



About the Design

- The design concept was developed by Squiala First Nation Chief David Jimmie. Graham Craven Huston Powers Architects worked with Bonny Graham, Coast Salish Aboriginal artist to create the renderings
- The canoe is a Stó:lō/ Coast Salish traditional canoe that will be fabricated of metal but look like wood
- The upper ring of stainless steel will be embossed with a salmon and wave design as well as the Halq'eméylem text “Ey kwesé é mi” with its English translation “It’s good that you are here...welcome”
- Eight paddles will encase the supporting posts for the structure
 - Seven of the paddles will hold emblems that represent the seven Ts’elxwéyeqw communities and the eighth will hold the City of Chilliwack crest
- The landscape will resemble the natural Vedder River surroundings with driftwood type logs, rocks and native species vegetation with low growth heights
- Four dark lineal markings representing the four directions of a compass will be on the truck apron of the roundabout

Q1: What was the approval process for this artwork?

A1: The City initially proposed the public art partnership to Chief David Jimmie, President of the Stó:lō Nations Chief Council. The renderings were based on the preliminary concept plan shared with City Council in December 2016. Following the Chilliwack Public Art Policy, the proposed artwork received approval from the Chilliwack Public Art Advisory Committee and City Council. The final rendering drawings were shared at the July 2017 Stó:lō Nations Chiefs meeting and were well received. It was reported that attendees of the meeting were pleased that the proposed artwork offered a strong cultural representation.

Q2: Why is the City spending money on this?

A2: The funds for the Vedder Roundabout Art were already set aside from the Vedder Bridge project budget. Public art makes our city more attractive, enjoyable and interactive for tourists, residents and businesses and contributes to our sense of community. This piece, in particular, is an important opportunity to celebrate the history of Ts'elxwéyeqw Tribe and Stó:lō Nation in the spirit of reconciliation and remembrance.

Q3: Isn't this unsafe? I can't see through the roundabout with a structure in the way.

A3: When driving through a roundabout, drivers should be focusing on the traffic immediately to their left, not on traffic anywhere else in the roundabout. Drivers must watch the traffic to their left to ensure they are entering the roundabout safely and with enough space.