

Other Sights

FLEET: Mobile Artist Studio – Construction Phase
Job Opportunity: Project Manager

Organization

Other Sights for Artists' Projects operates as a collective of Vancouver-based individuals with expertise in curation, project management, presentation, delivery and promotion of temporary art projects in public spaces. Other Sights is dedicated to challenging perceptions, encouraging discourse and promoting individual perspectives about shared social spaces. Other Sights seeks to create a presence for art in spaces and sites that are accessible to a broad public, such as the built environment, communications technologies, the media, and the street. Operating outside of the gallery context, Other Sights develops new and unexpected exhibition platforms and provides support to artists, writers and curators interested in creating temporary, critically rigorous work for highly visible locations. We collaborate and share resources with organizations and individuals in order to present projects that consider the aesthetic, economic and regulatory conditions of public places and public life.

FLEET working group is composed of seven individuals: two Other Sights Producers, Other Sights' General Manager, as well as artists, architects, and a planner. The group also works with a 3 person Indigenous advisory group, and with additional support and advisory from Other Sights' board and producer team.



See page 4 for image info.

Background

The City of Vancouver has the highest density of artists per capita in Canada; however, over the past 10 years, it has lost more than 400,000 square feet of studio space.* In 2019, the City released its [Making Space for Arts and Culture Vancouver cultural infrastructure plan report](#). It found that cultural spaces are among the most vulnerable (and artists the most vulnerable to space loss) as a result of increased land values and displacement of arts and cultural activities. As such, the City council committed to “optimize City policies, tools, programs, and investment priorities to secure, enhance, and develop vibrant, affordable, and accessible arts and cultural spaces.”

FLEET is a creative approach to complement the community's ongoing efforts to build more studio opportunities for artists. Responding to the loss of arts and culture hubs across Vancouver, FLEET is a multi-year project that aspires to plan, design and, pilot a FLEET of moveable studios for working artists. The project will place these studios on a temporary basis throughout the city and manage their ongoing use. FLEET working group undertook a significant amount of community consultation over the past three years, resulting in project recommendations and a Feasibility study. Other Sights has raised capital funds for the construction of 1-3 FLEET units and is currently working to put together a small team to complete the build.

FLEET's visible presence will draw attention to Vancouver's artistic community's space deficit while foregrounding the need to share the public spaces of the city more equitably. This project is produced by Other Sights in collaboration with Germaine Koh, Cedric Bomford, John Steil, and Javier Campos. It is supported by the City of Vancouver, The British Columbia Arts Council, and the Canada Council for the Arts.

The Project

This is a hands-on project that involves coordinating with FLEET working group, Other Sights, contractors, and the organization providing the construction location, in order to construct 1-3 FLEET studios (scope dependent on funding). The Project Manager will work to ensure completion of construction. Depending on experience, additional hours could be allocated for working with FLEET to

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establish the project's operating and stewardship model over the course of 2024-2025. Number of hours are negotiable and will be established at the time of contracting.

Project Objectives:

- Secure a construction site in collaboration with Other Sights for FLEET Mobile Studio construction
- Communicate and promote the objectives and potential of FLEET Mobile Studios during construction
- Construct 1-3 FLEET Mobile Studios by 2024
- Develop the long-term operational and stewardship model of FLEET

Project Manager

Expected Start Date: June 20th, 2023

Anticipated End Date: End of June 2024

Required Qualifications:

- Demonstrated experience in program/project management either in a non-profit, government, or private setting
- Experience within construction, events management or arts production industries
- Experience working within civic regulations and permitting systems would be an asset
- Experience coordinating a number of companies/organizations performing various project related tasks, would be an asset
- Able to operate in a dynamic environment where changes are frequent
- Nimble and hands-on approach, the ability to manage unexpected challenges and adapt to keep projects moving forward
- Excellent communication, leadership and organization skills
- Sensitivity to, and understanding of, the needs of creative and diverse cultural communities is an asset

Scope of Work:

The project manager will:

- Work with Other Sights and FLEET team to secure a site for construction of 1-3 FLEET Mobile Studios
- Determine the optimal approach for construction: secure quotes, source new and reclaimed build materials, vet contractors
- Ensure the FLEET studio construction site is ready/prepared for construction
- Finalize permissions and/or permits for construction, and ensure building and fencing perimeter is in place
- Coordinate arrival dates for fencing, trailers, building materials and other deliveries to the construction site
- Meet with donors/suppliers, procure building materials in-kind and reclaimed materials,
- Secure specialized equipment quotations if required
- Secure quotations and donations (when possible) for energy efficient supplies, such as solar panels, composting toilet for the amenity unit, heat pump, lighting, fans etc.
- Research/prepare an accessibility report for the studios and procure materials required to ensure maximum studio access
- Oversee the construction progress and schedule with project construction managers
- Coordinate the various contributors to construction (Other Sights, FLEET working group, suppliers/vendors, tradespeople, CMHC Granville Island, City of Vancouver, City of Burnaby, etc)
- With FLEET Team, Other Sights, and construction team to successfully complete studio construction by May-June 2024
- Work with FLEET working group and Indigenous advisory group to secure studio placement partnerships
- Work with FLEET working group and Indigenous advisory group to define FLEET stewardship/operational model
- Work with Other Sights' GM to ensure effective communications with public and project stakeholders (signage, project information etc)

Deliverables:

- Project Plan for construction
- Regular progress reports (bi-weekly)
- Leadership, scheduling and coordination throughout the duration of this project
- Resolution of problems, as required, together with the team
- Complete a project report no later than one month following the completion of studio construction

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Estimated Time Commitment:

Number of hours is negotiable and will be established at the time of contracting. Hours can be flexible and may vary from week to week. We are open to what best suits the candidate and project. Below is an example of one way the allocation of hours could be approached. The Project manager will propose their hourly allocation (full-time/part-time or a mix) based on their preferences, skill-set, and the projects' needs.

Sample Schedule

1. *June-August, 2023 (2 days/wk)*

Coordinating/overseeing supplies and donated materials procurement and confirming/preparing construction site

2. *September, 2023-March, 2024 (4-5 days/wk)*

Construction, partnership development, site location confirmation

3. *April-June, 2024 (1-2 days/wk)*

Completing construction and final report.

Compensation:

Hourly Rate: \$40-65hr.

This is a project that is small in scale, but unique in vision and varied in scope. The role itself extends beyond managing and scheduling, it involves active coordination. The compensation range provided is intended to encourage established project managers but also emerging project coordinators to apply. Your skillset may fall outside of the construction realm, but your interests and transferable skills may be the very kind of expertise that would lend well to this project. Other Sights and FLEET working group have significant experience in delivering similar projects in collaboration with artists and community.

Accountability: The Project Manager will have an end-to-end accountability for the deliverables, reporting directly to an Other Sights Project Lead.

Other Sights works to cultivate positive environments that are “safe” for our team, and the communities and artists we work with, to thrive. This is a key aspect to the work that we do and is rooted in a wider view of accessibility – who gets to experience public art and how? Exploring spaces of contestation and sites of unclear jurisdiction, both physically and conceptually, we work to amplify a diverse range of voices and perspectives. Other Sights and FLEET working group are comprised of a team of individuals with diverse perspectives, skills and backgrounds. We welcome the unique contributions that you can bring to this project and we look forward to hearing from you.

If you have questions prior to applying, please reach out to us.

Contact: Sunshine Frere
Email: sunshine@othersights.ca
Phone: 604 362-2484
Website: <https://othersights.ca/fleet-moveable-artist-studios/>

How to Apply: Please apply with a cover letter and CV. Please share with us your interest in the role and outline your experience in project management, arts production, festival or events coordinating, construction management, and/or public art coordination.

Deadline for Applications: June 7, 2023

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON THE PROJECT AND OTHER SIGHTS

FLEET Feasibility Study (2021)

https://othersights.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/FLEET_FeasibilityReport_2021.pdf

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FLEET - Musqueam, Squamish, Tsleil-Waututh and Urban Indigenous recommendations (2023)

<https://othersights.ca/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/FLEET-Indigenous-Consultation-Recommendations-2023.pdf>

Blue Cabin Floating Artist Residency (2015-Present)

<https://othersights.ca/blue-cabin/>

<https://thebluecabin.ca/>

Blue Cabin is a similar artist studio/residency project where Other Sights was one of three main organizations that conceptualized and constructed the residency as it is known today. Our organization continues to work in partnership with grunt gallery and C3 (Creative Cultural Collaborations) to steward the cabin and its residency programming.



Examples of Mobile Studio Spaces based in and around the lower mainland:

Image1: Crummy Gallery, a mobile art/gathering space currently based on Vancouver Island - <https://www.crummygallery.com/>

Image 2: Interior of Site Factory: Mobile Art Platform - <https://www.facebook.com/sitefactorybus/>

Image 3: Home Made Home: Lulu Living, an Artist Studio by Germaine Koh - <https://germainekoh.com/works/hmh-lululiving>

Image 4: Blue Cabin Floating Artist Residency currently moored in Steveston, Richmond - <https://thebluecabin.ca/>