

call to artists

PUBLIC ART
RICHMOND



Figure 1. View of main arrivals plaza, Minoru Centre for Active Living

Minoru Centre for Active Living Entries and Arrivals Artwork

Request for Proposals (RFP)

July 2017

OPPORTUNITY

The Richmond Public Art Program is seeking an artist or artist team to create a site-responsive artwork for the entry and arrival zone of the new Minoru Centre for Active Living, 7191 Granville Avenue, Richmond, B.C. All information about the project is contained herein.

This is a two-stage open artist call. Following review by the selection panel of the submitted artists' statements of interest and conceptual proposals, up to five artists will be shortlisted and invited to develop their concept proposals and attend an interview. An honorarium of \$2,000 will be paid to each of the shortlisted artists or artist teams. A travel allowance will be available for shortlisted artists residing outside of the Greater Vancouver area.

Budget: \$200,000 CAD

Eligibility Requirements: Open to professional artists and artist teams residing in Canada.

Deadline for Submissions: Thursday, August 31, 2017, 4:00 p.m. PDT

Installation: Installation in Spring 2018

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THEMES

The City of Richmond and stakeholders for the Minoru Centre for Active Living have identified three themes to provide a point of departure for interested artists to develop their conceptual ideas. These are to:

- Connect to the history of Minoru Park;
- Tell the story of Minoru Park as a place for sports, cultural activity and community enjoyment; and
- Be integrated with the site and landscape to provide a human-scaled gathering place.

Artists are encouraged to consider the history of Minoru Park, to provide a connection to the past for today's visitors to the Minoru Centre for Active Living and to the Minoru Park Precinct (Figure 1).

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

Minoru Park is a 45 acre recreational and cultural park site in the centre of Richmond. This large green space is enclosed by development on the streets around its edges, and contains recreational and arts facilities, civic facilities, playfields, gardens, and open space.

The heritage value of Minoru Park is due to its historic association to events and periods which have influenced the development of Richmond as a city. Originally part of Sam Brighthouse's property (Figures 2 and 3), the park's history spans and chronicles early settlement and land acquisition in Richmond, aviation history, the social legacy of the Minoru racetrack, democratic and civic processes, and the design and planning of an important city park (Figures 4-7).

Equally significant is the physical evolution of the park beginning in 1907 and resulting in a major public open space with a wide diversity of uses. Over time, its landscape has accumulated features associated with different uses, designers, planners and local government decision-making. There are trees that date from the days of the Minoru Racetrack, developed in 1909.

Minoru Park has cultural and social heritage value, functioning as an important gathering place for the community, and its civic and recreational facilities have accommodated a variety of activities. Serviced by the B.C. Electric Railway, Minoru racetrack became the centre for social life in early Richmond, and the City Hall has been associated with this area since the early part of the 20th century. Throughout its history, the park has provided its grounds, buildings and sports facilities for many community events. It is a diverse, layered landscape that continues to be well used, and it is symbolic of the city's determination to maintain open space in the centre of the city.

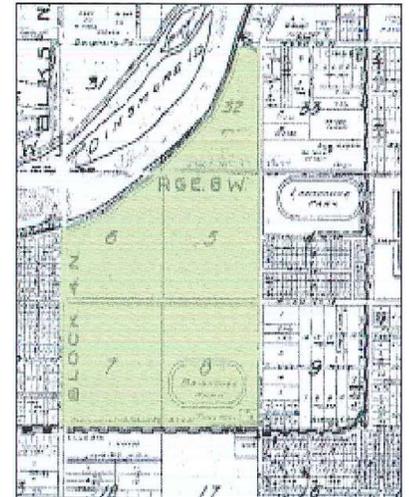


Figure 3. Map showing extent of Sam Brighthouse's land in Richmond City of Richmond Archives

In 1864, Samuel (Sam) Brighthouse purchased 697 acres on Lulu Island. Minoru Park is located in Section 8 (the lower right green square in the map above), showing the former location of the Minoru Racetrack between Gilbert Road and No. 3 Road north of Granville Avenue.

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MINORU CENTRE FOR ACTIVE LIVING

Embracing the City's vision to build a Centre of Excellence for Active Living and Wellness, the Minoru Civic Precinct capital program includes a new integrated, multi-purpose complex to house an aquatic centre, seniors centre and space for other recreation and community needs. Currently under construction, this 110,000 square foot complex will replace and expand services currently available at existing facilities in the Precinct.

The Guiding Principles adopted by City Council for the Minoru Civic Precinct reflect high expectations and will inform forward-thinking design, public art and community-building possibilities:

- Be Exceptional
- Be Sustainable
- Be Accessible
- Be a "Centre of Excellence for Active Living and Wellness"
- Be Synergistic
- Be Connected.

The selected artist will have experience working with multiple stakeholders and the proven ability to fabricate their own work or to work with fabricators and installers.

The Minoru Centre of Excellence for Active Living is a multi-purpose facility. It is important to develop a strong aesthetic that signals entry and provides clarity of the building's internal functions at the entrances. Public art, working in concert with architectural and landscape design, can invite building users towards the services and activities they are seeking.

LOCATION

The Minoru Centre of Excellence for Active Living entrance and arrivals area is shown in Figure 8.

The Artwork location will be limited to the landscaped island indicated on the site plan. The plantings may be reconfigured to accommodate the proposal. Pathways must remain clear for service vehicles. Artists are encouraged to visit Minoru Park prior to submitting.

The artwork may be a single piece, or a series of pieces to create a sense of place and present a unique narrative for the entry and arrival zones. By positioning artworks within the entry plazas, the selected artist will need to be mindful of the full range of activities and events that need to be accommodated at various times.



Figure 4. First airplane visitor to B.C. at Minoru Park -- [1910]
City of Richmond Archives



Figure 6. The grandstand at Brighthouse Park Race Track in Richmond, BC -- [1924]
City of Richmond Archives



Figure 7. Minoru Track, Eileen Faulkner May Queen -- [ca 1927]
City of Richmond Archives

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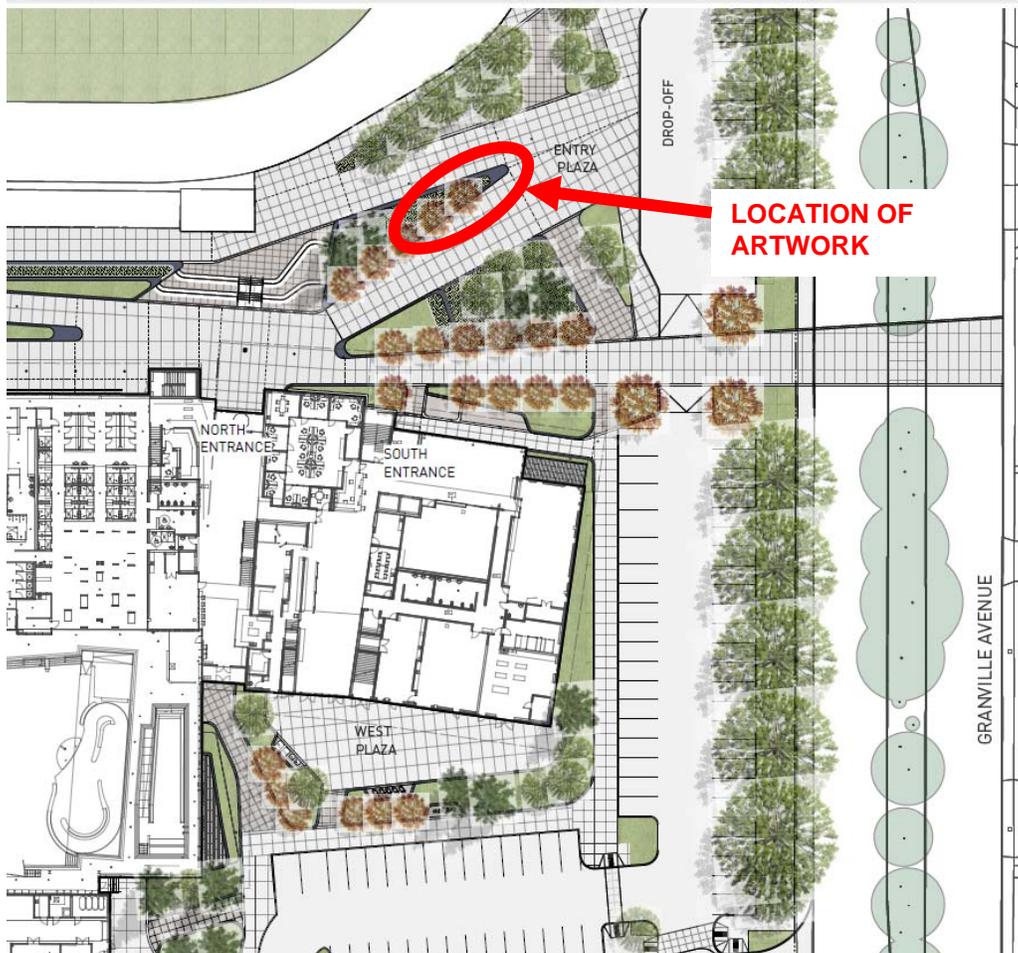


Figure 8. Site Plan.

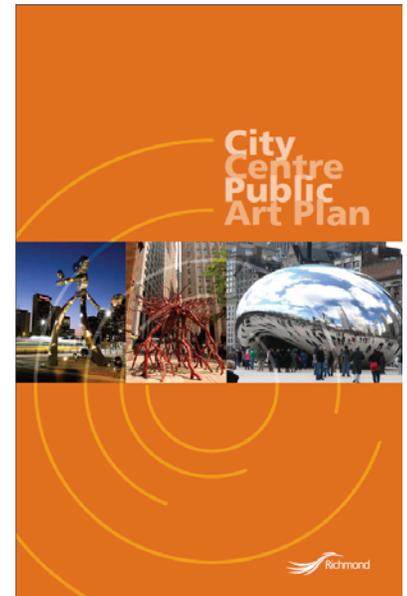


Figure 9. Cover of City Centre Public Art Plan

The City Centre Area Plan proposes that “a significant work unique to Richmond’s community would bring art, sport and culture together in the Minoru Precinct”.

BUDGET

The total budget established for this project is \$200,000 CAD. This budget includes (but is not limited to) artist fees, design, permitting as needed, engineering fees, fabrication, installation, photography, insurance and all taxes (GST excluded). Travel to Richmond and/or accommodation for the selected artist is at the artist’s expense.

ARTIST ELIGIBILITY

This opportunity is open to artists or artist teams residing in Canada. Qualified artists will have proven experience developing artworks, specifically for civic projects. City of Richmond staff and its Public Art Advisory Committee members, selection panel members, project personnel, and immediate family members of all of the above are not eligible.

Artists that are currently under contract with the City in a public art project are ineligible for other projects until the current contract is deemed complete.

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SELECTION PROCESS

A selection panel will recommend the artist/artist team through a two-stage open call process. For stage one, artists are asked to submit a preliminary idea or approach for the site. For stage two, artists will be asked to prepare detailed concept designs based on the preliminary proposals and attend a finalist presentation and interview. An honorarium of \$2,000 will be paid to each of the shortlisted artists or artist teams.

Out-of-town finalists will be reimbursed for travel and lodging expenses to attend the orientation and interview in Richmond to a maximum of \$1,000. If applying as a team, the allowance for travel may not fully reimburse all team members.

A selection panel comprised of three (3) art or design professionals, one (1) representative from the Aquatic Centre stakeholder group, and one (1) representative from the Seniors Centre stakeholder group will review the applicants' materials. Representatives from the design team will serve as advisors to the panel. Based on the selection criteria listed below, the panel will select up to five (5) finalists to develop their concept proposals.

The finalists will be invited to an orientation session to discuss the opportunity and constraints with City staff and the design team.

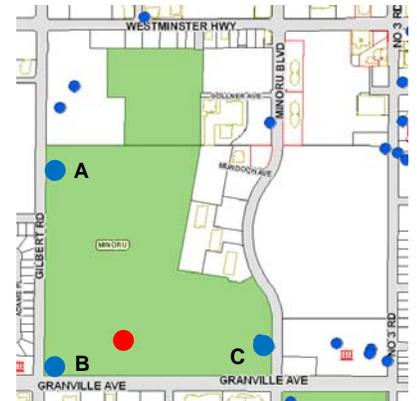
On the basis of the second-stage presentation and interview, the selection panel will then recommend one artist or artist team to City Council for endorsement.

The panel reserves the right to make no recommendation from the submitted applications or finalist interviews.

ARTIST SELECTION CRITERIA

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

- How the proposal connects to the history of Minoru Park;
- Ability of the proposal to tell the story of Minoru Park as a place for sports, cultural activity and community enjoyment; and
- Integration of the artwork with the site and landscape to provide a human-scaled gathering place.
- Ability of the artwork to respond to the existing character of the site by taking into account scale, colour, material, texture, content and the physical characteristics of the location.
- Artistic merit of artist Statement of Interest and Conceptual Artist Sketch (Stage 1) and Detailed Concept Proposal (Stage 2).



- Existing Artworks
- Location for Entries and Arrivals Artwork a9see images below)

Figure 10. Examples of public artworks in the Minoru Precinct



Figure 11. A. Gateway, Tyler Hodgins, Gateway Theatre. 2010.

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PROJECT TIMELINE

Submission Deadline: Thursday, August 31, 2017, 4:00 p.m. PDT

Finalist Notifications and

Site Orientation: September 2017

Finalist Interview: Thursday, October 27, 2017*

Completion: Spring 2018

*All applicants are asked to reserve this date on their calendars.

SOURCES FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

THE MINORU CIVIC PRECINCT DEVELOPMENT

THE CITY OF RICHMOND

THE MINORU CIVIC PRECINCT ART PLAN

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Email all documentation as one (1) PDF document in Portrait format, 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 INTEREST** – 300 words (or less) that explain why the artist/team is interested in this opportunity and how their practice relates to this project and the posted selection criteria. If applying as a team, please address how team members work together in the statement of interest.
- **CONCEPTUAL ARTIST SKETCH** – (1 page maximum) a preliminary concept visualization to accompany the Statement of Interest and how you are responding to the posted selection criteria.
- **ARTIST CV** – Two page (maximum) current professional resume. Teams should include two-page resumes for all members as one document. PDF format is required.
- **DIGITAL IMAGE WORK SAMPLES** – Applicants must submit a maximum of **12 samples of past work** that best illustrate their qualifications for this project. Submit each image on a separate page, portrait format, and include title of work, artist(s), location, commissioning agency, date and budget. If applying as a team, the team submits no more than 12 images.
- **REFERENCES** – Three (3) references who can speak to your abilities, skills and accomplishments. Please provide name, title and contact telephone number and/or email.



Figure 12. **B.** Commemorative Fire Fighter, Nathan Scott, 2017

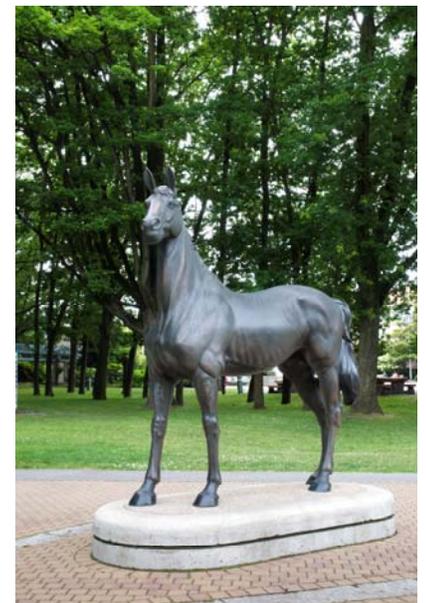


Figure 13. **C.** Minoru Horse, Sergei Traschenko, Minoru Park, 2009.

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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 formatted to 8.5 x 11 inch pages, portrait format.
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 individual resume/curriculum vitae. (See Submission Requirements)
5. All documents must be sent by email to: publicart@richmond.ca

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

1. The selected artist will be required to show proof of WCB coverage and \$2,000,000 general liability insurance.
2. 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.
3. 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.
4. Extensions to the submission 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.

QUESTIONS

Please contact Eric Fiss, Public Art Planner:

Tel: 604-247-4612

E-mail: publicart@richmond.ca

www.richmond.ca/publicart

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

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.

List Team Member Names: (Team Lead complete above portion)

Please let us know how you found 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

Additional Information

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