



Supporting Public Art  
In Paisley And Area

**Paisley Artscape Society**

**Arran-Elderslie Municipal Council**

**Dear Council,**

**17th May 2021**

The Paisley Artscape Society (PAS) has secured funding for one public sculpture to kick-start the Paisley Street Sculpture Project (PSSP). In the fall of 2020, Mary Gail Johnston attended a Council meeting on behalf of PAS to request Council's support for the PSSP and seek approval for locating a public sculpture on municipal property. Following a public call for artists, PAS has selected the work of Darrell Markewitz and Kelly Probyn-Smith of Proton Station, ON as the successful submission.

With Council's approval, the inaugural sculpture for the PSSP would be located in front of the Paisley Community Centre where one of the trees has been removed. The sculpture will sit on a base of limestone and will be anchored in place by stainless steel bolts.

The sculpture is an interactive model highlighting river activities such as canoeing and fishing. Please refer to the attached drawing "Wave Action" for some details of the sculpture. Note that the gearing for the piece will incorporate recycled parts from bicycles and will be enclosed for safety purposes.

Thank you very much for your interest and support for public art in our community.

Sincerely,

**Ken Cormack,**

President, Paisley Artscape Society  
**Paisley Artscape Society**

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‘Wave Action’  
PSSP 2021  
Kelly Probyn-Smith & Darrell Markewitz

*Framed by bright waves, fish jump and ducks dive, while paddlers cruise on by. Who wouldn't enjoy a day on the river, here in Paisley!*

As our submission for the Paisley Street Sculpture Project we propose making a mobile piece powered directly by community interaction with it. The longstanding relationship that Paisley has with their unique position on the confluence of the Saugeen and Teeswater rivers, and the aspects of the community's long standing environmental interplay with the waters, would be showcased by this work. The sculpture is framed by a box which represents the river. Contained within the box are a number of formed metal pieces – both forged and cut sheet of varying materials, some brightly painted. These are variously attached to a protectively hidden internal gear track, with motion driven by the cranking of a central handle. Proposed potential moving elements include : waves, canoe and kayak, various fish, a turtle, ducks and geese, cattails or reeds, possibly even a swimmer. Driven by the handle, The main ‘boat’ elements travel across the top, some pieces back and forth, and some to rotate in and out of the ‘water’.

This is a collaborative effort by emerging artist Kelly Probyn-Smith, and long experienced artisan Darrell Markewitz (who has participated in the Elora Sculpture Project since 2013). An additional ‘ecological’ element will be that the gearing will be built from various discarded bicycle parts.

It is hoped that the jury can assess the general concept of the sculpture, as the exact details of the gearing will largely determine the final number and position of the final moving elements.

Technical :

- The basic framing will be of welded structural angle. The ideal placement for the crank handle should be about 30 inches above ground level. This would also place the top (moving) parts at at least 40 inches high, which should keep these out of the range of very small children. Additionally, the tip of the handle would be best placed to the same line as the mounting stone block (to keep it from projecting out towards passers by) As the exact size of the anchor block and the position of the mounting bolts is unknown at this point, the exact details of the framing will need to be adjusted.
- The enclosing ‘box’ will be made of 20 gage stainless steel sheet. This is basically weather proof, and will additionally have decorative enamel paint applied to it.
- The individual figures will be created from stainless steel sheet, forged mild steel and forged copper. Some of these will again have protective / decorative paint, while

some will be left to naturally oxidize.

- All of the gearing and bicycle chain drive will be enclosed inside the framing box.

The top line of the chain will run over the top of the box (but protected at front and rear by the scalloped line of the box as illustrated). The gearing will be constructed so that multiple rotations of the driving handle are required to create motion of the various elements. This will both reduce wear in the components, but also reduce any 'inertia effect' should anyone attempt to over rotate the system.

- Individual small figures will be attached to thin rods, to lift up and out of the box as they rotate.

Images :

M-PS-dancing-boy

A (much) older piece, showing moving joints cut from thin sheet

M-PS-wave-action-R

The initial concept drawing, giving some indication of the internal chain drive system

M-PS-wave-action-S

A more polished scaled drawing of the overall installation

MAIN "BOX" IS 48" LONG  
BY 18" TALL BY 12" DEEP

STAINLESS STEEL  
PAINTED TO FADE  
FROM BRIGHT LT  
TOP TO DARK BLUE

"WAVE ACTION"  
FROBYN-SMITH + MARKOWITZ  
2021 FOR PSP

