

# Tree of Life Graphic

## Indigenous Youth Call for Design: “Tree of Life” Graphic for Regina’s Urban Forest Master Plan

Application Deadline: April 12, 2026, 11:59 p.m. CST

### Background

In Treaty 4 Territory and guided by the Treaty Principles in *kâ-nâsihcikêwin*, the City of Regina acknowledges the harms of the past and our responsibility to support healing, culture and connection to the land. We are honoured to live and work alongside the Cree, Saulteaux, Dakota, Lakota, Nakota and the Métis Nation. The City strives to uphold the Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s Calls to Action by creating opportunities that centre Indigenous voices, stories and relationships to the land.

The Urban Forest Master Plan is a long-term strategy for protecting, planting, caring for and growing Regina’s urban forest. Grounded in *wîhci-atoskêwin askîhk* – living on the land in harmony – the Plan recognizes our shared responsibility to steward the urban forest in ways that honour the land’s spirit, support ecological balance and strengthen relationships across generations. Regina’s urban forest includes all living things in the city, including trees, plants, soil, naturalized areas, park spaces and the ecosystems that support them.

This Call for Design invites Indigenous youth to share their vision of life, growth and connection through a “Tree of Life” design that will help shape how Regina understands and celebrates its living landscape for generations to come.

The selected design will serve as the visual symbol of the Urban Forest Master Plan and will appear in the final policy document, as well as educational materials, presentations, community programs and public communications. Its purpose is to help residents connect with the goals of the Plan and the living landscape it represents.

By inviting Indigenous youth to lead this visual identity, the City honours Indigenous knowledge of land stewardship and reflects a future where culture, environment and creativity grow together. Rooted in *miskâsowin* – finding one’s sense of origin and belonging – this initiative creates space for Indigenous youth aged 12 to 20 to express who they are and how they see themselves in relationship with the land and the City of Regina. It offers young people a meaningful role in shaping how the community understands and celebrates the landscape we all depend on.

## Call Overview

The City of Regina invites **Indigenous youth** to submit an original design that represents their interpretation of a “**Tree of Life.**”

Applicants may work in **any two-dimensional medium**, including digital illustration, drawing, painting, collage, photography, mixed media or any other 2D format.

## Design Requirement:

- **Minimum finished size:** Letter size (8.5 × 11 inches/216 × 279 mm)
- **Resolution:** 300 DPI
- **Layout:** The design should be centered, with space around the edges to allow for reproduction across different formats
- Easy replication across formats

## Eligibility

This call is open to Indigenous youth who meet all of the following criteria:

- Identify as Indigenous (First Nations, Inuit or Métis).
- Aged 12 to 20 years old as of the submission deadline.
- Currently attending or participating in programming at one of the following:
  - A school within the City of Regina’s urban boundaries
  - University of Regina
  - First Nations University of Canada

Shortlisted candidates may be asked to provide proof of age, identity, community connection and current enrollment or participation.

## Submission Requirements

Please submit the following:

1. **Your design** (as a digital file or high-quality scan or photograph for non-digital works)
2. **Your full name**
3. **Your age**
4. **School or program affiliation**
5. **Title of design** and a **short description** of your concept (up to 250 words).

## How to Submit

Submit your design by email to:

[Trees@regina.ca](mailto:Trees@regina.ca)

If you require assistance digitizing or submitting your design, please contact [Trees@regina.ca](mailto:Trees@regina.ca) no later than 5 p.m. CST on April 9, 2026.

## Submission Deadline

All submissions must be received by:

**April 12, 2026, at 11:59 p.m. CST.**

## Selection Process

Submissions will be reviewed by the Urban Forest Master Plan project team, which includes:

- Elders and knowledge keepers
- City staff from Parks and Open Space Services
- City staff from Recreation and Cultural Services

One design will be selected for use in the Urban Forest Master Plan and across City communications, promotional materials and digital platforms.

Selected applicants will be notified by **email**.

**The first-prize winner may be asked to work with the City to edit and finalize their design if revisions are recommended by the project's Elders/advisors.**

## Evaluation Criteria

Designs will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Relevance to the theme **“Tree of Life”**
- **Relevance to Indigenous identity**
- Creativity, cultural expression and originality
- Connection to the natural environment, life and community
- Suitability for reproduction in the Urban Forest Master Plan and other documents or media. This refers to how well the design can be used across printed and digital formats, including at different sizes

## Honoraria and Prizes

Up to **five** Indigenous youth will be selected as **finalists**.

- First prize: \$1,000 and the design will be selected for use in the Urban Forest Master Plan
- Second prize: \$700
- Third prize: \$500
- Additional Youth Recognition Awards (2 recipients): \$250 each

Participants may be asked to grant the City permission to reproduce their work in publications and communication materials, including social media, related to the contest and recognition of finalists.

## Copyright and Moral Rights

Subject to the license granted to the City below and the modifications to the design described herein, the finalist will **retain copyright and moral rights** to their design. The City of Regina respects the cultural, creative and intellectual rights of Indigenous youth and the importance of protecting cultural knowledge and imagery.

By submitting a design, the participant grants the City a **perpetual, non-exclusive, royalty-free license** to:

- Reproduce the design in the **Urban Forest Master Plan**.
- Use the design in related **City communications, materials and digital platforms**.

The design will be reproduced and may require minor adjustments for clarity, resolution or format. The City may also create variants of the design, such as black and white or grayscale versions. These modifications are not intended to alter the meaning, integrity or cultural significance of the artwork.

The selected applicant will be given the opportunity to review and approve any proposed changes or variants before the City finalizes of the Urban Forest Master Plan.

## Contact

For questions or support in submitting your design, please contact the City no later than 5 p.m. CST on April 9, 2026:

Veronica Schroder

Parks & Open Space Services

Email: [Trees@regina.ca](mailto:Trees@regina.ca)