
HALDIMAND COUNTY

Memorandum CDP-M01-2020 Great Art for Great Lakes Initiative Update 2020

For Consideration by Council in Committee on August 25, 2020



To: Mayor Hewitt and Members of Council
From: Anne Unyi, Supervisor, Heritage and Culture

This memo is intended to update Council on Haldimand County's continued involvement with the organization Waterlution and its Great Art for Great Lakes initiative.

The mandate of Great Art for Great Lakes (GAGL) is to strengthen people's relationships with the Great Lakes through participatory art. The initiative, Greatness – The Great Lakes Project, uses a campaign of community outreach and collaboration to support the installation of signature projects which raise awareness of and appreciation for these bodies of water.

The original Memorandum to Council, [PED-COM-M04-2018 Great Art for Great Lakes Initiative](#), considered by Council in Committee on June 19, 2018, outlined GAGL's request for support from Haldimand County for this project. Council, through Recommendation 7 (June 25, 2018), accepted the information presented in the Memorandum and agreed to provide the support noted below. A further update to the partnership was provided to Council in Committee on February 26, 2019 through Memorandum [CDP-M01-2019 Great Arts for Great Lakes Initiative Update](#).

Contingent upon GAGL receiving funding from the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF), Haldimand County committed to working cooperatively with the group, including providing up to \$5,000 of in-kind support through the following:

- Providing space for community workshops/programming;
- Identification of location(s) for the installation of art pieces;
- Providing assistance with the installation of art piece(s); and,
- Working with GAGL to promote the project and programming through its marketing channels (e.g. Community Guide, social media, website, etc.).

In November 2018, GAGL announced that OTF had provided funding support for a total of ten public art projects: five each in 2019 and 2020. The two-year initiative focuses on communities in the Grand River catchment including Haldimand County, Norfolk County and Six Nations of the Grand River First Nation. Two of the ten projects will be installed in Haldimand County—one each in 2019 and 2020—and include local artists and the community working together through group learning workshops.

In fall 2019, at the Dunnville Farmers Market Building, local artist Lacie Williamson unveiled the public art piece 'Inheritance', created by Williamson following extensive collaboration with community members.

This year's selected artist for the GAGL/Haldimand County collaboration is Dunnville resident Paul Chartrand, who was chosen during the 2019 call for proposals and will be paid a commission of \$5,000, through GAGL/OTF, for his sculpture. (A second Dunnville artist, Gina McIntee, was announced this year as another recipient of GAGL funding.) The 2020 GAGL project(s) will develop in a similar fashion to last year, i.e. five phases, which include:

Phase 1 – Call for Proposals (completed March, 2019)

- On April 8, 2020 GAGL officially announced the selected artist (Paul Chartrand).

Phase 2 – Community Engagement (June-October)

- Artist-led community workshops, facilitated with support from GAGL, will result in the creation of a community-driven, Great Lakes-themed piece of artwork. This year, due to COVID-19, public participation will take place online and/or through socially-distanced in-person workshops with the artist.

Phase 3 – Studio Time (August-October)

- Artist studio time to complete work and prepare for installation.

Phase 4 – Two-Stage Art Installation (October 2020 and Spring, 2021)

- The first stage of installation will take place in fall 2020 with the placement of the largest structural piece of the sculpture and the planting of some native plant species. The second stage of the installation will be completed in spring 2021 and includes additional plantings. Gifting of the sculpture to Haldimand County will take place in October or November 2020 and the official unveiling is scheduled to take place in April or May 2021.

Phase 5 – Launch of ‘Community Flow’ Project

- ‘Community Flow’ is a digital online art piece that will showcase the creations of each of the five community-maker projects from the GAGL initiative.

GAGL draws upon the creativity of individuals to express their stories and attachments to the Grand River Watershed through artistic means, leaving a legacy through lasting artworks. In addition to Paul Chartrand, other artists participating in making this objective a reality include Gina McIntee (Haldimand County), Heather Smith (Norfolk County), Layla Black, Richelle Miller and Thomas Anderson (Six Nations).