

Call for Expressions of Interest from Canadian Curators

Curatorial Assessment of the Edmonton Public Art Collection – *Phase 1*

The Edmonton Arts Council, on behalf of the City of Edmonton, seeks a Canadian Curator or Curatorial Team to undertake the first phase in an assessment of the City of Edmonton Public Art Collection.

This multi-phased project includes

- A. A survey of the collection & Summary Report (Phase 1)
- B. A Collection Development Plan (Phase 2)

Budget: Commensurate with experience. Please include a proposed fee with submission materials.

Deadline: 4:30 pm MST on Monday, May 7, 2018

Schedule: May – October, 2018

Please direct any enquiries to David Turnbull, Public Art & Conservation Director:
dturnbull@edmontonarts.ca or 780.424.2787 ext 222

About the City of Edmonton Public Art Collection

The City of Edmonton Public Art Collection numbers 239 artworks by 302 local, regional, national, and international artists. Although the roots of the collection can be traced to 1957, the adoption of City Policy C458C [Percent for Art to Provide and Encourage Art in Public Areas](#) in 1991 catalyzed the establishment of a formal civic public art collection. Commissions were capped at \$100,000 until 2008, when the Edmonton Arts Council took over administration of the Percent for Art policy. Coupled with an increase in municipal infrastructure projects, the elimination of the cap allowed an unprecedented influx of regional, national, and international commissions.

Artists represented in the collection include: Sandra Bromley, Douglas Bentham, Jordi Bonet, Konstantin Dimopoulos, Joe Fafard, Marc Fornes & THE VERYMANY, Alex Javier, realities:united, Inges Idée, and Ball Nogues Studio. The majority of artworks are by artists from Edmonton, or artists who were residents at the time their work was commissioned.

In addition to artworks commissioned through the Percent for Art policy, the Edmonton Arts Council offers a number of transitory or temporary opportunities to artists; facilitates projects such as ÎNÎW River Lot 11, Edmonton's first Indigenous Art Park; funds community-based initiatives, as well as administering gift applications, and various municipal commissions honouring events and/or special relationships.

The [City of Edmonton Public Art Collection Online Gallery](#) showcases Edmonton's diverse public art.

About the Edmonton Arts Council

The Edmonton Arts Council is a not for profit society and charitable organization that supports and promotes the arts community in Edmonton. The EAC works to increase the profile and involvement of the arts in all aspects of our community.

City of Edmonton Public Art Collection Curatorial Assessment

The Edmonton Arts Council has embarked upon an in-depth assessment of its public art and conservation department activities and priorities. The multi-phased approach will culminate in a comprehensive Collections Management Policy that will guide future development and maintenance of the City of Edmonton Public Art Collection.

The Curatorial Survey and Report (Phase 1) will form a comprehensive portrait of the collection, its cultural and material value, as well as place within the larger continuum of Canadian art history. The completed assessment will provide an objective analysis of the quality, depth and significance of the works in the collection and provide a framework for future direction.

Opportunity

The Edmonton Arts Council seeks a curator or curatorial team to undertake Phase 1 of its Curatorial Assessment.

The selected curator or team will conduct a comprehensive curatorial survey of the City of Edmonton Public Art Collection and draft a summary report of survey findings and analyses. The survey and report will provide insight into the artistic, cultural and social value of the individual artworks as well as the entire collection.

The successful candidate will:

- a. In consultation with EAC staff, develop a curatorial assessment system or matrix that can be integrated into the current collection assessment model.
- b. Define terms used in the curatorial assessment.
- c. Execute a curatorial assessment survey of the entire Edmonton Public Art Collection based on the criteria developed above.
- d. Draft a summary report of the survey findings

This project is to be completed by end of third quarter, 2018.

Submission Requirements

Those interested in submitting should include the following elements in their proposal:

- Letter of interest detailing your experience with mixed public art collections
 - Must include a proposed fee
- Curriculum Vitae
- Applicable samples of your work in related areas
- Optionally, a link to a website with examples of previous projects or other biographical information
- Contact information
- Up to four references

Please address all submissions to:

David Turnbull, Edmonton Arts Council Public Art & Conservation Director

Email: dturnbull@edmontonarts.ca

Subject: Curatorial Assessment of the City of Edmonton Public Art Collection Phase 1

Submissions must be received via email by 4:30 pm MST on Monday, May 7, 2018.