



artists urban village



THE QUARTERS PROJECT

**Calling all professional artists and non-profit arts organizations.
Join an artists' community in downtown Edmonton!**

Get in on the ground floor of a unique urban arts village!

Request for Letter of Interest

Artists Urban Village and Arts Habitat Association have partnered with the City of Edmonton to create a new facility for artists and arts organizations as an integral part of the redevelopment of the east side of downtown Edmonton. Located at the corner of 102A Avenue and 96 Street in the **Quarters Downtown** only two blocks from the core of the arts district including the Citadel Theatre, the Winspear Centre, the Art Gallery of Alberta and one block from the proposed new LRT station. The City of Edmonton has identified this project as an ideal catalyst for the redevelopment of the Quarters Downtown.

This Request for Interest will be used to assess the needs and interest of professional artists and non-profit arts organizations in becoming part of the future Quarters Project. Responses will help shape the vision and inform the beginning of the design process. Artists from all disciplines and non-profit organizations active in the arts are encouraged to respond if you are interested in owning or renting space in this unique development. Get in on the ground floor (or any of the other floors!) of this exciting project. We need your input! Be part of the imagining. Your letter of interest will help us to plan, design and create this unique urban arts village! (It's easy - we just need one page of information at this time!)

You are also invited to a Meet & Greet Information Session to be held on:

Monday, November 21 at 7:00 P.M.

Location: Kasian Architecture Interior Design and Planning Ltd.
Suite 251
2nd floor, Commerce Place
10150 Jasper Avenue

(Persons with limited mobility will find access on the main floor near the elevator from the parkade, someone will be there to direct you.)

Please submit your letter of interest and plan on joining us to meet representatives of Artists Urban Village, Arts Habitat, the City of Edmonton, and our architect, Vaughan Hoy of Kasian Architecture. Enjoy a glass of wine and nibbles and learn more about this exciting new development!

Vision

The Quarters Project is a response to the increasingly critical need in Edmonton's arts and cultural community for affordable, appropriate and sustainable work space and the proven need for affordable housing options for low-income professional artists. We envision a community that will house individual artists and arts organizations in a uniquely creative mixed-use facility - an urban arts village

The project will be a sustainable development that will provide home and studio space for multi-generational, mixed-income artists of all artistic disciplines above three floors of space for non-profit organizations or studios. These could include galleries, artist studios, a small theatre, space

for production, teaching, incubator spaces and administration. Our goal is for these spaces to be at a level of affordability to allow these non-profit organizations to **OWN** their space or enter into long-term affordable leases.

The project will also contain up to 60 residential units combining live/work and studio options. These units will be a blend of market-priced equity units, assisted equity units and assisted non-equity units. The form of tenure will be modeled on the cooperative structure. The residents could include home and home studio spaces designed to accommodate a diversity of housing requirements. Possibly one floor could be designated as assisted living with supports for residents thus allowing them to age in place. Common areas are crucial for the creation of community and so we envision the possibility of a communal kitchen and dining area, a shared library, workshop and community garden.

We consider the following principles of utmost importance with regard to the nature of the development. It must be:

- Arts focused
- Multi-generational
- Community based
- Diverse
- Innovative residential and studio configurations
- Environmentally and economically sustainable

The Opportunity

Diversity is a fundamental component in the building of community. We are interested in attracting a range of organizations and artists who are collaborative and entrepreneurial in their mission, practice and mandate. We want to provide an environment that supports interaction, learning and innovation while being affordable and sustainable.

Non-profit arts and community organizations, worker co-ops, and individual artists:

Approximately 40,000 sq. ft. of space located on the ground level and the first 2 floors has the potential to include any or all of the following:

- Small to mid-size studios (as determined by interest)
- Office space
- Gallery, studio, workshop, performance, rehearsal
- Retail

Residential:

- Approximately 60 units
- Single or family size units
- Live/work
- Separate artist studios
- Equity or non-equity affordable units

Design considerations unique to arts uses will include:

- Flexible residential and studio configurations
- Quality of indoor air (ventilation)
- Quality of building acoustics and sound proofing
- Floor load (weight considerations)
- Freight elevator
- Accessibility

Submission

Non-profit arts organizations and professional artists (re: commercial space):

Please provide us with your contact information along with:

- Organizations: a one-page letter expressing your interest and outlining your space requirements, a brief description of your organization and programming.
- Individual artists: a one-page letter expressing your interest and a brief resume.

Please send submissions by Nov. 16 and rsvp if you will be attending the Meet & Greet on Monday, Nov. 21.

Residential:

Those artists interested solely in residential space are not asked to submit letters of interest but we encourage you to join us for the Meet & Greet on Monday, Nov. 21. Please rsvp to the email below by Nov. 16.

Submissions and rsvp's can be emailed by Nov. 16 to:

lhuffman@artshab.com

Questions:

For further information please contact:

Linda Huffman, Executive Director, Arts Habitat Association

lhuffman@artshab.com

780-932-3676

Limitations: This request is part of a feasibility study and is intended for information only and does not imply any obligations, responsibilities or liabilities.

Partners

Artists Urban Village - a chapter of PAL Canada is dedicated to creating dynamic and sustainable communities that provide affordable permanent homes, studios and facilities for artists, their families and arts activities. The dream is a vibrant community in a building made up of senior and emerging artists - multi-generational and mixed income. In particular, we want to provide affordable housing for ageing artist that will allow them to stay engaged in and connected to the arts community.

Arts Habitat Association of Edmonton is engaged in finding, managing and developing space for the arts. Working with the City of Edmonton, arts organizations and other partners Arts Habitat encourages a climate that supports space for the arts, investigates space needs and issues and actively partners on arts space development projects.