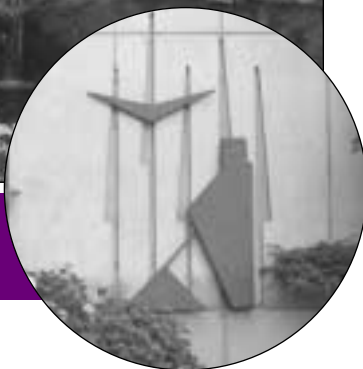




Sculptures,  
Saanich  
Municipal Hall



For further information or to obtain  
a copy of the full policy, please visit  
[www.gov.saanich.bc.ca](http://www.gov.saanich.bc.ca)  
or contact the  
Saanich Planning Department at:

770 Vernon Avenue  
Victoria, BC V8X 2W7  
(250) 475-1775



DISTRICT OF SAANICH  
*Comprehensive  
Arts Policy*



The arts are part of all our lives  
and around us everywhere.  
Civic leaders understand the  
importance of creating a sense  
of place in the urban environment,  
and how citizens interact with that  
space. In 2001, Saanich Municipal  
Council approved a Comprehensive  
Arts Policy to show its support for  
the arts, to provide policy  
direction, and to consolidate all  
arts-related policies together.

*Comprehensive  
Arts Policy*  
A SUMMARY

**The Vision:**

Saanich as a lively and creative community  
accessible to artists, to a broad range of artistic  
expression and to the participation of all its  
residents.

**Goals:**

Encourage, promote, and support the arts  
and artists, municipally and regionally for  
the benefit and opportunity of all Saanich  
residents.



"Roy," Blenkinsop Bridge

**Arts Objectives**

- Development of community spirit.
- Individual growth through access to the arts.
- Public awareness of local and regional artistic talent.
- Education, participation, and enjoyment of the arts, locally and regionally.
- Recognition and promotion of excellence and diversity within the artistic community.

**Arts Policies**

Saanich residents benefit from both municipal  
and regional arts.

The ongoing participation of municipalities  
within Greater Victoria is crucial to the success  
of a coordinated regional arts program and  
strategy. Saanich seeks to provide funding and  
support for individuals and groups through  
close working relationships with the CRD, other  
municipalities, school districts, Chambers of  
Commerce, Tourism Victoria, and other agencies.

Access to and participation in the arts is  
integral to a healthy community, and starts at the  
municipal level. Saanich seeks to create artistic  
opportunities for all Saanich citizens through:

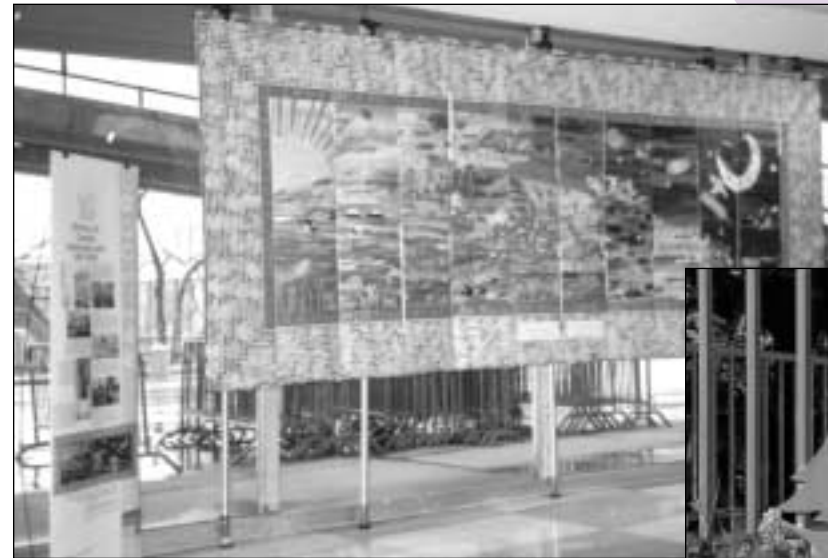
- recreation programming
- parks programming
- garden art
- venue establishment for performances and events (theatres and park space)
- annual events
- arts inventory and maintenance
- Neighbourhood Development Grants and Matching Grants
- public art
- incorporation of artistic elements and high quality design in new developments.

*" Art is the signature of civilizations. "*



**Totem and Fresco,  
Saanich Commonwealth Place**

Beverly Sills



**2000 Millennium Mural**

## Public Art

Public art is an important aspect of public spaces, yielding social, physical and economic benefits. Saanich has made a financial commitment to the promotion of public art in the community by adopting the following policy:

### Allocate

- 1% of the value of the capital budgets for above ground projects towards the purchase or commission and maintenance of public art to be integrated into or displayed in public areas; and
- 1% of the budget for municipal building construction/renovation projects in excess of \$250,000 to the purchase or commission and maintenance of public art for that building or structure.

## Support for Arts in Schools

Saanich and local School Districts 61 and 63 have long been partnering on projects.

Examples include: the Art 2000 Millennium Mural Project (above), Totally Teen Talent, and Saanich Family Christmas.

*All arts donations, including public art donations, are subject to a jury process.*



**Handrail Detail, Top of Mount Tolmie**



**Mural in Saanich Road McDonald's**

## Private Sector Public Art

The vast majority of the urban environment lies within the private sector. As a result, architecture and public space are dependent on private developers taking an interest in good urban design and in art. Good urban design contributes to public enjoyment, and art can enhance that enjoyment. Art on urban land, whether incorporated into the architecture of a building, as a stand-alone piece or landscaping, contributes to public pleasure and enjoyment. Business owners know it is in their best interests to make their site aesthetically pleasing – it brings customers in. Good overall design costs money, bad overall design costs more money.

Public art in urban public spaces is one aspect of incorporating art into creative urban design. Art challenges, inspires, and incites the beholder.

### How:

Encourage private enterprise to integrate Public Art into developments with significant public areas or developments which are in areas designed for or intended to be used by the public. Providing a cash donation for Civic Public Art is an alternative.

Through the development application process, applicants will be informed of the District's Public Art Program.

As an incentive to encourage public art on private developments, and if a developer requests it, the Municipality offers a jury process to individual projects that contain a public art component.

As well, a plaque inscription program will recognize cash donations.