

# Art In The Park Vancity Legacy Project

# Purpose and development

- ▶ In 2007, Vancity began a 15 year partnership which was initially centered around supporting the PNE's zero waste efforts and membership appreciation through Vancity Member Appreciation Day during the PNE Fair. Over the past decade and a half, our work together has re-imagined what partnership could look like and transformed the year-round sustainability landscape at the PNE.
- ▶ In 2022, Vancity is exiting the partnership due to a change in their objectives away from sustainability. With this, 2021 will be the final year of their contract and would like an opportunity to leave a long-term legacy to tell the story of their partnership.
- ▶ Keeping this objective in mind, a planning committee consisting of the PNE marketing department and Vancity began the process of determining the best approach. With an eye on telling the Vancity story and creating an element in the park that would drive that story through social participation...Art in the Park was born!
- ▶ A budget was established and workback schedule created, along with a public open call for submissions. The initiative was 100% funded by Vancity.



# Open Call for Artists

- ▶ In June 2021, artists were invited through an open call to submit their ideas for public art projects in large scale, with a focus on our sustainability story. The artwork could be in any medium; including but not limited to, murals and sculptures, utilizing elements “recovered” from our recycling and municipal recycling centres.
- ▶ We announced we were looking for “artists to propose meaningful Public Art pieces for select spaces within Hastings Park that reflect our partnership’s shared sustainability objectives and tell our story through the themes of zero waste, water use, and energy conservation.”
- ▶ This was an open to all artists, working individually or in collaboration. As we reside on indigenous territories; artists and cultural practitioners of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Nations were especially encouraged to apply.



# Selection

- ▶ Four quality submissions were received.
- ▶ A grading process was developed to allow for an objective selection process through a series of questions that were graded using the following criteria
  1. Understands the assignment
  2. Proof they can create large scale projects
  3. Has a background in upcycling
  4. is BIPOC and or marginalized
- ▶ Each committee member was provided all submissions and provided independent grading. Of the four, two were removed as they did not meet the full criteria. With only two options, the committee decided to choose just one artist in order to create a consistent series of artwork.
- ▶ The two artists were shortlisted and asked additional questions about their ability to complete within the timelines and create more than one piece from this our final choice was determined.
- ▶ Ron Simmer was selected to create three pieces on the themes of Energy, Water and Zero Waste.



# Design

- ▶ Ron provided designs for three unique pieces that tell the story of our sustainability which were approved by the committee.
- ▶ He and his team created two pieces in advance and kept one to create as a performance art display during the second week of the 2021 PNE Fair.



# Next Steps

- ▶ Each piece will be moved from its temporary holding space to permanent positions. The final positions will include permanent signage that speak to the individual pieces and their relationship to the sustainability program.
- ▶ Once placed, Vancity will release a “find the art” campaign driving traffic to the park to search for the pieces, take a selfie and win prizes from Vancity.
- ▶ The placement locations were determined based on visibility, safety and scale.



# Waste Not

- Location: top of building (West Livestock Barns, along Miller Drive) to give it visibility and keep it protected from potential vandalism





# Solar Flowers

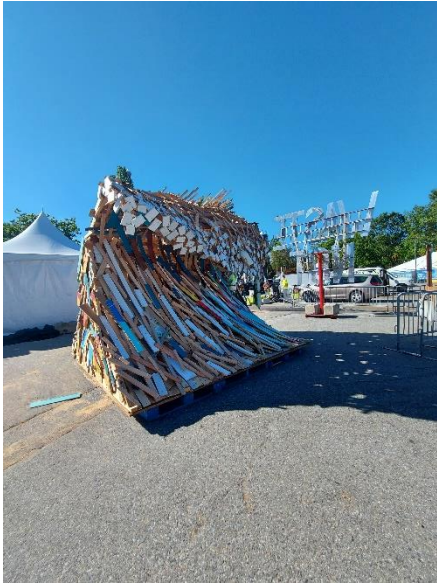
- Location: within the garden outside the Agrodome (south side)





# The Wave

- Location: the Stairs on the North end of Playland



View from back of fence inside Playland



**Thank you to Vancity for an amazing 15  
years of partnership!**

