

call to artists

PUBLIC ART
RICHMOND



Whimsical Garden, Creative Café Artist Collective in collaboration w/ Cook Elementary School, 2021

The Richmond Public Art Program seeks an artist or artist team with a socially-oriented and civic-minded practice for a unique community-engaged artist opportunity working with Dixon Elementary School in partnership with City of Richmond Engineering. Professional artists are invited to imagine innovative ways in which art can act as a catalyst to foster individual creative expression, build community and address topics of relevance working within communities.

Opportunity: \$14,000 | Dixon Elementary / CoR Engineering

Eligibility: Artists residing in British Columbia

Deadline: October 3, 2023

Duration: January – December 2024

Engaging Artists in Community Program

Request for Proposals (RFP)

September 2023

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BACKGROUND

The Engaging Artists in Community (EAC) Program supports artists with socially-oriented practices and encourages the development of a wide variety of collaborative practices. Community-based artworks can express a shared goal or theme and/or provoke dialogue on ideas related to cultural identity, social history or the environment. Artist projects can leave a physical or social legacy for the community and/or may include a community event to present the final work.

Projects will engage participants by providing them with a greater sense of self, identity, community and place through learning and experience of art-making experiences. The work must be accessible and appeal to a diverse and local audience. Artists will also demonstrate the capacity to undertake and complete their proposed work within an approved timeframe.

PREVIOUS EAC PROJECTS

Applicants are encouraged to view previously commissioned projects here: www.richmond.ca/culture/PublicArt/WhatsNew/EngageArtists

ARTIST ELIGIBILITY

Open to professional artists and artist teams residing in British Columbia. City of Richmond employees, Richmond Public Art Advisory Committee members and artists who are currently contracted by the Richmond Public Art Program are not eligible to apply.

SELECTION PROCESS

Selection panels consisting of a combination of artists, art professionals and community representatives will convene for each of the three opportunities. The selection panels will engage in a two-stage selection process to review all artist submissions. During the second stage, shortlisted artists or artist teams will be invited to an interview with the selection panels and will receive a \$250 honorarium. At the conclusion of the process, the panels will recommend one artist or artist team for each opportunity. Subject to approval by Council, the artist or artist team will be required to enter into a contract with the City of Richmond.

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ARTIST SELECTION CRITERIA

- Artistic merit and clarity of the artist's Statement of Interest in response to the Partner Profile goals and objectives. The proposal should demonstrate artistic quality, innovation and creativity.
- Demonstration of artistic quality, innovation and creativity in applicant's previous work and experience.
- Community impact of work to connect diverse and multi-generational audiences with artists in creative dialogue, participation and awareness.
- Artist's capacity to work with community members, other design professionals and project stakeholders.
- Appropriateness of the proposal to the Public Art Program Policy goals: www.richmond.ca/culture/publicart/policy

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

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

- **INFORMATION FORM:** Please complete the information form attached to the end of this document.
- **STATEMENT OF INTENT:** One page maximum, describing proposed approach to the work, relevant experience and skillsets, and how the proposal responds to the specific aims of the project opportunity.
- **ARTIST CV:** One page maximum. Teams should include one page for each member.
- **WORK SAMPLES:** Up to ten (10) examples of previous work. Please include artist name(s), title, year, location and medium information as captions on the bottom of each image page. If submitting digital video, please include link to YouTube, Vimeo or similar online platform. **Please do not submit digital video files.**
- **REFERENCES:** Three references who can speak to your abilities and accomplishments. Only provide contact name, title, phone number and e-mail. References will only be contacted if applicant is shortlisted.

ACCESSIBILITY SUPPORT

The City of Richmond strives to create artist opportunities that are inclusive and accessible to individuals of all abilities. If you are living with a disability and require assistance in completing the written application, please contact PublicArt@richmond.ca or Tel: 604-204-8671.

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SUBMISSION 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. Support images and concept sketches are best formatted to landscape format.
3. Artist submission PDF file 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 an individual resume/curriculum vitae.
5. All documents must be sent by email to: PublicArt@richmond.ca. Please include name and project when naming your file, e.g. Jane_Smith_EngagingArtistsCommunity_RFP

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

1. The selected artist may be required to show proof of WCB coverage and up to \$5,000,000 general liability insurance.
2. Please be advised that all commissioned artists from this program will be required to complete Police Information Checks with the Richmond RCMP.
3. Please be advised that the City and the selection panel are not obligated to accept any of the submissions and may reject all submissions. The City reserves the right to reissue the Artist Call as required.
4. All submissions to this Artist Call become the property of the City. All information provided under the submission is subject to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (BC) 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. While every precaution will be taken to prevent the loss or damage of submissions, the City and its agents shall not be liable for any loss or damage, however caused.
5. Extensions to this 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.

QUESTIONS

Please contact the Richmond Public Art Program:

Tel: 604-204-8671

Email: PublicArt@richmond.ca

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Figure 1. Horseshoe Slough Pump Station, City of Richmond

COMMUNITY PARTNER PROFILE

Dixon Elementary School / Richmond Engineering & Public Works

Artist Opportunity

COMMUNITY PARTNER

The Richmond School District's mission is to cultivate a safe, accepting and engaged community that inspires a passion for lifelong learning. The values that guide their work and to achieve their vision and mission are: collaboration, creativity, curiosity, resilience, respect and equity for all.

Arts education plays a key role in the development of social-emotional competencies that enable young people to interact productively with others, build and express a healthy sense of self and community, and work effectively toward their goals. Art is valuable because it allows young learners to process their world and engage in critical sensory input.

A.B. Dixon Elementary School is located at 9331 Diamond Road in West Richmond. The school comprises 340 learners, 40 staff, and a proactive Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) that works towards supporting students. The school offers two programs: the Neighbourhood Program draws students from the direct neighbourhood and the District Program Option Early French Immersion Program draws from greater Richmond. Their focus is to support all learners to identify a sense of connection, belonging and positive personal and cultural identity within the Dixon community.

The school's outdoor amenity spaces include an outdoor learning space with a school community gathering area, outdoor shed and raised garden beds. Many classes embed outdoor learning along the West Dyke Trail, a ten-minute walk away.

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RICHMOND ENGINEERING SUSTAINABILITY

The City of Richmond is comprised of islands within the floodplain of the Fraser River, where the river flows into the Salish Sea. At an average of one metre (three feet) above sea level, Richmond faces flood hazards from coastal storm surges, snowmelt flooding and extreme weather events, making flood protection incredibly important.

To ensure Richmond remains safe, the City has one of the most comprehensive flood protection systems in British Columbia. The City's Engineering and Public Works service teams maintain and monitor the following flood protection infrastructure:

- Dikes: 49 km of dikes that hold back the waters of the sea and river
- Drainage pipes: 595 km of drainage pipes that transport water out of the city
- Culverts: 61 km of culverts and tunnels that carry streams and store rainwater
- Channelized watercourses: 155 km of built channels that move water through and out of the city
- Pumps: 39 drainage pump stations that pump rain and groundwater out of the city
- Sensors: Numerous flood protection sensors that provide real-time data on river levels, rainfall and stormwater drainage.

The Engineering department includes sustainability staff who are consulted on all city flood protection planning, construction or maintenance. These staff are responsible for protecting native plant and animal species and the ecosystems in which they live.

ARTIST OPPORTUNITY

Artists or artist teams with socially-engaged, multidisciplinary art practices in environmental art, performance arts, storytelling, music production, digital media arts (to name a few) are invited to submit an expression of interest for this artist opportunity.

The commissioned project will engage about 60–80 learners, 8–11 years old in grades 4 to 6. The artist will engage three classes, individually or as one group depending on the preference of the commissioned artist.

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In partnership with the City of Richmond Engineering and Public Works Department, the commissioned artist will engage young learners on the topic of flood protection. The commissioned artist may wish to explore the following question within the artist project:

During a time of climate change and sea-level rise, how can art explore awareness, knowledge sharing and adaptation when planning for flood protection?

The commissioned artist will be supported by City staff, teachers and educational leaders and will have access to:

- indoor and outdoor learning environments such as multipurpose classrooms, outdoor learning space, school yards, sport fields and the West Dyke Trail;
- general office supplies including, photocopying and printing services;
- a storage area for temporary storage of artist materials and equipment;
- if required, a work space within the school with access to WIFI; and
- Richmond Engineering and Sustainability staff, who are subject matter experts about the City's flood protection infrastructure and natural habitat enhancements or upgrades.

ARTIST SCOPE OF WORK

The commissioned artist or artist team will complete a minimum of 250 hours. This will include research, administration, preparation work, public engagement, creation, production and presentation work resulting in a final legacy work to be installed and/or presented at Dixon Elementary school. A final celebratory event will engage the larger community.

The implementation, delivery, format and structure of the engagement sessions with young learners can be coordinated working with supporting project teachers at Dixon Elementary School.

The expectation is for the commissioned artist or artist team to create and produce individual and collaborative creative expressions that will result in a final legacy work.

The commissioned artist/artist team will also create and maintain a project website blog to document the project.

Note: the commissioned artist must successfully complete Police Information Checks with the Richmond School Board and City of Richmond, prior to project implementation.

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AIMS AND OBJECTIVES:

- to lead a place-based art experience with culturally diverse students on the topic and theme of flood protection and climate change;
- to encourage and offer learners an opportunity to express their voice, feelings, and emotions, while inspiring hope and a sense of agency for the future; and
- to create a legacy artwork that encapsulates the collaborative process of creating and learning between the commissioned artist, young learners, and the larger community.

LOCATION

The commissioned artist or artist team will work indoors and outdoors at Dixon Elementary, 9331 Diamond Rd. Off-site activation or fieldwork along the West Dyke Trail may also be possible.

Please refer to Figures 2 to 4 for additional photos of activity spaces and off-site locations available to the artist for indoor/outdoor project activation.

BUDGET

The project budget for this opportunity is \$14,000 CAD and is inclusive of community engagement work, art materials for engagement activities, administration, artist fees, photography documentation, artist insurance and applicable taxes, excluding GST.

Subject to the nature of the artist project and availability, additional in-kind materials and resources for implementation, installation or presentation of the project may be available and contributed by Dixon Elementary/Richmond School District and/or Richmond's Engineering and Public Works Department.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Richmond School District | sd38.bc.ca
- Dixon Elementary | dixon.sd38.bc.ca
- City of Richmond Public Art Program | www.richmond.ca/culture/PublicArt/WhatsNew/EngageArtists
- Richmond's Engineering and Public Works Department | **Error! Hyperlink reference not valid.** www.richmond.ca/services/water-sewer-flood/dikes

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PROJECT TIMELINE

The selected artist must complete all work by June 2024.

Deadline to Apply:	October 3, 2023
Finalist Notifications:	October 2023
2nd Stage Interviews*:	November 3, 2023, 5:00-7:00 p.m.
Project Start:	January 2024
Completion:	June 2024

*Artists applying for this opportunity are kindly asked to ensure they will be available for the second stage interview dates/times.

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Figure 2. Aerial location map showing Dixon Elementary and proximity to the West Dyke Trail



Figure 3. Dixon Elementary open green field



Figure 4. Off-site outdoor learning along the West Dyke Trail

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Attach one (1) copy of this form as the first page of the submission.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **Postal Code:** _____

Primary Phone: _____ **Secondary Phone:** _____

E-mail: _____ **Website:** _____
(One website or blog only)

Incomplete submissions will not be accepted. Emailed submissions over 5 MB will not be accepted. Information beyond what is listed in the checklist will not be reviewed.

Optional: Do you self-identify as a member of an equity-seeking and/or underrepresented community?

(examples: Indigenous, person of colour, LGBTQ2S+, mixed ability, newcomer, Deaf, hard of hearing, living with a disability, etc.) If so, please specify:

If applicable, please indicate additional members of your artist team:

Please let us know how you found out about this opportunity:

Would you like to receive direct e-mails from the Richmond Public Art Program? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Submit applications by email to: PublicArt@richmond.ca

Additional Information

Please be advised that the City and the selection panel are not obliged to accept any of the submissions and may reject all submissions. The City reserves the right to reissue the EOI as required. All submissions to this EOI become the property of the City. All information provided under the submission is subject to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (BC) and shall only be withheld from release if an exemption from release is permitted by the Act. The artist shall retain copyright of the submitted documents. While every precaution will be taken to prevent the loss or damage of submissions, the City and its agents shall not be liable for any loss or damage, however caused.