any Agreement(s) related to this public art project.

**STRATEGIC FOCUS AREA:**

This report aligns with the Strategic Focus Area of Culture and Diversity, emphasizing cultural diversity, fostering cross-cultural understanding, and promoting artistic expression and production.

**CONCLUSION:**

In response to Council’s directive outlined in resolution CW357-2021, staff is recommending the Art Selection Committee’s selection of Xiaojing Yan and Lilly Otasevic’s (XL) proposal, “Contours of Connection,” for the William G. Davis Memorial Artwork for Council’s approval. The estimated cost of the project, inclusive of site preparations is \$300,000, with funds allocated from both Project #211055-002 and the proposed budget amendment of Project #246860-002 (subject to Council’s approval). This artwork honours and celebrates the indelible mark left by Premier William G. Davis on Brampton and Peel.

Authored by:

Reviewed by:

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Cultural Services

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Director  
Cultural Services

Approved by:

Approved by:

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Bill Boyes  
Commissioner, Community Services  
Community Services

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Marlon Kallideen  
Chief Administrative Officer

**Attachments:**

- Attachment 1 –XL’s Proposal “Contours of Connection”