

# Call for Indigenous Curatorial Panel Members

## Call to arts professionals

**Who:**

Indigenous curators, academics, community members with all levels of experience, local (Treaty #7 and Treaty #7-based) and national

**What:**

To advise the City of Calgary Public Art administration on acquiring and de-accessioning artworks.

**Where:**

Calgary, Alberta. In-person and virtual meetings.

**When:**

Deadline to apply: 4:30 PM, MST, September 29, 2023.

Term: October 2023 – October 2025.

**How much:**

CARFAC Honoraria for half day & full day service.

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.



Artwork: *Birch Bark*, Digital, Francine Cunningham, 2019



## About the panel

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.

The curatorial 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. This panel is also governed by the Curatorial Panel Terms of Reference.

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.

The Curatorial Panel only reviews artworks being acquired into the public art collection and the de-accession of artworks out of the collection. The previous committee had a larger purview of responsibilities beyond artworks for the collection. Creating a specialized selection panel that focuses solely on collection acquisitions and de-accessions supports the long-term vision of a public art collection that equitably and effectively represents Calgarians.

## Goals

This Curatorial Panel will make informed decisions on the growth of the public art collection by:

- Evaluating and making recommendations on artwork to be purchased by the City of Calgary public art collection.
- Evaluating and making recommendations on artwork to be accepted by donation to the City of Calgary public art collection.
- Evaluating and making recommendations on work that is to be de-accessioned from the City of Calgary public art collection.
- Evaluating against defined criteria to make decisions.

## Budget

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

Flat rate per half day, under 4 hours	\$350
Flat rate per day, over 4 hours	\$600

Source: [CARFAC Website](#)



**Request for submissions**  
**Date of issue: June 1, 2023**  
**Submission deadline: September 29, 2023**

## How to apply

### Submission package

Eligible submissions will contain:

- **Letter of interest** (maximum of 2000 words)  
Refer to the criteria for suggested topics;
- **A current resume / curriculum vitae**  
with applicable examples of work in related areas,  
educational experience and contact information;
- **Up to three references** (work, cultural, community  
references are welcome)
  - NOTE: References from City of Calgary staff  
members will not be counted as part of the  
required references
- **Ensure your submission package responds to the  
Evaluation Criteria in the Selection Process  
section.**

The submission package will be evaluated based on the  
application criteria on the following page.

### How to submit

- Email [indigenoupublicart@calgary.ca](mailto:indigenoupublicart@calgary.ca) and attach all  
the required documents.
- Email subject line should include: Curatorial 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.
- Video applications are accepted. Please contact us if  
you need accessibility support.
- Please note: incomplete or late submissions will not be  
considered.

## Selection process

All eligible submissions are reviewed by a selection panel consisting of a member of the Mohkinstsis Public Art Guiding Circle, three public art contractors and one City business unit representative. The shortlisted applicants will be invited to an interview. The selection panel will shortlist applicants based on how their submissions meet the evaluation criteria (rated out of a possible total 100 points):

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.



Artwork: *Golden Hour*, Digital, Stephanie One Spot

## Questions and clarifications

Submit all questions in writing to [indigenoupublicart@calgary.ca](mailto:indigenoupublicart@calgary.ca) or via phone to 403-268-2994 prior to 4:30 p.m. MST on September 22, 2023.

**Questions?** email [indigenoupublicart@calgary.ca](mailto:indigenoupublicart@calgary.ca)

## Evaluation criteria (100 points)

- A. Understanding of public art, art history, history of Calgary, Indigenous Knowledge, Cultural Knowledge: 45 points
  - Why this opportunity appeals to the individual
  - Knowledge OR Interest in public art, and art
  - Background and experience in any arts/art forms, governance
  - Knowledge of and or connection to Calgary
  - Indigenous Knowledge and/or other cultural contexts
- B. Practice in at least ONE of the following: 40 points
  - Demonstrated understanding of various contemporary, historical, and cultural art practice; responsiveness to contextual opportunities
  - Experience in fine and performing art juries, selection panels
  - Demonstrated excellence in community volunteering, non-profit work.
  - Demonstrated excellence in sitting on boards in the non-profit or corporate sector
- C. Experience: 15 points
  - Demonstrated understanding of high-profile, high-visibility projects
  - Demonstrated understanding of public art context in communities
  - Demonstrated ability to think critically
- D. Be of verifiable Indigenous ancestry: requirement
  - This will be verified through status card, family lineage, membership card, community validation.



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## Working with The City

To ensure the public art project meets project goals, as well as the requirements of the Public Art Program, the Curatorial Panel works closely with the Public Art Program as well as other staff.

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

- Sign a City of Calgary Artist Agreement which includes Artist General Terms and Conditions.

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

## 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 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.

The City's public art collection began growing in 1911 and now has more than 1,300 pieces. Less than 3 per cent of the collection 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 City's public art collection.

For more information visit [calgary.ca/indigenouspublicart](https://calgary.ca/indigenouspublicart)





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## 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.<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.

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 one per cent for the portion of eligible project capital costs over \$1 million up to \$50 million; and 0.5 per cent 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 is gradually transitioning key components of public art program operations to [Calgary Arts Development \(CADA\)](#). During the transition period we are working closely with CADA on community programming, calls for artists, community engagement and the procurement of new public art. The City and CADA are committed to working with artists and Calgarians to create a positive, meaningful and enriching program for the future.

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