



NWEOI-19-02

**REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST
FROM INDIGENOUS ARTISTS FOR PUBLIC ARTWORK
FOR THE FUTURE NEW WESTMINSTER AQUATICS & COMMUNITY
CENTRE**

Closing time:
Thursday, September 12, 2019
3:00 P.M., Local Time

Closing location:

Upload to: <https://fileshare.newwestcity.ca/filedrop/~sS3M7G>

All requests for further information must be made on or before **September 3, 2019** in writing and only to:

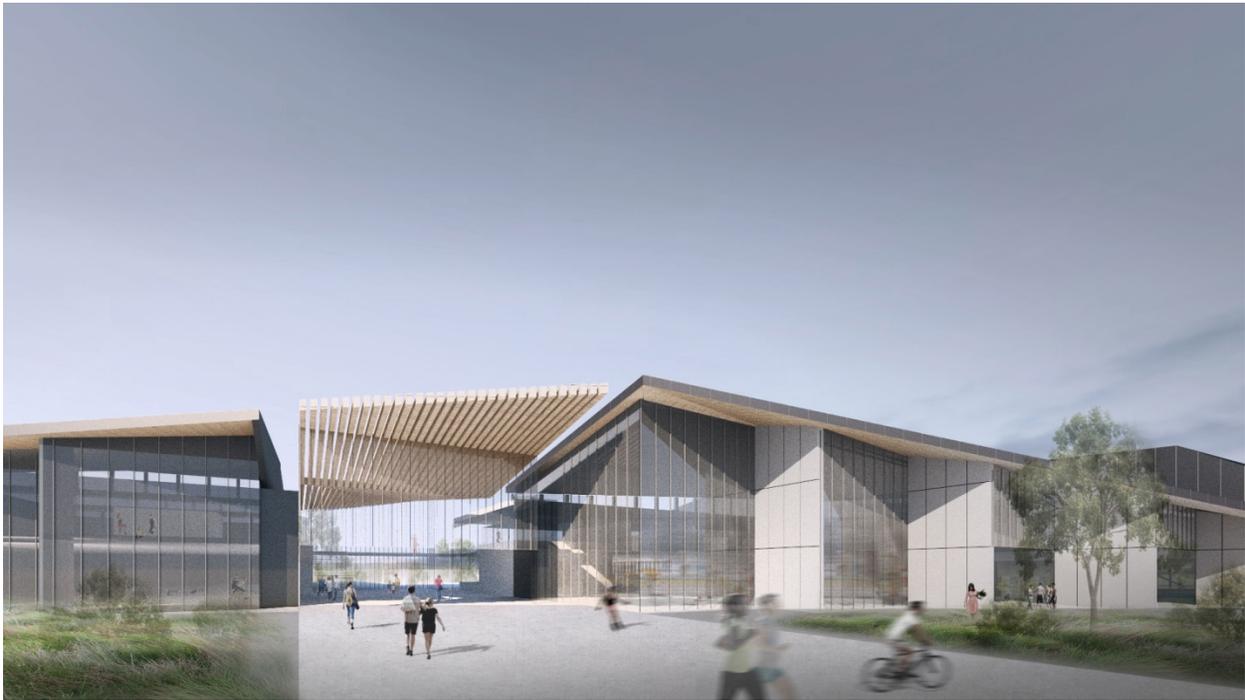
Purchasing:
Patrick Shannon, SCMP
Purchasing Manager
Email: nwpurchasing@newwestcity.ca

ARTIST NAME

Address

Telephone	Email
Signature	Dated

This call seeks to celebrate the creativity of Indigenous artists with a connection to the City of New Westminster.



OPPORTUNITY

The City of New Westminster is seeking to commission one or more professional artist(s) and/or artist team(s) to create a single or multiple permanent site-specific artwork(s) that will be meaningful for Indigenous and other cultures. The intent is for the artworks to be integrated with the public realm design of the building and/or landscape of the New Westminster Aquatics and Community Centre (NWACC).

TOTAL BUDGET FOR ALL ARTWORKS: \$500,000 (+GST) CAD (maximum, all-inclusive)

ELIGIBILITY

Professional artists or artist teams are encouraged to submit their qualifications and letters of interest in being considered for the commission. Having experience working with project teams or in creating public art will be considered an asset.

*A professional artist is defined by the Canada Council as someone who:

- *has specialized training in the artistic field (not necessarily in academic institutions)*
- *is recognized as a professional by his or her peers (artists working in the same artistic tradition)*
- *is committed to devoting more time to artistic activity, if possible financially*
- *has a history of public presentation or publication.*

<https://canadacouncil.ca/glossary/professional-artist>

City of New Westminster Council, staff, the City's Public Art Advisory Committee members, selection panel members, project personnel and immediate family members are **not eligible** to apply.

SELECTION PROCESS

Artist(s)/artist team(s) will be chosen using a two-stage selection process: an open call for expressions of interest; and, an invitation to short-listed artists to submit a public artwork(s) proposal.

HONORARIUM

An honorarium of \$3500 will ONLY be paid to each invited artist/artist team who submits a complete proposal and presents their proposal to the Selection Panel.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (PHASE I): 3:00 pm PST on Thursday, September 12, 2019

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF CONCEPT PROPOSAL (PHASE II): 3:00 pm PST on Thursday, January 23, 2020

INSTALLATION: The delivery of the public art project will be integrated with the design and construction of the New Westminster Aquatics and Community Centre. The new aquatic centre is scheduled to be operational early 2022.

INTRODUCTION

Located on unceded territories of the Halkomelem speaking Coast Salish people and home to an urban community reflecting Indigenous interests from across Canada, New Westminster is at the heart of what is today known as British Columbia's Lower Mainland.

New Westminster is currently one of the fastest growing municipalities in the region. It cherishes its diversity of cultures, compact size and quality of life. Community recreational facilities are a key component in facilitating and encouraging the coming together of New Westminster residents; they form the backdrop for activities that express and form cultural identity, and they bring people together to forge new relationships based on community, mutual respect, learning and wellness. The community as a whole values space that is safe, inclusive and welcoming to all community members, and looks to having its facilities and public realm both host and reflect the diversity of the City's unique population.

At this time, following the outcome of the *Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's Report* and *94 Calls to Action*, the City of New Westminster is embracing and prioritizing reconciliation with the local Urban Indigenous and Land-Based Indigenous communities, and the way forward is slowly taking shape. The City is also embarking on its largest and most ambitious civic building project to date. The goal for this project is for the public art work to be an Indigenous expression that will make the NWACC home for Indigenous People as well as enhance public awareness of Indigenous narratives.

New Westminster's Public Art Policy lays out the foundation for creating a critical and engaging Public Art Program. The Policy aims to create a dynamic visual expression in the urban landscape. The specific goals are to be diverse and inclusive, to animate New Westminster's public realm and draw attention to the city as a vital municipality which promotes arts, culture and tourism. The NWACC public art project will be the City's largest public art project and its first dedicated Indigenous public art commission.

A copy of New Westminster's Public Art Policy can be found at [www.newwestcity.ca/database/files/library/Public_Art_Policy_2012\(web\)\(1\).pdf](http://www.newwestcity.ca/database/files/library/Public_Art_Policy_2012(web)(1).pdf).

NWACC PROJECT OVERVIEW

The City of New Westminster is replacing the Canada Games Pool and Centennial Community Centre. The new Centre will be a connected aquatic and recreation facility that is vibrant, welcoming and reflects the community identity of New Westminster. The building components have been carefully reviewed in the interests of addressing the community needs for aquatic

and fitness programs, and barrier-free, culturally-relevant spaces that are safe and welcoming, as identified by the community engagement survey and through consultation with city staff.

Special consideration has also been given to ensure that the facility will accommodate current and projected capacity requirements for aquatic facilities and recreational usage trends; will be flexible so as to accommodate a variety of leisure, fitness and competitive uses; versatile to allow for a wide range of fitness and community program demands; and provide adequate spaces for social interaction and childcare.

The unique architectural form and location will help to establish the facility as a destination. Extensively glazed external and internal walls will provide visual connections between the street and the activities within the facility and encourage engagement and participation. Thoughtful siting responds to solar orientation and the natural landscape, creating distinct and varied outdoor public realm spaces that will be available for ceremonies and other cultural events.

The site for the aquatic centre, which was graded and filled in during the early 1900s, is situated on the former headwaters of what is today known as the Glenbrook Ravine. The NWACC project design includes a major public greenspace and rain garden that reflects the former ravine and reconnects it to the northwest side of the site through walking trails to the original headwaters near the Justice Institute. This major feature of the new facility acts as a rainwater management system as well as a significant public green space, and seeks to restore the land's natural form.

A detailed narrative of the NWACC project and its development can be found at <https://youractivenw.ca/>.

PUBLIC ART OPPORTUNITY

In response to information gathered as part of the public engagement for the new facility, the City of New Westminster has identified several sites that provide opportunities for site specific artworks, either stand-alone or integrated into the building and or landscape elements. The proposed locations are the:

- interior lobby space
- interior Leisure Pool precast paneling
- exterior plazas
- exterior arrival and procession areas
- Glenbrook Ravine Green Space

In addition to the locations listed above, other opportunities to integrate art into the project may be identified.

In their expression of interest, artists are asked to consider awareness of, and engagement with, the entire NWACC development site. Thematically, artists are asked to consider aspirational concepts reflecting the natural environment, interface between water and land, self-determination, storytelling, language and community gathering.

Drawings illustrating the overview of NWACC site context, orientation and facility design, and identifying opportunities for the integration of public art may be found in the Appendix.

A report on the Urban Indigenous Engagement on the Future New Westminster Aquatic and Community Centre can be found at <https://youractivenw.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/New-Westminster-Urban-Indigenous-Engagement-Final-Report-June2019.pdf>

PUBLIC ART BUDGET

The project budget includes all costs directly associated with the artwork(s) proposed and contracted by one artist and/or artist team. The total budget of \$500,000 includes all artist fees and overhead costs, professional engineering and other fees for design, review and letters of assurance, site preparation, fabrication, installation, insurance, contract administration, travel, shipping and all other incidental expenses. GST and PST are in addition. Artists and artist teams may choose to utilize the entire available project budget or a portion of it for their proposal.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

August 9, 2019	ARTIST CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST
September 12, 2019	Expressions of Interest Submission Deadline, 3pm PST
September 20, 2019	Selection Panel Meets (up to 5 artists will be short-listed)
October 8, 2019	Shortlisted artists contacted (beginning of Phase II)
November 1, 2019	Shortlisted Artists' Project Orientation (exact time to be determined)
Date TBD	Preliminary Technical Advisory Review
January 23, 2020	Concept Submission Deadline, 3pm PST
January 31, 2020	Artist Presentation and Selection Panel Interview, followed by Selection Panel deliberation
March 5, 2020	PAAC Meeting to review ranked proposals and make recommendation to Council
March 9, 2020	Council to approve commission (at regularly scheduled Council Meeting)
March 10-24	Technical and Integration review period for contract preparation

March 25, 2020	Contract(s) issued
April - June, 2020	Research/Conceptual Design and design integration with landscape and building design
June - September 2020	Detailed Design and Fabrication
September 2020 onwards	Project Construction and Fabrication & Installation Public Art
December 2021	PROJECT COMPLETION

TWO-PHASE COMPETITION

This project is open to professional artists and artist teams. A history of professional public art experience as well as experience working collaboratively with other professional disciplines will be considered. This call is for Phase I only; information for Phase II is provided for reference.

PHASE I – EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

The Artist Selection Panel will review all eligible Expressions of Interest submissions with the goal of short-listing of up to five (5) candidates for Phase II. The Expression of Interest submissions will be reviewed using the following criteria:

- Submissions should be indicative of past practice including:
 - Demonstrated ability to explore a variety of themes, site applications and technical compatibility
 - Demonstrated ability to ensure fabrication and delivery of the project within the scheduled timeframe
 - Narrative explaining potential for distinctive site specific response that is complementary to the overall design scheme and context
 - How the artist’s practice relates to the proposed narrative

SUBMISSION MATERIALS: Phase I – Expression of Interest

Artists are requested to respond to this EOI with a single .pdf document including:

- *Completed cover sheet with contact information (for artist teams, provide contact information for one main point of contact)*
- *One(1) page letter of interest*
Provide perspective on the artist’s practice and specific interest in this project. Please do not provide a concept at this time.
- *Current CV (3 page maximum for each team member)*
Provide name, address, phone number, email address and details of all experience related to public artwork and other relevant information.

- *Three References – Contact information only*
At least 2 from either public art commissioning agents, clients, or consultants
- *Up to ten (10) images of recent work*
Up to 10 digital images showing previous examples of public art created by the artist(s). Provide the following information to support the images: title, date completed, dimensions, medium, location and commission value.
- *Indicate ability to be insured per requirements of contract*

Drawings and or sketches should not be submitted in the first stage. Any early submission of drawings will not be considered by the Selection Panel.

SUBMISSION INFORMATION: Phase I – Expression of Interest

Please upload documents in one(1) PDF file named **“New West Aquatics and Community Centre Artist Call” followed by the Artist Name** to the City’s FTP site:

<https://fileshare.newwestcity.ca/filedrop/~sS3M7G>

e.g. **“New West Aquatics and Community Centre Artist Call – Jane Doe.pdf”**
“New West Aquatics and Community Centre Artist Call – Jane Doe Artwork.pdf”

RETURN OF SUBMISSIONS: Phase I – Expression of Interest

Submissions will not be returned.

Phase II – Concept Proposal & Presentation (short-listed artists only)

A single artwork or multiple linked or separate artworks may be proposed. The artwork(s) may be designed and fabricated by the artist/artist team, or, designed by the artist/artist team and integrated into building/landscape features, fixtures and furniture by the Design Team and delivered by the contractor with oversight by the artist/artist team.

As the facility will be used at all hours, it is expected that the artists will, in considering their approach, take into account day and night use of the facility, visibility of the artwork(s), materiality and potential of seasonal change.

Once identified, the short-listed artists will be invited to prepare a concept proposal, including a preliminary budget and proposed timeline, for presentation to the Selection Panel. Shortlisted artists will also be interviewed by the selection panel during their presentation, giving the opportunity for dialogue and discussion.

ARTWORK TECHNICAL DESIGN PARAMETERS

The detailed design of the public artwork will be required to:

- Provide NO opportunity for access to restricted areas (i.e. do not build in such a manner as to allow climbing to areas not normally accessible to the public).
- Pose NO risk of injury to the public (example: sharp points, slip hazards, etc.).
- Meet applicable British Columbia Building and Fire Code standards.
- Be vandal resistant.
- Not interfere with the operation and serviceability of the building.
- Be accessible for maintenance.

The intent of technical reviews are to assist the artist in meeting these parameters and to ensure that long term maintenance costs are considered as part of the conceptual and well as detail design phases.

At the start of the proposal/concept phase shortlisted artists are required to attend a meeting to be informed about the project, site and RFP process. The design team will outline design intent and constraints for the new aquatics centre. This meeting will be held on November 1, 2019 and will include a site visit.

Artists may attend an interim technical advisory meeting where short-listed artists will have the opportunity to review their proposals with staff and the design team and receive feedback on technical feasibility and integration considerations. Date and time are to be determined.

Artists will submit their proposed concept and proposal submission one week prior to meeting with and presenting to the Selection Panel. The presentations will be reviewed in conjunction with interview outcomes and decisions will be made based on creativity and fit, project viability and creative criteria as outlined in this Call. The Selection Panel will rank the submissions and may suggest that one or more proposals be commissioned. The Public Art Advisory Committee will review the Panel's recommendations and will recommend the award of the commission to Council. The PAAC may recommend to Council that one or more proposals are commissioned to make full use of the Public Art budget. If no submission warrants consideration, the Council reserves the right not to award the commission.

As part of contract negotiations the City, the winning Artist(s) and/or Artist Team(s) and the NWACC design and construction team will determine integration requirements and the best assignment of responsibilities and set out any issues to be resolved as part of the final concept development phase.

SUBMISSION MATERIALS: Phase II – Concept Proposal & Presentation (short-listed artists only)

Artists will be required to submit a single .pdf document including:

- *One (1) – 11”x 17” page concept statement*
Provide a written description of the artist’s concept for the proposed work
- *Sufficient graphic and photographic documentation as determined by the artist or artist team, including but not limited to drawings, sketches, technical drawings, colour palette, photographs of sketch models, materials and similar details to indicate the approximate size proposed location, and materiality of the proposed work(s). (Twenty (20) – 11 x 17” page maximum)*
- *Site plan indicating proposed location(s) (1 page)*
- *Preliminary Maintenance Considerations (1 page)*
- *Draft Schedule (1 page)*
Include timelines for design, fabrication, and installation with milestones
- *Budget (1 page)*
Comprehensive budget including all costs
- *List of proposed sub-consultants, team members (1 page)*

Artists will also be required to present their concept to the Selection Panel in person, and participate in an interview. The single .pdf document (submitted one week prior to interview) will be displayed on a large-screen monitor during the interview. The artist may choose to provide additional material for the presentation, including but not limited to:

- *Study models*
- *Three-dimensional mock-ups*
- *Material samples*

SUBMISSION INFORMATION: Phase II – Concept Proposal & Presentation (short-listed artists only)

Please upload documents in one(1) PDF file named **“New West Aquatics and Community Centre Concept Proposal”** followed by the **Artist Name** to the City’s FTP site:

<https://fileshare.newwestcity.ca/filedrop/~sS3M7G>

e.g. **“New West Aquatics and Community Centre Concept Proposal – Jane Doe.pdf”**

“New West Aquatics and Community Centre Concept Proposal – Jane Doe Artwork.pdf”

RETURN OF SUBMISSIONS: Phase II – Concept Proposal & Presentation (short-listed artists only)

Original maquettes and artwork brought to the interview may be kept for the Panel’s deliberation, but will be returned following the completion of the Panel’s review.

HONORARIUM: Phase II – Concept Proposal & Presentation (short-listed artists only)

Artists will receive an honorarium in the amount of \$3500 for attending the project meeting and presenting their concept proposal to the Selection Panel. Up to \$1500 in travel costs for both the site visit and presentation will be reimbursed on submission of receipts and invoice. City of New Westminster policy on mileage and per diem costs will apply and a form is provided in the Appendix.

SELECTION PANEL

The Artist Selection Panel for this two-stage process will be comprised of 3 members; at least 2 will identify as being Indigenous:

- 1 representative the New Westminster Public Art Advisory Committee,
- 1 representative who is a practicing arts professional with knowledge of, and, interest in contemporary Coast Salish arts and culture
- 1 member of the Urban Indigenous Advisory Panel

The following non-voting members may provide technical advice to the Selection Panel and may attend the presentation and interview meetings:

- 1 representative from the design team,
- Construction Manager, as engaged by the City
- Project Manager, as engaged by the City
- Engineering Operations Maintenance Team
- Parks and Recreation Management staff

SELECTION CRITERIA: Phase I – Expression of Interest

Artists and/or artist teams will be shortlisted using the following criteria:

1. Quality and strength of past work and ability to create and contribute a strong conceptual framework for artistic expression complementary of the building design and/or landscaping.

2. Strong verbal, visual, written communication skills, good people and planning skills are required. The artist is expected to participate in collaborative design development, and assist in the translation of final recommendations into construction documents.
3. Outline of point of entry and interest in the project as set out in the letter of interest.
4. Accessibility and availability to be able to attend in-person meetings to engage City Staff and design team consultants in New Westminster. It is imperative that the commissioned artist(s) artist team(s) will be available to begin work in October 2019 and meet the project schedule.

SELECTION CRITERIA: Phase II – Concept Proposal & Presentation (short-listed artists only)

Artist or artist team proposals will be ranked using the following criteria:

1. Response to site and opportunity.
2. Creativity and materiality.
3. Extent to which the proposal enhances or compliments the design of the building, landscape and public areas.
4. Viability of project.
5. Maintenance and operating considerations.
6. Budget.
7. Schedule.

ADVISORY AND TECHNICAL REVIEWS: Phase II – Concept Proposal & Presentation (short-listed artists only)

The City will offer the option of an advisory and technical review to each short-listed artist and artist team. The intent of this review is to provide information and guidance in regards to technical, maintenance, and project integration considerations.

CONTRACT:

Council will approve the commissioning of the artwork(s). The selected artist(s) will enter into a single or phased contract with the City of New Westminster. A sample is provided in the Appendix.

RIGHTS

The artist will transfer title of the artwork to the City upon completion and installation.

COPYRIGHTS

The artist must guarantee that the artwork is original and does not violate the copyright of any other person.

Successful artist(s)/Artist teams(s) must be prepared to grant and license to the City of New Westminster the exclusive right to exhibit the artwork in perpetuity and the non-exclusive right to photograph or video tape the artwork for promotion or distribution, without further compensation. The artist retains copyright as the creator of the artwork.

MORAL RIGHTS

The City of New Westminster will not alter the artwork without prior consultation with the artist. The City of New Westminster reserves the right to move or de-accession the artwork if necessary and will make every effort to notify the artist.

INSURANCE

The artist/artist team will, if contracted, be required to carry insurance. Requirements are noted in the sample contract.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For more information, please contact:

Patrick Shannon, SCMP

Purchasing Manager

nwpurchasing@newwestcity.ca

APPENDIX 1

1. New Westminster Aquatics and Community Centre site context, orientation, facility design and opportunities for the integration of public art.
2. Sample Artist Agreement (contract)
3. Travel Expense Form Template