



Expression of Interest: Indigenous Guiding Circle Members

City of Calgary – Arts & Culture Division

The City of Calgary Arts & Culture Division is seeking Expressions of Interest from Indigenous community members in and around City of Calgary who would be interested in being a part of an **Indigenous Guiding Circle (IGC)**.

Purpose of the Circle

Aspirations for The Circle include being a safe space for dialogue, connection, and shared visioning, where Indigenous perspectives become part of the Arts & Culture Division's work in ways that uplift and seek to honor knowledge, traditions, and experiences.

Members will be encouraged to share their own experiences and perspectives, rather than speaking on behalf of entire Nations or communities. While Arts & Culture cannot guarantee that all requests and suggestions that impact larger City of Calgary processes or initiatives will be accepted by those within The City with higher decision-making authority, the Circle's contributions can meaningfully influence priorities, planning, and initiatives wherever possible within the sphere of the Arts & Culture Division.

Through participation in the Circle, Members can lead and support in fostering lasting relationships, inspiring inclusive approaches, and creating a legacy that supports ongoing collaboration between Indigenous communities and the Arts & Culture Division. An example of a project the Circle could be involved in would be the update and implementation of the Culture Plan for Calgary, among others.

Who We Are Inviting

We welcome interest from diverse Indigenous voices, including but not limited to:

- Elders and Knowledge Keepers
- Artists and cultural practitioners (traditional and contemporary)
- Youth and emerging leaders
- Women and 2SLGBTQ+ voices
- Urban Indigenous and Métis community members
- People with lived and living experience

What Members Can Expect

- **Respectful Engagement:** A culturally safe space grounded in reciprocity, humility, and shared learning.
- **Support & Resources:** Members will receive honoraria (CARFAC rates for consultation <https://carfac-raav.ca>), onboarding, and accommodations such as travel, or accessibility needs.



- **Active Participation:** Attend quarterly Circle gatherings (in person), opportunities to participation in project specific subcommittee work, and share your personal experience and perspectives as they relate to Arts & Culture projects and initiatives.
- **Meaningful Connections:** Contribute to conversations that help Arts & Culture reflect Indigenous perspectives, build meaningful relationships, and foster more inclusive experiences in arts and culture in Calgary.

Eligibility

Members must:

- Self-identify as First Nations, Métis, or Inuit.
- Have a connection to Treaty 7, the urban Indigenous community in Calgary, or citizens of the Métis Nation
- Be comfortable to share their lived experience, cultural knowledge, or interest in arts, culture, heritage, or reconciliation.
- Be willing to engage in respectful dialogue and collaborative processes.

How to Express Interest

Please share a short email, or written expression* that tells us:

1. Who you are and how you connect to your community and to Calgary.
2. What is drawing you to wanting to be a part of this Circle.
3. Any experience, knowledge, or perspectives you have that relate to the purpose of the Circle.
4. Any hopes or aspirations you have around what feelings or impacts the Circle would stir in you.

*If you need support submitting your expression of interest or would prefer to respond in a different format (e.g., phone, video), please reach out to us at IndigenousRelations@urbansystems.ca.

Deadline: October 7, 2025, at 5:00pm MST.

Submit to: Sharon Cyrenne, c/o IndigenousRelations@urbansystems.ca

Closing

Envision this Circle as a continuous, caring conversation that matters. No titles, no formalities — just a space where your voice and your lived experience are valued, and where together all our voices and ideas can be explored to contribute to shaping arts and culture in Calgary. The total number of Members will be capped at a maximum of 10 (ten).



The personal information being collected on this form is authorized under section 4(c) of the Protection of Privacy Act (POPA) and will be used for the purpose of processing this application for the Indigenous Guiding Circle project and communicating with you about it. If you have any questions about the collection or use of your personal information, please contact The City of Calgary, Arts & Culture at P.O. Box 2100, Station 'M', #63, Calgary, Alberta T2P 2M5, by phone at 403-268-CITY (2489), or by email at culture@calgary.ca.