Awatea Place Pump Station Toi Māori Mural

Artists Brief

Nelson City Council
Te Kaunihera o Whakatū

INTRODUCTION

Nelson City Council (NCC) is seeking expressions of interest from toi Māori artists. The selected artists will work alongside iwi of Te Tauihu o te Waka a Māui to create a design for a mural which will enhance the mana of toi Māori, the location, and mana whenua in Whakatū/Nelson.

The selected artist(s) will also work alongside site stakeholders (NCC Utilities and Arts Teams) to ensure the design is appropriate to them.

BACKGROUND

Public art plays a significant role in the social and cultural wellbeing of the Whakatū/ Nelson community. NCC understands that the well-being of tangata whenua is imbued within toi Māori arts being visible and valued within the life of the rohe.

Several murals adorn Whakatū/Nelson's city walls. They enhance and activate spaces making them welcoming and vibrant. There is recognition by the NCC Arts Team that running up to Te Matatini in 2027, it is desirable to increase the presence of toi Māori in Whakatū/Nelson.

The Awatea Place Pump Station was commissioned in 2023. In consultation with the local community the NCC Utilities Team has engaged in mitigation measures to soften the visual impact of the building on the local area. This includes them pursuing the painting of a mural, featuring indigenous flora and fauna on two walls of the building.

The building is owned by NCC and managed by the Utilities Team. The Utilities Team and the Arts Team agree that the mural will be retained and maintained for a minimum of ten years.

In discussions with iwi at Councils cultural engagement forum, Te Ohu Toi Ahurea, Pou Ahurea agreed that the mural should be a toi Māori artwork, based on indigenous flora and fauna of the area.

IMAGES/LOCATION





OBJECTIVES

- To create a toi Māori design which enhances the mana and status of the area;
- To create a toi Māori design which reflects the cultural significance of the surrounding area to all local iwi;
- To create an art piece which complements and activates the nearby area and increases the visibility of toi Māori on the landscape of Whakatū/Nelson;
- To create an art piece that mitigates visual effects from the presence of the new building in the location and blends seamlessly as much as possible into the surrounding area.

PROJECT DETAILS

History & cultural significance of site/subject

NCC's Arts and Māori Partnerships teams will facilitate a wānanga with site stakeholders and mana whenua partners to help manaaki the shortlisted artists. This wānanga will be held in February 2025 for Pou Ahurea from mana whenua iwi to share information on the cultural significance of the site with the shortlisted artists. The cultural aspects learned there should be considered by the artists in their proposed concept design.

Significance of project to site stakeholders (Council)

Utilities Team and Arts Team are interested stakeholders in this project. They will see the designs and will provide feedback on them for consideration by the artists/ Pou Ahurea. Having the mural located on an NCC building for many years has the potential to enhance or impact their mana and business interests.

The building is subject to a resource consent requirement to ensure that future paint treatments are "recessive and non-reflective". To ensure concept designs are not in conflict with this requirement, the following advice to artists is noted:

- The mural should be delivered using a nature based/recessive colour palette (e.g. and use of bright colours shall be minimised and not dominate the design.
- The majority of the mural should feature natural vegetation or sky elements
- The mural should be delivered using non gloss paint finishes.
- No gloss graffiti guard product will be used on this mural.

Technical requirements

Artists are responsible for all the technical aspects in delivery of the mural, from concept design to completion of the painted mural. This work includes wall preparation, paint application, health, and safety site management. This may require the artists employing height working methods and tools.

SELECTION PROCESS AND CRITERIA

Selection process

1. Up to 3 artists will be shortlisted from the expressions of interest received.
2. Shortlisted artists will be invited to wānanga with iwi and the site stakeholders to explore the vision and themes for the project.
3. Shortlisted artists will receive a payment of $2000 to produce a concept design for the mural.
4. NCC stakeholders will consider the concept designs and provide any feedback to the artists and Pou Ahurea on any suggested changes, any logistical issues, or any design preferences.
5. Final selection will be made by Pou Ahurea from the three submissions received. The commissioned artist(s) will receive a further payment of $20,000 to deliver the mural on site.

Short listing criteria

- The artist's background, training, and mentors.
- The artist's iwi affiliations and/or ancestral relationships and/or ahikā to Te Tauihu.
- The artist's record of delivering toi Māori mural designs of a very high standard that achieve critical acclaim and recognition for their artistic merit.
- The artist's ability to complete the artwork within allocated time and budgets.

Final design selection criteria

The artists concept design will be assessed by the site stakeholders to ensure it is appropriate to them. Feedback on the concept design will be sought from the following site stakeholders:

- NCC Utilities Team.
- NCC Arts Team- Arts/Heritage Team.
- NCC Resource Consent Team

Feedback on the concept designs from the site stakeholders will be shared with Pou Ahurea.

The artists concept design will be assessed by Pou Ahurea to ensure it is appropriate to them.

When considering the concept design, site stakeholders and Pou Ahurea shall consider:

- The concept design's alignment with the vision and themes shared by the Puo Ahurea at their co design wānanga.
- Feedback on the design, provided by the site stakeholders. Specifically this will include an assessment of how recessive and non-reflective the design is.
- Artistic merit of the design.
- Reliability of the design to the public of Whakatū/Nelson.
- Ability of the design to be delivered within the technical requirements.

PROJECT TIME FRAME

Stage	By 5.00pm
Release of project for expressions of interest	Tuesday 24 December 2024
Deadline for questions from artists	Tuesday 31 December 2024
Deadline for submissions of expressions of interest	Tuesday 04 February 2024
Artists notified of shortlisting assessment outcome	Tuesday 11 February 2025
Selected artist(s) to attend or Zoom into Pou Ahurea wānanga	Tuesday 18 February 2025
Deadline for concept designs to be presented to NCC	Tuesday 04 March 2025
Artists can present their concept design to Pou Ahurea via Zoom/in person (optional).	Wednesday 12 March 2025
Artists contracted to deliver art piece	Tuesday 18 March 2025
Mural painted and completed work on site	Tuesday 8th April 2025
Mural blessed by kaumatua/launched in Tuku25	TBC but likely a few days after the mural is painted in early April 2025

BUDGET

Each shortlisted artist will be paid **NZD $2000** excluding GST for travel, design/co design with site stakeholders and Pou Ahurea including submitting and amending a concept design. The artists will retain that money if they are selected or not.

The budget for the commission is **NZD $20,000** excluding GST. The budget will cover all artist fees, including travel and mural painting/installation, including all on site safety and height access works.

Payment schedule

Payment 1	3 Shortlisted artists each receive a design payment	$2000 each	After Pou Ahurea wānanga
Payment 2	Commissioned Artist's materials purchase payment	$5000	On contracting the artist(s)
Payment 3	Commissioned artist(s) final payment	$15000	On completion of mural painting/ clearing of site

On site services offered/not offered by Council

The NCC utilities team shall provide free access to an outside tap for water for the artist.

No storage of materials is available on site.

The NCC Utilities Team will induct the artist(s) in any known site hazards/procedures so they can complete their own risk assessment.

HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR PROPOSAL

All questions relating to this project should be lodged on the Shape Nelson site by 31 December 2024. To allow for an open and fair submission process, all questions lodged on this site and their corresponding answers will be available for viewing by the public/ other submitting artists.

Artists should lodge their expression of interest by completing the online submission form on Shape Nelson website, including adding up to 5 images of their past work. This should be done by 5pm on Friday 4th February 2025.

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