



City of Merritt

Request for Expressions of Interest

Sports Mural

The City of Merritt invites artists and/or artist-led teams, to submit Expressions of Interest to create a Sports Mural for the side of the Nicola Valley Memorial Arena. Artists with demonstrated experience and skill are encouraged to apply.

Background

The City of Merritt is the recipient of a grant from the Rural Dividend Grant Fund. At its meeting held May 28, 2019, Council passed a resolution directing staff to use the Rural Dividend Grant funding to create a sports and recreation mural at the Nicola Valley Memorial Arena.

The purpose of this mural is to celebrate the history and diversity of sporting achievements by Merritt athletes.

Eligibility

This opportunity is open to all artists in the Nicola Valley regardless of their residency.

Budget

The total budget established for this project is \$13,500.00. This budget includes (but is not limited to) artist fees, materials, supplies, labour, installation, travel, insurance and all taxes, excluding GST.

The selected artist(s) will be compensated at the following rates to complete the artwork:

- One mural measuring 32'x8' \$7,260.00; or,
- Five murals measuring 8'x'8' \$6,200 or \$1,240 each.

Goals

- To celebrate the history and diversity of sporting achievements by Merritt athletes;
- To encourage and inspire young athletes;
- To create a welcoming space at the Nicola Valley Memorial Arena;
- To add colour and vibrancy to the building;
- To contribute positively to the quality of life for residents of Merritt.

Scope

The artist(s) and/or artist led team will be responsible for the following:

- Design and completion of the artwork; and,
- Providing a high-resolution digital version of the artwork in a format that will optimize the quality of the final product.

Location and Site Preparation

The Nicola Valley Memorial Arena is located at 2075 Mamette Avenue, Merritt, BC. The building is cinderblock construction covered with grey stucco. The approximate surface area of the wall is 533 sq. ft. The mural will be printed on vehicle grade vinyl, affixed to an aluminum composite material and covered with a lamination to protect the artwork. The mural installation will be secured to the building using stainless-steel screw caps.

The final artwork installation will be in one of two forms:

- One mural measuring 32’ x 8’; or,
- Five murals measuring 8’ x 8’ each.

Artists may submit more than one application.



Estimated Project time

June 14, 2021	Request for Expressions of Interest released
July 12, 2021 4:00 pm (PST)	Deadline for submissions
Mid July, 2021	Short listed applicants meet with staff to refine the concept
July 26, 2021	Selection Committee reviews proposals and selects winning artist(s) and/or artist led team
August 16, 2021	After selected artist(s) and/or artist led team enters into a contract with the City of Merritt. Artist(s) completes artwork and provides artwork in a format approved by the City of Merritt ready to be submitted for printing.
September 30, 2021	Mural completed and installed.



Selection Process and Criteria

The Selection Committee will review the applications based on the criteria outlined in this document. The Selection Committee will choose up to three artists to interview and ask to develop their concept. The Selection Committee will select the successful artist(s) and/or artist led team based on the merits of the concept proposal. Please be advised that the City is not obliged to accept the artist concept proposal. The City reserves the right to reissue the artist call as required.

Submission Criteria

Submissions to the REOI will be reviewed and decisions made based on:

- Artist's expression of interest statement relative to the goals of this project;
- Creativity and professional quality of work as demonstrated in submitted work samples;
- Originality and creativity of design;
- Appropriateness for location;
- Technical feasibility in terms of proposed timeline and budget;
- Professionalism in preparation of proposed design.

Submission Requirements

- **Name and contact information**
- **Brief Artist biography** (150 words max)
- **Expression of Interest Statement** (1 page max)
Describe your interest in the project as it relates to the goals and objectives outlined in this application package. Include mention of your approach to creating art for the public realm.
- **Artist CV or Resume** (2 pages max)
- **Artwork Samples** (10 max)
Submit samples of recent and relevant work. In a separate document, list the title, date, medium, dimensions and location of sample works submitted.
- **References** (3 max)
Provide name, phone number and email address, references should have been directly involved in your artistic practice and/or past public art projects.

E-mail all documentation, subject line "REOI 2021 – Nicola Valley Memorial Arena Mural" to Linda Brick, Deputy Corporate Officer at lbrick@merritt.ca. Submissions must be received no later than 4:00 pm on July 12, 2021.



General Provisions

Conflict of Interest: Applicants must disclose any potential conflict of interest in their submission, including any which may involve City employees or Council members.

Copyright: The Artist will retain copyright of the artwork. The Artist will assign ownership of the artwork to the City of Merritt where it will be accessioned into the City's public art collection. The Artist will grant the City of Merritt the right to reproduce images .

Maintenance: The City of Merritt shall make reasonable efforts to maintain the artistic integrity of the finished mural. However, due to the public nature of this project, and the possibility that the artwork may be vandalized, the Artist and/or Artist led team must accept the risk that their work may be vandalized or otherwise damaged.

Original Work: This commission is for a new piece of artwork. The Artist and/or Artist led team must guarantee that the proposed artwork is original and does not violate the copyright of any other person.

Please be advised that the City of Merritt and the selection committee are not obliged to accept any of the submissions and may reject all submissions. The City of Merritt reserves the right to reissue the Call for Artists as required. All information provided under the submission is subject to the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (BC)* and shall only be withheld from release if an exemption from release is permitted by the Act. The artist shall retain copyright of the submitted documents.