

January 23, 2017



Alien Terrarium by Elisa Yon & Amanda Arcuri. Photo credit: Adam Stenhouse & Amanda Arcuri

Call to Indigenous Artists for Canada 150+ Murals | City of Vancouver

The City is seeking proposals for murals that celebrate the creativity of Indigenous artists and the rich cultural histories and continuing presence of Indigenous peoples in what is now known as Vancouver, as well as look toward the city and the country's future.

The City of Vancouver's Public Art Program invites proposals for significant murals within the City of Vancouver that will provide opportunities for Indigenous recognition, celebration and participation. This mural opportunity is a component of Strengthening our Relations: Vancouver Commemorates Canada 150+, the citywide celebration for Canada's 150th anniversary.

As a city situated on the unceded and ancestral homelands of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations, and as a City of Reconciliation, a goal of Canada 150+ is for Vancouver to mark the national milestone with the theme of strengthening our relations among Indigenous peoples and all Canadians and to forge a common future between all Vancouverites.

Deadline

All proposals must be submitted via the [on-line application](#) by **Wednesday, February 22, 2017**. To apply, visit: <https://vanculture.fluidreview.com/> and click the 'Sign Up' button.

It is wise to apply well in advance of the deadline. For more information, please call or e-mail David Lewis at 604.871.6002 or david.lewis@vancouver.ca or the Public Art Program at publicart@vancouver.ca.

City of Vancouver's Canada 150+ Mural Program Goals

- To support and celebrate the creativity of Vancouver's Indigenous artists
- To encourage collaborations between Indigenous and non-Indigenous artists
- To create opportunities for established artists to mentor emerging artists in public art practices
- To support artistic excellence and innovation in artworks, selection and process
- To contribute to the cultural and artistic development of Vancouver by exploring new ideas and practices in mural and/or two-dimensional artworks
- To encourage artists to think about the interface between public realm and the rich Indigenous presence in this place
- To contribute to a stimulating public realm and enrich the experience of the city for both residents and visitors

What kinds of projects will be considered?

Proposals will be considered for exterior murals and/or two dimensional integrated artworks within the City of Vancouver. Artworks must be accessible to the public and be successfully completed by July 2017.

A range of mediums can be proposed, including but not limited to brush or aerosol paint, graphic prints or other two-dimensional approaches that can be semi-permanently affixed.

Who is eligible?

The Canada 150+ Mural Program seeks to commission qualified artists, in particular Indigenous artists or Indigenous/non-Indigenous collaborative artists teams, to create murals and two-dimensional artworks. Partnerships and collaborations are encouraged, including between established and emerging artists. Indigenous artists must be key creative participants in teams.

Artists must have produced or exhibited artworks in public spaces and be recognized by their peers. Artists should be knowledgeable about Indigenous contemporary practices and have a relationship to this place. Only one application per artist or team will be accepted, however an artist may apply individually and also as part of a team. All Indigenous artists with connection to Vancouver, including Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh artists, are encouraged to apply.

Budget

Submissions should include a preliminary budget estimate of the artists' envisioned proposal. In phase two of the selection process, shortlisted artists will be required to develop a total budget not to exceed \$50,000 (inclusive of all costs including consultations, mentoring, training, design, supplies, fabrication, installation, project management, maintenance provisions, insurance and contingency). Some in-kind contributions may be available. Artists should budget an amount to maintain the artwork for a period of two years.

Larger budgets presume that artists are working with communities and/or mentoring other artists, or that the scale and scope of the project is exceptional.

Sites

Artists should propose a site of their choosing or select one of the identified opportunities listed below. The selection panel may also recommend artists for a different opportunity.

All resulting artworks must be located within the public realm of the City of Vancouver. Proposed sites may include private and commercial properties, or civic structures such as retaining walls or bridges. Privately-owned sites may be considered if they are publicly visible and agreements for long-term placement can be secured. Please note that projects must not be associated with third party advertising.

Shortlisted artists will be responsible for confirming proposed sites and acquiring written permission for site use and neighbourhood support. City Staff will provide guidance to shortlisted applicants.

Identified opportunities

Opportunities A through D are digital print platforms, artist fees for these are set at \$5,000 each and the City will print and install the artwork. These opportunities are generally installed for up to nine (9) months. Opportunities E and F are mural opportunities, artist fees will vary depending on artist proposals. For these opportunities near the live site for Canada 150+, the City is encouraging artists to consider mentoring emerging artists or proposing a community-engaged process.

A. Queen Elizabeth Theatre Plaza, 650 Hamilton Street (at Georgia Street)

There is a vinyl-wrap opportunity on the glass surface of a light box in the parking exit structure located on the Queen Elizabeth Theatre Plaza. The lights in the stairwell are bright and will create a lightbox effect to back-light the artwork at night. The artwork can cover all surfaces except the north-facing door. South face: 1.8m wide x 2.67m high; east and west faces: 5.86 wide x 2.67m high.



B. Queen Elizabeth Theatre Windows, 650 Hamilton Street (facing Cambie Street)

A vinyl or other window treatment is invited for the east facing windows of the theatre lobby. Use of specific windows and size of artwork to be confirmed in phase two of the selection process.



C. Aperture Banners, Central Library, 350 W Georgia Street

Large banners are integrated into the architecture of the Central Library Square promenade. One artist will be selected for a series of six (6) banners. Each banner measures 3.20m wide x 6.52m high and is printed on flexface vinyl.



D. Vancouver City Centre Canada Line Station (at Georgia and Granville Street)

The printed mural will be installed on the outside west-facing window of the Canada Line City Centre Station at Georgia and Granville Streets for six to eight months. The window wall is 12.5m wide x 3.24m high. Each window panel is 2.5m wide x 3.24m high. Coverage is limited to 50% of the window space and image is 50% opacity.



E. Queen Elizabeth Theatre Loading Bay Doors, 650 Hamilton Street (facing Cambie Street)

One or more painted murals are possible on the loading bay doors facing Cambie Street. There are four (4) loading doors that each measure 3.96m wide x 6.01m high.



F. Retaining wall along west side of 600 Beatty Street (between Georgia and Dunsmuir Streets)

A substantial mural will be commissioned for the wall that measures 130m wide x 3m in high along the west side of 600 Beatty Street.



Selection Process

Projects will be evaluated by a selection panel of artists and curators with Indigenous cultural knowledge and art experience in a two-stage process using the following criteria:

- Phase One: Application Stage
 - Artistic merit, creativity, quality and clarity of approach
 - Context and connection to Canada 150+ Mural Program goals
 - Availability for timeline
 - Experience of the key artists/teams involved and quality of their work as demonstrated through past projects, training and experience
 - Opportunity for mentoring or community engagement, either with members of host First Nations, Urban Aboriginal community, or broader Vancouver community will be considered, but is not required

- Phase Two: Shortlist Development Stage
 - Artistic merit, creativity, quality of proposed artwork
 - Demonstrated feasibility in terms of proposed budget, timeline, implementation, safety, maintenance and site
 - Demonstrated understanding of the context of the site and neighbourhood and the potential impact of the proposed mural
 - Permission to use site, community partnerships and/or neighbourhood support where applicable

Shortlisted artists in phase two will be paid \$500 to \$1,500 to develop the artwork concept. Shortlisted artists will be responsible for confirming the site and all aspects of the production and delivery of the completed work. Artists experienced in mural making will be available for consultations with less experienced artists proposing projects. Safety training and certification for equipment may be supplied as needed.

Proposed Schedule

Description and Significance	Date
Artist Call	January 2017
Information workshop(s)	February 2017
Application Deadline	February 22, 2017
Artist shortlisted	March 2017
Technical workshop(s) for shortlisted artists	March 2017
Artist(s) Agreements	April 2017
Consultation & Safety Training or Certification (i.e. Fall Protection, Lift Certification), as needed.	April-May 2017
Public Notification & Permits	May 2017
Artwork production/installation	June-July 2017
Artwork launched	July 2017

How to Apply

Applicants should identify a preferred site and describe their approach for this competition. The panel may choose to recommend the work for another site.

Proposals will be evaluated based on the preliminary approach and past work. Shortlisted artists will be asked to develop a full concept plan for approval. Drawings are not required at the application stage.

Submission Requirements:

- Brief summary of approach to this opportunity (15-25 words)
- Artist statement outlining your practice, relevant experience, approach to the preferred site and working in public space, and what you are interested in for this opportunity (up to 250 words)
- Preferred site location
- Preliminary budget estimate
- Artist resume(s) (maximum 2 pages each)
- Submit up to seven (7) JPG or PDF images OR 5 images and 2 videos (15 seconds maximum each) of previous works. Images and videos should be titled with a number and the artist's name.

Images uploaded should be smaller than 2MB in size and Video segments should be in AVI, Quicktime (.mov), MPEG (.mpg, .mpeg, .mp4), Windows Media (.wmv) or Flash Video (.flv, .f4v) and less than 2MB in size.

An image list with numbered images or videos submitted. Include the artist name and any collaborators, title of work, date, materials, dimensions, location and include commissioning organization if applicable.

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About Canada 150+

Vancouver’s Council-appointed Urban Aboriginal Peoples Advisory Committee has branded our activities as “Canada 150+” in order to “acknowledge that there is Indigenous history in this land that predates colonization; and, that in addition to commemorating 150 years of the Canadian Confederation, Vancouver’s celebrations will also be about looking to the future, and all communities, Nations and peoples walking together as a stronger society than ever before”.

For more information visit vancouver.ca/canada150

About City of Vancouver Public Art Program

Vancouver’s Public Art Program plans, programs, commissions and maintains the City’s public artworks. As well, the program oversees the process for public art commissions for major rezoned development projects. The Public Art Program is celebrating its 25th anniversary and has produced over 300 pieces of public art throughout the City.

For more information visit vancouver.ca/publicart



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Canada 150+
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