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TO:

**GENERAL COMMITTEE** 

SUBJECT:

**BMHA COMMEMORATIVE SCULPTURE** 

WARD:

ALL

PREPARED BY AND KEY

Y F

**CONTACT:** 

R.Q. WILLIAMS, DIRECTOR OF CULTURE

SUBMITTED BY:

R.Q. WILLIAMS, DIRECTOR OF CULTURE

GENERAL MANAGER APPROVAL:

Z. LIFSHIZ, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, INVEST BARRIE

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER APPROVAL:

C. LADD, CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

### **RECOMMENDED MOTION**

1. That Ron Baird Hockey Sculpture gifted to the Barrie Minor Hockey Association (BMHA) be installed at one of the City of Barrie's Recreation Facilities and be approved subject to the following conditions of the Public Art Committee:

- The installation of the Ron Baird Hockey Sculpture is site specific, because of the special circumstances it falls outside of the Public Art Policy;
- The BMHA is to retain ownership and copyright of the Ron Baird Hockey Sculpture;
- The BMHA will incur all costs for fabrications, transportation, installation, insurance for the art work (acceptable to standards provided by the City's Legal Department) and maintenance of the piece to City Standards;
- The Public Art Committee will review the piece in 10 years and make recommendations to Council. If at that time, the piece is to be de-commissioned, the BMHA will cover all associated costs;
- BMHA will undertake a technical and site review prior to the installation of the sculpture and assume all related costs;
- The BMHA will provide Engineer's stamped drawings confirming the integrity of the structure and footings and the engineering accuracy of the installation of the sculpture, to the City of Barrie for approval, prior to installation.
- 2. That the City Clerk be authorized to execute an agreement, subject to approval by the Directors of Recreation Services, Culture and Engineering, with the BMHA, to install a commemorative steel sculpture by artist Ron Baird, featuring hockey sticks, in a location specified by Recreation Services Staff, on the site of the Barrie Molson Centre.

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## **PURPOSE & BACKGROUND**

### Report Overview

3. The purpose of this staff report is to seek Council's approval and authorization to enter into an agreement with the BMHA to install and prominently display on public property, a public art piece by artist Ron Baird that was created to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the Barrie Minor Hockey Association and is being donated by Andrew Fenton of Stainless Outfitters.

#### **Background**

#### The BMHA

- 4. The BMHA was founded in 1966. The Non-Profit Association has provided opportunities for generations of Barrie and regional youth to learn, train, compete and enjoy the game of hockey. Barrie Minor Hockey teams have garnered many awards, regionally, provincially and nationally and BMHA is an institution that continues to make its community proud. Players nurtured through the BMHA have gone on to professional careers in the NHL and other leagues.
- 5. The Association's mission is to develop, encourage and maximize inclusive hockey opportunities for all players and volunteers and to participate in the pursuit of excellence. The organization promotes Teamwork, Sportsmanship, Leadership, and Respect and seeks to encourage community spirit, fellowship, team play and friendly rivalries, promote determination, hard work and positive life skills and to foster community volunteerism.
- 6. The BMHA's has requested permission to install the commemorative sculpture created by Mr. Ron Baird on the site of the Barrie Molson Centre at 555 Bayview Drive. Please see Appendix A.

#### **The Sculpture**

- 7. The sculpture being proposed for installation was created by Ron Baird and manufactured by Stainless Outfitters. It commemorates the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the BMHA and is a silver, vertical structure, in polished steel, featuring hockey sticks, suspended at various angles atop a supporting pole. The upper part of the structure containing the sticks moves in the wind. Please see Appendix B1 and Appendix B2.
- 8. The silver sticks pay homage to the past accomplishment of a BMHA team in winning the prestigious International Silver Stick tournament.
- 9. Engineers stamped drawings that attest to the structural integrity of the sculpture have been submitted to City of Barrie staff. See Appendix C.

## The Site

- 10. The Barrie Molson Centre which opened in 1995 has been one of the Premier sports facilities in Central Ontario. The Barrie Molson Centre is the home ice of the Barrie Colts and an icon for hockey lovers in the region.
- 11. The Barrie Molson Centre is a City of Barrie recreational facility that has the Barrie Colts as a tenant.
- 12. The site being proposed for the installation of the commemorative piece is to the north of the Barrie Molson Centre and to the west of the Centre's north parking lot. The sculpture will be in full view of pedestrian and vehicular traffic on Bayview Drive and in full view of customers attending Park Place on the North West corner of Bayview and Mapleview. Please see Appendix D.

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#### The Artist

- 13. The artist Ron Baird, RCA, OCAD, is well known as the creator of Barrie's most iconic representation of Public Art, the Spirit Catcher. He has been regularly commissioned to create large-scale, site-specific sculpture installations across Canada and abroad. Many of them move in the wind, are interactive, light responsive or make musical sounds. These include fountains, murals, and sculptural landmarks for world fairs, art galleries, parks, and gardens.
- 14. Mr. Baird has been a recipient of numerous awards and medals including Allied Arts Awards from both the Royal Architectural Society of Canada and the Ontario Society of Architects for his work. Ron has been appointed to the Royal Canadian Academy of Arts and is a graduate of the Ontario College of Art and Design. He was the founding director of the Latcham Public Art Gallery and has taught at the University of Toronto's Faculty of Architecture, Landscape and Design. Mr. Baird has presented and conducted workshops at International Sculpture Conferences.

#### The Donor/Manufacturer

- 15. Stainless Outfitters, owned and operated by Andrew Fenton is a Barrie manufacturer with over thirty years of experience specializing in the design and manufacture of quality stainless steel products. In recent years, Stainless Outfitters has been commissioned to create a number of art pieces most of which are kinetic (wind driven) for Mr Baird.
- 16. The art projects have assisted the company in advancing their knowledge with regards to material usage, structural design, innovative fabricating methods and creative use of equipment such as their Flow waterjet cutting machine.
- 17. Mr. Fenton's family has had a long association with the BMHA as players, coaches and volunteers. The commemorative sculpture is an opportunity for Andrew Fenton to celebrate an association that has given much to his family and to the Barrie Community.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS**

18. Public Art can contribute greatly to a community's sense of place. Art pieces in the environment can sometimes become icons that create a sense of identification, provide memories and as is the case with our own Spirit Catcher become synonymous with the community to which it belongs. Public Art can beautify or give relevance to an environment that is otherwise nondescript.

## **ALTERNATIVES**

19. The following alternatives are available for consideration by General Committee:

#### Alternative #1

General Committee could authorize staff to execute an agreement with the BMHA to install at the Association's expense, the commemorative Ron Baird sculpture on the site of the Barrie Molson Centre, in a location approved by the Director of Recreation.

This Alternative is being recommended by staff as it presents the greatest opportunity at a recreational facility for high visibility. If the ultimate objective of Council is to create the greatest opportunity for visibility then the Barrie Molson Centre site is the preferred one amongst the City's Recreational Facilities.

#### Alternative #2

General Committee could request an alternative site for the installation of the sculpture. The Public Art Committee's recommendation referred to a Recreation Facility and did not specify. The City of Barrie has recreation facilities at Eastview,



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Holly, Allandale, and East Bayfield. General Committee could request that staff examine the possibility of installation on another site of the Committee's choice and report back with recommendations.

This alternative while viable would not offer the highest degree of visibility that can be achieved amongst City of Barrie Recreation Facilities.

## Alternative #3

General Committee could reject the proposal by the BMHA to install the sculpture on a City of Barrie site and advise the Association to seek out opportunities to install the piece on a privately owned site.

This option is not recommended as it does not allow the City of Barrie to send the strongest message regarding its appreciation for the efforts of the BMHA and its seminal role in community building.

### **FINANCIAL**

- 20. The recommendations of the Public Art Committee call for a term of ten years for the proposed agreement with a review to follow. The Naming Rights agreement for the Barrie Molson Centre will expire in a few years and it is difficult to assess the degree to which the presence of a highly visible public art piece will affect the saleability of Naming Rights for this facility when viewed in light of our Sponsorship Strategy.
- The BMHA is responsible for all costs associated with the installation and maintenance of the 21. Hockey Sculpture including all repair required, for the duration of the agreement. This is inclusive of permits fees, landscaping and construction costs.
- 22. Costs incurred by the City of Barrie will be limited to staff time to administer the installation project including review of drawings and processing of approvals.

#### **LINKAGE TO 2014-2018 STRATEGIC PLAN**

- The recommendations included in this Staff Report support the following goals identified in the 23. 2014-2018 Strategic Plan:
  - 区 Vibrant Business Environment
  - X Inclusive Community
- 24. The contribution of the hockey sculpture by Stainless Outfitters represents engagement of the business community at a grass roots level. The piece when installed will hopefully stimulate lots of discussion in the business and public communities and encourage businesses to embrace those non-profits in our community that have major impact on residents' lives.
- 25. Hockey has been a great community building element for the City of Barrie. It is often the forum within which youths from neighbourhoods that may be separated by geography or economic ability have an opportunity to form bonds that are truly the foundation of community. The hockey sculpture will hopefully stand as an icon of one of the community's most inclusive pastimes and in time become a symbol of inclusivity.

Attachments:

Appendix A

- BMHA Letter

Appendix B1/B2 - Sculpture Pictures

Appendix C

- Engineered Stamped Drawings

Appendix D

- Proposed Site

# **Elaine Britnell**

From:

Rudi Quammie Williams (rwilliams@barrie.ca)

Subject:

FW: Sculpture

From: Murray Shanks [mailto:presidentbmha1@gmail.com]

Sent: Sunday, November 22, 2015 9:07 PM

To: Rudi Quammie Williams

Cc: Rob Bell

**Subject:** Re: Sculpture

Dear Rudi,

Please accept this email as the official request from the Barrie Minor Hockey Association for the installation of our 50th anniversary Ron Baird designed sculpture. The location that has been selected is 555 Bayview Drive (Barrie Molson Centre) and has been supported by the City of Barrie facility department.

Murray Shanks President Barrie Minor Hockey







