

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS / CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS
VIDEO ARTIST / DIGITAL STORYTELLER**

Deadline: DEC 28, 2022

Lougheed House is seeking a video artist / digital storyteller to lead the creation and production of a 4-6 minute (approximate) video experience as part of its new exhibition, Lougheed House Re-Imagined (LHRI). In keeping with the values of Lougheed House, we welcome submissions from artists of all backgrounds including, but not limited to BIPOC, refugee, newcomer and immigrant persons; 2SLGBTQ+ and gender non-binary persons, and persons with disabilities. We encourage artists from the nations of Treaty 7 and Métis Nation of Alberta, Region 3, to apply.

About Lougheed House

Lougheed House Re-Imagined is a new long-term exhibition that explores Calgary's lesser-known histories and seeks to cast Calgary history in a new light. As a historic site, Lougheed House is both a participant in and a witness to these histories.

Lougheed House, built for James and Isabella Lougheed in 1891, was constructed from local sandstone as a lone structure on a windswept prairie at the outskirts of the burgeoning city. Lougheed House is located within Treaty 7 and the traditional territories of the Niitsitapi from the Blackfoot Confederacy, including the Siksika, Piikani, and Kainai Nations; the Stoney Nakoda including the Chiniki, Bearspaw, and Wesley Nations; and the Dene of the Tsuut'ina Nation. Southern Alberta is also home to the Métis Nation of Alberta, Region 3. Evidence of a Paleo bison kill site from 8,000+ years ago was found 250 metres from Lougheed House.

Within its walls, Lougheed House began as home to one of early Calgary's most prominent families and was an active site for community gatherings, political meetings, parties, and visits from royalty. Lougheed House is full of paradoxes. It is both a colonial house and a Métis household. Ontario-born James Lougheed, entrepreneur, lawyer, senator (1889-1925), was the family patriarch and arrived in Calgary in 1883. His wife, Isabella Lougheed, born on the south shore of Great Slave Lake at Fort Resolution, was the eldest child of Hudson's Bay Company factor William Hardisty and Mary Anne Allen of the Chinook people of the Pacific northwest.

The foundations of Lougheed House are literally and physically rooted in the landscape of Calgary's Beltline neighbourhood. In the years since its construction, the house has been a witness to a complex transformation of the surrounding environment. We also recognize that the land itself has witnessed an immeasurable amount of change that has spanned millennia. Through the creative insights of the video/digital artist engaged for this project, we anticipate a way to offer visitors alternative perspectives regarding the history of the site, and to honour Indigenous communities, their ancestors, and their relationships to the land that continue to this day. Video is a way of presenting stories through a time-based visual means, which not only helps with considerations of minimizing invasive alterations to the heritage structure of the site, but also broadens the scope of the way stories can be told within a museum environment, giving voice and opportunity to artists to create immersive experiences.

Project Summary:

Lougheed House Reimagined is seeking a video artist /digital storyteller to lead the creative development and production of a video experience (may include AR components if applicable) to recognize and portray the history of the land underlying and surrounding Lougheed House. The video project will be presented on the lower level of the house as a means for visitors to connect to the site and its history. The lower level of the house will include various displays pertaining to pre-settlement history of this area. Possible themes and topics might include the concept of deep time and the geologic history of the site; Indigenous histories including a nearby Middle Period bison kill site, Blackfoot winter camps, and Métis camps; and pre-settlement descriptions of the land from early European explorers and settlers.

Project Dates: Jan 9, 2023 – June 30, 2024 (18 months)

Artist Fee: \$32,000 (paid in installments over production period; fee covers all production costs)

This project is subject to grant support—funding is partially in place with ongoing grant planning in progress.

Artist Responsibilities for the fee include:

- Create a finished digital video experience as part of LHRI
- Lead creative development of video project
- Research
- Visit Loughheed House to become familiar with the house, its stories, and its physical limitations as a heritage site
- Project planning and budget monitoring and record-keeping
- Lead video production
- Recruiting, contracting and payment to whatever assistants are required by the artist (such as production assistants, videographers, voice over actors and narrators, editors etc)
- Organization and payment of honoraria for consultants and interview subjects
- Equipment rental as needed for production
- Monthly meetings with LHRI Project Team
- Develop a series of workplans and budget updates to provide to the LHRI Project Team (dates outlined below)
- For any specialized exhibition technical components (other than straightforward video projection/monitor), artist will research, test, and produce required installation components, plus provide a plan for ongoing maintenance for a 5-10 year duration. Some additional hardware funding may be available for specialized components.

Pertinent Dates:

(Nov 18, 2022 – Jan 6, 2023: submission info)

- Nov 18 – 30, 2022: Questions accepted about Call for Submissions. Send all questions to Kay Burns, Interim Curatorial Lead, at kburns@loughheedhouse.com.
- Dec 7: compilation of Questions (anonymous) and Answers will be distributed to all interested applicants
- **Dec 28: Submission deadline**
- Jan 6: Successful artist notified

(Jan 9 – Dec 31, 2023: creative development, research, planning, shooting)

- Jan 9, 2023: start date
- Jan 27, 2023: artist provides a detailed workplan regarding project approach, anticipated support required, and budget based on initial research/planning; artist provides invoice for first payment
- Feb 1, 2023: first payment to artist \$6000
- May 15, 2023: artist provides updated workplan with budget actuals and adjustments, second invoice
- June 1, 2023: second payment to artist \$7000
- Nov 15, 2023: artist provides updated workplan with budget actuals and adjustments, third invoice
- Dec 15, 2023: third payment to artist \$7000

(Jan 1, 2024 – June 30, 2024: post-production, editing, presentation)

- Feb 15, 2024: artist provides updated workplan with budget actuals and adjustments, fourth invoice
- Mar 15, 2024: fourth payment to artist \$6000
- April 30, 2024: artist provides updated workplan with budget actuals and adjustments
- June 15, 2024: artist provides final summary/report of project and invoice for final payment
- June 30, 2024: screening/project launch and final payment to artist \$6000

Copyright

The artist will retain copyright of their work. The artist is welcome to present it outside of Lougheed House in festivals or other contexts as appropriate with acknowledgement and notice provided to Lougheed House.

Project Goals

- Provide opportunity for visitors to engage with the site through perspectives of the land
- Provide alternative sensory experiences for the visitor
- Help the visitor explore and connect to local history in unexpected ways
- Create new connections and strengthen existing ones between Lougheed House and Calgary's Indigenous communities.

Lougheed House staff will support the video artist with access to the site, by providing historical context, and will facilitate connections with the Community Advisory Committee and other project partners, as necessary. The video artist will keep the LHRI Project Team up to date about the evolution of the project through regularly scheduled meetings and the submission of updated workplans and budgets.

Application Assessment

In selecting a digital storyteller/video artist for this project, the artist's connections with Indigenous communities will be considered as part of the evaluation criteria. These connections may be pre-existing, or the artist may have a strategy for how they plan to engage with the Indigenous community. It is important that Indigenous voices and relationships regarding the land are reflected within the project. Artist applications will be reviewed by a team of internal staff and advisory committee member(s) in relation to artistic merit, conceptual connections to site, project viability, and the applicant's ability to carry out project.

Submission Requirements

- Statement of Interest: Why are you interested in this opportunity and how does your art practice relate to this project? (one page maximum)
- Artistic Intent: What experience and artistic perspective do you bring to this project? What concepts would you seek to explore in this work? How do you envision the inclusion of Indigenous voices through this project? (one page maximum)
- Workplan: provide an overview of how you would envision working on the various stages of the project over the 18-month period, and what kind of support you anticipate contracting to realize the project (one page maximum)
- Summary description of past project(s) that demonstrate your capacity as creative and production lead with budget experience for digital media art experiences (one page maximum)
- Professional CV (three pages maximum)
- Digital Media / Video Art Samples: Up to three samples of past work that best illustrate your qualifications for this project (please provide links to previous work via Vimeo, YouTube, artist website, or similar; please do not send large video files). Include brief project descriptions for each sample. Each sample should be no more than 5 minutes in duration (for longer works, please prepare excerpt files).

**SUBMISSIONS SHOULD BE SENT BY DEC 28, 2022, 5:00 PM MDT TO:
Kay Burns, Interim Curatorial Lead, at kburns@lougheedhouse.com**