

Purpose of the Cambridge Sculpture Garden

The mandate of the CSG is closely aligned with the Goals and Objectives of the City of Cambridge and contributes to our community by:

- Helping to build vibrant neighbourhoods
- Establishing a cultural hub
- Preserving and maintaining urban greenspace that mitigates climate change through heat reduction, oxygen replenishment, and carbon sequestration
- Promoting a sense of well-being and improved mental and physical health of residents through access to greenspace
- Offering an aesthetic experience that creates a sense of place and promotes community connections
- Supporting accessibility and equity initiatives through development and management of a site that is always open, free of charge and welcoming to all

History of the Cambridge Sculpture Garden

Since 2000, the Cambridge Sculpture Garden (CSG) volunteer committee has designed, developed, and managed the CSG site providing expertise in financial management, horticulture, art, and community building that has resulted annually in thousands of hours and professional expertise for the city, at no cost. The CSG became a Charitable Organization in 2006 and has built infrastructure and obtained public art for the city with support and funding from granting organizations, such as Grants to Groups, Trillium Foundation, ArtsFund, Ontario Arts Council, and Cambridge Community Fund as well as support from businesses and private donors. To date, our initiatives have installed seven public benches, night lighting, banners, educational signage, accessible pathways, irrigation, five permanent public sculptures, a mural, and over 20 temporary public projects for residents and tourists to our area. We are also home to Cambridge's only Historic Designated Tree. The site is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and 365 days a year at no cost and provides an accessible service to a diverse audience.

Impact

The Cambridge Sculpture Garden develops and preserves an urban greenspace in a core area of the city, providing river views and access, experience with contemporary art, and a peaceful garden setting. The importance of urban greenspace is well researched for its success in mitigating climate change through heat reduction, oxygen replenishment, and carbon sequestration. In addition, urban greenspace contributes to sense of well-being, and promotes mental and physical health of residents. We partner with others such as Idea Exchange, CAFKA, Jane's Walk, Orange T-Shirt Day, Pumpkin Walk, River's Edge Gardeners, etc. to enrich programming for the city. In 2024 we are planning to connect with the Historic Fire Hall for the Flood Commemorative events connected with Jane's Walk in May and will participate in the Region of Waterloo Doors Open event in September. Residents and tourists benefit from visits to the Cambridge Sculpture Garden by experiencing a sense

of belonging and connection in an aesthetic greenspace, restoring themselves in a quiet garden setting, encountering thought-provoking art and increasing physical activity through opportunities to get outdoors.