

## EXT 020: ARTS COLLECTION POLICY

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### Objective:

1. To manage, conserve and document the Shire of Esperance Art Collection.
2. To acquire artworks in accordance with the acquisition and development guidelines
3. To promote and facilitate public access to the Shire of Esperance Art Collection.

### Policy:

To ensure proper processes are in place for the acquisition and management of art works for the Shire of Esperance Art Collection.

### Management

1. The Shire of Esperance aims to resource management of the collection appropriately, including an annual budget for the acquisition of art works and appropriate management and maintenance of the collection.
2. The Shire of Esperance ensures the conservation of the collection's holdings and aims for industry standards of environmental control and monitored secure collection storage and exhibition spaces.
3. The Shire of Esperance ensures that the collection is subject to regular valuation and appropriate insurance.
4. The Shire of Esperance maintains a complete catalogue including photographic, location and registration records, detailed provenance and artist's biography
5. The appropriate management and maintenance of the art collection will be overseen by the Shire of Esperance Art Collection Advisory Committee.

### Acquisition

The Shire of Esperance is not bound to accept any works.

The Shire of Esperance through the Shire of Esperance Art Collection Advisory Committee may:

1. Acquire works of art which build upon strengths of existing holdings of the collection.
2. Acquire original, excellent and significant works by Esperance artists living and/or working in the Esperance region.
3. Acquire works of art which relate to the experience of people living and/or working in the Esperance region.
4. Acquire those works of art which are of regional and aesthetic significance to the existing holdings and relevant to current acquisition priorities.
5. Acquire works by way of purchase, bequest or gift.
6. Not acquire art works which duplicate existing holdings.
7. Acquire art works with due consideration to cost, public safety, display, storage and transport issues at the time of acquisition.
8. Not acquire commercial prints or reproductions.
9. Accept donations that are the sole property of the donor and which accord with the acquisition policy with no conditions attached.

### Loans

1. The Shire of Esperance does not accept permanent or indefinite loans. The collection may accept loans from time to time for exhibition purposes only.

### Public Access

1. The Shire of Esperance Art Collection currently has no dedicated exhibition venue. The Shire of Esperance aspires to develop a permanent purpose-built exhibition and storage facility for the collection. In the meantime, the collection is required to be exposed to as wide an audience as possible, and this may encompass the use of temporary displays in appropriate places, for example, the Esperance Civic Centre, the Cannery Arts Centre, other Shire of Esperance premises and other appropriate community buildings.
2. The Shire of Esperance, from time to time, will present appropriately documented exhibitions from the collection, and public programs to enhance the appreciation of the collection. Exhibitions may be of a physical or digital nature.
3. There will be at least one public exhibition of artworks from the Shire of Esperance Art Collection each calendar year.
4. Interpretive information about the collection will be presented in a variety of publications and presentation forms and will be accessible to various audiences.
5. The Shire of Esperance researches and evaluates its collection and related material so that interpretation and exhibitions are carried out with integrity and resources are accessible to others for purposes of research.
6. The Shire of Esperance promotes the collection and its access program through a variety of means including the development of online access via the Shire of Esperance website.
7. Where appropriate, works from the Shire of Esperance Art Collection may be considered for travelling exhibitions subject to appropriate loan agreements being negotiated.

### Art in Public Places

1. Artwork in public places (sculptures and external artworks) will be included as an integral part of the Shire of Esperance Art Collection. The use of art in public places has the capacity to enhance the environment and to engender a great sense of community pride, excitement and participation.
2. Works may be acquired by either acquisition or commission as per Public Art Policy EXT 017.

### De-accessioning and Disposal

1. Works from the collection may be considered for removal from the collection if they are in poor condition, damaged or deteriorated beyond reasonable repair or conservation; duplicate or do not meet with the requirements of the collections policy statement. This process is known as de-accession.
2. The Committee may, from time to time, recommend works for de-accessioning for Council endorsement to proceed.
3. Any funds raised by the sale of a de-accessioned art work will be set aside for maintenance and management of the collection.

Responsibility

Responsibility for implementation of this policy lies with the Shire of Esperance in consultation with the Shire of Esperance Art Collection Advisory Committee.

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