

# Considered at March 17, 2020 Special Council (COTW) Meeting



## City of Port Moody Report/Recommendation to Council

Date: January 16, 2020  
Submitted by: Community Services Department – Cultural Services Division  
Subject: Shoreline House Post Project

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### Purpose

To provide Council with a comprehensive overview of the proposed Shoreline House Post project and a budget request to support the initiative.

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### Recommended Resolution(s)

**THAT staff be directed to proceed with the Shoreline House Post Project as recommended in the report dated January 16, 2020 from the Community Services Department – Cultural Services Division regarding Shoreline House Post Project;**

**AND THAT a 2020 capital project with a budget of \$102,000, funded from the Artworks Reserve, be established;**

**AND THAT \$55,000 of the Artworks Reserve be earmarked for the second and third phases of the Shoreline House Post Project in 2021 and 2022 with the project funding submitted through the 2021-2025 budget process.**

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### Executive Summary

Tasha Faye Evans has initiated the Shoreline House Post Project, which will result in the City receiving five house posts over the next three years representing the following five Coast Salish Nations: Kwikwetlem, Tsleil-Waututh, Musqueam, Katzie, and Squamish. Staff and Ms. Evans have identified locations for each of these posts: one adjacent to the Boathouse Restaurant at Rocky Point Park, one at the east end of Rocky Point Park, one near Pigeon Creek, one at the viewing platform near the historic mill site, and one at Old Orchard Park. Each location will include landscaping and signage.

Ms. Evans has proposed structural engineering and landscape architect firms for the project and has had preliminary discussions with them. Total funding required for this project is estimated to be \$166,000 over three years, funded from the Artworks Reserve. Costs related to this project include structural engineering, geotechnical engineering, landscaping, landscape and signage design, moving, storage, archeological surveys, and installation. Ongoing operating funding for landscaping and artwork maintenance will be determined once designs have been completed and a request for funding will be submitted through the upcoming budget cycle.

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## Background

Much of the Indigenous artwork that we see in the Lower Mainland is Haida and not Coast Salish (the history of Haida artwork becoming the dominant Indigenous artwork in the Lower Mainland is beyond the scope of this report). Historically, totem poles (a pole on which totems are carved) were not used by the Coast Salish peoples. House posts, carved with images that memorialized ancestors while stating those associated inherited rights, were used to support the crossbeams of Longhouses and represented the private visions or specific powers of their owner or owner's ancestor. Although not originally used as art, today, house posts have become a way of reviving the Coast Salish style of carving and re-introducing the style and art to those that now visit and inhabit the Lower Mainland.

Port Moody resident, Tasha Faye Evans, began her work on the Port Moody Welcome Post Project in 2017. The Port Moody Welcome Post Project consisted of a series of events and activities hosted at the Noons Creek Hatchery, providing education and engagement supporting Truth and Reconciliation. A large component of this project was the carving of a house post by Squamish artist, James Harry. The design and carving of this post was done with the community; and the post was raised at a ceremony held at Rocky Point Park on June 21, 2018, National Indigenous Peoples Day. The post was permanently installed at the Noons Creek Hatchery.

Ms. Evans continued her work in Port Moody with the STAKW – Water is Life Project, which once again saw a series of events and activities hosted at Noons Creek Hatchery and a large public event held at Rocky Point Park and the Burrard Inlet on June 21, 2019.

Ms. Evans presented the vision for the Shoreline House Post Project to Council at the Regular Council meeting held on November 12, 2019; Council passed the following motions in support of the project:

### RC19/496

THAT a project to raise four house posts along the Shoreline Trail be endorsed;

AND THAT a letter be provided from the Mayor's office outlining Council's endorsement of Ms. Evans' House Post Project;

AND THAT staff be directed to work with Ms. Evans on the logistics of the House Post Project.

It should be noted that the overall project is made up of five posts, rather than four.

Ms. Evans provided the following narrative outlining the vision for the Shoreline House Post Project:

*“Port Moody resides within the beautiful ancestral lands and waters of the Coast Salish people, particularly within the core territories of Tsleil Waututh, Kwikwetlem and Musqueam First Nations. Many positive changes towards redress, truth-telling and reclamation of Indigenous values are happening in our city with softness of healing slowly rippling throughout all of our communities. The Shoreline House Post Project is an effort to carve these changes permanently into the legacy of Port Moody and create a*

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*path of healing for all of our relations. The project's vision is to see at least four house posts, five being the best scenario, raised along Port Moody's iconic 2.5 km Shoreline Trail. Each house post will be an expression of the different Coast Salish Nations whose ancestors have been caring for this land long before it was called Port Moody. At each house post there will be information signs about each Nation's history as well as interactive applications to learn about the art and stories connected to the symbols on the post. This path will be a first of its kind in all of the lower mainland and will showcase a collection of the most prominent Coast Salish carvers and artists.*

*This year we are focusing on the first two house posts. One post is being carved by Tsleil Waututh artist Zachary George and his niece Ocean Hyland. Its design is expressing Tsleil Waututh's creation story and honouring their first grandmother who was born from the Burrard Inlet. It is called "Grandmother's Prayer". The second post is called the "Spirit of Kwikwetlem" and is expressing Kwikwetlem's story of perseverance, adaptability, and strength. It has been carved by Brandon Gabriel at the Noons Creek Hatchery with a process that has been open to the public to participate and learn about Kwikwetlem and Coast Salish culture. Both posts are planned to be raised in two separate locations on either side of Rocky Point Park, in June 2020.*

*Public engagement is critical in ensuring this project's full potential for success. As significant as these posts are to the resurgence and reclamation of Coast Salish art and culture it also just as important for the current residents of Port Moody to feel invested in the project and understand the stories carved on the posts. A program of workshops, residencies, and concerts by artists and Knowledge Keepers will continue to be scheduled as part of the Welcome Post Project. Each post will be blessed in a Coast Salish Blessing Ceremony on National Indigenous Peoples day between 2020 and 2022. As in our previous years the community will be involved in preparing to be hosts for these cultural events by creating gifts for the Give Away, volunteering, and serving food.*

*I have witnessed how art brings transformation to a community. I have seen healing happen when the public is invited to engage in our Coast Salish culture and witness an Indigenous artist's process. Raising these house posts along the Shoreline Trail is initiating a path towards healing for all of our relations."*

## Discussion

Staff have met with Ms. Evans on several occasions to develop the full scope of the Shoreline House Post Project for Council review and consideration. The project, originally presented as four posts with the goal of raising a fifth, is presented in this report with all five posts.

Overall, the project consists of a total five house posts to be installed over the next three years. The five posts represent the following Coast Salish Nations: Kwikwetlem, Tsleil-Waututh, Musqueam, Katzie, and Squamish. Five locations have been identified: two at Rocky Point Park, two along Shoreline Trail Park, and one at Old Orchard Park, creating a trail that will include signage specific to each post and Nation representing each post.

The costs related to the creating each post is the responsibility of Ms. Evans and each post will be raised and blessed at a ceremony at Rocky point Park on every June 21 for the next three years (two posts in 2020, one post in 2021, and two posts in 2022). Immediately following each

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ceremony, the house posts will be gifted to the City and become the responsibility of the City. This means that the City is responsible for the transportation, storage, and all work associated with their installation. This report outlines each proposed location and budget considerations for Council consideration.

Ms. Evans has proposed a structural engineering firm that would provide the necessary structural review and sign-off for each post, and a landscape architect firm that would design and coordinate the landscaping and signage around each post. Both firms have experience in this area and would be very excited to be a part of this project. Other considerations that still need to be arranged, including budget estimates, are:

- archeological surveys in the locations where the ground will be disturbed – approximately \$15,000 (all surveys would be done in 2020 as there are cost savings in completing the work at the same time);
- geotechnical engineering at approximately \$7,000 (all geotechnical work would be done in 2020 as there would be cost savings);
- selecting a general contractor;
- arranging overnight security to monitor the posts between the period after the Indigenous Peoples Day events and when the posts can be either moved for installation or to storage, awaiting installation;
- a moving and storage company to move the posts into storage and to the installation site; and
- determining operating budgets for the ongoing maintenance of the posts and landscaping.

The full budget for the project is estimated to be \$146,000 plus a project contingency of \$20,000 for an overall budget of \$166,000 over three years (2020 to 2022). Staff recommend that this project be funded from the Artworks Reserve, which has a 2020 opening balance of approximately \$300,000. The overall budget noted above and next to each site below is the best estimate that staff can provide at this time. A contingency specific to the archeological surveys is identified in the first site budget, while an overall project contingency is noted at \$20,000. Any unused funds will be returned to the Artworks Reserve following the completion of the project.

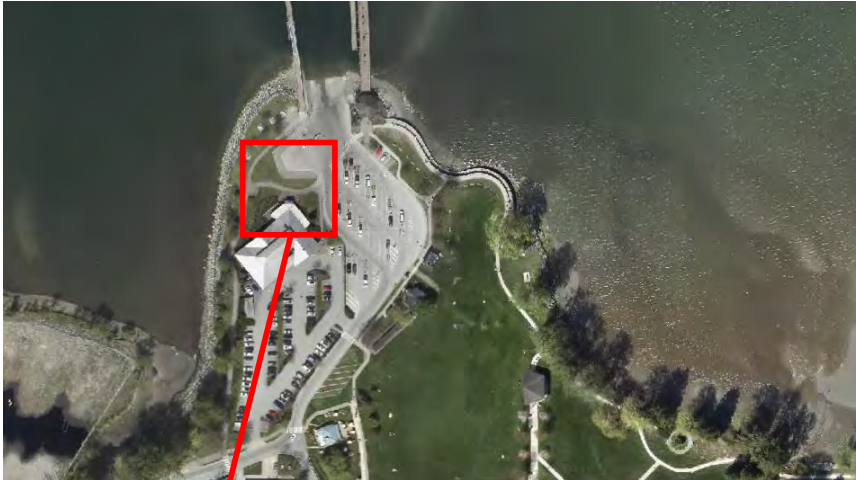
Staff have had extensive discussions with Ms. Evans relating to the siting of each post. The siting of each post is important and the sites were selected to be significant and respectful in honouring the five Nations represented in the project. Each site was chosen such that it would be close to the water and be prominently visible. The posts are intentionally spaced out such that they span the distance between Rocky Point Park and Old Orchard Park to better show how all the surrounding land was used by the Indigenous peoples and encourages people to walk and explore the shoreline in order to engage with all five posts.

Signage will accompany each post and most sites will require some landscaping. It should be noted that the final exact siting of each post will be subject to the engineering and archaeological reviews. Should alternate sites need to be identified and considered, those sites will be brought back to Council for consideration. A breakdown of each site, with related the scope of work and anticipated budget follows.

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## 2020 Installation

Location: West of Rocky Point Park, adjacent to the Boathouse Restaurant	Artist: Brandon Gabriel	Representing: Kwikwetlem
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This site is the largest of the five sites and will include:

- a house post;
- landscaping around the post to create an inviting area for reflection;
- one sign outlining the overall project/trail;
- one sign on the Indigenous history of the Port Moody lands;
- one sign on the Kwikwetlem Nation; and
- one sign on the Kwikwetlem house post.

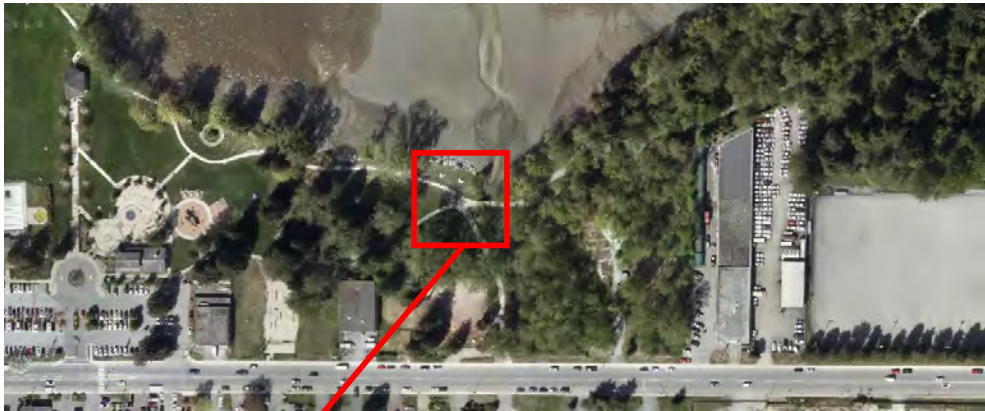
Signs will be bilingual with English and Halkomelem, the Coast Salish dialect shared by Kwikwetlem, Musqueam, and Katzie First Nations.

Task and budget considerations for this site include:

\$15,000	Archeological survey (one time to cover all sites)
\$1,500	Structural design and inspection
\$7,000	Geotechnical engineer/survey (one time to cover all sites)
\$7,000	Landscape Architect (one time to cover all sites)
\$500	Security
\$1,000	House post transportation
\$1,000	House post storage
\$10,000	Installation of post
\$6,000	Design and installation of four signs
\$10,000	Landscaping
<u>\$10,000</u>	Contingency for archeological excavation should the survey reveal artifacts
<u>\$69,000</u>	Total

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Location: East Rocky Point Park, just west of the bridge connecting to Shoreline Trail Park	Artists: Zachary George	Representing: Tsleil-Waututh
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This site will include:

- a house post;
- landscaping around the post to create an inviting area for reflection;
- one sign on the Tsleil-Waututh Nation; and
- one sign on the Tsleil-Waututh house post.

Signs will be bilingual with English and Halkomelem.

Several potential sites have been discussed at this location. The final siting will need to be determined following the archaeological and geotechnical surveys of the area.

Task and budget considerations for this site include:

\$0	Archeological survey (accounted for above)
\$1,500	Structural design and inspection
\$0	Geotechnical engineer/survey (accounted for above)
\$0	Landscape Architect (accounted for above)
\$0	Security (accounted for above)
\$0	House post transportation (accounted for above)
\$0	House post storage (accounted for above)
\$8,000	Installation of post
\$3,500	Design and installation of two signs
\$6,000	Landscaping
\$0	Archeological excavation should the survey reveal artifacts (accounted for above)
<u>\$19,000</u>	<b>Total</b>



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## 2021 Installation

Location: Old Orchard Park	Artist: TBD	Representing: Musqueam
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This is a smaller site and will include:

- a house post;
- some possible landscaping around the post;
- one sign on the Musqueam Nation; and
- one sign on the Musqueam house post.

Signs will be bilingual with English and Halkomelem.

In consideration of the sloped grounds in this area, two potential sites were identified at Old Orchard Park, (numbered in order of preference). The first site, just at the top of the beach, would require a geotechnical survey before confirming that this location would be suitable. Should the survey determine that this is not suitable then the concrete pad adjacent to the paved pathway would be selected (the two picnic tables would remain).

Task and budget considerations for this site include:

\$0	Archeological survey (accounted for above)
\$1,000	Structural design and inspection
\$0	Geotechnical engineer/survey (accounted for above)
\$0	Landscape Architect (accounted for above)
\$500	Security
\$1,000	House post transportation
\$1,000	House post storage
\$8,000	Installation of post
\$3,500	Design and installation of two signs
\$5,000	Potential landscaping or concrete work
\$0	Archeological excavation should the survey reveal artifacts (accounted for above)
<u>\$20,000</u>	<u>Total</u>

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## 2022 Installation

Location: Shoreline Trail west of the Recreation Complex at, or near, Pigeon Cove	Artist: TBD	Representing: Katzie
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This site is a smaller site and will include:

- a house post;
- possible landscaping;
- one sign on the Katzie Nation; and
- one sign on the Katzie house post.

Signs will be bilingual with English and Halkomelem.

Two potential sites were identified at this location, with a strong preference for number 1. In discussion with Environment with Parks, it was identified that this is an environmentally sensitive area; staff are undertaking a review of the area that may result in proposing the construction of a viewing platform that would prevent the public from walking down onto the marsh area. The hope is that any new structure here could include the house post in the design and construction. Any proposed structure would be presented to Council for consideration through the budget process. Should this not be possible then the second site identified would be considered. This clearing is the intersection of two main paths and would be a highly visible location for the post. Should any further areas be identified for consideration, it would be brought back to Council for consideration. The timing of this installation will depend on the results of the review.



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Task and budget considerations for this site include:

\$0	Archeological survey (accounted for above in year 2020)
\$1,000	Structural design and inspection
\$0	Geotechnical engineer/survey (accounted for above in year 2020)
\$0	Landscape Architect (accounted for above)
\$500	Security
\$1,000	House post transportation
\$1,000	House post storage
\$8,000	Installation of post
\$3,500	Design and installation of two signs
\$4,000	Potential landscaping
\$0	Archeological excavation should the survey reveal artifacts (accounted for above)
<u>\$19,000</u>	<u>Total</u>

Location: East Rocky Point Park, west of the bridge connecting Shoreline Trail Park	Artist: Xwalacktun OBC	Representing: Squamish
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This is a larger site and will include:

- a house post attached to the existing or new structure;
- Possible landscaping;
- one sign on the Squamish Nation; and
- one sign on the Squamish house post.

Signs will be bilingual with English and Halkomelem.

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The intention at this location would be to take advantage of the existing viewing platform and pergola for the installation of the house post. One, or possibly two smaller posts, would be attached to the two structural posts supporting the pergola at the entrance. It should be noted that a structural review of this structure is being planned in order to determine its condition. If the structure is determined to be sound, the house posts would be attached to it. Should the structure be found to be in need of replacement, that project would be submitted through the budget process and a new design would include the integration of the house post(s). The results of the structural review will determine when the post(s) can be installed.



Task and budget considerations for this site include:

\$0	Archeological survey (accounted for above)
\$1,000	Structural design and inspection
\$0	Geotechnical engineer/survey (accounted for above)
\$0	Landscape Architect (accounted for above)
\$500	Security (accounted for above)
\$1,000	House post transportation (accounted for above)
\$1,000	House post storage (accounted for above)
\$8,000	Installation of post
\$3,500	Design and installation of two signs
\$4,000	Potential landscaping
\$0	Archeological excavation should the survey reveal artifacts (accounted for above)
<u>\$19,000</u>	Total

As noted at the beginning of this report, a total project budget of \$152,000 is anticipated. This is being requested in two phases: \$98,000 in 2020 (for the installation of two posts in 2020) and \$54,000 in 2021 (to be used for the three remaining posts in 2021 and 2022). The operating funds required for the ongoing maintenance of the posts and landscaping will not be known until the design work has been done. Ongoing operating funding for landscaping and artwork maintenance will be determined once designs have been completed and will be submitted through the upcoming budget cycle.

## Other Option(s)

Council may wish to provide further direction to staff or may request that staff report back with additional sites to be considered.

## Financial Implications

The budget for this project is estimated to be \$166,000 (\$146,000 in project costs, plus a \$20,000 contingency). Staff recommend the Artworks Reserve as the funding source, which has a 2020 opening balance of \$300,000 to support projects. Any unused funds will be returned to the Artworks Reserve following the completion of the project.

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## Communications and Civic Engagement Initiatives

This would be a significant project for Port Moody. Information about the project will be posted to the City website and shared with the community through various communication channels.

## Council Strategic Plan Objectives

This project supports Council's strategic objective of bringing people together by activating public spaces through the installation of a series of house posts along the shoreline. Raising these five house posts creates a path for our City to make appropriate steps towards Truth and Reconciliation and honoring the past and present Coast Salish Peoples that call this land home.

## Report Author

Devin Jain

Manager of Cultural Services

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## Report Approval Details

Document Title:	Shoreline House Post Project.docx
Attachments:	
Final Approval Date:	Mar 9, 2020

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Dorothy Shermer, Corporate Officer - Mar 3, 2020 - 4:21 PM

Natasha Vander Wal for Rosemary Lodge, Manager of Communications and Engagement –  
Mar 3, 2020 - 8:56 PM

Paul Rockwood, General Manager of Finance and Technology - Mar 4, 2020 - 3:44 PM

Lesley Douglas, General Manager of Environment and Parks - Mar 9, 2020 - 9:24 AM

Kate Zanon, General Manager of Community Services - Mar 9, 2020 - 12:46 PM

Tim Savoie, City Manager - Mar 9, 2020 - 2:15 PM