

CALL TO ARTISTS

Cools Pond Public Art

The Arts Council of the North Okanagan, with funding from the Regional District of the North Okanagan, invites artists to present a proposal for public artwork(s) to be sited at Cools Pond, Vernon, B.C.

Cools Pond is a 3.78-acre natural area that has a centrally located natural pond and is located on the corner of L&A Road and Rimer Road. It is an environmentally sensitive property and is habitat for waterfowl and western painted turtles and is used for passive recreation and nature viewing in the warmer seasons and ice skating in the winter.

Artwork details

Commissions are for new work. Selected artwork(s) will be on public display at Cools Pond, Vernon.

Artworks reflecting the natural environment of the site will be preferred, and materials and installation should consider the environmental sensitivity of the site.

Up to \$10,000 is available for one or more works of art and the artist proposal needs to include all expenses for creation and design of the artwork and delivery of high-quality work specific to the site.

RDNO staff will be responsible for installation in collaboration with the artists. Installation requiring significant cost may not be approved or may be approved with the requirement that installation be completed by the artist with oversight provided by the RDNO.

Maintenance agreement - the artist will be responsible for basic maintenance of the work for a period of two years following the date of installation. The art should be designed to last a minimum of five years.

Eligibility

For the purposes of this call, the definition of an artist is a regular practitioner who:

- Has completed basic academic training in art or an apprenticeship with an accomplished practitioner in the field, or
- Maintains an artistic practice and has publicly shared an independent body of their work for at least two years, or
- Is recognized as an artist by peers within their community.

For the purposes of this call, the definition of an RDNO based artist is a practitioner who:

- Lives in the Regional District of the Okanagan or
- Has a studio in the Regional District of the North Okanagan, or
- Has a history of producing work in the area.

Selection

Proposals will be evaluated by a diverse panel of artists and art professionals. Final Panelists will be selected based on previous related experience in the arts.

We recognize that we are on the unceded homelands of the Syilx nation and that all proposed artworks will be situated on these traditional territories. Proposals do not have to be led by Indigenous artists or address Indigenous art and culture however, proposals should be mindful of this ongoing colonial context.

Artist selection will be based on the following criteria:

- Relevance of proposal to this opportunity
- Strength and creativity of proposal and past work
- Demonstrated ability to produce and present work
- Proposal is respectful of the unceded homelands of the Syilx people and the continuation of their living culture in the life of this region
- Proposal is respectful to the natural sensitive environment of the site

The RDNO reserves the right to give the final approval of the selection.

How to apply

Determine eligibility by reading eligibility criteria.

Applicants may only submit one concept proposal, whether applying individually or as part of a team, which must include:

- 3-page (maximum) CV
- 5 high resolution images and image list of artworks with date, medium, size and location if applicable
- 2 reference contact names
- Simple budget outline for proposed works
- One page concept proposal that includes proposed location and may include sketch(s).
- A team may present work comprising of individual pieces that have a relationship to each other.



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The panel may choose to recommend a work for other locations on the site or another property within Greater Vernon.

Email Submissions to:

info@acno.ca Arts Council of the North Okanagan (ACNO)
Put “Cools Pond Artist Submission” in the subject line

Deadlines

Submission Open: October 18th, 2021

Submission Deadline: December 18th, 2021, 4.00pm

Notification: January 18th, 2022

Installation: Later Spring 2022 – after waterfowl nesting season (approx. March-April TBD)

If you have any questions or require more information, please contact Gale Woodhouse, Executive Director, at ed@acno.ca.

We look forward to reviewing your submissions.