

**Innovation Centre Public Art Project
Invitational Competition for Indigenous Artists
from RED RIVER COLLEGE**

ART OPPORTUNITY OVERVIEW

Red River College invites Indigenous artists residing in Canada to submit proposals for consideration to work with a project team to integrate public art into the City Room ceiling and southeast exterior soffit as part of the construction of our new Innovation Centre on Elgin Avenue in downtown Winnipeg, Manitoba, located on Treaty 1 territory.

CONTEXT

[Red River College](#) (RRC) is Manitoba's largest institute of applied learning and research with more than 200 degree, diploma and certificate options available across eight campuses. This includes the Exchange District Campus, located in historic central Winnipeg which is home to the city's oldest architectural gems. Several of these buildings have been refurbished for classroom, administration, and library space, giving the Campus a contemporary/classical feel and aesthetic.

The Exchange District Campus is located on Treaty 1 territory. Treaty No. 1 was negotiated and entered into in August 1871 at Lower Fort Garry and includes the communities of Winnipeg, Brandon, Portage la Prairie, Selkirk, Steinbach, Lunda, Grand Beach, Emerson, Winkler and many more. As the traditional territory of the Anishinaabe peoples and the homeland of the Métis Nation, Winnipeg sits at the crossroads of the Anishinaabeg, Assiniboine, Cree, Dene, Inuit, Métis, Oji-Cree, and Sioux Nations, and is home to Canada's largest, youngest and fastest growing urban Indigenous population. Approximately 11% of Winnipeggers are of Indigenous descent, exceeding the national average of 4.3%.

RRC is committed to advancing Indigenous achievement and works cooperatively with students and staff — as well as members of the larger community — to ensure Indigenous learners have access to the supports and services they need to achieve academic success. We operate Indigenous student support centres in Winnipeg, as well as Mobile Training Labs in communities throughout the province. Elders-in-Residence provide spiritual and cultural supports across campuses. A sweat lodge at the Notre Dame Campus allows us to host sacred ceremonies used to give thanks, to heal or seek wisdom, and to purify the mind, body and soul. Each year, the achievements of our Indigenous graduates are celebrated at a day-long pow wow and feast.

Innovation Centre

The College is experiencing steady growth and the need for new space has led to the construction of the [new Innovation Centre at our Exchange District Campus](#). This space will prepare students for the future and innovate the design and delivery of post-secondary education in Manitoba, Canada and internationally. Using state-of-the-art technology, students will have the advantage of growing their skills while working with the same systems and tools as our industry partners.

The Centre will be an atmosphere of constant innovation that will focus on industry-led applied research, entrepreneurship, Indigenous education, and social innovation and enterprise. It will be a dynamic collision space where students, faculty, industry and the community will engage in concept development, product development, testing, and promotion – creating solutions to real-world issues in a learning environment and accelerating the commercialization of start-ups and small and medium-sized enterprises.

The space will include an Agora, made up of storefronts for student services, classrooms, student meeting spaces, individual and group work stations – and the 200-seat roundhouse, a multi-use space for events, lectures, classes, smudging ceremonies and rituals open to students and the public.

Design and Architecture

In response to the concept of innovation, Red River College stakeholders have worked with Number TEN Architectural Group and Diamond Schmitt Architects Inc. to develop a new 100,000 square foot facility that is advanced and forward-thinking, and aims for no net carbon emissions. With respect to its location and the existing architecture, the new Innovation Centre will continue the Campus' theme of looking to the future while respecting the past. The project includes the adaptive re-use of the historically designated Scott Fruit building, a state-of-the-art four-storey addition, and an above-ground pedestrian walkway connecting to the Roblin Centre.

The skin of the new building addition is comprised of photovoltaic glass that generates energy and changes colour according to weather and the angle at which it is viewed. Inside, a wide array of unique light-filled programming, circulation and multi-purpose collaboration space is designed to be an atmosphere of constant innovation that will focus on industry-led applied research, entrepreneurship, Indigenous education, and social innovation and enterprise. The addition is expected to welcome up to 1,200 new students when it opens in the fall of 2020.

City Room

The City Room is located at the southeast corner on the 4th floor, which is the highest level in the Innovation Centre building. With full height glass on three sides, it will provide panoramic views to the city, as well as become a beacon for the project from afar for the many that pass along Princess St. The room is designed to function as both a typical 28 seat classroom for everyday use by students, as well as an event space due to its special design. A large storage closet within the room allows movable tables and chairs to be stored away for standing only events, mechanically operated blinds shield against any direct light and a high lumen projector and ceiling speaker set up is available to broadcast any audio-visual material. The flooring of the room is a discreet, neutral carpet meant to blend in with the flooring materials elsewhere but provide additional acoustic absorption for comfort in the room.

PROJECT SUMMARY and ARTWORK GOALS

Red River College is inviting Indigenous artists to create an artwork that responds conceptually to the idea of innovation rooted in place.

The Selected Artist will see their work permanently integrated within the Innovation Centre's 4th floor City Room ceiling and exterior soffit. The artwork will cover the entire southeast corner of the soffit, visible inside and out, acting as a beacon that draws your eye up from street level.

The artwork will be digitally output and integrated into the manufacturing process of the architectural elements listed above. Artists should generate an image that will help create a welcoming space and denote a connection with the site, its history, local culture, and the surrounding community. The submitted artwork may be made up of a pattern or a single larger image that takes up the artwork area in its entirety. The Selected Artist will also need to consider how the artwork will transition into the remaining warm yellow/gold coloured soffit that will not have its graphic incorporated. The selected artist may work with the design team to adjust the image to the site if needed.

While the focus of this Competition is on the 4th floor ceiling and soffit, other opportunities for design elements within the Innovation Centre may arise once the Selected Artist has been engaged. If this is the case, extension of the contract and a further artist fee will be determined with the artist prior to any further work being requested.

SITE LOCATION and PLANS

Please refer to the site plan and renderings for more details.

ARTWORK DESIGN PARAMETERS

The completed work will be digitally output on 136.1 square-metres of "[FunderMax Individualdecor](#)" decorative laminate. This process will require sophisticated data files and it is recommended that you engage a professional graphic designer to assist you in the creation of your proposal. The quality of the final print will depend on the quality of the data that you provide. The requirements are detailed on the attached [FunderMax Data Sheet](#).

ARTIST ELIGIBILITY

This is an invitational competition for Professional* artists living in Canada who identify as Indigenous.

*A Professional artist is defined as a person who is critically recognized as an artist; possesses skill, training and/or experience in their artistic discipline; is active in and committed to their art practice; and has a history of public presentation.

SELECTION PROCESS and CRITERIA

Five artists will be invited to submit proposals through this invitational competition. Proposals will be reviewed by an Artwork Selection Committee of qualified persons who are familiar with Red River College and the surrounding community. The committee will review submissions on the basis of:

- Artistic merit
- Sensitivity to the site and context
- Qualifications and professional experience of the artist
- Expressed willingness of the artist to work collaboratively with design and construction professionals
- Ability to provide final high-res digital file to RRC's fabricator by January 8, 2020.

ARTWORK SELECTION COMMITTEE

The Artwork Selection Committee will include Indigenous artists, community members and knowledge keepers, Red River College staff, and design professionals. The final decisions will be those of the Artwork Selection Committee.

PROPOSAL DEVELOPMENT HONOURARIUM

An honourarium of \$2,000 for the creation of the artwork proposal will be extended to the invited artists. Invited Artists will have approximately three months to complete the proposal. Completed proposals are to be sent digitally to the Winnipeg Arts Council by September 11, 2019. Invited Artists will present their detailed proposals in person or via SKYPE to the Selection Committee on September 18. A final selection will be made following all the presentations by Invited Artists, if appropriate.*

*Please note that Red River College is not compelled to award the project based on the submissions received.

SELECTED ARTIST

The artist selected for the final commission will be required to enter into an agreement with Red River College which will contain provisions including, but not limited to, rights of ownership and use, warranty, and insurance. The completed artwork will be the property of Red River College but the moral copyright and intellectual property rights remain with the artist.

ARTIST FEE

The Selected Artist will receive \$15,000 to work with the design team to integrate their work into the determined artwork area.

ESTIMATED PROJECT TIMELINE (2019/2020)

Project announcement	Jun 2019
Invited Artists create proposals	Jul 11 – Sep 11, 2019
Selection Committee selects artwork and commission is awarded	Sep 18, 2019
Selected Artist consults with RRC and refines artwork design	Oct/Nov, 2019
Final Digital File is presented to RRC	Dec 18, 2019
Innovation Centre and artwork open to the public	Fall 2020

DETAILED PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

In order for the Artwork Selection Committee to assess the merit and feasibility of the proposal, Invited Artists are asked to provide the following materials:

1. A written description and concept explanation for the proposed artwork.
2. Detailed design drawings showing all dimensions of the artwork (please refer to site plans provided).
3. “In situ” mock-ups showing the artwork in context. Please integrate (“Photoshop”) your proposed artwork into the digital renderings provided.
4. Artwork sample(s) at 1:1 scale (11” x 17” section).
5. Artist statement & Bio

All documents should be presented as 11” x 17” pages in a PDF, created from print-resolution files (300-600dpi), and submitted digitally via [WeTransfer](#) to alexis@winnipegarts.ca with the subject line **RRC Innovation Centre Public Art**.

For additional information or questions, please contact:

Alexis Kinloch, Winnipeg Arts Council at alexis@winnipegarts.ca, 204-943-7668.

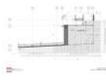
The following additional documents are available digitally here:

<http://winnipegarts.ca/wac/news-article/red-river-college-innovation-centre-public-art-project>

Renderings

-  RRC Innovation Ctr - Exterior Southeast.jpg
-  RRC Innovation Ctr - Exterior Southwest.jpg
-  RRC Innovation Ctr - Exterior Close Up.jpg
-  RRC Innovation Ctr - Interior View.jpg

Site Plans

-  RRC Innovation Ctr - Ceiling Plan Enlarged.pdf
-  RRC Innovation Ctr - Ceiling Plan 4th Floor.pdf

Final Digital Artwork Specifications

-  FunderMax laminate Data Sheet

3D Models

- RRC Innovation Ctr – 3D Model.skp (to be sent via WeTransfer/DropBox)
- Enscape weblink: <https://api2.enscape3d.com/v1/view/ea4e952d-3d8b-47b6-9cb3-9ebb0ae97fdc>