

CALL TO ARTISTS – Expression of Interest (EOI)

Great Hall Permanent Public Art

Submission deadline: **January 10, 2025**, by 11:59 p.m. EST

Budget: \$400,000.00 CAD + HST

The City of Mississauga (the “City”) seeks to commission an Indigenous artist or Indigenous artist-led team to create a monumental hanging sculptural installation in Mississauga’s Civic Centre that honours the Indigenous past, present and future on the lands of the present-day City of Mississauga.

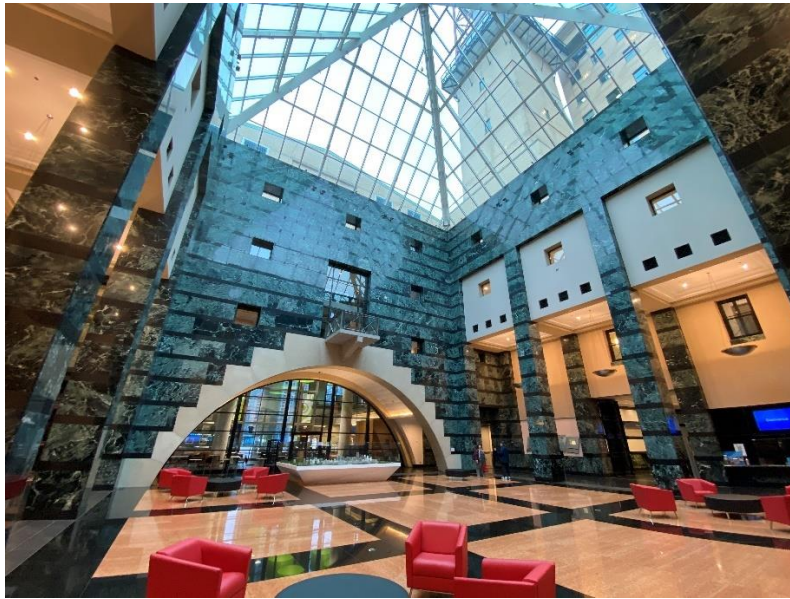


Figure 1 Image of the Great Hall, Mississauga City Hall

1. Eligibility

This is a public competition open to Indigenous artists and artist-led teams* who are based in or have a connection to Ontario and Indigenous communities within the region.

Our public art program accepts informal training and community/peer recognition, and recognizes artists, creators, and storytellers from a diverse range of disciplines. **Please do not hesitate to reach out to our team or submit an application, even if you are unsure if your credentials are suitable for the opportunity.** When needed, the Public Art Program can work with the selected artist to introduce you to technical experts to assist with any installation and/or fabrication needs.

** Applicants may be requested to provide documentation or community acknowledgement to support their claims of Indigenous identity, if the City is unable to obtain it on their own. When necessary, the City's Indigenous Relations team will work with Indigenous communities to ensure the authenticity of claims. This process will be handled with care and cultural sensitivity.*

2. Submission Checklist

Please read all components of the EOI prior to completing your submission. To submit your application, please go to: mississaugapublicart.smapply.ca. In this online submission form, you will be asked to provide the following:

Section 1: Artist Information

Other than your name, this information will not be visible to the Art Selection Committee.

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- "Artist Information"** including your name, pronouns, contact information and links to your website and social media, if applicable.

Section 2: Artist Statement

This information will be visible to the Art Selection Committee.

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- Artist Statement** You can submit a written statement (1000 words maximum) or a recorded video/voice note (an MP4 file or online link, max 20 MB). The statement should include a description of:
 - ✓ Your artistic practice
 - ✓ Your connection to the lands and waters on which Mississauga is situated
 - ✓ Your interest in this project and understanding of the project goals
 - ✓ Your initial ideas or vision for this project
 - Artist's CV** or a document outlining your work on similar and/or relevant projects

Section 3: Artist Portfolio

This information will be visible to the Art Selection Committee.

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- Artist portfolio (no more than 10 images, pages or videos of past work).** The images and/or videos should illustrate your artistic practice and interest in this project. Where applicable, each image should include: title, year, media, location, project budget, dimensions, and collaborators and/or commissioning agencies.
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Artist(s) will retain copyright over their submissions. However, the submissions may be used by the City of Mississauga in meetings with team members and staff.

Accessibility: The City will provide accommodations, including reading and writing support, throughout the selection process to applicants with disabilities and/or English as a second language. Please notify Philippa French, Public Art Curator at 905-615-3200 ext. 4675 or philippa.french@mississauga.ca of the nature of any accommodation(s) that you may require in respect of any materials or processes used to ensure your equal participation.

Technical Assistance: If you experience any technical challenges or need assistance using the application software, please reach out to public.art@mississauga.ca. If you have feedback on this application process and platform, we invite you to complete a quick and anonymous survey [here](#).

3. Project Brief

The lands that constitute the present-day City of Mississauga are part of the Treaty Lands and Territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, and the traditional territory of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy and the Huron-Wendat. The City of Mississauga recognizes that it is home to many Indigenous people today.



Figure 2 Image of the Exterior of Mississauga City Hall

The Great Hall within Mississauga’s Civic Centre features a striking architectural design that combines modernism with functional aesthetics, including marble and granite columns rising more than three stories high. The space is characterized by its open layout, high ceilings, and extensive use of glass, allowing for natural light to flood the interior. The Great Hall is designed to be a versatile and inviting space that is suitable for various community events and exhibits.

The Public Art Program is commissioning a new permanent public artwork to help animate the Civic Centre ground floor space, encouraging visitors to explore the Civic Centre and enhancing the user experience of this City facility. The intention is for the artwork to complement the space without disrupting programming, ensuring it harmonizes with the natural light from the skylight.

To maintain the flexibility of the ground floor and avoid disrupting activities at ground level, the artwork is to be suspended from the ceiling or the perimeter beam (shown in red below) surrounding the skylight, in the main Great Hall space:

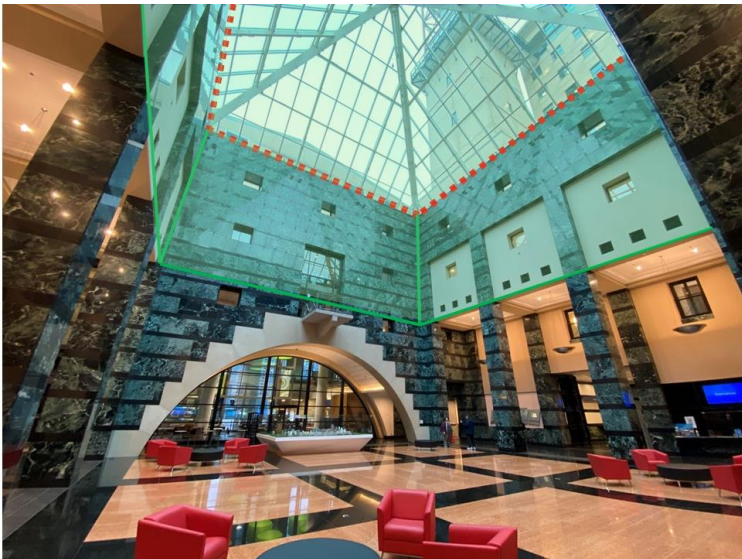


Figure 3 View from ground showing available space for artwork

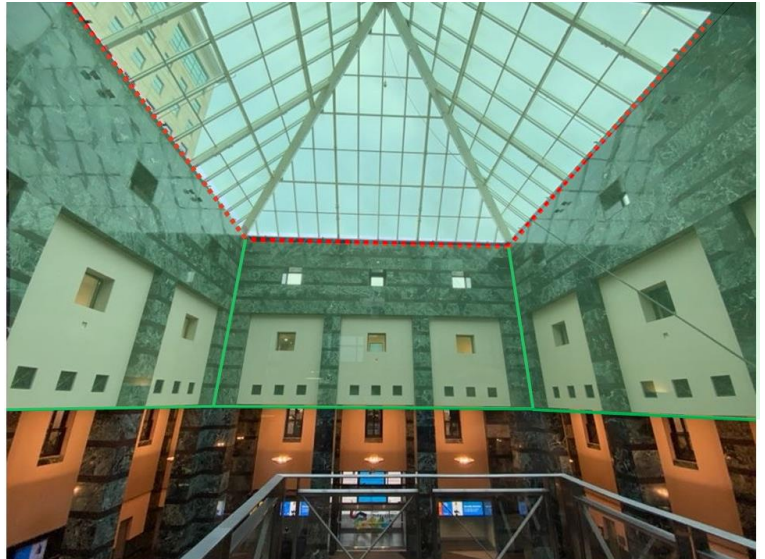


Figure 4 View from second floor showing available space for artwork

Artwork Goals

The goals of this project are to:

- Honour the City of Mississauga’s treaty relationships and ongoing healing with Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation and all other Indigenous nations who have traditional territory within the region;
- Honour the Indigenous past, present and future on the lands of the present-day City of Mississauga;

- Be a monumental artwork that is highly impactful and visible; and
- Inspire wonder and curiosity about Mississauga’s Civic Centre and downtown arts and culture.

Throughout artwork creation and commissioning, the City’s public art program will strive to act in a spirit of reciprocity, reconciliation, collaboration, mutual respect and good faith.

The City recognizes that supporting Indigenous work means supporting practices in which Indigenous Artists feel physically, emotionally, spiritually, and culturally safe. The City recognizes that the Artist is an individual artist and can not speak on behalf of the/any entire Indigenous community. Projects with Indigenous artists offer opportunities for learning and exploration.

4. Location

Address: 300 City Centre Drive, Mississauga, ON, Canada L5B 3C9

Geography & Architecture: The City of Mississauga is located on the Treaty Lands and Territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit, and the territory of the Anishinaabe, Seneca, Haudenosaunee, and Huron-Wendat people.

Mississauga City Hall, designed by Edward Jones and Michael Kirkland (in partnership as Jones & Kirkland), opened in 1987 as the civic centre for the new City of Mississauga, a merger of the towns of Mississauga, Port Credit and Streetsville. The architecture of the civic center was built to be a farm of the future. The clock tower is a windmill, the council chamber a silo and the office tower is the farmhouse. The colonnades are representative of the stables and even the colour of the brick is supposed to be the colour of wheat/corn.

The Great Hall is the entry and welcoming centre to the building. It is meant to be Mississauga’s “Village Square”. The marble in the space is imported from Italy and the granite from Peru. The space is used for special events, lectures, public address, and has been seen in many films and television series. The glass pyramidal ceiling provides a view to the Clock Tower which is 70 metres tall (26 storeys).

Dimensions:

- The approximate maximum width, length and height of the available space is shown in the diagram below:

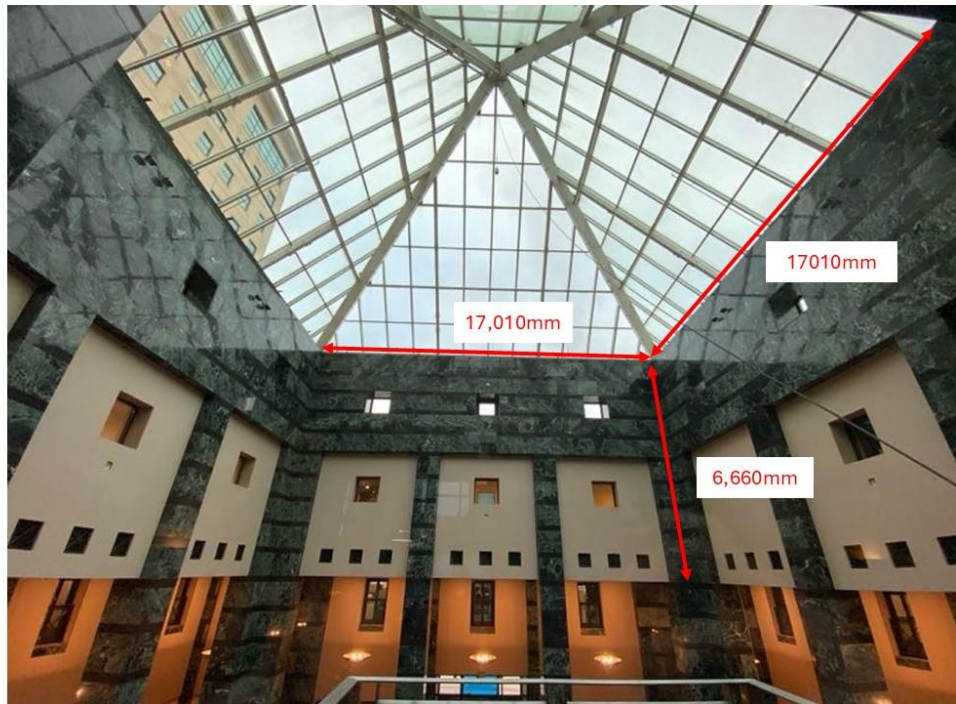


Figure 5 Approximate dimension of available space

Other Considerations:

- It is suggested that the artwork material selection has acoustic properties incorporated.
- It is suggested that the artwork includes an element of sustainability* – possibly considering waste reduction, reuse of materials, etc.
- The bottom of the artwork should not extend beyond what has been provided in terms of available space (not lower than the second storey).
- Artwork that is more on a vertical plain will be more impactful in the space and will not have as large of an impact the light coming into the space through the skylight.
- The surrounding lights and smoke detectors, located just below the skylight and above the highest row of windows, will need to be accessible for servicing once artwork is installed.

** We define sustainability as an eco-social approach to land, site, materiality, and community; as well as the practice of injecting creativity and thought to the public discourse around people and planet.*

5. Anticipated Budget

The total budget for all artist fees and expenses related to this project is **\$400,000.00 + HST Canadian Dollars**.* No further compensation will be made to the artist for costs associated with participating in this Call to Artists for Expressions of Interest.

** This fee includes (but is not limited to): artist fees, technical consultation, travel to the site and project meetings, purchase of relevant materials, engineering fees, costs associated with community engagement, fabrication and artwork installation (including delivery to the site), insurance and/or permit fees as required by the City of Mississauga, maintenance plan documentation, and attendance at unveiling of the completed artwork.*

6. Anticipated Schedule

It is expected that the commissioned artist(s) will comply with the project's general timeline dates, as highlighted below:

Date*	Project Phase
January 10, 2025	Submission Deadline at 11:59 p.m.
Week of January 27, 2025	Art Selection Committee Shortlists Candidates
February 3, 2025	Request for Proposals (RFP) shared with shortlisted artists
Week of February 24, 2025	Optional meeting on site for shortlisted artists with project team members
March 10, 2025	RFP closes
March 2025	Art Selection Committee reviews proposals
March 2025	Selected Artist Notified; Contract Execution
Spring 2025	Design development process, including potential engagement with Mississauga of the Credit First Nation community members
Summer 2025-Spring 2026	Artwork fabrication
Spring 2026	Artwork installation
July 2026	Artwork unveiling

** Schedule subject to change*

7. Selection Process and Criteria

This is a two-stage art selection process:

Stage One: Artist Shortlist based on Expression of Interest (EOI) Submissions

An art selection jury comprised of a majority of Indigenous arts professionals and community members and/or members of the project team will score submissions against an evaluation matrix. The jury will recommend up to three artists or artist teams to advance to Stage 2: Request for Proposals based on the following criteria:

- Artist's interest and expressed desire in this project and their understanding of the project goals;
- Artist's ability to complete a project of this scale, budget, and timeline, as evidenced in their past work;
- Artist's past work, specifically in its high level of quality, originality, and suitability in style and concept to this public art project's goals.

Our public art program accepts informal training and community/peer recognition, and recognizes artists, creators, and storytellers from a diverse range of disciplines. **Please do not hesitate to reach out to our team or send a submission, even if you are unsure if your credentials are suitable for the opportunity.**

Stage 2: Request for Proposals

Up to three shortlisted artists will be invited to respond to a detailed Request for Proposals package and will be paid \$2,500.00 + HST to develop proposals.

In Stage 2, shortlisted artists will be asked to present drawings or in situ representation of the proposed artwork and a project plan outline, including detailed budget and schedule. Shortlisted artists will also have the opportunity to meet on site with the project team to experience the space and get a better understanding of the engineering considerations for the suspended artwork. This meeting will be optional with the goal of helping to address any feasibility issues and give shortlisted artists a sense of the space and scale of the room. A virtual meeting option will be available for artists unable to travel to the site.

The City of Mississauga reserves the right to select and retain the artist deemed most appropriate for the project at its sole discretion.

8. Commitment to Equity

The City's Public Art Program is committed to continually improving our application processes to ensure equitable and inclusive opportunities for all. If you have feedback on this application process, particularly if you are a racialized individual or individual facing systemic barriers that limit your full participation within the public art industry, we invite you to send feedback to public.art@mississauga.ca.

9. Reserved Rights of the City of Mississauga

The City of Mississauga (the "City"), at its sole discretion, may request clarifications or request additional information, as deemed necessary to evaluate the submissions. The City retains the sole discretion to determine whether a submission is responsive and if the prospective Artist or Artist Team is capable of performing the Work. The City reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to determine the number of pre-qualified Artists or Artist Teams. The City reserves the right to not proceed with awarding a contract.

10. Publication of Competition Information

The City of Mississauga shall have the exclusive right to issue all public announcements regarding the competition.

11. Additional Information

For additional information or questions please contact: public.art@mississauga.ca. For more information about the City's public art program visit: mississauga.ca/publicart