



REQUEST FOR ARTISTS

PROCUREMENT NO: FA.49.595-10

PUBLIC ART FOR LIONS PARK REDEVELOPMENT

Closing Date and Time: Wednesday, May 5, 2010 at 4:00 p.m., Local Time

1. BACKGROUND

Lions Park, a 0.9 hectare (2.3 ac) park located north of Lakeshore Road and East of Hurontario Street on Rosewood Avenue in Port Credit, is currently being redeveloped. It will include a new pool and pool building, playground and integration of outdoor “rooms” connected by a pathway system. Lions Park is considered a significant community park in the Port Credit District and has been an integral part of the community since its inception in the 1950’s. Since that time, it has been home to the Port Credit Pool which has been one of the busiest outdoor pools in the City.

Port Credit is found at the mouth of the Credit River on the north shore of Lake Ontario, within the south central area of the city of Mississauga. Port Credit boundaries are the Canadian National Railway tracks to the north, Seneca Avenue and the western edge of Adamson Estate to the east and Godfrey’s Lane located on the west side of Shawnmarr Road. The name Port Credit came from its roots as a trading post where goods were traded or bought on credit. There are many cultural and historical influences which have the potential to shape art for Lions Park. These influences may include:

- the history of the First Nations in the community;
- the history of Port Credit village (including the St. Lawrence Starch Company, the former Gray house lands adjacent to Lions Park etc.);
- the proximity of the park to Lake Ontario and Credit River and their respective “destination parks”;
- the important role that this park has within immediate neighbourhood as the local community park through the years serving many families;
- the importance of “local” materials;
- the ability for all demographics, cultures and abilities to enjoy;
- the investment of the Credit Valley Lions Club in the park and the local community;
- the ongoing commitment of community groups to the park and local community;
- the existing context of the park within an urban mixed use community.

2. ARTIST OPPORTUNITY

The City is seeking to commission an artist, or team of artists, to develop public artwork as part of the park’s redevelopment. The selected artist will work with City of Mississauga staff and the Lions Park project team to develop an art concept and execute a public art project for the site that will conform to the park’s concept plan. The location identified for public art is a highly visible pie-shaped area in the southwest portion of the park adjacent to the children’s play area. See Appendix A for the Lions Park concept plan with the art location (#8 on the plan).

The City is looking for an artist who can bring an innovative approach to the design of a public artwork to be developed particularly for this site. The artwork should respect the rich history of the site, Port Credit and celebrate the community as a whole and celebrate the “sense of place”. Also, consideration of the local context with respect to materials and/or material representation, production is important. The artwork should encourage interaction and to assist to establish an identity for the area. It could take the form of a stand-alone piece or be a series of art pieces.

3. TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

The artwork will need to be suitable for a public space and work with the overall design of Lions Park currently under construction. It will also need to meet the following technical requirements:

- The location and shape of the pathways and the covered pavilion (#7 on the plan) cannot be changed
- Be constructed of durable materials that require little or no extra maintenance and are resistant to the effects of weather, theft and vandalism

Installation of the artwork is expected to be by the City’s park construction contractor, overseen by the artist, if required.

4. BUDGET

\$50,000 is the total amount available for all expenses related to the public art project including, but not limited to, artist fees, fabrication of the art, delivery to the site, site preparation and restoration, technical consultation including engineering approval (if required), travel, attendance and presentations at City meetings, all applicable taxes and all other related costs.

5. SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Interested artists must exercise care when completing their submission as failure to fully and accurately complete the required documents may affect the evaluation of their submission and may cause their submission to be rejected.

Artists must submit one (1) CD and three (3) paper copies of the following information:

1. Artist's Statement: no longer than one page (8 ½" x 11") in length, outlining your artistic practice and approach and why you are interested in this commission. Include a statement that the information contained in the submission is in all respects true and correct to the best of your knowledge.
2. Artist's CV: highlight relevant experience on projects similar to or directly related to this project.
3. Samples of previous work: up to 10 digital images on CD of relevant work submitted as per the image submission specifications below. Title each image with your name and the number that corresponds to your image sheet, e.g. artist name, image number. Ensure that the CD is labelled with the artist's name. Provide an annotated image sheet describing each project including, date, dimensions, materials, budget.
4. References: Preferably, three references from clients for whom the artist has performed similar projects. Please include contact name, title, organization, telephone number and email address for each reference.

Artist Teams:

Submissions from artist teams are acceptable. The submission must clearly note the "lead" artist who will be the main contact, representing the team, in this process. Provide only one Artist Statement and a total maximum of 10 digital images. Provide CVs and references for each team member.

Image submission specifications:

- 72 DPI to a maximum of 768 pixels in the largest dimension
- Do not submit compressed files (WinZip, Stuffit, etc.)
- Do not submit materials that require software, plug-ins, extensions or other executables that need to be downloaded or installed
- Do not embed photographs in documents such as Word or PowerPoint

6. SELECTION PROCESS AND CRITERIA

Stage One: Selection of Finalists

Interested artists with demonstrated experience in designing, building and installing large scale works of art in outdoor public spaces are invited to respond to this Request for Artists. Submissions will be evaluated and ranked by a selection committee based on the information provided by the artist, as described in Section 5, and in accordance with the evaluation criteria listed below. The selection committee will be comprised of a representative from the project design and management team, a representative from the City of Mississauga's Culture Division and a local independent art expert.

The selection committee will evaluate each submission based on selection criteria that include, but are not limited to the following:

- Approach to, and interest in, this commission
- Qualifications and professional experience of the artist
- Artistic excellence, skill and innovation
- Demonstrated ability to successfully execute a project of this scale under the criteria developed and in consideration of the budget and timeline, as evidenced in the samples of previous work and through reference checks
- Preference may be given to local artists or artist teams or those with a strong local connection

Stage Two: Finalist Interviews

Finalists may be asked to attend an interview with the selection committee. As there is no artistic proposal required for this process, the City will not provide compensation to finalists to attend the interview. Any costs to the artist associated with participating in this selection process, including submission preparation and attending interviews, shall be borne by the artist.

Following interviews, the selection committee will rank the finalists and proceed to recommend the highest ranking artist, or artist team, for contract award. An appropriate contract will be negotiated with the recommended artist. Non-selected artists will be notified.

7. PROJECT SCHEDULE

The schedule below is provided as a guideline only and is subject to change.

Preliminary site visits and research:	mid-May, 2010
Concept Proposal:	mid-June, 2010
Detailed Design:	late July, 2010
Fabrication and Installation:	August to September, 2010
Completion:	October, 2010

It is expected that the development of art concepts and technical documentation will be completed within the schedule as above and will not incur delays to the project.

8. RESERVED RIGHTS OF THE CITY OF MISSISSAUGA

The City, at its sole discretion, reserves the following rights:

- to request clarifications or additional information, as it deems necessary to evaluate submissions
- to determine the suitability of the submission and capability of the prospective artist
- to select the artist(s) that it deems most appropriate for the project
- to make no selection or to cancel this process at any time
- to issue public announcements regarding the competition

This document and any submissions in response to it by prospective artists does not create any binding obligations on the City, the prospective artist, or any other party.

Submit complete responses to:

Betty Miller, Buyer
 City of Mississauga, Materiel Management
 300 City Centre Drive, 4th Floor, Facade
 Mississauga, Ontario L5B 3C1

Submit questions by email to:

Attention: **Helena Grdadolnik**
 Public Art Coordinator, Culture Division
 E-mail: helena.grdadolnik@mississauga.ca

APPENDIX 'A' – Lions Park Concept Plan

