



CALL FOR LOCAL INDIGENOUS ARTIST

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Submission Deadline: Thursday, March 25, 2021

Project Overview

Art has the ability to advance reconciliation by serving as a process to facilitate awareness, dialogue and understanding. To foster ongoing commitment towards reconciliation with First Nations and Métis communities, the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo is commissioning a local Indigenous artist, or artist team, to nurture the creation of an artwork for Council Chambers that will respectfully display the rich cultures of the Indigenous Peoples of Treaty 8 and traditional lands of the Cree, Dene, and the unceded territory of the Métis.

The selected artist, or artist team, will have the opportunity to engage in a meaningful discussion with Knowledge Keepers designated by participating First Nation and Métis communities and organizations. The creation of a Sharing Circle, together with Knowledge Keepers and artist(s), will enable an unfiltered exchange of cultural knowledge, traditional storytelling and embrace a deeper discussion on reconciliation as related to artistic expression. This intimate circle will allow the artist(s) to identify distinct and unifying perspectives and will interpret them within one final artwork. The artist(s) will collaborate with the Municipality to install the final artwork within the newly renovated Council Chambers.

Sharing Circle

Engaging the regions vast network of Indigenous voices is a key project priority. Proposed as part of this initiative is a Sharing Circle to support the selected artist, or artist team in developing a concept for the final artwork. The Sharing Circle is to be comprised of the selected artists/artist team, designated Knowledge Keepers from each participating First Nation and Métis communities/organizations and other interested members from the participating communities /organizations. The goal of the process is that Indigenous perspectives and voices of Treaty 8 and traditional Métis



*Call for Indigenous Artist
Indigenous Artwork in Council Chambers*

Territory are equitably infused into the design concept of the final artwork(s). The appointed Knowledge Keepers will approve by consensus the final design concept.

The Sharing Circle will occur over the duration of **two days** with an intimate discussion involving Knowledge Keepers and artists(s) on the first day, and a broader dialogue on reconciliation supported by an Indigenous facilitator on the second day.

Artist Selection

Applications will be reviewed by the designated Knowledge Keepers from participating communities/organizations in a facilitated panel discussion. The lead artist/artist team will be selected by group consensus. Selection will be based on the following key application components (**not** listed by matter of importance):

- ✓ Response to Expression of Interest
- ✓ Demonstration of Previous Collaborative Projects
- ✓ Letters of Support
- ✓ Artist Biography
- ✓ Artist Portfolio
- ✓ Image List
- ✓ Entry Form

Budget

An agreed upon budget will be further explored with the artist or artist team upon successful award.

Project Timelines

Timelines are subject to change based on the process for respectful dialogue, design conception, approval, site selection, fabrication and installation.

Month	Duration	Key Milestone
February	4 weeks	Invitation to Participate/Designation of Knowledge Keepers
February	4 weeks	Call for Lead Indigenous Artist (Expression of Interest)
April	1 day	Artist Selection
April	2 days	Sharing Circle
June	1 day	Draft design presentation to Knowledge Keepers
June	1 day	Final design presentation to Knowledge Keepers
June	1-3 months (dependent on artists medium of choice)	Artist will work with administration to fabricate and place artwork in Council Chambers
September	1 week	Install Artwork
September	1 day	Ceremony

Application Process

1. EXRESSION OF INTEREST	A written proposal that explains why you are interested in the project. What excites you about this opportunity? How does your expertise and experience inform you as a collaborator for this project? 400 words max.
2. DEMONSTRATION OF PREVIOUS COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS	List of experiences and descriptions working within a group setting or as a leader to accomplish a common goal.
3. LETTERS OF SUPPORT	Include any letters of support from your collaborative experiences.
4. ARTIST BIOGRAPHY	Provide a story about you as an artist, what mediums you work in and any credentials or experience that has shaped your practice.
5. ARTIST PORTFOLIO	Include maximum of 10 images in jpeg or pdf format and an annotated image list. If mailed in, supporting images must be provided on a USB. Alternatively, submit a link to your online portfolio.
6. IMAGE LIST	If submitting portfolio images, include an annotated image list.
7. ENTRY FORM	(See Page 5)

Entry Form

FIRST NAME: _____

LAST NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____
Street Address / City / Postal Code

EMAIL: _____ **PHONE:** _____

COMMUNITY AFFILIATION:

Name of First Nation or Métis community that you are associated.

FOIP STATEMENT:

The personal information on this form is collected under the authority of Section 33 (c) of the Alberta Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. The personal information will be used to process your application, administer the program and as contact information. As this is a joint project with the Indigenous Community, the personal information will be shared with selected members from the participating communities /organizations and relevant Municipal Departments. If you have any questions about the collection or use of this information contact the Coordinator II, Department of Community & Protective Services, Jubilee Building, 9909 Franklin Ave., Fort McMurray, T9H 2K4, or call (780)-743-7000 or email publicart@rmwb.ca

I have read the above statement and agree to the use of my information for the purpose of this program (sign below)

SIGNATURE: _____ **DATE:** _____
(mm/dd/yy)



Application Checklist

- Response to Expression of Interest
- Demonstration of Previous Collaborative Projects
- Letters of Support
- Artist Biography
- Artist Portfolio
- Image List
- Entry Form

Deadline for applications

Online submissions must be received no later than **3:00 pm (MST), Thursday, March 25, 2021.**

Mail in submissions must be postdated no later than **Thursday, March 25, 2021.** Portfolio Images must be uploaded on a USB. Please indicate if you would like the USB returned.

Public Art Wood Buffalo
c/o Caitlin Downie
Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo
9909 Franklin Avenue
T9H 2K4

All inquiries can be directed to:

Public Art Wood Buffalo
Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo
E: publicart@rmwb.ca

Please reference **Indigenous Artwork in Council Chambers** in all communications



COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Site Considerations



Site Description

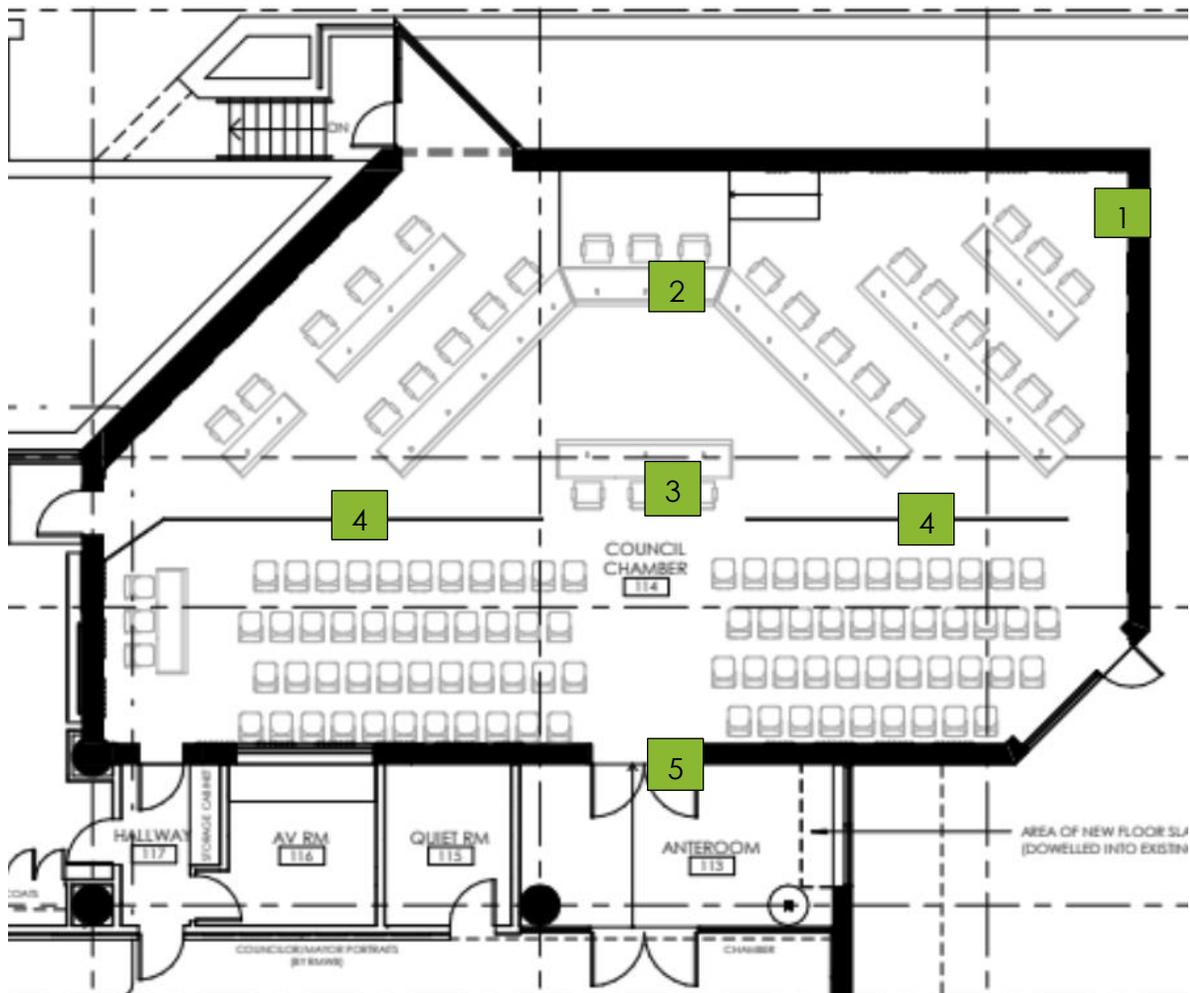
Council Chambers is situated in the Jubilee building in downtown, Fort McMurray. Built during the 1970s and previously known as the Wood Buffalo Civic Centre, the Jubilee building housed government offices, a public library and the transit depot. Today, it continues to house government offices and is the central location for Council operations. Currently, the first floor of the municipal operations section of Jubilee building is undergoing renovations with plans to modernize Council Chambers.

The selected artist/artist team is welcome to integrate artwork into one, or more than one, of the listed locations. Recognizing that the process for concept development is a symbiotic relationship, the Sharing Circle will assist the artist/artist team to better define the preferred location(s) and the final form of the artwork(s). The selected artist/artist team will be required to meet with program administrators to discuss the specific parameters of these opportunities before meeting with the Sharing Circle.

Site Considerations

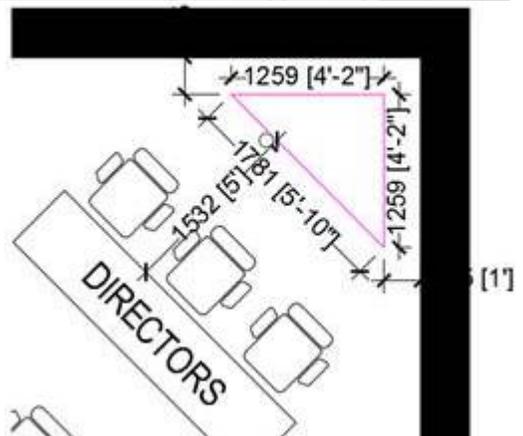
The following site options are for consideration to incorporate artwork into Council Chambers.

1. Corner floor space - possible application could include a sculpture / 3-dimensional artwork.
2. Mayor's desk front panel - possible application could include a 2 or 3-dimensional artwork.
3. Suspended from ceiling over presenter's bench – possible application could include a hanging sculpture / artwork.
4. Glass partition – possible application design etched into glass partitions (glass can be removed and sent out for etching).
5. Anteroom door – possible application design etched into doors (glass can be removed and sent out for etching).



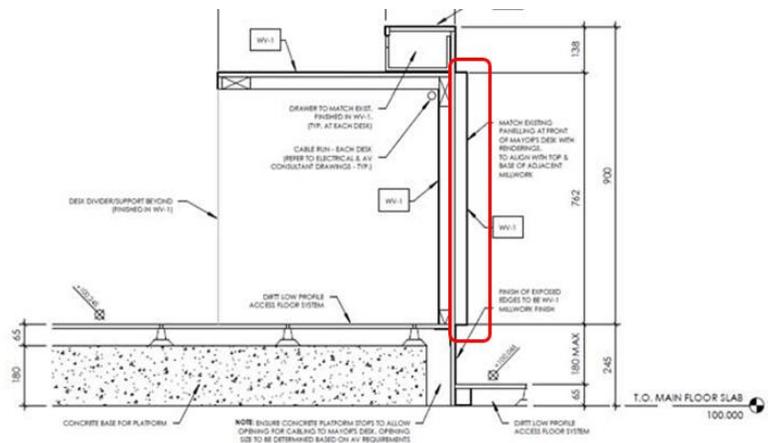
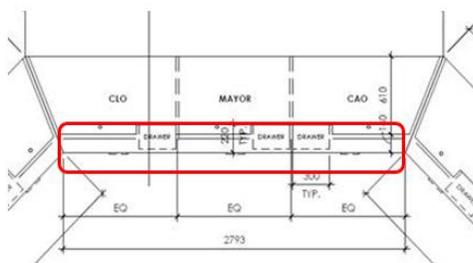
Option 1 - Space in Corner of Council Chamber

- Dimensions of space 1259mm (4ft x 1.5in) x 1259mm (4ft x 1.5in) x 1781 mm (5ft 10.1in).
- Ceiling height is 4835mm (15' 10.3") from finished floor.
- Artwork to include mounting system or plinth.
- Artwork will be obstructed at ground level and up to 4 feet high.
- Floor can support a sculpture weight of 175 kg (385 lbs) if the artwork has a platform matching the triangular footprint.
- Floor system is based on a concrete floor with raised 'Dirtt low profile access system' (65mm / 2.55in) pictured below and finished with carpet tile.



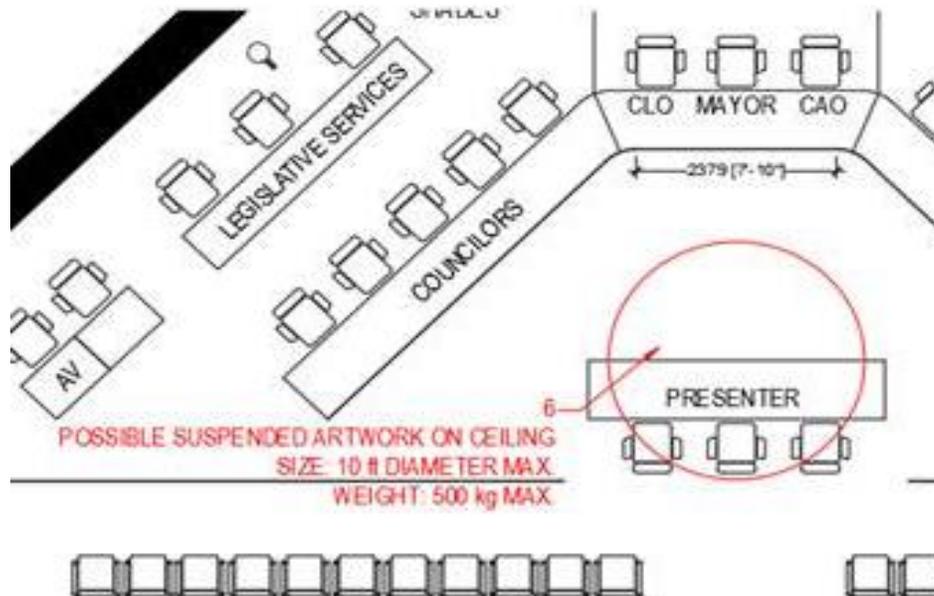
Option 2 - Mayor's/CEO/CAO desk

- Front of desk measures - 2793 mm (9ft 1.9in) Wide x 762mm (2ft 6in).
- Recommendations for hanging system to be provided by artist based on final design and preferred medium.



Option 3 – Suspended from Ceiling

- Suspended artwork from the ceiling over the presenter's desk.
- Width dimensions – Diameter should not exceed the 2100mm (6ft 10in) max. to avoid connecting with the ceiling fan blades.
- Weight maximum - 500 kg (1,102 lbs).
- Hanging system to be provided by artist and agreed upon by the Municipality.
- Ceiling height is 4835mm (15ft 10.3in) from finished floor, suggest that artwork be a minimum of 4200mm (13ft 9.35in) above the raised floor, making the height of the artwork no larger than 635mm (2ft 1in) height.



Option 4 – Glass partition

- The height of the glass railing is 900mm (2ft 11.43in).
- Design is required to begin 12 inches below top of railing to ensure visual sightlines.
- The glass railing on the left is 7628mm (25ft), and on the right is 6450mm (21ft 1.93 in).
- Possible application is glass etching.
- Glass can be removed and sent for etching



Option 5 – Anteroom door

- The door from the council chamber to the anteroom is a frameless tempered double glass door.
- Door dimensions are 2134mm (7ft 0.015in) wide and a height of 2438mm (7ft 11.98in).
- Opportunity to remove doors to have design applied.
- Possible application – glass etching
- Glass can be removed and sent for etching

