

Halifax Regional Municipality

Call for Proposals-Public Art

Alderney Gate Community Gathering Space

Project Budget: \$32,000 CDA (inclusive of HST)

Deadline for Submission: January 19, 2022

The Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM) is seeking public art proposals for Alderney Gate (60 Alderney Drive, Dartmouth) as part of its 2021-2022 renovation.



Contact

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Project Description

HRM is seeking artist-led proposals for the design of an original, wall-mounted work of art to be installed within the newly redesigned entranceway to Alderney Gate (60 Alderney Drive, Dartmouth). The artwork is intended for an elevated wall space in the facility's new community gathering space/entryway.

The total budget for the project is \$32,000.00 CDN inclusive of net HST.

The tentative project schedule is as follows:

Submission deadline: January 19, 2022

Selection and notification: February 19, 2022

Agreement, Detailed Design and Fabrication: February - June 2022

Project Installation: July 2022

Project Intent

This public art will be a feature component of a recapitalization program for Alderney Gate that includes the development of a new main lobby to create a more inclusive and accessible public space. The intent of the renovations in this area are to improve the overall usefulness and functionality of the existing entry area as a gathering space for the community, a programming space for the Alderney Gate Public Library and an overflow space for the Alderney public market. The project will modernize the lobby- including provision of a new universal washroom facility- and provide a welcoming gathering space for residents, tenants, staff and visitors to Dartmouth.

• Halifax Public Libraries- Strategic Priorities

The Alderney Gate Library serves a vibrant and diverse cultural constituency. The Halifax Public Libraries' Strategic Plan places users of the library at the center of the Library's vision and prioritizes an adaptive organizational model and outlook that specifically reflects community needs.

Priorities

- Expand organizational capacity;
- Support sharing and creation of knowledge and enjoyment;
- Create vibrant spaces;
- Meet people where they are; and
- Encourage social and economic growth.

Relevant considerations of the Strategy in relation to this public art opportunity include:

Under the 'Creating Vibrant Spaces' priority the Strategy states that the Library will "...continue to create modern spaces that offer excellent technology, furnishings and amenities to foster discovery, creativity and social engagement."

Under the 'Meet People Where They Are' priority the Strategy states that "Libraries strive to be a reflection of their communities in content and people. We will mirror and deeply reflect the diversity of our many communities."

- **Halifax Regional Municipality Diversity and Inclusion Framework**

This public art opportunity will be administered in accordance with the core values embedded in the Municipality's Diversity and Inclusion Framework, which states:

The Halifax Regional Municipality values diversity and inclusion in all that we do, think and pursue. Diversity is more than race, ability, sexual orientation, language, gender or any other descriptive category. Diversity means understanding and utilizing different views, ideas, life experiences, skills and knowledge. By recognizing diversity as a core value, we are laying the foundation for a municipality that aspires to accurately represent the communities we serve.

The goals of the Framework are reflected in the goals of this process, which include the development of:

- **Inclusive public service:** To ensure inclusive and equitable access to and benefit of, municipal services, programs and facilities;
- **Equitable employment:** To attract and retain a skilled workforce that reflects the diverse residents of the municipality; and
- **Meaningful partnerships:** To develop positive and respectful internal and external partnerships that contribute to inclusive decision making.

- **Artwork Themes and Considerations**

The selection committee for the Alderney Gate Community Gathering Space public art opportunity is open to a range of thematic considerations. Submitted artist proposals should exhibit an awareness that this area is a public space frequented by varied and diverse publics and users of all age groups.

An awareness of the Halifax Public Libraries' Strategic Plan is considered an advantage:

<https://www.halifaxpubliclibraries.ca/wp-content/uploads/sites/50/2018/02/HfxPublicLibraries-StratPlan-2017-web.pdf>

Opportunity Site: Wall-Mounted Installation

A single prominent location within the Alderney Gate Community gathering Space area has been identified for public art integration.





The area identified for the future artwork is an elevated wall space in the area that will serve as the lobby/entrance of the Library and a general area of gathering for the facility and its varied uses and user groups. **The general location of the artwork site is shown in yellow rectangle in the renderings above.**

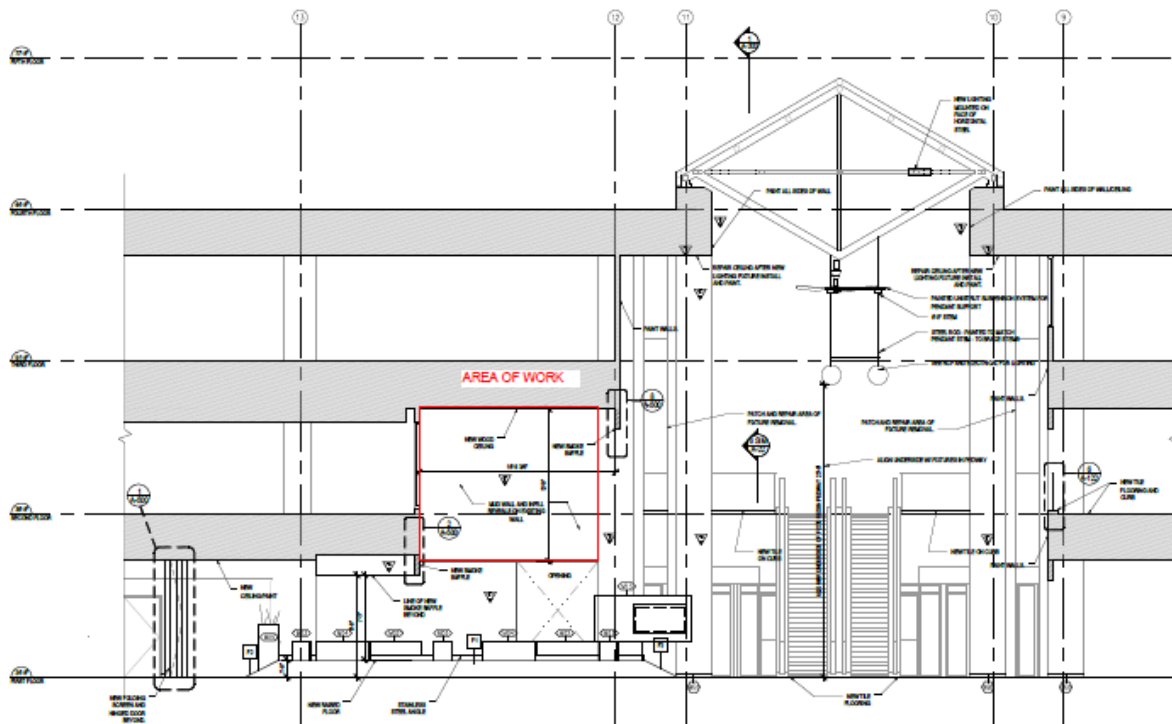
The dimensions of the identified artwork space are 16' in length and 14' high. The lowermost boundary of the artwork area will sit approximately 9' above the raised floor of the renovated space. Please note that these dimensions are general and will need to be site-confirmed for accuracy.

This artwork location is suitable for a 2D installation or 3D installation provided the artwork is wall-mounted and extends no more than 12 inches from the wall.

Please note that the renovation will address the finish of the existing wall (art opportunity site) but will not be creating a new structural wall. The existing wall which will form the general site for the future artwork can be viewed in its current state by arranging a site visit with the HRM Project Manager.

Please note that access to the site may be limited in relation to current and future COVID 19 restrictions and construction safety considerations. Personal Protective Equipment is required for site visit during construction and consists of CSA approved hard hat and safety boots. Masks are required as per NS Health COVID protocols.

Wall Elevation (full page at end of document)



Other Site Specifics

Because the structure of the wall is not within the scope of the renovation the exact load-bearing capacity of the artwork site is currently unknown. Once the exact nature of the artwork has been determined HRM will conduct investigation into the wall to determine the location of studs.

The prominent colour scheme of the renovated portion of the building is white walls, charcoal flooring with ash wood for seating areas and some feature wood ceilings. There is a raised seating area that has an ash wood effect tile flooring.

There is no access to electrical at this site however the site can accommodate dedicated lighting for the artwork above the specified location. The selected artists will be able to influence the use and orientation of those lights in relation to the approved artwork.

Submission Requirements

Email all documentation as one (1) PDF document in portrait format, not to exceed a file size of 5 MB to: artgrants@halifax.ca

1. COVER PAGE – Please provide accurate contact information for the applicant, including mailing address, email address and phone numbers for the project lead (if submitting as a team), website information (where applicable), as well as the names of all collaborating parties.

2. ARTIST CV- Please include a brief bio and a CV outlining the professional experience of the applicant (not to exceed 2 pages). If submitting as a group, please include a CV for the project lead (maximum 2 pages), and brief bios for each of the participating members.
3. STATEMENT OF INTEREST – 200 words (or less) that explain why the artist/team is interested in this opportunity and how their practice relates to this project and the posted selection criteria.
4. VISUAL PROJECT DESCRIPTION- A PRELIMINARY visual concept (drawings/renderings) sufficient to illustrate the applicant's approach to the site(s). **
5. WRITTEN PROJECT DESCRIPTION- 500 words (or less) that describe the project, including relevant project methodology. **

*** It is understood that the project descriptions received at this stage through this process will be preliminary in nature, and intended to express the concept of the artwork, not the detailed final design. The selected concept and all particulars pertaining to the installation of the artwork will be further developed post-award in consultation with members of the project team.*

DIGITAL IMAGE WORK SAMPLES – Applicants must submit a **minimum of 5 and a maximum of 10 samples of past work** that best illustrate their qualifications for this project. Submit each image on a separate page, portrait format, and include title of work, artist(s), location, commissioning agency, date and budget. If submitting as a team, the team submits no more than 10 images.

Format 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, portrait format.
3. Submission files 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 individual resume/curriculum vitae. (See Submission Requirements)
5. All documents must be sent by email to: artgrants@halifax.ca and must be received on or before 4pm local time, January 19, 2022

Incomplete or late applications will not be accepted.

Questions regarding the expectations of the submission process should be directed to:

Kellie McIvor, Culture and Events, Halifax Regional Municipality 902.579.7342 or via email at mcivork@halifax.ca

Selection Process

This is a single-stage process.

A peer selection panel comprised of arts sector representatives and community representatives will review all application materials. Representatives of the Halifax Public Libraries and the design team for



the Alderney Gate Public Library renovations will also inform the process. At the conclusion of the review, the selection panel will recommend the selection of one artist/artist team to undertake the work.

The selection panel reserves the right to request additional information from any of the applicants to inform their decision. The panel also reserves the right to make no recommendation from the submitted applications.

Once the selection panel has recommended a proposal and an award has been issued, the successful artist/artist team will be asked to prepare detailed concept designs based on the preliminary proposals.

Additional Information

1. At the request of the Municipality the selected artist will be required to show proof of WCB coverage and \$2,000,000 general liability insurance.
2. The proposal selected through this process is understood to be a concept proposal for a future artwork. The selected artist will be required to enter into agreement with the Municipality to provide a detailed design for the artwork, including a detailed budget and installation plan, which will be subject to the approval of the Municipality. Consideration of the detailed design proposal will be technical in nature.
3. Submission at this stage do not require a detailed budget, however proposals should exhibit a clear understanding that all components of the project must be completed within the stated budget of \$30,000 inclusive of net HST. Possible costs may include but are not limited to: artist and design fees, consultant fees including the production of stamped engineered drawings where applicable, subcontractor fees, material and fabrication costs, transportation, and all elements of installation.
3. Please be advised that the Halifax Regional Municipality and the selection panel are not obligated to accept any of the submissions and may reject all submissions. The Municipality reserves the right to reissue this Call for Proposals as required.
4. All information provided under the submission is subject to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (NS) 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.
5. The ownership of design ideas submitted with this application remain with the submitting artist until a selection has been made and a contract signed. Once a contract has been awarded, the selected artwork will be owned by the Halifax Regional Municipality, and images of the work may be used in publicity for the Halifax Regional Municipality. Copyright of the work and all intellectual property shall remain with the artist.
5. Extensions to the submission 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.

Evaluation

Proposals will be evaluated through peer assessment. The review process will be informed by a technical review of the proposals by HRM staff, where deemed necessary.

Artistic Merit (Statement of interest, examples of past work, quality of proposal)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Overall quality of submitted past work;• Professional standing; and• Artistic quality of submitted proposal.	30
Methodology and Approach (Proposal's response to the Alderney Gate Community Gathering Space Project, and the facility's varied user groups)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Submitted proposal in relation to the design and function of the facility as an active public space with broad and diverse community use;• Resonance of the artists professional practice to the architecture and design elements of the renovated space as	40

	reflected in submitted examples of past work and the conceptual proposal for the facility.	
Project Expertise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicant's ability to manage all aspects of this project; • Applicant's experience working in relation to public spaces and familiarity working with community; and • Applicant's demonstrated ability to work to schedule and budget in a collaborative environment 	20

*Applicants need not have led public art projects of a similar scope and scale but their record of experience should reflect a capacity to successfully meet the requirements of this opportunity;

Examples of past work need not reflect public realm projects of a similar scale (e.g. equal or greater budgets). All past experience that affirms the applicant's capacity to lead the management of this project will be considered.

Project Feasibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrated understanding of project management as it pertains specifically to the management of project costs, and the perceived ability of the artist to complete the project within the allotted \$32,000. 	10
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