



CITY OF LANGLEY

MOTION

EXPRESSIVE YOUTH ART PROJECT WITH LOWER FRASER VALLEY ABORIGINAL SOCIETY - Councillor Rosemary Wallace

RECOMMENDATION:

WHEREAS Langley City's 2023–2028 Strategic Plan prioritizes cultivating an inclusive community by partnering with service organizations to deliver culturally diverse and intercultural programs that reflect the City's demographic diversity; and

WHEREAS the Strategic Plan also commits to organizational excellence through corporate education on truth and reconciliation, informed by the knowledge of local Indigenous Nations; and

WHEREAS the Lower Fraser Valley Aboriginal Society seeks to collaborate with the City of Langley on an Expressive Youth Project (EYP) mural funded by the Canada Council for the Arts; and

WHEREAS the proposed mural would be installed on the west wall of the Langley City Council Chambers and provide opportunities for Indigenous youth to engage in cultural learning, artistic expression, community connection, and pride;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve the installation of the Expressive Youth Project mural on the west wall of the Council Chambers, facilitated by Brandon Gabriel.

BACKGROUND:

The Expressive Youth Project is a pilot initiative funded by the Canada Council for the Arts that connects artists with health and social service organizations to provide inclusive, no-cost arts programming for youth in Langley, British Columbia.

The Lower Fraser Valley Aboriginal Society will promote the project through social media, Aboriginal Support Workers within the Langley School District, and participants of current and past LFBVAS youth programs, targeting youth aged 15–30.

LFBVAS is coordinating with Brandon Gabriel to confirm programming dates, with the project to be completed by May 2026.

The project is intended to strengthen cultural knowledge of Indigenous art, support emotional expression through creative practice, foster social connection, and enhance participants' sense of identity and community pride.

Examples of Brandon Gabriel's work can be viewed on the east exterior wall of the Douglas Park Community School gymnasium and at the northwest corner of 200 Street and 56 Avenue.