

# Halifax Regional Municipality

## Call for Proposals-Public Art

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Keshen Goodman Public Library – Children’s Area

Project Budget: \$70,000 + HST

Deadline for Submission: September 15, 2023

The Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM) is seeking public art proposals for Keshen Goodman Public Library (330 Lacewood Dr, Halifax) as part of its 2022-2024 renovation.



Conceptual Rendering – Fathom Studio

### Contact

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## Project Description

HRM is seeking artist-led proposals for the design of an original work of art to be installed within the newly redesigned children's area of Keshen Public Goodman Public Library (330 Lacewood Drive, Halifax).

The total budget for the project is \$70,000 + HST (Canadian Dollars)

The tentative project schedule is as follows:

**Submission deadline:** September 15, 2023

**Selection and notification:** October, 2023

**Agreement, Detailed Design and Fabrication:** Winter 2024

**Project Installation:** Spring 2024

## Introduction

The Keshen Goodman Public Library is one of Halifax Public Libraries' busiest branches. After the renovation, it will be 28,000 sqft with additional outdoor library and programming spaces. Pre-Covid, there was an average of 40,016 visitors every month and with the renovations nearing completion we expect this number to grow. It is located in the rapidly growing Clayton Park area of Halifax directly adjacent to Halifax West High School, the Canada Games Centre, and the Lacewood Drive Transit terminal. Its proximity to many residential neighborhoods, Bayers Lake business park and shopping district, and major transportation routes make it perfectly located for many people to come in and visit. The Keshen Goodman Public Library renovation project is currently underway and will include an expansion of the facility, a refurbishment of the branch interior, modernizing of the building systems to increase sustainability, as well as improvements to the outdoor library space. The overarching goals of the renovation project are to provide enhanced branch services for a growing community, to improve building accessibility, and to advance energy efficiency. The revised Children's Area within the scope of the renovation provides an exciting opportunity for public art.

## Public Art Project Intent

The Keshen Goodman Public Library provides critical social infrastructure with a diverse patronage including newcomers, seniors, youth, and young families. Equitable access to language learning, technology, meaningful programming, and social opportunities are all essential services provided by the branch. The branch is well used by all age groups with very well-attended programming for youth, seniors, families, and everything in between. The branch serves the communities in HRM with the highest concentration of newcomers, such as Fairview and West Bedford, making the English Language Learning programs and conversation groups extremely popular. Although the branch is 20% of the size of Halifax Central Library, it circulates 80% of the material. Given all of this, it is important that the artwork commissioned through this process be relevant and engaging to a wide range of audiences of all ages, interests, cultural backgrounds and socio-economic realities.

The selected art piece should be reflective of the diverse community served by the Keshen Goodman Public Library, while also promoting active engagement and play-based learning. In responding to this opportunity, applicants should apply consideration of the following aspects of the Keshen Goodman Library and its user groups:

- Multicultural focus
- Community-orientation
- Animation of public and community space
- Cultural activities, recreational pursuits and cultural and community-based events

It is not necessary or desired that these considerations result in a literal or direct representation of any or all of the aspects listed above, but that the proposals exhibit an understanding of and an implicit

appreciation for the dynamic and diverse uses of the space, and the equally diverse community of users that the space is intended to serve.

### Halifax Public Libraries- Strategic Priorities

The Halifax Public Libraries' Strategic Plan places users at the centre of the Library's vision and prioritizes an adaptive organizational model and outlook that specifically reflects community needs.

<https://www.halifaxpubliclibraries.ca/wp-content/uploads/sites/50/2018/02/HfxPublicLibraries-StratPlan-2017-web.pdf>

#### Priorities

- Expand organizational capacity;
- Support sharing and creation of knowledge and enjoyment;
- Create vibrant spaces;
- Meet people where they are; and
- Encourage social and economic growth.

### Halifax Regional Municipality Diversity and Inclusion Framework

This public art opportunity will be administered in accordance with the core values embedded in the Municipality's Diversity and Inclusion Framework, which states:

*The Halifax Regional Municipality values diversity and inclusion in all that we do, think and pursue. Diversity is more than race, ability, sexual orientation, language, gender or any other descriptive category. Diversity means understanding and utilizing different views, ideas, life experiences, skills and knowledge. By recognizing diversity as a core value, we are laying the foundation for a municipality that aspires to accurately represent the communities we serve.*

The goals of the Framework are reflected in the goals of this process, which include the development of:

**Inclusive public service:** To ensure inclusive and equitable access to and benefit of, municipal services, programs and facilities;

**Equitable employment:** To attract and retain a skilled workforce that reflects the diverse residents of the municipality; and

**Meaningful partnerships:** To develop positive and respectful internal and external partnerships that contribute to inclusive decision making.

#### Opportunity Site:

A prominent location within the Keshen Goodman Children's Area has been identified for public art integration.

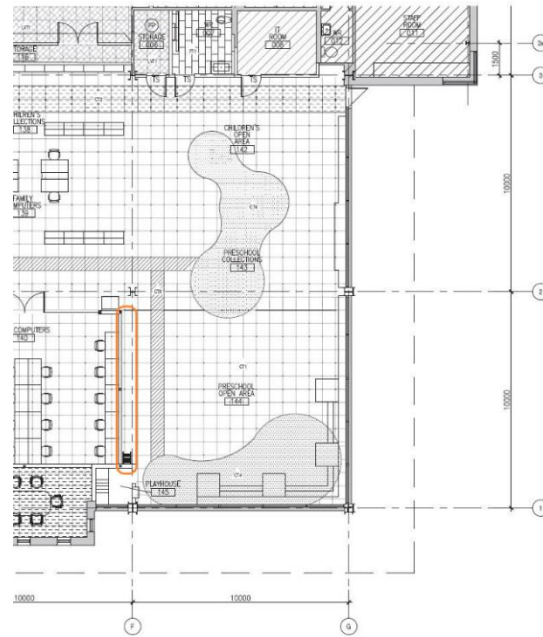
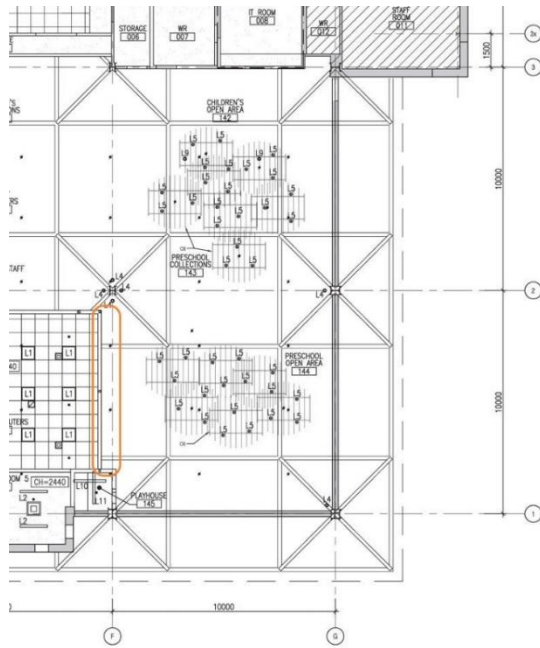
The primary area identified for the future artwork is a wall with potential extension into floor area that will serve as a focal point and gathering space in the Children's Area. **The general location of the artwork site is shown in an orange rectangle in the architectural drawings below.**

The artwork location is suitable for a 2D installation or 3D installation. The dimensions of the wall are approximately 23'-6" wide and 11'-2" high and the artwork may take up the entirety of the space.

Artists may also choose to place work in or around the floor area, playhouse exterior, and windows could also be considered. The artwork should not conflict with path of travel and should consider clearances for children climbing the ladder to playhouse. The floor area in front of this wall, approximately 1,000 sqft, will be finished with carpet tile.

Please note that these dimensions are general and will need to be site-confirmed for accuracy.

**Applicants wishing to view the site should arrange access via the staff lead for this project. Technical questions about the renovation or the space can be relayed to the contact above.**

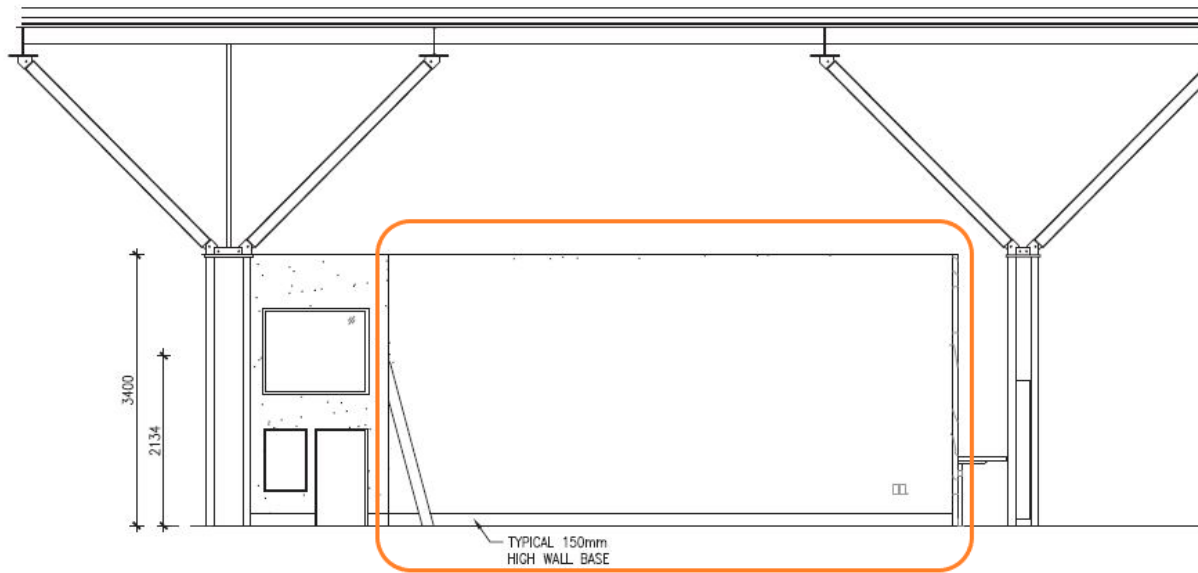


**Reflected Ceiling Plan (full page in appendix)**

**Floor Plan (full page in appendix)**

**Additional Information:**

- Part of the floor area in front of this wall, approximately 1,000 sqft, can be used as part of a public art installation space, but will also be used for children’s programming.
- The floor is finished with carpet tile.
- The wall will be finished with drywall and is clear of any other furniture elements or features.
- The wall has one electrical and one data outlet.
- The wall divides the Teen Computer Lab area from the Children’s area.
- The wall faces the Children’s Area in the southern corner of the Library, getting plenty of natural light all day long.
- There is a playhouse designed to go directly adjacent to this wall, perpendicular to the window.
- There is full height glazing directly opposite and perpendicular to the wall looking out into the Outdoor Library and treed area (see appendix).
- The outdoor library programming space can be accessed from the Children’s area.
- Below the windows is built-in perimeter seating and cubbies for children to crawl into, put toys in, etc.



Wall elevation showing playhouse, ladder and electrical/data outlets

### Site Specifics

The color scheme of the renovation is predominantly blue and green pops on a neutral background. There are walnut accents throughout the design as well. All these colors and tones align with the modern forest theme and can be seen through the renderings and colour swatches (see Interior Design Color Scheme section).



Conceptual Rendering of Children's Area

The renovation includes an interior design strategy inspired by the idea of a forest. Structural columns are painted black to resemble tree trunks, hanging acoustic ceiling treatments look a lot like clouds, green

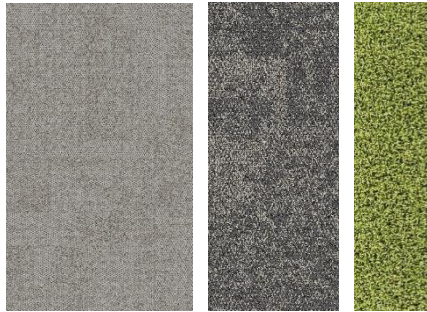
patches of carpet appear like grass, and hanging pendant light fixtures look like rain drops. This forest design theme was selected based on the relationship between the branch and wooded area at the south of the property.



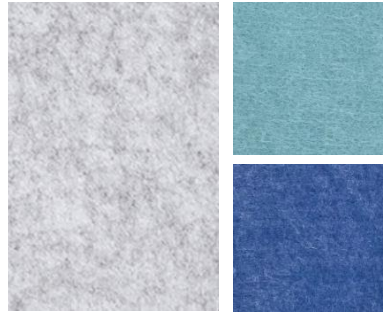
Outdoor programming space at the southern edge of property

## Interior Design Color Scheme

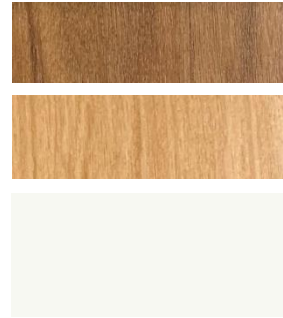
### Carpet Tiles:



### Acoustic Treatments:



### Millwork Finishes:



### Fabrics:



### Paint Colours:



### Overall Material Palette:



## Site Conditions: Children's Area



Perimeter toy boxes and view of outdoor space



Interior children's programming area

The design guidelines for children's areas within all branches of Halifax Public Libraries include:

- **Safety:** Each of our children's spaces are designed with safety in mind. Ensure that the environment is free from physical and psychological harm, and that all materials used are safe and secure. For this project, clearances in front of playhouse ladder will need to be considered in the design of the artwork.
- **Inclusivity:** Spaces for children are accessible for all abilities and backgrounds. Avoid creating structures that are exclusive to a certain age, gender, race, level of physical or mental ability, or socioeconomic background.
- **Engagement:** Each of our spaces for children encourages learning, exploration, and play. We create interactive and engaging elements that spark creativity and curiosity.
- **Nature:** Incorporate elements of nature into the design of public spaces for children. Natural elements can provide a calming and soothing environment, as well as encourage outdoor play.
- **Flexibility:** Design public spaces for children that are flexible and adaptable to different needs and uses. Allow for multiple types of activities and group sizes.
- **Durability:** Design public spaces for children that are durable and long-lasting. Invest in high-quality materials and construction techniques that will stand the test of time and hold up to heavy use. All materials must be easy to clean.

### Submission Requirements

Email all documentation as one (1) PDF document in portrait format, not to exceed a file size of 5 MB to: [artgrants@halifax.ca](mailto:artgrants@halifax.ca)

1. COVER PAGE – Please provide accurate contact information for the applicant, including mailing address, email address and phone numbers for the project lead (if submitting as a team), website information (where applicable), as well as the names of all collaborating parties.
2. ARTIST CV- Please include a brief bio and a CV outlining the professional experience of the applicant (not to exceed 2 pages). If submitting as a group, please include a CV for the project



lead (maximum 2 pages), and brief bios for each of the participating members.

3. STATEMENT OF INTEREST – 200 words (or less) that explain why the artist/team is interested in this opportunity and how their practice relates to this project and the posted selection criteria.
4. VISUAL PROJECT DESCRIPTION- A PRELIMINARY visual concept (drawings/renderings) sufficient to illustrate the applicant's approach to the site(s). \*\*
5. WRITTEN PROJECT DESCRIPTION- 500 words (or less) that describe the project, including relevant project methodology. \*\*

*\*\* It is understood that the project descriptions received at this stage through this process will be preliminary in nature, and intended to express the concept of the artwork, not the detailed final design. The selected concept and all particulars pertaining to the installation of the artwork will be further developed post-award in consultation with members of the project team.*

DIGITAL IMAGE WORK SAMPLES – Applicants must submit a **minimum of 5 and a maximum of 10 samples of past work** that best illustrate their qualifications for this project. Submit each image on a separate page, portrait format, and include title of work, artist(s), location, commissioning agency, date and budget. If submitting as a team, the team submits no more than 10 images.

## Format Guidelines

1. All supporting documents must be complete and strictly adhere to these guidelines and submission requirements (above) or risk not being considered.
2. All submissions must be formatted to 8.5 x 11 inch pages, portrait format.
3. Submission files must be 5 MB or smaller.
4. If submitting as a team, the team should designate one representative to complete the entry form. Each team member must submit individual resume/curriculum vitae. (See Submission Requirements)
5. All documents must be sent by email to: [artgrants@halifax.ca](mailto:artgrants@halifax.ca) and must be received on or before 4pm local time, September 15, 2023

Incomplete or late applications will not be accepted.

Questions regarding the expectations of the submission process should be directed to:

**Lindsay Cory, Community Developer – Public Art, Culture & Community, Halifax Regional Municipality 902-456-8384 or via email at [lindsay.cory@halifax.ca](mailto:lindsay.cory@halifax.ca)**

## Selection Process

This is a single-stage process.

A peer selection panel comprised of arts sector representatives and community representatives will review all application materials. Representatives of the Halifax Public Libraries and the design team for the Keshen Goodman Public Library renovations will also inform the process. At the conclusion of the review, the selection panel will recommend the selection of one artist/artist team to undertake the work.

The selection panel reserves the right to request additional information from any of the applicants to inform their decision. The panel also reserves the right to make no recommendation from the submitted applications.

Once the selection panel has recommended a proposal and an award has been issued, the successful artist/artist team will be asked to prepare detailed concept designs based on the preliminary proposals.

## Additional Information

1. At the request of the Municipality the selected artist will be required to show proof of WCB coverage and \$2,000,000 general liability insurance.
2. The proposal selected through this process is understood to be a concept proposal for a future artwork. The selected artist will be required to enter into agreement with the Municipality to provide a detailed design for the artwork, including a detailed budget and installation plan, which will be subject to the approval of the Municipality. Consideration of the detailed design proposal will be technical in nature.
3. Submission at this stage do not require a detailed budget, however proposals should exhibit a clear understanding that all components of the project must be completed within the stated budget of **\$70,000 + HST**. Possible costs may include but are not limited to: artist and design fees, consultant fees including the production of stamped engineered drawings where applicable, subcontractor fees, material and fabrication costs, transportation, and all elements of installation.
4. Please be advised that the Halifax Regional Municipality and the selection panel are not obligated to accept any of the submissions and may reject all submissions. The Municipality reserves the right to reissue this Call for Proposals as required.
5. All information provided under the submission is subject to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (NS) and shall only be withheld from release if an exemption from release is permitted by the Act. The artist shall retain copyright in the concept proposal.
6. The ownership of design ideas submitted with this application remain with the submitting artist until a selection has been made and a contract signed. Once a contract has been awarded, the selected artwork will be owned by the Halifax Regional Municipality, and images of the work may be used in publicity for the Halifax Regional Municipality. Copyright of the work and all intellectual property shall remain with the artist.
6. Extensions to the submission deadline will not be granted under any circumstances. Submissions received after the deadline and those that are found to be incomplete will not be reviewed.

## Evaluation

Proposals will be evaluated through peer assessment. The review process will be informed by a technical review of the proposals by HRM staff, where deemed necessary.

<p><b>Artistic Merit</b></p> <p>(Statement of interest, examples of past work, quality of proposal)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overall quality of submitted past work</li> <li>• Professional standing</li> <li>• Artistic quality of submitted proposal.</li> </ul>	30
<p><b>Methodology and Approach</b></p> <p>Demonstrates the artist's level of understanding of the Halifax Regional Municipality and Halifax Public Libraries design requirements outlined in this project brief and assess the proposal's response to the Keshen Goodman Library renovation project, and the library's varied user groups.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Applicant's understanding of early childhood development and play-based learning</li> <li>• Applicant's understanding of site conditions, design guidelines, and the interior design theme for the renovation</li> <li>• Applicant's understanding of Halifax Libraries Strategic Plan</li> <li>• Applicant's understanding of the patrons being served by Keshen Goodman Public Library</li> <li>• Applicant's integration of accessible design strategies into the public art piece</li> </ul>	40

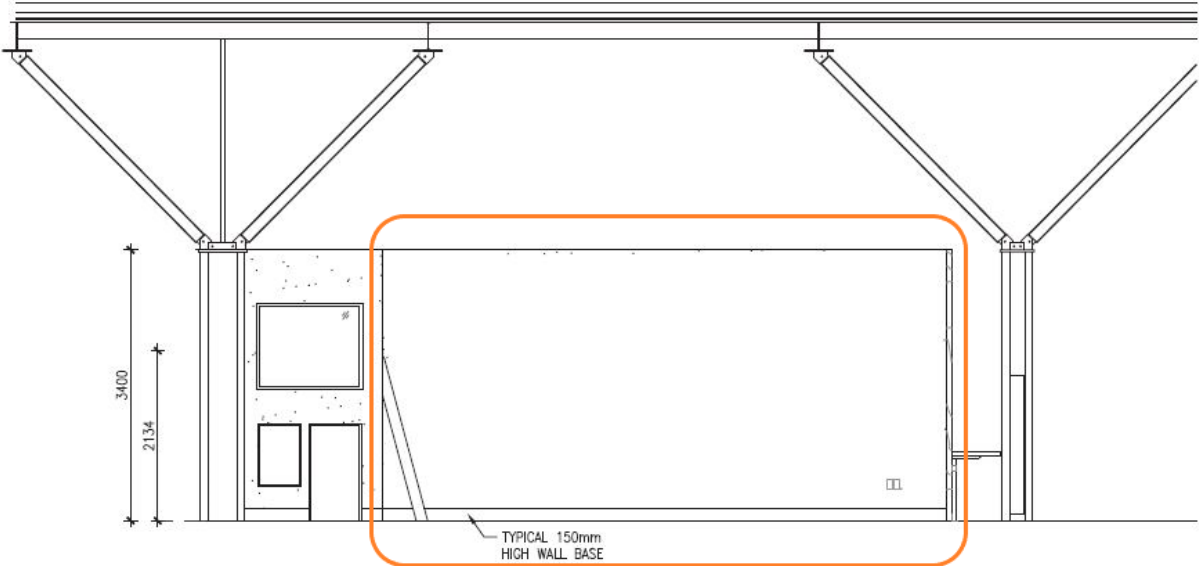
<b>Project Expertise</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Applicant's ability to manage all aspects of this project</li> <li>• Applicant's experience working in relation to public spaces and familiarity working with community</li> <li>• Applicant's demonstrated ability to work to schedule and budget in a collaborative environment</li> </ul>	20
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\*Applicants need not have led public art projects of a similar scope and scale but their record of experience should reflect a capacity to successfully meet the requirements of this opportunity;

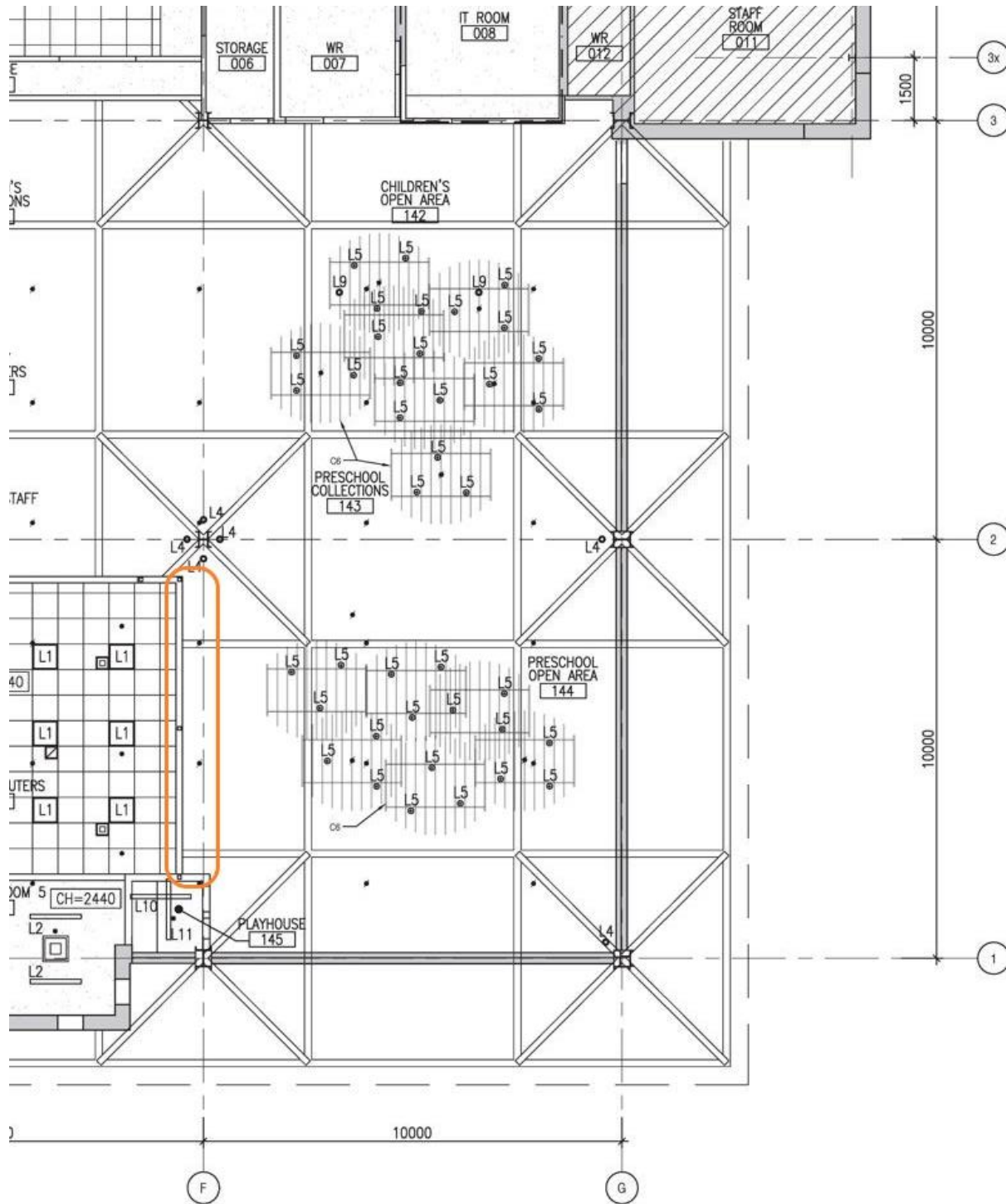
Examples of past work need not reflect public realm projects of a similar scale (e.g. equal or greater budgets). All past experience that affirms the applicant's capacity to lead the management of this project will be considered.

<b>Project Feasibility</b>	Demonstrated understanding of project management as it pertains specifically to the management of project costs, and the perceived ability of the artist to complete the project within the allotted <b>\$70,000 + HST.</b>	10
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Appendix  
Wall Elevation



# Reflected Ceiling Plan



# Floor Plan

