



# **City of Kingston Street Art Wall Guidelines**

Updated September 2020

## **Contact Information:**

Taylor Norris  
Public Art Coordinator  
City of Kingston  
216 Ontario Street  
Kingston, ON K7L 2Z3

613-546-4291 ext. 1158  
[tnorris@cityofkingston.ca](mailto:tnorris@cityofkingston.ca)

## Street Art Wall Project Background

The Street Art Wall located on the Rideaucrest retaining wall adjacent to Douglas Fluhrer Park is Kingston's only legal wall for street art and murals.

The Street Art Wall began as a pilot project that ran from July 2019 – April 2020. Over the ten-month period, it's estimated that approximately 30 new murals were created on the wall. In June 2020, Kingston City Council approved the wall as a permanent space for artists and as a platform for artistic expression to support the creation of street art in Kingston in keeping with the City's Public Art Master Plan.

The permanent Street Art Wall also aligns with Council's Strategic Priorities for 2019-2022 to foster healthy citizens and vibrant spaces through the development of an Arts Walk that will leverage public art installations located along Kingston's waterfront from Douglas Fluhrer Park, which includes the Legal Wall, to Lake Ontario Park.

More information on the history of the pilot project can be found here:

- [Council Report 20-118, Update, Legal Wall Project](#)
- [Arts, Recreation and Community Policies Report Number ARCP 19-003, The Implications Associated with Establishing a Legal Wall Adjacent to Douglas Fluhrer Park](#)

## Covid-19

The Street Art Wall can be used in accordance with the Province of Ontario's Stage 3 reopening guidelines and regulations. The Street Art Wall is located in Douglas Fluhrer Park and is subject to Bylaw Number 2020-068, a By-law for the Provision and Enforcement of Orders During a Declared Emergency. Effective September 4, Kingston Mayor Paterson issued an emergency order to ensure that physical distancing is being followed in all City Parks. Under this Order, individuals must maintain a physical distance of at least two metres from all other persons while in a City park. Individuals who fail to maintain physical distancing while in City Parks can be fined \$500 under the City's Administrative Monetary Penalties for failure to comply with an emergency order.

## Graffiti

Written slogans and graffiti on the exterior of any building, wall, fence or structure shall be prohibited, including painted or chalked titles or messages with the exception of the Street Art Wall that uses the Rideaucrest retaining wall adjacent to Douglas Fluhrer Park as a designated legal wall in conjunction with the City of Kingston's Public Art Policy. (By-law Number 2005-100)

## Definitions

**Legal Wall:** A legal wall, otherwise known as a “free space,” is an area where street art and graffiti is permitted and encouraged.

**Street Art:** an urban style of temporary public art on walls, sidewalks and roadways that is sanctioned and permitted. It is distinct from **Graffiti** which is not sanctioned or permitted and is a form of vandalism.

## Rules of Participation

- The Street Art Wall is free and open for use 7 days a week, from sunrise to sunset.
- Murals, street art tagging and painting are allowed on the Street Art Wall.
- The wall is self-regulated and managed by the community. Paintings on the wall may be painted over by other users. Please be respectful of fellow artists and share the wall.

Participants are asked to only paint on the retaining wall and be respectful of nearby residents, residences and properties.

## Content

The City of Kingston is responsible for monitoring the Street Art Wall to ensure content adheres to the Guidelines. Any content placed on the Street Art Wall that depicts the following prohibited subject matter will be subject to immediate removal by the City of Kingston. The following content is strictly prohibited, including any imagery and/or text:

- That is gang or crime-related;
- That incites hatred or violence against any person or identifiable group of persons;
- That promotes stereotypes or negative attitudes about any person or identifiable group of persons on a ground protected by the *Ontario Human Rights Code*;
- That contains profane, vulgar or offensive language; or
- That depicts violence or explicit sexual content.

Content will also be removed that appears anywhere painting is not expressly permitted by the City. If a member of the public views content on the Street Art Wall that is prohibited, please contact Cultural Services at 613-546-4291 ext. 1158.

## Paints and Painting

- Participants must supply their own paint, supplies and water.
- Only standard paints are allowed for use on the Street Art Wall.  
These include:
  - Aerosols and spray paints
  - Acrylic or latex based paints
  - Exterior grade paints
  - Paint markers
- Participants may use brushes, sponges, rollers and other methods of painting on the Street Art Wall.
- The following paints and materials are prohibited from being used on the Street Art Wall:
  - Lead-based paints
  - Oil-based paints
  - No 3D or sculptural elements may be affixed to the wall.
  - No physical or structural alterations may be made to the wall, including drilling, gluing or chipping.

## Waste Management

No additional waste receptacles are available onsite at Douglas Fluhrer Park for the disposal of paints and supplies. Please consider this when planning your participation. Participants must remove all of their supplies including all waste from the park. Do not dispose of any paints or supplies in park garbage cans. Dumping dirty water into the waterway or on park property is strictly prohibited.

Participants are encouraged to follow proper paint disposal procedures and bring all paint waste to the City of Kingston's Households Hazardous Waste Facility located at 196 Lappan's Lane, Kingston ON. For more information including open hours of the facility, visit [City of Kingston's Households Hazardous Waste Facility](#).

## Wildlife in Douglas Fluhrer Park

Douglas Fluhrer Park is home to many species of wildlife and is a nesting area for turtles, which needs to be respected. If participants of the Street Art Wall see any wildlife in the park, please keep your distance and do not disturb it or its habitat.

## Illegal Graffiti Management

The establishment of the Street Art Wall encourages use of the wall for sanctioned street art, murals and art. The City of Kingston is committed to supporting a proactive and cooperative approach to managing graffiti vandalism in the public realm while continuously supporting murals and street art that adds artistic vibrancy to Kingston.

If you witness graffiti on another surface that is not the Street Art Wall and wish to make a report, contact the City of Kingston's bylaw department:

- [bylawenforcement@cityofkingston.ca](mailto:bylawenforcement@cityofkingston.ca)
- 613-546-4291 ext. 3135

If you witness illegal vandalism taking place, including any prohibited content on the Street Art Wall, call Kingston Police at 613-549-4660 or go to their website at [www.kingstonpolice.ca](http://www.kingstonpolice.ca) to file a report.