

PUBLIC ART DONATION: DOUGLAS BENTHAM SCULPTURES

PRESENTED BY THE ART GALLERY OF NORTHUMBERLAND (AGN)

OLINDA CASIMIRO, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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INTRODUCTION

The Art Gallery of Northumberland (AGN) is pleased to bring forward a proposal for the placement of three sculptures by Douglas Bentham, a nationally recognized Canadian artist.

These works will be donated to the AGN's permanent collection and installed in Cobourg for the public to enjoy.

ABOUT DOUGLAS BENTHAM

- One of Canada's foremost sculptors, based in Saskatchewan.
- Renowned for large-scale abstract steel sculptures.
- Works featured in the National Gallery of Canada, Art Gallery of Hamilton, Remai Modern and other public installations nationwide.
- His art celebrates form, balance, and material integrity.

THE SCULPTURES

Three sculptures from Bentham's Steel Series.

- Medium: corten steel, welded and polished steel.
- Exemplifies Bentham's exploration of structure and poetic form.

DOUGLAS BENTHAM

Sentinel, 2001

corten steel

180 x 84 x 60 inches



DOUGLAS BENTHAM

Leonardo's Wind, 2017

burnished stainless steel

90 x 96 x 24 inches



DOUGLAS BENTHAM

Espalier Athena, 2007

stainless steel

160 x 36 x 38 inches



PROJECT OVERVIEW

PARTNERSHIP AND SUPPORT

- The sculptures will be installed as public art features in Cobourg.
- Proposed Locations: one in Victoria Park and two at the Cobourg Marina.
- Installation planned for March/April 2026.
- This project was supported by Brian Geerts, whose contributions were instrumental to getting us here today.
- Installation requires one concrete slab and one concrete column, and we request a committee be formed to include representatives from Accessibility, Public Works, and Parks departments.
- Collaboration with Town of Cobourg Council and Staff for approvals, installation. Ongoing maintenance conducted by the AGN.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

- Enhances Cobourg's public spaces with significant Canadian art.
- Supports AGN's mandate to engage the community through art.
- Encourages tourism, cultural identity, and civic pride.
- Accessible and free for all to enjoy.

ACCESSIBILITY AND COMPLIANCE

- Site plans will ensure public access and full accessibility.
- Installation will comply with municipal standards and public safety regulations.
- Coordination with the Town on siting, landscaping, and signage. Some preliminary discussions on location include the following:



Sentinel

Proposed Location: Victoria Park



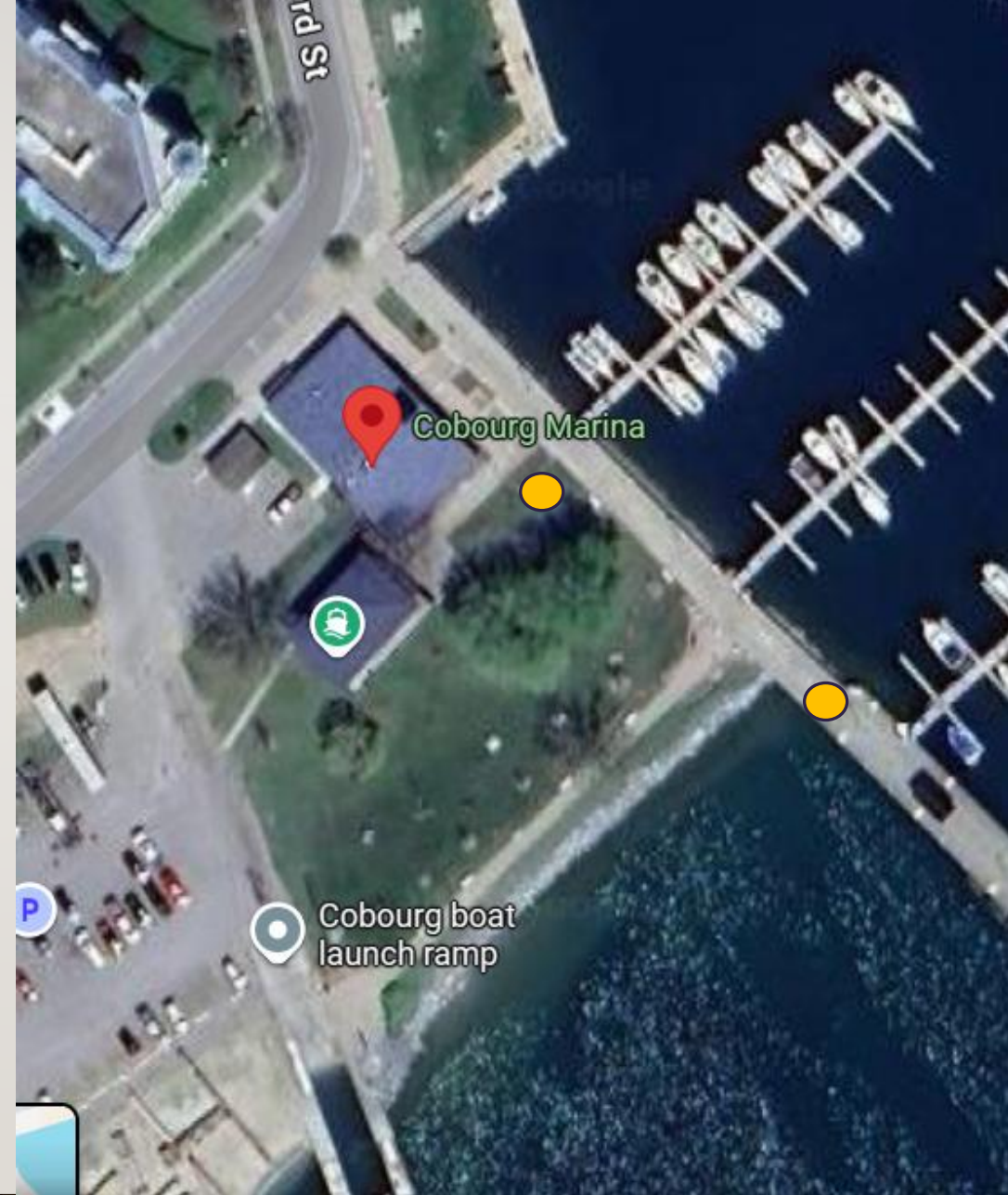


Leonardo's Wind



Espalier Athena

Proposed Location: Cobourg Marina



NEXT STEPS – TIME LINE

October 2025: Request Council to redirect the \$20,000 for public art asset maintenance to fund the engineering drawings and installation of the concrete slab and column.

December 2025: Finalize engineering and accessibility details.

January 2026: Council review and approval of proposed site locations.

March/April 2026: Prepare foundation and install sculptures.

April 2026: Public announcement and community unveiling event.

CLOSING

This project represents a significant cultural addition to Cobourg's public landscape.

The AGN is proud to steward this donation and ensure it remains accessible for generations to come.

Thank you.

Art Gallery of Northumberland **Art is for Everyone!**

