



Expression of Interest

For

Public Art Competition

Request for Supplier Qualifications No.: **EOI22-75**

Issued:

Submission Deadline: **Friday, May 19th, 2023 [2:00 PM] local time**

Public Art Competition – April 17th to May 19th, 2023

The Corporation of the City of Cambridge Council has directed its Arts and Culture Advisory Committee (via the Public Art Committee) to oversee the acquisition of art.

Public Art Mission and Definition of Public Art

The City of Cambridge believes that public art makes a significant positive contribution to the urban landscape, and quality of life. A healthy and creative city will support art and culture and benefit from the enhancements and contribution to the city's identity that public art provides. Cambridge also believes that public art should be accessible to all.

In this competition the City will take an open and forward-looking approach to Public Art. Proposals are invited for a work, works or program of work that celebrates the one or more of the creative spirit, tradition of invention and industry, natural beauty and cultural heritage of the City of Cambridge. There is one fact that links the several communities that make up Cambridge – the rivers. The project should acknowledge the rivers in its location, theme, imagery, form or material shown in Appendix A- Map of City Property. The art that will be selected for installation in public space must meet the following criteria:

- be original, and display a high quality of design and technical skill in execution
- be visible, accessible and engaging to the public
- take into account the exterior site regarding exposure to weather, durability, permanence, maintenance, safety and vandal proofing
- may involve aesthetic, historic or commemorative objects
- may include sculptures, carvings, metal works, special architectural, digital technologies or landscape features

Public art in this case does not include plaques, or museum or archival collections, which may from time to time be displayed in adjacent public places.

Commission Process

The Arts and Culture Advisory Committee (via the Public Art Committee) is responsible to Council for overseeing the entire process of commissioning the work, including the terms of reference; the distribution of information and requirements; and acting as a liaison with city staff and the selection jury. The jury is under no obligation to select any of the submissions, and all decisions are subject to City Council approval, up to and including commissioning and installing the work.

The jury will be composed of six (6) members: three well established, nationally recognized experts, an indigenous artist and two local representatives. Current Jurors include Peter Flannery, MA, Curator at the Canadian Clay & Glass Gallery, Judy Major-Girardin, Professor Emeritus, School of the Arts, McMaster University, and Gary Michael Dault - Artist & Writer. The remaining jurors to be confirmed at a later date.

The jurors are knowledgeable, highly qualified, and widely respected within their fields.

Budget

The allowance available to the artist will be up to a maximum of \$250,000, inclusive of all expenses. The allowance for the artwork must include any expenses incurred by the artist to produce and install the artwork, such as, but not limited to:

- I. artist and/or artist team fee
- II. all consulting fees, including structural engineering costs if required
- III. design
- IV. materials
- V. fabrication
- VI. GST
- VII. legal costs, if required
- VIII. insurance* (liability/damage insurance; standard practice)
- IX. special features, if any (e.g. lighting)
- X. installation costs, including travel and delivery
- XI. clean up costs

*The artist must carry the appropriate insurance from the signing of the contract until completion when the artwork is signed over to The City of Cambridge. The City of Cambridge requires \$2 million liability/damage insurance.

Artist Eligibility

The public art competition is national in scope and open to:

- I. professional visual artists, architects, landscape architects or teams
- II. Canadian citizens or permanent residents
- III. 18 years and over

Selection Criteria

- I. the ability to work collaboratively with others, including City of Cambridge staff;
- II. an understanding of the community;
- III. a proven track record in public art commissions;
- IV. originality, imagination, and artistic merit;
- V. experience working with the materials being proposed;
- VI. appropriateness of the concept and design to the site;
- VII. appropriateness of the materials specific to the outdoor, public environment;
- VIII. feasibility in implementation;
- IX. the ability to adhere to the overall schedule;
- X. the ability to install in the timeframe requested; and
- XI. compliance with the competition requirements

Selection Process

A two-stage process will be conducted as follows:

1. Stage One:

An open call to submit an expression of interest and a statement indicating the general outlines of a proposal, including a suggested site. This site must be on City owned property.

2. Stage Two:

The jury will select a short list of artists from the Stage One submissions to a maximum of 5 proposals. The short-listed artists will be invited to discuss and obtain approval for the siting of the piece or pieces. Once the siting is approved the short-listed artists will be invited to develop their proposals.

The short-listed artists will be paid an honorarium towards producing their proposals. The short-listed artists' proposals will be put on public display.

The jury will consider the proposals and may request optional presentations and/or interviews with some or all of the candidates. The jury will make the final selection and recommendation to the Arts and Culture Advisory Committee (or Public Art Committee).

The Committee will present the recommendation to City Council. Subject to City Council's approval, the art will be commissioned and installed.

Second Stage Selection Process – Stage Two

All Stage Two artists and/or artist teams will be paid an honorarium of \$2,000 per submission, plus travel expenses if warranted. All travel expenses must be pre-approved and original receipts must be submitted. Artists and/or artist teams invited to submit proposals for Stage Two may be invited to present their proposal in person. The presentation to the jury should be a maximum of 30 minutes followed by a question-and-answer period.

All Stage Two submissions will include the following:

- I. a detailed budget outline including all items identified under "Budget" above
- II. detailed installation documents
- III. presentation maquette, model or appropriate representation
- IV. confirmation of all materials to be used, outlining their characteristics suitable to site conditions
- V. a suggested critical path outlining timeframes from conceptual design to installation
- VI. professional references, including the names and contact information of three individuals and/or organizations with whom you have worked or who have commissioned your work in the past.

MATERIAL DISCLOSURES

The successful artist must sign a contract with the Corporation of the City of Cambridge. The contract will include a schedule of payment for fabrication and installation. The artist will be expected to produce regular progress reports to the City of Cambridge.

The final work and requisite documentation will become the property of the City of Cambridge. At project completion, the artist will provide the Corporation of the City of Cambridge with a detailed art documentation report.

All personal information provided to, or created by, the artist and/or artist team will remain in confidence, as will the selection jury's deliberations. The Advisory Committee and/or The Corporation of the City of Cambridge will announce information about the successful shortlisted artists and/or artist teams and their designs as necessary.

Submission Requirements

Each respondent should provide the following in its response:

- I. A typed letter of interest outlining qualifications, past work, and qualities relevant to this project. Describe the general design concept and rationale for an artwork installation of this type;
- II. Provide a curriculum vitae (c.v.), including public art commissions (maximum of 2 pages including reviews/articles). If this is a team application, please include a c.v. for each team member;
- III. Submit a proposed design and/or program of work. This is not the final detailed submission, but a clear indication of the concept. The proposal must include a brief written narrative and simple images. You must include a proposal for the location(s), which may be specific or generic at this stage depending on the nature of the proposal;
- IV. Provide one set of 15-20 JPEG images of past work. Images must be clearly titled and numbered;
- V. Provide an annotated image list, including brief description of project, date and location; and
- VI. annotated list of images

Responses must be submitted through the City's online Bonfire portal at:

<https://cambridge.bonfirehub.ca/opportunities/64488>

Deadline to apply is Friday, May 19th, 2023 [2:00 PM] local time

It is important that all interested parties download their own copy of the Expression of Interest documentation from <https://cambridge.bonfirehub.ca/opportunities/64488> in order to ensure receipt of further information pertaining to the EOI. The City is not responsible for the distribution of information to those who obtain the EOI documentation through a third party.

Any submission response that fails to provide the requested documentation or that does not, in the view of The City, contain sufficient information to permit a thorough evaluation may be rejected and not considered for evaluation.