



# Artist Laureate Stony Plain Art in Public Places Program

## **1. Program: Stony Plain Artist Laureate**

With a vibrant arts community, Stony Plain is dedicated to celebrating local arts, culture, and creativity, thanks to strong support from both Council and residents.

Artist Laureates are considered to have exceptional talent and have provided significant contributions to their artistic field. The Artist Laureate Program offers recipients unique opportunities to further their craft and engage with the community, sharing their creativity and expertise.

Expanding on the former Poet Laureate Program, this initiative allows for a diverse range of artistic disciplines to participate, including but not limited to media, performing, and visual arts, alongside literary arts.

The Artist Laureate Program objective is to strengthen arts capacity in Stony Plain by supporting accomplished local artists in advancing their practice while contributing to the community's cultural vitality. By providing meaningful work opportunities, the program enables artists to share their skills across a range of disciplines, fostering collaboration and creative growth. At the same time, it enhances public access to the arts by encouraging community engagement, diverse artistic expression, and inclusive programming that reflects and celebrates the Town's vibrant creative identity.

## **2. Stony Plain and Region**

The Town of Stony Plain, located 17 kilometres west of Edmonton, boasts small-town character but offers amenities and conveniences of a city. The Town acknowledges and honours the historical presence of Indigenous people and culture, as the community is situated on the traditional Indigenous land of Treaty 6 Peoples.

Incorporated in 1908, the community retains all the warmth and charm of its deep cultural and agricultural roots. Early settlers worked together to build the town site, and residents foster that same spirit today through a host of cultural activities, sporting events, social functions, markets, and popular annual festivals. More than 40 breathtaking murals and beautiful public artworks are located around the Town.

## **3. History of the Art in Public Places Program**

The Art in Public Places Program was initiated in 1990 to tell our story, keep our heritage alive, and revitalize our downtown area. It began with the creation of magnificent outdoor paintings, currently numbering over 40, which have been created by artists from across Canada and are located throughout the town. The program has expanded to include art representative of other media. They are an attraction that is 'always open' and enrich the lives of our residents and visitors alike.

## 4. Program Specifications

### a) Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible for the Artist Laureate program applicants must meet the following requirements;

- be at least 18 years of age;
- be a resident of the Edmonton Metropolitan Region\*. Preference will be given to Stony Plain residents, then residents of the tri-region (Spruce Grove and Parkland County), followed by residents of the additional Edmonton Metropolitan Region communities;
- have a minimum of 2 years of professional experience in their artistic discipline. “Professional experience” refers to active engagement in an artistic discipline in a paid, commissioned, or formally recognized capacity. This may include creating and presenting work for clients, exhibitions, publications, performances, or other public or commercial platforms, and can encompass self-employment, freelance practice, or work undertaken through organizations or institutions;
- former Poet or Artist Laureates of the Town of Stony Plain are not eligible to reapply until two years after completing their previous term.

\* The Edmonton Metropolitan Region includes the cities of Beaumont, Edmonton, Fort Saskatchewan, Leduc, Spruce Grove, and St. Albert, the specialized municipality of Strathcona County including Sherwood Park, the municipal districts of Leduc County, Parkland County, and Sturgeon County, the towns of Bon Accord, Bruderheim, Calmar, Devon, Gibbons, Legal, Morinville, Redwater, Stony Plain, and Thorsby, the villages of Spring Lake and Warburg, the summer villages of Betula Beach, Golden Days, Itaska Beach, Kapasiwin, Lakeview, Point Alison, Seba Beach, and Sundance Beach, and the First Nations reserves of Alexander 134 of the Alexander First Nation, Enoch Cree Nation 135 of the Enoch Cree First Nation, and Wabamun 133A and 133B of the Paul First Nation.

### b) Term

Serve as the Artist Laureate from May 1 of the current year to April 30 of the following year (ie. May 1, 2026 until April 30, 2027).

### c) Main Project

Create a new work, advance a work-in-progress, or reimagine past work within your artistic discipline. The proposed artwork must be appropriate for public display and should not be reasonably considered offensive to a general audience.

Work must not infringe upon intellectual property of others. This artwork will become the property of the Town.

### d) Public Engagement

Plan and deliver two public engagement opportunities, which may include workshops, programs, speaking engagements, or other collaborative events. One of these engagements must contribute to the Town’s annual Culture Days celebration held in September.

**e) End-of-Project Presentation**

Provide a presentation to Stony Plain Town Council to showcase the completed main project and outcomes of the public engagement.

**f) Commission**

\$4,000 (CAD) stipend and up to an additional \$2,500 (CAD) for program-related materials (excluding GST).

Up to 50% of the stipend and materials reimbursement will be paid within the first six months, with the remaining balance to be issued upon program completion.

This fee requires the artist to:

- Complete the term, main project, public engagement, and end-of-project presentation, as specified in sections 4 (b) - (e);
- supply all required materials and provide the Town with proof of purchase, along with a description of how the materials are used for the project;
- cover all costs associated including travel, meals and accommodation;
- have access to a studio/space for work to be completed off-site;
- artist must meet all occupational health and safety standards for this type of work and complete the Town of Stony Plain's Contractor Management program;
- have a Stony Plain business licence and insurance for the duration of the term;
- complete the project following the timelines to be established in the Agreement between the Town and the Artist Laureate;
- be available for a Preliminary Meeting with the Town on April 28, 2026;
- participate in the evaluation committee for the next Artist Laureate.

**5. Submission Requirements**

DUE: Monday, April 24, 2026 at 12:00 pm (This is not a postmark date)

Mail, hand delivered or email applications will be accepted. Submission by fax or any kind of file sharing software/website (i.e. Dropbox, Google Drive) will not be accepted.

If submitted as a hardcopy the file must be one-sided on 8.5x11" letter sized paper and in a sealed envelope. Please do not staple or bind your submission. Submissions will not be returned.

Electronic files must be submitted as one (1) pdf formatted as an 8.5x11" document.

Submissions must include:

- letter of interest (maximum of two pages) outlining why you are interested in this program, and a written description of your proposed main project and public engagement projects (note: visual concepts of your proposed projects are not requested and will not be evaluated);

- artist statement (maximum of 1 page) describing your artistic discipline and overall practice;
- current resume (maximum of two pages);
- images depicting a minimum of three and maximum of six past works. One image per page. Each image must have the following information listed: artist’s name, title, location, date, size, medium and a brief statement about the work. Please do not submit photographic prints or original works, images must be on 8.5x11” letter sized paper.
- three references from past projects

Submissions may be hand-delivered, mailed or couriered to:

Town of Stony Plain  
 4905-51 Avenue  
 Stony Plain, AB T7Z 1Y1  
 Attn: Linda Prokott, Culture and Tourism Developer

Proposals may be delivered by email to:

culture@stonyplain.com

## 6. Process Timeline

|                                 |                                                        |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| Submissions Due                 | April 24, 12:00 pm (Note: this is not a postmark date) |
| Award Notification              | April 27, 2:00 pm                                      |
| Preliminary Meeting with Artist | April 28, time to be determined                        |
| Term Commencement               | May 1                                                  |

Notes: All dates listed above are 2026 and all deadline times are Stony Plain local time (MDT)

## 7. Terms of Competition

The successful proponent will be chosen by an evaluation committee through a one-stage process. The committee, which will include Town administration, members of the Culture and Tourism Roundtable, and the outgoing Laureate, are under no obligation to choose any finalist and all decisions are final. The Town of Stony Plain reserves the right to revoke this request for submissions.

## 8. Evaluation Criteria

| SCORE | RATING    | DESCRIPTION                                                                                                                     |
|-------|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 5     | Excellent | Fully meets and significantly exceeds all criteria. Highly detailed, well-supported, and clearly aligned with the Town’s needs. |
| 4     | Good      | Meets all criteria. Provides solid detail and support, with clear alignment to the Town’s needs.                                |

| SCORE | RATING         | DESCRIPTION                                                                                                                          |
|-------|----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 3     | Satisfactory   | Adequately meets the core requirements. Provides sufficient detail and generally aligns with the Town's needs.                       |
| 2     | Limited        | Partially meets requirements. Lacks detail or completeness in some important areas, with only partial alignment to the Town's needs. |
| 1     | Unsatisfactory | Fails to meet most or all requirements. Incomplete, lacks detail, unsupported, or misaligned with the Town's needs.                  |

| #            | Category (see descriptions below)                       | Weighting (%) |
|--------------|---------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| a            | Past experience within artistic discipline              | 35            |
| b            | Personal thoughts and emotional impact of past examples | 30            |
| c            | Suitability of Letter of Interest                       | 35            |
| Total Points |                                                         | 100           |

### **a) Past experience within artistic discipline**

#### *Requirement*

The artist must demonstrate relevant experience within their resume and visual documentation.

#### *Evaluation Focus*

Evaluation will consider ability and capacity only. Artistic style, design preference, or aesthetic quality will not be assessed in this category.

#### *Scoring Criteria*

- Examples clearly demonstrate professional experience within their artistic discipline.
- Visual and written documentation of past projects demonstrates the artist's ability to manage work of comparable size and technical requirements as their proposed project.
- Resume/Curriculum Vitae shows sufficient background to support successful project delivery.

### **b) Personal thoughts and emotional impact of past examples**

#### *Requirement*

The artist must provide visual examples of completed artworks within their artistic discipline.

#### *Evaluation Focus*

Evaluation will consider personal impressions and emotional impact only. Scores reflect the evaluators' subjective response to the Visual Documentation and Artist Statement, not the artist's technical ability or style preference.

### *Scoring Criteria*

- The strength of the evaluator's initial response to the examples.
- The degree to which the examples evoke interest, engagement, or an emotional reaction.
- How striking or memorable the examples appear to the evaluator.

### **c) Suitability of Letter of Interest**

#### *Requirement*

The letter of interest should outline why you are interested in this program and a written description of the artist's proposed main project and public engagement activities.

#### *Evaluation Focus*

Evaluation will consider how well the artist's approach to the main project and public engagement activities align with the program's objectives. Scores reflect the clarity, relevance, and thoughtfulness of the Letter of Interest.

### *Scoring Criteria*

- Demonstrates understanding of the program's objectives.
- The approach is clearly communicated, well-structured, and logically presented.
- The proposed approach reflects originality and appropriateness for all audiences.

## **9. Communication with the Evaluation Committee**

The Town of Stony Plain will be responsible for all communication, either verbal or written, between artists making submissions and members of the evaluation committee. Any communication between applicants and committee members regarding submissions or the competition may result in disqualification.

## **10. Original Work**

The artist must guarantee that the artwork is original and does not violate the copyright of any other person.

## **11. Contract**

The artist(s) will enter into a service agreement with the Town of Stony Plain.

## **12. Copyright**

The artist(s) must be prepared to assign ownership and exhibition/image license rights of the artwork to the Town in perpetuity. It is understood that the image license rights allow the Town to reproduce the artwork for reporting, educational, marketing and promotional reasons. Further reproduction rights may be negotiated. The artist may retain the copyright and the right to be identified as the creator of the artwork. The Town of Stony Plain will not alter the artwork for purposes of maintenance, conservation, etc. without prior consultation with the artist, where applicable. The artist shall indemnify against any claims of copyright infringement.

### **13. Protection of Privacy**

This personal information is being collected by the Town of Stony Plain under Sec. 4(c) of the Protection of Privacy Act (POPA) and will only be used for the purpose of selecting an Artist Laureate. The personal information provided will be protected in accordance with Sec. 12(1) of the Act. If you have any questions regarding the collection, use and disclosure of personal information, please contact the ATIA Coordinator at 780-963-2151.

For more information contact Linda Prokott, Culture and Tourism Developer at 780.591.6070 or [lprokott@stonyplain.com](mailto:lprokott@stonyplain.com)