

CALL FOR ARTISTS

Celebrating Ottawa's 200th in the Glebe

Submission Deadline: Friday, March 20, 2026 – 12pm.

Project Overview

The Glebe BIA, with support from the City of Ottawa, seeks to commission an original artwork series to be displayed through the street pole banner program to celebrate the anniversary of Ottawa's 200th Anniversary while representing the pride, charm and history of the Glebe.

The Design

The Glebe BIA invites artists to submit a 3-design concept for the 2026 banner program. These designs will anchor the Glebe's seasonal pageantry through the spring, summer and fall. Designs should be graphic, dynamic, and convey a sense of history and community that reflect the Glebe as one of Ottawa's most charming and significant neighbourhoods.

The Glebe BIA's Banner Program displays approximately 120 street pole banners throughout the BIA. Artists will be required to incorporate both the "Ottawa 200" Branding on one of the 3 designs and the Glebe BIA logo on another of the 3 designs.

Application Guidelines

- Priority will be given to artists who are located (live and/or work) in the Capital Region (Ottawa, Gatineau, and surrounding areas). Other artists are welcome to apply.
- **Letter of Interest** (500 words max.) outlining the artist's interest in the project, relevant experience, and a statement of artistic approach.
- **A proposed concept/design.**
 - The **preliminary proposal** should include a working title, an iterative visual concept and an overview of the vision. The proposed artwork does not need to be fully conceived but should demonstrate proof of concept and a proposed colour palette. The selected artist will work through the final design with the Glebe BIA once the project has been awarded.
 - The applicant may use the attached Banner Template to represent their concept.
- **Artist Resume & Contact Information** (2 pages max.) including artist training, professional experience, and public art commissions. Multi-artist teams should submit a separate resume for each artist.
- Two to three **work samples** (including title, year, location, size and image) of your past or current art projects.

Design Criteria

- Artist will be required to incorporate the **Glebe BIA logo** in one of the 3 designs, as provided in the Banner Template.
- Artists will be required to incorporate the **“Ottawa 200”** Branding in one of the 3 designs
 - The design proposal should represent the placement of this branding but does not need to employ the specific design in the proposal stage.
- The final design must be provided in digital files for print production per the print specifications provided.
- Designs may not include any breach of intellectual property, trademarks, brands, or images of illegal activity.
- Designs should avoid further use of text and should reflect design and creative vision that are appropriate specifically for spring-summer seasons.
- Banners are approximately 25” wide at the top, tapering into a “sail” shape.

Artist Fee

The selected artist will receive a fee of **\$5,000**.

Production, fabrication and installation costs are not the responsibility of the artist and will be coordinated through the Glebe BIA.

Schedule

Submission Deadline	March 20, 2026, 12pm
Submission Review Period	March 23 – March 27
Project Awarded	March 31
Design Review Process	April 1 – 13 (<i>with up to (2) revisions to the design</i>)
Final Design Files Due	April 17
Banner Installation	May 4 - 8

Applications

Applications must be submitted by noon on **Friday, March 20, 2026**.

Please submit your complete application to Julia Rocchi, Events & Placemaking Manager at julia@intheglebe.ca and note “Glebe 200 Banner Design” in the subject line.

3-Banner Concept Example



[Download the Banner Templates Here](#)

Final Artwork Requirements

The selected artist will be required to work within the following parameters to deliver the final designs.

File Formats

- Send all artwork back as vector Art (.eps or .ai)
- All artwork must be embedded.

File Layout

- Follow pink guides and trim lines and do not place any artwork past those markers.
- Do not use special effects such as Drop Shadows, Overprinting, Transparencies etc.

Fonts

- Convert all fonts to outlines in Illustrator.

Colours

- When using spot colours, please provide PMS numbers using the Pantone Matching System and let us know if they are uncoated or coated so that we may match them accordingly.
- When using 4 colour process, please be sure to convert all colours to process (CMYK) values before submitting your files. Do not use RGB or any other colour systems, as they do not give an accurate representation of what we will print.
- All reasonable efforts shall be made to obtain the best possible colour reproduction on customers work, but variation is inherent in the print process, and it is understood and accepted as reasonable. Please bear in mind that variances are likely as exact colour matching cannot be guaranteed between the electronic graphic file and the printed material. Digital display and print materials can affect the final delivery of colour integrity.

Visual References for Final Artwork

