

# STAFF REPORT

**TO:** Motueka Community Board

**FROM:** Mike Tasman-Jones

**DATE:** 1 November 2010

**SUBJECT:** Bruce Mitchell Sculpture – RMCB10-11-09

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## PURPOSE/REASON FOR REPORT

The Tasman District Council commissioned the Kaka Beak sculpture from local artist Bruce Mitchell. As a result of his recent death the family has written to me, as representative of Tasman District Council, requesting that the sculpture be sited in Motueka.

## BACKGROUND

The Kaka Beak sculpture was commissioned by Tasman District Council in August 2009. The cost of the work was \$20,000 and was to be funded via the public art work allocation for the Richmond Ward. The work was to be sited at either the Richmond ASB Aquatic Centre or at the Richmond Library site.

## COMMENT/DISCUSSION

Bruce Mitchell is a significant artist with a national profile. He works with local material, largely Takaka marbles as is the case with the Kaka Beak. The Kaka Beak has taken on added significance in light of Bruce's death.

The death of Bruce prior to completion left us with the first decision whether to complete the work or not. The family and friends of Bruce have taken the lead on this and decided that the work should be completed. They have organised a group to finish the work under the guidance of artist Jocelyn Bacci.

The family visited me on 30 October with the attached letter, dated 23 October, formally requesting that the sculpture is sited in Motueka rather than Richmond. I have discussed this with Motueka Community Board chairman David Ogilvie, Community Services Manager Lloyd Kennedy, Richmond Ward and Community Services Chair Councillor Judene Edgar, Mayor Richard Kempthorne and Shirley Frater Chair of Motueka Arts Council. I have received no objections to the family request for the sculpture to be located in Motueka.

The funding of the work is from the Richmond Wards public art allocation and the costs would need to transfer to Motueka Ward. How this can be achieved is to be finalised but would be largely made up of Motueka Public Art allocation and Reserve Financial Contributions.

The family have suggested the corner of High Street and Wallace Street as a site. This would need to be agreed by Motueka Community Board, Motueka Arts Council, Tasman District Council staff and elected representatives.

## **OPTIONS**

1. Continue with the proposed site in Richmond.
2. Agree to shifting the sculpture to Motueka. Proposed site is currently corner of High Street and Wallace Street subject to agreement of relevant partners.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Motueka Community Board receives this report and agrees to shifting the sculpture to Motueka. The proposed site is currently the corner of High Street and Wallace Street subject to agreement of relevant partners.

Mike Tasman-Jones