

Artist Call for Expressions of Interest  
**Port Kells Hall Mosaic Project**

RFEOI # 1220-050-2017-009

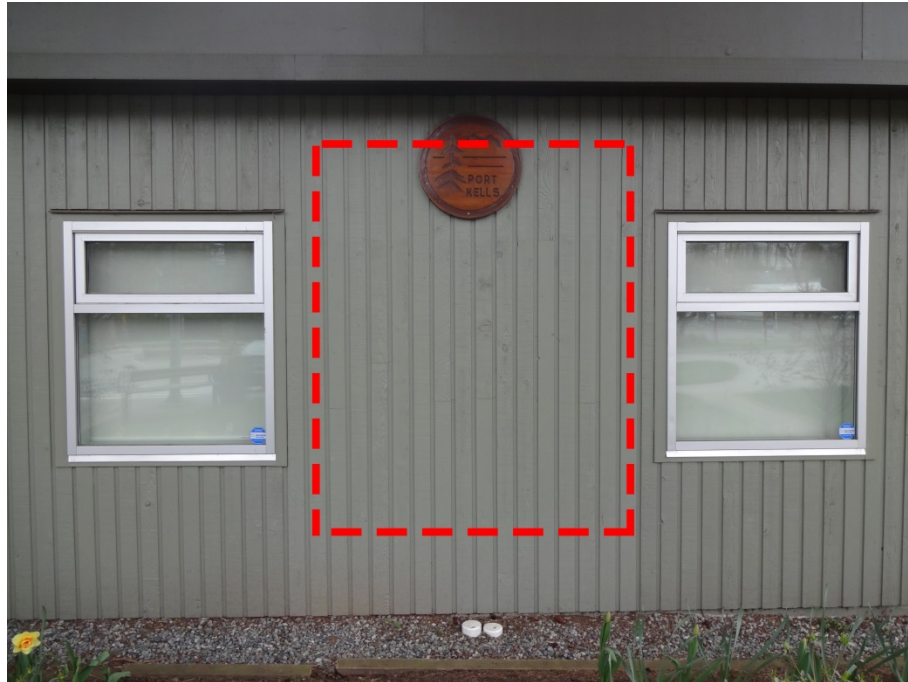


Project Budget: \$20,000  
Submission Deadline: June 05, 2017, 4PM

# Port Kells Hall Mosaic Project

## PUBLIC ART PROJECT

The City of Surrey invites Expressions of Interest from professional mosaic artists or artist teams for a mosaic panel or group of mosaic panels for Port Kells Hall located at Harvie Road and 88 Avenue in Surrey.



*Approximate location of panel(s)*

### **PUBLIC ART OPPORTUNITY**

Expressions of Interest (EOI) are sought for a mosaic panel or group of mosaic panels to be attached on the exterior wall in between the two windows facing 88 Avenue in the Port Kells neighbourhood in Surrey. An approximate location of where the mosaic panel or group of mosaic panels are intended is indicated by the red dashed rectangle in the above image.

The mosaic is to respond to the theme(s) and context, employ attachment methods that would prevent theft yet be removable if needed for renovation of the Hall, and require low maintenance. Lifespan of this artwork is expected to be minimum 50 years.

### **THEME**

The artwork theme is to respond to the location's history and Port Kells residents' values and perceptions. Residents have expressed interest in this artwork responding to Port Kells:

1. Natural and Human History; and
2. Transportation Past and Present.

### **BUDGET**

The project budget is \$20,000 inclusive of all costs including artist fees, design, materials, insurance, all engineering expenses, fabrication, delivery, installation, travel and taxes.

## ELIGIBILITY

This call is open to qualified mosaic professionals and mosaic artist teams, defined as having specialized training in the field or a history of having exhibitions as an artist, and who are recognized as artists by peers and arts professionals, and have previously completed a permanent mosaic artwork.

**DEADLINE FOR EOI SUBMISSIONS: Monday, June 05, 2017 at 4PM**

## SELECTION PROCESS

### Phase I: Expressions of Interest (EOI):

A selection panel of art and design professionals and community representatives will review all eligible Expressions of Interest submissions. From this review using criteria below, a short list of up to three artists or artist teams will be recommended to be contracted to create concept proposals. Artists are encouraged to review our Tips for Artists on EOI Submissions for the preparation of their electronic submission materials.

Selection Criteria are as follows:

- Artistic excellence and innovation as demonstrated in past work.
- Ability to create quality artwork appropriate in concept, using mosaic materials and in similar scale as this opportunity.
- Demonstrated adherence to schedules, deadlines, project requirements and budgets.
- Previous experience working efficiently, collegially and collaboratively with design professionals and civic agencies in design and execution.
- Availability for the shortlisted artist information meeting on June 12, 2017 and selection presentation to panel on July 05, 2017. Attendance of information meeting is optional. Proposals of artists not attending the information meeting will be considered equally. Time and location of information meeting will be updated on the City of Surrey's public art website.
- Availability to begin design work in August 2017.

### Phase II: Concept proposal:

Short listed artists will be offered a fee of \$500.00 to research, develop and present their concepts. In advance of the selection panel meeting, artists will receive feedback from a preliminary technical review which evaluates proposals to identify technical challenges such as structural issues. Artists will be invited to make a personal presentation to the selection panel on their concept and answer any questions. The selection panel will recommend one proposal be commissioned for approval by the Public Art Advisory Committee and Surrey City Council. The City reserves the right to choose not to make a selection from the EOI submissions received. No travel support is provided in addition to this design fee.

## SELECTION SCHEDULE:

- |                                                        |               |
|--------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| • Expressions of Interest Due:                         | June 05, 2017 |
| • Information meeting for invited short listed artists | June 12, 2017 |
| • Artist Presentations & Final Selection:              | July 05, 2017 |
| • Artwork ready for installation:                      | October 2017  |

## BACKGROUND WITH SUGGESTED THEMES FOR THE ARTWORK:

### 1. Natural and Human History:

- Port Kells is part of the traditional and unceded territory of the Katzie, Kwantlen and Semiahmoo Nations. The Fraser River continues to be an active fishing area for Salish peoples.

The forest and shoreline continue to be habitats of many varieties of wildlife, including bear and beaver.

- The settlement of Port Kells was founded by two brothers-in-law in the late 1800s. The two men were both named Henry Kells. They formed a partnership and purchased one square mile of land along the Fraser River. This site is now home to the Port Kells District of Surrey and West Langley. The older of the brothers-in-law built the first post office and store near the present wharf. The Kells brothers had envisioned a thriving community, but this was never realized to the extent that was anticipated.
- Port Kells Hall since original settlement has been a place of gathering and activity. Residents would arrive to the hall with their pianos and chairs for dances and other community functions. The hall was home to the first pump when the Fire Department opened and served as headquarters for the Air Raid Precautions during World War II.
- Large strawberry farms existed in the land around Port Kells. Their berries were shipped to canneries in New Westminster and Vancouver. Other major farms that once operated in this area include daffodil and tulip farms, goose, duck and chicken farms, and dairy farms. Several poultry operations continue to operate.

## 2. Transportation Past and Present:

- Canoe travel by indigenous peoples was the first form of cargo and rapid transit in this area.
- The first rail line west of Winnipeg to cross the international border traveled through Port Kells. The New Westminster Southern Railway operated between Brownsville and Blaine between 1891 and 1917. The old railway was replaced by Harvie Road following termination.
- Prior to the introduction of roads and rail lines, transportation to and from New Westminster was undertaken by ferries. Port Kells hosted a wharf and served as a stop for ferries during that time. A ferry currently operates to transport people and vehicles between Port Kells and Barnston Island.
- The construction of Trans-Canada Highway in the early 1960s through Port Kells divided the community into two distinct areas: an industrial section in the north and an agricultural and residential area in the south.
- The construction of Golden Ears Way through Port Kells and Golden Ears Bridge across the Fraser River from the Township of Langley in 2009 contributed by linking the community of Port Kells with the greater region.



*Port Kells General Store during heavy snow of 1951*  
Images: Surrey Archives



*Port Kells wharf during Fraser River flooding of 1948*



## SITE SURROUNDINGS



*Aerial view of Port Kells and the relationships it has with the Fraser River, neighbouring Surrey districts, Township of Langley, Barnston Island, and the Cities of Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows.*



*Aerial view of Port Kells Hall and surroundings*





*Port Kells Public Library*



*Port Kells Volunteer Fire Department*



*Port Kells Nature Park in the Fall*

### **SUBMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS**

- Artists are asked to submit fifteen (15) pages of information as listed below on **one PDF Acrobat format file, no more than 5 MB**. Please do not secure the PDF file as we may need to extract images for presentation to the selection panel.
- Photos of artwork to be captioned on the same page with information as noted on page 6.
- E-mail to arrive at Purchasing by **June 05, 2017, 4PM**. Office hours 8:30am - 4 pm.

We recommend your entire PDF be in landscape format as it will be presented as a horizontal projection to the selection panel on a horizontal screen. We recommend artists view the advantage of this format on Surrey's **Tips for Artist's Submissions**: <http://www.surrey.ca/culture-recreation/1655.aspx>

**Page 1. Letter of Interest (1 page)**

- This letter explains your interest in the project, provides a brief perspective on your practice and the materials you generally work with. Please cite any relevant experience.
- If submitting as a team, the letter should include a description of how the team works together, and any previous collaborative work experience. Your letter is to confirm that you have read, accept and will abide by the terms and conditions outlined herein.
- Please note in your letter how you were notified of this call and, if you received notice by list serve, please specify which list serve.

**Pages 2 and 3. Approach to the project (max. 2 pages)**

- Describe and/or otherwise communicate your approach or possible idea for creating a mosaic artwork for this site.

**Pages 4 and 5. Artist's Résumé (max. 2 pages)**

- Include a professional artist's résumé. For team applications please include résumés for all team members (and contact information including email addresses). All team members to have confirmed participation prior to submission.

**Pages 6-15. Images of your past work**

- Submit up to 10 examples of your past public art work. We recommend representing one artwork on each page.
- Please include a caption for each artwork with information including: artist's name, artwork title, completion date, medium/materials, dimensions, total budget and project contact information. Describe if the artwork is animated. State your role in the creation of the artwork.

**E-MAIL SUBMISSIONS TO:**

[purchasing@surrey.ca](mailto:purchasing@surrey.ca) with 'subject line' **RFEI # 1220-050-2017-009**

Deadline: **June 05, 2017, 4PM PST**

*Note: Only shortlisted artists will be notified and announced on the City's public art website.*

**QUESTIONS?**

**Send questions only by e-mail to: [purchasing@surrey.ca](mailto:purchasing@surrey.ca)**

Please use the RFEI number and subject when emailing.

All Q&A will be posted on the Public Art website [www.surrey.ca/publicart](http://www.surrey.ca/publicart) See: Public Art Artist Calls – Port Kells Mosaic

**OTHER INFORMATION**

- Future calls for other projects will be posted on Artist Calls page of the City's Public Art website [www.surrey.ca/publicart](http://www.surrey.ca/publicart)
- Please note in your EOI if your resume and images of past work can be retained for consideration for other City of Surrey Public Art processes.

## **CITY PRACTICES**

Interested artists are advised that neither the City nor the selection panel are obliged to review or accept any of the EOI submissions, and may reject all submissions. Each artist is advised and by responding with an EOI submission, agrees with the City, that the City will not be responsible for any costs, expenses, losses, damages (including damages for loss of anticipated profit) or liabilities incurred by the artist as a result of or arising out of an EOI submission, or due to the City's acceptance or non-acceptance of their EOI, or arising out of any contract award not made in accordance with the expressed or implied terms of the EOI.

Until a written contract, in a form satisfactory to the City, is executed by both the City and artist, no legal rights or responsibility will be created between the artist and the City

Artists & Artist Teams and their agents will not contact any member of the City Council or City staff with respect to this EOI, other than the contact person named in this EOI, at any time prior to the award of any contracts or the cancellation of the EOI.

An Artist and Artist Team is to disclose in its EOI response any actual or potential conflicts of interest and existing business relationships it may have with the City, its elected or appointed officials or employees. The City may rely on such disclosure.

All EOI responses become the property of the City and will not be returned to the Artist or Artist Teams. All submissions will be held in confidence by the City unless otherwise required by law.