



# Call to artists Request for Qualifications

## International Avenue Public Art Project - Site B

Budget: \$45,500.00 CAD (maximum, all inclusive)  
Deadline for Submissions: 4:30 pm MST on Friday, August 9, 2019  
Installation: Q2 2020

The City of Calgary Public Art Program seeks an artist or artist team with public art experience to create a permanent artwork on International Avenue (17 Avenue SE), between 26 Street SE and Elliston Park.

We are seeking artists who have significant experience with, and relationship to this location in Calgary.



If you have questions about this opportunity, please email [publicart@calgary.ca](mailto:publicart@calgary.ca) with the subject line: International Avenue RFQ. Thank you for your interest in this project.



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### The project

#### Vision

The permanent public artwork will enhance the site by creating an environment that is welcoming, aesthetically interesting and engaging for pedestrians, transit riders and motorists. Consideration must be given to the public nature and regular daily use of this location. The artwork should reflect the community and incorporate feedback collected from residents and businesses through engagement. The work should also demonstrate a thorough understanding of the unique makeup and attributes of this area of the city.

#### Collaboration & public input

The artist or artist team will be expected to work alongside the International Avenue Business Revitalization Zone (BRZ), the capital project team, the neighbouring communities and other selected artists working on related projects in the area to ensure the artwork is reflective of the communities and the people who live, work and travel here.

The artist or artist team will be required to attend and participate in a series of engagements with the local community beginning in September 2019, including pop-up events, in-person engagement sessions and community discussions, prior to the concept(s) being developed.

Artists interested in this project will be keen on working with local businesses and residents from different backgrounds and ages, and will draw inspiration from the diverse cultures found in the area.

#### Sites

Two sites (Site A and Site B) will be selected for artwork along International Avenue (17 Avenue SE). The specific locations are not yet known and will be determined through consultation with the community and BRZ during summer 2019, prior to the artists or artist teams being selected. A site will be assigned to each successful artist or artist team through the Public





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Art Selection Panel process. Artists can apply to work on each site, however the same artist(s) will not be hired to work on more than one site.

### Artwork parameters

The artwork must adhere to the following design parameters:

- Safety:
  - Artwork must not pose a risk of injury to the public, e.g. sharp points, slip hazards, etc.
  - Artwork must not create opportunities for accessing areas restricted to the public.
  - Artwork must meet any applicable regulatory requirement or standards, e.g. Alberta Building Code.
  - Artwork must meet fire codes with respect to flammability, as applicable.
  - Artwork must not interfere with the operation and serviceability of the location/nearby buildings.
  - Artwork must not interfere with any accessibility requirements of the road right-of-way.
- Durability:
  - Artwork must be constructed of durable, permanent materials, and designed to last a minimum of 10 years.
  - Artwork must be low maintenance and sustainable.
  - Artwork must be vandal resistant.
  - Artwork must be designed to be accessible for maintenance.
  - The artwork must be able to withstand sunlight exposure, drastic variations in temperature (-40 to +40 degrees Celsius), physical environment risk and countless audience interactions.
- Original work:
  - The artist must guarantee that the artwork is original and does not violate the copyright of any other person.

### Budget

The all-inclusive, maximum budget for this site is \$45,500.00 CDN, including GST.

The not-to-exceed total must cover all costs associated with the design, fabrication, shipping, site preparation, and installation of the artwork, including, but not limited to artist fees, materials, insurance, engineering fees, travel, public engagement, consultation, etc. Artists are responsible for managing their own budgets. Typically, artists spend



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approximately 75-80% of the budget on materials, fabrication and installation, and 10% on contingency. Additional budget for travel, accommodation, food, etc. will not be provided.

## How to apply

The intention of this Request for Qualifications (RFQ) is to select an artist or artist team based on qualifications, experience and references. DO NOT submit a project proposal / design concepts and prices at this time.

### Artists or artists teams applying for this opportunity must submit the following information:

1. **Letter of interest** (Max 1 page)
  - Knowledge of the area and why this opportunity appeals to you
  - Describe what your practice will contribute in the context of International Avenue and the surrounding communities
  - Tell us about your experiences on International Avenue and/or the surrounding neighbourhoods
2. **Curriculum Vitae** (Max 2 pages)
  - Include past work experience as it relates to creating art in the public realm.
3. **References**
  - Provide a minimum of two professional references and include their name, address, e-mail and telephone.
4. **Images**
  - Up to 10 images of past work including brief description of the commission, title and date of the work, list project partners where applicable.
  - Images must be presented in a PDF slide show and be compatible with a PC.
5. **Submission Form**
  - Complete the submission form attached to this document.

### To submit:

- Email [publicart@calgary.ca](mailto:publicart@calgary.ca) and attach all above required documents. Please use the following subject line: International Avenue RFQ – Site B. **The submission package must be less than 10 MB in total.** Incomplete submissions will be deemed ineligible and will be disqualified.



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## Artist scoring & selection process

**Step 1 - Shortlisting:** All eligible submissions are reviewed by a selection panel consisting of 3 arts professionals, 3 community members and 1 City business unit representative. The selection panel will shortlist artists or artist teams based on how their submissions meet the following evaluation criteria (rated out of a possible total 100 points):

A. Letter of interest:

- Interest in working within different cultural contexts – **30 points**
- Knowledge of the local community, including past experiences living, working or visiting the area – **20 points**
- Interest and ability to collaborate with other artists working in the project area, including past examples of collaborating with artists on projects, working in a collective or as part of a team – **20 points**

B. Curriculum Vitae / Images:

- Demonstrated, relevant experience in completing public art projects with equivalent budgets – **10 points**
- Demonstrated artistic excellence in contemporary art practice – **20 points**

**Step 2 – Finalist interviews:** Shortlisted artists or artist teams will be invited to (and must have the ability to attend) an in-person interview with the selection panel. Finalist(s) will be selected based on the following evaluation criteria:

A. Interview:

- Demonstrated flexibility of practice; responsiveness to contextual opportunities and community engagement – **25 points**
- Demonstrated understanding of the project and its context in the community – **25 points**

B. References:

- Demonstrated ability to collaborate with project teams - **10 points**
- Demonstrated ability to deliver a project on time and on budget - **10 points**

C. Curriculum Vitae / Images:

- Quality and relevance of overall past work – **30 points**

*The selection panel has the right to not award any of the submissions, and The City reserves the right to cancel/ reissue this opportunity at any time.*



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## Timeline

<b>Artist submissions due:</b>	4:30 pm MST on Friday August 9, 2019. Late submissions will be deemed ineligible and will be disqualified.
<b>Artist short list finalized:</b>	August 15, 2019
<b>Artist interviews:</b>	Week of August 19, 2019
<b>Final artist and site selection:</b>	Week of August 26, 2019
<b>Concept development:</b>	September-October 2019 (*see below)
<b>Concept submission:</b>	October 31, 2019
<b>Concept review:</b>	November 1-12, 2019
<b>Fabrication &amp; installation:</b>	November 13 – Q2 2020

*Anticipated schedule. Dates are subject to change.*

**\*Concept development:** Once an artist or artist team is selected, they will be provided with an additional set of criteria for the concept development phase of the project. The artist or artist team will have the opportunity to engage with the community and do research of the assigned site to help inform and guide their art concepts. The artist or artist team will have 6-8 weeks to develop and submit their concept to the Selection Panel for review.



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## The location

International Avenue is a vibrant business district with a diverse ethnic composition located on 17 Avenue S.E. Over 425 businesses operate within this area, including restaurants and grocery stores featuring cuisine from around the world, and a wide range of other goods and services. International Avenue has become known as a cultural and culinary hub in Calgary, boasting some of the most authentic and charming ethnic restaurants in the city and a lively and continually growing arts and entertainment scene.

The neighbourhoods surrounding International Avenue are equally diverse and interesting, with over a quarter of the residents coming from immigrant backgrounds. Languages commonly spoken in the area include Vietnamese, Tagalog, Arabic, Spanish, Cantonese, and English. In 2018, The City of Calgary opened the MAX Purple transit route which connects International Avenue and the surrounding communities with East Hills, Inglewood and Downtown. This rapid transit service is part of ongoing efforts to improve connectivity and livability in this area of the city.

## The Public Art Program

The City of Calgary's Public Art Program is committed to great public art that impacts Calgary's urban landscape, and transforms the way Calgarians see, think and experience the city around them. Established in January 2004, the Public Art Program ensures the allocation of 1% of all capital Upgrade and Growth projects over \$1 Million to public art. The scope of public art opportunities, as outlined in the Public Art Policy, includes discrete, semi-integrated, integrated and temporary works, and allows for artists on design teams, community-based public art, and special projects such as artist residencies. For more information about the program, visit [www.calgary.ca/publicart](http://www.calgary.ca/publicart).





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## Contract requirements

### Artist Master Agreement

The selected artists and artist teams will be required to sign an Artist Master Agreement with The City of Calgary prior to confirmation of award.

The Artist Master Agreement is a blanket agreement, renewable for up to five (5) years, and is not contract specific. To view the referenced document at The City's website, ([www.calgary.ca/bids](http://www.calgary.ca/bids)), click on "Supply Management Terms and Conditions" and download "Artist's Master Agreement." Artists should review prior to submitting for this opportunity.

### Insurance

Upon selection, the successful applicant artists and artist Teams will be required to provide proof of appropriate insurance (in this case, \$2M) prior to confirmation of award.





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## Submission Form

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Name

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Address/City/Province/Postal Code

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Phone/email/website (if applicable)

**How did you hear about this call?**

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SUBMISSION CHECKLIST:

Letter of interest    Curriculum Vitae    References    Images    Submission form