

Opportunity:	Aboriginal Curator
Deadline for Letters of Interest:	1 August 2018
Start date:	1 October 2018
Salary:	\$35,000.00 / 24 hours per week

Open Space Arts Society is seeking a part-time Aboriginal Curator to join our team of artist-workers.

Open Space respectfully acknowledges that we are located on unceded First Nations territory, specifically the lands of the Lekwungen-speaking people, today known as the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations.

Established in 1972 as a not-for-profit multidisciplinary artist-run centre, Open Space's reputation has long been one of innovation as a leader in the arts community on Vancouver Island and beyond. Over the years Open Space has presented the work of Indigenous artists and engaged with Indigenous communities locally and nationally.

The incoming Aboriginal Curator will continue the work previously undertaken by activating curatorial methods based on Indigenous worldviews, concepts and values. The Aboriginal Curator will create contexts - multiple entry points - by which Aboriginal communities can experience contemporary art on their own terms by upholding the principles and protocols related to Indigenous cultural self-determination. The Aboriginal Curator will also engage with non-Indigenous audiences by providing opportunities for them to learn about and discuss Aboriginal contemporary art.

The Aboriginal Curator will:

- Research and produce exhibitions with a particular focus on contemporary Indigenous art
- Develop programs that will activate Indigenous involvement through a combination of lectures, public presentations, publications as well as special events and projects
- Engage with artists operating at various points along their career
- Participate in all aspects of an active artist-run centre, including logistics, scheduling, publishing, fund development, and marketing of programs
- Nurture lasting cultural relationships in Indigenous communities and strengthen connections across cultures
- Mobilize the special capacity of the contemporary arts to stimulate discussion, self-reflective insight, and new ideas.

The successful candidate will possess:

- extensive knowledge of Indigenous artistic practices in Canada
- a minimum of 5 years relevant experience
- experience in developing exhibitions of Indigenous art
- evidence of effective written and oral communication skills

- record of successful grant writing
- ability to collaborate openly and respectfully with a flexible and collegial team

The Aboriginal Curator will work closely with the Open Space artistic staff - the Literary Coordinator, the New Music Curator, Guest Curators, and the Executive Director and Programming Committee - to implement challenging programming in relation to the mandate of Open Space.

Major responsibilities:

- Programming: Researches, develops, facilitates and evaluates contemporary Indigenous art programming and contributes to the work of the interdisciplinary programming committee at Open Space. This may include exhibitions, installations, residencies, off-site events and interventions, symposiums, workshops and other forms of public programming.
- Planning: Sequences and plans exhibitions, performances, readings, artists talks, screenings, installations, off-site programming, public programming and other program related projects in consultation with Open Space artistic staff and the programming committee.
- Community Development: Works effectively with artists, volunteers, collegial organizations and professionals, members, volunteers, and staff. Work closely with Indigenous artists, elders and youth in the community and beyond. Advises on matters of Indigenous protocols and methodologies. Be recognizable resource for artist-run culture in the region.
- Financial: Assists the Executive Director to prepare budgets and programming grants. Participates in Open Space fundraising ventures (all staff and board members share this responsibility).
- Administration: Assists the Executive Director with artists' contracts, budgets and ensuring information about programming is readily available to all staff.
- Marketing and promotion: Drafts and proofreads promotional copy, prepares press releases, oversees design or carries out design of promotional material within budget and time limitations. Is responsible for updating social media and website with up-to-date information concerning all programs.
- Publishing: Writes, researches, budgets, oversees design, editing, essays, and production.
- Policy and Procedures: Assists and advises Open Space team in policy matters pertaining to Indigenous art practices as well as Open Space operations, programming, and communications.

Appointment and Remuneration:

This is a part-time position, 24 hours per week, with a starting salary of \$35,000.00 per annum. Due to the nature of the programs, some evening and weekend work will be required. Two weeks paid vacation, prorated, in addition to all stat holidays is offered.

Equity Statement:

In accordance with, and pursuant to, section 42(3) of the BC Human Rights Code, this posting is open to Indigenous applicants only. Candidates from Indigenous communities are encouraged to self-identify. We encourage applications from women, persons with disabilities, people of all sexual orientations and genders, and others who contribute to furthering artist-run culture. Within the parameters of this hire, all qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, in accordance with Canadian Immigration requirements, Canadians and permanent residents will be given priority.

Please send the following:

- Letter of Intent that includes a Curatorial Statement with respect to Indigenous art practices
- CV outlining previous exhibitions, residencies, public engagement, publications, etc
- Writing sample
- Support material (catalogues, reviews, letters of endorsement)

to:

Interim Executive Director
Open Space Arts Society
510 Fort Street, 2nd Floor
Victoria, British Columbia
V8W 1E6

or by email: director@openspace.ca