



THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF HUNTSVILLE
Kent Park Public Art Project
Call for Artists

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1. ARTIST OPPORTUNITY

- 1.1. The Town of Huntsville's [Public Art Policy](#) recognizes the important role public art plays in placemaking, creating vibrant, engaging spaces that spark dialogue and delight, attract visitors and residents, create a sense of civic pride, and increase opportunities for legitimate loitering to enhance crime prevention.
- 1.2. In 2023, the Town brought together members of the Muskoka Arts and Crafts Inc., the Downtown Huntsville BIA, Huntsville/Lake of Bays Chamber of Commerce, Huntsville Festival of the Arts, and Huntsville Art Society to work with Staff on the commissioning of a permanent outdoor piece of public art at Kent Park. Collectively, these members will be known herein as the Kent Park Public Art Working Group or Working Group for short.
- 1.3. Kent Park is a popular gathering space for residents and visitors alike, used for special events throughout the year including the annual Christmas tree lighting and summer buskers.
- 1.4. It is located on the corner of Brunel Road (Muskoka District Road 2) and Main Street E (Muskoka District Road 3), at [75 Main St E, Huntsville, On P1H 2B8, in the heart of downtown Huntsville.](#)
- 1.5. In 2022, Kent Park was revitalized as part of the Town of Huntsville's Downtown Streetscape Project.
- 1.6. The purpose of this Call for Artists is to enter into an agreement with a suitable artist or artist team to create a permanent piece of public art that adds to the vibrant and unique character of this popular gathering space. The final work should reflect Huntsville's adventurous and creative spirit inspired by the Muskoka landscape that weaves itself in and around the municipality, and foster a sense of place for people to come together to create, celebrate, or simply take pause to enjoy the area's rugged, natural beauty.

2. ELIGIBILITY

- 2.1. All qualified visual artists and artistic styles are encouraged to apply, particularly those with experience leading and completing permanent public art projects that are innovative, functional, durable, inclusive and accessible.
- 2.2. The selected artist(s) will have a clear connection and/or understanding of the area's local history and culture along with the demonstrated ability to successfully manage all aspects of the creative process, including, but not limited to, working under contract, working within schedules, meeting deadlines, providing complete and accurate documentation, budgeting, expense tracking and invoicing.

3. SCOPE OF WORK

- 3.1. The successful artist or artist team will be expected to design, fabricate, and install a permanent work of art in Kent Park that encapsulates the theme and responds to the physical and historical characteristics of the space set out in this Call for Artists.
- 3.2. The artwork can be a singular piece or multiple pieces.
- 3.3. The artwork must be resilient, weather resistant, durable, low maintenance, and vandalism resistant. A list of materials and maintenance instructions are to be provided by the artist(s) to the Town upon completion of the project.
- 3.4. The selected artist(s) will work directly the Kent Park Public Art Working Group in the development of the final design concept.
- 3.5. The artwork will be created off-site and then installed in its permanent location upon completion unless otherwise agreed upon by all parties. The dimensions provided on any concept drawings must be field verified to confirm actual measurements of the available space prior to installation.
- 3.6. The selected artist(s) will be responsible for engaging professional services as required to engineer, construct, transport and install the artwork safely.

4. THEME/CONTEXT

- 4.1. In 2022, the Town of Huntsville consulted the community on how a work of art might activate and enhance Kent Park and best reflect the unique and iconic character of Huntsville. Responses included:
 - 4.1.1. Muskoka-themed
 - 4.1.2. Inclusive of nature, reflective of the outdoors, wildlife, trees, rocks, and water
 - 4.1.3. Water or shade features
 - 4.1.4. Historical components i.e. possible tie to George Hunt
 - 4.1.5. Interactive, functional
 - 4.1.6. Place to create and inspire
 - 4.1.7. Part of the park vs a focal point
 - 4.1.8. Photo opportunity – where people can take selfies
 - 4.1.9. Create conversation, thought provoking
 - 4.1.10. Makes a statement

4.2. Additional ideas and responses are provided in [Staff Report CS-2023-9 – Kent Park Public Art Installation Process](#).

4.3. Artists are also directed to review the following documents on myhuntsville.ca in preparing your submission:

- [Community Improvement Plan 2010](#)
- [Town Of Huntsville Public Art Policy – 2010](#)
- Kent Park Then and Now

5. SITE CHARACTERISTICS

5.1. The site offers a range of possibilities for two- or three-dimensional works of art in terms of size, shape, and artistic media of a permanent nature.

5.2. It is adjacent to private property and two primary roads, at one of the town's busiest intersections.

5.3. There are a number of permanent features in the park that could be used to incorporate works of art, provided it can be done safely and securely, it does not create any tripping hazards, and allows the space to continue to be used for special events. This includes:

5.3.1. boulders

5.3.2. light standards

5.3.3. poles

5.3.4. gardens

5.4. Electricity may be available and should be discussed prior to submitting to the call.

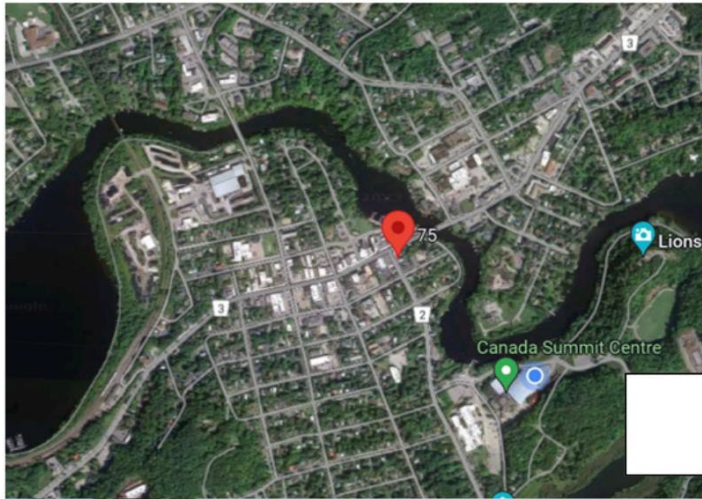
5.5. The Muskoka chairs, rainbow bench, and planters are not permanent fixtures.

5.6. The walkways are made of interlocking brick.

5.7. Any potential art installations should consider a barrier free design that permits access for people with all abilities.

5.8. The work cannot affect:

- Ø Vehicular sight lines or pedestrian flow.
- Ø General maintenance and functional operation of the site i.e. snow removal, gardening and removal of debris/garbage.
- Ø Existing infrastructure (i.e. mural, Christmas tree, privacy fence)



Aerial View



View from the Corner of Brunel Road and Main Street

6. PROJECT BUDGET

6.1. The budget for this public art project is \$50,000, inclusive of applicable taxes.

6.2. The selected artist(s) will be responsible for all costs, including, but not limited to:

- 6.2.1. Artists' fee (research, conceptual and detailed design, and creation)
- 6.2.2. Materials and supplies
- 6.2.3. Engineered drawings associated with the construction and installation of the work
- 6.2.4. Installation (such as anchors, mounting structures and equipment, contractor's fees, etc.)
- 6.2.5. Travel and transportation

6.2.6. Proof of artists' insurance

6.2.7. Applicable taxes

6.3. Until such time as the Town enters into contract with a successful applicant, artists must bear all costs associated with their submission. Neither the Town nor the Kent Park Public Art Working Group are responsible for any costs, expenses, losses, damages (including damages for loss of anticipated profit) or liabilities incurred by applicants as a result of or arising out of this Call for Artists, or due to the Town's acceptance or non-acceptance of their submission material, or arising out of any contract award not made in accordance with the expressed or implied terms of the Call for Artists.

7. SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

7.1. Submission requirements are set out in Section 8 and Schedule A of this Call for Artists.

7.2. Submission materials must be received by **Sunday, May 26, 2024, at 11:59pm.**

7.3. All submission materials must be sent via myhuntsville.ca by the deadline to be eligible. Those requiring assistance are to contact the Manager of Recreation, Culture and Heritage. Please give at least 48 hours notice prior to the submission deadline to ensure sufficient time to process your request.

7.4. Late submissions, hardcopy submissions, and incomplete submissions will not be accepted.

7.5. All submission materials become the property of the Town and will not be returned to the applicant.

7.6. Questions should be directed to Jacqueline Surette, Manager of Recreation, Culture and Heritage for the Town of Huntsville.

Phone: 705-789-6421 x 3021 | Toll Free: 1-888-696-4255

Email: jacqueline.surette@huntsville.ca

8. SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

8.1. Your submission must include the following material:

8.1.1. Curriculum vitae/resume for each participating artist

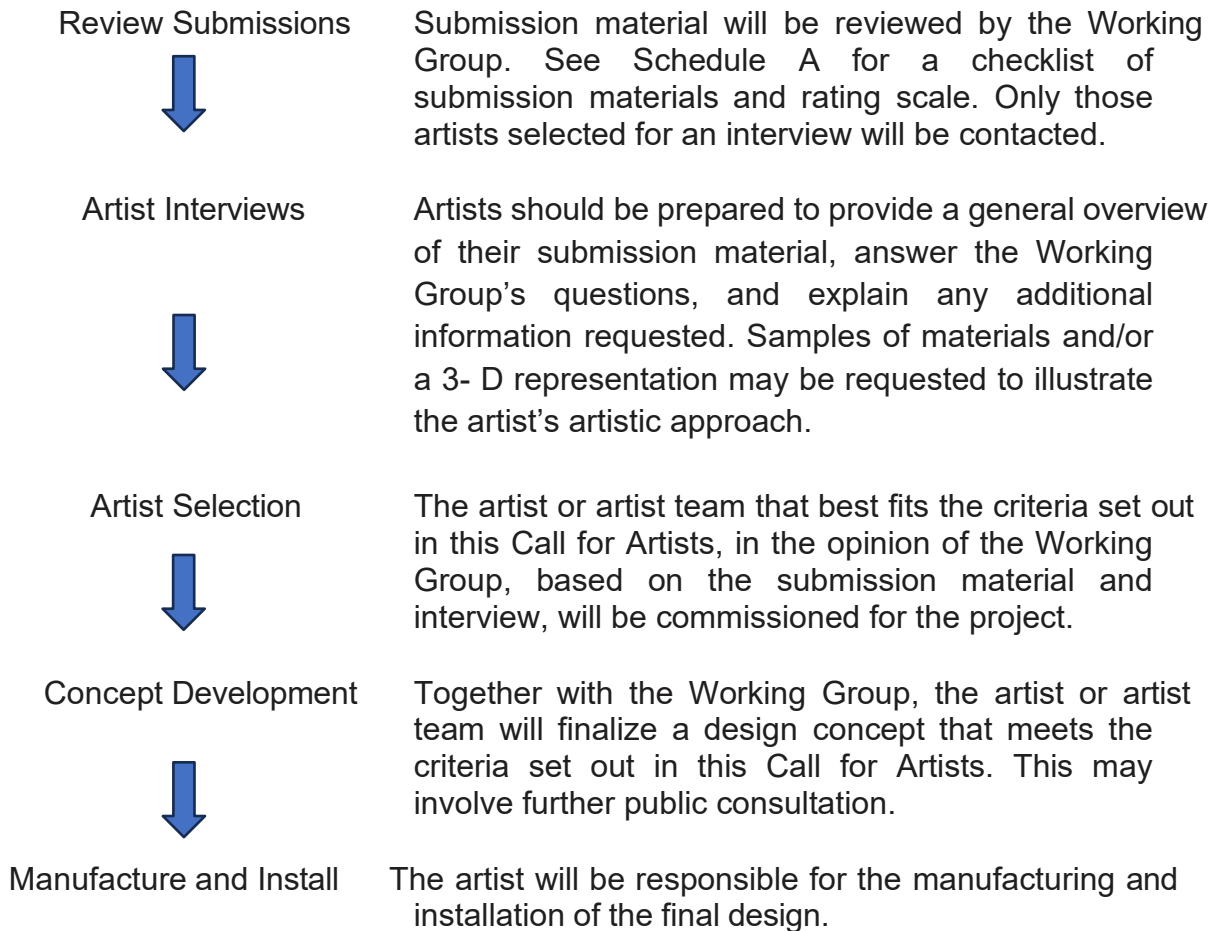
8.1.2. Artist statement

8.1.3. General artistic approach

8.1.4. Preliminary design

8.2. Schedule A includes a checklist of items to help you put together a strong submission.

9. SELECTION PROCESS



9.1. The Kent Park Public Art Working Group reserves the right to select and retain the artist(s) deemed most appropriate for the project at its sole discretion and is under no obligation to choose any artist from this Call for Artists.

9.2. The Town of Huntsville will enter into an agreement with the successful artist(s) to outline the terms and conditions of this commission, including: the description and materials of the artwork; timeline; location and installation details; engineering requirements; maintenance and/or conservation plan; insurance, WSIB, and health and safety requirements as applicable; and ethical and legal considerations. **For Artist teams, one artist must act as the applicant and enter into the agreement with the Town of Huntsville. The others will act as subcontractors for the purpose of this project.**

9.3. The selected artist(s) will work with the Kent Park Public Art Working Group on the final design concept, which may differ in whole or in part from the artist’s or artists’ preliminary design presented in their submission material.

10. PROPOSED TIMELINE

10.1. The following timeline is approximate and subject to change. The final timeline will be negotiated with the selected artist/artist team.

MILESTONE	DATE
Monday, March 25, 2024	Release of Call for Artists
Sunday, May 26, 2024, at 11:59pm	Deadline for submissions
June 2024	Interviews with select artists/artist teams
July 2024	Execute Agreement
August – September 2024	Finalize design
October 2024 – April 2025	Artwork fabrication
May 2025 (est.)	Artwork installation/Transfer of Ownership
June 2025 (est.)	Unveiling

SCHEDULE A: SUBMISSION CHECKLIST

Below is a checklist of items to include in your submission, along with the weight (%) of each requirement in the evaluation process.

Rating Scale /100%	Submission Requirement	Checklist
40	<i>Curriculum Vitae/Resume</i>	<p>Be sure to include the following for each participating artist:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> artist(s) contact information <input type="checkbox"/> education, training or apprenticeship <input type="checkbox"/> social media channels and websites, if available <input type="checkbox"/> relevant artistic experience <input type="checkbox"/> up to ten (10) images of previous commissioned and completed works of art with title, date, medium, dimensions, budget, location and commissioning body. <i>Be sure to include ones that reflect the artistic approach you would use in this project.</i>
15	<i>Artist Statement</i>	<p>This should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> your interest in the project and how it relates to your current art practice. <input type="checkbox"/> your connection and/or understanding of the area’s local history and culture.
15	<i>Artistic Practice</i>	<p>This should include, but is not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> description of your artistic medium (media), techniques, materials, and installation methods. <input type="checkbox"/> the durability and suitability of your materials and construction methods. As a permanent piece of art, the final work(s) must be resistant to vandalism, the elements and not pose a risk to public safety. <input type="checkbox"/> artist teams must detail what each brings to the project and any experience working together.

Rating Scale /100%	Submission Requirement	Checklist
30	<i>Preliminary Design Idea(s)</i>	<p>This is NOT intended to be a detailed conceptual design but your initial thoughts on how you would approach the project. Using the written description or file upload field below, you can provide a sketch and/or describe in writing your general artistic approach.</p> <p>Consider the following: <input type="checkbox"/> scale (height, width, depth, weight)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> colour (or absence of colour)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> orientation within the site</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> if three-dimensional (or if you feel it is relevant), side and top views</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> how your ideas relate to the theme and site characteristics and meant to be interpreted/understood by the public</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> notable features such as whether it would be interactive, functional, or weather (patina)</p>