

Terms of Reference

Memorial University's Visual Arts Collection and Gallery Committee

1. Authority and Purpose

Memorial University's Visual Arts Collection and Gallery Committee (the "Committee"), established under the authority of the President's Executive Council, serves in an advisory capacity to support the stewardship, management, preservation, development, and public engagement of visual arts collections and initiatives at Memorial University. The Committee provides strategic guidance on matters relating to the care, acquisition, deaccessioning, exhibition and use of artworks owned by the University.

The Committee also serves as a consultative body for the Curator, providing feedback on and receiving updates about visual arts programming, including exhibitions, public art projects, visiting artists, workshops and other initiatives facilitated by the Grenfell Art Gallery. Actions proposed by the Curator, in consultation with the Committee, are subject to approval by the appropriate University authority in accordance with relevant University policies and procedures.

2. Mandate

The Committee provides advice and recommendations to the University on the stewardship, management, conservation, development and public engagement of Memorial University's visual art collections and public art assets. The Committee supports the responsible governance of University-owned artworks by providing guidance on collection care, documentation, acquisitions, deaccessioning, policy development, resource allocation, public art initiatives, collaboration with external partners and strategic issues affecting the collections.

In addition to its role in supporting Memorial University's art collections, the Committee serves in an advisory capacity on public visual arts initiatives and programming across the University. This includes providing feedback and guidance on exhibitions, visiting artists, artist residencies, workshops, lectures, public art projects and other visual arts activities facilitated by the Grenfell Art Gallery and its partners. Through its work, the Committee seeks to enhance the preservation, accessibility, visibility and educational value of Memorial University's visual arts assets while strengthening opportunities for artistic engagement, learning and community participation across all campuses.

3. Membership

The Committee shall consist of representatives from key University units with responsibility for the stewardship and management of Memorial University's visual arts assets, together with members selected for their expertise, interest and community perspective.

The following positions shall serve as standing members of the Committee:

- Representative from University leadership, e.g., Dean or designate (Chair)
- Art Liaison, Memorial University Libraries (Secretary)
- Curator, Grenfell Art Gallery (ex-officio)
- Representative from Facilities Management
- Representative from Office of Indigenous Affairs
- Representative from Visual Arts Faculty
- Director of Engagement (or designate)

In addition, the Committee may include:

- Up to two (2) at-large members from Memorial University
- Up to two (2) community representatives who are not directly affiliated with Memorial University

At-large and community representative seats will be filled following a public call and self-nominations.

Membership associated with specific University roles or units shall be held for the duration of the member's appointment to that position. The Visual Arts Faculty Representative, at-large members and community representatives shall serve two-year terms, renewable for up to two additional consecutive terms.

When possible, appointments should reflect a diversity of perspectives and expertise in areas such as visual arts, collections stewardship, public art, cultural heritage, education and community engagement.

5. Meetings

The Committee shall meet at least three times annually, or more frequently as required.

The Secretary will serve as Acting Chair in the absence of the Chair.

Special meetings may be called by the Chair or the Curator.

A majority of members shall constitute quorum.

The Secretary is responsible for creating records relating to committee activities, and the Curator is the official custodian of these records.

6. Reporting

The Committee shall report annually, or as requested, to the designated University authority on all activities and may provide recommendations on matters within its mandate.