

call to artists

PUBLIC ART
RICHMOND



Figure 1. *Cover Stories*, Susan Pearson, Richmond, 2016

Richmond Canada 150 Storm and Sanitary Sewer Access Cover Design

Request for Artist Proposals (RFP)

November 2017

OPPORTUNITY

The Richmond Public Art Program, in partnership with Engineering and Public Works, invites professional artists residing in Canada to submit proposals for sewer access cover designs. Two artists or artist teams will be selected. This is an excellent opportunity for artists working in two-dimensional media including drawing, printmaking, illustration and graphic design. The sewer access covers will be installed throughout the City of Richmond to replace decommissioned covers and for new infrastructure and building developments. All information about the project is contained herein.

- Artist Budget:** Up to \$2,500 CAD, each
- Eligibility:** Artists residing in Canada
- Deadline:** Thursday, January 11, 2018, 5:00 p.m.
- Completion:** PST Spring 2018

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BACKGROUND

The City of Richmond is a city of islands, formed over millennia by the Fraser River. The largest of these islands, Lulu Island, is home to the great majority of the city's population, farmland and industry. The island is generally flat with a shallow groundwater table; thus, the water in the ground does not tend to flow and usually stays where it falls. Prior to the construction of dykes to protect the island from flooding, sloughs naturally drained the area.

The City of Richmond is committed to healthy watercourses, and protecting the water in our sloughs, ditches and the Fraser River. A key element of watercourse protection is proper management of storm and sanitary water. In Richmond, there are two separate sewer systems: **sanitary** and **storm**.

Sanitary sewers direct waste water from sinks and toilets to a treatment plant. At the treatment plant, many different organic and chemical processes are used to make the water safe for discharge to the Fraser River and the Salish Sea. The City owns, maintains and operates much of the sanitary sewer infrastructure; however, it is integrated into a region-wide system that connects to several Waste Water Treatment Facilities which are owned, maintained and operated by Metro Vancouver.

Storm sewers prevent flooding by directing the rainwater falling on streets, sidewalks and outdoor spaces into drainage systems that flow directly to the Fraser River. As storm water is not treated, it is important that only clean rain water enter storm drainage network. Harmful chemicals found in soapy water from car washing and pesticides from lawns can harm the ecosystems connected to the storm drainage system.

THEMES

Applicants are invited to respond to one or a combination of the following three Richmond Canada 150 themes in their proposal:

- **History, Culture, Diversity**

To reflect Richmond's rich tapestry of cultures, recognizing the indigenous peoples original First Nations residents, early European settlers and the immigrants from a multiplicity of cultures that have since made their homes in Richmond.

- **Fraser River, Working River**

To explore Richmond's vital relationship to the Fraser River and reflect on the development of Lulu Island, with the key industries of fisheries, agriculture, shipping and other fields.

- **Agricultural Sustainability**

To celebrate Richmond's relationship to the land, from the first inhabitants, to farmers who recognized and nurtured the bounty of the region's rich delta soils, to recent food security initiatives and innovation in urban agriculture.



Cover Stories, Jeff Porter, 2016



Cover Stories, Susan Pearson, 2016

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DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

Artists are invited to submit proposals for sewer access cover designs that respond to the stated themes and will remind residents, industrial and commercial businesses to keep Richmond's watercourses clean and healthy for present and future generations.

- Artists will submit a design for **either** a sanitary or storm water sewer access cover;
- Artists will **not** be able to submit the same design for both sewer types. Artists are permitted to submit up to two separate design proposals, a **maximum of one** for each sewer type;
- Designs should consider legibility from all directions, for example radial symmetry or mandala geometric patterns are often successful, though this is not mandatory;
- The design should have sufficient complexity to provide a uniform textured surface to prevent pedestrians and bicycles from slipping on the covers; though not overly complex as the design needs to be easily translated into a mould for fabrication of the cast-iron covers; and avoid thin lines or narrow recessed areas that will be difficult to cast;
- Designs may include text. (text in the outer band will be provided by the City); and
- Submitted designs should be in black and white and be contained within the inner dedicated circular area of the attached template (Refer to Figure 1).

The selected artists will be required to work with the fabricator to revise and finalize the design before fabrication as a cast iron cover and, where required, for an additional fee, will be invited to prepare a three-dimensional full size pattern (either carved out of wood or machined) for use in developing the casting mold.

BUDGET

The total budget established for this project is \$2,500 CAD for each selected design. This budget includes a cash award of \$1,000 for each of the winning designs and up to an additional \$1,500 for each artist for development of a full size pattern and coordination with the fabricator on the casting phase.

Travel to Richmond and/or accommodation is at the artist's expense.

ARTIST ELIGIBILITY

Professional artists residing in Canada are eligible to apply for this opportunity. Employees or relatives of employees of the City of Richmond are not eligible.



Cover Stories, Greg Allen, 2016



Cover Stories, Caroline Dyck, 2016

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SELECTION PROCESS

A selection panel consisting of artists, art professionals, and community representatives will engage in a one-stage artist selection process to review all artist submissions. At the conclusion of the process, the panel will recommend two artists. The recommended designs will be submitted for review by the Richmond Public Art Advisory Committee (RPAAC) and City staff for Council approval and implementation.

ARTIST SELECTION CRITERIA

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

- Artistic merit of artist statement of intent in response to Themes.
- Ability of the artwork to respond to the design considerations.
- Artist capacity to work with other design professionals and stakeholders.
- Appropriateness of the proposal to the Public Art Program goals: www.richmond.ca/culture/publicart/plans/policy.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

E-mail all documentation as one (1) PDF document, not to exceed a file size of 5 MB to: publicart@richmond.ca

- INFORMATION FORM – Please complete the information form attached to this document.
- STATEMENT OF INTENT – 300 words or less, explaining the idea for the work, why the artist is interested in this opportunity and how the project responds to the selection criteria.
- CONCEPTUAL ARTIST SKETCH – (on template provided) a preliminary concept visualization to accompany the statement of intent.
- ARTIST CV – (one page maximum). Teams should include one page for each member.
- WORK SAMPLES – Up to five (5) supporting image examples of previous work appropriate to this opportunity. One image per page. Please include artist name(s), title, year, location and medium information on each page.

PROJECT TIMELINE

Submission Deadline:	Thursday, January 11, 2018, 5:00 p.m.
Finalist Notifications:	PST January 2018
Installation:	Summer 2018

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SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

1. All supporting documents must be complete and strictly adhere to these guidelines and submission requirements (above) or risk not being considered.
2. All submissions must be portrait formatted to 8.5 x 11 inch pages.
3. Submission files must be 5 MB or smaller.
4. If submitting as a team, the team should designate one representative to complete the entry form. Each team member must submit an individual resume/curriculum vitae. (See Submission Requirements)
5. All documents must be sent by e-mail to: publicart@richmond.ca

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

1. Please be advised that the City and the selection panel are not obliged to accept any of the submissions and may reject all submissions. The City reserves the right to reissue the Artist Call as required.
2. All submissions to this Artist Call become the property of the City. 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 in the concept proposal. While every precaution will be taken to prevent the loss or damage of submissions, the City and its agents shall not be liable for any loss or damage, however caused.
3. Extensions to the deadline will not be granted under any circumstances. Submissions received after the deadline and those that are found to be incomplete will not be reviewed.

SOURCES FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- [City of Richmond Pollution Prevention](#)
- [City of Richmond Public Art Program](#)
- [Richmond Ecological Network Management Strategy](#)

QUESTIONS

Please contact the Richmond Public Art Program:

Tel: 604-204-8696

E-mail: publicart@richmond.ca

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Figure 1 – Sewer Access Cover design template.

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RICHMOND CANADA 150 SEWER ACCESS COVER DESIGN

Attach one (1) copy of this form as the first page of the submission.

Is the proposed design for a sanitary or storm water sewer access cover?

Please check one box only:

Sanitary Sewer Cover

Storm Sewer Cover

Name: _____

Team Name: (if applicable) _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **Postal Code:** _____

Primary Phone: _____ **Secondary Phone:** _____

E-mail: _____ **Website:** _____
(One website or blog only)

Incomplete submissions will not be accepted. E-mailed submissions over 5 MB will not be accepted. Information beyond what is listed in the checklist will not be reviewed.

Team Member Names, if applicable: (Team Lead complete above portion)

How did you find out about this opportunity?

Would you like to receive direct e-mails from the Richmond Public Art Program? Yes No

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Submit applications by e-mail to: publicart@richmond.ca

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