



Call to Artists for City's First Artist in Residence

Date: Wednesday, August 31, 2016

For Immediate Release

VICTORIA, BC – Professional visual and/or media artists are invited to apply to be the City of Victoria's first Artist in Residence. The new *Artist in Residence* program aims to 'keep art in mind', providing the opportunity for a local artist to work collaboratively with City staff to identify and develop a creative artwork for one or more capital projects over a one-year term. The Request for Expressions of Interest is open to artists and artist teams who are residents of the Capital Region which includes the Gulf Islands.

By working closely with a range of City staff and engaging the community, the selected artist will research and identify opportunities to create public art that will enhance an upcoming capital project. A capital project involves the construction, expansion, renovation, or replacement of City infrastructure. Some possible projects could include a City park/playground or street and sidewalk upgrade, or opportunities to enhance public spaces in Victoria neighbourhoods.

The *Artist in Residence* program embeds an artist in the City's planning process, providing a unique creative and collaborative approach to enhance the value and aesthetic appeal of upcoming capital projects in Victoria, while broadening the community's involvement in the arts.

The Artist in Residence will work as an independent contractor from October 2016 to October 2017. During the residency, the artist will produce a creative proposal and engagement strategy to develop and complete a minimum of one permanent artwork to augment a capital project in Victoria.

The successful candidate will work 20 hours per week during the one-year term for a fee of \$42,000. The program is funded by the City's Art in Public Places Reserve Fund. Artwork materials, fabrication and installation may be funded by a capital project's budget, with up to \$30,000 from the Art in Public Places Reserve Fund.

Interested candidates are invited to learn more and ask questions at an information session on Tuesday, September 6, 2016 from 5:30 p.m. – 7 p.m. at Victoria City Hall.

Expressions of Interest and accompanying documents are to be uploaded electronically by registering for a free account at <https://victoria.bonfirehub.ca>. The deadline for submissions is Monday, September 26, 2016 at 4 p.m. Pacific Time. For more information, visit: www.victoria.ca/publicart

A selection panel will review submissions and recommend a shortlist of artists for interviews. The selected artist will be contacted in late October.

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For More Information:

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