

# Centennial Square Installation of Indigenous Feature Wall

**Date:** April 22, 2024  
**To:** The Board of Governors of Exhibition Place  
**From:** Don Boyle, Chief Executive Officer  
**Wards:** Ward 10 - Fort York - Spadina

## SUMMARY

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This report recommends approving a contract with Duron Ontario Ltd. ("Duron ") for the installation of an Indigenous Feature Wall at Centennial Square. The tender call was issued on February 14, 2024, through Exhibition Place Purchasing and Materials Stores via Bonfire Online Procurement System. The recommendation is to award the contract to the lowest compliant bidder who meets tender requirements and specifications within the available budget.

This project is time-sensitive in meeting stakeholders and operational requirements as the work must be completed before major events occupy the ground. The Chair of the Board, in consultation with the CEO of Exhibition Place, approved this contract award on March 13, 2024, pursuant to the authority under the Board Financial By-law 2-18, Article X and seek concurrence of the Board.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

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The Chief Executive Officer recommends that:

1. The Board concur with the action taken by the Chair of the Board and the Chief Executive Officer in approving the award of Contract No. 24-094-39474 (RFT No. EP103-2024) to Duron Ontario Ltd. of Mississauga, Ontario for the Centennial Square Installation of Indigenous Feature Wall in the amount of \$2,736,007.25 which includes a cash allowance of \$35,000.00 but excludes HST.

## FINANCIAL IMPACT

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The financing of \$2,736,007 for this project is included within the approved Exhibition Place 2024 Capital Works State of Good Repair Program.

## DECISION HISTORY

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The Exhibition Place 2022-2026 Strategic Plan has a goal to promote site animation 365 days a year. This exciting public realm enhancement will also satisfy our goal of exceeding client and visitor expectations. This project adheres to our Capital planning principles and processes.

At its meeting of October 27, 2023, the Board approved the 2024 Capital Works Program budget which was subsequently approved by City Council on February 14, 2024.

<https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2023.EP6.1>  
<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2023/ep/bgrd/backgroundfile-239958.pdf>  
<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2023/ep/bgrd/backgroundfile-239979.pdf>

## COMMENTS

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### Background

Centennial Square is situated in the Master Plan - Relax Zone, which features the greatest concentration of heritage buildings and landscapes. This iconic Indigenous art piece will become a must-see attraction for visitors and the community at large.

The recent removal of the former buildings, known as Kids World, on the north section of the Square presented Exhibition Place with both a challenge and an opportunity. The challenge was that the Gardiner Expressway environment was now affecting the community's enjoyment of the park, while it also presented an opportunity for us to create a visually stunning and seminal piece that showcases the area's indigenous history that also shields the park from the expressway and enhances the community's experience. Further, the wall design and the visual narrative will honour indigenous heritage and ways.

Exhibition Place staff contracted with Studio TLA to facilitate the project's design and facilitation and develop a Master Plan for the entire square.

The Master Plan and the Feature Wall were developed based on inputs received from the community, and interest groups through a comprehensive consultation and engagement. Overwhelmingly, community members advocated for the Indigenous theme and artwork highlighting the area's history.

The Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation ("MCFN") is an engagement and advisory partner in developing the Art. Indigenous artists selected by MCFN were employed to prepare the conceptual design of the artwork. In October 2023, Exhibition Place staff held a community meeting to present the design and seek further input. The conceptual design was greeted with excitement and anticipation by community members at the meeting. Other feedback focused on adequate lighting and the security of the art.

The installation of the Indigenous Art Feature Wall will not only act as a beacon for visitors and a creative visual narrative, but also mitigate Gardiner Expressway noise levels and safety concerns, as well as provide an animated and artistic background for future events.

**Tender Process**

The tender for this contract was issued on February 14, 2024, through the Exhibition Place Purchasing and Materials Stores via Bonfire Online Procurement System and closed on March 5, 2024. Eight (8) bidders attended the mandatory site tour meeting, and three (3) submissions were received, all of which were compliant with the tender requirements. The bidders' price submissions, excluding HST, are as shown in the following Table 1:

Table 1: Tender Price Submission and the Recommended Contract

Bidder	Bid Price Received	Recommended Contract Price
Duron Ontario Ltd.	\$2,736,007.25	\$2,736,007.25
Clearway Construction Inc.	\$2,823,263.78	
Brook Restoration Ltd.	\$3,683,219.57	

Staff have reviewed the bids, and based on its safety record and experience with similar projects, staff recommends awarding the contract to the lowest compliant bidder, Duron Ontario Ltd.

Duron was established in 1957 and has over 150 employees. They have completed several similar critical time-sensitive restoration and landscaping projects in the past three years for clients such as the Toronto Transit Commission and the City of Toronto, meeting all tender requirements, including those of qualification and experience. Some of the notable successful projects are renovations and State of Good Repair upgrades at the Runnymede Station, Withrow Park artificial rink, and John Booth Memorial Arena. All three (3) projects had multi-disciplinary trades services: structural and concrete work, waterproofing, paving, landscaping, mechanical, HVAC, lighting, etc. These projects were time-sensitive and completed on time and within the approved budget. The consultant has reviewed the bid prices and has also recommended to proceed with an award to Duron Ontario Ltd.

The recommended construction price of \$2,736,007.25 will be funded from the approved 2024 State of Good Repair Capital Budget.

The Scope of Work encompassed the supply of all labour and materials for the Installation of an Indigenous Feature Wall at Centennial Square in accordance with the Drawings and Specifications in the RFP. The scope of work includes but is not limited to demolition, paving/hardscape, soft-scape work, site furnishings, feature walls, and electrical installations.

This recommendation is contingent upon approval by the Office of the City CFO & Treasurer and of the Surety Company proposed by the successful bidder for the supply of the bonding requirements. It is also subject to the City Fair Wage Office confirming

that the recommended contractor and its subcontractors maintain wage rates and working conditions in accordance with Toronto Workers' Rights requirements.

Due to the urgent nature of the work, the CEO of Exhibition Place requested that the Chair of the Board approve this tender award under the authority provided for in Financial By-law 2-18.

Appendix A provides multiple renderings of the Indigenous Feature Wall.

## **CONTACT**

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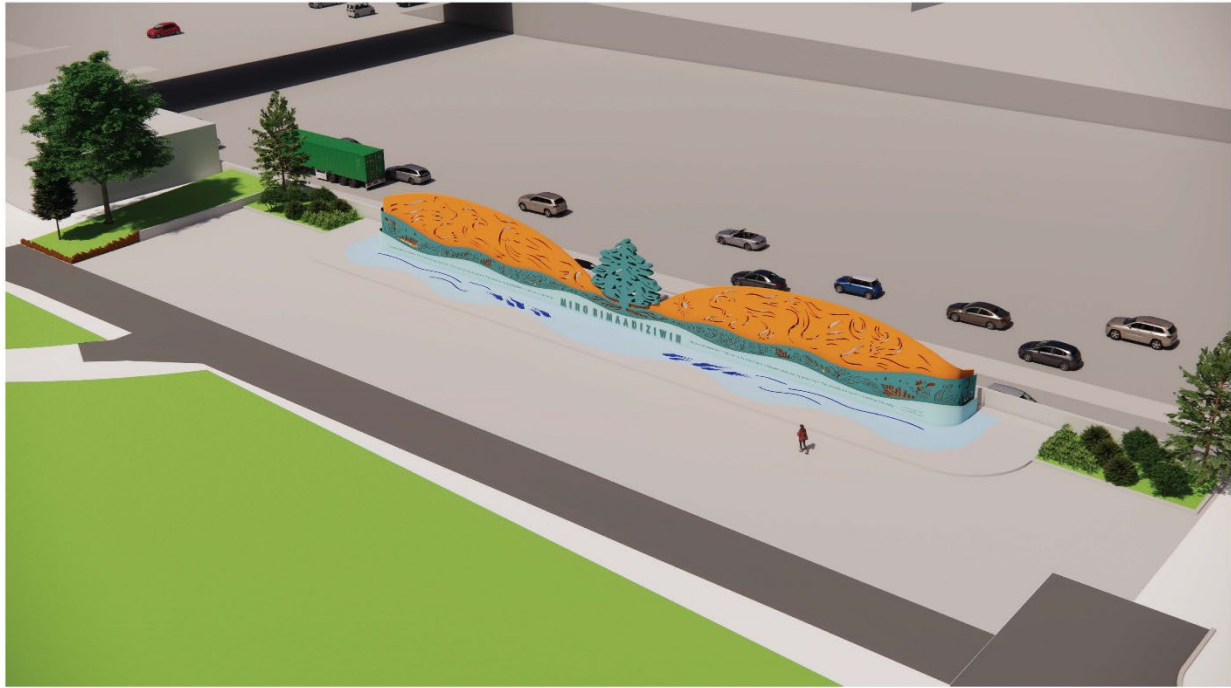
Prashant Bhalja, Director, Capital Works, 416-263-3670, [pbhalja@explace.on.ca](mailto:pbhalja@explace.on.ca)

## **SIGNATURE**

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Don Boyle  
Chief Executive Officer

# Appendix A Indigenous Feature Wall



1

CENTENNIAL SQUARE REVITALIZATION & FEATURE WALL  
JANUARY 2023

Exhibition Place STUDIO rla



2

CENTENNIAL SQUARE REVITALIZATION & FEATURE WALL  
JANUARY 2023

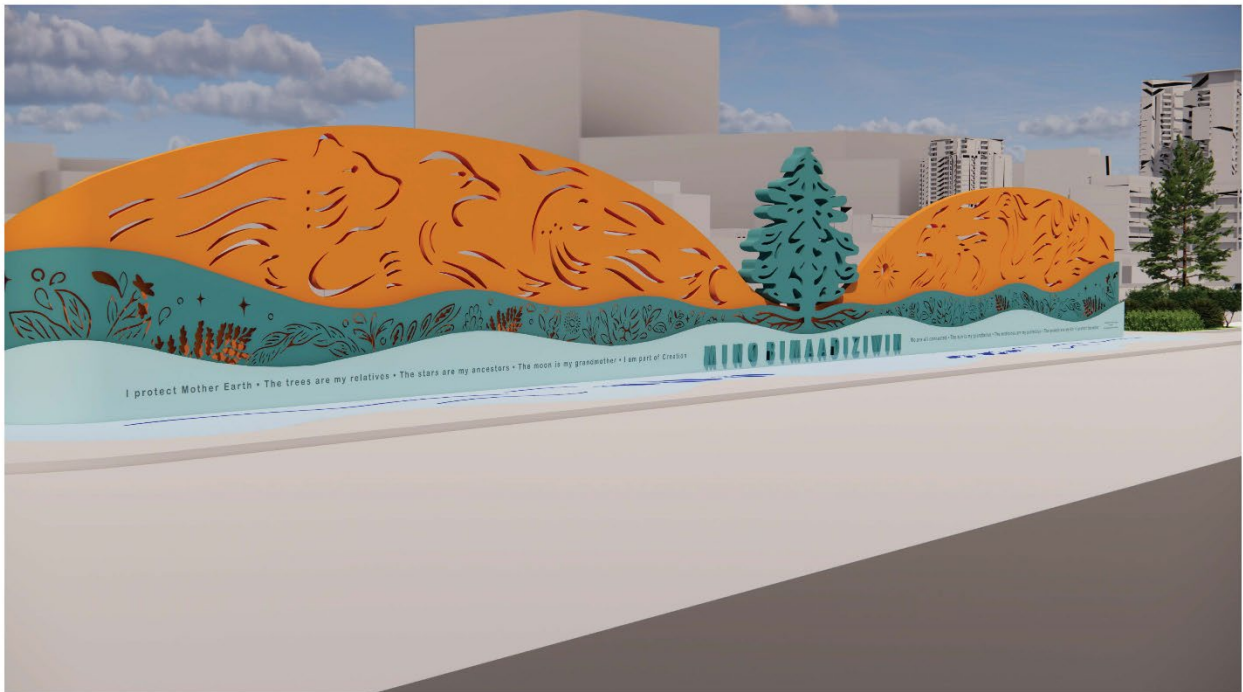
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CENTENNIAL SQUARE REVITALIZATION & FEATURE WALL  
 JANUARY 2023

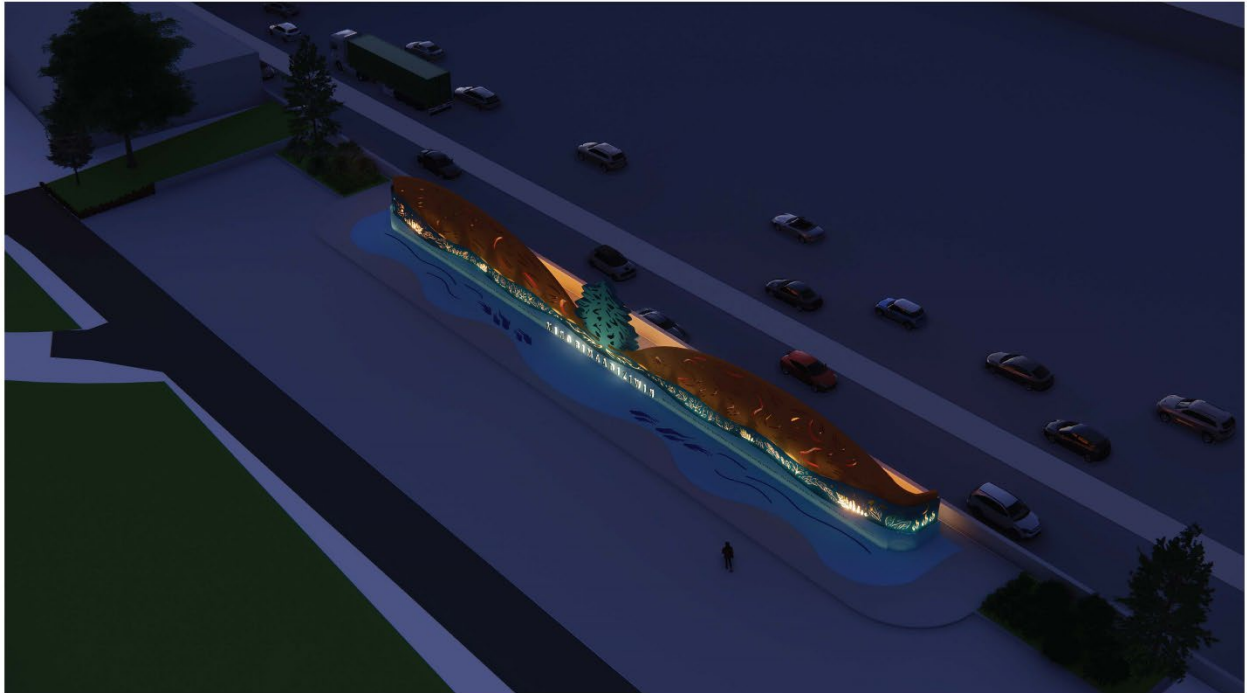
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CENTENNIAL SQUARE REVITALIZATION & FEATURE WALL  
 JANUARY 2023

Exhibition Place STUDIO **fla**



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CENTENNIAL SQUARE REVITALIZATION & FEATURE WALL  
 JANUARY 2023

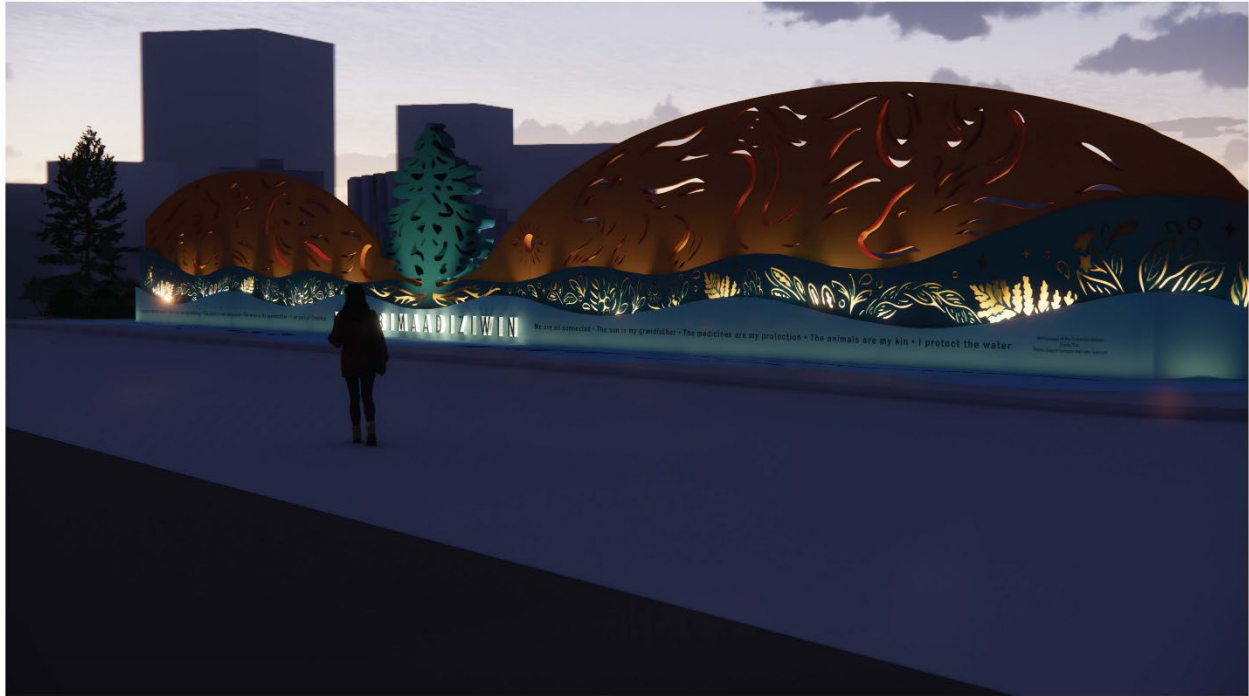
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CENTENNIAL SQUARE REVITALIZATION & FEATURE WALL  
 JANUARY 2023

Exhibition Place STUDIO **tla**



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CENTENNIAL SQUARE REVITALIZATION & FEATURE WALL  
 JANUARY 2023

Exhibition Place STUDIO **rla**



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CENTENNIAL SQUARE REVITALIZATION & FEATURE WALL  
 JANUARY 2023

Exhibition Place STUDIO **rla**