

Richmond Community Safety Building Public Art Project

“The Coat of Arms”

by artist Glen Andersen, Richmond, BC



The public artwork is presented in three parts, interpreting elements of the City of Richmond Coat of Arms positioned at three different locations on the site:

- Entrance plaza enhancement – A mosaic paving, set flush into the concrete entrance plaza, is based on robes, cornucopia and alluvial river flows, effectively creating the two arms of the Fraser River to welcome visitors and staff into the building.
- Balcony fascias – The text panels, the second element from the Coat of Arms, bear the inscription “Child of the Fraser.” They are displayed as cut out texts in aluminum panels mounted onto the two existing front balcony fascias. These are backlit at night.
- Landscaped mound – The image of three salmon, a direct reference to the three salmon on the shield within the Coat of Arms, is represented by a network of metal rods formed to mimic cat tails and grasses. At first glance, the sculpture appears as representations of Richmond’s estuary shrubs and plant life. But from particular viewing points, the three salmon appear. This is to be installed in fall 2011.

Artist Statement

“By taking the distinct components of the City of Richmond ‘Coat of Arms,’ deconstructing them, and presenting them in isolation at different parts of the site, they are appreciated through their particular visual impacts and symbolic resonance. The ‘Coat of Arms’ is loaded with powerful symbolism tied to the history of the City, its geography and the fishing and agricultural commerce of its past and present.”

About the Artist

Glen Andersen has been project coordinator, designer, sculptor and maker of mosaics in tile and pebble for public spaces since 1995. The Richmond resident works with other designers, community groups, schools, private clients, youth, contractors and civic officials to create public and community art projects. Andersen is the owner of **Mosaic Planet**, creating mosaics and sculptures for private and public clients.

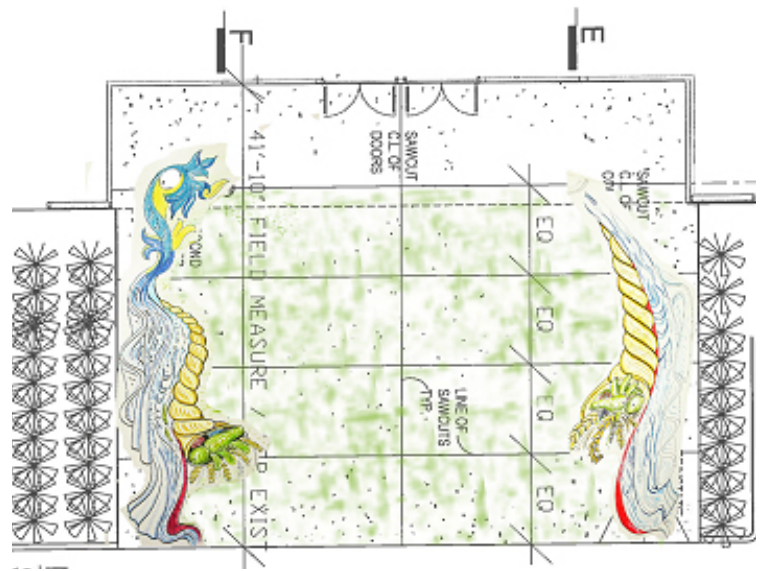


Richmond RCMP





Entrance Plaza – Mosaic Design



Balconies – Child of the Fraser



Grassy Mound – Salmon

