

The background of the image is a dense, out-of-focus field of green leaves, likely from a tree or large shrub. The leaves are various shades of green, from light to dark, and their veins are visible. The overall effect is a natural, organic texture.

**CALL FOR  
INDIGENOUS  
CURATOR**



## Call for Indigenous Curator

The City of Calgary is seeking an Indigenous Curator to play a key role in developing and implementing opportunities for artists and help The City build relationships with Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities in and around Calgary.

This position will work in close collaboration with the Moh'kinsstis Public Art Guiding Circle, Public Art Program staff and the Indigenous Relations Office at The City of Calgary.

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

Thank you for your interest in this project.

Budget: \$70,000.00 CAD Consultation Fee  
Not including GST  
Plus up to \$1,400 in travel exp.  
Maximum, all inclusive

Submission deadline: 4:30 pm MST  
Monday, July 20, 2020

Start: September 2020  
Negotiable re. availability

Completion: September 2021



## OPPORTUNITY

The City is seeking an Indigenous curator interested in working within a Municipal Government context and in pursuing public art as a part of their practice.

The curator will bring Indigenous knowledge, histories, cultures, languages, traditions, worldviews and ways of knowing to the Public Art Program.

This role will support, lead and implement plans related to acquisitions, commissions, projects and programs.

Those with connection to the Treaty 7 region in Southern Alberta, specifically the Blackfoot Confederacy (Siksika, Piikani and Kainai); Îethka Nakoda Wîcastabi First Nations (Chiniki, Bears paw and Wesley First Nations); the Tsuut'ina First Nation; historic Northwest Métis and Métis Nation of Alberta, Region 3; and/or Indigenous urban Calgaryans, First Nations, Inuit, and Métis, who have made Calgary their home are encouraged to apply.

The successful candidate will be provided with guidance and mentorship, as needed.

All work to be performed in Calgary and area.

## Goals

- To foster a supportive environment for Treaty 7, Métis, Inuit and urban Indigenous artists in Calgary;
- To honour the relationship between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples within Treaty 7 Territory and Northwest Métis homeland;
- To support The City's commitment to respond to the Calls to Action of *White Goose Flying – A Report to City Council on the Indian Residential School Truth and Reconciliation*;
- To inform, advise and participate in the overall planning, development and implementation of acquisitions, research, commissions, projects and programs;
- To help in building and maintaining relationships with Indigenous communities in and around Calgary;
- To inform the way The City procures and commission artists; to build a system that is more supportive and helps build capacity in the artistic community.

## BUDGET

The contract will be awarded based on a budget for the Indigenous Curator's consultation of \$70,000 CAD plus GST. Remuneration is based on a 30-hour work week for twelve months and does not include relocation costs, insurance and other requirements of the contract. Additional travel and accommodation fees up to \$1,400 is available to support research within Treaty 7 Territory.

Disbursements will be made throughout the project as per a negotiated schedule of deliverables.



## HOW TO APPLY

### Submission package

Eligible submissions will contain:

- a) Letter of interest (maximum of 1500 words)
  - The letter of interest will be evaluated based on the application criteria on the following page;
- b) A current resume / Curriculum Vitae with applicable examples of work in related areas, educational experience and contact information;
  - The Curriculum Vitae will be evaluated based on the application criteria on the following page.

### Questions and clarifications

Submit all questions in writing to [publicart@calgary.ca](mailto:publicart@calgary.ca) prior to 4:30 PM MST on Thursday, July 16, 2020.

### How to submit package

Email [publicart@calgary.ca](mailto:publicart@calgary.ca) and attach all the required documents in a single email.

- Documents should be in Word or PDF format.
- Email subject line should include: **Indigenous Curator Call**
- Note that the maximum file size for an email is 10 MB.
- All emailed files must be compatible with a PC.
- Links to posted media or content will not be viewed. All content must be contained within the email.
- Incomplete or late submissions will not be considered.

**Due to Covid-19, we are unable to accept hard copy submissions at this time.**

**QUESTIONS?** PLEASE EMAIL [PUBLICART@CALGARY.CA](mailto:PUBLICART@CALGARY.CA)

## SELECTION PROCESS

### Step 1 –Shortlisting

All eligible submissions are reviewed by a selection panel consisting of members of the Moh'kinsstis Public Art Guiding Circle, a community member and representatives from the Public Art Program and the Indigenous Relations Office. The selection panel will shortlist applicants based on how their submissions meet the application criteria on the following page (rated out of a possible total 100 points).

Three references will be requested for short-listed curators. References should include at least two work-related contacts, preferably a supervisor, but can also include a community leader, such as an Elder. References should include company name, current contact name, including current telephone number, address and e-mail address. 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.

### Step 2 – Finalist interviews

Shortlisted curators will be invited to an in-person interview with the selection panel. The same evaluation criteria will be used as in the shortlisting stage.

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



## APPLICATION CRITERIA

### A: Letter of interest: 30 points

- Why this opportunity interests the curator: 10 points
- How the curator's background and practice will contribute to this project: 20 points

### B: Applicable examples of work in related area and educational experience (resume/Curriculum Vitae): 70 points

- Relevant curatorial experience: 25 points
  - Demonstrated ability to develop art programs and projects;
  - Demonstrated ability to conduct research, write, and organize exhibitions, programs, or events;
  - Knowledge of Indigenous contemporary and historical art;
  - Understanding of local art history, keen appreciation for Calgary's public art collection, and knowledge of and interest in temporary art forms;
  - A minimum two years of related experience is required.
- Educational qualifications: 30 points
  - Masters' Degree in curatorial studies, art history or an equivalent combination of education and experience will be considered;
  - Experience working with Treaty 7, Métis and urban Indigenous communities.
- Ability to meet project goals and objectives: 15 points
  - Demonstrated ability to prepare, monitor and manage budgets;
  - Ability to work independently and in a team environment;
  - Demonstrated organizational and planning skills;
  - Proven ability to prioritize, manage and complete concurrent projects;
  - Ability to manage various stakeholder relationships;
  - Excellent communication skills, both verbal and written;
  - Strong working knowledge of MS Office.



## KEY DATES

Date of issue:	<b>June 8, 2020</b>
Deadline for questions to <a href="mailto:publicart@calgary.ca">publicart@calgary.ca</a> :	<b>4:30 pm MST on Thursday July 16, 2020</b>
Submission deadline:	<b>4:30 pm MST on Monday July 20, 2020</b>
Shortlist:	<b>August 3, 2020</b>
Finalist interviews:	<b>August 10, 2020</b>
Project start	<b>September 2020</b>
Project completion:	<b>September 2021</b>

Dates are subject to change.

**The timeline is negotiable based on availability.**



*Dagumisistiy wusa tlok'a yasdal*, by AJA Loudon and Aj Starlight, 2019.  
Photo courtesy of The City of Calgary.



## ABOUT CALGARY

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. The Métis call the Calgary area Otos-kwunee. In the Blackfoot language, they call this place, Moh-kins-tsis. 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.<sup>1</sup>

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 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 homeland to the historic Northwest Métis and to Métis Nation of Alberta, Region 3. We acknowledge all Indigenous urban Calgarians, First Nations, Inuit, and Métis, who have made Calgary their home.<sup>1</sup>

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.

## 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.

For more information about the program, visit [www.calgary.ca/publicart](http://www.calgary.ca/publicart).



## THE PUBLIC ART COLLECTION

Through a century of generous giving, the citizens of Calgary have made our city more intimate and beautiful with works of civic and public art. Individuals, businesses, public and private groups have supported the creation of sculptures, murals, paintings and other forms of public art that form the collection.

In 2004, when Calgary City Council approved the Public Art Policy, the [Public Art Program](#) assumed full responsibility for the administration and management of the collection. The Public Art Policy provides a sustainable and responsive 'percent for art' funding strategy for the acquisition, administration and management of public art.

Today, The City of Calgary has an art collection of over 1,300 works, including a collection of portable artworks (photographs, paintings, sculpture, glass, installations, ceramic, and textiles) that is rotated throughout public spaces, outdoor sculptures sited in parks and plazas, installations integrated into infrastructure, monuments, memorials, environmental art, temporary projects, street art and functional objects.

For more information about the Collection, visit: [Public Art Collection](#).

## CURRENT STATUS OF THE PUBLIC ART PROGRAM

- As directed by Council, The City is moving forward with a plan to move the Public Art Program to an external organization. This will be accomplished through a procurement process to determine the best organization to deliver the Public Art Program for Calgary;
- Changes to the Public Art program will occur incrementally, over time;
- Any changes that may occur, will be implemented sensitively, over time, to ensure continuity;
- For more information, visit: [New Direction](#)





## WORKING WITH THE CITY

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

- Confirm status as a company (or sole-proprietorship);
- Confirm a Commercial General Liability (“CGL”) insurance policy for bodily injury (including death) and property damage in an amount of not less than TWO MILLION DOLLARS (\$2,000,000.00) inclusive limit for any one occurrence;
- Complete a Scope and Fee contract defining project deliverables and payment schedule;
- Sign a City of Calgary Professional Services Provider Agreement which includes Consulting General Conditions.

## ADMINISTRATION

The commissioner for this project is:

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

Contact for questions: [publicart@calgary.ca](mailto:publicart@calgary.ca).

How to submit: email [publicart@calgary.ca](mailto:publicart@calgary.ca).

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.