



INDIGENOUS CURATOR

Request for Qualifications

CALL FOR INDIGENOUS CURATOR DOWNTOWN AND WATERFRONT REVITALIZATION

The Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo (RMWB) is seeking an Indigenous Curator to play a critical role in bringing the Indigenous narrative to revitalization efforts within downtown Fort McMurray and its waterfront.

This position will work in collaboration with Municipal staff and the Interdepartmental Working Groups, the contracted design firms for waterfront/downtown revitalization, multiple First Nations and Métis communities and Indigenous organizations in the region, and the Indigenous Public Art Advisory Circle (*to be established as part of this project*).

A total budget of \$30,000.00 will be awarded for the term of this project (August 2021 – March 2022) with the opportunity for additional terms. The mentorship of a local associate curator is recommended as part of this contract.

This project is funded by the *percent for art* reserve fund as per Municipal Public Art Policy (PRL-160). The successful applicant will report directly to the Culture & Social Services Branch of the RMWB.

This call is open to local, provincial and national curators. Preference that curator has a connection to the Region or previous experience on local projects.

Deadline for Submission: 11:59PM (MST), Sunday, August 1, 2021

For more information, contact the Public Art Wood Buffalo:
Email: public.art@rmwb.ca

We thank all applicants for their interest and submissions to this call. Only qualifying applicants will be contacted.



INDIGENOUS CURATOR

Request for Qualifications



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Region of Wood Buffalo (RMWB) is situated on Treaty 8 Territory, the traditional lands of the Cree, Dene, and the unceded territory of the Métis. It is the traditional meeting grounds of many Indigenous people since time immemorial. Continuing to recognize our past, present and future relationships with First Nations, Inuit and Métis Peoples of Canada, it is our shared responsibility to respect these lands, preserve these waters and nourish our relationship with the surrounding environment and with each other

THE WATERFRONT REVITALIZATION PROJECT

The RMWB's Waterfront Park Revitalization Project will be designed as a year-round interactive facility for residents and visitors alike. As a destination for cultural and heritage recognition, the Waterfront Park will also serve as an access point for recreational opportunities and connecting to nature in the heart of our region. The Indigenous Curator will be responsible for several activities, ranging from Indigenous community engagement to development and review of strategies within a public art context as related to the Waterfront Park Revitalization Project.

The overall project will include design and construction of the year-round Snye Point Outdoor Event Space, as well as designing a Waterfront Park, which will cover the 6 km of waterfront from the Athabasca Bridge to Horse Pasture Park in Waterways. The Waterfront Park is a large green space in our downtown that will be transformed into a unique community space. The Waterfront Park will encompass natural elements while strengthening the community with new gathering spaces, pathway connections, and water and leisure activities for residents to enjoy for generations.

The Park will recognize and honour the region's rich and diverse Indigenous and non-Indigenous history and cultures through a community-driven design covering 6km of Waterfront from the Athabasca Bridge to Horse Pasture Park in Waterways.



INDIGENOUS CURATOR

Request for Qualifications

WATERFRONT CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE

June 2021	Share Concept Ideas
Summer 2021	Refine Concept
Fall 2021	Share Final Concept
April – October 2022	Begin Construction

**Project schedule is subject to change*

For more information about this initiative, please visit: rmwb.ca

INDIGENOUS CURATOR SCOPE OF WORK

- Review architectural and landscape plans to identify potential locations for art installations along the waterfront and Snye Event Space in coordination with the Design Team and Municipal Staff;
- Consult and engage with Indigenous Communities and other key Indigenous organizations and/or committees/circles in coordination with the Design Process Engagement and Consultation Plan;
- Attend and/or facilitate, meetings with RMWB Project Team and stakeholders as required;
- Develop an innovative curatorial approach to Indigenous public art integration along the waterfront;
- Develop a comprehensive strategy including sites and budgets for individual public art opportunities;
- Working with the Public Art Wood Buffalo program staff, lead the Indigenous art procurement process including but not limited to;
 - Recommend procurement methods (open, invitational, curatorial) for specific opportunities;
 - Assist in development of the Indigenous Public Art Advisory Circle as per the newly developed Wood Buffalo Public Art Plan;
 - Write Calls to Artists and solicit artists participation in selection process;
 - Plan and coordinate orientation workshop shortlisted artists as required;
 - Produce written progress reports and final report;
 - Deliver a public presentation for the community at large on the process and outcome of the project.

BUDGET INFORMATION

The budget for this project is **\$30,000.00 CAD** plus GST for the term of this project (August 2021 – March 2022) with the opportunity for additional terms. This project is supported through the Municipal Public Art Policy (PRL – 160) and funded through the *percent for art* program. The budget includes all costs associated with the project including, but not limited to consultation fees, travel & accommodation, presentation materials, associate curator fee, etc.



INDIGENOUS CURATOR

Request for Qualifications

ELIGIBILITY

The project is open to all Indigenous curators, age 18 and over. This call is open to local, provincial and national curators. Demonstration of knowledge and/or experience in working with local Indigenous communities and artists is an asset.

SELECTION PROCESS

The successful proponent will be selected for this opportunity through an open call process. An assessment committee comprised of Municipal staff and professional external or internal consultants will review and evaluate the candidates according to the selection criteria and may select up to three applicants for interviews.

Finalists may be invited to discuss their experience, past curatorial projects, and approaches as well as answer questions relating to working on this type of project.

SELECTION CRITERIA

The following criteria will be considered when selecting an Indigenous Curator:

- An established practice in Indigenous art curation;
- Demonstrated previous experience developing and curating Indigenous art exhibitions, and/or public art;
- Strong network of Indigenous artists;
- Well versed in local and national Indigenous art practices and cultural protocols;
- Strong verbal and written communication skills;
- A demonstrated understanding of the project and its context;
- Creative and inclusive curation and consultation methodology.
- Demonstration of knowledge and/or experience in working with local Indigenous communities and artists.
- Preference that curator has a connection to the Region or previous experience on local projects.

SELECTION SCHEDULE

4:00PM (MST), Tuesday, July 13, 2021	Request for Qualifications Posted
11:59PM (MST), Sunday, August 1, 2021	Deadline for Submissions
First Week of August (Aug 2-6, 2021)	Host Interviews
Monday, August 9, 2021	Award selected candidate
Monday, September 6, 2021	Project Initiation

**Project schedule is subject to change*



INDIGENOUS CURATOR

Request for Qualifications

SUBMISSION PROCESS

Eligible submissions will contain:

- A response to the Selection Criteria
- A letter of interest describing why this opportunity interests the curator, and how the curator's background and practice will contribute to this project
- A resume or curriculum vitae showing applicable examples of work in related area and educational experience.

HOW TO SUBMIT

Complete submissions must be received by email no later than **11:59PM (MST), Sunday, August 1, 2021.**

Submissions are only accepted by email at: public.art@rmwb.ca

Please include in your Subject Line: CALL FOR CURATOR – (*your first & last name*)

CONTACT INFORMATION

All project inquiries can be directed to:

Public Art Wood Buffalo

Culture & Social Development Branch, Community & Protective Services Department

Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo

E: public.art@rmwb.ca

The information on this application is being collected under the authority of Section 33(c) of the FOIP Act and will be used by the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo to determine eligibility for the RFQ. The aggregate data may be used for program planning and evaluation. All information collected by the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo is protected by the provisions of the FOIP Act. You may direct questions about the collection, use or disclosure of your personal information by this project to the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo at 780.788.4335.