

Indigenous public art

Call for selection panelists

Who:

Indigenous artists, arts administrators, curators, Elders, Knowledge Keepers and people with an interest in public art. Those with all levels of experience are welcome to apply.

What:

Selection panel members wanted to help evaluate Indigenous artworks and artists for upcoming City of Calgary public art projects.

Where:

Calgary

When:

- Deadline to apply – 4:59 p.m. April 14, 2023
- Selection panel members will participate on various days during their two-year term starting May 2023 and ending April 2025.
- Timelines are negotiable based on availability.

How much:

- \$335 for each half day
- \$591 for each full day

The City of Calgary recognizes and values [equity, diversity, inclusion and belonging](#); and unique dimensions of diversity including race, ethnicity, gender, disability, age, religion, sexual orientation, work style, communication style, learning preferences and others.





Request for qualifications
Date of issue: February 10, 2023
Submission deadline: 4:59 p.m. April 14, 2023

About the project

The City of Calgary is inviting Indigenous artists, arts administrators, curators, Elders, Knowledge Keepers and members of the public who have an art background, cultural knowledge, traditional cultural art form experience or an interest in public art to submit qualifications to participate in the selection panel process for upcoming Indigenous public art projects.

People with any level of experience and diverse backgrounds are encouraged to apply. This opportunity is open to any Indigenous person within the Treaty 7 area who would like to participate in selecting Indigenous public art projects and artists for The City of Calgary's public art collection.

Goals

The selection panels are comprised of people of verifiable Indigenous background and will make informed decisions by:

- Evaluating and making recommendations on artist selections during first and second phase evaluations.
- Evaluating and making recommendations on project manager calls and special project hires.
- Evaluating against defined criteria to make decisions.
- Attending paid training in bias awareness, collection development strategy sessions and training in panel selection.
- Receiving training and making decisions that focus on equity-deserving community members, such as those with disabilities, members of the two-spirit/LGBTQIA community and rural artists/community members.

Artist information sessions

Free online and in-person information sessions are available for those interested in applying. Please email indigenoupublicart@calgary.ca for dates, times and locations. Attendance is **not** mandatory in order to qualify for this opportunity.

Budget

Panelists will be paid CARFAC rates for participations. Rates for 2023 are as follows:

- Flat rate per half day (under four hours) \$335
- Flat rate per full day (over four hours) \$591

Source: carfac.ca

Questions and clarifications

Submit questions in writing to indigenoupublicart@calgary.ca or via phone to (403) 268-2994 prior to 4:30 p.m. MST on Thursday, April 6, 2023.



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How to apply

Submission package

Eligible submissions will contain:

- a) **Letter/email** of interest (maximum of 1000 words). Refer to the Evaluation criteria section for topics that should be addressed in your letter.
- b) **Current resume** (optional for youth applicants 16+) with applicable examples of work in related areas, educational experience and contact information.
- c) **Three references** including contact name, company, current telephone number, address and email address. References can include cultural references such as Elders, artists, arts administrators and Knowledge Keepers.

The City reserves the right to contact references without prior notification. References from City of Calgary staff members will not be counted as part of the required references.

*Video submissions accepted up to 5 minutes.

*Nominations are also accepted.

How to submit

- Email indigenouspublicart@calgary.ca and attach all required documents.
- Email subject line should include: Selection panel
- Note that the maximum file size for an email is 10 MB. You may submit multiple emails to ensure all files are received.
- Submissions are accepted in electronic form only.
- Incomplete or late submissions will not be considered.



Golden Hour by Stephanie One Spot



Selection process

All eligible submissions are reviewed by Moh'kinsstis Public Art Guiding Circle members and Indigenous public art consultants stewarded by a City representative.

Shortlisted individuals will be invited to an in-person interview.

Submissions will be rated out of a possible 100 points according to the Evaluation criteria.

*The evaluation team has the right to not award any of the submissions, and The City reserves the right to cancel/reissue this opportunity at any time.

Evaluation criteria (100 points)

- A. Understanding of the project: 30 points
 - Why this opportunity appeals to the individual
 - How the individual's Indigenous background and knowledge contributes to this project
 - Knowledge of or connection to Calgary and/or the project's place
- B. Practice in at least **ONE** of the following: 30 points (youth are optionally exempt)
 - Demonstrated cultural knowledge
 - Demonstrated lived experience as an artist in southern Alberta
 - Experience in fine and performing art juries, selection panels
 - Arts administration
 - Indigenous Curation
 - Demonstrated excellence in community volunteering, non-profit work, service to the community through ceremony or knowledge sharing.
 - Demonstrated excellence in sitting on boards in the non-profit or corporate sector
- C. Artistic experience: 25 points
 - A describable passion or love for art in traditional and contemporary forms.
 - Does not have to be an artist.
- D. Be from a verifiable Indigenous community: 10 points
- E. Public art experience: 5 points
 - Demonstrated, relevant experience in completing public art projects or appreciation of public art, museums, art galleries



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Public art selection panels

The City of Calgary recognizes the fundamental principle of public process. Public art projects and artists for The City of Calgary's public art collection are chosen on behalf of Calgarians through a selection panel process.

A selection panel is an advisory body that operates under the structure of the Public Art Policy and The Collection Development Strategy, which collectively outline the long-term vision for selecting and commissioning art for The City of Calgary's public art collection.

In the past, public art selection panels were unique to each project and consisted of public art professionals, community members and city employees.

Beginning in 2023, The City has updated the selection panel process to ensure public art projects and initiatives are evaluated through a diverse and equitable lens.

This call for selection panel members focuses on forming a specialized selection panel to select Indigenous projects and artists. This supports the long-term vision of a public art collection that equitably and effectively represents all Calgarians and a step forward in the path towards reconciliation.

Working with The City

Prior to confirmation of award, the selected panelists will be required to:

- Confirm Status, Metis lineage, or Indigenous ancestry.
- Complete a Scope and Fee contract defining project deliverables and payment schedule.
- Sign a letter agreement.

After each meeting, the selected panelists must submit an invoice for the appropriate amount. Payment will occur 30 to 60 days after submission. Elders will be paid the day after the meeting.

Administration

The commissioner for this project is:

The City of Calgary
Box 2100, Station M, Calgary, AB, Canada T2P 2M5
Mail code #63

There will not be any public opening of submissions.
There is no cost to the applicant to provide a submission.
Submissions must currently be provided in English.



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Indigenous public art

Art is the storytelling of a history. Respecting and sharing the unique, local Indigenous traditions, beliefs and practices through public art helps to share Indigenous perspectives and stories. It serves as a reminder that Indigenous people lived on this land long before Scottish settlers named it Calgary, and that every Calgarian has a role to play in acknowledging the past and working toward a brighter future.

Of The City's public art collection, which began growing in 1911 and now has more than 1300 pieces, less than 3% was created by Indigenous artists. To correct this disparity, we're taking meaningful steps to improve opportunities for Indigenous artists to consult on, participate in and create public art in Calgary.

We are deeply honored to be the first municipality in Canada with an all-Indigenous team of arts professionals dedicated to delivering more opportunities for Indigenous artists and increasing Indigenous representation in the public art collection.

For more information visit calgary.ca/indigenouspublicart

Land acknowledgement

The Calgary area where the Bow and Elbow rivers meet is a place of confluence where the sharing of ideas and opportunities naturally come together. Indigenous peoples have their own names for this area that have been in use long before Scottish settlers named this place Calgary. In the Blackfoot language, they call this place Moh'kinsstis. The Stoney Nakoda Nation refer to the Calgary area as Wîchîspa Oyade and the people of the Tsuut'ina nation call this area Guts-ists-i. The Métis call the Calgary area Otos-kwunee.

We would like to acknowledge that this project will be located on the traditional territories of the people of the Treaty 7 region in Southern Alberta. This includes: the Siksika, Piikani, and Kainai, along with the Blackfeet in Montana, collectively known as the Blackfoot Confederacy; the Îethka Nakoda Wîcastabi First Nations, comprised of the Chiniki, Bearspaw, and Wesley First Nations; and the Tsuut'ina First Nation. The city of Calgary is also home to the Métis Nation of Alberta, Region 3. We acknowledge all Indigenous urban Calgarians, First Nations, Inuit, and Métis, who have made Calgary their home.¹

One of the guiding principles of the Public Art Program is to share, and provide a voice to, the historical context of Calgary; honour that information, and include and embed it in the work going forward. To learn more, watch the video: [Calgary Foundation Land Acknowledgement \(Full\)](#) on YouTube.

1. Moh'kinsstis Public Art Guiding Circle