



call to artists

**EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST
SURREY NATURE CENTRE**

Submission Deadline: April 22, 2024

Artist Fee: \$15,000

The City of Surrey is inviting expressions of interest to design and paint a mural at the Surrey Nature Centre. Nestled beside Green Timbers Urban Forest, the Surrey Nature Centre invites all age groups to embark on an immersive journey into nature. This unique green space in Surrey, offers a diverse range of programs and activities, encouraging exploration, learning, and connection with the natural world.

The Nature Centre offers guided nature walks led by knowledgeable team members, group exploration programs tailored to specific interests, and outdoor story times. From delving into how animals brave the cold to early years programs fostering a love for nature in preschoolers, the Center caters to a broad audience. The Centre's commitment to education extends to school programs, teacher activity kits, and Pro-D Day camps.

The new mural will turn the Surrey Nature Centre into a vibrant landmark and will welcome guests to the facility and to the park at large. The mural should be designed to complement and integrate with the natural setting.

The mural should depict the forest as a thriving community, drawing inspiration from the symbiotic relationships among trees, other plants, fungi/mycelium, and the soil.



Who is Eligible?

- BC-based muralists and artist collectives are welcome to apply for this opportunity.
- Artists must have appropriate WCB and liability coverage, as well as fall protection training, if applicable.
- Employees of the City of Surrey are not eligible to participate.

What projects will be considered?

- Artwork must be an original image.
- Designs must conform to the technical specifications outlined below.
- The artist must demonstrate that they can work at this scale.

Project Goals

- Enhance the sense of place at Surrey Nature Centre.
- Provide an opportunity for BC-based artists.
- Elevate public spaces by seamlessly integrating art into daily life, inspiring visitors to actively engage with the Nature Centre and fostering environmental education.



Selection Process

- Proposals will be shortlisted by a community selection panel consisting of residents and art professionals.
- The selection process will occur in two phases.

PHASE 1: Expressions of Interest

- Eligible artists will submit an Expression of Interest (EOI).
- The selection panel will review all eligible submissions and shortlist 5 to 7 artists for the next phase.

PHASE 2: Concept Development

- Each short-listed artist or team will be given an honorarium of \$500 to develop their concept proposals.
- Proposals will be presented to the selection panel.
- The selection panel will recommend the final artwork for presentation to the Arts & Culture Advisory Committee.



Site Notes

Inside the Surrey Nature Centre is an interpretive space with rotating exhibits. The 'Forest Room' provides classrooms with high ceilings and lots of natural light, creating an ideal space for meetings, workshops, or special events. The venue is surrounded by stunning views of trees within the adjacent arboretum. There is an uncovered patio area adjoining the indoor space and an outdoor seating area with benches. Another public artwork, *snołweyǝł: Nature's Gods (Nature's Teachers)* by Wes Antone, graces the facility. Nestled beside the Green Timbers Urban Forest, Surrey Nature Centre offers a versatile and inviting environment for a range of gatherings and learning opportunities.



Technical Considerations

- The wall measures approximately 26m in length and 4.5m in height.
- The wall faces Green Timbers Way and will be seen by both pedestrian and auto traffic.
- Note that there are two windows and a door along the façade, as well as two trees in front of the wall that the artist should consider in their design.
- The City will prepare and prime the wall, and apply an anti-graffiti coating.
- The artist is required to provide the necessary equipment and materials for the completion of the mural.
- The artist will have an option to store their equipment and materials at the Surrey Nature Centre for the duration of the project.

Administrative Notes

- The City respects the intellectual property rights of the artist.
- The artist will retain ownership rights over the image.
- Submitted images will only be shared with the selection panel and will not be used for any other purpose.
- Due to the large number of submissions, only the artists selected for the first phase will be contacted.
- The City reserves the right to not implement the project should circumstances change.



Schedule

KEY DATES

March 29	Call for Expressions of Interest announced
April 22	Application Deadline
Late April	Phase 1 Selection Panel & Short-listed artists contacted
Late May	Concept Development Deadline
June	Phase 2 Selection Panel
June to July	Presentation to Advisory Committee & City Council
August to September	Mural Completed

**Dates are subject to change.*

Budget

The budget for the selected artwork is \$15,000.00

This is inclusive of all costs including:

- Artist fees
- Design
- Materials
- Insurance
- Fabrication
- Travel and taxes

How to Apply

Deadline for application is April 22

Please submit an application to Public Art staff at:

Email: publicart@surrey.ca

Subject line: **Surrey Nature Centre – (Your Name)**

Your Expression of Interest should contain the following information:

Contact Details Name, address, email, and phone number.

Artist Bio A brief introduction to who you are and your practice.

Letter of Intent Outline your approach to this project and initial concept ideas. *Concept Sketches of visuals are not required at this stage, but may be submitted.

Portfolio Up to 10 images of past work.

- Please include titles, date, description, and materials.

Package Combine all items into a single PDF document (10mb max)