

2026 Indigenous Artist in Residence

Call for Artists

Application deadline: February 27, 2026 at 4 p.m. CST

Project completion deadline: October 31, 2026

In Treaty 4 Territory, the City of Regina Recreation and Cultural Services Department is shifting the way we work, to preserve the land and connect to Indigenous culture. We acknowledge the harms of the past and our shared history. We are humbled and honoured to share this land with its original stewards, the Cree, Saulteaux, Dakota, Lakota, Nakota and the Métis Nation. Through dialogue, stewardship of the land, preservation of languages, celebration of the arts and provision of opportunities for sport and recreation, we are advancing the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action.

To celebrate the fifth anniversary of the program, the City of Regina is inviting emerging and established Indigenous artists from First Nations, Inuit or Métis communities to participate in an artist residency. This residency will allow artists to explore their creative practice and produce works for inclusion in the City's Civic Art Collection. The program emphasizes community engagement that benefits both artists and the residents of Regina. The City of Regina is seeking five artists to create new works that will become part of the Civic Art Collection.

Residency Information

- As we mark the fifth anniversary of the Indigenous Artist in Residence program, the 2026 program will focus on the theme: "belonging, kinship and continuity".
 - **Belonging:** Exploring what it means to create, live and feel rooted in place and community.
 - **Kinship:** Expressing the networks of family, friendship and cultural ties that sustain artists and shape their work.
 - **Continuity:** Honoring resilience, cultural transmission and the ways art contributes to healing across generations
- First Nations, Inuit and Métis artists residing full-time in Regina may apply.

- Artists working in any medium are encouraged to apply. This includes, but is not limited to 2D, 3D, Indigenous traditional arts, dance, music, spoken or written word, public art, textiles, installation, new media, traditional tattooing and social practices.
- This residency is a paid opportunity for Indigenous artists. The artists are expected to develop a schedule and complete 100 hours between June and October 2026. The artist fee is \$12,000 (tax inclusive), including \$6,000 for artist fees and \$6,000 for materials, acquisition and insurance.
- Artists are required to obtain insurance as part of the agreement.
- The City's Communications branch will create video documentation of the project. All artists will be part of this video promotion.
- The contracted artists are responsible for creating the artwork and preparing one community engagement activity to be held at the Neil Balkwill Civic Art Center.
- As part of the proposal, each artist must include one idea for a workshop or a community engagement activity (maximum \$500 allocated from the artist's \$12,000 residency fee) that they would be prepared to deliver during the residency.
- Community engagement activities will take place at the Neil Balkwill Civic Arts Centre (NBCAC) in the Stitchery Room on the following dates.

Please indicate your **two preferred dates** for hosting your event:

- August 20, 2026, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.
 - August 27, 2026, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.
 - September 10, 2026, 7 to 10 p.m.
 - September 17, 2026, 7 to 10 p.m.
 - October 1, 2026, 7 to 10 p.m.
 - October 8, 2026, 7 to 10 p.m.
- There will be a final exhibition at the Art Gallery of Regina at the end of the residency in December 2026, showcasing the new works of all five 2026 artists alongside the artwork created by four previous Indigenous Artists in Residence. Artists are responsible for delivering their artwork to the Neil Balkwill Civic Center by November 16, 2026. Attendance at this final exhibition is required for all selected artists.

Application Information

If you have any questions about the application process, please email IndigenousAIR@Regina.ca and a City of Regina staff member will connect with you.

Interested applicants will submit **one** of:

- 1) A letter of intent (maximum 500 words) or
- 2) A video of intent (maximum five minutes)

Letter of intent or video of intent should include the following information:

- An introduction to yourself and how you connect to your Indigenous identity, community and relationship to Regina and Treaty 4 Territory.
- An artist statement, including relevant accomplishments and experiences with similar projects, where applicable.
- An artwork statement, describing your interest in the project.
- A description of your proposed residency project, including materials, space requirements and intended outcomes.
- A description of how the project will engage with the 2026 theme: “belonging, kinship and continuity.”

And:

1. Curriculum vitae (CV)
2. Up to six examples of existing work for review and consideration
3. Proposed budget
4. Project timeline

Please include any relevant links to artist websites or pages. All applicants’ submission files should be in one PDF file, in the same order above, using the following name format: your name and last name – IAIR 2026 application.pdf.

Please note this opportunity is only open to Indigenous (First Nations, Inuit and Métis) artists. If you also belong to another equity-seeking group (for example, 2SLGBTQIAP+ or disability) who experience oppression and/or exclusion that you would like to indicate, please do so in your submission.

Proposals shall not:

- Include design elements that feature advertisements or promotions for commercial businesses or products.

- Include design elements that are discriminatory or include profanity or are otherwise offensive content.
- Include design elements that breach intellectual property rights or trademarks.

The City of Regina will not support submissions that engage in cultural misappropriation (sometimes known as appropriation) and will prioritize artwork that reflects an artists' own culture or cultures.

Cultural misappropriation is the deliberate or accidental borrowing from a culture that is not your own without respect, understanding or permission. This may include cultural practices or objects, music, stories, ceremonies or imagery. Additional information and resources can be found at: [CARFAC Indigenous Protocols for the Visual Arts](#).

Application Submission

Applications should be submitted via email to IndigenousAIR@Regina.ca by Friday, February 27, 2026 at 4 p.m. CST. If you need assistance with this process, please contact IndigenousAIR@Regina.ca prior to the application deadline. If you require application review or assistance, please reach out at least two weeks before the submission deadline.

Artist and grant writing resources:

[SK Arts Preparing Your Grant Application](#)

[CARFAC Saskatchewan – The Business of Art](#)

[Sparkbox Studio – How to Write a Grant Budget](#)

Definitions

Art – The expression and application of creativity (for example, studio arts, film and video, theatre, music, dance and literary arts).

Artist – Any person who creates or gives creative expression to, or re-creates works of art, who considers their artistic creation to be an essential part of their life, who contributes in this way to the development of art and culture and who is or asks to be recognized as an artist, whether or not they are bound by any relations of employment or association.

Arts (the arts) – The mechanisms that support and promote art and artists (including film production crews, cultural offices, arts administrators, artists and technicians). The arts also refer to expression or application of human creative skill and imagination (for example, painting, printmaking, drawing, sculpture, crafts, photography, film and video, theatre, music, literary arts and dance). It includes original, creative interpretation and facsimile reproduction and distribution, in addition to cultural industries – publishing, film, sound recording, video and audio-visual broadcasting.

Cultural heritage – The intangible practices, expressions, knowledge and skills of a community or an individual in addition to associated material instruments, public art, artifacts, objects, historic places and cultural spaces.

Cultural programming – The collection of projects and programs, delivered through events, festivals and other modes of exhibition and distribution.

Inclusion – A description of the community where all people have access to quality community necessities and amenities, where people, regardless of difference, have the same opportunities to take part in all aspects of community life and where all people feel a sense of belonging and respect.

Indigenous Peoples – Indigenous peoples are the original peoples of a given region. In Canada, the First Peoples or First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples are considered Indigenous peoples. These peoples have distinct cultures, languages, histories as well as differing nationhood, but share constitutional protection for their Aboriginal rights in the Canadian Constitution Act, 1982. Globally, Indigenous peoples are recognized by the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Indigenous – Originating in and characteristic of a particular region or country; indigenous people.

Placemaking – A holistic and community-based planning approach that capitalizes on unique assets and potential to promote the personal well-being, community character and development and the creation of places of lasting value.

Projects and programs – The specific, time-bound activities and services delivered to residents and organizations in Regina. The contracted artist will work with City of Regina staff to conduct artist talks, workshops, open studio time or registered programs that will enhance understanding and visibility of the project and its theme within the community.

Social practice – Socially engaged practice, also referred to as social practice or socially engaged art, can include any artform which involves people and communities in debate, collaboration or social interaction.