



Region of Waterloo



August 26, 2024
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Call for Indigenous Artists: Honouring These Lands and Waterways

The Regional Municipality of Waterloo invites Indigenous artists to submit proposals for a large scale, digitally printed mural to be displayed for a 3-year term at YKF (Region of Waterloo International Airport). Artists may create a new image or use an image of an existing artwork responding to the theme of ***Honouring These Lands and Waterways***. Three artists will be selected, each receiving a fee of \$6000 (plus HST, if applicable). The printing and installation of the murals will be the responsibility of the Region of Waterloo.

The Region invites artists from the Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee, and Urban Indigenous communities to apply. One artist from each community will be selected by a jury representative of those communities.

Deadline to apply is November 8, 2024, at 11:59 pm.

Background:

The Regional Municipality of Waterloo has a responsibility to fulfill the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) of Canada Calls to Action. The creation of new Indigenous Public Art initiatives is a step toward addressing these important actions, namely the TRC's action #79 and the UN's Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, specifically Article 31. The ***Honouring These Lands and Waterways*** initiative is in response to ongoing conversations between the Region and members of Six Nations of the Grand River, the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, and the local Urban Indigenous community.

Objectives:

The purpose of an exhibit by Indigenous artists at YKF is to offer an opportunity to learn about and honour the culture, history, and traditions of the lands on which the airport is situated. YKF is a point of entry for many visitors to, and residents of, the Region – art is one way to share the stories of the First Nations of this area and surrounding lands and waterways. This initiative is one part of an ongoing process of relationship-building and mutual understanding.

Eligibility:

This invitation is open to all emerging, mid-career, and established artists from Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee, and Urban Indigenous communities. Technical assistance is available, but the ability to create and submit a high-resolution digital file is required. The selected artists must be able to submit their final image no later than **February 10, 2025.**

Application Requirements:

Please submit the following combined into a single document (WORD or PDF), no more than 8 pages.

Page 1: Statement of Interest: Explain why this project is of interest to you and your connection to either the Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee, and Urban Indigenous communities. Describe how your image(s) connects with the theme of ***Honouring These Lands and Waterways.***

Pages 2-5: Up to 4 images of previously created or newly created original artwork embedded in the document with title, medium, year under each image.

Page 6-8: Up to a 3-page CV or bio with your contact information, address and website/online presence, if applicable. Your CV or bio should showcase your previous artistic experience (exhibitions, lectures, workshops, mentorship, formal or informal trainings, etc.).

Applications must follow these requirements to be reviewed. If guidance or accessibility accommodations are needed with any of the above, please reach out to culturalservices@regionofwaterloo.ca.

Email your single document to culturalservices@regionofwaterloo.ca by **11:59 pm, November 8, 2024.** Please note in your application which Indigenous community you identify with so we may share it with the corresponding jury members.

Jury Composition:

There will be three separate jurying processes, one for each of the three groups (Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee, and Urban Indigenous communities). Jury members will be individuals who have close connections to their respective communities. Up to two jurors will be community members from the Region's Public Art Advisory Committee. Regional staff from Cultural Services and the Office of Reconciliation, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion will be present to provide guidance (non-voting). Community member jurors will be paid CARFAC rates for their participation.

Selection criteria:

Submissions will be evaluated based on:

- Connection to the project theme (40%)
- Image tells a compelling story; captivates an audience (40%)
- Successful use of the dimensions and orientation of the template (20%)

Scope of work:

The three selected artists will be required to submit their final design no later than February 10, 2025, including:

1. A high-resolution final image using a provided template submitted according to the specifications below
2. A final paragraph about the intent of the artwork
3. A 250 word artist's bio

Design specifications:

The Finalists will submit their final image as a high resolution Vector eps file that is minimum 300dpi.

Compensation:

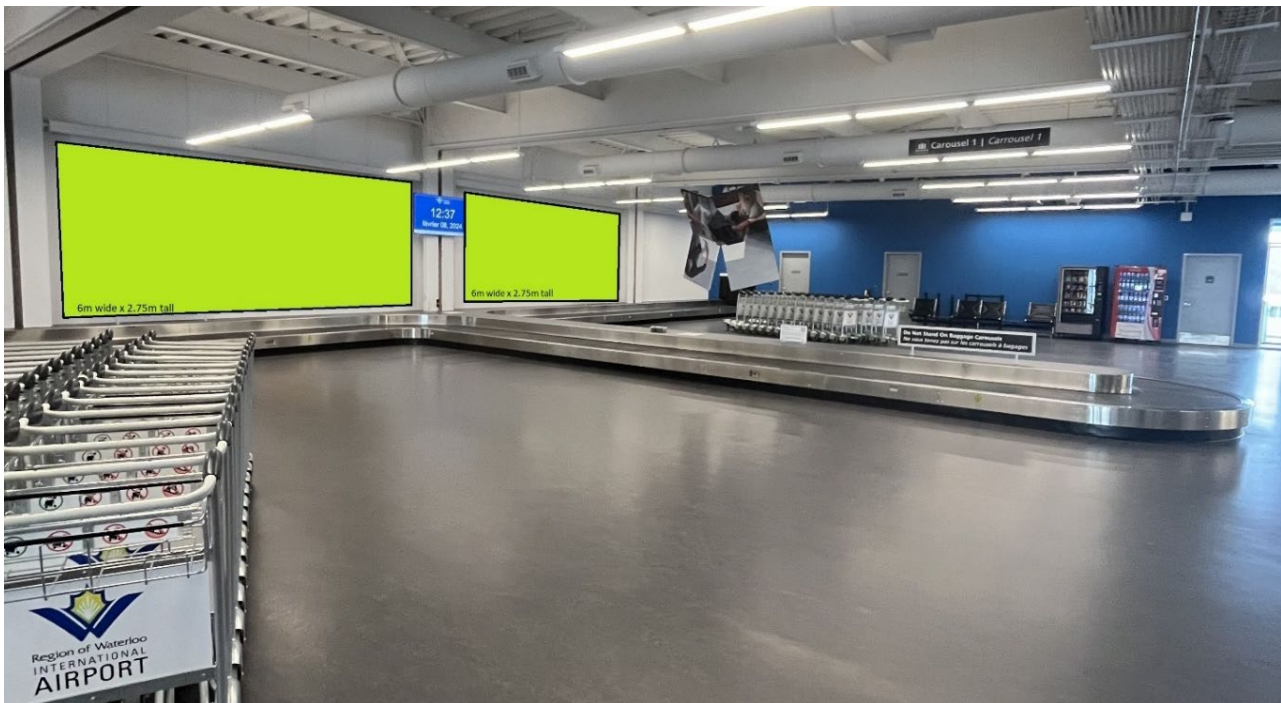
The Finalists will each receive an artist fee of \$6000 (plus HST, if applicable). The artist fee includes the rights for the Region to reproduce the image for display at YKF for a period of three years, in addition to reproducing the image online for the sole purpose of advertising the exhibition. The artist retains all copyright and the original artwork.

Mural Location: Domestic Arrivals Building

This building serves as a baggage claim area and welcome space for arriving travellers. A centrally located wall in the Domestic Arrivals Building can feature up to three large scale murals that are 16 feet wide x 8 feet tall.



Left wall of Domestic Arrivals Building



Right walls of Domestic Arrivals Building (artwork installed above the carousel by James Nye and Amber Pacheco)

Project schedule

- Applications are due November 8, 2024, at 11:59 p.m.
- Jurying process occurs November/December 2024
- Final artists chosen and notified January 31, 2025
- Final image file due on February 10, 2025
- Printing and installation February through March 2025

This schedule is subject to change.

About Waterloo Region International Airport (YKF)

The Waterloo Region International Airport (YKF) is an international airport owned and operated by the Region of Waterloo. YKF is rapidly emerging as a growing aviation and aerospace hub, providing vital connections for the community and beyond. In 2023, over 445,000 passengers traveled through YKF, reflecting its significant role in the region's transportation network and economic development.

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For questions or comments, please email culturalservices@regionofwaterloo.ca

For more information about the Region of Waterloo's Public Art Program, please visit: <https://www.regionofwaterloo.ca/en/exploring-the-region/public-art-program.aspx>

For more information about public art at the Region of Waterloo International Airport (YKF) please visit: <https://www.waterlooairport.ca/en/passengers/art.aspx>