

# HAMILTON THE ELECTRIC CITY, NIKOLA TESLA AND THE FIVE JOHNS PUBLIC ART PROJECT



## CALL FOR ARTISTS

The City of Hamilton is seeking *Artists and Artist-Led Teams* to submit proposals for a permanent *Public Art work(s)* to be sited at Confederation Beach Park, 180 Van Wagners Beach Road, Hamilton Ontario, Ward (5). Artists are asked to propose artworks that will speak to the impact that AC electric power had and continues to have on Hamilton.

*Artists* will be selected by a citizen jury through a two-stage process involving a concept and design proposal, followed by public consultation on selected *Artists'* detailed proposals.

**Award: \$185,000** (for design, fabrication and delivery to site)

Short-listed *Artists* invited to complete a stage two submission will receive a \$1500 honorarium

### Submission Deadline:

Thursday, January 19, 2023 at 3:00 PM (EST)

### Artist Information Meeting:

Tuesday, November 29 at 7:00 PM (EST)

Virtual video conference

*Artists* are invited to view a virtual presentation on the adjudication process and submission requirements.

This is not a mandatory meeting.

Please RSVP to [brianne.gascho@hamilton.ca](mailto:brianne.gascho@hamilton.ca) before November 28 for virtual meeting details.

## CONTENTS

1.0 Background	pg 2
2.0 Project Goal	pg 2-3
3.0 Site	pg 3
4.0 Award	pg 3
5.0 Eligibility	pg 3
6.0 Two Stage Selection Process	pg 3
Stage 1 Submission: Concept and Preliminary Design	pg 3-5
Stage 2 Submission: Detailed Proposal	pg 5
7.0 Stage 1 submission Deadline and Delivery	pg 5
8.0 Schedule	pg 5
9.0 Jury	pg 6
10. General Provisions	pg 6
11. Definitions	pg 7
Appendix A Sample Submission Form	
Appendix B Site	
Appendix C Materials and Methods	
Appendix D Historical Background	
Appendix E Stage 2 Submission Details	
Appendix F Sample Artist Agreement	

### 1.0 BACKGROUND

In the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, the Five Johns' (Patterson, Dickenson, Gibson, Moodie, and Sutherland) brought Nikola Tesla's patented alternating current (AC) technology to Hamilton. Hamilton was the first major city in Canada to utilize this new technology that allowed hydro-electricity to be transmitted long distances in a cost-effective way. This innovation was instrumental in the development of Hamilton's manufacturing sector, immigration and population growth, industrial landscape as well as its reputation as an "Ambitious City".

See **Appendix D** for more information on the historical contexts of electric power in Hamilton.

### 2.0 PROJECT GOAL

Artists proposals will be scored, in part, on how successfully they address the following goal and themes as determined in the focus group report.

**Goal:** That the proposed Public Art work(s) reflect the complex social, environmental and physical impact that AC hydroelectric power (invented by Nikola Tesla and brought to the city by the five Johns) had and continues to have on Hamilton, as well as inspire a spirit of responsible and balanced innovation for the future.

#### Project Themes:

- AC power as a catalyst for Hamilton's development, influencing its population through an immigration boom and shaping the city physically and culturally.

- Spirit of innovation embodied by Nikola Tesla - an inspiration to youth today.
- Our changing relationship to energy as it transitioned from the visible to the invisible; with hydroelectricity, power became quiet, cheap, constant, ubiquitous and easier to take for granted.
- Sustainable technology - responsible innovation from today forward; solar or wind power can be generated at the site and stored for continuous use.

See the complete focus group report on the project web page:

<http://Hamilton.ca/ElectricCityPublicArt>

### **3.0 SITE**

The site for the art work is to be at 180 Van Wagners Beach Road, on a grass area along the Hamilton Beach Trail nearby to Nikola Tesla Boulevard.

See **Appendix B** for more information about the site plan and siting requirements.

### **4.0 AWARD**

The *Successful Artist* will be awarded \$185,000 (excluding HST) for the fabrication and installation of their work following the payment schedule outlined for the project as follows:

- 1) **\$15,000** upon provision of quotes/work plans from engineer and fabricating consultant(s)
- 2) **\$30,000** upon provision of any shop drawings, Engineering plans, studies or reports as required by and to the satisfaction of the Director of Tourism and Culture
- 3) **\$60,000** when the work is approximately 40% complete (to be defined in artist agreement)
- 4) **\$50,000** when the work is approximately 80% complete (to be defined in artist agreement)
- 5) **\$30,000** upon delivery to the site and final clean up after installation

### **5.0 ELIGIBILITY**

- City of Hamilton employees are not eligible to submit proposals to this call.
- *Artists* under 18 years of age must have their parent or legal guardian sign all required documents on their behalf.

### **6.0 TWO STAGE SELECTION PROCESS**

There is a two-stage selection process:

- Stage 1 - Concept and Preliminary Design
- Stage 2 - Detailed Proposal (by invitation only)

A maximum of 6 *Artists* or teams will be invited to advance from stage 1 to stage 2.

## 6.1 STAGE 1 SUBMISSION: CONCEPT AND PRELIMINARY DESIGN

Stage 1 proposals will be submitted online through the city's submission management platform, Submittable ([www.submittable.com](http://www.submittable.com))

A link to the Submittable form, including guidelines for submission materials, can be found on the project webpage <http://Hamilton.ca/ElectricCityPublicArt>

*Artists* may submit more than one Stage 1 proposal to this call. Each proposal must be submitted separately.

### 6.1.1 Stage 1 Submission materials

- Online Submittable Form: Requests basic *Artist* information and team member listings (if submitting as an *Artist-Led Team*). See **Appendix A** for a copy of the submission form to use as a reference when preparing to complete the online version.
- *Artist's* Concept Statement: A brief statement (max 750 words) outlining the concept and how the work addresses the public art projects goals and themes.  
(PDF 2 page max 8.5x11")
- Site Plan Sketch: Indicate the proposed location(s) of the work(s) on the site. See **Appendix B** for site information. A marked copy of the site plan may be submitted.  
(PDF 1 page max 11x17")
- Conceptual Sketch or Diagram: Include at minimum one drawing, collage, photography, digital mockup or other image that most efficiently and effectively illustrates the idea of the proposed work to the Jury. Indicate the proposed material(s) on the image.  
(PDF 2 page max 11x17")
- Curriculum Vitae (CV): Outline the relevant experience and qualifications of the *Artist*, or *Artist-Led Team*.  
(PDF 3 page max 8.5x11")
- Past work: Embed up to ten images of relevant completed works by the *Artist* in a document, identified with title, location, date, medium and owner for each work.  
(PDF 4 pages max 11x17")  
**Do not** send images separately.
- Artist References: Provide three names of references that would be able to generally speak to the *Artist's* experience related to public art projects.  
(PDF 1 page max 8.5x11")

All Submission materials (in PDF format) to be uploaded to the online Submittable form for this project, do not e-mail submission materials directly.

### 6.1.2 Stage 1 Selection Criteria

- Competition Goals and Context - The *Artist's* (or team's) submission addresses the goals and themes of the public art opportunity.
  - 35 points max (20 points min to pass)
- Artist Voice - The concept and proposed work effectively communicates the *Artist's* (or team's) unique and original perspective, showcasing skill in their chosen craft.
  - 30 points max (15 points min to pass)
- Professional Experience - The submission provides confidence that the *Artist* (or team) can carry out the proposed work.
  - 15 points (5 points min to pass)
- Technical Expertise - The submission provides confidence that the proposed work would be within budget, is safe, and can survive in the environment it will be placed.
  - 20 points (10 points min to pass)

### 6.2 STAGE 2 SUBMISSION: DETAILED PROPOSAL

Stage 2 submissions are by invitation only.

*Artists* selected in Stage 1 will be notified via e-mail and provided a minimum of 4 to a maximum of 6 weeks to complete Stage 2 submissions. The *Artists* selected to submit detailed proposals for Stage 2 will receive a \$1500 honorarium upon the submission of a complete detailed proposal meeting all the requirements outlined in **Appendix E**.

Note that the *Successful Artist* is responsible for all aspects of fabrication and delivery of their artwork(s).

Please see **Appendix E** for Stage 2 Submission details.

## 7.0 STAGE 1 SUBMISSION DEADLINE AND DELIVERY

### Thursday, January 19 at 3:00 PM (EST)

Submissions can be made via Submittable. A link to the Submittable form can be found on the project webpage <http://Hamilton.ca/ElectricCityPublicArt>

Submissions by fax or email, hard copy submissions, and submissions which are late, will not be accepted.

## 8.0 SCHEDULE (subject to change)

Winning commission  
Fabrication  
Installation

Winter-Spring 2023  
Spring-Summer 2023  
Summer-Fall 2023 (weather dependent)

## 9.0 JURY

A jury, comprised of members of the local community, artists, and arts professionals, adjudicate the two stage submission process, which includes feedback from the public. City staff are involved as non-voting members and participate in an advisory capacity. The identity of the jurors is kept confidential until the winning proposal is announced.

## 10.0 GENERAL PROVISIONS

### 10.1 Artist Agreement

The *Successful Artist* will be required to sign an agreement with the City of Hamilton. Upon notification of winning the commission, the *Successful Artist* will have a 30 day time period in which to work with the City to finalize and sign the agreement. If an agreement cannot be reached within the 30 day time the City may award the commission to the second highest scoring *Artist* and allow 30 days for that *Artist* to finalize and sign the agreement or cancel and re-issue the call.

A copy of the sample artist agreement is included as **Appendix F** of this document.

### 10.2 Insurance and W.S.I.B.

The *Successful Artist* is required to provide to the City a General Liability Insurance Certificate, adding the City of Hamilton as additionally insured up to \$2 million and a WSIB Clearance Certificate or letter of exemption from the Workplace Safety Insurance Board before any work begins. If these cannot be provided the City may award the commission to the second highest scoring *Artist* or cancel and re-issue the call.

### 10.3 Copyright

By making a submission to this call, the *Artist* guarantees that designs submitted are their own original creations and do not infringe upon the copyright of any other individual or group.

In general, copyright of the design will remain with the *Artist*. See **Appendix F** for full copyright information to be finalized as part of the Artist Agreement.

Materials provided to the City as part of an *Artist's* submission to this call become and remain the property of the City of Hamilton and may be used to promote this call, the City's Public Art Program or the City in general.

### 10.4 Multiple Submissions

An *Artist* may make multiple submissions to this call. Each submission must be submitted separately and must contain all the information and documentation required under section 6.1.1 Stage 1 Submission Materials.

### 10.5 Reserved Rights and Privileges of the City

The City of Hamilton reserves the right to not award the commission to any *Artist* and to cancel or re-issue the call at any time.

## **11.0 DEFINITIONS**

### **Artist**

The Artist is the principal creator of the proposed Public Art design. The Artist is responsible for the contractual agreement with the City, communications with the City, and the coordination and payment of any team members required to successfully complete the proposed Public Art work design.

### **Artist-Led Team**

An Artist-led Team is a group of contractors or consultants (such as fabricators, installers, engineers and other artists) assembled by, coordinated by, and contracted to the Artist to support the design of the proposed Public Art work.

### **Public Art**

Public Art is a work of art created by artists or in collaboration with artists through a public process and existing in publicly accessible City of Hamilton Property.

### **Successful Artist**

The Successful Artist is the Artist whose proposal receives the highest score and meets or exceeds all passing scores.

### **Jury**

Jury has the meaning ascribed to it in Section 9.0.