

**Media Release
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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North East Transit Garage Public Art Call Announced

Edmonton - The Edmonton Arts Council has issued a Public Art Call to Edmonton, Canadian, and international artists. The total commission is \$1 million for a signature artwork to be installed adjacent to the future North East Transit Garage*. The site is bounded by a multi-use trail and three major arteries; Fort Road, Yellowhead Trail, and the LRT line. Interested artists are invited to submit their qualifications and letters of intent to the Edmonton Arts Council by 4:30 p.m. on May 19, 2015.

The North East Transit Garage public art commission is the largest such commission in Edmonton to date. Approximately 90% of the budget will go to fabrication, transportation, and professional fees as well as local construction trades. The call is issued in accordance with Edmonton's *Percent for Art to Encourage and Provide Art in Public Areas* policy, which stipulates that one percent of qualifying construction costs be used to acquire artworks for publicly accessible municipal projects.

Due to the nature of the North East Transit Garage site, as well its size, vantage points, views of the Edmonton skyline, and volume of traffic, the decision was made to commission one large-scaled artwork. The goal of the call is to contract an artist to create a highly visible, contemporary exterior artwork that will define and respond to the facility, site, and Fort Road area.

Artists will be selected through a two-stage jury process. A selection committee will shortlist up to four artists from the applications. These artists will be paid a professional fee to develop an artistic concept and budget, and also to create scale models, called maquettes, of the proposed artworks.

The public will have an opportunity to provide feedback on maquettes by the semi-finalists.

"The scope of this public art call, in budget and scale, marks a major milestone for public art in Edmonton," says Paul Moulton, EAC Executive Director. "The Edmonton Arts Council values public engagement. We encourage Edmontonians to share their views on the artwork proposed for the North East Garage site. We look forward to hearing from as many people as possible."

Details of the Public Art Call are available on the Edmonton Arts Council website:

<http://publicart.edmontonarts.ca/calls/>

**In 2014, Edmonton City Council approved the replacement of the Westwood Garage with the North East Transit Garage as part of the 2015-18 capital budget. The new facility will be located on Fort Road and Yellowhead Trail on the same site as the historic brick smoke stack that used to be part of the Canadian Packers Plant.*

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The Edmonton Arts Council is a not-for-profit organization that supports and promotes the arts community in Edmonton. The EAC works to increase the profile and involvement of arts and culture in all aspects of our community life.

For more information, or to arrange an interview, please contact:

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