



Expression of Interest

City of Mount Pearl Indigenous Public Art Mural

Issued: July 7, 2025

Closing: August 8, 2025

The City of Mount Pearl
3 Centennial Street
Mount Pearl
NL A1N 1G4

City of Mount Pearl Indigenous Public Art Mural

In 2024, the City of Mount Pearl affirmed its commitment to advancing Truth and Reconciliation by signing a declaration to support and uphold the inherent rights of Indigenous Peoples within the community. As part of this ongoing commitment, the City invites Indigenous artists and Indigenous artist-led teams to submit expressions of interest for the creation of a permanent exterior mural on main wall of the stage at Centennial Park, next to City Hall.

This initiative invites the creation of meaningful public art that fosters reflection, dialogue, and understanding in shared civic spaces. The City of Mount Pearl seeks to honour the resilience, beauty, and cultural richness of Indigenous Peoples by welcoming concept proposals that deepen awareness, celebrate Indigenous cultures, languages, and ways of knowing, and convey the lived experiences and histories of Indigenous Peoples in Newfoundland and Labrador.

Land Acknowledgement

In recognition of the City of Mount Pearl's commitment to foster respectful and collaborative relationships with Indigenous Peoples in our municipality and beyond, we hereby acknowledge that the land on which we live, work and play as the ancestral and unceded territory of the Beothuk and the Mi'kmaq. Mount Pearl and the broader metro region continue to be home to diverse Indigenous Peoples, including First Nations, Inuit, and Métis.

Call Opens:

July 7, 2025

Submission Deadline:

August 8, 2025 at 11:59 PM NST

Project Overview

The City of Mount Pearl is seeking to commission a new, site-specific mural by an Indigenous artist with connections to Newfoundland and Labrador. Submissions are welcome from Indigenous artists who have a connection to an Indigenous community, including those who are part of urban Indigenous communities.

Eligible artists are invited to submit an Expression of Interest in response to this call. The selected artist will create a mural on the main wall of the stage at Centennial Park, next to Mount Pearl City Hall during the summer and early fall of 2025.

This project is part of the City's commitment to supporting Indigenous visibility in public spaces, advancing reconciliation, and strengthening relationships with Indigenous communities.

Thematic Direction

To help guide submissions, the City encourages artists to consider one or more of the following themes in their proposed mural design. These themes reflect shared values and offer a framework while leaving room for individual interpretation and artistic freedom.

Theme Options

1. Partnership and Resilience

Reflecting the strength of Indigenous communities and the importance of respectful partnership between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples. Artists may choose to explore mutual resilience, interdependence, and cultural continuity across generations.

2. Reconciliation and Collaboration

Encouraging truth-telling, healing, and forward-looking relationships. This theme invites artwork that speaks to both the challenges and possibilities of reconciliation through shared action and understanding.

3. Presence and Visibility

Centering the continued presence, contributions, and leadership of Indigenous Peoples in Mount Pearl and throughout the province. This theme affirms identity, belonging, and cultural resurgence in public space.

Community Background

The City of Mount Pearl is located on the traditional territory of the Beothuk and Mi'kmaq

peoples. As one of Newfoundland and Labrador's largest cities, Mount Pearl is a vibrant and growing community with a strong sense of identity and pride. The city is known for its green spaces, recreational facilities, and commitment to arts and culture.

Mount Pearl is part of the St. John's metropolitan area and offers a blend of urban convenience and small-town charm. The city actively supports public art as a way to celebrate its diverse heritage and foster community engagement.

Artwork Location

The mural will be located on the main wall of the stage at Centennial Park next to Mount Pearl City Hall. The wall measures approximately 19' wide x 6' high and overlooks Centennial Park. The site is highly visible and accessible to the public, offering an excellent opportunity for community engagement and cultural expression as it will be the backdrop to countless community performances, events and annual celebrations held at the park.

Selection Process

A selection committee made up of Indigenous artists, community leaders, and representatives from the City and First Light will review submissions using the following criteria:

Criteria	Weighting	Submission Requirement
Artistic merit & cultural vision	40%	Description and sketch of concept
Relevance to space & goals	35%	Statement on how design reflects intent
Artist experience & capacity	25%	CV and portfolio, past public art work

Proposal Requirements

Stage One: Expression of Interest

Interested Indigenous artists or artist teams are invited to submit their Expression of Interest (EOI) by email to khodder@mounpearl.ca with the subject line:

“Mount Pearl Indigenous Mural – Expression of Interest”

Deadline for submission: August 8, 2025.

Please include the following information and materials:

Artist(s) contact information: Full name(s), address, phone number, and email.

Artist bio: (max. 200 words) and a current CV.

Statement of Positionality: (max. 500 words) describing your connection to and belonging within an Indigenous community (urban or rural) within Newfoundland Labrador.

Portfolio: 5–10 images of past work in JPEG format, along with an image list that includes titles, dates, media, and brief project descriptions.

Concept overview: (max. 1 page), including:

- Initial idea and/or sketches.
- How your concept reflects Indigenous values, presence, or teachings in public space.
- Preferred medium and general approach.

Budget: Please include your typical rate per square foot for mural painting. This will be used for budgeting purposes and may be subject to adjustment based on final design and site conditions.

Stage Two: Proposal Development

Please note that shortlisted artists will be selected from this Expression of Interest and invited to develop a more detailed proposal. The shortlisted artists will receive a \$500 CAD honorarium in accordance with the 2025 CARFAC fee schedule to develop a detailed proposal. Submitting a proposal DOES NOT guarantee that the artist will be selected for the contract.

Stage Two: Detailed Proposal (Shortlisted Artists Only)

Shortlisted artists will be invited to submit a more detailed proposal, which will include:

- Expanded concept and supporting visuals.
- Work plan and timeline.
- Detailed budget.
- Statement of availability and capacity to complete the work within the project schedule.

Questions:

If you have questions about the application process, or require assistance with submitting your application, please contact Kerri Hodder, Marketing and Communications Officer, by email at khodder@mountpearl.ca or by phone at (709)748-1009. Questions must be received by 2:00 pm July 18, 2025.

Proposed Project Schedule:

Milestone	Date
Call for Artists Opens	July 7, 2025
Deadline for Questions	July 18, 2025
EOI Submission Deadline	August 8, 2025
Shortlist Announced	August 15, 2025
Proposal Development	August 15 – August 21, 2025
Final Artist Selected	August 26, 2025
Mural Production Begins	September 1, 2025
Mural Completion/Unveiling	September 30, 2025