



Request for Expressions of Interest
Public Art Opportunity - City of Burlington
Mountainside Recreation Centre

Deadline: April 29th, 2014
Budget: \$20,000 CAD (maximum, all inclusive)

For more information: (905) 548-0111
kim@cobaltconnects.ca
www.burlingtonpublicart.com

Artist Opportunity

The City of Burlington invites professional artists to submit an Expression of Interest to create a permanent public artwork for the Mountainside Recreation Centre (2205 Mount Forest Drive, Burlington, ON). This competition is open to all Canadian artists and the artist fee is \$20,000 Canadian (maximum, all inclusive).

An artwork proposal is not requested at this time. Artist applications will be reviewed on the basis of artistic merit, professional qualifications, and experience. Short-listed artists will be required to participate in an interview with the Selection Committee to determine the finalist.

Background: Mountainside Recreation Centre

Built in 1969 Mountainside Arena was the City of Burlington's 4th public arena – giving it more public arenas than Hamilton and Oakville at the time. The \$200,000 arena replaced a volunteer managed outdoor ice-pad that served the community for decades. Joined by the Lion's Club Pool, play structures and a 9-acre wooded lot, the site is a point of pride and engagement for the whole community.

Over the past several years, the Mountainside Recreation Centre has been undergoing a major transformation. It has received numerous improvements including a new playground, multi-use court with skate features, tree planting, reforestation, trail installations, and splash-pad and pool-deck enhancements. The Recreation Centre including the arena and pool buildings are now being redeveloped. The existing arena will be demolished and a new facility will be constructed over the course of 2013/14 (due to reopen in Fall 2014).

Z.A.S. architects are leading the site redevelopment and have been heavily influenced by the incredible grounds surrounding the facility. The sense of open space, wooded lots and the embrace of nature on the site has been reflected in the architecture.

Artwork Goals

The Mountainside Recreation Centre site is multifaceted and allows for many opportunities for public art. It is the intent of the Steering Committee to allow the selected artist time to fully explore the site and its uses prior to developing an artwork concept. As such, the nature of this Call to Artists is open ended. The commissioned artwork can be in any medium and sited in a number of different locations throughout the property (interior and exterior spaces are available).

A Steering Committee comprised of City staff, Councillor Taylor, residents and artists have determined the following to be the overall goals and vision for the work:

- Be responsive to how the community uses the site, facility and amenities
- Bring people and nature together
- Unite the elements of the park including the arena & pool, wooded lot and natural environment, surrounding neighbourhood, play areas and open vistas
- Celebrate both the historical use and new life of the site

Artwork Design Parameters

The artwork must adhere to the following design parameters:

- Fabricated using materials that are highly resistant to theft, vandalism and weathering
- Fabricated with materials that will not have a negative environmental impact on the site
- Does not pose a risk to public safety (i.e. no sharp points, does not allow climbing to restricted areas, no slip hazards, etc.)
- Does not interfere with sightlines of entry way, roads or safety routes on site
- Compliment the design aesthetic of the architecture if placed in close proximity to the building
- Meets all Ontario building code standards; selected artist will be required to submit drawings certified by an engineer licensed to operate in Ontario)
- If light, video or sound are the predominant medium that it be considered with respect to the proximity of the residential community surrounding the park, and the natural environment

Budget

\$20,000 CAD is the total amount available for all related expenses of this public art project. This includes (but is not limited to) artist fees, site preparation, technical consultation, fabrication, insurance, installation fees, storage, permit fees, travel, all applicable taxes, etc.

Eligibility

This competition is open to professional artists* (Canadian only). Artist collectives and/or artist-led teams are also encouraged to apply. The selected artist must be able to travel to Burlington, Ontario, Canada for a minimum of **three visits**: at least one public engagement session in the planning phase, one technical consultation meeting, and one visit to manage the installation of the artwork and to engage in public dialogue (i.e. artist talk / launch event).

** A professional artist is an individual who has specialized skills and/or training in his/her artistic discipline (not necessarily in academic institutions), has a history of public presentation and is critically recognized as an artist.*

Selection Process

An independent Selection Committee comprised of project stakeholders, community members and arts professionals will review all applications.

Selection Criteria

The Selection Committee will review applications based on the following criteria:

- Qualifications and professional experience of artist(s)
- Artistic merit of previous work (as expressed in digital images submitted)
- Demonstrated ability to meet deadlines, budgets and success in executing projects of the scale outlined in this document.
- The artist(s)' responsiveness to the site and approach to the project (as outlined in the Expression of Interest Statement submitted)

Two-Stage Process

This competition is a two-stage process. In **Stage One**, the Selection Committee will review the applications based on the Selection Criteria outlined in this document. A short-list of a maximum of 5 artists will be selected for Stage Two.

The artists selected for **Stage Two** will be invited for an interview with the Selection Committee. The interview process is meant to give the process a sense of personal connection, and an opportunity for the artist to more effectively express their practice and approach to the project.

At the end of Stage Two, the Selection Committee will recommend the successful artist based on the merits of the EOI package and interview. The successful artist will then enter into a contract with the City of Burlington for the artwork creation and installation phase of the project.

Original Work: The artist must guarantee that the artwork is original and does not violate the copyright of any other person.

Cobalt Connects manages the City of Burlington's Public Art Program. Guided by the Public Art Policy, Cobalt Connects works in cooperation with City staff to develop and implement the Public Art Master Plan.

Please note, the Selection Committee, Cobalt Connects and the City of Burlington reserves the right to choose to not recommend any application, proposal or finalist and to terminate or re-advertise any project.

Estimated Project Timeline (2013-14)

Deadline	Activity
March 12, 2014	Expression of Interest released
April 29, 2014	Deadline for Stage One: Expression of Interest
By May 30, 2014	Selection Committee reviews applications, selects short-listed artists for Stage Two: Interviews
By June 30, 2014	Short-listed artists interviewed and final artist selected
By August 2014	Artist is contracted and begins site exploration
September through January December 2014 March 2015	Site exploration Concept work presented to Steering Committee for feedback Final concept is presented for technical approval
Late Summer/ Fall 2015	Work is installed. Public Launch.

Application Deadline and Receipt

All applications are due on or before **Tuesday April 29, 2014 at 4:00 PM**. Incomplete applications or those received after the deadline will not be accepted. Faxed or emailed applications will not be accepted.

All applicants will receive notice via email or mail that their application has been received. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that his/her application has been received by CoBALT CONNECTS. If you do not receive verification within one week of submitting your application, please contact kim@cobaltconnects.ca or 905-548-0111.

Loss or Damage: While every precaution will be taken to prevent loss or damage, the City of Burlington, Cobalt Connects and Selection Committee shall not be liable for any loss or damage, however caused.

Application Requirements

Applications are due on or before April 29, 2014 at 4:00 PM.

Please submit **FIVE COMPLETE COPIES** of all written materials on letter-sized paper (8 ½ X 11"). Please do not bind, staple or use cover sheets / folders / binders. **Only 1 copy of materials submitted on CD/DVD is required.**

1. **Application Form:** Signed application form (page 7)
2. **Expression of Interest Statement:** submit a brief statement outlining your interest in this project (**2 pages maximum**). Please include the following information:
 - Your approach to creating artwork for the public realm
 - How the goals of this project align with your artistic practice
 - How your specific skills and experience bring value to this project
3. **Curriculum Vitae:** outline recent qualifications and artistic activities.
4. **Visual Documentation:** CD/DVD of up to **20 images** of artwork, depicting a minimum of two completed projects. Please note the following:
 - All images must be in JPEG format, minimum of 150 dpi for an image that is approximately 6" X 9"
 - Do not embed images in documents such as Word or PowerPoint or compress files (i.e. WinZip, Stuffit, etc.)
 - Clearly label files and do not use any special characters, symbols, periods, etc. (i.e. \$, %, &) in the file name
 - Original artwork or slides will not be accepted
5. **Documentation List:** A list of all visual documentation. Please include: title of artwork, materials, dimensions, date and location of artwork (if applicable).
6. **References:** name, address, phone number and email for **3 references** who have been directly involved with your artistic practice and/or past public art projects.

Please note, application materials will not be returned

Application Form

All applications are due on or before **April 29, 2014 at 4:00 PM**. Incomplete applications or those submitted after the deadline will not be accepted. Faxed or emailed applications will not be accepted.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ **Province** _____

Postal Code _____ **Country** _____

Phone (day) _____ **Phone (evening)** _____

Email _____ **Website** _____

CHECKLIST

Submit **FIVE COMPLETE COPIES** of all written materials on letter-sized paper (8 ½ X 11"). Please do not bind, staple or use cover sheets / folders / binders. **Only 1 copy of materials submitted on CD/DVD is required (Artwork Samples).**

- Signed application form (this page)
- Expression of Interest Statement
- Curriculum Vitae
- CD/DVD of Artwork Samples
- Image List
- References

- I would like to receive notice of future Calls For Artists and program updates. Please add me to the Burlington Public Art mailing list (optional)

The applicant is in agreement with the Eligibility and Selection Criteria, as outlined in this document:

Signature of applicant _____ Date _____

Send Submissions to:
CoBALT CONNECTS
ATTN: Mountainside Public Art
195 James Street North, Unit 211
Hamilton, Ontario L8R 2L2

Contact Us
Kim Selman
Public Art Manager
T: 905-548-0111
C: 905-515-9334
E: Kim@cobaltconnects.ca
W: www.burlingtonpublicart.com