

## NEWS RELEASE

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### **Calling all artists! City of Nanaimo seeking proposals for Temporary Public Art**

#### **Summary**

The City of Nanaimo Department of Parks, Recreation and Culture is seeking proposals for Temporary Public Art to be initiated in 2023 and realized in 2024.

The Temporary Public Art Program offers artists of diverse backgrounds and skillsets the opportunity to create artwork for public spaces in Nanaimo. Artists can propose artworks that vary in scale, scope, and medium, including temporary sculptural installations, social practice and community engaged artist projects and artwork that is integrated into landscape, architecture or civic infrastructure. This open call asks for proposed projects to be realized in 2024 that must be able to endure for a period of 5 years.

This program supports artists in the creation of new works, by providing necessary resources and staff support through the course of project development and realization. Over the past decade the City of Nanaimo invited artists to exhibit sculptural works in Maffeo Sutton Park on an annual basis through open calls for temporary public art. This program has since evolved as a longstanding commitment by the City to integrate artwork into public spaces. Responding to growth and change, in 2021 the program expanded to new spaces.

The program is open to all artists, working individually or in collaboration, and especially encourages applications from those who experience barriers of access due to gender identity/ expression, racial identity or perception of disability. Applicants do not have to be a resident of Nanaimo, but must have significant experience with, and relationship to this place.

This application process will be completed in two stages. Initial applications will be reviewed and candidates selected following a panel review and interview process. The second stage will involve public engagement, communication with Project Coordinators, and final proposal approval. All proposals will be evaluated by a selection panel of City of Nanaimo staff and members of the Art in Public Spaces Working Group.

The deadline to submit applications is midnight, Monday, Nov. 13.

View application details and requirements on the City's website at: [www.nanaimo.ca/goto/TemporaryArt](http://www.nanaimo.ca/goto/TemporaryArt).

**Strategic Link:** The Temporary Public Art Program aligns with the goals of the City of Nanaimo's City Plan by facilitating opportunities for the public to encounter art and culture in public spaces throughout the city and as part of their daily experiences; by making art visible and accessible throughout the City, in Urban Centres, and Downtown; by promoting the role that culture and the creative sector play in the community with respect to community identity and quality of life; and by making art accessible and freely available to everyone throughout the community to experience and enjoy.

## Key Points

- The City of Nanaimo is seeking proposals for Temporary Public Art to be initiated in 2023, and realized in 2024.
- The Temporary Public Art Program offers artists of diverse backgrounds and skillsets the opportunity to create artwork for public spaces in Nanaimo.
- The Temporary Public Art Program is open to all artists, working individually or in collaboration, and especially encourages applications from those who experience barriers of access due to gender identity/ expression, racial identity or perception of disability.
- The deadline to submit applications is Monday, Nov. 13 by midnight PST.

## Quotes

"Public art not only enhances our community, but serves as a reflection of our City's creativity and imagination. We look forward to seeing the incredible artwork that comes from the Temporary Public Art Program and the further enrichment of our outdoor spaces."

Paul Manly  
Acting Mayor  
City of Nanaimo

"The Temporary Public Art Program has enjoyed enormous success, and we encourage artists to submit their art proposals as we continue our efforts to create memorable experiences throughout our City's landscape."

Jaime-Brett Sine  
Cultural Services Coordinator  
City of Nanaimo

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