



City of Kingston
Report to Arts, Recreation & Community Policies Committee
Report Number ARCP-23-003

To: Chair and Members of the Arts, Recreation & Community Policies Committee

From: Craig Desjardins, Director, Office of Strategy, Innovation & Partnerships

Resource Staff: Colin Wiginton, Director, Arts & Culture Services

Date of Meeting: April 20, 2023

Subject: Updates to Public Art Policy to Outline Processes and Guidelines for Murals on Private Property

Council Strategic Plan Alignment:

Theme: Policies & by-laws

Goal: See above

Executive Summary:

The purpose of this report is to seek the support of the members of the Arts, Recreation & Community Policies Committee to amend existing policies and by-laws in ways that make it possible for murals to exist on private property. Currently, there is no way for the City of Kingston to sanction murals on private property because they are not recognized or defined as something distinct in relation to existing by-laws that govern signs and property standards. Neither are murals specifically named within the City of Kingston's existing Public Art Policy, though murals are considered a form of 'street art' that is recognized as a form of temporary public art that enliven public spaces and the City has commissioned murals on public property and through private development partnerships.

The presence of public art in Kingston has increased in recent years because of the efforts on the part of the City of Kingston to deliver on the vision articulated in the Public Art Master Plan (approved in 2014) and the Public Art Policy (approved in 2015). This has helped to foster

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increased interest on the part of the community to participate in the creation of public art, which includes murals that have appeared in connection with several local businesses. Some of these murals have been instigated by the community while others have been commissioned by business owners and have added vibrancy to the urban landscape while prompting an increase in inquiries related to creating more murals on private property across the City.

When the Public Art Policy was approved in 2015, Council delegated its authority to the Director, Arts & Culture Services, to revise and update the Policy over time as needed. In response to increased interest related to murals on private property, staff would like to revise the Public Art Policy to recognize and define murals as a form of temporary public art, but staff do not have the authority to revise the by-laws that would be impacted by this change, especially as it relates to the creation of murals on private property.

For that reason, this report outlines revisions to be made to the Public Art Policy along with proposed amendments to By-Law Number 2009-140 'A By-Law to Regulate Signs in the City of Kingston' and By-Law Number 2005-100 'A By-Law for Prescribing Standards for the Maintenance and Occupancy of Property within the City of Kingston' that would allow staff to implement a new process to review and approve murals on private property as part of administering the existing Public Art Policy.

Staff have also consulted with the public regarding the proposed policy changes through an online engagement process to help communicate the policy changes to be made and to collect feedback regarding the value of murals and public art in Kingston more broadly. The public engagement took place using the City of Kingston's Get Involved platform and the online survey was available from March 8 to 22, 2023, and generated 216 responses that have been used to help inform and refine the processes needed to support the creation of murals on private property in Kingston.

Recommendation:

That the Arts, Recreation & Community Policies Committee recommends to Council the following:

That Signs By-Law Number 2009-140 be amended, as outlined in Exhibit B to Report Number ARCP-23-003, to allow for murals on private property as approved and sanctioned by the City of Kingston in conjunction with the City of Kingston's Public Art Policy; and

That Property Standards By-Law Number 2005-100 be amended, as outlined in Exhibit C to Report Number ARCP-23-003, to allow for murals on private property as approved and sanctioned by the City of Kingston in conjunction with the City of Kingston's Public Art Policy; and

That staff report back to the Arts, Recreation & Community Policies Committee in 2024 with an update on the status of new and existing murals on private property in Kingston.

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Authorizing Signatures:

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY DIRECTOR

**Craig Desjardins, Director, Office
of Strategy, Innovation &
Partnerships**

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

**Lanie Hurdle, Chief
Administrative Officer**

Consultation with the following Members of the Corporate Management Team:

Paige Agnew, Commissioner, Community Services	p.p. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Neil Carbone, Commissioner, Corporate Services	Not required
David Fell, President & CEO, Utilities Kingston	Not required
Peter Huigenbos, Commissioner, Business, Environment & Projects	Not required
Brad Joyce, Commissioner, Transportation & Public Works	Not required
Desirée Kennedy, Chief Financial Officer & City Treasurer	Not required

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Options/Discussion:

The City's [Public Art Policy](#) was developed as an outcome of the [Public Art Master Plan](#), approved in 2014, and provides the framework needed to guide the administration of the City of Kingston's Public Art Program. The Policy provides Council, staff, the arts community and residents with a mechanism through which the City of Kingston assesses, acquires and manages public art works that are municipally owned through purchases, loans, commissions and/or donations.

The City of Kingston's Public Art Program aims to establish Kingston as a hub for creative placemaking with an innovative program of public art that recognizes and builds on the City's diverse history, engages its community and inspires its future leaders. The City funds and leads public art projects that contribute to a vibrant, high-quality public realm in Kingston, engages the community across the City including downtown, suburban, rural and natural areas, celebrates and promotes Kingston's identity, and invests in the development of artists through a variety of training and commissioning opportunities.

Since the Public Art Policy first came into effect, multiple new permanent public artworks have been installed and numerous temporary public art projects have been facilitated that have enlivened public parks and spaces across the City. These projects have been well received by the community and have also provided a combination of paid work and professional development opportunities for local artists. In 2022, the City also successfully completed its first ever public/private mural commission by artist Peru Dyer Jalea, titled *Kingston: A Moment in the City*, located at 168 Division Street and that raised the profile and potential of murals to invigorate public spaces, and to help bring artists into the forefront of civic life as contributors to cultural value.

Staff provided the Arts, Recreation & Community Policies Committee with an update regarding the progress being made in relation to the Public Art Program through [Report Number ARCP-19-004](#) in 2019 and a variety of City-owned public artworks can be found via the [Arts Walk](#) launched in 2021 that functions as an online map that provides an ever-evolving, self-guided tour of permanent and temporary public art projects to be found around Kingston.

Murals

Interest in public art has been increasing and that includes the appearance of murals on private property alongside an increase in the number of inquiries being received by City staff, especially related to the creation of murals that may have been fueled by the recent completion of the mural project at 168 Division Street. It may also be fueled by the creation of the Street Art Wall located on the Rideaucrest retaining wall adjacent to Douglas Fluhrer Park that was initially launched as a pilot project in 2019 and made permanent in 2020 with Council's approval through [Report Number 20-118](#).

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While murals are not specifically named as a category of public art within the existing Public Art Policy, they exist as a recognized form of 'street art' that is defined as 'an urban style of temporary public art on walls, sidewalks and roadways that is sanctioned and permitted'. Key to this definition is the fact that murals are sanctioned and permitted as opposed to graffiti that is neither sanctioned nor permitted and is considered a form of vandalism, which is prohibited under By-Law Number 2005-100 'A By-Law for Prescribing Standards for the Maintenance and Occupancy of Property within the City of Kingston'.

For the purposes of this report and in relation to the revisions to be made to the Public Art Policy, murals are defined as 'a design or work of art applied directly to a wall or building façade either painted or on affixed panels for the purpose of artistic expression, decoration and public art'. This distinction is necessary to differentiate 'murals' from 'graffiti' and given the potential for murals to contribute to the aesthetic sensibility of a city, transforming walls or empty spaces into art canvasses and giving voice to communities, and they are a key component of placemaking as part of city-building.

Murals on Private Property

To respond to the increased interest in murals, and to help incentivize additional paid work opportunities for local artists, City staff would like to revise the Public Art Policy to recognize and define murals as a form of temporary public art but staff do not have the authority to revise the by-laws that would be impacted by this change, especially as it relates to the creation of murals on private property. Council delegated its authority to revise and update the Public Art Policy over time to the Director, Arts & Culture Services, in 2015 but only Council can approve amendments to the relevant by-laws that would also need to be revised, including By-Law Number 2009-140 'A By-Law to Regulate Signs in the City of Kingston' and By-Law Number 2005-100 'A By-Law for Prescribing Standards for the Maintenance and Occupancy of Property within the City of Kingston'.

The revisions to be made to the Public Art Policy have been highlighted in Exhibit A and the proposed amendments to the relevant by-laws have been outlined in Exhibit B and Exhibit C. These amendments are needed to ensure any mural created or installed on private property will not be subject to fines or removal as long as it has been reviewed and approved through an established application process identified in the Public Art Policy.

Review and Approval Process

City staff have worked through a consultation process involving colleagues from other City departments as well as artists and residents to develop a review and approval process for murals on private property that anticipates issues of concern balanced against the need for an administrative process that is clear and easy to follow and that removes barriers so that the creation of murals on private property be encouraged and supported. The process developed would be administered by staff within the Arts & Culture Services Department with the

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involvement and support of the Art in Public Places Working Group that is Council-approved and affiliated with the Arts Advisory Committee. The process, as outlined, is also intended to ensure that murals on private property align with the Guiding Principles defined as part of the Public Art Policy that aims to contribute to a vibrant, high-quality public realm.

The process that has been developed would require that an application be completed that can be initiated by property owners, businesses, community organizations and groups, and artists. A draft application form, along with program Guidelines, has been appended to this report as Exhibit D and the requirements include the identification of the location of the site to be used along with photos of the wall and its surrounding area. Information about the property owner is required together with artist information, a mural description and images, including renderings, with the proposed mural superimposed on a photo of the wall. Written permission from the property owner is also required if the application is being submitted by a business, community organization, group or artist and all applicants will be required to confirm they have notified neighbours who may live adjacent to the mural to be created.

In the application, the development of installation and maintenance plans are also encouraged along with a materials list and budget information that clearly identifies a fee to be paid to the artist (or artists) being commissioned to create the mural.

Applicants and/or property owners will also be required to seek a heritage permit through the Kingston Heritage Properties Committee if the proposed site to be used is a designated heritage property under the Ontario Heritage Act – this includes properties protected by Heritage Easement Agreements as well as those designated under both Part IV and Part V of the Act. In these instances, it is anticipated the process will include returning to the Committee, as well as the Heritage Services Department, with design concepts for review and feedback.

In support of the mural application process, a toolkit will also be made available via the City of Kingston website to assist applicants and/or property owners in planning for their mural and staff will provide guidance where needed. Applications will be received and reviewed by staff within the Arts & Culture Services Department who will also involve the Art in Public Places Working Group as part of the review process to ensure alignment with the Guiding Principles and Artwork Acquisition Criteria identified as part of the Public Art Policy. The process also assumes the final approval lies with the Director, Arts & Culture Services, once the review process has been completed and the proposed mural has been deemed to meet all the requirements of the application process as set out.

The establishment of this process will also help address existing murals on private property that predate the policy changes needed and that are not considered to have been sanctioned by the City. Any existing murals on private property that were not previously approved by the City through By-Law Number 2009-140 and By-Law Number 2005-100 would be required to meet the criteria as part of the new review process outlined through the updated Public Art Policy, pending Council's approval of the by-law amendments proposed.

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Public Engagement

Staff also consulted with the public regarding the proposed policy changes through an online engagement process to help communicate the policy changes to be made and to collect feedback regarding the value of murals and public art in Kingston more broadly. The public engagement took place using the City of Kingston's Get Involved platform and the online survey was available from March 8 to 22, 2023, and generated 216 responses to the following two questions:

- How do you think having murals on private property will contribute to the look and feel of Kingston?
- What concerns or ideas do you have about murals on private property?

A compilation of the public input received has been attached to this report as Exhibit E for reference. Most of the input received supports the creation of murals generally, and many of the concerns raised have been addressed as part of the application process as outlined. Some of the concerns raised included the need to ensure the content is not offensive and is suitable for public presentation; that the murals are well maintained (particularly if a mural is vandalised by graffiti); that murals on heritage buildings are subject to a review process involving heritage advocates; and that the mural design must consider the site and its surroundings, including the proximity of neighbours who have to look at a mural every day.

All input received has been extremely helpful and has been used to inform and refine the processes needed to support the creation of murals on private property.

Public Art Policy Amendments

The following amendments have been made to the Public Art Policy (Exhibit A):

- Part 2, Section 2.3 'Definitions' has been updated to include:
 - **Mural** is a design or work of art applied directly to a wall or building façade either painted or on affixed panels for the purpose of artistic expression, decoration and public art.
 - **Private Property** is any property, building or structure in the municipality not owned or managed by the City of Kingston.
 - **Privately Owned and Publicly Accessible** is any outdoor space accessible to the general public that is private property such as courtyards, entrance plazas, forecourts, lanes, etc.

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- **Privately Owned and Visible to the Public** is private property and features such as building facades, retaining walls and fences that are visible from a public place and contribute to the character of the adjacent public place.
- Part 4, Section 4.3 ‘Commission and Purchase Processes’ has been updated to include:
 - Murals on Private Property: Private properties with publicly accessible or visible private places can contribute to the character of the public realm. Private property owners can commission murals on privately-owned building facades, walls, fences and other features.
 - Murals on Private Property are subject to a City application and review process to ensure that the murals meet the Key Objectives, Guiding Principles and Artwork Acquisition Criteria outlined in this policy and if approved, murals on private property will be exempted from By-Law Number 2009-140 ‘A By-Law to Regulate Signs in the City of Kingston’ and By-Law Number 2005-100 ‘A By-Law for Prescribing Standards for the Maintenance and Occupancy of Property within the City of Kingston’. The City’s Director, Arts & Culture Services, or their delegate will be responsible for final approval of the applications.

The amendments that need to be made to By-Law Number 2009-140 and By-Law Number 2005-100 have been outlined in Exhibits B and C and focus on definitions and exemptions specific to the creation of murals to ensure alignment with the amendments being made to the Public Art Policy.

Next Steps

Pending Council’s approval of the recommendations outlined in this report, City staff will be working to update the content the City of Kingston website that will include an overview of the process and provide materials including an application form, guidelines and a mural toolkit. Staff will also support the launch of these resources with a communications plan that includes issuing a news release and leveraging social media to promote this opportunity. Staff will also distribute the information through the Arts & Culture Newsletter and reach out to arts and community partners.

Staff will also report back to the Arts, Recreation & Community Policies Committee in 2024 regarding the status of new and existing murals on private property.

Existing Policy/By-Law:

Public Art Policy

By-Law Number 2009-140 ‘A By-Law to Regulate Signs in the City of Kingston’

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By-Law Number 2005-100 'A By-Law for Prescribing Standards for the Maintenance and Occupancy of Property within the City of Kingston'

Notice Provisions:

None

Accessibility Considerations:

None

Financial Considerations:

None

Contacts:

Colin Wiginton, Director, Arts & Culture Services, 613-546-4291 extension 1357

Other City of Kingston Staff Consulted:

Lisa Capener-Hunt, Director, Building Services & CBO, Building Services

Curtis Smith, Director, Licensing & Enforcement

Jennifer Campbell, Director, Heritage Services

Danika Lochhead, Manager, Arts and Sector Development, Arts & Culture Services

Exhibits Attached:

Exhibit A – Revisions, Public Art Policy

Exhibit B – Proposed Amendments, Signs By-Law, By-Law Number 2009-140

Exhibit C – Proposed Amendments, Property Standards By-Law, By-Law Number 2005-100

Exhibit D – Murals on Private Property Guidelines and Application Form

Exhibit E – Murals on Private Property Public Engagement Summary



City of Kingston Public Art Policy

Part 1: Vision, Aims and Definitions

- 1.1 Vision
- 1.2 Mandate
- 1.3 Key Objectives
- 1.4 Guiding Principles

Part 2: Defining Public Art

- 2.1 Areas of Focus
- 2.2 Exclusions
- 2.3 Definitions

Part 3: Administration, Funding and Site Selection

- 3.1 Administration
- 3.2 Funding
- 3.3 Site Selection Criteria
- 3.4 Project Selection Process

Part 4: Acquisitions and Donations

- 4.1 Conflict of Interest
- 4.2 Acquisitions
- 4.3 Commission and Purchase Processes
- 4.4 Acquisition Criteria
- 4.5 Art Selection Jury
- 4.6 Remuneration
- 4.7 Artist Contract Terms
- 4.8 Donations
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Part 5: Collection Management, Maintenance and Monitoring

- 5.1 Collection Management

- 5.2 Maintenance and Conservation
- 5.3 Alteration or Relocation
- 5.4 Transfer, Disposal and De accession
- 5.5 Monitoring of Public Art Policy and Program

The Public Art Policy guides the development and implementation of the Public Art Master Plan and Program. The policy is intended to provide Council, staff, the arts and general community with a mechanism through which the City of Kingston assesses, acquires and manages works of Public Art for municipally-owned public spaces through purchase, loan, commission or donation.

Part 1: Vision and Objectives

1.1 Vision

Kingston will be known as a hub of creative place-making with an innovative program of public art that recognizes and builds on the City's diverse history, engages its community and inspires its future leaders.

1.2 Mandate

To organize and leverage City and community, business and institutional resources, knowledge and experience to support creative place-making across Kingston through contemporary and innovative Public Art initiatives and programs.

1.3 Key Objectives

- Contribute to a vibrant, high-quality public realm in Kingston;
- Engage the community in creative place-making across the entire City: downtown, suburban, rural and natural areas;
- Celebrate and promote Kingston's identity, including building on the City's complete history, diversity and geography, while imagining new futures; and
- Invest in the development of artists from a wide range of disciplines through a variety of training and commissioning opportunities.

1.4 Guiding Principles

- Strive for artistic excellence.
- Cultural equity.
- Collaboration with artists, communities, municipal departments, other levels of government and the private sector.

- Follow best practices.
- Be responsive to community needs.
- Be risk-taking, creative and innovative.
- Be transparent, accessible and inclusive.
- Be unique to Kingston.
- Cultivate the local arts sector, including a wide variety of art forms and practices.
- Prioritize sites based on potential impact, both high profile and under-serviced areas.
- Encourage investment in the program from a wide variety of sources.

Part 2: Defining Public Art

2.1 Areas of Focus

The City of Kingston Public Art Program includes five main areas of focus:

Public Art Capital Projects

Integrating Public Art into the City's capital planning and budgeting process including new and renewed facilities, parks and infrastructure. This work will become part of the Civic Collection.

Temporary Public Art, Street Art and Public Art Platforms

Developing opportunities for diverse cultural expression in civic spaces, places and neighbourhoods through the commission and exhibition of works of temporary public art from a variety of art forms including street art, and establishing one or more public art platforms to exhibit a rotating display of art in a public venue. This work will not become part of the Civic Collection.

Community Arts, Public Engagement and Education

Engaging communities in developing Kingston's story and creative place-making across the City. Community members will be involved in the public art program through art-making, consultation, education and promotions. This work will not become part of the Civic Collection.

Artist and Arts Sector Development

Investing in artist, curator and arts administrator training and development including mentorships and workshops for emerging artists from a wide variety of disciplines. The development program will help to increase the quality and diversity of cultural output, create employment opportunities, attract and retain talent locally.

Public Art Development Program

Encouraging provision of Public Art in significant development projects through the urban design and land use planning process. Cultural Services staff will offer assistance to private developers and other public entities in acquisition of Public Art where needed.

2.2 Exclusions

This policy does not include the following:

- Community exhibition and display spaces operated by Cultural Services;
- Fine Art Collection operated by Cultural Services;
- Special events;
- Archaeological, archival and museum collections/exhibitions;
- Commemorations that are not created by an artist and/or sited in public space;
- Graffiti management;
- Work on private land; and
- Public Art in City of Kingston facilities and on City of Kingston property that are leased or licensed to another party. Public Art in facilities that are excluded from this policy are the responsibility of the organization occupying the facility.

2.3 Definitions

Public Art is a work in any media created by an Artist that has been planned and executed with the specific intention of being sited or staged in public space, acquired following the City of Kingston's Public Art Policy and Master Plan.

A **Work of Art** is a work in any media created by one or more Artists.

An **Artist** is someone who: is recognized as a professional practicing artist by other artists working in the same field; has completed basic training (formal or informal) in their field; spends a significant amount of time practicing their art; and seeks payment for their work.

An **Emerging Artist** is an artist in the early years of their career that may have had some previous professional exhibitions, commissions, presentations or installations.

An **Artist Mentorship** is an opportunity for an emerging artist to work with an established artist, on a project relevant to their area of work and interest.

Civic Collection shall be defined as the artefacts, archives, and works of art belonging to the Corporation of the City of Kingston.

Public Art Collection shall be defined as the works of Public Art belonging to the Corporation of the City of Kingston. The Public Art Collection is one collection node of the City of Kingston Civic Collection.

Public Space is defined herein as any space on or within City property accessible to the general public, or any space that is accessible to the general public and approved by the City as a viable public art project site.

Creative Place making is a practice that intentionally leverages the power of the arts, culture and creativity to serve a community's interest while driving a broader agenda for change, growth and transformation in a way that also builds character and quality of place.

The **Public Art Plan** is an annual prioritized list of the City's public art capital projects with budgets and project approaches determined for each site.

Acquisition is the acquiring of public art through commission, purchase, donation, gift or bequest.

De-accession is the formal process to permanently remove an object from the Public Art Collection.

Copyright grants the author of a work the sole right to reproduce, distribute, display, and alter their works of art. It expires 50 years after the artist's death. It may be assigned or licensed to another individual or institution and/or it may be assigned

exclusively or jointly. Copyright also extends to the use of images of the artwork for promotional or educational purposes.

Artist's Moral Rights include the right to the integrity of the work in regard to associations or modifications. They include the right to be associated with the work as its author by name, pseudonym or the right to remain anonymous. Moral Rights are non-transferable and endure even after copyright has been assigned. The rights may be waived by the artist agreeing to not exercise them in whole or in part.

Examples of violation of Moral Rights may include:

- An act or omission performed on the artwork that affects the honour or reputation of the artist; and
- Changing the colour of the artwork or adorning it with additional elements.

Taking steps to restore or preserve the artwork would not be included as long as this work is performed in good faith. Also, changing the location of the work does not generally constitute a violation, but in the case of works of public art, the exact siting may be considered part of the work.

Mural is a design or work of art applied directly to a wall or building façade either painted or on affixed panels for the purpose of artistic expression, decoration, and public art.

Private Property is any property, building or structure in the municipality not owned or managed by the City of Kingston.

Privately Owned and Publicly Accessible is any outdoor space accessible to the general public that is private property such as courtyards, entrance plazas, forecourts, lanes, etc.

Privately Owned and Visible to the Public is private property and features such as building facades, retaining walls and fences that are visible from a public place and contribute to the character of the adjacent public place.

Types of Public Art

Art that is **Site-specific**, whether long-term or temporary, functional or aesthetic, stand-alone or integrated and in any media, is an original work that is created in response to the immediate context.

Integrated Public Art forms a physical part of a building, structure or landscape. If the site were to be redeveloped, the art would be as well.

Stand-alone Public Art is not a physical part of a building, structure or landscape.

Temporary Public Art is an original work by an artist(s) that is created for a specific occasion, time frame or event and which is situated at a particular site on a temporary basis. The art may cover a range of forms including, but not limited to, the visual arts, digital, sound art, and performance-based work.

A **Public Art Platform** is a place in public space reserved for the regular and temporary exhibit of new works of art. The art platform can take many forms including a physical podium, a sanctioned street art wall or a digital screen. The art platform could be dedicated exclusively to public art or shared with other content. To ensure success for an art platform, there should be a regular funding stream or an endowment in place for new works of art before it is established.

Community Art is an artistic activity led by an artist based in a community setting involving community members, who contribute a variety of talents, to design and create a public art piece. The content of the artwork usually reflects local issues that have been identified by people within the community. Community Art helps people articulate their goals to build a strong place for the community.

Street Art is an urban style of Temporary Public Art on walls, sidewalks and roadways that is sanctioned and permitted.

Non-sanctioned Public Art is work that is initiated outside the Public Art Program scope and did not follow the City of Kingston's Public Art Policy. Therefore works are not sanctioned and will not be included in the Public Art Collection.

A **Commemoration** is an intentional act of acknowledging the memory of people, places, events and ideas. If a Commemoration is created by an artist and sited or staged in public space, it will also be a work of Public Art.

Part 3: Administration, Funding and Site Selection

3.1 Administration

The Cultural Services Department has the responsibility for the management of the Public Art Program within a larger portfolio of the department's work. The responsibilities related to the Public Art Program include:

Program Management:

- Reporting on the Public Art Program to the senior staff, City Council, the Arts Advisory Committee and its Public Art Working Group;
- Chairing the Interdepartmental Public Art Group;
- Participating in capital planning meetings regarding the inclusion of Public Art in key City projects;
- Overseeing the management, development, monitoring and evaluation of the Public Art Program;
- Managing the program's capital and operating budgets including the reserve fund;
- Managing the Public Art Coordinator and consultants, contractors or additional resources;
- Reviewing City strategies, planning documents including Official Plan updates, site plan/ development applications, and/or developer agreements to advise on potential for Public Art opportunities;
- Providing advice, input and information to public or private developers regarding their provision of Public Art; and
- Participating in peer group meetings (e.g. municipal staff public art roundtables) to ensure consistency with other municipalities and to benefit from emerging practices.

Program Coordination:

- Developing project terms of reference;

- Managing art acquisition processes, including coordinating Art Selection Juries and technical reviews;
- Managing artist contracts and payments;
- Coordinating between the artist, City departments, communities and agencies;
- Liaising with City staff to coordinate public art projects and programs including the departments represented in the Interdepartmental Public Art Group as well as Communications, Finance, Legal and others as necessary;
- Liaising with the arts sector, community members and program partners (e.g. local organizations, private sector and other levels of government);
- Providing community outreach, education and communication plans.

Management of Public Art Collection:

- Managing the Public Art Collection as one collection node within the larger Civic Collection, including acquisitions, maintenance, conservation, research, interpretation and de-accessions;
- Maintaining an up-to-date inventory as well as processing and documenting new items and items being removed from the collection.

Interdepartmental Public Art Group

An Interdepartmental Public Art Group (IPAG) will meet up to six times per year to identify applicable capital projects and priorities annually (as per **3.4 Project Selection Process**) and to provide advice and coordination of the public art program across City Departments throughout the year.

Designated staff from departments and/or divisions representing capital listed below are directed to participate as needed to ensure success of the program. Additions or revisions to the members of this group may change accordingly to meet program requirements:

- Public Works;
- Engineering;
- Recreation & Leisure Services (including Parks Development);

- Facilities Management & Construction Services;
- Planning, Building and Licensing;
- Real Estate & Land Development;
- Transportation Services; and
- Cultural Services.

IPAG's role is to:

- Provide input into public art plans, policies and terms of reference for public art projects and programs;
- Advise the Manager and the Public Art Coordinator about significant capital projects and plans in their department that may be appropriate for public art opportunities;
- As needed, act as technical advisors to Art Selection Juries, or designate another appropriate staff member from their department;
- Provide advice and coordination assistance for the development of public artwork from concept to installation;
- Advise on opportunities for public art within private developments; and
- Serve as ambassadors for the Public Art Program within their respective departments.

Public Art Working Group

Establish a Public Art Working Group (PAWG) as a sub-committee of the Arts Advisory Committee to include its members and community representatives, to be appointed on an annual basis. PAWG will be used on an as needed basis to:

- Review processes, policies, plans related to Public Art Program in order to make recommendations to staff;
- Review donation requests for public art in order to make recommendations to staff; and

- Review, nominate and approve individuals to be members of Art Selection Juries.

Council

The Mayor, Council and Committees of Council are arms-length of any acquisition processes, but their role is to perform the following functions or empower staff to do so on Council's behalf:

- Review and approve the City of Kingston's Public Art Master Plan and Policy;
- Approve Municipal Capital Plan allocations and the annual Public Art Plan; and
- Approve negotiated agreements with private developers that may contain sections related to the provision of Public Art, where applicable.

3.2 Funding

The City of Kingston Public Art Program will have a consistent and coordinated approach to funding and provision of Public Art in Kingston to be comparable with the level of other municipal Public Art programs in Ontario. Funding for the program will include all of the following components:

1. Incorporate a Public Art allocation as a regular line item to be requested on an annual basis as part of the capital budget commencing in 2016 followed by a requested increase in the allocation on an incremental basis to reach a target of \$250,000 annually by 2019, subject to council approval during the budget process.
 - a. The funding will be used for Public Art projects integrated within significant and appropriate capital projects as selected annually by the Interdepartmental Public Art Group (see **3.4 Project Selection Process**). For best results and coordination, Public Art shall be included within the capital budget and project planning process at the earliest possible stage. Public art integrated into large-scale capital projects (for example, a new bridge or airport expansion) will be considered as a separate item within the annual budgeting process.
 - b. Up to 10% of the annual Public Art capital budget may be allocated for project management costs and another 10% will be put into the Public Art Reserve Fund for future maintenance and conservation.

2. Incorporate an additional target of \$125,000 to be requested on an annual basis as part of the operating budget commencing in 2016 (pro-rated) to implement three focus areas of the Public Art Program, including: Temporary Public Art, Street Art and Public Art Platforms; Community Arts, Public Engagement and Education and Artist and Arts Sector Development.
3. Encourage the inclusion of Public Art within significant developments across Kingston.
4. Encourage the inclusion of Public Art as part of developments through the use of the various tools contained within the Ontario Planning Act with a goal of achieving as much as 1% of the total value of a project. These tools include the following:
 - Endorsing the identification of public art opportunities and guidelines when developing Area and District Plans, Master Plans and Urban Design Guidelines and the Official Plan. Where Public Art provision is indicated in the plans and guidelines above, a plan for siting artwork could be a condition of site plan control approval;
 - Planners to identify potential site or development projects for the inclusion of Public Art when assessing site plan applications and planning policy development, with technical input from Cultural Services' Public Art Program staff;
 - Endorsing the inclusion of Public Art in exchange for agreed upon concessions (e.g. extra height and/or density through Section 37 or the possible reduction in zoning requirements where warranted); and
 - Encouraging Public Art in all public and private developments through offering Cultural Services staff advice and assistance for public art commissions.
5. Encourage the development of partnerships, grants and sponsorships from local organizations and businesses to further support the development of Public Art in public spaces. The City will encourage Public Art initiatives from the community through the development of partnerships with local organizations and businesses and through offering Cultural Services staff advice and assistance where appropriate and where projects meet the Public Art Program goals and priorities. Opportunities for the placement of public art will require coordination and approval by various City departments.

6. Establish a City of Kingston Public Art Reserve Fund:

- Enable and encourage potential private development contributions as well as gifts and donations from public and private groups and individuals.
- Earmark 10% of project budgets for the collection's maintenance and conservation. Only artworks in the City of Kingston's Public Art Collection will be covered under this fund.

3.3 Site Selection Criteria

Public art sites for City projects and private developer contributions will be selected based on the following Site Selection Criteria:

1. Sites for Public Art will be accessible; visible; compatible with the site's current and potential uses; and compatible with surrounding sites and adjacent Public Art. Sites must be able to accommodate work, be safe and meet all required standards.
2. Public Art will be located in a diversity of sites across Kingston and will not be concentrated in any one site or area.
3. The City will prioritize sites where capital project schedules are compatible with a Public Art commission and the projects are of a high profile. Site selection will be balanced with some opportunities for smaller-scale projects.

3.4 Project Selection Process

Sites that best fit the Site Selection Criteria in **Section 3.3** above will be prioritized annually to fit within the funding available for the City's Public Art Program.

The Public Art Master Plan outlines six site types to be considered for inclusion of public art during the capital planning cycle, with guidelines for appropriate scale and budget for public art projects at the site. The six site types are:

- Site Type 1 - Park Renewal
- Site Type 2 - Park Redevelopment
- Site Type 3 - Facility – Minor Work
- Site Type 4 - Facility – Medium-scale Work

- Site Type 5 - Facility – Major Work
- Site Type 6 - Major Infrastructure Projects

The following is the process for selection and prioritizing City-initiated Public Art capital projects:

1. Capital projects are selected for each department through their regular capital planning process (annual, four-year or five-year cycles depending on the department).
2. The department representatives of the Interdepartmental Public Art Group share their capital work plan, with a recommended shortlist of sites that meet the Public Art site selection criteria and any public feedback.
3. The Interdepartmental Public Art Group meets to determine which sites they recommend to fit within the annual public art funding envelope, as per **3.2 Funding**.
4. Cultural Services will take the agreed site list and will work with the Project Managers to determine the annual Public Art Plan which will include the budget for Public Art for each site and the project approach. See list of approaches in **4.3 Commission and Purchase Processes**.
5. Cultural Services will take the recommendations to the Interdepartmental Public Art Group, Corporate Management Team, Public Art Working Group of the Arts Advisory Committee, ARCP Committee and City Council for approval.
6. Cultural Services will manage Public Art projects, coordinating with the relevant department and Project Manager, for sites as approved by Council.

Cultural Services will initiate an annual call for both artist/curator-initiated and community-initiated projects.

1. Public Art Program staff will advise proponents on their application, in coordination with other departments as appropriate.
2. An Art Selection Committee will review applications against set criteria based on the Public Art Program and Policy and City priorities as well as technical input from relevant departments.

3. Successful applicants will receive assistance with permissions and other official procedures and may receive full- or match-funding, if funding is available.
4. Applicants who are not successful will be given feedback and will be welcome to apply again in the next round of the program.

If City staff or Council members receive a request for funding/permissions for Public Art in a City building or space from an artist, curator, community member and/or organization, requests are to be referred to the Manager who will inform the party of the annual call and how to apply.

Part 4: Acquisitions and Donations

4.1 Conflict of Interest

Kingston Council and staff, Kingston's Arts Advisory Committee members, and all members of an Art Selection Jury shall declare a conflict of interest, pecuniary or any other interest, and remove themselves in all cases from a juried selection process, or any decision regarding the acquisition of Public Art in which he or she is involved either directly or indirectly.

4.2 Acquisitions

The acquisition of Public Art is subject to the City of Kingston's Civic Collection Policy CUL-MUS-002 and is exempt from the Purchasing By-Law 2000-134. Public Art acquisitions must be conducted in accordance with the vision, criteria and processes outlined in this policy. Works may be acquired through any of five methods: commission; purchase; donation; loan; and lease. Acquisition of Public Art rests with the Public Art Program within the Cultural Services Department. Elected officials and City departments agree to adhere to the acquisition processes in this policy and not acquire works outside of this process.

The City will use a wide range of commissioning methods and can seek opportunities to engage the community through these processes and other programs, for example; educational events, workshops, lectures, and mentorships.

Installation and Acceptance

The responsibility for the installation of Public Art acquired will be identified, in advance, through the agreement of purchase, commission, donation or rental contract. All acquired Public Art will be condition-reported upon receipt by the City of Kingston staff who is managing the public art acquisition, and any problems found will be referred to the artist(s)/installer/lender for resolution as appropriate.

4.3 Commission and Purchase Processes

There are a number of approaches that can be used to identify an artist for a commission of Public Art or an Artwork for purchase. Each project will have a specific scope, circumstances and aims that must be kept in mind when deciding which of the following commissioning and review processes will be most suitable. In every case the Acquisition Criteria will be used as the basis for the selection decision.

Public Art can be acquired through the following processes, as appropriate to the project and in keeping with the City of Kingston's Civic Collection Policy CUL-MUS-002:

a) Request for Qualifications (RFQ): An RFQ process may be used for a single stage artist selection or the first stage of a two- or three-stage selection process, which may include an RFP and/or interview.

An RFQ shall be used when a project requires an artist who has extensive public art experience. The RFQ will ask artists to submit the following: a written expression of interest; curriculum vitae; professional references; and examples of relevant work. The RFQ submissions will be reviewed by an Art Selection Jury.

b) Request for Proposals (RFP): An RFP process may be used for a single stage selection or as the second stage of a two- or three-stage selection process. For a multiple-stage process, the Art Selection Jury will have shortlisted artists based on their response to an RFQ. In this case each artist will be compensated for the development of detailed proposals in response to the Terms of Reference in an RFP as per **Section 4.6 Remuneration**. Responses to an RFP are reviewed by an Art Selection Jury and a single artist is selected. In some cases one or more shortlisted artists may be asked to attend an interview before a final selection is made.

Note: RFQ and/or RFP processes can be used for open, limited and invited calls.

c) Open Call: Open calls are a democratic way of engaging a wide range of artists to participate in a Public Art competition. They are widely advertised requests for proposals or qualifications (RFP/RFQ).

d) Limited Call: To meet project-specific aims, a call may be limited to artists with very specific skills and experience or they may be limited to a geographic area.

e) Invited Call: An invited call shall be used where there is a short timeline and/or a specialized opportunity. A jury or a curator may be asked to advise and recommend artists for an invited call.

f) Direct Commission or Direct Purchase: An artist may be selected and directly commissioned where they have very specific skills and experience applicable to a project. An Art Selection Jury may be convened or an external curator selected to review portfolios and confirm the artist or artwork selection. A direct commission or direct purchase may be facilitated for smaller projects by establishing a pre-approved roster of artists that are selected every two to three years through an open competition.

g) Artist on Design Team: Artists may be contracted to collaborate with architects, engineers and designers during the early stages of the design of a building, space, infrastructure or master plan. Artists will be selected based on the Artist Evaluation Criteria in **Section 4.4** as well as their experience and interest in working collaboratively. Artists shall be compensated for their time to attend meetings and develop their ideas. As a member of the design team, the artist may: contribute to the overall design process; identify specific opportunities for integrated artwork; and/or may be responsible for a distinct area of design in consultation and coordination with the other team members. They may be responsible for a distinct art budget, or they may be contribute ideas that fall within the full project budget managed by the prime consultant.

h) Artist Residency: During an Artist Residency, an artist works closely with a host organization or project site over a specified period of time. Artists may be invited to a residency on a full or part-time basis. Accommodation or studio space may be included as part of the compensation.

i) Community Art: For Community Art projects, one or more artist-leads may be selected through a roster, through a call, or through invitation based on their past experience and skills. The community members can be invited through social media or poster campaigns, or a specific group may be involved in the project, depending on the project aims.

j) Alternative Approaches: There may be other approaches to acquiring art or selecting an artist to fit a project's aims, for example: a call for curators to select artwork or artist mentorships where the mentor selects mentees based on agreed criteria. In every case, the process will adhere to the Public Art Program's selection processes to ensure equity and transparency.

k) Murals on Private Property: Private properties with publicly accessible or visible private places can contribute to the character of the public realm. Private property owners can commission murals on privately-owned building facades, walls, fences, and other features.

Murals on Private Property are subject to a City application and review process to ensure that the murals meet the Key Objectives, Guiding Principles and Artwork Acquisition Criteria outlined in this policy and if approved, murals on private property will be exempted from By-Law Number 2009-140, A By-Law to Regulate Signs in the City of Kingston and By-Law Number 2005-100, A By-Law for Prescribing Standards for the Maintenance and Occupancy of Property within the City of Kingston.

The City's Director, Arts & Culture Services or their delegate will be responsible for final approval of the applications.

4.4 Acquisition Criteria

Artist Evaluation Criteria

An Art Selection Jury will consider the following criteria when selecting an artist:

- The vision, mandate and objectives of the Public Art program overall, and the specific aims in the project/program brief;
- Artistic excellence of previous work;
- Ability to achieve highest quality of contemporary artistic excellence and innovation;
- Professional qualifications and relevant working experience as related to Public Art, project management and working with a design team, project team and/or community group, as appropriate;
- Potential to comprehend, access and interpret relevant technical requirements; and
- Interest in and understanding of the Public Art opportunity and the context.

Artwork Acquisition Criteria

When evaluating specific art proposals, an Art Selection Jury, with input from relevant City staff, will use the Artist Evaluation Criteria as well as the following criteria:

- Artistic excellence and creativity of approach;
- Compliance with the objectives and requirements;
- Appropriateness to the site and community context;
- Maintenance and conservation requirements;
- Budget, timeline and technical feasibility and probability of success.

4.5 Art Selection Jury

Public art acquisitions shall be reviewed by an Art Selection Jury. The selected winning scheme shall be recommended to City staff. An Art Selection Jury must be established for each acquisition or donation over \$5,000 in value, but they may also be established for works of a lesser amount. The Art Selection Jury will be responsible for selecting an artist for a commission or an artwork for purchase following the Acquisition Criteria below.

Art Selection Jury members shall be independent of the City and Council. Qualified Art Selection Jury members include recognized arts and design professionals such as practicing artists, curators, art critics, art educators, architects and landscape architects. Local representation with interests in the site could include a neighbourhood or community representative from a local association, a business representative or a resident.

The Art Selection Jury typically consists of three or five members, with the majority being qualified art and design experts. While the ultimate objective of the panel is to reach a unanimous decision, members may be divided in their evaluations and as such, a panel will consist of uneven numbers to enable a majority vote. Depending on the scope of the competition, invited members may be local, national or international art professionals.

The Art Selection Jury shall recommend an artist to City staff. All recommendations will remain confidential until the City announces the results. Relevant City staff and other experts may attend the adjudication session as applicable to the project and/or provide their input, but they will be non-voting advisors.

4.6 Remuneration

1. It is the practice of the City to pay artists for their work as per the Canadian Artists Representation (CARFAC) Minimum Fee Schedule.
2. It is the practice of the City to pay artists for their time to submit proposals where there is an artist selection process of two stages or more. The CARFAC Minimum Fee Schedule will be used to determine an appropriate amount to be paid to all short-listed artists.

3. It is the practice of the City to pay arts professionals and local representatives on an Art Selection Jury for their time reviewing submissions as per the CARFAC Minimum Fee Schedule. However, the project design representative on the panel is not paid if this is already included in their scope of work. City staff and representatives from any organization partnering on the project are also not paid.

4.7 Artist Contract Terms

In creating standard agreements with artists, it is important to note artist moral rights, and to take into consideration practices in the arts sector which differ from other professional service providers or suppliers. When the City of Kingston contracts an artist for a Public Art commission, the artist agreement will include, but not be limited to the following:

- Scope of work (may be design services only, or design, fabricate and/or install);
- City's and artist's obligations, appropriately apportioning risk and responsibility;
- Timelines;
- Ownership, maintenance and conservation obligations;
- Intellectual Property, Copyright and Artist Moral Rights*;
- Artist recognition;
- Warranty and insurance (as appropriate); and
- Payment schedule.

In cases where the artist is not contracted directly to the City, but is a sub-contractor (e.g. for integrated artworks or artist on a design team) or for developer-provision of Public Art, the City shall stipulate that the contract must include terms related to intellectual property rights, ownership, and maintenance obligations as appropriate.

***Intellectual Property**

Except in very rare circumstances, the Artist(s) shall own all Intellectual Property in the Work developed. Following best practice in North American Public Art Programs, they will not be asked to waive their Artist Moral Rights or assign their copyrights. Artist(s)

will be asked to provide a royalty-free non-commercial license to the City of Kingston for images of their work in perpetuity.

4.8 Donations

The City of Kingston recognizes that individuals or organizations may wish to make donations of Public Art. All proposed donations will be subject to the City of Kingston's Civic Collection Policy CUL-MUS-002 and an evaluation process based on the Donation Criteria below.

All donations are to be referred to the Manager for evaluation. Donations having a value of more than \$5000 or that are deemed to be politically sensitive must be assessed by the Public Art Working Group. Proposals for donations of works in progress may be given conditional approval, for a period of no longer than two years, after which the proposed donation will be re-evaluated.

The following information must be provided by the potential donor when submitting a donation proposal:

- Information about the artwork including photographs of the artwork (if existing) or illustrations (if proposed);
- Maintenance and conservation plan, including the condition of the work and any repairs needed;
- Site and installation requirements of the artwork;
- Projected budget for installation and ongoing maintenance of the artwork; and
- Legal proof of the donor's authority to donate the work.

Donation Criteria

The following criteria will be used by the Public Art Working Group, a subcommittee of the Arts Advisory Committee, to assess proposed donated artworks:

- Artwork acquisition criteria (see **4.4 Acquisition Criteria**);
- Compatibility with the City's Civic Collection Policy, Public Art Collection and the objectives of the Public Art Program;
- Authenticity and provenance;

- Absence of restrictive conditions imposed by the donor and any conflicts of interest; and
- The physical condition, durability and maintenance requirements of the artwork.

Donor Release, Donation Appraisal, Tax Receipts and Acknowledgement

Please refer to the Civic Collection Policy CUL-MUS-002 for information related to appraisals, tax receipts and acknowledgements.

Associated Donation Costs

Unless waived by the City, the donor is responsible for all costs including, but not limited to:

- appraisal or evaluation by a certified specialist;
- photographs for inventory and insurance purposes;
- transporting the donation;
- 10% of the value of the donation to cover future maintenance and conservation (more for artwork deemed to be subject to a high maintenance cost); and
- any costs associated with the engineering, site planning and preparation and installation of the artwork.

4.9 Loans and Leases

Please refer to the Civic Collection Policy CUL-MUS-002 for information related to loans and leases.

Part 5: Collection Management, Maintenance and De-accessioning

5.1 Collection Management

The City of Kingston's Public Art capital projects, both Stand-alone and Integrated Art, and donations of permanent Public Art will be included in the Public Art Collection, a collection node of the Civic Collection. These works will be managed following the Civic Collection Policy CUL-MUS-002, including an inventory to be maintained within the Civic Collection's document management system. This information will include locations and maintenance procedures for each work of Public Art, and will be accessible to relevant departments as needed.

Temporary Public Art, Street Art, Public Art Platforms, and Community Arts will not be included in the Public Art Collection. Public Art created through private development will only be included in the Public Art Collection in cases where the City has agreed to acquire the piece within the collection and where the art is sited in a City-owned public space or building.

Identification

After final acceptance of the Public Art by the City of Kingston, the City shall, at its expense, prepare and install at the Public Art site, or in the surrounding area, a plaque or other signage that identifies the artist, the title of the artwork and the year of completion. The City shall reasonably maintain such notice in good repair against the effects of time and the elements.

5.2 Maintenance and Conservation

Where Public Art is to be included in the Public Art Collection, 10% of each of the following will be directed towards the Public Art Reserve Fund to be earmarked for maintenance and conservation of the Public Art Collection as a whole:

- The value of a Public Art acquired or accepted as a donation;
- The cost of all municipally developed Public Art; and
- The value of any public artwork acquired by the City through the development process.

Work in the Public Art Collection will be maintained and conserved by the City of Kingston as per the Maintenance Plan agreed by the artist and the City at the time of the acquisition.

Stand-alone Art

- The City Curator will be notified if staff/public notice vandalism or other maintenance needs on a work of art.
- Costs for maintenance and conservation of the stand-alone art in the Public Art Collection will be covered through the Public Art Reserve Fund.
- Where a building/space that includes integrated art is undergoing renovations or redevelopment, the relevant department shall alert the City Curator.

Art Integrated into a Building or Space

- The relevant department shall clean and maintain the artwork as per the artwork's Maintenance Plan. Maintenance to be equal to the service level of the rest of the facility.
- The department shall contact the City Curator where there are any questions regarding appropriate maintenance and cleaning procedures for the integrated art.
- Costs for regular maintenance of the integrated art in the Public Art Collection will be covered by the department responsible for the building/space.
- Costs for conservation of the integrated art in the Public Art Collection will be covered through the Public Art Reserve Fund.
- Where a building/space that includes integrated art is undergoing renovations or redevelopment, the relevant department shall alert the City Curator.

5.3 Alteration or Relocation

Due to the changing nature of urban and built environments, the location of an artwork may, in time, no longer be appropriate to the context, and the City may determine that the artwork shall be relocated. Where this is the case, the City of Kingston will notify the artist of any proposed significant alteration to the Public Art site or any relocation of the artwork that would affect the intended character and appearance of the art. The City will

endeavour to contact the artist to consult with them prior to any such alteration, but will not be bound by the artist's advice. Where the artist does not agree to the change, the artist has the right to renounce authorship of the artwork.

5.4 Transfer, Disposal and De accession

Transfer, disposal and de accession of the Public Art Collection will be as per the Civic Collection Policy CUL-MUS-002 with the Public Art Working Group advising staff.

5.5 Monitoring of the Public Art Policy and Program

Cultural Services, in consultation with the Public Art Working Group and other relevant internal and external experts, will monitor the Public Art Policy and Program implementation to determine if:

- The assumptions underpinning the policy continue to be valid;
- Policy priorities remain constant;
- The policy is being carried out as intended; and
- The policy is having the desired outcome.

By-Law Number 2023-XXX

**A By-Law to Amend By-Law Number 2009-140, A By-Law to
Regulate Signs In The City of Kingston**

Passed: [Meeting Date]

The Council of The Corporation of the City of Kingston enacts as follows:

1. By-Law Number 2009-140 of the Corporation of the City of Kingston entitled “A By-Law To Regulate Signs In The City of Kingston”, as amended, is hereby further amended as follows:

- 1.1 Section 1 “Definitions” is hereby amended by adding the following:

Mural is a design or work of art applied directly to a wall either painted or on affixed panels for the purpose of artistic expression, decoration, and public art.

- 1.2 Section 6 “Exemptions” is hereby amended by adding the following thereto:

“Murals on private property as approved and sanctioned by the City of Kingston through the established application and review policy as identified in and in conjunction with the City of Kingston’s Public Art Policy.”

2. This by-law shall come into force and take effect upon the date of its passing.

Given First and Second Readings [Meeting Date]

Given Third Reading and Passed [Meeting Date]

Janet Jaynes
Acting City Clerk

Bryan Paterson
Mayor

By-Law Number 2023-XXX

A By-Law to Amend By-Law Number 2005-100, A By-Law for Prescribing Standards for the Maintenance and Occupancy of Property within the City of Kingston

Passed: [Meeting Date]

The Council of The Corporation of the City of Kingston enacts as follows:

1. By-Law Number 2005-100 of the Corporation of the City of Kingston entitled “A By-Law for Prescribing Standards for the Maintenance and Occupancy of Property within the City of Kingston”, as amended, is hereby further amended as follows:
 - 1.1 Section 4.17 “Graffiti” is hereby amended by adding the following thereto:

“with the exception of murals on private property as approved and sanctioned by the City of Kingston through the established application and review policy as identified in and in conjunction with the City of Kingston’s Public Art Policy.”
2. This by-law shall come into force and take effect upon the date of its passing.

Given First and Second Readings [Meeting Date]

Given Third Reading and Passed [Meeting Date]

Janet Jaynes
Acting City Clerk

Bryan Paterson
Mayor

Mural on Private Property Guidelines

The City of Kingston supports the commissioning of murals on private property through a new, streamlined application process. This process supports projects led by artists, property owners, business owners, and community organizations and groups.

Murals on private property are considered temporary and approved applicants are required to maintain the mural for a minimum of two years.

Applications must be submitted and approved by the City of Kingston before murals can be installed on private property. If an application is approved and sanctioned, the mural is included in Section 6, Exemptions in the Signs Bylaw 2009-140 and will not require a Signs permit. It will also be exempt from Section 4.17 Graffiti in the Property Standards Bylaw 2005-100.

Important: If the proposed site for a mural involves a designated heritage property under the Ontario Heritage Act – Part IV and Part V and/or is included in the City of Kingston Heritage Registrar, property owners will be required to seek a heritage permit through the Kingston Heritage Properties Committee. This process takes time with no guaranteed approval. Please reach out to heritageplanning@cityofkingston.ca to review these requirements before applying and to review timelines for your planning purposes.

Also Note: Additional permits may be required. For example, an Encroachment Permit may be necessary if installing a mural on private property requires accessing public property. This will be identified through the application process and support and guidance will be provided.

Street Art

Murals represent an important type of temporary public art, known as “street art”, created on walls, sidewalks and roadways when sanctioned and permitted. Street art and murals are distinct from graffiti, which is not sanctioned or permitted and is a form of vandalism. Murals are an accessible art form and reflection of artistic expression; they can be embedded within communities to add vibrancy and celebrate a sense of identity and place.

Murals are identified in the City of Kingston’s [Public Art Policy](#) that was developed as an outcome of the [Public Art Master Plan](#) approved in 2014 and provides the framework needed to guide the administration of the City of Kingston’s Public Art Program. The Policy provides Council, staff, the arts community and residents with a mechanism through which the City of Kingston assesses, acquires and manages public art works that are municipally owned through purchases, loans, commissions and/or donations.

The Public Art Policy has been updated to include murals on private property.

Definition

A mural means a design or work of art applied directly to a wall either on affixed panels or painted for the purpose of artistic expression, decoration, and public art.

Goals

- Offering low barrier opportunities to produce murals by:
 - prioritizing and expediting mural applications;
 - providing guidance and support to applicants; and
 - exempting certain bureaucratic processes for the applicants.
- Improving the public realm by supporting the creation of murals as public art.
- Supporting community organizations and groups creating murals in their neighbourhoods.

Eligible Applicants

Artists, private property owners, businesses renting or leasing private property, community organizations and groups in the City of Kingston are all eligible to submit an application to commission a mural on private property. **Any applicant who does not own the private property that is being included in the application must prove they have permission to apply a mural.** Proof must include a signed letter from the property owner or property management company, including contact information. City staff will be contacting the property owner to confirm that they have granted permission.

Murals must be:

- an artistically driven project led by an artist, property owner, business, or community organization and group;
- an original design and artwork;
- appropriate to the scale of the building and the site, up to 100% of the surface area of the designated wall for the mural; and
- fully visible and/or accessible from public space.

Not Eligible

- Content deemed offensive to community standards:
 - May incite hatred or violence against any person or identifiable group of persons;
 - May promote stereotypes or negative attitudes about any person or identifiable group of persons on a ground protected by the *Ontario Human Rights Code*;
 - Contains profane, vulgar, or offensive language,
 - Depicts violence or explicit sexual content, and/or
 - Is criminal or gang related.
- Elements of advertising, promotion, signage, branding, or product placement for a business (**Note:** This would be considered a sign and would require a permit through the Signs Bylaw 2009-140);
- Copyrighted material without permission for use; and
- Designs that impact and/or distract drivers traveling along adjacent roadways.

Site and Design Considerations

- Location and size of the mural
 - Determine where on the building's structure the mural will be installed and how large the mural can be; look for easy access points for installation.
 - Murals do not need to take up an entire wall to be impactful.
- Type of wall surface
 - Smooth surfaces such as concrete or plaster work best.
 - If there are mixed surfaces on a wall (i.e. brick and concrete), this should be considered in the design.
 - Depending on the condition of the mural surface, it may be best to install the mural on a sign board or treated plywood and install it on the wall so that it can be removed and more easily maintained.

Mural Design and Materials

- The mural should be composed of a colour palette that compliments the colours, aesthetic or architecture found within its location.
- Primer is recommended for murals to ensure an even application of paint for the mural design, and to help with especially porous surfaces.
- If painting the mural, high-grade exterior aerosol paint or exterior grade acrylic-based paint. An exterior grade, UV proof and anti-graffiti coated vinyl could also be considered (Note: lead and/or oil-based paints are prohibited, and no sculptural elements may be affixed to a wall as part of a mural).
- Artist names, property owner names, funder names and sponsor names may be incorporated but should not exceed 5% of the design.
- The paints and materials used should not chemically corrode nor compromise the integrity of the building's exterior or structure.
- Reflective, neon and fluorescent paints should not be used.

Installation

When planning to install an exterior mural, it is recommended that the following consideration must be made: site and safety, weather and climate, and site prep.

Artist Agreement

It is recommended that the artist enter into a written agreement with the lead applicant to ensure that all expectations are clearly established.

Budget

A high-level budget should be submitted with the application so that City staff can offer guidance and feedback. Please use the provided budget template included in the application.

Maintenance

The property owner is responsible for all maintenance or repairs to the mural after its installed, which would include a repair of material failure and removing vandalism or graffiti as per the Property Standards Bylaw 2005-100. Murals on private property are considered temporary and will be required to be maintained for a minimum of two years.

Application Form

Applicant Name and Contact Information

- Name
- Address
- Email
- Phone

Site Information and Proposed Mural Location

- Type of site
- Address
- Location of mural
 - Recent wall photos must be included (not Google Street view)

Building's Heritage Status

If the proposed site is a heritage building, please review to assess if it's a designated heritage property under the Ontario Heritage Act – Part IV and Part V and/or included in the City of Kingston Heritage Registrar:

<https://www.cityofkingston.ca/documents/10180/39676/Heritage+Register.pdf/5c73e32e-29db-4c8a-a67a-9fa708faf940?t=1590058621981>

If the building is a designated heritage property, please contact Heritage Services heritageplanning@cityofkingston.ca as soon as possible and before submitting an application as a heritage permit may be required and are not guaranteed.

Property Owner and Contact Information

- Name
- Address
- Email
- Phone

If the applicant is not the property owner, proof of permission from the property owner must be supplied with the application, i.e. a letter from property owner stating permission is granted to install a mural.

Proposed Mural Description

- Mural artist(s) name
- Description of proposed mural project
- Draft artwork image/sketch and rendering (draft artwork superimposed on a photo of the wall)
- Dimensions of wall/location for mural – height and width (in feet/inches)
 - Include a photo and measurements for each location

Please note: these additional items are not part of the assessment, review and approval process and criteria, but are included as part of the application to ensure success of the mural project and so that City staff can offer support and guidance.

Mural installation and maintenance plans

- Proposed materials to be used
- Installation plan and timeline
- Information about additional permits that may be required
- Mural maintenance plan and proposed life span of mural (minimum two years)

Budget

Please use the budget template provided. Artist fees are strongly encouraged.

Item	Cost	Notes
Artist Fee		Recommend 15-20% of total project budget
Mural Materials (paint, etc.)		
Wall Prep materials		
Installation costs		
Additional permits and related costs		Example: Heritage, Encroachment
Insurance		
Maintenance		It is recommended that a maintenance budget of 5-10% of the total project budget be put aside for any future costs
Signage		
Total		

All completed applications will be reviewed by City of Kingston staff with the support of the Art in Public Places Working Group approved by Council and affiliated with the Arts

Advisory Committee. The Director, Arts & Culture Services, will issue the approval notice to the applicant in writing based on the recommendations of City staff and the members of the Art in Public Places Working Group.

Please direct your questions to the City's Public Art Coordinator at publicart@cityofkingston.ca.

DRAFT

Murals on Private Property Public Engagement Summary

Why we engaged

The City is amending its Public Art Policy to outline a new, streamlined process to support and sanction the creation of murals on private property. This new proposed process will help remove barriers and better support artists and property owners.

The Public Art Policy currently guides the development of public art on City property and public art as part of new private developments; it does not specifically address murals on private property.

This engagement informed the community on these proposed amendments and sought feedback on the value of murals as part of the Public Art Program. The input will help the City understand the broader interest of the community in having more murals in Kingston.

The engagement focused on two key questions:

- How do you think having murals on private property will contribute to the look and feel of Kingston?
- What concerns or ideas do you have about murals on private property?

How we engaged

A survey was hosted on Get Involved Kingston from March 8 – March 22, 2023. The community was provided opportunities to engage online, by phone or by mail. Social media and the Get Involved email newsletter were used to communicate about this engagement.

Who we heard from

- 216 engaged participants completed surveys
- 511 aware participants visited the project page
- 12 participants created a new Get Involved Kingston account

How input was used

This input has assisted staff in developing guidelines for murals on private property by gauging interest in increasing the number of murals in Kingston.

Next steps

The results of this public consultation will be shared with members of Council for consideration during the Arts, Recreation & Community Policies Committee on April 20, 2023.

What we heard

The following are a list of comments provided by Get Involved Kingston participants. Personal information, including screen names or email address, have been omitted from the reporting below. Feedback is not edited for grammar, spelling or punctuation and is verbatim from participants. Feedback that did not follow the City of Kingston's Guidelines for Participation were omitted from the feedback.

Question: How do you think having murals on private property will contribute to the look and feel of Kingston?

- Will make it more colourful, full of character and memorable for people who visit here.
- 100% improvement. I want more everywhere.
- it will add character, colour and vibrancy to the community as well as making our city look, feel unique and ever changing.
- I like the idea. Murals on private property will foster connection between people.
- It'll add a nice artistic touch, and make some drab buildings look better.
- I view these murals extremely positively.
- It would be a great way to garner support for local artists and add to neighborhood pride and individuality.
- I have my fears.
- It will be uplifting for older dilapidated building until such time as they can be replaced. It has been very successful in other cities.
- Double edge sword. Beauty is in the eye of the beholder.
- Great exposure for local artists and improvement from old buildings not painted.
- If done properly will be a wonderful addition.
- More art is better for everyone!
- Done well they could bring brightness and interest to the city.
- It'll bring life and culture to Kingston. I love the idea. We've seen how beautiful murals can be in cities like Montreal. They're a tourist attraction and make boring buildings more interesting.
- I think they add immensely to the attractiveness of Kingston -- the new one on Princess St. near Division is very attractive and brightens an otherwise dull area.
- It will add colour and vibrancy to what tends to be a very "grey" environment.
- If done tastefully might add some color.
- Kingston has so many new developments that feature all the same architecture/colour schemes. We need more colour, vibrancy and diversity.
- We have amazing local artists, and this would be a great way for them to find employment while adding value to our neighbourhoods.
- It will create a more vibrant, positive, expressive community that will help convey that Kingston is a city that values community, art, positivity, and imagination.
- Big improvement!

- It will add colour, beauty, a diversity of expression, and a unique identity to the city.
- I think it would make Kingston feel more unique, interesting, open minded, diverse, and progressive.
- i think they would open up the walking pleasure around the city.
- It will make the city even more unique and wonderful to see.
- LOVE IT!! I am tired of seeing vast concrete monoliths!
- I think having murals on private property will improve the city's overall aesthetic and is a great support to local artists.
- Make it more interesting and colourful in the long winter.
- It would look inviting and vibrant. A place you want to live, play and work in. Perhaps contribute to some historical factor.
- If they are done with some skill and are not political, racist, etc.
- There are many murals on residential buildings in bigger cities like Montreal, and it makes walking through neighbourhoods more interesting and rewarding and offers good exposure for the artists.
- It's fine as long as it's tasteful.
- I love murals.
- It will help Kingston feel younger and more diverse.
- Vibrancy, beauty, interest.
- It's a wonderful idea I have visited many cities which have these and it invariably is a very popular attraction for both locals and tourists.
- I think they are a beautiful addition to the city and I would fully support more of them.
- A well done, tasteful, colourful mural, especially on multi-storey otherwise bland brick buildings, looks wonderful. It improves the look of the building as well as the streetscape around the building.
- I think it's a wonderful idea, and removing red tape for artists is very important. Owners of buildings should be able to approve and fund murals as they want.
- Enhance if well done...
- It would be a lovely addition to our community. Highlight local talent and add to the vibrancy of our tourism.
- It will improve the look of the city.
- Yes, very much. I have always wondered why we didn't have many. Princess St. would benefit from one.
- Adds interest and vibrancy.
- Excellent idea. The more art work in the city the better.
- Murals add colour and character to our beautiful city.
- They improve the look of buildings. They provide focal points for the areas we live in. Some provide a small history lesson of that building or area (think Svenson's garage). Really neat. They certainly provide an interest for tourists too, so can contribute to revenue for businesses.

- Yes, but i would see that in the old Kingston where all the commercial businesses are.
- I absolutely love the way a mural can brighten up a neighbourhood! It makes a city very dynamic and interesting.
- Make the city more colourful and help spruce up areas that may be shabby.
- Taking ugly stone walls and give them life. Love the one at the Legion on Bath Road in Collins Bay brings attention to our war hero's and is a true piece of Art. Mural on wall of garage on Front Road. Doug Gilmour, Don Cherry , Kirk Muller. Sir John A needs to come off the top of the mural. it has nothing to do with hockey legends. Need new Murals on the wall near the water front in park by Woolen Mills. They look a little sad and need an update.
- I think it would be amazing to have some beautiful and creative murals around Kingston. A series of murals can transform a city into a work of art. I love visiting cities with murals and I would love it if Kingston joined their ranks.
- It will make the city more vibrant, more modern.
- Broadly positive - I've seen some nice ones! But there does need to be some quality control.
- This can go either way. Some could find certain things offensive. Art is very subjective.
- I think that it will add to the unique feel of Kingston that is supportive of our diversity.
- I think murals are a great way to make the city look like the vibrant, creative community it is!
- It will be lovely! We should embrace them fully.
- Definite improvement. adds character and gives residents a place to display their work. much better than billboards or run down siding.
- Adding art to private property (in public spaces will only add to the beauty, character and appeal of our city. We can integrate our historic architecture with artistic expression. Let's show the rest of the country (and prospective visitors) that we're so much more than our outdated reputation.
- Eclectic, open to multi art forms.
- I enjoy the artwork.
- I think they're beautiful and an incredible addition to the art scene!
- I would love to recognize local artists by awarding them a mural space. Bonus points if you could incorporate some sort of walk of fame along the artists corridor.
- it would add interest and vibrancy to community....give artists a chance to showcase their work.
- I think it can be lovely in the downtown area. Not so much in the suburbs.
- It will make it more vibrant and give it more personality, and spark conversation. I've seen murals on garage doors and walls in alleys in Toronto and it's lovely and wonderful.

- I think it'll add to the great arts and culture of Kingston. I highly support this!
- I think it will contribute to the look and feel of Kingston by showing that we are an artistic community, and that we embrace art of all kinds. It will be an added attraction for tourists.
- They are an eyesore.
- I think murals will add vibrancy but I worry about those individuals who will add their tags to the murals.
- It will add to the artistic and revitalized vibes that Kingston seems to lack in certain areas. It will also showcase the artwork of (presumably) local talents and strengthen the arts community in this city. Many walls are drab and BEGGING to have something more exciting put on them, it will be an attraction!
- Will be a definite benefit! As long as it's good art, why not?
- I believe murals (especially by local artists) will add personality to Kingston!
- Will make it more vibrant, colourful, and unique.
- Could add vibrancy, colour, diversity.
- A way to support artists and add to the beauty of the city.
- They'd be a great addition to the city as long as the design goes well with the building and its surrounding area. Murals can add to the art culture of the city and create more sightseeing spots for people. Murals can also embody meaningful messages.
- I believe they will detract.
- Murals add visual interest and character to streetscapes.
- Depending on the subject, it can either enhance or detract.
- It could potentially make the city look like rail cars that have been covered in graffiti.
- I suspect it will make Kingston much more interesting. Regardless, if people have a right to paint their houses or buildings as they wish, they have a right to put murals on them.
- I think that it will make Kingston a more interesting place as long as the murals are not hateful, transphobic, etc.
- Add color and interest and support local (hopefully) artists.
- I'm in favour. There are many blank "canvases" that would be enhanced by art.
- I think murals are especially beautiful, especially if they cover amateurish graffiti and support local artists. I often would photograph such pieces. If a building is old and needs a new face, so be it.
- Vibrant & Modern city.
- I think it's a great idea. Cities like Toronto, Quebec City especially Montreal have added a large number of interesting and artistic murals that enhance the beauty and interest of the city.
- If they add visual interest or preferably show the history of the area, they could be attractive and informative. They should blend in and not be a distraction.
- Will brighten things up and add visual appeal to the city.

- I don't think it adds anything. Most I have seen are rather unsightly.
- Unique and varied from brick and vinyl siding.
- It would add art and culture, a feeling of belonging and expression.
- It will beautify the city.
- I like the idea. I think anywhere a mural can be added to an otherwise “ugly” space is positive. I enjoy some of the other murals that already exist in the city.
- It will make Kingston look vibrant and contemporary.
- It will add a unique flavour to the city, allowing citizens to put their creativity on display.
- Good idea long as they are tastefully done.
- They would enhance Kingston's strong image and reputation for arts. Provide further tourist appeal.
- It would depend on the mural. If it is tasteful then I believe it will add to the appeal of the city if not it may make to city look trash.
- It's a great way to support local artists and add to the art scene.
- Visual art can make a huge difference to the look and feel of a place. Having lived in bigger cities with more street art, I can say this is a vibrant cultural area that Kingston does lack.
- Won't contribute at all.
- It depends on which properties are used, and it also depends on the murals themselves. I can imagine some excellent outcomes and some awful outcomes.
- it depends on the quality of the murals; good quality art will contribute positively to the city by creating interesting spaces; poor quality are simply offensive
- It will add beauty and funkiness to our awesome city.
- I think it's a good as long as there are Standards to what they are. Svenson's Garage on Front Road across from Centre 70 has a nice one and the Legion in Collins Bay another nice one. Reid's dairy another one. Down town parking garage is okay too.
- I love the murals I see in Montreal, for example, and the few in Kingston that I'm aware of. For me they add a feeling of friendliness, belonging and community to the city, in addition to beautifying some dull-looking buildings.
- As long as they are done with good materials and there is variety, they can add character, interest and (sometimes) commentary on issues and events.
- Used to live near Pembroke, they have a lot of murals and it definitely improves the look of the town, especially where there is just a big brick wall.
- They would add to the vibrancy of streetscapes.
- Yes.
- Make it less plain.
- Only as long as they contribute to non-political, non-offensive themes.
- Pleasing to the eye, make people smile.
- On residential homes I do not agree. If you have travelled by VIA Rail to Toronto or Montreal, many homes have graffiti and looks like a third world ghetto.

- Meh it's a 50 50 gamble some will like it some will hate it.
- It will make areas look much brighter, fun and cleaner.
- Negative. Trast. Lowers the clean appliance of the city.
- Unless controlled, it could look like a whole lot of graffiti.
- Adding art and colour would increase the vibrancy of any neighbourhood as well as giving it character and culture.
- Adding colour, excitement, humour, information. Bring about reflection about history, geography, biology. A celebration of the many groups of people living in Kingston and who have lived here in the immediate and distant past.
- I think it will beautify the city, make it more vibrant and welcoming.
- Depends on the mural. I haven't liked any commercial looking ones on Brock St to date and don't think they have created a pleasant atmosphere. They have looked like space savers.
- If tasteful and positive and maintained they could be an added feature to a neighbourhood.
- I was very excited when the mural was being voted on for Division Street. I would love to see more murals in Kingston, on public or private property. They are artistic pops of colour which brighten up your day.
- It will keep things looking interesting.
- Visually interesting.
- It is a bright way of showing the heritage of an area.
- I think it will add vibrancy; artistic expression is a vital part of reflecting a diverse community.
- Love this idea! The vibrant colours of recent downtown/midtown murals enliven drab areas and help build the community.
- Providing the theme is tasteful and, hopefully, supportive of Kingston's culture and/or history, murals are a welcome addition to some otherwise drab architecture.
- Can enliven the landscape, but could also be detrimental depending on the subject matter and quality of the art.
- Young artists could brighten the city's streets and draw interest to their type of art.
- Increased visibility for local artists, fewer ugly blank walls, more colourful and character in urban environment.
- I don't think that it is a good idea. If there is no standard then anyone can say that something is a mural.
- It will add beautiful color and joy.
- I love it. Please, yes. It makes neighbourhoods more interesting and vibrant.
- I think the city should stay out of what on people's private property.
- Murals on private property that are visible to the public become a public experience. Kingston is lacking in colour and vibrancy - the limestone is a perfect blank canvas for arts and culture to thrive on public and private property.

- Add visual interest to the streetscape. They are a good thing though I do not think encouraging them should be a high priority for the city.
- I think we are running a very significant risk of creating a city of "eyesores." "Art" is a very subjective expression and open to wide interpretation so the residents of Kingston can be saddled with unappealing sights that the city will be powerless to remove. To be honest, to date the city's art projects (past and present) on public property have been largely ugly _ so-called metal and concrete sculptures along the waterfront, bland paintings supported by concrete road barriers - horrible at worst, uninspired at best....go to European cities like Burgos, Spain, or closer to home, Montreal, and you will see examples of how public art can be appealing to the majority of citizens.
- Amazingly - this type of art can really add beauty to our city.
- It will make it look trashy.
- More positive. Vibrant community expression. Have an opportunity for BIPOC people to display their art. A form of education and beautifying a space at may not be currently attractive...
- Beautiful idea and expression of individuality on one's property.
- Depends on the theme but it has the potential to be beautiful. If it were a well done work of art it would make our city a little more attractive. Art is a form of expression, and says we are proud. We have many reasons to be proud of the city and should allow art to contribute to the beauty.
- I love the idea that you could add some vibrancy to both your own home and your neighbourhood. It's certainly more expressive to paint a mural than to simply paint your house a single colour. I think it could add interest to neighbourhood walks and maybe inspire folks to live a little more freely in their spaces.
- Depends on the mural and the content.
- There is the potential to make the city more beautiful, interesting.
- Visually pleasing art, promote local art, share culture, history, community building, educational, local and international issues, etc.
- If properly done, I think murals can help improve the urban landscape and provide a positive experience for residents and tourists alike.
- I think murals add beauty to our city. I have personally enjoyed seeing the Kingston one, and the one at daft.
- Help the city become more visually vibrant and interesting. Provide spaces for artists to express themselves.
- I think murals will add vibrancy, as well as adding a feeling of community spirit.
- Yes, I enjoy seeing people's personal creativity in art and sculpture and have always enjoyed seeing, when traveling, the greater freedom of expression typically found only in larger cities.
- Murals can create wonderful colour and life on otherwise drab buildings. They can highlight aspects of culture, arts, and city priorities.

- Murals can add interest to the community and contribute towards a sense of belonging in the community. Seeing a mural could bring a sense of calm or happiness, be good for mental health if you can look out your window and instead of bricks you see a nature scene, a trompe l'oeil, etc.
- I think murals are a great way to add and enhance the character of a city. I think of how the many large scale murals on buildings in Montreal enliven the streetscapes and make art a part of everyday life. I can see the Division St. mural from my office and love it as it adds a bright pop of colour to the city.
- Add colour, vibrancy and citizen involvement.
- I think that it can be a good edition to the city.
- Love murals on private property. They add interest to our community.
- I think murals are a wonderful way of enlivening Kingston streets. When I think of my travels to other cities, I often remember - and photograph - the murals. Why not think of walls as a canvas ready to be transformed? Murals, in particular, have the capacity to improve the feel of areas with less attractive structural components, or areas that feel "empty" (e.g. parking lots).
- When the talent is sufficient to the task, regardless of the message, then yes. It's got to be about real talent. I fear a City review process is somehow very much out of sync with the 'murals' culture.
- I love them! I think they add life to the city and improve the look of otherwise boring, cookie-cutter condo buildings. Some murals in other cities have even become tourist attractions and murals could open up that potential.
- I think it would be great! There's already a few in Kingston and it would be great to have more, they're very beautiful.
- Adds vibrancy and beauty. Feels positive and expressive.
- It will allow citizens to be involved in the artistic character of the city. It will also promote creativity and community, creating a visuality to the city of the people living here.
- I think it is a great idea to showcase the talent and culture of the community.
- It will NOT contribute in any way. They are a major source of visual pollution as well as waste of paint and air pollution as well.
- We have such a grey city, especially in the winter. I think it will add a much-needed flash of colour and creative inspiration. I think it will also improve our curb appeal for visitors - more photo ops, more incentive to wander and explore and seek out art.
- They will help beautify the city and make the urban environment more vibrant. They will be a valuable form of public art.
- Murals, when done well, can beautify any space. I would love to see more murals throughout Kingston, whether on businesses or residences. I would love to see different types of art, including graffiti art, so long as the content is family-friendly.
- They could add vibrancy as well as promote tourism interest. Beautifies the neighbourhood.

- More public art (including murals on private property) is greatly needed to create a more vibrant and enjoyable city. There are so many great examples of integrating murals in the fabric of historic areas that can accent our heritage buildings while creating visual interest and be attractions in and of themselves. Think of the transformation that a large scale mural on the sides of the Princess Towers (401 Princess St - potentially the ugliest building in the city) would have! Of course, it would need buy in from the property owner, but surely anything on the side of that building would be an improvement / increase its value!
- It will add character and excitement.
- It would be a vast improvement, particularly in the Williamsville part of Princess St.
- I am in general agreement. Makes streetscapes interesting, and adds to tourism , however, on heritage buildings (designated) and in Heritage Conservation Districts these items need to be vetted by the Heritage Committee and it subject to a competitive process.
Many towns/ villages include historic events, period glimpses into the past on replicated facades. These would be more appropriate for heritage areas/buildings.
Ex. Van Kleek Hill
- Absolutely. A long overdue measure.
- Would depend on the quality of the art, its relevance to the building & the street, whether it could be removed, and whether the building is historically designated.
- Private property murals will contribute to a more contemporary and current look for the city, it will allow for more freedom of expression and create a look and feel more authentic to the inhabitants of the city.
- Depends on the mural.
- More art is best for the city of Kingston and the tourism industry.
- TASTEFUL art is always appreciated and should enhance the beauty of the city. Offensive murals that promote certain lifestyles could be a big turn-off.
- I love art, and being able to have murals on private property will make it a fun and friendly vibe.
- Give both residents & visitors a sense that our city is Lively and artistic. increase tourism.
- If well done, will add colour and vibrancy.
- It will be an enriching experience showing the diverse artistry of the community. The murals program should continue diversity of representation and inclusion.
- Provided they are done well they add to the overall look of the city.
- Art on display often contributes to any environment.
I am curious as to why 'Private' has to do with the issue.
Some people have art on their lawns and that is a personal preference. Perhaps the issue of 'Private' may be more of a consideration when the built environment

is governed in part by Federal, Provincial, and/or Municipal policies such as with historically designated properties, districts, and neighborhoods.

- They can enliven a space. They can also make a space less appealing. And too many of them can be too much. Or too many all in the same style -- e.g. homey history. They can also deteriorate over time and detract from a neighbourhood.
- Tapping into youth culture and their individual expressions of art will ensure an ever growing and culturally diverse art scene in the city of Kingston.
- Locals will enjoy it. Tourists will take photos and tell others!
- If painted on drab concrete walls and on industrial buildings, they can relieve the ugliness inherent in those structures. That is one big positive feature of murals.
- Depends on if they are tasteful, or just graffiti...
- It is a great initiative to help showcase the city as more aesthetically pleasing to modern contemporaries, as it amalgamates the modern art and ancient architecture to bring a whole new perspective to the city. It will attract more art lovers to this more unique city.
- Publicly displayed art, meaning in public view on public and private property, is vital to the health and vibrancy of a community. Without it, a community can wither. So I believe such murals can feed the soul and enrich our lives. They culturally enliven us and contribute to our city's positive reputation. They foster interaction and discussion among citizens and invite visitors to experience our cultural lifestyle.
- If properly done they can add some nice colour to the city.
- Good public art adds interest, encourages reflection, and generally enriches a space, whether it's public or private. Cities become known for their public art.
- Will help revitalize certain parts of the city and make them less boring/dilapidated looking.
- There is a strong suggestion in this survey that the approval process should be streamlined. In fact, it is challenging if the City is to encourage each new development to incorporate some form of public art as is currently stated. My concern is that the murals should be cautiously approved with the input of the Kingston Heritage Properties Committee for all properties that are listed or designated on the Heritage Register, as well as all those properties that fall within the Heritage Character Areas set out in the City's Official Plan on Schedule 9. Murals should be sympathetic to the building where it is being located. As a normal course of events, painting a brick or stone surface is NOT recommended, because the removal of the paint adversely affects the surface. What time frame are these murals recommended for - maintenance is critical. Also, how are Indigenous murals to be vetted, such as the Molly Brant mural on an existing wall? There are a great many issues that need to be considered and the suggestion that the process is to be streamlined when the public art policy specifically says that it is not to be considered on private buildings is objectionable.

- Will freshen the drab monotony of large portions of the city.
- I really like the look of murals and fully encourage displaying art wherever people are okay with it.
- Will contribute to culture/local art/Kingston's history.
- Murals are known for brightening up cities, showcasing local talent, and amplifying culture. I would love to have more murals downtown, and throughout Kingston.
- I LOVE cities and neighbourhoods with murals! As long as they are kept up (paint not peeling, etc), they tell a story, add colour and vibrancy, and give people something to enjoy & talk about.
- Extremely positively! It will add colour, inspire conversation and connect people to their surroundings in a whole new way! Murals will bring a completely new dimension to the city, making it feel like a living installation. It will delight and move people. Murals are a pleasure to experience, alone and in connection with others. Their presence communicates a city's understanding of the power of art, the value of artists, and the importance of change, transformation and re-imagination.
- Although murals on private property can enhance the look and feel of Kingston it is important that there are processes in place, including public consultation, to ensure that what is proposed is properly vetted, appropriate and accompanied by a maintenance plan.

Question: What concerns or ideas do you have about murals on private property?

- Don't pay for any more.
- None. Get jiggy with it.
- Personally I have no concerns other than quality, and those who would ruin a piece by tagging some stupid graffiti name. But I'm sure there will be those concerned with obscenity.
- Certain groups of people (that have no authority) trying to govern or control what can and cannot be painted or seen in public spaces even when it's not profanity or explicit content. I ran into this situation painting a local gym and while painting what the client asked for a group of people working out felt the female and male characters i was asked to paint were not "inclusive".
- No concerns. No ideas at this time.
- Vandalism, graffiti - but that's always a concern. Actually, if there were a few buildings that were designated as graffiti buildings, it could be a great place for artists to graffiti legally.
- More graffiti is not required in Kingston.
- Disturbing imagery/language.
Loss of property value for neighbourhood.
- None

- I hope there is no approval process required when someone wants to create a mural on their property. It would be nice if there were no applications, fees, or other hoops to jump through, so there is nothing discouraging property owners from pursuing murals.
- I feel this City is trying to make everything look like a mess. First the grass now painting up our properties. Seriously, what next? I do not want to look at any mural near me. If I want a painting I'll buy one!
- I have no concerns when they're improving an old dilapidated building.
- Some will be downright ugly/and make the property looks worse.
- Hopefully murals will be related to the neighborhood and cultural of Kingston.
- Inappropriate visuals - should have a set criteria the artwork must meet.
- None really. As long as the art doesn't depict hurtful or offensive themes.
- Maintenance - aged murals deteriorating won't help the city.
Advertising, political, racist, etc. content (some advertising, like that related to festivals, could be useful, but there needs to be a way of ensuring it gets taken down).
- No concerns, bring on all the murals! I think vetting the artists is likely a good idea to make sure the art is a certain caliber.
- Obviously there should be agreement by the owners of the property and some consideration of the opinions of the surrounding property owners -- without personal tastes derailing expert opinion about the quality of the work. Murals should probably be relatively non-controversial -- maybe not the place to be pushing the bounds of cultural convention.
- Please award the call outs to the best artwork and ideas presented.
If priority of the awards will be given to minorities, indigenous groups, etc. let everyone know.
- Should not be allowed on heritage buildings.
- I don't have any.
- As a renter, I would like to understand the process of getting permission to create a mural on the property I rent. There is a perfect space contender for a mural in the parking lot behind the house and I would be interested in creating a mural on it but I would want to go through the appropriate due process.
- No concerns, plenty of artist in Kingston with wonderful ideas.
- The intention to allow a mural to be put on the side of a building should not be used as an excuse for otherwise poor urban planning or new development. It should be just one part of a vibrant and considered community that is interesting, accessible and welcoming to all.
- They should not promote private political views.
- I suppose it would be bad to have offensive subject matter, but perhaps that could be based on an only if there's a complaint type system. Otherwise just let people do what they want with their own property.
- Maintenance of the artwork.

- I am concerned that this change will encourage low quality artwork and tagging of buildings.
- Could be unsightly to immediate neighbours.
- They may not be kept in good condition.
- Anybody could theoretically have absolutely no talent and throw different paint on a piece of plywood and call it a mural. That there should be a specific from any roadway so they cannot obstruct traffic or block the view of ongoing traffic. Also they should be some control over type of images depicted in any murals. Maybe a licence or permit to have some “limited” control over murals.
- Common decency standards, no profanity, nudity, etc.
- Defacement.
Inappropriate displays.
- None.
- The only concern would be making sure that the contain of the artwork needs to be maintained in order not to become an eyesore. As an idea to promote the program, set up a competition with some sort of reward. Also prior to allowing an artist to begin the work they must submit a colour sketch of their work. A theme or maybe a couple of themes depending on the area of the city, would add to the interest. e.g. Building surfaces in the downtown core could display Kingston's history. Buildings somewhat removed from downtown could display pictures of nature.
- My concern would be that city officials would give into NIMBYs. No concerns about the art itself.
- I don't think murals should be used to advance political ideologies or to denigrate others' views. They should be purely “artistic”.
- No concerns, but I would love for the city to support local artists and pair them up with businesses by providing some subsidies. We need some beautification and culture in this city!
- Work poorly executed, or not enduring. Also the risk of vandalism concerns me.
- No concerns as the assumption would be made that nothing of profanity would be displayed and artists would be respectful of the family friendly community Kingston is.
- Only that some messaging could be political or religious i.e. on churches, etc.
- The selection process. Who will determine the criteria and process of submitting proposals? Who will choose the jurors? What is the criteria for choosing jurors? Will there be consideration given to location of murals all around Kingston? The latest mural on Division St near Princess is in a location that is not easily visible. Would like to see murals in places that can be seen from different vantage points.
- The city or property owner should be careful that they don't get defaced with graffiti. However, high up is good and out of reach of vandals, like a building on Division Street at Princess which can be seen from Brock Street - very colourful.

- Keep murals respectful and appropriate.
- First and foremost: Use LOCAL talent! Absolutely imperative. Make them visible. Perhaps use a voting system to vote on mural ideas, certainly for the area the mural is being painted in. Other than that it's a brilliant idea!
- Should be approved before doing the work to ensure it remain respectful for everyone.
- I have no concerns as long as they are appropriate.
- Should not be political or send a sexist/racist message.
- That they will be professionally done and be judged before they are painted. That they are in good condition and if not, they are given a warning to fix it or they have to paint over it.
- My only concerns relate to poor quality or material that will fade or chip over time. But I trust that professional mural artists have the right type of material.
- Inappropriate language, e.g. racist.
- There needs to be some parameters about what is appropriate - some criteria and guidance.
- Who would approve the murals? And why do we need this? Kingston has enough on its plate to be policing murals.
- None.
- That people's art will be vandalized. That people will put up offensive or purposely divisive and inflaming works. There should be a simple policy and community review board, but generally, the city should let people put up the art they want to put up and should get out of the way on this initiative.
- None
- Designs for highly-visible areas should be pre-submitted for approval. This should not be a difficult, long or prohibitive process. Variety and different perspectives are valuable. I think political messages are fine, but non-inclusive messages, or hate speech are obviously not in line with our standards as a community and should be avoided.
- Inclusive most important.
- None.
- I have concerns of inappropriate subject matter, or glorification of illegal activity.
- my concerns: colors such as neon, size of mural and subject matter to some extent (guns, genitalia etc).
- They need to be tasteful and reflect the history and architecture of the area.
- I suppose I wouldn't be too happy if suddenly there was a hideous painting I had to see out my window every day, so I do see there being neighbour disputes and vandalism. Also, let's say a neighbour painted a big pot leaf on their garage - it may cause tension and change the vibe of a whole neighbourhood. Or let's say someone painted an homage to a historical Canadian figure that was shown to have been racist as a passive aggressive form of racism against a neighbour - etc. but unless something is a hate crime or breaches a decency law, you get

into a whole censorship argument... but can't people do as they wish with their property? Its more complex that it seems on the surface.

- No concerns – I feel it would be great!
- My only concerns would be murals that promote hate speech or infringe in any way on human rights.
- Do not allow them.
- I would like not to be held responsible for vandalism/graffiti on murals owned by me. For example, individuals have tagged my property in the past and then it then falls to me to clean it up. Why should I have to bear the brunt of someone else's bad behaviour?
- With the exception of guidelines around profanity, I have no concerns. Provocative pieces can spark excellent discussion and rich debate, which is healthy and strengthens communities!
- Maybe some control over content? Let's not get nasty or obscene.
- The potential for bigoted statements or imagery exists but will hopefully be mitigated somehow.
- Abstract designs would be cool. Plus other pictures that represent Kingston's history and culture.
- May look run-down & ratty if not kept up.
- They would need to be tasteful, so I think there would need to have guidelines.
- Aesthetically pleasing murals.
- The surrounding houses will have to perhaps live with a large mural that they have to look at each day that they don't agree with the message. An eye sore. Keep the attractions in the downtown core or on city property. We pay taxes and so should have some sort of control of what we see out of our "residential" windows.
- Murals should not contain racist, homophobic words or images, hate speech, etc.
- Ultra-modern, abstract designs being slathered over historical buildings would be unfortunate.
- Who judges what is socially appropriate art.
- As I say above, it seems completely unacceptable to restrict how people can decorate the outsides of their houses or buildings provided that such decoration does not actually intrude on the property of others (e.g. bright lights). Restriction of commercial purposes seems acceptable.
- See above.
- The upkeep of the murals are of concern as they age. What provisions will be put in place to support maintenance of the murals. Also how many murals are where? You don't want clutter nor advertising.
- None.
- No concerns as this relates to private property that the owner has the right to modify within reason. If it is sanctioned by the owner and approved by the city, I have no problem with it.

- Murals should be at few strategic locations. Not exceeding 5/7 Murals in the city. Should be of very high standard/quality. Selection criterion should be top notch to be vetted by World renowned Expert.
- I don't. Of course, you might get bad art, but that happens with public sculpture too. And people are always free to express opinions if they feel something is too outrageous or inappropriate.
- Graffiti looking or nit maintained.
- How to ensure the mall is not offending.
- They don't add anything to the neighborhood.
- Proposed murals should require approval.
- None.
- My concern is inappropriate messaging.
- It would be important that artwork does not portray anything violent, offensive, racist, etc. Permits should be required for murals over a certain size so that they can be approved in advance to avoid this.
- I think it would make all areas and side streets more interesting when you travel thru them. Also when tourists come thru it would encourage them to travel thru the city and in turn bring capitol to smaller business that are in less travelled areas if there was no art. Good or bad anything that piques interest.
- None! Public art is awesome - Montreal/plateau has so much! We were going to commission a mural on an exterior wall, I didn't even know it was not allowed. Hands off private property please!!
- Biggest concern would be nature of content on display, where to draw the line between creative freedom and obscenity.
- None. It's up to the property owners to decide.
- As I reflect on the possibility of my next door neighbour having a mural I w/not want it imposingly large.
- Unfortunately beauty is in the eye of the beholder, I've seen great looking graffiti and art that I thought was abysmal.
- None.
- Rude or offensive murals, though I assume that the reviewing committees would veto such installations.
- Sounds like graffiti, will be graffiti. Art should be private or in a public space, not disturbing the peace of a neighborhood.
- If a mural is added close to a home's windows, it could be unpleasant to have to look at the mural all the time.
And what about maintenance? Murals won't last forever. Will they be maintained? Erased? Painted over?
Who gets to choose the artist(s)? The property owner? Or will the murals be vetted by one or more people who have the interests of the neighbourhood as a whole in mind?
- Quality and topic need to be appropriate.

- None.
- I fine with them but think the City should have a set of standards or a way to approve them on case to case. There got to be some kind of standards and rules.
- 'Concerns:
 - Aesthetics (hire professional artists, use good materials, maintain the murals over time)
 - Proper compensation for artists

Ideas:

Kingston should do an annual mural festival where many properties get murals in the same week. Lots of cities have taken this approach. It's a great way to quickly add personality and create destinations for visitors and locals alike. Here's an example from Edmonton: <https://globalnews.ca/news/5743840/rust-magic-international-festival-murals-edmonton-streets/>.

- I have concerns about the appropriateness of the murals, and who will decide about their appropriateness. There are aesthetic issues as well as cultural ones; as in perceptions of beauty and the potential to offend. Making these decisions can be fraught; I hope an open but not onerous process can be found. It's worth the effort.
- That deterioration is allowed. That inappropriate or objectionable ideas could be expressed.
- Content, while nothing should be censored graphic content or POLITICAL content should not be allowed. All murals should be unbiased and not push anyone's agenda.
- Wondering how the City will manage freedom of expression vs neighbour concerns when it comes to controversial images.
- None its owners' property.
- None various views.
- There would need to be both a size limit and a number per street quota. The murals should be on the dwelling and not free-standing. There is a potential for a clutter of hideous statements throughout a neighbourhood.
Art is interpreted by the viewer and as such the same piece can be seen as many different things depending on who is asked, this can lead to total pleasure to total dissatisfaction from neighbours. Neighbours should have the right to reject requests. The property must be owned by the person wishing to host the mural.
- I think it's a great idea. Fully support.
- Hate, racial or gang signs will be hard to control. Advertising will appear as murals.
- As long as they meet ethical guide lines and are done with taste, I don't have an issue.
- As long as they are well done, not graffiti.

- Paint over the mural with a solid white!
- Large political single issue murals.
- They shouldn't be political in any regard.
- I'd like our house to have a mural!
- I think there should be rules in place to not allow murals to depict graphic violence or sex, nor contain profanity and hateful language.
- That they will be bad.
- The quality of the work. Do not want to see commercial work displayed by anyone certainly not machine printed ones such as on Brock St. in the past. Artist's hand created only. Concerned about the look of graffiti.
- Negative, skulls & demons would not be appreciated. If bored angry people try to override or destroy them.
- Obviously, we wouldn't want any murals that were pornographic in nature as everyone will be able to see them including children and that would not be good.
- None.
- No concerns.
- If approved by the city... it is a great idea.
- Inclusivity. I hope that the application process will be low barrier, open minded and reflective of the diversity within our community. An idea to consider might be connecting with social service agencies to create opportunities for members of our vulnerable populations to feel included and empowered. Artistic expression, be it music or art, is a powerful tool for change.
- The only concern I have relates to the mural theme: theme must be positive and inclusive (no symbols/language etc of hate groups, etc.).
- Potentially offensive or controversial themes, although I realize there is a fine line between what is acceptable and not, and it depends on a person's beliefs and perspective.
- Is there a way to control the subject matter or quality of the mural? Can there be an approval process? Or will it be wide open to whatever the owner wishes to display?
- Political and religious messages should not be part of these artistic murals. Also advertising for commercial gain should be separated from the mural art initiative.
- Possibility of racist/xenophobic/sexist/ableist etc messages. How the city will approve and/or police which murals are acceptable for private property. Alternatively the possibility of excessive bureaucratic involvement and difficulty getting murals approved. Fine line for the city to walk between censorship and preventing hateful messages to be displayed in Kingston.
- It can make an area look junky or run down. It can encourage graffiti.
- I would hope they are family friendly, no political or (obviously) any kind of hate-centred imagery or words.
- My concerns are that there will be racist/homophobic, etc. murals.
- The messaging. That's why it's important to have municipal oversight.

- None as long as they are not billboards in disguise. The city should not be regulating what people paint of walls they own.
- Junk welded together and declared "art."
Graffiti called "art."
Statues or paintings that disrupt/distract from the existing beauty of the resident neighbourhood.
Offensive statements or portrayals.
I don't trust the city to effectively enforce the by-laws guiding any new policy.
- None.
- It will be like graffiti on people's property. Not sure why we are even spending time debating this. Why not focus on something more important that actually helps people?
- How do we keep them maintained. What if graffiti or hate comments are placed over them? How do we ensure equity and who gets to paint these murals? Will the artist be paid for it? I will pay for it? The city or the private owner?
- Zero.
- I would prefer it not look like graffiti. A big, beautiful mural is one thing, a bunch of tag lines is another.
- Unfortunately, quite a few. There's NIMBYs, to start with, which Kingston is full of. I'd be concerned about whether my taste in art matched my neighbours, since they'd be the ones looking at it, not me. You mentioned an application process: maybe it would be wise to add a section asking whether applicants have consulted the neighbours, not for their approval but in consideration of shared space. I'd wonder about subject matter as well - private property suggests the mural owner would have authority over what is painted, but the application process you mentioned suggests otherwise. That will be tricky, as I can foresee you'd get proposals that are controversial. The criteria would need to be very clear and justifiable. Would people be allowed to do the work themselves, or would they be expected to retain a professional artist?
- May be an issue re the message of the mural and also the artistic quality, e.g. gang tags.
- Some might be distasteful, offensive or otherwise objectionable.
- Would be nice if the local community has a day in the art and where it goes.
- I think it's important to let artists and property owners express themselves creatively, I would be concerned about any content that is of a commercial nature, or content with a political message. I would think the content should be representative of the city and its inhabitants.
- Being defaced.
- I would expect some people to have opposition to some artistic expression and the city will need to make efforts to not be involved in excessive censorship. Murals should only be blocked if they show distinct offensive messages.
- I have no concerns about murals on private property.

- This creative expression should not include any hate messaging against individuals or groups, or graphic violence.
- As a highly visible medium that can be seen as being supported beyond the private owner, they absolutely must be vetted and approved in some way to ensure they meet with the city's guidelines.
- That the murals could be distasteful - what if a person wants to make a moral statement based on their belief which could potentially affect others - for example Abortion - a graphic mural may bring trauma to some, or be difficult for young children to see.

If murals are used to make a political statement - how do we monitor this on private property? What are the rights of neighbors? The individual?

There are currently some lovely murals painted on houses.

There also have been some nice murals at the waterfront that have been defaced.

Is a huge graffiti signature on the side of a wall considered a mural? Graffiti itself is fine - as the Agnes Heatherington building has shown - even though it has been contentious in the community having those who approve and those who don't.

- No concerns, really. I think there should be a minimal level of oversight to ensure the content gets over a low bar for approval (nothing vulgar or otherwise inappropriate; nothing that would be unduly distracting) and that the materials used to create are long lasting so the art doesn't begin to look shabby after a short period of time.
- As long as no hateful or otherwise illegal words or pictures are used, I have no concerns.
- I have concerns that many murals might look dated soon.
- None.
- None.
- No concerns, other than mentioned in Q2, it's got to be about talent!
- I have some concerns about them being used for advertisements or political messages. It would be nice if they could be restricted to artwork only.
- No concerns.
- Resident's complaints and objections to art pieces they may not like or agree with.
- I have no concerns. Let people do what they want with their property.
- None really - only concern would be to ensure there are rules/parameters around the content that can be included in the mural (nothing offensive/vulgar, etc). I assume this is in the new policy but I have not had time to review in detail.
- Simply defaces property.
- My concern is about the rules being too prescriptive, or NIMBYism. I think the challenge will be balancing what people consider to be art.

- That they not be offensive or insulting, and that they be appropriate to the surroundings - for example, a mural that overlooks an elementary school might be more restricted in what it depicts than one overlooking the Hub.
- My only concern would be content that is not family-friendly (swear words graffiti, etc.). I would want there to be a policy so that people don't view it as a free pass to vandalize others' property.
- Concern is the size if it blocks traffic or sight lines. And if they are an eye sore.
- Nay sayers will say it will detract from the heritage value of our City. I couldn't disagree more - and a look at other mural filled cities with strong heritage characteristics shows both can co-exist. Though not a small undertaking, it would be great to develop an annual "Mural Fest" program in Kingston, similar to programs in Montreal and elsewhere. This would require an open call for interested property owners who have potential space for murals/who would like to participate in the program. The city/program administrator would then identify a number of locations annually and put out a call to artists for proposals. Then, over the course of a few weeks in the height of summer tourist season, "mural fest" would come to life and residents and tourists could come to see the new murals be painted. This is not a cost free program, but one that would significantly benefit the community through improved public realm, create an additional draw for tourists (mural walks are definitely a thing!) and support artists local and elsewhere. I strongly support the proposed policy update and would fully support setting aside funding to support development of a mural program in Kingston - surely we could draw from our bloated police budget if we can't find funding elsewhere. Thank you!
- None.
- Commitment to maintenance so they remain attractive.
- Garish murals on heritage facades. Possible graffiti after installation....
- Only that they be non-partisan . . . not touting controversial views or false information.
- Kingston has an attractive, historical streetscape, except for the horrors that have been erected on Princess St (Williamsville area). The City tries to sell itself as historic, but continually gives building permissions that counter its policy. Murals might contribute - maybe redoing the old signs, but an oversight committee committed to decisions not politically motivated would be essential.
- No concerns. I love the idea of the city being able to more vibrantly showcase the depth of culture and diversity here through public art on private property because it will allow for enhanced nuance.
- The Frontenac Historical Foundation and Kingston Historical Society should be consulted about the suitability of murals. Too much attention may be given to current popularity (guaranteed to get the average vote) rather than attending to broader issues.
- Make sure to remove graffiti that provides no value and is an eyesore.

- As long as they are non-political and do not promote certain lifestyles that may offend others, they should be okay. They should be as neutral as possible.
- I would love to be able to do this, as someone graffitied on my garage siding and it will not completely come off. Would love to hire an artist to cover it up by creating a beautiful mural.
- Non political and non offensive art only.
- No murals on heritage buildings. Concerns about the quality of the art.
- That the process is fair and equitable.
- None.
- The concern I have about any mural is its maintenance.
Most applied finishes require upkeep. That upkeep requires access, skilled attention, and funds. Art in public view suffering the effects of time can look as unfortunate as a tattered flag.
Any art will have an effect on its immediate environment whether or not the property is private. Properties that are designated, are next to, or are in a view plane, of designated properties will be affected by applied art and care must be taken to ensure the work contributes appropriately to the setting the historic elements contribute.
I do not support art applied to historic structures as it contributes to a 'billboard' setting and will suffer the effects of time. Coatings on historic materials can seal a fabric that was meant to breathe thereby contributing to the fabric's demise.
- They can be inappropriate and have unwelcome images -- violence, racial slurs, nudity -- and detract from the public spaces to which they are adjacent. They can also be trite, unartistic, and unwelcome. Wherever they are visible from a public space, they should not be left to the private property owner to create without approval by the city -- public notice, discussion, decision. They are not trivial.
- Groups like Concrete Canvas have been promoting tasteful public murals in city scapes for years now, having a group like that to branch into Kingston to mentor projects do that align with the values of the city.
- I really enjoy the optical illusions - like an old fashioned village painted in a plain wall.
- It would be inappropriate to have blatantly sexist, racist, pornographic murals, but I would assume that the approval process would take care of that.
- There is a fine line between art and eyesore. How is this going to be monitored?
- I feel that different type of art styles should be explored for each location which can ensure constant buildup of interest among the audience throughout their art walk expeditions making it an immersive experience for them. This can turn into good a topic of discussion and expression for artists.
- I support municipal financing of public art, as well as the encouragement of private donations to present it, as art on public display is part of a community's expression and cultural embodiment. But it is important to avoid government censorship of the art, to allow artistic visions to be displayed.

- I am open as to what the murals are, my concern is that they could attract graffiti.
- Property owners have to work with the city to ensure quality and accountability (working conditions, insurance, deadlines, financial involvement of the City, juried selection of artist, community input, etc.). The art has to be accessible in some way to the public. Ideally local artists would be employed to create the murals. The murals should not be an advertising vehicle for the property owner.
- I'd like to see the murals be fun and creative with minimal corporate influence (i.e. I don't want to see giant painted billboards on walls). I'd like it if there were incentives in place for the murals to be created by local Kingston artists.
- The public art policy specifically says under S. 2.2 that it excludes private lands. So the changes to the policy will be significant. Staff took the position that the north wall at 168 Wellington is not a heritage attribute, but all walls really should be considered a heritage attribute, because like roofs and windows, they are inherent to the building's structure. The City has controls over signage in heritage districts like Market Square, and signs have traditionally been reviewed by the heritage staff and the heritage committee - so a similar approach is needed for murals. The downtown could look very messy if one starts to throw up murals on all sorts of private properties. In some municipalities, ghost signs (old advertisements) are repainted to great effect, but if we are starting to talk about a Tragically Hip mural on some large building in the downtown, (which is nearly all within a Heritage Character Area) you will need clear direction, as the City has in its sign by-law. We want the downtown to retain its fantastic architectural mix of stone and brick buildings.
- None.
- Some people may not want a mural on their property. As long as they agreed to have it done, I think it's awesome.
- 0 concerns as long as historical integrity is respected.
- Historic buildings may want to remain as original, so murals are a better fit for new builds, restoration, and anywhere else!
- Obviously, it's hard to ensure that all murals will be perceived as appropriate for all viewing audiences. Hopefully, blatant profanity, prejudice, or other provocative content that could be seen as negative or hurtful should not be allowed. But I'm not sure how you police and ensure that on private property.
- More is more!!! Can't wait.
- Proposed murals on private property that are in a Heritage Conservation District, Heritage Character Area or on or adjacent to a Heritage Designated Building should be reviewed and approved by both Heritage Planning Staff and the Kingston Heritage Properties Committee during the planning process.