



Tendered Application for the 2023 Antigonish Public Art Commission

Competition Definition

The Town of Antigonish, supported by Antigonish Culture Alive (ACA), is seeking submissions for the new Public Art Commission. This is a province-wide competition for professional artists as defined by [Canada Council guidelines](#).

This exciting opportunity to create public artworks will elevate Antigonish's growth as a cultural hub of Northeastern Mi'kma'ki (Nova Scotia). The selected artist(s) will work with ACA to produce and install their concept in the town of Antigonish.

This year, to commemorate the 10 year anniversary of [Arts & Health Antigonish](#) (AHA!), the jury welcomes designs that focus on **arts, health, and their impact on self and community**. The selected work(s) will be unveiled during Antigonight: Art After Dark festival, September 15-16, 2023.

Artists will be selected by a Jury composed of representatives of the Town, ACA, AHA, and local professional artists. The selected artist will be paid \$5,000 for the completion of their work. This fee includes all travel, delivery, and communication with program staff.

Proposals are encouraged by artists or artist-teams who have experience with large scale works. In previous years, all public works have been digitally rendered into a large-scale mural and installed on a building located in downtown Antigonish. The size specifications for a mural can be found on **page 4**. We encourage all applicants that apply with a mural-specific piece to consider and abide by these dimensions.

As the Town of Antigonish will be responsible for the reproduction and installation of the work, an alternate 3-D installation project can be considered but dimensions will need to be specifically noted on the application. Please feel free to reach out to antigoishculturealive@gmail.com for further clarification.

Requirements for Participation

Artists must reside in Nova Scotia. Residents of Antigonish town and county will be prioritized. Artists must be 18 years of age (or parent/guardian permission is required)

Artists must submit a completed application by the due date: **August 14, 2023**

Submission Requirements

Please submit all of the following items by **August 14, 2023** to be considered.

- A Letter of intent (min. 250- max. 1000 words) outlining the arts, health, and community theme. Other formats of delivery will be considered with advanced notice (recorded audio, etc.)
- A conceptual design(s) based on specs provided or explicit statement regarding alternate sculpture specs.
- Artist portfolio with supplementary files of related and/or previous work (approx. 5-10 images).
- Artist bio and link to appropriate website/online presence (Instagram, LinkedIn).

[All files can be submitted via this Google Form.](#)

Artist images submitted files should be in a .pdf or jpeg format and no larger than 2 megabytes per file. All text files should be in .doc or .pdf format.

Any applicants who require extra assistance with the technology can email the Arts Coordinator at antigonishculturealive@gmail.com for support.

Thematic Considerations

Performative and visual arts have a profound and lasting impact on our well-being. Whether experiencing art through personal self-expression or exploring another artist's interpretation, arts encourage exploration of identity, and culture and can celebrate or challenge notions of community and self. Our overall theme this year is ***arts, health, and their impact on self and community***. We hope the list of ideas below can help to inform your concept for submission.

- Rural placemaking
- Celebration of diverse regional histories
- A vision of the future of Antigonish
- Traditional craft/contemporary art
- Regional geography/ecology
- Formal material explorations

Compensation

The selected artist will be paid \$5,000 for the completion of their work. This fee includes all travel, delivery, and communication with program staff. Printing and installation will be the responsibility of the Town of Antigonish.

Artist fees will be paid upon completion and installation of the artwork. An interim payment can be arranged to cover production costs.

Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Accessibility

The Town of Antigonish and ACA acknowledges the prevalence of white/settler arts and culture and we strongly encourage applications from diverse artists who self-identify as Mi’kmaw/Indigenous, Black/African Nova Scotian, 2SLGBTQIA+, who have an exceptional ability or disability, who are newcomers, or are otherwise diverse persons.

Optional Considerations

The Town of Antigonish has commissioned ACA, a registered charitable arts organization, to tender this public art program. As ACA is also the parent organization of Antigonight: Art After Dark Festival, the selected artist will be welcomed to host programming related to their artwork, in the form of workshops or artist talks, during the Antigonight weekend, September 15 & 16, 2023, as part of their artwork’s unveiling.

Site Acknowledgement

Antigonish is a community situated within Northeastern Mi’kma’ki, the unceded and unsurrendered land of the Mi’kmaq people. This territory is covered by the treaties of Peace and Friendship, first signed between the British Crown and the Wabanaki Confederacy in 1725. Today, these treaties represent the ongoing and reciprocal relationship between the Mi’kmaq people and the Canadian State. We acknowledge that our work in the arts would not be possible without the historic support of the Mi’kmaq people towards settlers, and recognize the immense contributions of Indigenous artists and creators to historical and contemporary cultural connections of the region.

Project Timeline

Application Posted	July 24, 2023
Applications Due	August 14, 2023
Jury Selection	August 17, 2023
Artist Production	August-September
Final Design Due	September 4, 2023
Installation	Late September
Unveiling	September 15 & 16, 2023- Antigonight: Art After Dark Festival

Spatial Considerations- Large Scale Mural

It is a 8' x 12' space (2.44 x 3.66 meters) that will be printed on an aluminum composite sheathing in any colour or style the artist chooses.

Design Details

Please include one or two (1-2) images that clearly outline your intentions, style, and concept. The artist may use any form of media and the resulting product can be enlarged into a 2-D file for permanent printing on aluminum composite sheathing. Media examples include pastels, paper drawing/collage, paint, sculpture, graphic design, quiltwork, woven art, and vector drawings. Narrative components or text based art are also welcome.

ACA has intentionally set these parameters broadly to not exclude potential projects. A professional artist from ACA will be available to support the selected artist(s) in rendering the 3-D work into a printable file.

If you would like to submit a 3-D piece that remains in its original form, such as a sculptural, sound, or fabric installation, please specify your dimensions and the intent that your piece remain 3-D, explicitly.

Written Expression of Interest

The expression of interest provides artists the opportunity to communicate their process and their practice. ACA encourages artists to articulate how they see their installation within the cultural and physical landscapes of Antigonish.

Please submit in PDF or .docx file format to a maximum of 1000 words (250 minimum). Other formats of delivery can be considered with advanced notice such as recorded audio.

Artist Portfolio

Please include the following in your artist profile:

- Artist CV,
- Brief bio (250 words max.) including information relevant to your work with large-scale projects,
- 5-10 images of previous works.

Contact: Fenn Martin, Chair, Antigonish Culture Alive

antigonishculturealive@gmail.com

[@antigonishculturealive](https://www.antigonishculturealive.ca)

antigonight.ca

Please note, the administrative email is checked on a part-time basis and as such, response times will vary.