

Indigenous Digital Art and Illustration 2025

Call for artwork

Who:

Indigenous artists with all levels of experience

What:

Digital artwork, photography, digital illustrations,

Where:

Online/print opportunities with Public Art

When:

Deadline to apply February 21st, 2025

Project start March 2025

Project end February 28th, 2026

How much:

\$1000/image for 1-year non-exclusive license

for up to 3 uses

*may be extended with extra fees paid to artists

*additional opportunities may develop for artists

The City of Calgary recognizes and values [equity, diversity, inclusion and belonging](#); and unique dimensions of diversity including race, ethnicity, gender, disability, age, religion, sexual orientation, work style, communication style, learning preferences and others.



The Matriarch Blanket, 2023, Jadyn Fischer-McNab
Licensed by the City of Calgary public art program



Request for submissions
Date of issue: December 2nd, 2024
Submission deadline: 4:59 pm, February 21st, 2025

About the project

The City of Calgary's public art program is inviting Indigenous artists to submit existing digital artwork and illustration. This program offers artists the opportunity to have their digital artwork licensed for use on The City's website, temporary publications, and public-facing artist calls and posters. Ten artworks will be selected.

Artwork will be licensed for one year and may be used up to three times. After 12 months, the artwork will no longer be used. However, there may be an opportunity for the license to be extended.

In 2024, artists were able to showcase their work during Canada Day, on billboards, and a print exhibition at the Confluence. Similar opportunities may arise for the selected artists in 2025.

Indigenous artists from Treaty 7, Metis Region 3, and Indigenous artists currently living in or with connections to Moh'kinstis at any stage of their career are encouraged to apply.

We will accept all sizes of digital work. Be aware that if the work is too small it may not be suitable for certain additional opportunities such as billboards or large-scale print.

Goals

This project will:

- Support Indigenous artists, businesses and organizations
- Allow for more opportunities for Indigenous artists
- Reflect Indigenous experiences and existence in Moh'kinstis
- Encourage a diverse Indigenous representation of artists, art practices, ideas, and topics

Artist information sessions

Free online and in-person artist information sessions are available for those interested in applying. Please email indigenoupublicart@calgary.ca for dates, times and locations. Attendance is **not** mandatory in order to qualify for this opportunity.

Budget

The artist or artist team receives an all-inclusive, maximum budget of **\$1,000.00 CDN** (not including GST).

The total budget includes, but is not limited to artist fees, supplies and materials, consultation, artist time for public engagement, travel, insurance and studio fees.

The artist/artist team is responsible for their project budget and will be paid based their Artist Agreement.



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How to apply

Submission package

Eligible submissions will contain:

- a) **Letter of interest** (maximum of 600 words)
An introduction to the artist, description of the artwork, date of the artwork, connection to Moh'kinsstis/Calgary
- b) **Images (Maximum of 10)**
One image per page. Detail images of the singular artwork are welcome.
- c) **Ensure your submission package responds to the evaluation criteria in the selection process section of this call.**

The submission package will be evaluated based on the evaluation criteria.

How to submit

- Email Jessica at indigenouspublicart@calgary.ca and attach all the required documents. Submissions are accepted in electronic form only.
- Email subject line should include: Indigenous digital artwork
- Note that the maximum file size for an email is 10 MB. You may submit multiple emails to ensure all files are received.

Incomplete or late submissions will not be considered. This is non-negotiable.

Selection process

All eligible submissions are reviewed by a selection panel consisting of the curator and members of the Indigenous public art team.

Artists or artist teams may be invited to an in-person or online interview with the selection panel.

Submissions will be rated out of a possible 100 points according to the Evaluation criteria below.

*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.

Evaluation criteria (100 points)

- A. Letter of interest: 30 points
 - Why this opportunity appeals to the artist
 - How the artist's Indigenous background and practice will contribute to this project
 - Knowledge of or connection to Calgary and/or the project's place
- B. Artwork: 70 points
 - Suitability of the artwork to print
 - Suitability of the artwork to web
 - Connection of the artwork to diversity of ideas/identities
 - The image is 300dpi or a copy is available of 300dpi after the selection process.



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Questions and clarifications

Submit all questions in writing to indigenouspublicart@calgary.ca or via phone to (403)268-2994 prior to 4:00 p.m. MST on February 12, 2025.

Working with The City

To ensure the public art project meets project goals, as well as the requirements of the Public Art Program, the artist or artist team will be required to work closely throughout the project with Public Art Program staff as well as other stakeholders.

Prior to confirmation of award, the selected artist or artist team will be required to:

- Provide verification of Indigenous ancestry
- Sign a City of Calgary Artist Agreement which includes Artist General Terms and Conditions.

Administration

The commissioner for this project is:

The City of Calgary
Box 2100, Station M, Calgary, AB, Canada T2P 2M5
Mail code #63

There will not be any public opening of submissions.
There is no cost to the applicant to provide a submission.
Submissions must currently be provided in English.