



BACKGROUND – THE ARRIVA PUBLIC ART COMPETITION

As part of the TORODE Group of Companies' desire to incorporate art into the spaces where we live, work and play, a two-stage international public art invitational competition commenced in September 2007 with the objective of bringing the best from Canada and around the world to the arriVa community.

Artists were provided with the following criteria to address: The artwork will be located in an outdoor street-level plaza that is both publicly accessible and visually prominent to pedestrians and to vehicular traffic. As an alternative to a singular large work, the Artist may alternately elect to provide for the artwork to be of multiple small footprints to occupy the street level space and to wind through the landscape plan. The design, location and arrangement of the pieces must be closely coordinated with the landscape architecture of the development to become an integral component. The artist will need to work collaboratively with a multi-disciplinary team of architects, landscape architects and engineers to create this public art. The artwork must not impede the function of the site and attention should be placed on the pedestrian spaces. Artists in the final design phase will have to consult project professionals to ensure compatibility with site-specific conditions.

Inspired by Calgary's contemporary culture, the public art should complement the architecture of arriVa and the goals of the overall project. The artwork may respond to and dialogue with the juxtaposition of the historic and the contemporary nature of the buildings. The artwork should be visually engaging from multiple vantage points and consider the various site lines emerging from the varying tower and unit heights. Artists should also consider site lines and the 24-hour nature of the installation. Works must be durable, and public safety must be addressed.

A selection committee was formed to evaluate all submissions and narrow down to a shortlist of five candidates, from which the eventual winner would be selected. The respected art professionals in this jury consisted of:

- John Torode, President, Torode Group of Companies
- Lance Carlson, President, Alberta College of Art and Design, Artist and Writer
- David Liss, Director, Curator, Museum of Contemporary Canadian Art, Toronto
- Mary L. Beebe, Director, Stuart Collection, University of California, San Diego
- Chris Cran, RCA, Visual Artist, Calgary, Alberta
- Heather Saunders, City of Calgary Public Art, Calgary, Alberta
- Renee Marcous-Devine, former Art Program Director, Olympic Sculpture Park, Seattle Art Museum, Seattle, Washington.

