



## Call for x<sup>w</sup>məθk<sup>w</sup>əyəm (Musqueam), S<sub>k</sub>wxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səlilwətaʔ (Tseil-Waututh) Artists

### Designs for a new downtown park

The Vancouver Park Board's Decolonization, Arts and Culture Team is looking to commission three artists, one from each of the three host Nations x<sup>w</sup>məθk<sup>w</sup>əyəm, S<sub>k</sub>wxwú7mesh, and səlilwətaʔ, to each create an original design for the new park at Smithe and Richards. Selected artists will create designs inspired by and reflective of the park theme, *rainbow*. This highly visible location in the heart of downtown presents an opportunity to increase x<sup>w</sup>məθk<sup>w</sup>əyəm, S<sub>k</sub>wxwú7mesh, and səlilwətaʔ visibility on the land, through language and public art.

### The Project

The names for the new park have been determined by staff representatives from x<sup>w</sup>məθk<sup>w</sup>əyəm, S<sub>k</sub>wxwú7mesh, and səlilwətaʔ, through a collaborative naming process. This naming process was part of a pilot program that will inform a new Park Board Naming Policy with x<sup>w</sup>məθk<sup>w</sup>əyəm, S<sub>k</sub>wxwú7mesh, and səlilwətaʔ to support Indigenous naming of parks, in alignment with the Park Board's ongoing commitment to Reconciliation and decolonization.

The selected designs for this project will serve to welcome people to the park and highlight the gift of the new names, which will be shared with artists who are selected. The designs by artists from these lands will help to create a strong visual identity and sense of place in this exciting new park on unceded x<sup>w</sup>məθk<sup>w</sup>əyəm, S<sub>k</sub>wxwú7mesh, and səlilwətaʔ lands.

### What's Involved

The new park occupies a city block in the heart of the downtown core, at the corner of Smithe and Richards streets (see rendering at end). The result of this commission will be three original designs (one from each artist, from each Nation) that are inspired by the theme of *rainbow*. The Park Board will license the designs to inform the visual identity of the park, in particular the park signage, which will welcome visitors to the park and display the park names in hənqəmihənəm and S<sub>k</sub>wxwú7mesh Snichim. The Park Board will digitize the designs and adapt them for various media, in consultation with the artists.

The main uses for the designs will be:

1. **Temporary Skyframe Banners:** Each artist's design will be individually displayed on a mesh banner on the large skyframes above the park (see renderings below). Separate banners will also display the park name in both languages. This will serve as temporary signage for the park's opening to highlight the gift of the new name and the collaborative naming process through language and public art.

2. Permanent Park Signage: The designs will be incorporated into the permanent park signage, in consultation with the artists.
3. Park Branding and Promotion: The designs will inform the visual identity of the park and may be used for park branding and promotion, including on the park's website.

### Project Goals

- To display, highlight and reflect the gift of the park's name and the collaborative xʷməθkʷəy̓əm, Sḵwxwú7mesh, and səliwətaʔ naming process;
- To increase xʷməθkʷəy̓əm, Sḵwxwú7mesh, and səliwətaʔ visibility on the land through naming, language and artwork within the downtown Vancouver area; and
- To support xʷməθkʷəy̓əm, Sḵwxwú7mesh, and səliwətaʔ artists in exploring public art opportunities.

### Eligibility

The opportunity is open to all xʷməθkʷəy̓əm, Sḵwxwú7mesh, and səliwətaʔ artists. We are not accepting applications from non-xʷməθkʷəy̓əm, Sḵwxwú7mesh, and səliwətaʔ artists. All levels of previous artistic experience are welcome to apply, including both emerging and established artists. No prior experience with professional design or public art is necessary and we encourage anyone interested to apply. This is a design only contract. Artists are not expected to do project management for this contract.

### Key dates

Submission deadline: March 20, 2022 (end of day)

Selection Panel Review

Finalists Selected: March 28, 2022

Design Development: March 29-April 15, 2022

Fabrication and Installation: April-May 2022

Park Opening/Art Unveiling: June 17, 2022

### Artist Fee

\$6,000 per artist for the original design concept to be woven into the visual identity of the park, including park signage, temporary banners, and park branding and promotion (eg. website and programming). Usage beyond this will be negotiated and compensated.

### How to Apply

We are inviting proposals for a design that is reflective of the theme, *rainbow*. This is broad and open to interpretation.

For your application please submit:

- Approximately 300-word letter of intent describing the concept of your design (sketches are welcome, but not required)
- Artist bio (who you are, where you are from, your artistic experience etc.)
- 3-5 photos of past work, if applicable

Please send any questions to, and submit your application by Sunday, March 20, 2022 (end of day), to Kamala Todd at [kamalatoddcurator@gmail.com](mailto:kamalatoddcurator@gmail.com)

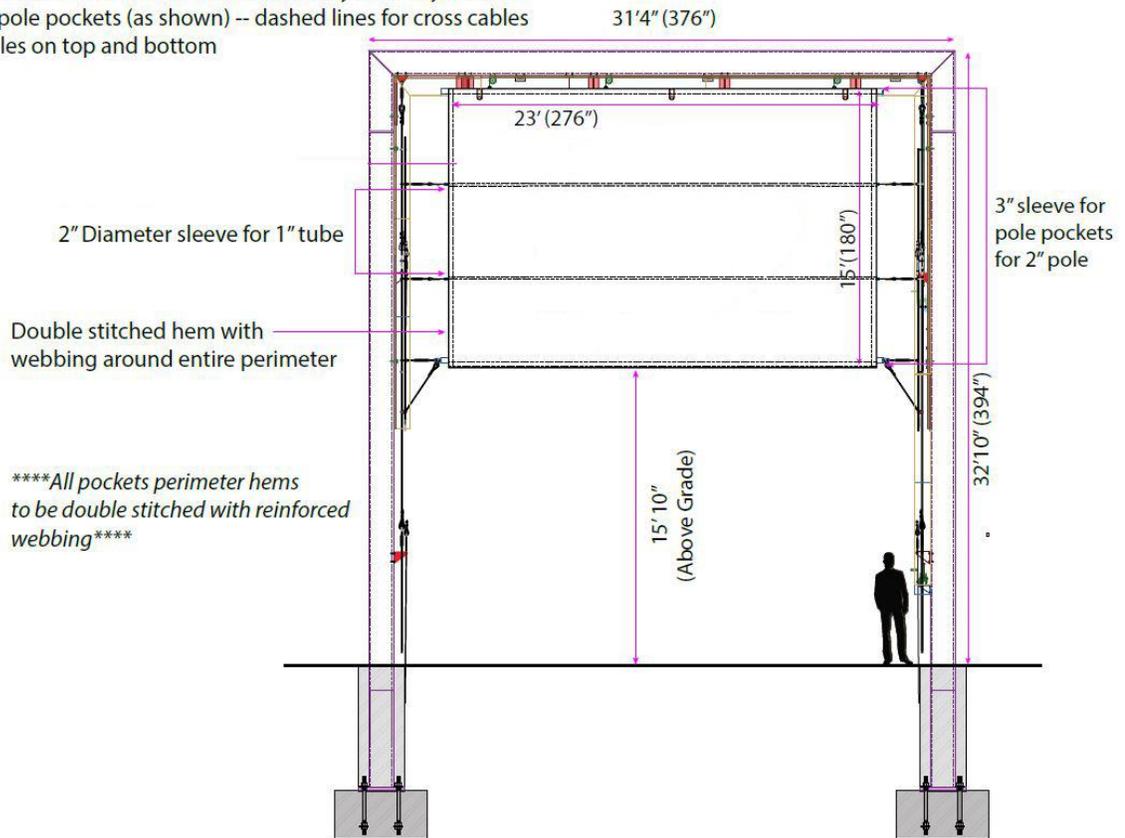
### Selection Committee

The selection committee for this project will be made up of community members from each of the three Host Nations, with Park Board staff in attendance and an Indigenous curator helping to facilitate the process. The committee will review the submissions and select the three finalists. The finalists will then be notified and invited to begin their designs.



Rendering of new park, view from Smithe Street above. Note rectangular skyframes as site for banners (design details subject to change).

Double Sided 18 oz Banner installed on Skyframe style frame with 4 pole pockets (as shown) -- dashed lines for cross cables and poles on top and bottom



Skyframe dimensions for reference for banner installation