

City Of Kelowna

North Entry Monument - Letters of Support

Page 1 - UBCO | Dean of the Faculty of Creative and Critical Studies

Page 2-3 - Kelowna Art Gallery | Executive Director



THE UNIVERSITY
OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Office of the Dean
Faculty of Creative and Critical Studies
The University of British Columbia
Okanagan Campus
Kelowna, BC Canada V1V 1V7

Bryce.traister@ubc.ca
250-807-8481

September 5, 2024

“City of Kelowna
Parks Planning Department
1435 Water Street
Kelowna, BC, V1Y 1J4”

To whom it may concern,

It is a pleasure to write in support of Crystal Przybille and her team’s proposal for creating a “City Entry Monument” for the City of Kelowna.

As I understand it, this design for this monument embodies the concept of “weaving together” the histories and cultures of both Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities. The design emphasizes the land as the common ground on which all life and activity in Kelowna occur, reflecting a deep respect for the interconnectedness of our shared environment, past, present, and future.

The team's approach to this project is aligned with the Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s Calls to Action, particularly in its effort to integrate Indigenous perspectives into civic spaces. By bringing Indigenous and non-Indigenous histories together in this collaboration and design, they aim to foster a deeper understanding and respect within the community, creating a monument that honors the cultural heritage of this region, and a future vision of inclusivity and collaboration.

As the Dean of Creative and Critical Studies at UBC’s Okanagan campus, I am delighted to see the energy of creative power partnering with both industry and the city to beautiful our town and welcome our visitors and residents alike in such a manner. I hope you agree with me.

With best wishes for your deliberation,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bryce Traister".

Bryce Traister
Dean

August 27, 2024

Stefan Johansson

Senior Landscape Architect
Parks and Buildings Planning |
City of Kelowna

Dear Stefan, *Stefan,*

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the proposal to create a Civic Entry monument in Kelowna submitted by CTQ Consultants Ltd, with artists Sheldon Pierre Louis and Crystal Przybille.

This initiative is a visionary project that promises to enrich the cultural and educational landscape of our city, fostering greater awareness and understanding among all who travel through Kelowna and its surrounding communities.

The Approach outlined in the proposal, submitted to the City of Kelowna, is both timely and necessary. By focusing on enhancing the learning experience of residents and visitors alike, this monument will serve as a powerful tool to grow and foster awareness of the cultural diversity within Kelowna. It will play a crucial role in educating the public about the history and heritage of the Syilx peoples, who have called this land home for generations. By inspiring a more inclusive and positive understanding of Indigenous peoples in the interior, the monument will help connect individuals to the land and its history in a meaningful way.

The vision to create an *iconic design* that evokes Kelowna's unique character and relationship with the land and its people is compelling. Such a design has the potential to become a symbol of our city's identity, reflecting the deep connections between our diverse communities and the natural environment that sustains us. This monument will be more than just a physical structure; it will be a representation of Kelowna's commitment to unity, inclusivity, and respect for all cultures.

**BOARD
OF DIRECTORS**

Brent Coyne
Richard James Deacon
Jillian Garrett
Steve Huculiak
Kara James
Kassie Nadler
June Nicolay
Camille Saltman
Lori Samuels

1315 Water Street,
Kelowna, BC
V1Y 9R3 | 250-762-2226
kelownaartgallery.com

We acknowledge that the Kelowna Art Gallery operates on the unceded traditional territory of the syilx/Okanagan people.

107561730RT0001

The Vision of weaving together the different strands of our community into a cohesive and strong identity is particularly inspiring. This approach reflects the essence of what it means to live in Kelowna—a city where cultures and people come together to create a vibrant, diverse, and supportive community. The monument will serve as a reminder of the strength that comes from unity and the beauty that arises from diversity.

The Themes of Land, Water, Heritage, Community, and Kelowna are deeply interconnected and central to our collective identity. By incorporating these themes into the design of the monument, the proposal ensures that the structure will resonate with all who see it, reminding them of the rich heritage and natural beauty of our city and its surroundings.

In conclusion, I believe that the Civic Entry monument will be a valuable addition to Kelowna, serving as a lasting testament to our city's cultural richness and commitment to inclusivity.

I fully support this proposal and look forward to seeing this vision come to life.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

All my best,
Nataley Nagy

Nataley Nagy
Executive Director