

# Chinatown Road Mural

3 Avenue SE – 1 Street SE to  
Centre Street





# Chinatown Road Mural Public Art Project

## CALL TO ARTISTS

The City of Calgary and Calgary Arts Development (CADA) invite artists or artist teams to submit qualifications for the design of a road mural in Chinatown, along 3 Avenue SE, between 1 Street SE and Centre Street. The mural is intended to be painted directly on the roadway, within the traffic lanes, to create a temporary, vibrant and engaging landscape. The road mural will be enjoyed by motorists, pedestrians, businesses and residents in the area while construction is underway on the Eau Claire Area Improvements Program and downtown flood barrier.

Artists with experience creating outdoor murals are encouraged to apply. This opportunity is open to local professional artists with connections to the Chinatown area. Individual artists or artist teams/collectives are eligible.

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

### Accessibility

Public art staff are available to work one-on-one with applicants who experience barriers to access to develop accommodations that suit their abilities. Examples of accommodations include translation of written materials, interpretation for meetings, braille transcription, physical access to meeting spaces and video or audio applications. The City of Calgary is currently working with Calgary Arts Development (CADA) to provide access to translation services free-of-charge. Please contact CADA directly if you would like to access this service. Email [publicart@calgaryartsdevelopment.com](mailto:publicart@calgaryartsdevelopment.com) Phone: 403-264-5330 ext 221.

- Artist Design Fee:** \$10,000.00 CAD  
Not including GST.
- Submission deadline:** 5:00 pm MST  
Monday, January 31, 2022
- Start:** February 2022
- Completion:** June 2022

### Artist Information Sessions (online):

Two information sessions will be held on Zoom.

- January 10 – 10 am to noon
- January 19 – 7pm to 9 pm

Please visit [Eventbrite to register](#) in advance for the sessions.



## CONTEXT

Chinatown is one of Calgary's most distinctive cultural communities, with a long history. It is a unique area, important to Calgary and to its residents, visitors and business.

The area on which Chinatown was developed sits on Treaty 7 territory, the traditional home of the Blackfoot Confederacy (Siksika, Kainai, Piikani), the Tsuut'ina, the Îethka Nakoda Wîcastabi Nations, and the Métis Nation.

The city's history includes two previous Chinatowns that were displaced. The third and current Chinatown was established in its present location in 1910.

The City of Calgary has been working with the Chinatown community to create the first Cultural Plan and new Local Area Plan for Chinatown. This initiative is known as "Tomorrow's Chinatown". Working together, these new plans will help support Chinatown's future as a vibrant, culturally rich place to live, visit, work, and do business, for generations to come. More information about the project is available at [www.Calgary.ca/Chinatown](http://www.Calgary.ca/Chinatown)

As part of the ongoing improvements in the Chinatown area, The City is currently making several infrastructure investments to create a more comfortable, inclusive, and safe environment for all users. The [3 Avenue South Walking and Wheeling Upgrades](#) currently underway will improve connections between Eau Claire and Chinatown during construction of [flood mitigation projects](#) along the river, and will add to the vibrancy of this area. The road mural is intended to add visual interest to this space, while encouraging motorists, cyclists, pedestrians, and all

users of the space to slow down, take in their surroundings, and enjoy the area.





## **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The successful artist or artist team will create a mural on the road along 3 Avenue SE, between Centre Street and 1 Street SE. The road mural is intended to be a temporary measure, in place for approximately 2 years, that will add visual interest and contribute to the vibrancy of the area.

The road mural offers a unique opportunity for artists or artist teams to develop a concept that can be experienced from different vantage points:

- **From the street level** - as pedestrians, vehicles, cyclists, and other roadway users traverse the space at different speeds.
- **From above** - as people look down on it from the adjacent buildings.

The location of the road mural in the heart of Chinatown, within blocks of the former Indian Friendship Centre, opens opportunities to explore the community's roots through varying perspectives, including the relationship between Indigenous people and the Chinese and Pan-Asian people that settled on Treaty 7 Territory.

### **Goals**

This project will:

- Reflect the past, present, and/or future of the Chinatown community.
- Consider the historical and present-day context of the location and the variety of cultural communities represented.

- Create visual interest and encourage pedestrians, motorists, cyclists and other roadway users to slow down and explore the community through its art.

### **Public engagement**

The artist or artist team will be expected to engage with the Chinatown community, including residents, businesses, and visitors to develop a concept that reflects the community.

The engagement should build upon past feedback gathered from the community, as well as new information gathered through engagement activities with the artist(s), and supported by CADA and The City of Calgary. CADA and City staff can provide additional community context to support a thoughtful and inclusive engagement process.

Themes from previous engagement in the community can be found at: <https://engage.calgary.ca/tomorrows-chinatown>.

### **Collaboration with City and CADA staff**

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 at The City and CADA, as well as other stakeholders such as roadway engineers, to ensure the visuals and design comply with Provincial and Federal traffic safety standards (see technical considerations on following page).



## KEY DATES

Submission deadline:	<b>NOON (12 pm) MST</b> <b>Monday, January 31, 2022</b> <b>Late submissions will not be considered.</b>
Shortlist and artist selection:	<b>Early February 2022</b>
Public Engagement:	<b>February-March 2022</b>
Concept development	<b>February -May 2022</b>
Project completion:	<b>June 2022</b>

## COMPENSATION

The artist or artist team will be paid a total of **\$10,000.00 CDN** (not including GST) for development of the artistic concept. The successful applicant is paid based on deliverables as per their Scope of Work contract.

The artist/artist team is responsible for managing their project budget.

The total budget includes (but is not limited to):

- Artist fees
- Consultation
- Artist time spent on public engagement
- Travel if applicable
- Insurance
- Studio fees

Once finalized, the artistic concept will be installed /painted on the roadway by a third-party contractor hired by The City/CADA. The contractor will provide materials (specific roadway paint product), equipment, and a specialized crew to implement the artists vision on the roadway. **The artist(s) can also take part in the installation/painting process, and will be paid hourly based on [CARFAC](#) rates, to a maximum of \$2,500,**

## TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS

The artist or artist team should be prepared to work within technical constraints as outlined by The City of Calgary, in compliance with the Traffic Association of Canada (TAC) and Provincial road safety guidelines.

At a high level, these include:

- **Colours:** yellow, white, and/or red as the primary background colour are restricted.
- **Visuals:** cannot resemble traffic control or warning devices. If Chinese characters are used, they cannot represent or resemble traffic control instructions.

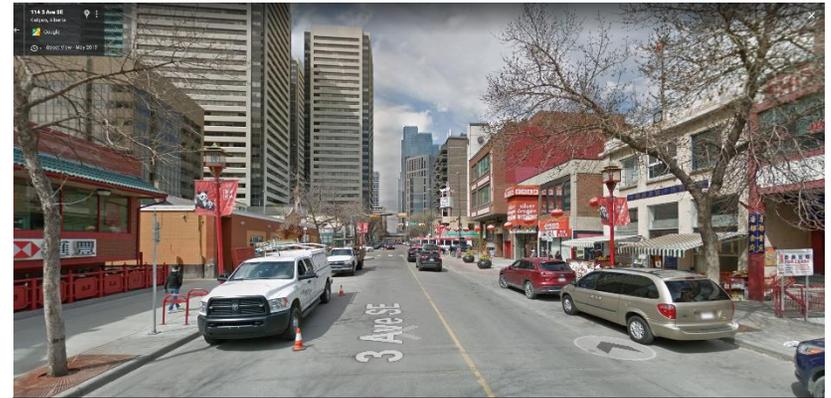
All imagery will be subject to review by The City of Calgary for safety purposes.

The area of the roadway available for painting is shown on the following page.

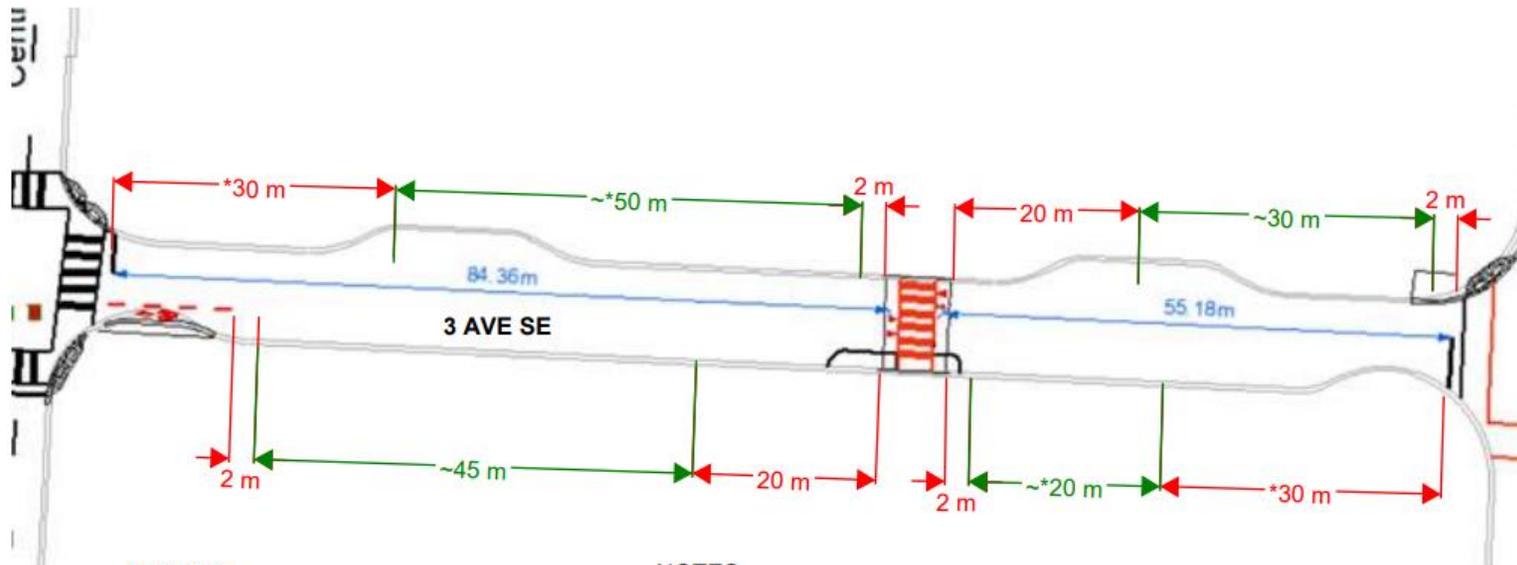
## The Location

The paintable space available on the roadway is shown in the diagram below. The sidewalks and parking/layby areas are **not** considered part of the available paintable area.

- **North side of 3 Avenue:** Approximately 80 m of paintable space
- **South side of 3 Avenue :** Approximately 65 m of paintable roadway
- **Lane width:** Approximately 3.5 m
- **Approximately 507 sq m in total of paintable roadway**



3 Avenue SE, looking west towards Centre St.



### LEGEND

- # ← Prohibited Areas
- # ← Permitted Areas

### NOTES

- The above is provided for reference purposes only.
- Prohibited Areas are identified considering braking distance with:
  - (1) 20m from the mid-block crosswalk;
  - (2) \*30m from the signalized intersection - queue length to be confirmed.
- Remaining Prohibited Areas are 2m from traffic control devices (pavement markings).



## HOW TO APPLY

### Submission package

Eligible submissions will contain:

- a) **Letter of interest** (250- 500 words)  
Refer to the criteria on the following page for suggested topics;
- b) **A current resume / Curriculum Vitae**  
with applicable examples of work in related areas, educational experience and contact information;
  - **Images (Maximum of 10)**  
Up to 10 images of past work. One artwork per image. Include an image list with brief description of the commission, title and date of each work, and information on project partners, where applicable.

The submission package will be evaluated based on the application criteria on the following page.

**Note that artwork concepts (proposals) are NOT required as part of this application. The successful artist will develop the concept after completing community engagement.**

### Questions and clarifications

Submit all questions in writing to [publicart@calgary.ca](mailto:publicart@calgary.ca) prior to 4:30 PM MST on Thursday, January 27, 2022.

### How to submit

- Email [publicart@calgary.ca](mailto:publicart@calgary.ca) and attach all the required documents in a single email.

- Email subject line should say: **Chinatown Road Mural**
- Note that the maximum file size for an email is 10 MB.
- Submissions are accepted in electronic form only.
- All submission files must be compatible with a PC.
- Links to posted media or content will not be viewed. All content must be contained within the email.
- Incomplete or late submissions will not be considered.

### References

Three references will be requested for short-listed artists. References should include company name, current contact name including current telephone number, address and e-mail address. The City reserves the right to contact references without prior notification. References from City of Calgary staff members will not be counted as part of the required references.

### Artist teams

If applying as a team:

- Identify the project lead and team members;
- Describe how the team will be structured including the role of each team member;
- Provide the percentage of time dedicated by each team member;
- Indicate the location where staff will be based.



## SELECTION PROCESS

### Step 1 - Shortlisting

All eligible submissions are reviewed by a selection panel consisting of 3 arts professionals, 3 community members and 1 City business unit representative. The selection panel will shortlist artists or artist teams based on how their submissions meet the evaluation criteria below (rated out of a possible total 100 points):

### Step 2 – Finalist interviews

Shortlisted artists or artist teams may be invited to an online interview with the selection panel. Finalist(s) will be selected based on the evaluation criteria.

*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

#### A. Understanding of the project: 30 points

- Why this opportunity appeals to the artist
- How the artist's background and practice will contribute to this project
- Knowledge of or connection to the project's place

#### B. Project experience: 20 points

- Experience in working to a schedule; demonstrated ability to deliver a project on time
- Demonstrated ability to meet a set budget / deliver a project on budget
- Demonstrated ability to collaborate with project teams, other stakeholders and engage with the public

#### C. Artistic practice: 30 points

- Demonstrated artistic excellence in contemporary art practice; demonstrated flexibility of practice; responsiveness to contextual opportunities

#### D. Public art experience: 20 points

- Demonstrated, relevant experience in completing public art projects of a similar scope
- Responsiveness to community engagement; understanding of the project's context in the community.



## ABOUT CALGARY

The Calgary area where the Bow and Elbow rivers meet is a place of confluence where the sharing of ideas and opportunities naturally come together. Indigenous peoples have their own names for this area that have been in use long before Scottish settlers named this place Calgary. The Métis call the Calgary area Otos-kwunee. In the Blackfoot language, they call this place, Moh-kins-tsis. The Stoney Nakoda Nation refer to the Calgary area as Wîchîspa Oyade and the people of the Tsuut'ina nation call this area Guts-ists-i.<sup>1</sup>

We would like to acknowledge that this project will be located on the traditional territories of the people of the Treaty 7 region in Southern Alberta. This includes: the Siksika, Piikani, and Kainai collectively known as the Blackfoot Confederacy; the Îethka Nakoda Wîcastabi First Nations, comprised of the Chiniki, Bearspaw, and Wesley First Nations; and the Tsuut'ina First Nation. The city of Calgary is also homeland to the historic Northwest Métis and to Métis Nation of Alberta, Region 3. We acknowledge all Indigenous urban Calgarians, First Nations, Inuit, and Métis, who have made Calgary their home.<sup>1</sup>

One of the guiding principles of the Public Art Program is to share, and provide a voice to, the historical context of Calgary; honour that information, and include and embed it in the work going forward. To learn more, watch the video: [Calgary Foundation Land Acknowledgement \(Full\)](#) on YouTube.

1. Moh'kinstis Public Art Guiding Circle

## THE PUBLIC ART PROGRAM

The Public Art Program's mission is to provide a responsive public art program from which The City, Calgarians and artists collaborate, exchange perspectives and explore familiar and unimagined situations, subjects and opportunities, as they relate to our evolving relationships with our shared history, place and community.

Established in January 2004, the [Public Art Program](#) ensures the allocation of 1% for the portion of eligible project capital costs over \$1 million up to \$50 million; and 0.5% for the portion over \$50 million to public art.

The Public Art Policy outlines the diversity of public art opportunities as: discrete, semi-integrated, integrated and temporary works, and allows for artists on design teams, community-based public art, and special projects such as artist residencies.

The City of Calgary is gradually transitioning key components of public art program operations to [Calgary Arts Development](#) (CADA). During the transition period The City will be working closely with CADA on community programming, calls for artists, community engagement and the procurement of new public art. The full transition will be complete in 2024. Selected artists and artist teams may be asked to work with both organizations throughout their project. Both The City and CADA are committed to working with artists and the public to create a positive, meaningful and enriching program for the future. For more information on this transition visit: <https://www.calgary.ca/csps/recreation/public-art/public-art-policy-review.html>.



## **TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS FOR WORKING WITH PUBLIC ART**

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

- Confirm a Commercial General Liability (“CGL”) insurance policy for bodily injury (including death) and property damage in an amount of not less than TWO MILLION DOLLARS (\$2,000,000.00) inclusive limit for any one occurrence;
- Complete a Scope and Fee contract defining project deliverables and payment schedule;
- Sign a City of Calgary Professional Services Provider Agreement which includes Consulting General Conditions.

## **ADMINISTRATION**

The commissioner for this project is:

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

Contact for questions: [publicart@calgary.ca](mailto:publicart@calgary.ca).

How to submit: email [publicart@calgary.ca](mailto:publicart@calgary.ca).

There is no cost to the applicant to provide a submission.

Submissions must currently be provided in English.