

Stoney Nakoda curatorial mentorship Indigenous public art

Call for curatorial mentee

Who:

Artists and individuals interested in gaining work experience as a curator

What:

Curate a Stoney Nakoda educational travelling exhibit for The City of Calgary public art collection

Where:

Hybrid work, online research, in-person research and events as needed, regular meetings with City of Calgary public art staff

When:

Deadline to apply: July 10th, 8:00 am
Project start: July 26th, 2024
Project end February 20th, 2025

How much:

Curatorial fee of \$7,000 + GST total

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.

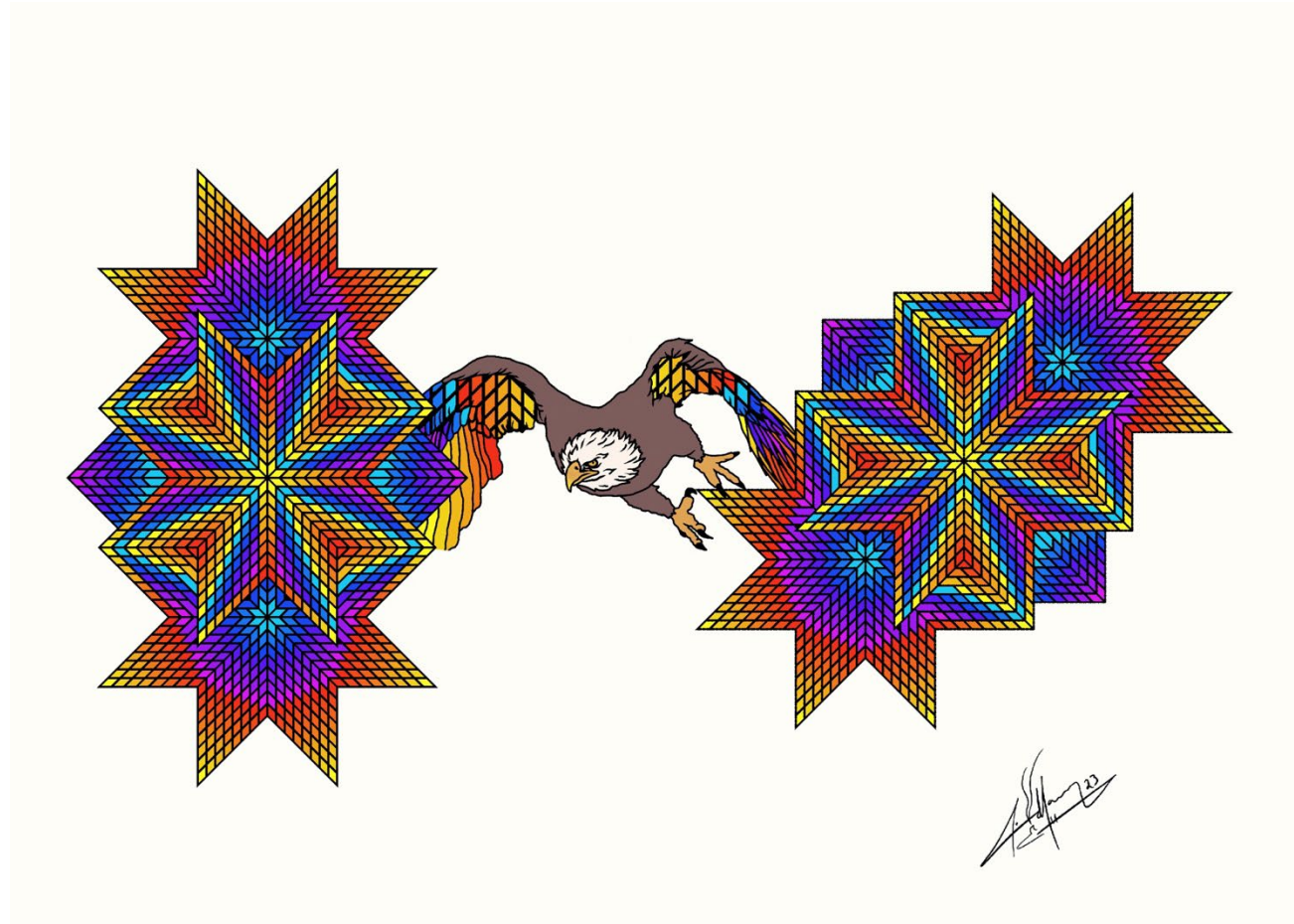


Figure 1 Two Spirits Connected To One, Andrew Holloway, Licensed for City of Calgary Public Art



Request for qualifications
Date of issue: May 22nd, 2024
Submission deadline: 8:00 am, July 10th, 2024

About the project

The City of Calgary Public Art Program invites members of the Stoney Nakoda nations to apply to this paid mentorship opportunity. Individual artists who have an interest in curation are encouraged to apply. Prior curatorial experience is not required. This opportunity is open to Stoney Nakoda members from Goodstoney, Bearspaw, and Chiniki.

The Stoney Nakoda curatorial mentee will work closely with the Indigenous curator, public art conservator, public art liaison, and collections specialist to curate a Stoney Nakoda specific, loanable exhibit that will be available for communities and schools to host. The mentorship will include all aspects of working on a public art exhibit, including and not limited to budgeting, artist visits, exhibit design, curatorial writing, artist visits, etc. The curator will not curate their own work into the exhibit.

The exhibit shall not exceed 12 artworks/art objects and have a minimum of 4 artworks/objects. There is a selected budget and under mentorship, the selected curatorial mentee will create a theme and work with the Indigenous curator to select artworks to be purchased for the exhibit. They will also work with the public art team to make sure it is portable and protects the artworks on their travels.

Questions and clarifications

Submit all questions in writing to indigenouspublicart@calgary.ca prior to 4:00 p.m. MST on July 5th, 2024

Goals

This project will:

- Support the presence of Stoney Nakoda artwork in schools and communities
- Engage with Stoney Nakoda artists
- Grow the public art collection
- Create a loanable exhibit that schools and communities will be able to host for 3-6 months at a time

Artist information sessions

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

Budget

The curatorial mentee receives an all-inclusive, maximum budget of **\$7,000.00 + GST** (if applicable) inclusive of travel and expenses. This does NOT include an artwork purchase budget.

The total budget includes, but is not limited to supplies and materials, consultation, time for public engagement, travel, insurance and design fees.

The mentee will be responsible for their project budget and will be paid based on deliverables as per their Scope and Fee contract.



Request for qualifications
Date of issue: May 22nd, 2024
Submission deadline: 8:00 am, July 10th, 2024

How to apply

Submission package

Eligible submissions will contain:

- a) **Letter/email of interest** (maximum of 1500 words) including:
 - Your interest in this position.
 - Description of how your Indigenous background and/or cultural understanding will contribute to this work.
 - A statement of interest in learning curatorial work.
 - Connection to your community
 - Contact information (phone number, alternate number and email address)

* Your submission will be rated out of a possible 100 points as outlined in the Evaluation criteria below.

- b) **Up to 10 images** of artwork, or artwork that interests you. This is **optional** and is for us to get to know you more.
- c) **Three references** including contact name, company, current telephone number, address, and email address. You may use past clients, Elders, and community members familiar with you.

*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.

How to submit

- Email indigenoupublicart@calgary.ca and attach all the required documents.
- Email subject line should include: Stoney Nakoda Curator
- 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.
- Links to past exhibits/curatorial writing will be accepted
- Incomplete or late submissions will not be considered.

Selection process

All eligible submissions are reviewed by a selection panel consisting of three - five City representatives and is stewarded by City business unit representative. A member of the Curatorial Panel may be on the selection panel.

Applicants may be invited to an in-person or online interview with the selection panel.

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

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



Figure 2 This is My Mother's Hands, Joanne Cardinal Schubert, 1987, City of Calgary Public Art Collection

Evaluation criteria (100 points)

A. Understanding of the project: <35 points>

- Why this opportunity appeals to the applicant
- How the applicant's knowledge of art and Stoney Nakoda world view will contribute to this project
- Connection to the Stoney Nakoda community.
- Effective communication.

B. Skills & interests: <35 points>

- Clear writing and understanding of their own culture.
- Clear interest in art and supporting artists from their community
- Cultural and artistic knowledge

C. Project experience: <25 points>

- Demonstrated experience in project management
- Demonstrated experience in working to a schedule and demonstrated ability to deliver a project on time.
- Demonstrated ability to collaborate with project teams, other interested parties and engage with the community.

D. Public art experience <5 points>

- Public art experience is an asset but not required
- Experience curating an exhibit is an asset but not required.

E. Bonus points- extra points may be score if the applicant can:

- (20 points) provide proof of verifiable Indigenous ancestry.
- (up to 20 points) Provide examples of being connected to communities with letters of reference or providing phone numbers for members of Good Stoney, Bearspaw and/or Chiniki who can speak to your connection and presence in community.



Request for qualifications
Date of issue: May 22nd, 2024
Submission deadline: 8:00 am, July 10th, 2024

Working with The City

To ensure the public art project meets project goals, as well as the requirements of the Public Art Program, the artist or artist team will be required to work closely throughout the project with Public Art Program staff as well as other stakeholders.

Prior to confirmation of award, the selected artist or artist team will be required to:

- Provide proof of verifiable Indigenous ancestry
- Complete a Scope and Fee contract defining project deliverables and payment schedule;
- Sign a City of Calgary Artist Agreement which includes Artist General Terms and Conditions.

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.

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



Request for qualifications
Date of issue: May 22nd, 2024
Submission deadline: 8:00 am, July 10th, 2024

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 districts 5 & 6. 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

Public Art program

The Public Art program's mission is to provide a responsive public art program from which The City, Calgarians and artists collaborate, exchange perspectives and explore familiar and unimagined situations, subjects and opportunities, as they relate to our evolving relationships with our shared history, place and community.

Established in January 2004, the Public Art Program ensures the allocation of 1% for the portion of eligible project capital costs over \$1 million up to \$50 million; and 0.5% for the portion over \$50 million to public art.

The Public Art Policy outlines the diversity of public art opportunities as: discrete, semi-integrated, integrated and temporary works, and allows for artists on design teams, community-based public art, and special projects such as artist residencies.

The City of Calgary has transitioned key components of public art program operations to [Calgary Arts Development](#) (CADA). We are working closely with CADA on community programming, calls for artists, community engagement and the commissioning of new public art. The City and CADA are committed to working with artists and Calgarians to creating a positive, meaningful and enriching program for the future.

For more information visit www.calgary.ca/publicart