



PEI Art Bank Acquisition Program FAQs for Applicants

What is the PEI Art Bank collection?

The Prince Edward Island Art Bank collection was established in 1979 to support and encourage visual artists living in Prince Edward Island. The contemporary works of art collected by the PEI Art Bank Acquisition Program demonstrate the knowledge, craftsmanship and artistic skills of professional artists and creators working across the visual arts in the province.

The PEI Art Bank collection encourages artistic merit and excellence, stimulates awareness and appreciation in visual arts, encourages public appreciation and access of the arts, and preserves a history of art making in the province for present and future generations.

The program raises awareness of Island artists and their works and encourages stimulates interest in visual arts and fine crafts among residents of the province.

How are works from the collection acquired?

Works are generally acquired through purchase, when funding is available. On occasion, artworks are accessed through special arrangements (like gifts or bequests) if the work is of significant cultural value to the province.

The PEI Art Bank Acquisition Program runs annually and accepts submissions from professional PEI-based artists working in the crafts and visual arts who wish to submit their recent work for consideration. The call for submissions is normally open once a year in the wintertime.

Where can I find information about the program deadline?

The annual call for submissions and deadline for the PEI Art Bank Acquisition Program is posted on the program web page at: <https://www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/service/pei-art-bank-acquisition-program>.

You can also find the dates via Innovation PEI's social media channels and by subscribing to our monthly newsletter by going to the Contact Us tab of the Innovation PEI website.

Am I eligible for this program?

If you are a professional artist or craftsperson working in the visual arts and living on Prince Edward Island for the past 12 consecutive months, you are invited to apply to have your work considered for purchase for the PEI Art Bank collection.

Who is considered a professional artist?

For purposes of this program, you are considered a professional as long as you:

- Have specialized training in your artistic field (not necessarily academic);
- Are recognized as a professional by your artistic peers;
- Have a history of public presentation; and
- Are committed to devoting more time to the visual arts if it becomes financially feasible.

The professional status of an artist is based on the stage of one's career, not on chronological age. [Your artist CV](#) should be able to support your identification. Failure to provide an artist CV that clearly establishes you as a professional artist may result in your submission being deemed ineligible.

An artist CV or resume should contain a detailed description of the applicant's artistic practice, applicable training and experience. An artist CV is different from a regular resume. (We do not need employment information that isn't related to your artistic practice). To access our handy Artist CV info sheet, visit:

https://www.princeedwardisland.ca/sites/default/files/forms/artist_cv.pdf.

What kind of work does the PEI Art Bank Acquisition Program purchase?

To be considered for purchase, your work must be finished and suitable in form, size, condition and media for immediate display in a public space. The work must have been completed during the last two years.

Paintings, drawings, sketches, photography, mixed media pieces, textile works, quillwork, basketry and sculptural works are all examples of eligible works.

Works consisting of a series of components must not exceed ten pieces.

Installations, performance pieces, works of media arts containing audio or video components and works with unusual display requirements cannot be considered for acquisition and are therefore ineligible to this program.

Because the provincial Art Bank is a working collection, artworks that are fragile or that require ongoing conservation are not normally approved for purchase.

Does my work need to be framed?

Yes, purchased artworks must be display-ready and have the proper hanging hardware. If the work is two-dimensional, this means that it should ideally be framed, wired, have D-ring hooks or be equipped with sawtooth hangers.

Works received by the PEI Art Bank will not be accepted if deemed unsuitable for public display.

How are works from the collection selected?

The PEI Art Bank collection is focused on vitality and evolution, with decision-making informed in large part by the ability to exhibit its works in public settings.

A Peer Assessment Committee reviews all eligible submissions. The committee is responsible for recommending works that reflect the creativity, expertise and experience of Island visual artists and comply with the program objectives.

After the successful artists have been notified, selected works are typically announced in a news release and via social media. Occasionally, a special exhibition featuring artworks from the Art Bank collection is organized, giving the public an opportunity to view works presented together in one space.

How will my submission be assessed?

If it meets the eligibility criteria of the program, your submission will be evaluated by a Peer Assessment Committee made up of three assessors from the visual arts and crafts disciplines assembled by the Cultural Development division. Peer assessors represent a mix of experiences in the arts and culture sector of the province and are all professional artists and/or arts administrators.

Assessment of artworks are based on the following criteria:

Artistic merit

- The quality of the artwork to be acquired.
- The aesthetic quality of the artwork in relation to its position within the artist's body of work, its cultural tradition.

Relevance

- The artwork reflects current or emerging artistic practices.
- The artistic rationale or artist statement.

Feasibility

- The price reflects the current market value of the artwork.
- The suitability of the artwork for display in a public setting (considering size, number of component parts and technical complexity).
- The long-term viability of the artwork

How do I make a recommendation for the Peer Assessment Committee?

You are invited to download and complete the Peer Assessment Nomination Form and submit it to the Cultural Development division to serve on an upcoming Peer Assessment Committee. The Cultural Development division will contact the nominated peer assessor if the nomination is approved.

For more information on how to apply or nominate someone to be part of an upcoming Peer Assessment Committee, please visit: <https://innovationpei.com/cultural-publications/>

Can I start my submission, save it and finish it later?

No. Please note that each submission must be completed in one session as it cannot be saved. We recommend that you gather your support materials and mandatory documents ahead of

time and that you create your submission in a word-processing document that you can copy your information from and paste into the form.

Can I make changes to my application once it is submitted?

No, you cannot make changes to your submission once it has been submitted via the online submission form. If you need to make urgent changes before the program deadline, please contact the Program Officer. Changes to the submission will not be made after the deadline has passed. Change requests must be completed by Innovation PEI staff and are not guaranteed.

What type of support materials do I need to include with my submission?

You will be asked to provide the following:

- Your current contact information;
- Details on your artwork including the title, medium, size, completion date and purchase price (prices should reflect current market value);
- A brief written description of your work, i.e. subject matter, process used, symbolic significance (Maximum 1,000 characters);
- A short artist biography (Maximum 1,000 characters);
- An artist curriculum vitae (CV) or a detailed description of artistic practice and applicable training and experience; and
- Colour digital image(s) (maximum of four files) depicting your completed, display-ready work. Please ensure the images are of high quality and at sufficient resolution to be reproduced for viewing by the Peer Assessment Committee. Please also name the photo files with the title that corresponds to the artwork title on the submission form. Please do not include a compilation of photos as this reduces the quality of the images.
- For 2-D and 3-D works that are harder to document, artists may include a video file to their submission that shows different angles, and/or details of texture, etc. A Vimeo or other web link to the completed work (with password provided) should be included with the submission.
- Include your name on all files and number your files in the order that they should be opened by the Peer Assessment Committee.

How do I document my work for this purchase program?

Proper documentation of your work is essential to ensure peer assessors have access to an accurate representation of your submission. Good documentation affects the first impressions of your work and speaks of your professionalism as an artist. Follow these tips to document work:

- Hang your work on the wall or against a neutral-coloured background.
- If the work you are photographing is behind glass, it is best to take it out of the glass. Otherwise, angle the light and camera to minimize reflection and glare.
- Use diffuse, natural light as much as possible but avoid direct sunlight on your artwork as this may create glare and affect the colours of your photograph. If necessary, light your work with lamps (preferably using Daylight bulbs).
- Use a tripod or makeshift tripod to take steady shots and get clear images of your work.
- Edit your images using photo-editing software to minimize any inconsistencies like colour correction, cropping, and make other minor adjustments.

Can you help me determine the purchase price of my work?

No. Innovation PEI does not help artists determine the pricing of their work. Artworks should be priced according to the current market value established through a record of past sales of artworks, and/or comparable artworks by other artists who are peers working in similar media. Artwork values may also be determined by examining commission contracts and insurance values for exhibiting the work.

I can't use the online submission form, what should I do?

If you are having trouble with the online submission process or require additional support, please contact [a member of the Cultural Development division](#) to obtain a PDF version of the submission form or to discuss alternate solutions.

How many times can I submit my work?

The PEI Art Bank Acquisition program has one call for purchases per calendar year. Professional artists can submit work for consideration to the program each year during the intake period, so long as the work was completed during the last two years.

You may submit a maximum of two completed artworks per round. A separate form must be completed for each submission.

When will I know if my work was selected for purchase?

We are committed to providing notifications of results as quickly as we can. You will be advised of the Peer Assessment Committee's decision by email within six to eight weeks of the program deadline.

My work was not selected; can I get some feedback?

Yes, you can request feedback in writing from the Program Officer following the receipt of the decision that was communicated to you. High-level comments on your submission can be provided in order to help you prepare a future submission.

My work was not selected; can I submit to this program again?

Yes, if you are eligible to the PEI Art Bank Acquisition program and are unsuccessful in one round, you are welcome to resubmit work in a future round.

My work was selected for purchase; when will I receive payment?

Once you have been notified that your work was selected and upon acceptance of the purchase, you will receive a purchase agreement. Once this agreement is signed, arrangements will be made to disperse your payment by direct deposit or by cheque.

Where can I find more information on the PEI Art Bank collection?

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