

Okanagan Indian Band Call For Expressions of Interest from Indigenous Artists



Background:

The Okanagan people call themselves Sqilxw, which means “dream in a spiral.” The name reflects the importance Okanagan people place on the concept of unity. Members of the Okanagan Indian Band are also referred to as Inkumupulux (head of the lake) in reference to both the people and the territory where they have always lived.

A goal of the Okanagan Indian Band is to increase the number of members residing on their traditional, ancestral and unceded territory, located on the shores of Okanagan Lake near Vernon, B.C. In support of this goal, the Band is developing 16 additional units of affordable rental housing for band members including elders, couples, and small families.

The sixteen units are being developed on two sites on Reserve #1; one site is at the Head of Lake and the other site is in the Pebble Park community. Both sites will have two, 2 storey four-plexes. This project is being developed through a funding partnership with BC Housing and CMHC.

The opportunity:

In keeping with the Okanagan Indian Band's aspirations for language and culture revitalization, we are seeking an Indigenous artist from the Okanagan Nation to supply and install original artwork at the properties to celebrate and commemorate this new affordable housing.

Scope of work and deliverables:

The artwork requested will acknowledge the partnership between the Band and BC Housing and CMHC and will reflect the cultural and historical significance of housing to the Band.

The Band's intention is that artwork be provided at both locations and applied to the buildings themselves, such as carvings, murals, or other forms of expression. See Appendix A for renderings of the buildings for your reference.

As exterior art installations, the form and material selected should be culturally appropriate, and durable such that ongoing maintenance is not required. The scope will include execution of the artwork as well as coordinating the installation.

Remuneration:

Proponents are solely responsible for their own expenses incurred in connection with this expression of interest, including preparing and submitting their proposal, and any subsequent negotiations with the Band prior to the award on a contract.

Band representatives will work collaboratively with the successful candidate to develop the concept and scope of the artwork and reserves the right to negotiate the cost of the work based on the mutually agreed scope of work.

How to apply:

Proposals should be submitted electronically in one (1) Adobe (PDF) file with Subject OKIB EOI-07-21 in the Subject to :

martina.lewis@okanagan.org

- Provide a summary of your relevant experience including a portfolio of your work (links to websites are acceptable). For greater clarity, relevant experience includes artwork applied to building elements such as wall murals and carvings.
- Indicate your fee structure

While a portfolio is requested with your submission, Okanagan Nation students looking to establish themselves as artists or illustrators are encouraged to apply.

Closing Time : The closing time for this Expressions of Interest is **4:00 pm, August 30, 2021. Note:** Late submissions will not be considered and will be returned to the applicant.

The Okanagan Indian Band will retain exclusive use rights for this artwork . The artist can showcase this work on their personal website or in their portfolio, but it cannot be used for commercial purposes.

This is an Expression of Interest, not a call for tenders or requests for offers and no contractual obligation shall arise between the Band and a proponent upon a proponent's submission of a proposal to the Band.

The successful candidate will be asked to participate in a public announcement of the project and participate in a public unveiling of the finished work.

Selection Process:

The Band will select a successful proponent based on an evaluation of the electronic submissions.

The Band, at its discretion, may request an interview with any or all of the proponents and those discussions may be used as part of the selection process and may also be incorporated into and subsequent Contract with the proponent.

Negotiations:

The award of a contract may be subject to negotiations with the lead proponent that is deemed to provide the best value for the Band. Such negotiations include, but not limited to, the following:

- Reaching a mutually agreeable scope of work
- Fee Structure
- Specific contract details as deemed reasonable for negotiations by the Band.

If a written contract cannot be negotiated within twenty one (21) calendar days of notification with the lead Proponent, the Band may, at its discretion at any time thereafter, terminate negotiations with the lead proponent and either enter into negotiations with the next qualified proponent or cancel the Expression of Interest or negotiate with another artist.

Contact:

Those wishing to learn more about this opportunity are invited to contact Martina Lewis, Housing Officer : martina.lewis@okanagan.org

Appendix A



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