

PERMANENT PUBLIC ART OPPORTUNITY FOR FIRST NATION MI'KMAQ ARTISTS

Project Location: Downtown Summerside, Prince Edward Island (Waterfront or Water Street)

Budget: \$20,000.00 (includes HST) for the completion of the project, which will cover materials, artist fee, installation, and labour costs.

Application Deadline: February 28, 2025

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The City of Summerside, in partnership with Lennox Island First Nation and Downtown Summerside, is seeking to commission a permanent public art piece from an artist of Mi'kmaq heritage. The chosen piece will be prominently featured in the Summerside's downtown district, ensuring strong visibility, community engagement, and lasting impact.

The selected artist will work with the project partners to determine the specific location of the work within the downtown area (Waterfront or Water Street). The artwork can be made with any medium suitable for a permanent public art installation, however if your proposed project is a mural, please provide a proposed location.

Themes that could be explored include:

- Acknowledging and honouring the Mi'kmaq relationship to the land and traditional knowledge.
- Acknowledging the resilience, strength, and contributions of the Mi'kmaq people, past and present.
- Exploring themes of healing, understanding, and moving forward in a spirit of respect and mutual recognition.

ELIGIBILITY

This call is open exclusively to First Nations artists of Mi'kmaq heritage. Emerging artists, mid-career artists, established artists, and professional artists are encouraged to apply. Submissions are welcomed from local, national or international applicants.

PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

- The artwork must be permanent in nature, meaning it must be designed and constructed to endure exposure to outdoor elements, including coastal weather conditions such as saltwater, wind, rain, and temperature fluctuations. It should be structurally sound and able to withstand environmental stress.
- Consideration should be given to the surrounding environment and landscape, maintaining sensitivity to the local ecology, including the coastal environment.
- The work should not present any safety hazards to the public or wildlife and must be safe for public interaction.
- The artwork design should take long-term maintenance into account, including cleaning and repairs over its lifespan.
- The final artwork must be installed by the agreed-upon deadline, allowing for ample time for any necessary adjustments or testing.
- The artwork must be completed within the designated budget of \$20,000.00 including all design, materials, installation, and labour costs.

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Please submit the following materials:

- Completed Public Art Application Call for Artists form (form can be found online at www.culturesummerside.com or picked up at the Lefurgey Cultural Centre at 205 Prince Street, Summerside).
- A written project proposal that includes a description of the artwork, its concept and its relevance to the project call.
- Visual documentation (sketches, renderings, or photos) that clearly illustrates the proposed artwork and its scale.
- A project timeline.
- Material list and budget outline.
- Artist resume/CV and any relevant work samples of previous art/public art projects.

IMPORTANT DATES

- **Proposal Deadline:** February 28, 2025
- **Notification of Selection:** March 11, 2025
- **Installation Period:** October, 2025

SELECTION CRITERIA

Proposals will be evaluated based on the following:

- Artistic merit
- Relevance to the project call
- Feasibility of installation and maintenance
- Engagement with the community
- Durability and safety of materials
- The potential impact on the public space

SELECTION PROCESS

Applications are received by the City of Summerside, Culture Summerside Department for consideration by a public art selection panel. Once your application has been evaluated, you will be contacted and informed of the next steps. The selection panel may request additional information from any of the applicants to inform their decision. The panel also reserves the right to make no recommendation or selection from the submitted applications.

SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION

You can submit your application either by mail, in-person or by email at the following:

Attn: Culture Summerside

Summerside City Hall

275 Fitzroy Street, Summerside, PE

C1N 1H9

Email: publicart@summerside.ca

Phone: 902-432-1327

ABOUT THE CITY OF SUMMERSIDE, PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Summerside, Prince Edward Island, is a city located just twenty minutes from the Confederation Bridge. It's central to sandy beaches, lighthouses and rural landscapes. Arts, culture and heritage play a vital role in making Summerside a center of creativity and culture in many forms creating a remarkable place to live, work and visit. The cultural community presents and defines the soul of the city, alongside its capacity for cultural tourism, built heritage, educational experiences, economic vitality, quality of life and celebration of diversity.

Epekwitk (PEI) is situated in Mi'kma'ki, the unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq People, who have occupied the Island for over 12,000 years. We honour the Treaties of Peace and Friendship and recognize that we are all Treaty People.