



**Environment
Office**

Saugeen Ojibway
Nation.

Media Release

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Town of Collingwood and Saugeen Ojibway Nation Environment Office seek Saugeen First Nations Artists to create public art for Water Treatment Plant Expansion

Collingwood, ON [8 February 2022] – The Town of Collingwood together with the Saugeen Ojibway Nation (SON) Environment Office is seeking applications from Saugeen First Nation artists to create public art as part of the expansion project of the Raymond A. Barker Water Treatment Plant located in Collingwood.

The purpose of the public art is to offer residents and visitors the opportunity to connect with the continued culture, stories, and history of the Saugeen Ojibway Nation People who have lived on and cared for this Territory since time immemorial.

The plant is being designed and developed in an environmentally responsible manner with a mind to future climate change challenges, shoreline rejuvenation and conservation. Consultation with the Saugeen Ojibway National Environment Office has been essential in this process, and it is the hope of the project team that the newly expanded plant will be a showcase for water treatment, conservation, and education.

Up to two public art installations may be commissioned for the site of the expanded plant situated on the shore of Nottawasaga Bay with north and east views across the water. Just off Hwy #26 through Collingwood, the Water Treatment Plant borders Sunset Park, one of the busiest and most popular beach parks in the area.

The theme of the artwork will express the importance of water in the teachings and life of Anishinaabe culture, the sacred connection held by women to the spirit of water, and the role of all humans in relation to this important resource.

The Town is receiving applications from members of the Saugeen Ojibway Nation (either Saugeen First Nation or Chippewas of Nawash Unceded First Nation), that also reside within Ontario, until **Monday, February 28, 2022**. Details about the application process are available at www.collingwood.ca/publicart.

The Town of Collingwood's Public Art Program is dedicated to enhancing arts and culture as an integral part of the community. It aims to enrich the lives of Collingwood residents and visitors by enhancing public spaces, fostering cultural identity and pride, promoting creativity, and encouraging dialogue among citizens.

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