

Halifax Regional Municipality

Call for Proposals-Public Art

Dartmouth North Community Centre

Project Budget: \$45,000 + HST

Deadline for Submission: September 27, 2024, 4pm AT

Non-Mandatory Artist Information Session: Friday, September 6, 9am AT

Pre-register: Email lindsay.cory@halifax.ca with the subject line "DNCC: Artist Information Session Registration".

The Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM) is seeking public art proposals for the recently renovated Dartmouth North Community Centre (134 Pinecrest Drive, Dartmouth, NS).



Contact

Lindsay Cory

Community Developer, Public Art

Culture & Community

Halifax Regional Municipality

902.456.8384

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Project Description

HRM is seeking artist-led proposals for the design of an original work of art to be installed within the newly renovated Dartmouth North Community Centre. The site of the artwork is intended for an elevated wall space in the main hallway and gathering area.

The total budget for the project is \$45,000.00 + HST (Canadian Dollars)

The tentative project schedule is as follows:

Submission deadline	September 27, 2024, 4pm AT
Selection and notification	October 2024
Agreement, Detailed Design, Fabrication and Installation	November 2024 - March 2025 specific project milestones to be determined.
Project Installation	March 2025

Introduction

The Dartmouth North Community Centre is located at 134 Pinecrest Drive. The centre originally opened on March 22, 1996 and has since expanded on its offering with a variety of services, programs and resources to the community which include children, youth and seniors. There is also a branch of the Halifax Central Library in the building that serves a broad community with additional programming and services. In 2022 the Community Centre and Library was renovated to accommodate the growing community.

The Dartmouth North Community Centre offers recreational programs for all ages and abilities. From creative movement to arts and crafts, to basketball, ballet, and sewing amongst a host of other programs, this Community Centre offers a wide range of programming to serve the vibrant Dartmouth North community of users. The Centre brings over 150 patrons into the space each day for leisure, programs and rentals and during the school year, they act as a hub for youth to hang out during lunch and afterschool each day. This call for public art will be integrated into the completed building in a prominent location in the Community Centre's central hallway and main gathering space.

Intent

The Dartmouth North Community Centre serves one of HRM's most vibrant and diverse cultural constituencies. A broad number of user groups take advantage of the Centre's offerings which include athletics and recreation, arts and cultural expression, community gatherings, family and social support services, educational activities and workshops, and more. Given all of this, it is important that the artwork commissioned through this process be relevant and engaging to a wide range of audiences of all ages, interests, cultural backgrounds and socio-economic realities. Artists may wish to work with community or school groups in the creation of the artwork.

In responding to this opportunity, artists and artist teams should consider the following aspects of the Dartmouth North Community Centre and its user groups:

- Multicultural focus
- Community-orientation
- Animation of public and community space
- Cultural activities, recreational pursuits and cultural and community-based events
- Arts and cultural focus (dance studio, arts programming spaces)
- Gymnasium and recreational elements

Key goals of the project that artists are encouraged to address in their proposals:

- Bring colour and vibrancy to the predominantly white space
- Engage the community and build a sense of belonging to the space

It is not intended or desired that these considerations result in a literal or direct representation of any or all of the aspects listed above, but that the proposals exhibit an understanding of and an implicit appreciation for the dynamic and diverse uses of the space, and the equally diverse community of users that the space is intended to serve.

Diversity & Inclusion Framework

The Dartmouth North Community Centre Public Art Project will be administered in accordance with the core values embedded in the Municipality's Diversity and Inclusion Framework, which states:

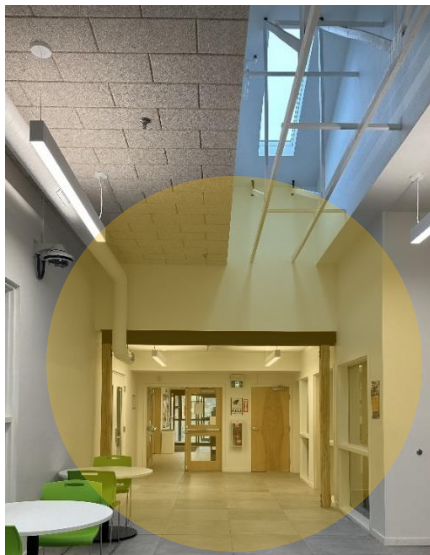
The Halifax Regional Municipality values diversity and inclusion in all that we do, think and pursue. Diversity is more than race, ability, sexual orientation, language, gender or any other descriptive category. Diversity means understanding and utilizing different views, ideas, life experiences, skills and knowledge. By recognizing diversity as a core value, we are laying the foundation for a municipality that aspires to accurately represent the communities we serve.

The goals of the Framework are reflected in the goals of this process, which include the development of:

- **Inclusive public service:** To ensure inclusive and equitable access to and benefit of, municipal services, programs and facilities;
- **Equitable employment:** To attract and retain a skilled workforce that reflects the diverse residents of the municipality; and
- **Meaningful partnerships:** To develop positive and respectful internal and external partnerships that contribute to inclusive decision making.

Opportunity Site: Main Hallway – Wall Mounted

A prominent location in the hallway between the Dartmouth North Community Centre and the Dartmouth North Public Library has been identified for public art integration. The space has a double height atrium ceiling with skylights above letting light into the space. The piece can be wall mounted utilizing the upper wall space throughout the hallway. The piece could be suspended from the double height ceiling provided there is enough clearance to pass through underneath and it is lightweight. Suitable artwork for this location would be a series of smaller works that could be displayed throughout the space as opposed to one larger work.



The area identified for the future artwork is in the mingling area of the Centre along the main corridor indicated by the highlighted area above. The artist may utilize any of the white drywalled wall space for a wall mounted work or series of works. The space is active and well used by the community and submitting artists should consider durability of materials, maintenance considerations and application methods of high importance.

The prominent colour scheme of the building features white walls with black, green, and wood accents throughout the building in furniture and the use of grey tiles flooring.

There is no access to dedicated electricity for artwork and lighting should be considered naturally sourced from the skylight and lighting already present in mail hallway.

Applicants wishing to view the site should arrange access via the staff lead for this project.

Submission Requirements

Email all documentation as one (1) PDF document, not to exceed a file size of 5 MB to: artgrants@halifax.ca

1. **COVER PAGE** – Please provide accurate contact information for the applicant, including mailing address, email address and phone numbers for the project lead (if submitting as a team), website information (where applicable), as well as the names of all collaborating parties.
2. **ARTIST CV**- Please include a brief bio and a resume outlining the professional experience of the applicant (not to exceed 2 pages). If submitting as a group, please include a resume for the project lead (maximum 2 pages), and brief bios for each of the participating members.
3. **STATEMENT OF INTEREST** – 200 words (or less) that explain why the artist/team is interested in this opportunity and how their practice relates to this project and the posted selection criteria.
4. **VISUAL PROJECT DESCRIPTION- A PRELIMINARY** visual concept (drawings/renderings) sufficient to illustrate the applicant's approach to the site(s). **
5. **WRITTEN PROJECT DESCRIPTION**- 500 words (or less) that describe the project, including relevant project methodology. **
 - a. *** It is understood that the project descriptions received at this stage through this process will be preliminary in nature, and intended to express the concept of the artwork, not the detailed final design. The selected concept and all particulars pertaining to the installation of the artwork will be further developed post-award in consultation with Municipal staff and members of the project team.*
6. **PRELIMINARY BUDGET** – Artists are asked to submit a preliminary budget to indicate the project's feasibility. This budget should include costs associated with designing, creating, producing, and installing the Artwork, including material costs and Artists fees.
7. **DIGITAL IMAGE WORK SAMPLES** – Applicants must submit a **minimum of 5 and a maximum of 10 samples of past work** that best illustrate their qualifications for this project. Submit each image on a separate page, portrait format, and include title of work, artist(s), location, commissioning agency, date and budget. If submitting as a team, the team submits no more than 10 images.

Format Guidelines

1. All supporting documents must be complete and strictly adhere to these guidelines and submission requirements (above) or risk not being considered.
2. All submissions must be formatted to 8.5 x 11 inch pages (can be in portrait or landscape format)
3. Submission files must be 5 MB or smaller.
4. If submitting as a team, the team should designate one representative to complete the entry form. Each team member must submit individual resume/curriculum vitae. (See Submission Requirements)
5. All documents must be sent by email to: artgrants@halifax.ca and must be received on or before September 27, 2024, 4pm AT

Questions regarding the expectations of the submission process should be directed to:

Lindsay Cory
Community Developer, Public Art
Culture & Community
Halifax Regional Municipality
902.456.8384
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Selection Process

This is a single-stage process.

A peer selection panel comprised of arts sector representatives and community representatives will review all application materials. Members of the Dartmouth North Community Centre design team will also inform the process. At the conclusion of the review, the selection panel will recommend the selection of one artist/artist team to undertake the work.

The selection panel reserves the right to request additional information from any of the applicants to inform their decision. The panel also reserves the right to make no recommendation from the submitted applications.

Once the selection panel has recommended a proposal and an award has been issued, the successful artist/artist team will be asked to prepare detailed concept designs based on the preliminary proposals.

Additional Information

1. The selected artist will be required to show proof of WCB coverage and \$2,000,000 general liability insurance.
2. The proposal selected through this process is understood to be a concept proposal for a future artwork. The selected artist will be required to enter into agreement with the Municipality to provide a detailed design for the artwork, including a detailed budget and installation plan, which will be subject to the approval of the Municipality. Consideration of the detailed design proposal will be technical in nature.
3. Submission at this stage do not require a detailed budget, however proposals should exhibit a clear understanding that all components of the project must be completed within the stated budget of \$45,000 + HST. Possible costs may include but are not limited to: artist and design fees, consultant fees including the production of stamped engineered drawings where applicable, subcontractor fees, material and fabrication costs, transportation, and all elements of installation.
4. Please be advised that the Halifax Regional Municipality and the selection panel are not obligated to accept any of the submissions and may reject all submissions. The Municipality reserves the right to reissue this Call for Proposals as required.
5. All information provided under the submission is subject to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (NS) and shall only be withheld from release if an exemption from release is permitted by the Act. The artist shall retain copyright in the concept proposal.
6. The ownership of design ideas submitted with this application remain with the submitting artist until a selection has been made and a contract signed. Once a contract has been awarded, the selected artwork will be owned by the Halifax Regional Municipality, and images of the work may be used in publicity for the Halifax Regional Municipality. Copyright of the work and all intellectual property shall remain with the artist.
6. Extensions to the submission deadline will not be granted under any circumstances. Submissions received after the deadline and those that are found to be incomplete will not be reviewed.
7. Incomplete or late applications will not be accepted.

Evaluation

Proposals will be evaluated through peer assessment. The review process will be informed by a technical review of the proposals by HRM staff, where deemed necessary.

<p>Artistic Merit</p> <p>Statement of interest, examples of past work, quality of proposal</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overall quality of submitted past work*; • Professional standing; and • Artistic quality of submitted proposal. 	30
<p>Methodology and Approach</p> <p>Demonstrates the artist's level of understanding of the Halifax Regional Municipality design requirements outlined in this project brief and assesses the proposal's response to the Dartmouth North Community Centre Renovation Project, and the centre's varied user groups.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submitted proposal in relation to the design and function of the Facility as an active public space with broad and diverse community use • Resonance of the artist's professional practice to the architecture and design elements of the Centre as reflected in submitted examples of past work and the conceptual proposal for the Centre 	40
<p>Experience and Expertise</p> <p>Scoring of this category will be based upon the submission of past work as an indication of the applicant's capacity to take on this project</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicant's ability to manage projects of a similar scale and scope*; • Applicant's familiarity working with public agencies and experience working with community groups; and • Applicant's demonstrated ability to work to schedule and budget in a collaborative environment 	20
<p>Project Feasibility</p> <p>Scoring in this category will be based on the preliminary budget submitted indicating an understanding of the total project budget.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrated understanding of project management as it pertains specifically to the management of project costs, and the perceived ability of the artist to complete the project within the allotted \$45,000. 	10

*Applicants do not need to have led public art projects of a similar scope and scale, but their record of experience should reflect a capacity to successfully meet the requirements of this opportunity.

Examples of past work need not reflect public realm projects of a similar scale (e.g. equal or greater budgets). All past experience that affirms the applicant's capacity to lead the management of this project will be considered.