

Collection Governance

The City of St. Catharines owns a collection of artwork and cultural property for the benefit of its residents and visitors to our community. The collection is guided by City Council through the Public Art Policy and the Public Art Advisory Committee.

Public Art Advisory Committee

The Committee is made up of one City Councillor, one City staff person and four community members with the expertise and education to help make decisions.

Collection Goals

When recommending items for the City's collection the Public Art Advisory Committee must consider how a donated item responds to the five core goals of the collection:

1. Provide access to art in public places for all of St. Catharines' citizens.
2. Enhance St. Catharines' desirability as a community by creating appealing environments in which to live, work and play.
3. Honour, preserve and encourage our cultural heritage and artistic diversity.
4. Promote civic identity through awareness and preservation of the community's history, cultures and living arts.
5. Support effective urban planning, economic development and cultural tourism opportunities.

In addition, the Committee must consider the City's management capacity and resources when accepting donations.

What You Can Expect As A Donor

If the City of St. Catharines accepts your offered work of art or cultural property into its collection you can expect the City to:

- respect your gift with responsible care and maintenance;
- recognize your donation in all publications related to the art collection that year;
- display your gift as soon as is feasible for a minimum of two years;
- provide notification in the event of any change of status to the item you have donated.

Display of Donated Item

We welcome your input on where you would like to see your gift displayed, however, we cannot guarantee it will find a home in your chosen location. The City owns many buildings and lands and seeks to ensure all neighbourhoods in St. Catharines have the opportunity of enjoying the art collection.

Tax Receipts

Tax receipts can be issued for donations of fine art and cultural property if you have a bill of sale or an appraisal from a certified member of the Professional Association of Art Dealers in Canada or the Certified Appraisers Guild of America. Contact our office for assistance in seeking an appraiser.

Artist Donations

If you are an artist wishing to donate your work to the City, you must be sponsored by a member of the St. Catharines community who is not a family member. For more information on what is required of your sponsor, please contact our office.

Ownership

The City of St. Catharines will undertake full ownership of any item donated to its art collection. Full responsibility and authority over all items in the collection will rest with the City and will be guided by the City's Public Art Policy and Public Art Advisory Committee.

Permanency of Ownership

Since the City is not an art gallery, it cannot guarantee that it will maintain ownership of its collection in perpetuity. In fact, some items may be time sensitive, such as commemorative plaques, and may appropriately be removed from the collection at some time in the future.

Thank you

for considering the City of St. Catharines art collection for your donation!

For more information please visit our website at www.stcatharines.ca