



## City of Maple Ridge News Release

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### **Whonnock Lake Public Art Award to Collabor8 Artist Team**

**Maple Ridge, BC:** The City of Maple Ridge through the Maple Ridge Public Art Steering Committee is pleased to announce that Collabor8 Architecture + Design has been awarded the commission in the recent public art call for Whonnock Lake. The selection panel chose Collabor8 after reviewing other candidates from across Metro Vancouver and Canada as their proposal and experience were a great fit for Whonnock, a popular destination community park. Their proposal entitled “BLOOM” will be installed in the spring of 2016. The artist team will be working throughout the summer and fall to complete the first stage of the public art installation. The artists will engage the community about this public art project at various information/open house types of opportunities including the Business Improvement Association’s Summer Market & Haney Farmers Market on July 25 and later at Whonnock Lake in the fall. Details will be on the website in the near future.

Collabor8 is an artist collective of professional architects and designers who have worked together for many years. The team is an amalgamation of Chandler Associates Architecture Inc. and Maxam Design International and consists of Francis Wong, Daniel Clarke, Janet Tucker, Onifur Garcia, Ryan Kennedy, Tina Lisa Matthiesen, and Chris Huxtable. The project leads are Francis Wong and Daniel Clarke. “BLOOM” is public art feature designed site specific for the community and visitors who enjoy the beauty of Whonnock Lake. "BLOOM" is inspired by natural flora and will be located among the trees beside the lake. "BLOOM" provides a shelter area using nature inspired coloured canopies blooming from the trunks of the western redwood cedars. There will be wood seating and table area of varying

height beneath the canopies, evocative of the wood docks of Whonnock Lake, for those wishing to lounge and retreat in a shaded and sheltered environment or take a moment to pause and gather together. The canopies are expected to be installed in the fall and the docks will be completed next spring in time for the Lake's busy season. Please join the artists during one of the information opportunities on July 25 and in the fall. Photos are available upon request.

“We are very excited to see the high calibre of artists and public artwork for our community,” states Susan Hayes, Chair of the Public Art Steering Committee. “It’s an opportunity for public art to complement the beauty of Whonnock, add a new feature and further celebrate one of the oldest neighbourhoods. We look forward to having the public art program evolve with the community.”

The Maple Ridge Public Art Program’s goal is to strengthen community identity and culture by developing the ‘spirit of place’ through the commissioning, collecting and incorporation of unique works of art. Additional information at [mrpmparksandleisure.ca/271/Public-Art-In-Maple-Ridge](http://mrpmparksandleisure.ca/271/Public-Art-In-Maple-Ridge). For further questions, please contact Yvonne Chui, Arts & Community Connections Manager at 604-467-7415 or [yvonne.chui@mapleridge.ca](mailto:yvonne.chui@mapleridge.ca).