

# CALL TO ARTISTS: FIONA WOOD PUBLIC ART

## PROJECT OVERVIEW

### **\*Extended\* Deadline for submissions: Friday, September 8, 2023**

The City of Charlottetown invites practicing artists or artist teams to submit a concept for a permanent wooden public artwork installed in Connaught Square. The artwork is expected to incorporate or be built using reclaimed wood from historic trees that fell during post-tropical storm Fiona that were salvaged by City work crews. The City of Charlottetown will commission one artist/team to create the work.

The artist(s) budget for all expenses related to this project is a maximum of \$15,000.00 CDN (incl. HST). This budget represents the total amount of funds that will be disbursed to the artist(s) and includes all aspects related to the artist fees, design, fabrication, finishing, artists' overhead, and fees of the artwork commissioned through this project.

The City of Charlottetown will provide reasonable in-kind support for site preparation, installation, transportation of wood materials and final artwork, and support for logistical considerations as required.

A peer jury will select an artist or artist team and their conceptual design through a single-stage competition process.

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Post-tropical storm Fiona was the costliest and most intense tropical or post-tropical cyclone to hit Canada on record and has had a significant local impact in Charlottetown, with over 600 City-owned or jointly-owned trees estimated to be lost during the storm.

The City of Charlottetown is commissioning an artist or artist team to create an artwork that incorporates or is built using reclaimed wood from historic trees that fell during the storm. A selection of wood from historic City trees was set aside for this project and will be offered to the successful artist or artist team free of charge.

The completed piece will be installed in the centre of Connaught Square. This is a highly used recreation space used by people of all ages. Submissions should anticipate and incorporate a high level of interactivity with the proposed artwork. They should be designed to be appropriate for a high-activity, accessible environment with diverse user groups, including children and people of all ages.

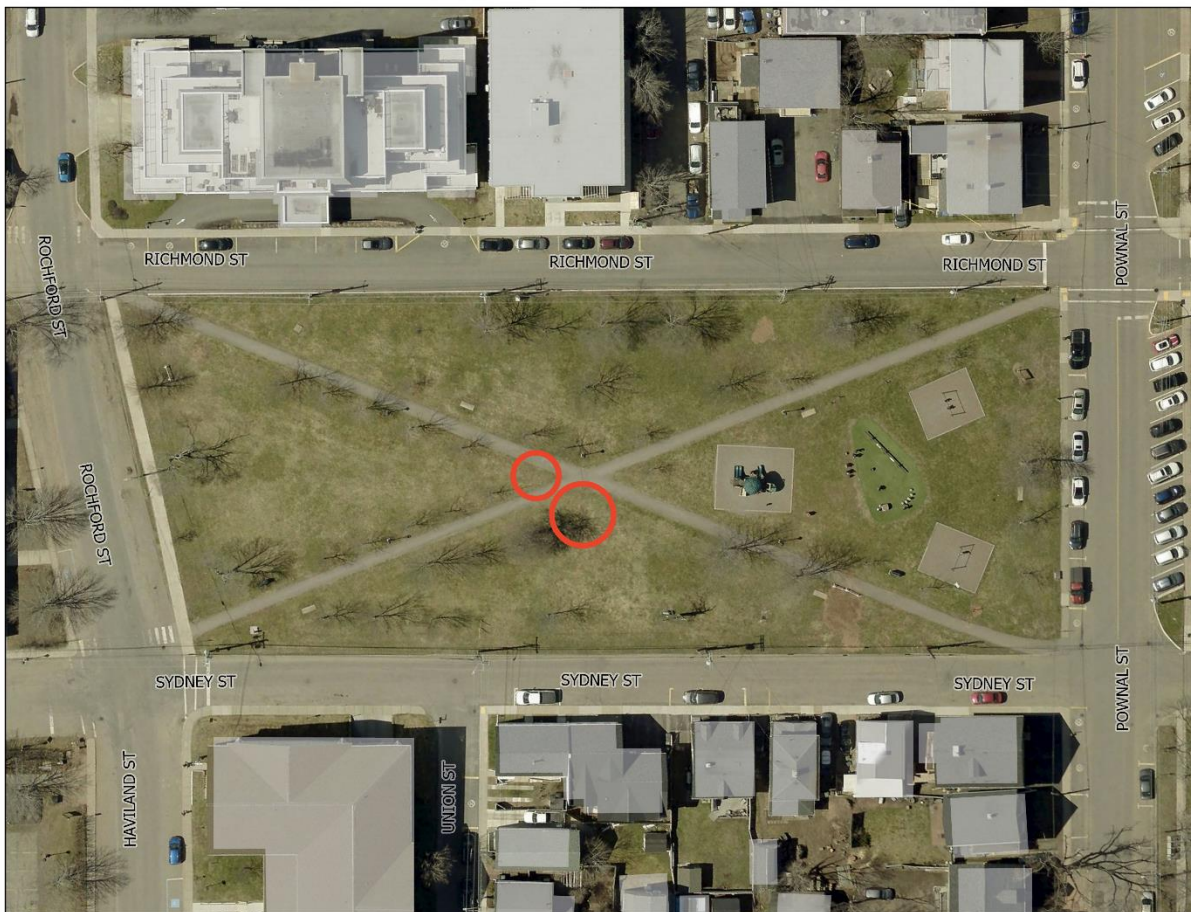
Due to the nature of the materials employed for this artwork, the City of Charlottetown invites artists to creatively interpret the theme: **RESILIENCE, RECLAMATION, & REGENERATION**. The theme builds on Charlottetown's rich history of urban forestry and the City's goals to protect urban wildlife, promote biodiversity, and conserve and enhance our greenspaces and waterways. Additionally, the theme relates to the importance of building community resilience to the impacts of climate change and extreme weather events.

The ideal artwork should:

- Be interactive and playful;
- Integrate with the site and its surrounding elements; and
- Be resilient to the environmental conditions that can be expected in Charlottetown.

Due to site constraints, water and/or multi-media features that require electricity or conduit installations for plumbing will not be considered.

## LOCATION



*The artwork will be installed at the convergence of walkways in the centre of Connaught Square at one of the two locations circled in red above.*

Connaught Square borders Pownal Street, Richmond Street, Rochford Street, and Sydney Street. It is one of the five historic public squares, which are highly valued community areas with historical and cultural links to the original plan for Charlottetown. The squares and the neighbourhood fabric within which they are woven are a rich and valued resource for their respective communities. Intended initially as lush green spaces for shade, rest, relaxation,

social interaction, and passive recreation, the squares still provide a welcoming natural space in the urban core.

Connaught Square has been impacted by several storms over the years, including Hurricane Juan, nor'easter blizzard White Juan, post-tropical storm Dorian, and most recently, post-tropical storm Fiona, which have all caused damage or loss of the high canopy trees in the area.

Additional documents relevant to this location and call for proposals:

- The *Charlottetown Heritage Squares Conceptual Master Plan and Design Guidelines* serve as a guiding document for decisions relating to the design and use of the city's heritage squares. [Click here to access the document.](#)
- Historical information on Connaught Square is available [here](#).

## **BUDGET**

The artist(s) budget for all expenses related to this project is a maximum of \$15,000.00 CDN (incl. HST). This budget represents the total amount of funds that will be disbursed to the artist(s) and includes all aspects related to the artist fees, design, fabrication, finishing, artists' overhead, and fees of the artwork commissioned through this project.

For this project, the City of Charlottetown will provide reasonable in-kind support for site prep, installation, transportation of wood materials and final artwork, and support for logistical considerations as required.

## **DATES**

- Call for artist proposals: July 24, 2023
- **\*Extended\* Deadline for submissions: Friday, September 8, 2023**
- Final Award Notification: September 29, 2023
- Project installation: Spring 2024

## **SELECTION PROCESS**

The artwork will be selected through a single-stage process. A selection panel will recommend the artist/artist team through an open call process.

The selection panel be chaired by a member of the City's Arts Advisory Board or its designate and will comprise local artists, art professionals, and community members. As per the City of Charlottetown's Public Art Policy, the selection panel should include at least 50% professional artists.

The selection panel reserves the right to request additional information from any applicants to inform their decision.

The panel will retain the right to make no recommendation from the submitted applications.

The ownership of design ideas submitted with this application remains with the artist until a selection and a contract are signed. Once a contract has been awarded and the artwork installed, the City of Charlottetown will own the selected artwork and images of the work may be used in publicity for the City of Charlottetown. Copyright of the work and all intellectual property shall remain with the artist.

A technical review may inform the review process of the proposals by City staff, where deemed necessary. It is important to note that only information provided through the application can be used in the selection process.

The scoring matrix below describes how proposals will be assessed.

<b>Artistic Merit</b>	Overall quality of submitted past work; Artistic quality of submitted proposal, including imagination, creativity, and innovation; Alignment with the call for proposals; Impactful, interactive, or playful design that engages users.	35
<b>Methodology and Approach</b>	Quality of proposed materials to be used; Considerations of maintenance and longevity of the work; Suitability of project for Connaught Square’s historic or contemporary context.	35
<b>Project Expertise</b>	Applicant’s ability to manage all aspects of the project; Applicant’s familiarity working with public agencies on projects of a similar scale and scope; Applicant’s familiarity and experience working with material; Applicant’s demonstrated expertise in designing public art in exterior or passive recreation setting.	20

<b>Project Feasibility</b>	Demonstrated ability to manage the project and related costs; Perceived ability of the artist to complete the project within the allotted funding amount of \$15,000.00 CDN; Ability to complete the project in the specified timeframe.	10
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**SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

The following must be submitted in PDF form:

- CONTACT INFORMATION - Please provide a cover page with 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 (if applicable), as well as the names of all collaborating parties (if relevant).
- CV OR RESUME - Not to exceed two pages. If submitting as a group, please include a resume for the project lead not exceeding two pages and brief biographies for each other participating members not exceeding one page each.
- WRITTEN PROJECT DESCRIPTION - 750 words (or less) describing the project, including a written description of the suggested concept, dimensions, materials, scale, siting, and integration. The description should include an estimated life span of the piece and any anticipated maintenance. It is understood that the project descriptions and visuals will be preliminary and conceptual. Proposals should offer sufficient detail to express the concept and materials of the artwork and offer the selection panel an understanding of how the proposed artwork will operate within the site and surrounding area.
- VISUAL SUPPORT - Preliminary and conceptual drawings, sketches, or plans of suggested artwork and overall concept. Designs must indicate the scale, siting, integration, and design of the artwork(s) within the identified project location.
- PROJECT BUDGET - Please supply a breakdown of the costs associated with this project. The budget must include the design fee, anticipated cost of materials, labour, and additional anticipated costs. Please also note any assistance or in-kind contributions you have available. Please indicate "plus HST" where applicable.
- PORTFOLIO OF PAST PROJECTS - Digital image work samples - Applicants must submit a minimum of five (5) and a maximum of ten (10) samples of past work that best illustrate their qualifications for this project. Please include each artwork's image details, title, date, budget, and a one-sentence description. Examples of past work need not reflect public realm projects of a similar scale, or equal or greater budgets. Any past experience that reflects the applicant's capacity to manage this project will be considered.

## **SUBMISSION**

Format Guidelines:

- All supporting documents must be complete and strictly adhere to the guidelines above or may risk being disqualified.
- All submissions must be formatted to 8.5 x 11-inch pages, portrait format.
- Submission files must be 5 MB or smaller.
- If submitting as a team, the team should designate one representative as the project lead.

Send your final submission in PDF form to:

[ddumais@charlottetown.ca](mailto:ddumais@charlottetown.ca) using the subject line "Fiona Art (*Your Name*)"

**The extended submission deadline is 4 p.m. local time on Friday, September 8, 2023.**

Any technical questions, request to see the salvaged wood in preparation for the call, or additional questions may be directed to Doug Dumais at the contact above.