

Canada 150 Public Art Initiatives – CCNC Summit 2016

Facilitator: Judy Robertson

Note Takers: Airi, Emily, Alejandro

Session 1 (11 attendees)

Session 2 (12 attendees)

Session 3 (6 attendees)

Why are you interested in this table/subject?:

Participants were split, some were throwing Canada 150 parties others providing incentives for 150 initiatives through grants. A few already have public art projects underway.

Some cities were struggling with trying to determine how to celebrate Canada 150 within the context of their city's existing programs (programming).

Support:

Many have a lot of support from their council or advisory councils.

One has hired a project manager to facilitate the experience (shape the initiative).

Some are collaborating with community groups.

Community groups and Ad hoc committees are leading the charge in other communities.

Funding:

A few have tried to fund their own initiatives (internally driven and community driven).

Some are providing municipal support through an in-kind exchange.

Dept of Canadian Heritage indicated the uptake has been good (over subscribed by 6 times!) despite challenges around the timing of federal election.

Not everyone received a grant, but how to support the interest at a local level? Where are people finding their funds?

Types of public art being produced:

Banners, murals, memorial/legacy projects, encouraging not just artists but "creative's", workshops, events, performances, music, community initiatives, temporary installations, social engagement practices, artistic animation of spaces.

Overarching themes:

What can public art be? What are the granting definitions? (idea- speak to a Heritage Canada officer for clarity. Ask what other cities are doing.) Some are turning to more event based initiatives to secure funding.

The conversation around reconciliation is strong in many areas; commemorating rather than celebrating Indigenous culture. Recognizing history, know what we are tied to.

There is a bigger shift towards integrating art in a more practical manner

- Easier to get developers on board and funding
- Huge movement towards practicality
- Incorporating art in everyday projects
 - Unbelievably popular
 - Engaging with local artists
 - Brining in the younger generation

Temporary art

- Working collaboratively with the community and with the right people

Creativity – cities are recognizing the desire to participate in public art

- Public art that is interactive
 - Feel like they are part of the art and not just looking at the art

Public art needs community input

- Commemorating something, how, what, who defines
- Celebrating something
 - Has to be at the right place at the right time