Request for Proposals
Toronto Island Indigenous Significance & History Video(s)

June 2021

Proposals and questions to be submitted to:

Oliver Hierlihy
Director, Operations
The Waterfront BIA

Phone. (416) 845-0084
Email. oliver@waterfrontbia.com
Website. http://www.waterfrontbia.com/
Address. 20 Bay Street, 11th Floor
Toronto, ON, M6J 2N8

The Waterfront Business Improvement Area (BIA), in partnership with the City of Toronto Parks, Forestry and Recreation department is seeking proposals from local Indigenous directors and filmmakers for the development of short-form video(s) to educate viewers on the Indigenous significance and history of the Toronto Islands and by extension, the waterfront.

Project Details
The City of Toronto Parks Forestry and Recreation department is currently developing a Toronto Islands Master Plan, with a focus on Indigenous Placekeeping. From the project website:

“The Island is an important Indigenous place, and has been for millennia. For the Michi Saagiig, it was simply known as Mnisiing, meaning “on the islands.” Later, they were collectively known as Aiionwatha or Hiawatha’s Island. It was long considered a place of healing and ceremony for Indigenous people. But this rich history and living culture is not reflected in Toronto Island Park as it exists today. The Master Plan process provides an opportunity to restore the Toronto Islands as an Indigenous place through storytelling and ceremony and by incorporating Indigenous approaches to land stewardship and placekeeping.”

The Waterfront BIA is seeking proposals for an Indigenous director to undertake the planning, research, and production of a short (5 - 10 minutes) video for use on social media as an educational tool on the Indigenous significance and history of the Toronto Islands, and by extension, Toronto’s waterfront. This project has a budget of $10,000 inclusive of all expenses and fees.

Process
Applicants are to submit a short proposal for their approach to research, development, and concept of the videos - as well as links to other similar work that the applicant has completed to Oliver Hierlihy by June 30, 2021. The selected proponent will additionally be connected with Indigenous persons involved with the Toronto Islands Master Plan, and from the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation to help provide additional information on the Indigenous significance and history of the islands.