

Date: 2023-10-10

Subject: **Request to Begin Procurement – Hiring of a Consultant for the New Brampton Arts and Culture Centre – Ward 4**

Contact: Peter Gabor, Manager, Building Design and Construction

Report Number: Public Works & Engineering-2023-871

Recommendations:

1. That the report from Peter Gabor, Manager, Building Design and Construction to the Committee of Council Meeting of October 25th, 2023, re: **Request to Begin Procurement – Hiring of a Consultant for the New Brampton Arts and Culture Centre – Ward 4**, be received; and
2. That the Purchasing Agent be authorized to commence the procurement of a consultant to provide design and contract administration services for the New Brampton Arts and Culture Centre.

Overview:

- In February 2023, Council directed staff to build the new Brampton Arts and Culture Centre at the site of former Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Administration building at Flower City Community campus (8990 McLaughlin Road).
- Building Design and Construction, in collaboration with Cultural Services, expedited site preparations and prepared a Request for Proposal (RFP) to hire a consultant to further develop a detailed building program, and design of the facility to meet Council’s direction.
- The new Brampton Arts and Culture Centre will provide accommodations for community space to practice, grow and promote arts and cultural activities supporting artistic expression and production for the residents of Brampton.
- Sufficient funding is available within the Public Works and Engineering approved Capital Budget to hire a consultant to provide design and contract administration services.

Background:

Council has recognized the benefits of arts and culture and the valuable contributions of the local creative community. In 2018, Council approved the City's first Culture Master that identified a critical need to expand spaces for creative production and presentation in Brampton. Currently, the City does not have a purpose-built facility offering multi-disciplinary arts and culture programming and limited dedicated community spaces to produce, present and, display artistic work.

At the Budget Committee meeting in February 2023, Council included a new capital project in the 2023 Capital Budget for the demolition of the former Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Administration building at Flower City Community campus at 8990 McLaughlin Road, and for the design of an Arts and Culture Centre including accommodations for community space. Staff were further directed to de-designate and demolish the building while retaining heritage elements to the greatest extent possible.

At the same meeting, Council directed staff to expedite the work necessary to evaluate the needs of the arts and culture sector in the community and determine the strategy for a purpose-built Brampton Arts and Culture Centre, including accommodations for community space.

Current Situation:

Cultural Services has undertaken a Cultural Space Needs Validation Study to identify, validate and confirm a set of key needs and use cases that can inform the development of a responsive, user-centered functional program for the new facility. The study will be completed in December 2023. This study along with structural audits, heritage assessments and other site and building surveys completed or underway by BDC will inform the extent of demolition of the existing building and design of the new facility once design consultants are retained.

Building Design and Construction (BDC) has expediated a due diligence process to investigate the current site and existing building, develop the building program and project scope, and prepare the RFP to procure Design and Consulting Services for the project.

BDC has prepared RFP documents in collaboration with Cultural Services and anticipates the award of contract by mid-December 2023. Detailed programming, scoping and design to be undertaken in 2024 and 2025, with construction planned to start by mid-2025. The project is expected to be completed in 2027.

Corporate Implications:

Financial Implications:

Sufficient funding is available within the Public Works and Engineering approved Capital Budget to hire a consultant to provide Design and Contract administration services for the new Brampton Arts and Culture Centre.

Purchasing Implications:

A public Procurement Process will be conducted, and the Bid submissions shall be evaluated in accordance with the published evaluation process within the bid document. Purchase approval shall be obtained in accordance with the Purchasing By-law. All communication with Bidders involved in the procurement must occur formally through the contact person identified in the Bid Document.

Strategic Focus Area:

This report aligns with the Strategic Focus Area of Culture and Diversity, focusing on cultural diversity, cross-cultural understanding and supporting artistic expression and production by raising investments in Arts and Culture.

This report also aligns with the Focus Areas of Health and Well-being and Growing Urban Centers and Neighbourhoods by improving the sense of belonging and well-being through community programs and opportunities for the local creative sector.

Conclusion:

This report seeks Council approval to authorize a Purchasing Agent to commence the procurement of a consultant to provide design and contract administration services for the new Brampton Arts and Culture Centre.

Authored by:

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