



## **Province of Nova Scotia**

**Request for Proposals:** Public Art Design Concept for the QEII New Generation Project Summer Street Parkade

**Deadline for Submission of Proposal:** January 4, 2021

**Artist honorarium:** \$17,500 CAD

### **Invitation**

This Request for Proposals is an invitation by the Province of Nova Scotia to qualified Atlantic Canadian artists to submit design proposals for the exterior cladding of the QEII New Generation Project Summer Street Parkade located at 1747 Summer Street Halifax, Nova Scotia.

The Province of Nova Scotia will receive proposals on or before 4:00 pm local time on the 21st day of December, 2020 submitted by email to [SummerStreetParkade@novascotia.ca](mailto:SummerStreetParkade@novascotia.ca)

### **Background**

#### **1. The Facility**

The proposed building is an eight-storey precast concrete parking garage, complete with a pedway connecting users to the Halifax Infirmary (HI) site near the Summer Street entrance. The building is also directly adjacent to the Museum of Natural History.

The structure shall be clad to three dimensional facades to conceal the utilitarian form of the garage and respectfully respond to the surrounding recreational and open space.

#### **2. Project Context**

The project aligns with the goal of the Province to make our health care system stronger to ensure the needs of Nova Scotians remain at the heart of everything we do. The QEII New Generation project will help support the health care needs of all Nova Scotians today, and for future generations.

As part of the QEII New Generation master plan, the current parkade at the QEII Health Sciences Centre HI, Robie Street Garage, will be demolished to make way for a new acute care building. Significant parking areas are planned to be constructed beneath the new buildings, as well as a new parkade on the HI site. The new parkade and underground parking spots will not be available until after the buildings are constructed and open.

During construction of the new buildings on the HI site, the main access to the HI site for patients and visitors will be relocated from Robie Street to Summer Street. Patients and visitors will be able to park their vehicles/bikes in the new Parkade, east of Summer Street across from the HI entrance, and safely cross the street in a pedway over Summer Street or across a mid-block crosswalk.

The new multi-level parking facility on Summer Street will replace most of the parking spots being decommissioned in the Robie Street Garage, as well as provide accessibility during demolition and construction phases.

### **3. Theme (if applicable)**

There is not a defined theme for the parkade. The primary purpose of the build is to serve the QEII Halifax Infirmary, however it is expected to serve other users and be seen by all. The project team wants the design to respond to the site, the municipality and the region. The building will be very prominent from several public locations such as the Commons and the Citadel, as well as being situated directly adjacent to the Museum of Natural History and facing a main corridor to downtown Halifax. The project is the initial build for the QEII Halifax Infirmary Expansion and will set the tone for the future of our New Generation Project.

## **Project Goals**

The goal of the Summer Street Parkade project is to provide an accessible facility for patients / staff / visitors to park conveniently located to the Summer Street entrance of the Halifax Infirmary. The Summer Street Parkade will also provide public parking and parking for the Museum of Natural History. The project is expected to be complete in Summer 2021.

The Province of Nova Scotia is seeking design proposals from qualified Atlantic Canadian artists to design/create specifications for the exterior cladding of the newly constructed Summer Street Parkade.

This request for proposals is an equal opportunity open to local and Atlantic Canadian professional artists and artist teams with experience or expertise in creating permanent public art projects that celebrate cultural heritage and/or identity, foster an inclusive sense of community, accessible design and working with multidisciplinary teams. Nova Scotia Government employees are not eligible to apply.

The Department of Community, Culture and Heritage supports cultural activities that are inclusive of Nova Scotia's diverse communities including people from diverse ancestries, abilities, ages, countries of origin, cultures, genders, incomes, languages, races and sexual orientations. Applications from Mi'kmaw and Indigenous artists are welcome and encouraged.

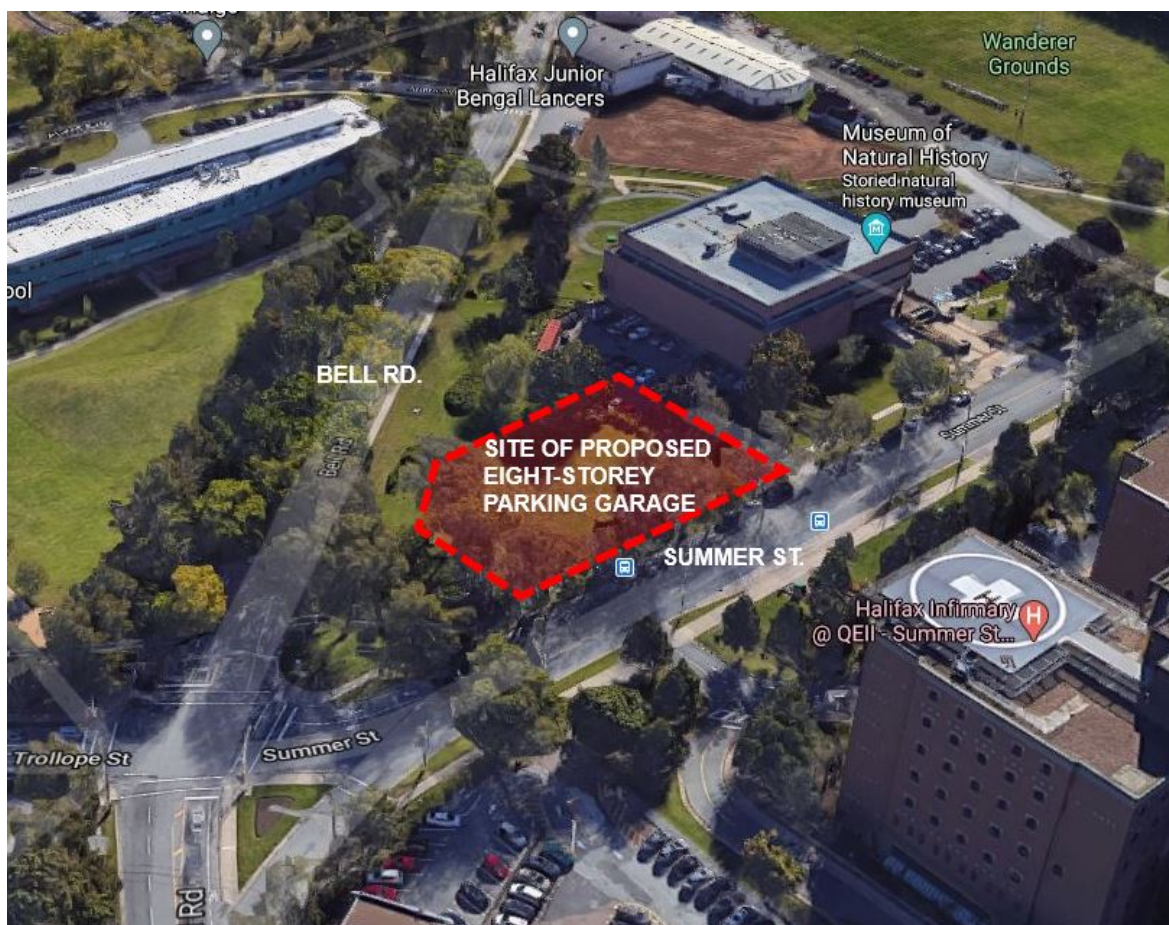
Our Vision from the Culture Action Plan is that Nova Scotia is an acknowledged leader in Canada as a place where cultural diversity, expression, and economy prosper. A place where all people honour and embrace diversity and heritage and thrive through unbridled creativity and community cohesion.

### **Project Description - RFP Intent**

The intent of the RFP: Public Art Design Concept is to select an artist to work with the project team/architect on a design for a cladding system. The project team is looking to collaborate with an artist to create a single or series of images, iconographies, collages, patterns, and/or any other form of two-dimensional design which can be 'wrapped' around an eight-storey garage. The purpose of the exterior cladding is to act as a piece of public art integrated with the architecture of the building, which can relate to and be appreciated by all residents of Nova Scotia.

## Description of Physical Layout - Proposed Building

The proposed building is an eight-storey precast concrete parking garage, located on a triangular parcel bounded by Summer St. and Bell Rd. The building will be located to the north of the Museum of Natural History, and across the street from the Halifax Infirmary. Given its location, the building will be very prominent from several public locations such as the Halifax Commons, Bell Road, and the Citadel. As such, the project team has set aside a budget for a metal mesh/perforated metal exterior cladding on the building.





## Description of Physical Layout - Cladding Areas

There are five overall surfaces which are being explored as part of the exterior cladding. Proponents are encouraged to consider designs which can be integrated into the architecture of these surfaces. It should be noted that ventilation and budget limitations will also need to be considered. The approximate dimensions of the faces are:

- North Face (20m wide x 24m high)
- West Face (48m x 24m)
- North-East Face (16m x 24m)
- East Face (46m x 24m)
- South Face (12m x 24m)

## Material Restrictions

The materials have already been chosen (metal mesh/perforated metal) and the artist will have to work with the project team/architect on translating their vision to the exterior cladding. There are currently two systems being explored. The first system, a metal mesh system, can either show a subtle two-tone gradient, or be powder-coated in several colours to create a graphic. The second system, a perforated metal system, will be able to show a monochromatic image or a graphic with gradient.

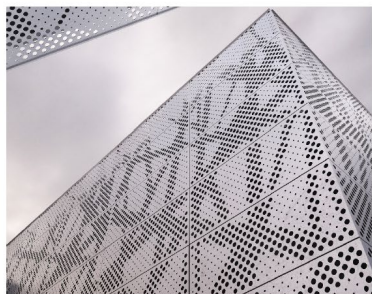
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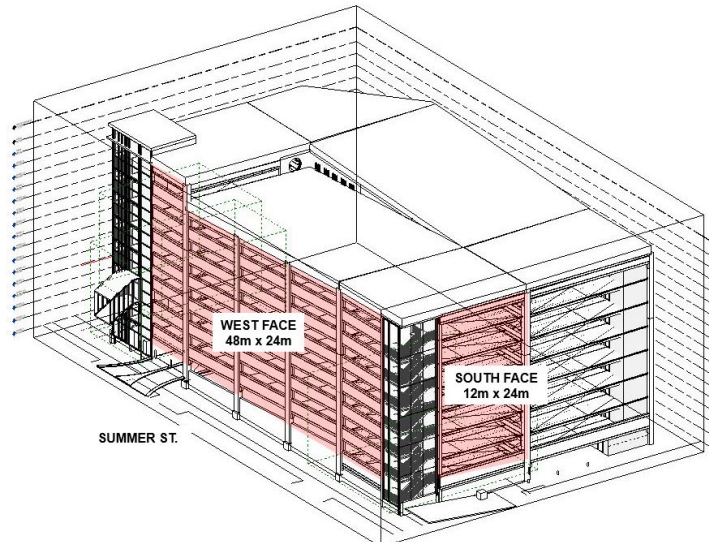
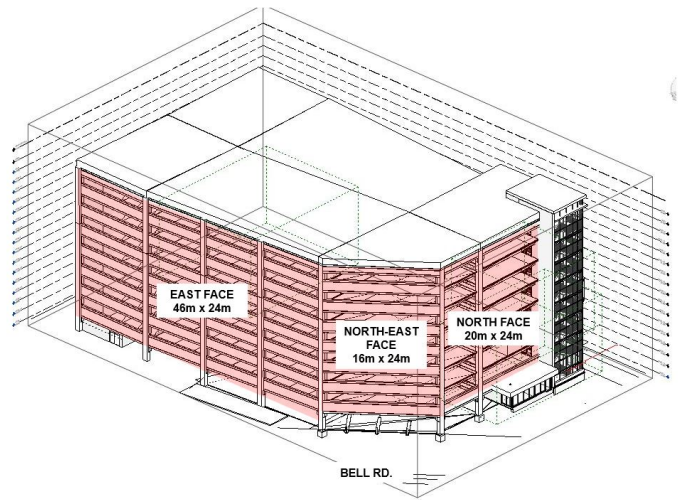
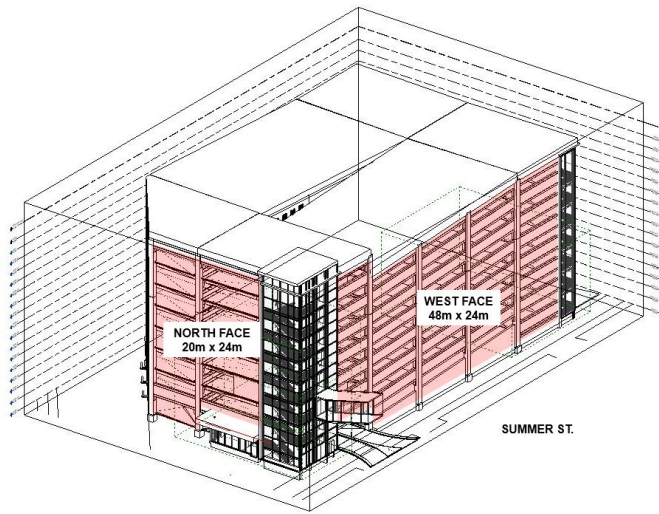


Sandblasted Metal Mesh



Perforated Metal Panel





## Submission Requirements

All documentation shall be organized in one (1) PDF document, in the order listed below and not exceed a file size of 40 MB.

The file name shall be of the format "LastName\_FirstName\_ParkadeArt".

The email subject line shall be of the format "Parkade Art Submission – LastName, FirstName".

1. APPLICATION FORM – Please complete and sign the application form attached to this document.
2. ARTIST STATEMENT AND ARTIST CV (not to exceed 2 pages each)
3. STATEMENT OF INTEREST – 300 words (or less) that explain why the artist is interested in this opportunity and how their practice relates to this project and the posted selection criteria.
4. WRITTEN PROJECT DESCRIPTION- 500 words (or less) that describe the project.
5. VISUAL PROJECT DESCRIPTION- Concept drawings/renderings to inform the intent and direction of the proposed work.

\*\* It is understood that the project descriptions received at this stage through this process will be PRELIMINARY in nature, and should therefore be sufficient to express the concept of the artwork and offer the review team an understanding of how the proposed concept will operate as part of the parkade. The selected concept will be further developed post-award in consultation with staff and members of the project team, and in accordance with the overall project schedule.

6. DIGITAL IMAGE WORK SAMPLES – Applicants must submit a maximum of **10 annotated samples of past work** that best illustrate their qualifications for this project.

## **Policies**

The ownership of design ideas submitted with this application remain with the artist until a selection has been made and a contract signed. Once a contract has been awarded, the selected artwork will be owned by the Province of Nova Scotia, and images of the work may be used in publicity for the Province of Nova Scotia. Copyright of the work and all intellectual property shall remain with the artist.

## **Selection Process**

This is a single-stage process. A peer selection panel will recommend the artist through an open call process. A selection panel comprised of three (3) art or design professionals, one (1) representative from the NS Museum, and one (1) representative from the Dept of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal will review the applicants' materials.

The selection panel reserves the right to request additional information from any of the submitters to inform their decision.

Once the selection panel has recommended a proposal and an award has been issued, the successful artist will be asked to prepare detailed concept designs based on the preliminary proposals.

The panel reserves the right to make no recommendation from the submitted applications or finalist interviews.

## **Additional Information**

- Please be advised that the Province of Nova Scotia and the selection panel are not obliged to accept any of the submissions and may reject all submissions. The Province reserves the right to reissue the Request for Proposals as required.
- All submissions to this RFP become the property of the Province of Nova Scotia. All information provided under the submission is subject to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (NS) and shall only be withheld from release if an exemption from release is permitted by the Act. The artist shall retain copyright in the concept proposal.
- Extensions to the submission deadline will not be granted under any circumstances. Submissions received after the deadline and those that are found to be incomplete will not be reviewed.

## **Artist Selection Process**

This process will select an artist with the understanding that the selected individual will be required to work collaboratively with staff to provide fabrication specifications for the



artwork, but the artist is not required to fabricate or install the artwork in the facility. The proposal submitted through this process will be essential in establishing the intent of the artist but it should be understood that this intent may require modification in collaboration with architects, project managers and relevant members of the project team and staff.

**Evaluation of Submissions:** (100 points)

Artistic Merit (40 points) (Artist Statement, Examples of Past Work, Quality of Proposal)

- Overall quality of past work and professional standing
- Quality of proposal

Methodology and Specific Approach to the Summer Street Parkade Project (40 points)

- Submitted proposal in relation to the design and function of the parkade
- Resonance of the artists professional practice to the architecture and design elements of the parkade as reflected in submitted examples of past work and the conceptual proposal for the cladding
- Feasibility of the proposed to be successfully completed within the stated timeline

Project Experience (20 points)

- Past work as an indication of the applicant's ability to manage projects of a similar scale and scope, including familiarity with public agencies and the public review process.
- Demonstrated ability to work to schedule in a collaborative environment

### **Estimated Process Schedule and Timeline**

The project is progressing through the design stages quickly and anticipated to begin construction in the next months. The artist will work in collaboration with the project team and the architect to integrate the art with the overall design. Design activities are expected as follows.

Tender period	December 7, 2020 - January 4, 2021
Award	January 12, 2021
Design Collaboration workshop with the Architect: 3 hours	January 14, 2021
Artists prepare conceptual ideas for integration:	January 14 - 25, 2021
Collaborative follow up with the Architect: 3 hours	January 25, 2021
Presentation and collaboration with the owner's Stakeholders	February 8, 2021
Refinement of imagery and approach with the Architect	January 25 - February 8, 2021
Final preparation of the Art Installation documents	February 16 - February 22, 2021
Coordination with the panel/mesh manufacturer	February 22 - March 30, 2021
Project Substantial Performance	August 3, 2021

## Application Form

Province of Nova Scotia

Public Art Design Concept for the QEII New Generation Project Summer Street Parkade

*Fields marked with a red asterisk (\*) are mandatory and must be completed.*

Artist Information	
Artist/Collective Name *	Legal Name (If Different)

Contact Information				
Last Name *		First Name *		
Address (Include street number and name) *				Apt
PO Box	City/Town *	Country *	Province *	Postal Code *
Phone - Home *	Phone - Business *	Email *		