

## Public Sculpture Exhibition goes virtual amid COVID-19 pandemic

(Penticton, BC –May 19, 2020) – The Penticton Public Sculpture Exhibition, which would usually kick off with a public artists’ reception and opening ceremony, will be launching a bit differently this year amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

“This program has been very successful over the past four years and we are excited to see it carry on this year, adding a virtual element as well,” says Recreation Business Supervisor, Kelsey Johnson. “Most of the steps in the process of procuring and showcasing the exhibit had taken place prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, apart from the actual installation of the sculptures. We wanted to see the rest of the project continue in order to provide our residents an arts and culture experience at a time when we aren’t able to offer as much.”

Penticton’s Public Sculpture Exhibition first began in 2016 and is a year-long event designed to display a variety of sculptures for the public to enjoy. This year’s exhibit showcases artists from around BC and will be on display from May 15, 2020 to April 30, 2021. Beginning June 1, residents will be able to enjoy the 2020-2021 sculpture displays via a virtual walking app in place of a traditional walking tour.

“Arts and culture is a very important aspect in this City as we continue to create vibrancy in our downtown. Although many 2020 projects had to be put on hold this year, Council and I are happy to see that this program could continue to give our residents a cultural experience along our lakeshore walkway,” stated Mayor John Vassilaki.

Residents can use the virtual walking app and learn more about the sculpture program, including sculptures from past years, by visiting [www.penticton.ca/publicart](http://www.penticton.ca/publicart).

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