



City of Maple Ridge News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Whonnock Lake Public Art Call 2015 & 2016: Deadline March 26

Maple Ridge, BC: Artists and artist teams are invited to submit an Expression of Interest to enter a juried competition for Canadian artists to create new public artwork, temporary or permanent, to enhance the visitor experience at Whonnock Lake, a popular destination community park. Whonnock is located in the eastern part of the city that was home to many of the pioneers and is a rural residential area comprised of single family homes on large rural lots. In 2015, Parks and Leisure Services will proceed with the capital plan for improvements at Whonnock Lake that complement the existing uses at the park and to implement the improvements outlined in the Master Plan from 2001. The goal for the Whonnock Lake Public Art project envisions a series of linked public artworks and events over the next three years that will unfold and reveal the character of this unique, muskeg bog and historic neighbourhood. Awards will be small commission remunerations. Deadline for submission is March 26 at 2:00pm (Pacific Time).

Artists are encouraged to familiarize themselves with Whonnock Lake Park by attending a non-mandatory site tour led by City staff on Saturday, March 14, 2015 at 1 pm (Pacific Time). Artists will have an opportunity to learn more and ask questions. The Lake is located at 27871 113 Ave, Maple Ridge, BC and interested parties will meet at main entrance of Whonnock Lake Centre.

The location of designed artwork is limited to the allowable non-sensitive areas of the beach and lakefront, forest, picnic and play area as well as the drainage and transition area (see

details in full RFEI on the website). The proposed work will consider Low Impact Design strategies, allow for community engagement as part of the proposal and suggest potential/possible themes that may be incorporated into future public artwork. It is the Maple Ridge Public Art Steering Committee's intention to install one artwork each year, up to 2017 for a total of three works. The Public Art Selection Committee will select two projects from this process, one to be installed in 2015 and the other in 2016. The third piece will be done at a later date under a separate competition.

Through projects, both conceptual and built, artists' work will offer residents and visitors a different window into their own changing urban landscape while building public awareness of the City's commitment to safety, long term sustainability and protection of parks and biodiversity.

Submissions are to be sent electronically to submissions@mapleridge.ca or by mail to the attention of Arts & Community Connections Manager, 11995 Haney Place, Maple Ridge, BC, V2X 6A9 by 2:00 pm (Pacific Time) on Thursday, March 26, 2015. See guidelines in full RFEI for details.

The Maple Ridge Public Art Program's goal is to strengthen community identity and culture by developing the 'spirit of place' through the commissioning, collecting and incorporation of unique works of art. Additional information at <http://mrpmparksandleisure.ca/400/Public-Art-Calls>. For further questions, please contact Yvonne Chui, Arts & Community Connections Manager at 604.467.7415 or yvonne.chui@mapleridge.ca.