Research Partnership Opportunity

Global MakerSpace social research feasibility study
Reference #: COMM – 0455

Deadline for expression of interest: 4 p.m., October 16, 2019

Opportunity
The Inter-Cultural Association (ICA) of Greater Victoria has proposed the establishment of a Global MakerSpace in Victoria. The ICA is seeking a UVic researcher to conduct a social research feasibility study in collaboration with the ICA.

Expressions of interest
UVic Community Partnerships is requesting expressions of interest from UVic faculty members interested in conducting this research project and/or supervising a graduate student to conduct the research.

Please submit a brief expression of interest (up to 300 words) outlining your relevant background/experience and your interest in the proposed project to communityresearch@uvic.ca by 4 p.m., October 16, 2019. Please quote the reference number of the opportunity that you are interested in. Expressions of interest will be reviewed in late October, and those invited to proceed will be contacted about next steps.

Graduate students: The faculty member supervisor should review the graduate student’s expression of interest prior to submission by the student. Expressions of interest submitted by a graduate student must include the name of the faculty member who agrees to supervise the research and the faculty member supervisor must be copied/cc’d on the email application.

Timeline and deliverables

- November 2019 - February 2020 (negotiable)

The researcher will work in collaboration with the ICA to conduct a social research feasibility study, which includes:

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<th>Deliverable/milestones</th>
<th>Timeline (approx.)</th>
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<td>Developing targeted research questions to be utilized in a focus group setting with newcomer and migrant artisan community members</td>
<td>Complete by mid-December, 2019</td>
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<td>Discussion groups held</td>
<td>Complete by mid-January 2020</td>
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<td>Aggregating and analyzing data to inform next steps in project development</td>
<td>Complete by early February 2020</td>
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<td>Developing a community report of findings (format to be determined in consultation with the ICA)</td>
<td>Complete by February 15, 2020</td>
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Funding
- Funding to support this project is being sought through the ICA. Additional opportunities may be leveraged through the partnership between UVic and the ICA.

Background

About the organization
The Inter-Cultural Association of Greater Victoria (ICA) helps individuals and organizations to connect across cultures. The ICA provides information, support and tools to help immigrants and refugees reach their goals. By engaging people through networks, education, employment, and arts programming the ICA creates a welcoming community.

ICA illuminates cultural connections through community arts. Founded in 1971 as an organization to produce FolkFest, ICA has evolved over the years to encompass many different strategies for the creation and support of a welcoming community for newcomers to Canada.

About the ICA’s Global MakerSpace
The ICA’s Global MakerSpace initiative aims to create a more inclusive creative community by investing in local artisans and artist with diverse backgrounds through training, physical space and access to equipment. The Global MakerSpace will provide an opportunity for newcomer artists to secure meaningful livelihoods by accessing equipment, tools, knowledge and social capital, leading to a more diverse and vibrant economy and community.

Current status of initiative: A literature review has been completed.

The social research feasibility study project will support the development of future project phases (e.g., a business feasibility study) and support ongoing funding proposals for the Global MakerSpace project.

Questions
Please contact UVic Community Partnerships at communityresearch@uvic.ca for more information.

Community Research Partnerships | Research Partnerships and Knowledge Mobilization Unit
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Website: www.uvic.ca/rpk