



Request for Proposal

Maintenance of Giant Lobster

Town of Shediac

April 2024

CONTEXT

Shediac is recognized the world over as “The Lobster Capital of the World” for its lobster fishing industry. To acknowledge this important regional industry and to pay tribute to the king of crustaceans, the Rotary Club decided, in 1989, to erect a monument that is the delight of the thousands of visitors who travel through the region. The late Winston Bronnum from Penobscus, New Brunswick, was commissioned to create this magnificent sculpture. The Giant Lobster stands at 11 m in width and 5 m in height and was born in 1990. Why is it called the World’s Largest Lobster? Because the sculpture weighs around 90 tonnes; the lobster alone weighs 55 tonnes while the pedestal weighs around 35 tonnes. Located at the town’s entrance, this impressive work of art is a must-see landmark for the 300,000 or so visitors who travel through the region each year. Every spring/summer, the Town of Shediac ensures the maintenance of the Giant Lobster to preserve the integrity and quality of the monument.

Weather permitting, maintenance work on the Giant Lobster always takes place in May or June.

The maintenance work includes:

- Examining the sculpture / Assessing the lobster’s condition (primary step);
- Scraping and grinding the lobster to strip the old paint where necessary;
- Letting the cement dry;
- Applying a trisodium phosphate cleaner (TSP), V-600 or KP83 grease remover; and once dry, apply a sealant (block buster)
- Sanding with a grinder – for finishing: no.100 grain. Any surface to be painted must be scraped;
- Applying a primer;
- Applying various paint and glaze applications (patina – surface aging technique);
- Applying a coating to preserve the lobster’s integrity as needed.

The artist must feel comfortable using the following tools:

- Large angle grinder;
- Sander;
- Ladder / step ladder;
- Painting equipment (brushes, containers, epoxy, cement, etc.);
- Cleaning products.

Responsibilities

- Provide their own maintenance equipment's.
- Research (knowledge of weather effects, paint, humidity, the colour of live lobster, etc.)
- Safety measures (mask, glove, safety glasses, etc.)

Here is an example of the work required yearly:

Must remove the water bubbles that have formed between the cement and the paint. This phenomenon takes place because the cement is damp.

Must remove the traces of efflorescence, which are whitish crystalline deposits that are non-hazardous.



Quotation:

The artist must submit a quote of the cost required by the Town. In the quote, the artist must detail information of the services the town will be receiving as per an estimation of the duration for completing the maintenance and the equipment the artists will be providing. Also, an additional section attached to the quote should specify the services equipment the artist will be requiring from the town to complete the maintenance.

We invite the artist to add any additional incentive to the quote that could be beneficial for the services the town will be receiving. (ex.: The artiste is offering 5 hours of his time to deliver a workshop, the artiste is willing to dedicate (x) years to the maintenance of the Big Lobster, etc.).

SELECTION COMMITTEE

The selection will be made based on the file submitted by the artist. Incomplete files or submitted outside the stated deadlines will be deemed inadmissible.

- Member of the Cultural Policy Committee

FILE CONTENT:

- Résumé (maximum of two pages)
- Photo and similar project description (maximum of 5 images)
- Detailed budget/quote for one year vs over several years (including equipment, hours, etc.)

CONTRACT: A contract will be prepared by the Town of Shediac

DEADLINE: Thursday, May 2, 2024, at midnight (Atlantic Time)

TERMS : The files must be submitted via e-mail before the deadline at Julie.belanger@shediac.ca . Any questions or concerns should be directed to this email as well.