



Call for Artists and Writers
Transitions: Civic Square Hoarding Project
Burlington City Hall, Burlington, Ontario



Deadline: May 22, 2026

Award: \$400 CAD | 21 commissions available

For more information:

Olivia Hope

Advisor, Cultural Programs

Recreation, Community & Culture

Email: publicart@burlington.ca

Phone: 289-208-4699

Burlingtonpublicart.com

Artist Opportunity

The City of Burlington is presenting *Transitions: Civic Square Hoarding Project*, a temporary artwork series to be installed on construction hoarding during the [Civic Square Renewal](#) project. This initiative will feature up to 21 artists and writers, showcasing existing works that engage with the theme of transition in diverse and creative ways.

Transitions invites works that reflect on the present moment, consider changes underway, or imagine possibilities ahead. Through this project, construction hoarding will be reimagined as a space for artistic expression, fostering community connection, and celebrating the breadth of local talent.

This call is open to emerging, mid-career, and established Burlington-based visual artists art teams or writers, as well as artists, artist teams and writers at all career stages that are members of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation or Six Nations of the Grand River, regardless of current residency.

The Civic Square Hoarding project welcomes all art forms that can be presented in a signage format, including but is not limited to visual art, graphic art, illustration, photography, poetry, short story, non-fiction, etc. Photographs of three-dimensional artistic works such as sculpture, fashion and craft may also be submitted. **Artists may submit existing work.**

Project Goals

The theme of the Civic Square Hoarding Project is *Transitions*.

Submitted works are encouraged to engage with this theme in a way that feels meaningful to the artist or writer. This may include reflecting the city's multicultural strength, honouring its past, or gesturing toward future possibilities. Artists are welcome to explore one or more of these ideas or interpret "Transitions" in their own unique way.

The artwork will be printed on a 48" X 48" panel and will include a brief title (artist name, artwork title and year of creation) underneath the image. The artwork must adhere to the following specifications:

- Visual artwork must be scalable to a maximum of **44" width and 34" height or less**. The artwork may be presented in landscape or portrait orientation but may not exceed the maximum dimensions.
- Visual artwork must be supplied as a high-resolution digital image suitable for printing.

- Writing pieces must be **150 words or less**. Please consider formatting requirements of your submission (i.e., if your submission requires multiple line breaks, spacing, etc. the word count should be reduced to allow space for this).
- Suitable for presentation in a public space, for all ages (i.e., the artwork may not contain profanity, hate speech, graphic imagery, etc.).
- Be easily legible to pedestrian traffic, artwork that incorporates text must adhere to AODA (Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act) guidelines.
- Artwork cannot contain imagery resembling traffic signals or directional signage.
- Artwork may not include logos, company names, etc.
- The artwork must be original and cannot infringe on the copyright of any other individual/company.

Eligibility

This project is open to Burlington-based artists and writers as well as artists and writers that are members of Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation and Six Nations of the Grand River, regardless of current residency. Artist collectives and/or artist-led teams are also encouraged to apply. The Civic Square Hoarding project strongly encourages applications from equity-seeking communities, from individuals who identify as Indigenous, Black, People of Colour, Persons with Disabilities, and 2SLGBTQI+ and/or persons living at intersectionalities.

Artist Fee

The artist fee for this project is \$400 (CAD, exclusive of HST). Successful artists will need to supply the City of Burlington with a digital artwork file ready for printing and the right to reproduce the artwork for the purpose of *Transitions: Civic Square Hoarding project*. The City of Burlington will pay for all costs related to production, installation, and maintenance of the signs.

Artwork Location

The artworks will be installed on construction hoarding along Brant St at the front of City Hall. The Civic Square Hoarding Project will take place in conjunction with the renewal of Burlington's Civic Square. The [Civic Square Renewal](#) project aims to refresh the area surrounding City Hall, including Civic Square, City Hall's front entrance and facade, and the streetscapes of Brant Street and Elgin Street in the immediate area.

Estimate Project Timeline: 2026

Deadline	Activity
May 22, 2026	Applications due
May 27, 2026	Successful artists selected
June 5, 2026	Final artwork files due
June 2026	Artwork installation

Application Deadline and Receipt

All applications are due on or before Friday, May 22, 2026 by 11:59 p.m. Applications must be submitted online using the online application portal Submittable. Incomplete applications or those received after the deadline will not be accepted.

All applicants will receive notice via email that their application has been received/ if you do not receive a verification email following the submission of your application (don't forget to check your junk mail first), please contact publicart@burlington.ca or 289-208-4699.

The City of Burlington reserves the right to not recommend any application, proposal or finalist and to terminate or re-advertise any project.

Application Package

Applications must be submitted online via Submittable using this link: <https://burlingtonpublicart.com/calls-for-artists/>. To use Submittable, you will need to register for a free account.

Please submit the following:

1. **Artwork Statement:** Please provide a brief statement (maximum 150 words) outlining your artwork.

2. Artwork or Writing Submission:

- Visual Art Submission: You may submit an existing artwork for consideration. Artwork can include visual art, photography, digital illustration, photography of artistic work such as sculpture, craft, etc.

OR

- Writing Submission: Submissions must be a maximum of 150 words. Submissions may be from existing work. It may be a stand-alone piece such as a poem or short story or an excerpt from a larger piece.

- 3. Artist Biography:** Please provide a short (maximum 50 words) artist biography written in the third person. This biography may be included on the City's website if your artwork is selected.

Questions? We're Here to Help!

Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or need help with the application process:

Olivia Hope (she/her)

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