



# Rutland Transit Exchange Mural Artist Opportunity

## Program Guidelines

Deadline: Monday June 8, 2026

If you have questions after reviewing these guidelines please contact the Cultural Services Team, Phone: 250 469-8474, or [sthirnbeck@kelowna.ca](mailto:sthirnbeck@kelowna.ca)

101-1360 Ellis Street

Kelowna, BC V1Y 2A2

HOURS: Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

## Program Description

The Rutland Transit Exchange has had a major upgrade!

As part of this transformation, the City is inviting artists to create artwork on the 6 mural panels at the transit exchange.



*Location: The Rutland Transit Exchange, located at Shephard Road and Asher Road.*

This opportunity invites artists to interpret and celebrate Rutland's unique character and agricultural legacy, orchards, irrigation, farm life, harvest cycles, community gatherings, and the evolution from farmland to a vibrant diverse urban neighbourhood. The objectives of this project are to reinforce neighbourhood identity, create a welcoming and safe environment, make transit spaces feel human, vibrant, and connected, encourage pride and community ownership, and celebrate local history.

One artist will be chosen for the entire project. The selected artist will receive payment of \$5,500 (plus GST if applicable) for all aspects of creation, including design, site prep, materials, painting, and application of protective sealant and graffiti protection.

## Design Specifications

### Panels Dimensions

The panels are wood surfaces arranged from left to right, with panels 1, 3, 5, and 6 each measuring 117" wide by 47" high, while panels 2 and 4 are larger, each measuring 200" wide by 47" high.



### Mural Design

The artwork should complement existing placemaking elements that reflect Rutland's deep agricultural roots. Current design features at the site include repurposed tractor seats, agricultural-inspired metalwork, and water spouts referencing irrigation systems. Overall, the artwork should embody both heritage and growth, honouring Rutland's past while acknowledging its evolving future. The proposal should show a strong visual continuity and a cohesive narrative flow across the installation.



## Eligibility

To participate in this program, artists must:

- Be a professional or emerging artist or a group or collective of professional practicing or emerging artists, who are legally entitled to work in Canada;
- Reside in the Central Okanagan;
- Either solely, or in partnership with others, propose an initiative which is consistent with the guidelines of this program;
- Be committed to carrying out the initiative for the benefit of Kelowna residents without exclusion of anyone by reason of religion, ethnicity, gender, age, sexual orientation, language, disability, or income;
- Have the legal authority to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Kelowna.

## Ineligible Content

To be considered as the selected artist for this program, artwork must not:

- Contradict any bylaw or policy of the City in any way;
- Compromise the reputation of the City's public image;
- Cause deep or widespread offence;
- Incorporate logos;
- Be commercial in theme.

## Application Process

The application process is online and can be found on the [City's website](#).

Artists considering submission of an application are encouraged to do the following prior to completing an application form:

- Review these guidelines;
- Contact City staff to discuss your project idea:

- o Sara Thirnbeck, [sthirnbeck@kelowna.ca](mailto:sthirnbeck@kelowna.ca), (250) 469-8474

## Confidentiality

Any personal information you provide to us is collected, used and disclosed in accordance with the [Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act](#) (FOIPPA). The information we collect from you will only be used for the purpose for which it was collected or to obtain feedback regarding the delivery of the service.

If you have any questions about the collection, use or disclosure of your personal information, please call 250-469-8645 and ask for the City Clerk.

## Assessment Criteria

Designs are reviewed based on the following criteria (order listed does not indicate the order of importance):

- Originality and creativity
- Quality and effectiveness of design
- Uniqueness of style
- Degree to which the design reflects the theme

## Review Process

Applications will be viewed by a panel committee. The decision of the reviewers is considered final.

## Notification

One artist will be selected to provide the mural design(s). All artists who apply will receive email notification of the results. If your project is not selected, Cultural Services staff may contact you for the opportunity to use your project for other relevant City initiatives.

## Selected Design(s): Next Steps

The selected artist will have from June 22<sup>nd</sup> until end of June 2026 to develop work into the final product. Final designs will require approval from City Staff.

## Aftercare & Preservation

To ensure the long-term durability of the artwork, the artist will need to include a UV- protective clear coat, an anti-graffiti sealant applied by the selected applicant.

The memorandum of understanding (MOU) will state that the artwork becomes the property of the City of Kelowna, and the City may remove the artwork at any time.

## Timeline

Applications Open	Applications Close	Selection Period	Artist Notification	Site Preparation	Painting Completed between
May 8, 2026	June 8, 2026	June 8- 19 2026	June 22, 2026	End of June	July 1 <sup>st</sup> - August 15, 2026

*The timeline is subject to change.*

## Contact Information

Staff: Sara Thirnbeck, Community Development Coordinator, Cultural Services

Phone: (250) 470-8474

Email: [sthirnbeck@kelowna.ca](mailto:sthirnbeck@kelowna.ca)