



Call for Submissions: Main Street Sculpture

The Town of Canmore invites artists to submit a proposal for a temporary public art (3D/sculpture) installation within Canmore's Main Street Pedestrian Zone. The project budget for the installation is up to \$7,000 CAD, and it can be a newly constructed or installation-ready sculpture. The call is open to artists from Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba, and Indigenous artists who have contemporary or historical connections to these regions.

Submission deadline:

Tuesday January 21, 2025, at 4:30 pm (MDT)

Artist notification:

Tuesday Feb 25, 2025

Project budget:

Commission for Temporary Work:

Up to \$7,000 CDN (including GST)

Project timeline:

May 2025, to October 2025

Installation Date:

May 13 – 15, 2025 (weather permitting)

Removal Date:

October 14 - 15, 2025 (weather permitting)

Background:

Public art is an important part of public spaces in Canmore, enriching experiences, and sense of place for residents and visitors. Canmore's Main Street Pedestrian Zone is a vibrant, lively space that invites visitors and residents to enjoy Canmore's community, culture, and civic pride.

This initiative is an opportunity for artists to create or display existing work as temporary public art at the East entrance to Canmore's Main Street Pedestrian Zone. The goal of this 3D/Sculpture in this location is to provide a dynamic welcoming "heart", that marks the East Entrance to Canmore's Main Street Pedestrian Zone, one that deepens Canmore's reputation as a connected community of arts, culture, and environmental care.

Proposals should respond to the theme of "community, connection and sense of place." as supported by the Town of Canmore's [Public Art Policy](#).

Site Description

From May - October, two blocks of Canmore's Main Street will be closed to vehicle traffic. A 3D/Sculpture installation will be situated in the centre of the intersection located at 7th Avenue and 8th Street. This central location is situated at the East entrance to the Main Street Pedestrian Zone, in proximity to Canmore's downtown outdoor patio spaces, shops, and galleries. 3D/Sculpture at this location on Main Street is a growing site-specific art destination in Canmore that continues to captivate residents and visitors alike and is the subject of thousands of photographs.

Eligibility

- The call is open to artists from Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba, and Indigenous artists who have contemporary or historical connections to these regions.
- Artists can apply as a solo artist or as a team.
- Medium is 3D sculpture.
- Senior, mid-career, and emerging artists are welcome to apply.
- Artists who identify as 2SLGBTQIA+, nonbinary artists, artists of colour, Indigenous artists, and or artists with disabilities are welcome to apply.
- Artists must be able to travel to Canmore, AB to manage the installation, and maintenance and removal of the work. The artist fee provided is inclusive of travel for installation, maintenance, and removal of the work.

Fees

The selected artist(s) will be provided a maximum of \$7,000.00 CDN. The commission includes all artist fees, insurance, materials and equipment, transportation, accommodation, and any other costs required to install and removal the artwork. In the case of an already completed art piece, the lease rate is based on 10% of the value of the artwork, up to a maximum of \$7,000.00 CDN for the term. Upon request, the Town of **Canmore may be able to assist in acquiring accommodation for the installation** and removal of the artwork.

Original Work

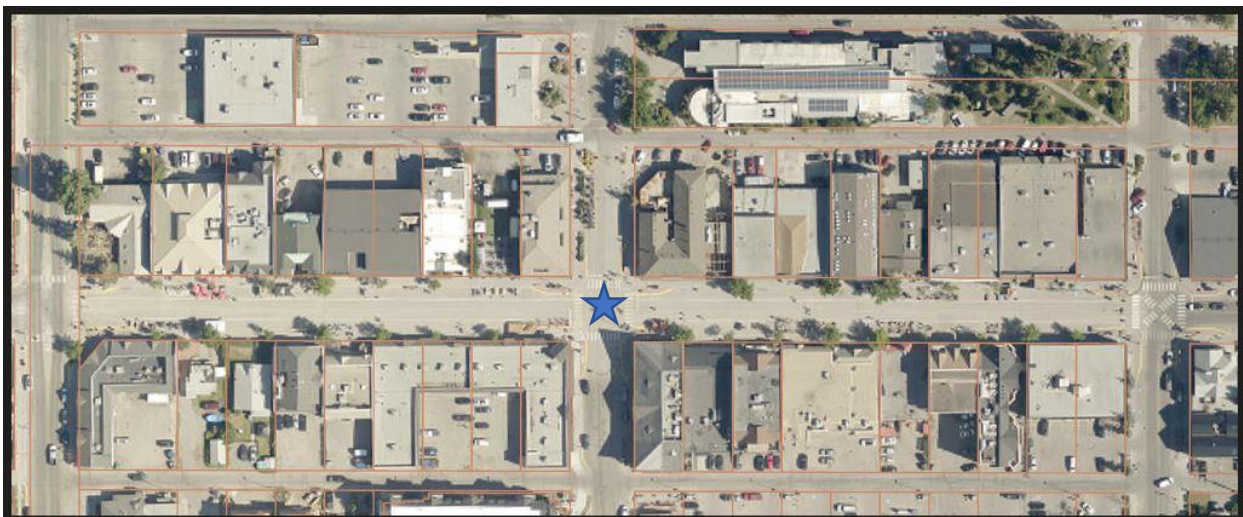
The artist(s) must guarantee that the artwork is original and does not violate the copyright of any other person. The project can either be new (not been produced yet or never presented) or existing (already produced), provided they have never been presented in Canmore). In the case of new construction, the selected artist(s) will be required to submit a final design image Friday March 14, 2025 (4:30 p.m. MST).

Contract

The artist(s) will enter a contract with the Town of Canmore.

Location

The selected sculpture will be installed on a concrete pad in the Centre of the intersection at 7th Avenue and 8th Street within the Main Street Pedestrian Zone in downtown Canmore. (See map)



Design Parameters

Artwork:

- Must be original, and at scale and proportion appropriate to the site.
- Be installed within 2-3 consecutive days (May 13 - 15 2025), or as assigned and agreed upon by both parties.
- Will be placed on an oval, concrete pad measuring 2.5m x 4.0m and should be secured with three-eighths-to-1/2-inch anchor bolts, or other to be able to sit safely. The concrete pad can be rotated in any direction.
- Should not project from the perimeter of the base.
- Should be maintenance free and durable (to last at least six months in an exterior environment including adverse weather conditions).
- Show mindfulness towards environmental impact by considering sustainable materials, energy-efficient practices, and minimal waste in your proposed artwork.
- Must observe Town of Canmore Health and Safety guidelines, meet fire codes with respect to flammability and, where appropriate, follow recommendations for materials (i.e., types of paint, sealants etc.).
- To ensure a safe and inclusive experience for all visitors, this installation is designed without sharp points, corners, or narrow openings that could pose a risk of entrapment or injury.
- Should be family friendly and not include profanity or nudity.
- Be removed within 2-3 consecutive days (October 14 - 15 2025), or as assigned and agreed upon by both parties.

Selection Process

Artwork will be chosen through a one-stage jury process. A Selection Committee will select artwork from qualified applications. The rubric for the selection will include the following criteria: Artistic Merit, Impact and Feasibility.

Assessment Criteria

Artistic Merit	The artistic expression and quality of your project <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The artistic rationale for your project, including clear articulation of its connection to the artistic theme (community, connection, sense of place)• The potential artistic outcomes
Impact	The potential of the project to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Build public interest in and knowledge of the artistic practice.• The work positively engages with the local environment, culture, or people.
Feasibility	The artist or artist group has explained their ability to undertake the project. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The budget and workplan are realistic and achievable and within the project timeline.

The Selection Committee

Will include representatives from Tourism Canmore Kananaskis, the Downtown Canmore Business Improvement Area (BIA), the Town of Canmore Engineering Department, and members of the Public Art Sub Committee. The Selection Committee is under no obligation to choose a final artwork. All decisions of the Selection Committee are final.

Submission Requirements – What you need to apply.

Your project plan will need to provide information about:

- Your project and its connection to (Artistic Merit, Impact and Feasibility),
- The key artist(s) leading the project,
- Your timeline and workplan,
- A recent sample of your previous work(s) or the work in progress, if applicable.

How to Apply

Please combine all written material (1-3) as a single PDF to artsandculture@canmore.ca by **4:30 p.m. (MDT) on Tuesday, January 21, 2025**. Visual documentation may be submitted as JPEGs but must be sent in the same email as your PDF.

1. Expression of Interest: (2 pages max)

Include the following:

- a. Your name, mailing address, phone number, email address, and website and/or social media, (if applicable).
- b. Briefly describe your background as an artist, including any relevant public art experience or other projects that demonstrate your ability to execute this work.
- c. Share the inspiration behind your project and its connection to the theme.
- d. Explain how this project will contribute to your artistic growth and practice.
- e. Describe how your project reflects the theme of 'community, connection and sense of place' in Canmore, and how it engages with the local environment, culture, or people.

2. Project Plan: (1 page max)

Outline your project install and removal plans and maintenance plan (if applicable) as per the submission requirements.

3. Budget: (1 page max)

Briefly outline your budget.

4. Visual Documentation: (1 PDF)

Include a description of the current sculpture or concept. For completed work; please show the piece from multiple angles. Include Image(s) of previous work/activities to provide a context for your submission.

Maximum of 6 images

Questions and comments can be directed to artsandculture@canmore.ca or by calling 403.678.8946.

The Town of Canmore supports accessibility accommodations and encourages any interested artists or artist teams to contact artsandculture@canmore.ca or call 403.678.8946 to discuss application assistance.

Deadline: Submissions must be received on or before Tuesday, January 21, 2025, at 4:30 pm (MDT).

Incomplete submissions will not be accepted.

The information as part of your submission is being collected under the authority of Section 33(c) of the FOIP Act and will be used by the Town of Canmore to determine eligibility for the Town of Canmore Public Art programs. The aggregate data may be used for program planning and evaluation. All information collected by the Town of Canmore is protected by the provisions of the FOIP Act. You may direct questions about the collection, use or disclosure of your personal information by this program to the Town of Canmore at (403) 678.8946.

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