

Call for Indigenous Artist

Background

Sheway, located at 533 East Hastings, Vancouver, provides health and social service support to pregnant women and women with infants dealing with drug and alcohol issues. The program's focus is to help women have healthy pregnancies and positive early parenting experiences.

“SHEWAY” is a Coast Salish word meaning “growth”. Since 1993 this program has provided health and social service support to pregnant and parenting women surviving circumstances such as trauma & substance use, poverty, violence, homelessness, legal and mental health issues and who are living in the Vancouver Downtown East Side (Salmon, 2013). Sheway is one of the longest running programs in Canada supporting pregnant and parenting women with current or former substance use.

Project Goals

VCH is seeking to have a mural installed in the children's area of the drop-in center and for an interactive children's art installation for the playroom by summer 2024. The installation should be sensory-friendly and invite children to explore. VCH is also looking to have several glass window panels in the offices enhanced with vinyl images of Indigenous artwork including a territory acknowledgement.

Project Partners

VCH has contracted with Vancouver Mural Festival (VMF) who will be supporting the artist management and overseeing the contracting and installation of the artwork and children's play area sensory wall.

CONTACTS

Sue Richardson , <i>Indigenous Engagement Lead</i>	Susan.Richardson@vch.ca
Daniela Segatto , <i>Community Engagement Advisor</i>	Daniela.Segatto@vch.ca
Britany Lawrence , <i>Vancouver Mural Festival</i>	Brit@vanmurfestival.ca

ARTIST ELGIBILITY CRITERIA	
Host Nation	Identify as Musqueam, Squamish or Tsleil-Waututh
Samples of Art	Provide samples of artistic ability (can be wall murals or other types of drawings, paintings, carving or artwork). Designing to the project specifics is not necessary at this stage. Instagram or website links are accepted. As submissions will be sent through email, pdf slideshows and small size jpeg pictures will also work.

TIMELINE - This is an estimated schedule and may change	
Deadline for Submission	April 19 th
Artist Selection	April 29 th – May 10 th
Artist Notified	May 20 th
Artist meet in person with Art Consultant and Sheway Project Team	Week of May 27 th
Initial concept submission for reviews, revisions	Last week of June
Final concept reviews	End of June beginning of July
Unveiling	End of summer / early fall

THE OPPORTUNITY

VCH is seeking an artist(s) from one of the Host Nations (Musqueam, Sḵw̓x̓wú7mesh Úxwumixw or Tseil–Waututh) to design artwork for the mural, vinyl applications, and children’s sensory wall.

The selected Indigenous artist will work with VMF to develop their concept into a detailed design. VMF will work with the artist to ensure artwork will meet all technical, child safety standards, and infection prevention control requirements.

Artist Fee: The selected Indigenous artist(s) will be paid a fee up to \$11,000 for the design and drafting of the sensory wall, the associated wall mural above the play area, as well as the design and rendering of the window vinyl artwork.

More than one artist may be selected for the opportunities to support the variety of both digital and physical mediums of the project; however, the total artist fee will remain the same. The timeline, project milestones, and payment schedule will be agreed upon in a contract with VMF to be finalized upon selection of the artist(s). Fabrication and installation contractors will be managed outside this fee by a third party. However, collaboration will be required of the artist(s) throughout the continued design process with the fabricator and VMF. Also outside of this fee is a set material budget, managed by VMF, which will not impact the above artist fee. Limited digital rendering support will be provided, however, basic digital design skills and a willingness to learn or collaborate are an asset.

Note: The selected artist will be asked to develop a concept that reflects themes obtained from Sheway staff and client engagement.

SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE CHILDREN’S PLAY SPACE

Space is used as a drop-in center for families. Children ages range from babies up to 10 years old.

Wall Mural

The design for the wall mural will be installed as a graphic vinyl on the top portion of the wall.

Sensory Wall

Interactive, sensory-friendly artwork that invites children to explore on the lower half.

Installation and fabrication must be considered in the design and be able to relocate to another area/location if needed.



Territory Acknowledgement

Located beside the entrance to the family drop-in center.

Vinyl Application

Honor the Host Nations (Musqueam, Sḵwx̱wú7mesh Úxwumixw, Tsleil-Waututh) with a territory acknowledgement and artwork.

Provide privacy.



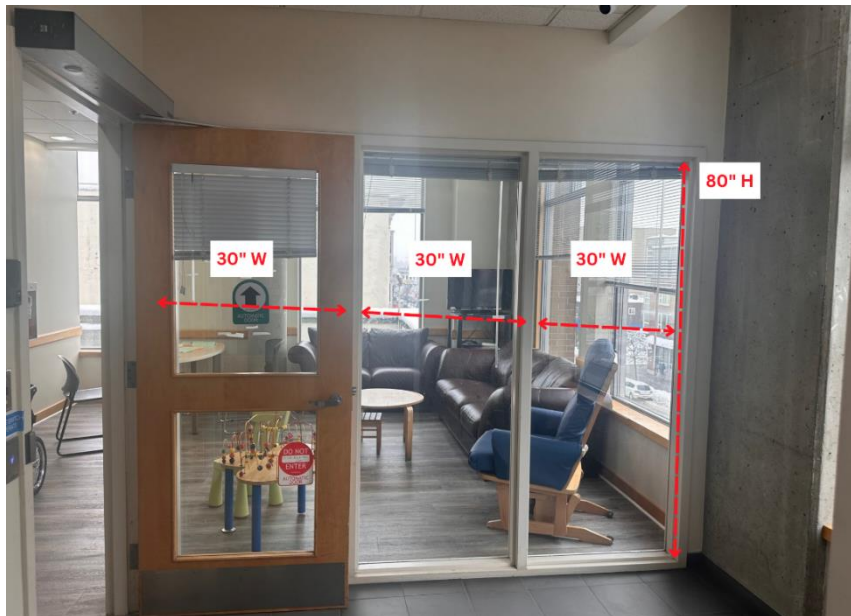
Entrance to 3rd floor for Clinic Appointments

Located beside the entrance to the family drop-in center.

Vinyl Application

Artwork to create a welcoming space for those in the waiting area.

Provide semi privacy.



SUBMISSION	
1. Expression of Interest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Artist Biography – a paragraph or two about you and your artwork. ● Brief statement about interest and vision for this project ● Contact information: email and phone number ● Musqueam, Squamish or Tsleil-Waututh affiliation ● Art Mediums: mural design, digital design, canvas painting, weaving, photography, carving, framed prints.
2. Submit up to four pictures of sample artwork	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Provide samples of previous artwork that has been completed. Please also explain the details of the examples, such as public art display, location, medium (painted mural, digital designs, carving, etc).
Email Submission: Sue Richardson, Indigenous Engagement Leader Daniela Segatto, Community Engagement Advisor	Susan.Richardson@vch.ca Daniela.Segatto@vch.ca

SELECTION CRITERIA
<p>The artists will be selected by a panel, including representatives of the Host Nations, Sheway Staff and Clients.</p> <p>Please note we may give preference / priority to those candidates who have not been awarded a VCH contract within the last six months.</p>
Criteria
Artistic Ability
Demonstrates artistic style (Coast Salish representing Musqueam, Sḵwx̱wú7mesh Úxwumixw, Tsleil-Waututh Nations)
Vision statement for the project

Appendix 1 - Inspiration

The following are examples for inspiration and artists are welcome to bring their unique interpretation and artistic vision to the project. The artwork should aim to embody culture and designs of the local three host nations and include themes obtained from Sheway staff and client engagement.

