



Expressions of Interest: Edmonton Poet Laureate

The Edmonton Arts Council, City of Edmonton, and Edmonton Public Library are seeking Expressions of Interest (EOI) for Edmonton's eighth Poet Laureate. Edmonton's Poet Laureate reflects the life of the City through readings of poetry and serves as an ambassador for the literary arts by incorporating poetry into a range of official and informal city activities. The Poet Laureate will serve a two-year term from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2021.

Eligibility

This opportunity is open to writers and poets who:

- currently reside within the City of Edmonton
- have produced work that:
 - demonstrates poetic flexibility (more than one style)
 - reflects the life of the City
 - is significant to the citizens of Edmonton

Duties and Responsibilities

The successful applicant will:

- commit to the full two-year term
- assume the role of literary ambassador for the City of Edmonton to audiences both within and outside the City
- advocate strongly for the literary arts
- produce, on request of the City, at least three original works for specific events or occasions identified by the City in each year of the two-year term
- agree to present works of significance to the citizens of Edmonton:
 - at least once a year to City Council
 - at least once a year at a City-sponsored fundraising or charity events, and
 - at a minimum of two official City of Edmonton functions each year (i.e. the City of Edmonton anniversary of incorporation, the City's official summer exhibition or the Mayor's state of the City address)
- the Poet Laureate will initiate events and/or programming related to poetry and collaborate with event organizers and partners as needed.

This part-time role is flexible. No office hours are required, however the Poet Laureate is expected to set their hours as dictated by city events, invitations, and/or programming they develop.

Remuneration

The Edmonton Poet Laureate will receive an honorarium of \$10,000 for each year of the two-year term, paid bi-annually. Any travel expenses associated with the role of Poet Laureate will be reimbursed in addition to the annual honorarium. The Poet Laureate is allowed to accept remuneration for work completed outside of the requirements of this role.

Expression of Interest

All submissions must include the following:

- An Expression of Interest that outlines why the applicant should be Edmonton's Poet Laureate, with emphasis on:
 - the applicant's contributions to Edmonton's poetry, literary, or arts community
 - the significance of the applicant's work to the citizens of Edmonton
 - The applicant's interest in, and vision for, the Poet Laureate role
- One signed, scanned Letter of Reference from a member of the poetry, literary, or other relevant artistic communities that evaluates the applicant's influence on their literary peers, Edmonton's literary scene, and/or other artists as well as their poetic abilities.
- The applicant's current curriculum vitae (CV) highlighting relevant experience.
- Three examples of the applicant's work (ie. three poems) – it would be helpful if the examples demonstrated poetic flexibility and significance to the City of Edmonton. Examples may be written or recorded – if recorded, please provide a link to audio or video files. Please submit a maximum of ten pages or ten recorded minutes.
- Proof of the applicant's residency in the City of Edmonton.

Shortlisted applicants agree to participate in a review process that will include a reading and interview in front of a selection committee. The review process will take place in May 2019.

Deadline

Submissions must be received no later than 12:00 pm MST on Monday, May 6, 2019.

Submit your Expression of Interest and Letter of Reference online via eacawards.fluidreview.com.

If you have any questions, concerns, or are experiencing problems with the online grant application system, please email EAC Grants, Awards, and Support Programs staff at grants@edmontonarts.ca or call 780-424-2787.

If you have any questions about the Poet Laureate call or program, please email Communications Officer Breanna Mroczek at bmroczek@edmontonarts.ca.