

CITY OF SUMMERSIDE
PUBLIC ART - CALL TO ARTISTS
150TH ANNIVERSARY OF SUMMERSIDE HARNESS RACING



PUBLIC ART OPPORTUNITY

Project Location: Credit Union Place, 511 Notre Dame Street, Summerside, Prince Edward Island

Budget: \$17,000 plus tax for the completion of the project, which will cover materials, artist fee for painting the mural, engaging community and demonstrating to the public how murals are made and installation costs.

Application Deadline: March 20, 2026

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The City of Summerside is excited to announce a call to artists for proposals for a mural to enhance the exterior of Credit Union Place, 511 Notre Dame Street, Summerside, PEI.

2026 is the 150th anniversary of the Summerside Raceway that began as the Summerside Driving Park in 1876 in Travellers Rest. Mural proposals should correlate with a harness racing theme, and the 150 years of Summerside harness racing history and culture that is being celebrated.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

This public art project is an opportunity to demonstrate to the general public how murals are made and engage members of the community to assist in some planned element of the mural project.

The successful proposal must be executed by an artist (or artists) that are comfortable demonstrating and discussing their mural work in public. The successful artist (or artists) will need to be available to interact with the public on the development of this project on July 15th thru to and including July 18th. Other community engagement opportunities will be organized, if and as needed during the development of the piece.

ELIGIBILITY

Murals must feature outstanding design and craftsmanship, employing high-quality materials that enhance the site's visual appeal. Acceptable materials may include paint or other artistic mediums suitable for outdoor settings. These mediums must be durable enough to endure typical wear and tear, as well as harsh outdoor conditions. The mural should be designed and executed by an experienced artist knowledgeable in handling such projects.

Proposals are encouraged from a diverse range of artists and submissions are welcomed from local, national, or international applicants.

PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

- The piece must be suitable for an outdoor setting and resilient to weather conditions typical of Prince Edward Island.
- The project should engage with the theme of harness racing (please refer to the theme section for further information).
- The artwork must be safe for public interaction.
- Artists are responsible for the installation.
- Proposal budgets must include the costs of primer and prep of the surface to be painted. The City of Summerside will make sure the site is clean and ready for the project, this includes pressure washing brick areas when required.

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Please submit the following materials:

- Completed Public Art Application Call to 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 brief project proposal that includes a description of the artwork, its concept, and its engagement with the chosen theme.
- Visual documentation (sketches, renderings, or photos) that clearly illustrates the proposed artwork and its scale.
- A detailed project timeline, including installation.
- A materials list and detailed budget. Budget must include travel fees if applicable.
- Artist resume/CV and any relevant work samples of previous art/ public art projects.

IMPORTANT DATES AND INFORMATION

Proposal Deadline: March 20th 2026

Installation Date: May – September 2026

Display Date: Expected 5 to 10 years

SELECTION CRITERIA

Proposals will be evaluated based on the following:

- Artistic vision and creativity
- Relevance to the chosen theme
- Feasibility of installation and maintenance
- Artistic excellence and merit
- 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 proposal has been evaluated, you will be contacted and informed of 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.

The selection panel will favour in the following order: Artistic merit, the proposals alignment with theme, artists based in PEI, then Canada and then internationally based artists.

SITE INFORMATION

Mural Location: Credit Union Place, 511 Notre Dame Street, Summerside.

Surface: Brick

Dimensions: 59 feet long, 27 feet high



SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION

Attn: Culture Summerside
Summerside City Hall
275 Fitzroy Street, Summerside, PE, C1N 1H9

Email: publicart@summerside.ca

Phone: 902-432-1298

ABOUT THE CITY OF SUMMERSIDE

Summerside, Prince Edward Island, is a city located just twenty minutes from the Confederation Bridge. It is 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.