



CALL FOR PROPOSALS – SCHOOL EDITION v. 2027

**ENTER YOUR SCHOOL FOR A CHANCE TO
BE A PART THIS YEAR'S WARMING HUTS!**

WHY SUBMIT?

- **It's easy!** - complete the 1-page form attached and submit 1 page that illustrated a schematic design idea.
- **Be part of something special** – the warming huts receive international attention, with over 4 million visitors to The Forks each year.
- **The experience** – provide your students with a one-of-a-kind opportunity to turn their ideas into reality.
- **Knowledge** – provide your students with practical, hands-on experience.
- **Bragging rights** – promote your school and show the world how much talent you have.
- **Cash** – honorarium included – replace that old couch in the library!

COMPETITION FORMAT:

Warming Huts + Art Installation

We're inviting schools from all around Manitoba to enter the WARMING HUTS COMPETITION: Arts + Architecture Competition on Ice. One school will be chosen based on their submission describing a process for designing and constructing a warming hut or art installation. The winning entry will be placed along the Nestaweya River Trail located on the Assiniboine and Red rivers in Winnipeg, Manitoba. A jury will select the school based on criteria set out below: Completeness, Engagement, Originality, Representation and Feasibility.

Deadline for Submission:

The deadline for submission to the Warming Huts Competition:

Tuesday, October 6, 2026 at 2:00pm CST.

Further Information:

Peter Hargraves, MAA, OAA, RAIC Event Producer

p. 204.415.3906 e. peter@sputnikarchitecture.com w. www.warminghuts.com

Warming Huts: An Art + Architecture Competition on Ice

Eligibility for the 2027 Competition:

This call is open to all schools throughout the province of Manitoba. One intention of this competition is to connect students with members of the design and construction industry to gain knowledge and hands on experience.

Aim:

To engage the public in the enjoyment of architecture, the arts, and public spaces in Manitoba's most exciting season. Culture matters when it comes to our social and physical wellbeing; it can be fun and meaningful, and this is what we hope to promote. This call for proposals aims to bring these values to students across the province, and to connect them with the creative and construction industries.

Site:

The huts or installations are placed along the Nestaweya River Trail at The Forks in Winnipeg, Manitoba (www.theforks.com). The Forks is located in downtown Winnipeg, at the junction of the Red River and the Assiniboine River. The intersection of the two rivers has made the area a popular meeting place for over 6,000 years. In recent times, the site has developed into a popular destination for tourists and locals alike, with over four million visitors annually.

In winter, the rivers are also used as an alternate route to access downtown by foot, bike, skates, and skis. There are opportunities for curling, hockey and much more. With many access points, the Nestaweya River Trail is a link between communities in Winnipeg. The River Trail is regularly groomed and monitored for safety concerns. There will also be extra security at night to discourage people from damaging the huts.

Weather in Winnipeg during the months of January and February can be extremely cold with temperatures reaching below – 30C. Teams are encouraged to engage the effects of solar radiation, wind chill, and the constantly shifting landscape of the snow-covered river in their thinking. The ice on the Assiniboine and Red River at the end of January can be as deep as one meter thick.

Competition Jury & Selection Process:

The jury is comprised of a rotating group of five of the original jurors who include professional architects, designers, and artists. Four guest jurors representing the broader local community and one student from the University of Manitoba Faculty of Architecture or Fine Arts who was previously involved in the Warming Huts will be selected each year.

The schools will be judged and selected based on the teaching and learning process proposed to develop the design which is to be described and filled out in the School Process and Team Information Sheet. Though the jury is not judging the design of the hut, schools are asked to submit a preliminary design idea in the form of a sketch, picture, collage, painting, etc. to kick-off their design process and exploration.

Selection Criteria:

- Completeness: All parts of the submission are included, and the process description is comprehensive.
- Engagement: A proposed process that involves students and their communities
- Originality: New and fresh ideas- pedagogy and community outreach
- Feasibility: Can the entrant carry out their process as described?
- Representation: Bringing new voices and perspectives to the Warming Huts project

The selected school will be announced to the public in December 2026.

Project Delivery:

Design: The Warming Huts organizers will work with the selected school through a design development process that involves producing drawings, models, or other means to convey their design which will then be submitted for technical review. The technical review is to get input on the design and materials to ensure that construction is feasible and within budget, and to assist in producing construction documents.

Build: The winning school is asked to provide a team to construct and fabricate the winning project. Sputnik Architecture and The Forks Renewal Corporation can assist with preparing construction documents and help connect the school with members of the construction industry as required. The school is asked to submit final construction drawings **by Friday, November 20** to ensure that you and/or the construction team may begin the fabrication process as early as possible. The winning school will be invited to help complete and install their project on the Nestaweya River Trail in Winnipeg, MB. Support is available for student and teacher transport.

Launch: Students and teachers of the selected school team will be required to attend events on **Thursday, January 28th**, and **Friday, January 29th** outlined in the schedule of this document. These events are intended to connect the Warming Huts teams with the local design community and provide the opportunity for visitors of The Forks to engage directly with the design teams. Members of the design team (students and school representatives) will be expected to meet with media and explain their design.

Submission Requirements:

Entries must be submitted in English or French, or if in another language, please include a French or English translation. Entries shall include the following in their submission:

1. **Process and Team Information Sheet** One (1) page maximum.
Please fill out PDF file provided with the following;
 - List the name and location of the school.
 - List the faculty members to be involved, and students. Describe student group, grades, and ages. (The number of students and their individual names are not required).
 - Name of contact person, including contact coordinates.
 - Briefly describe your interpretation of the project goals.
 - Briefly describe your process of designing a hut.
 - Who would you involve?
 - How would you involve them?
 - Why is this process is meaningful to you and the school?
 - Examples include: “involving the students’ grandparents in community history” or “looking for examples of climate change from your community”
 - Briefly describe how you imagine the hut would be constructed and installed.
 - Who would be the potential construction team?
 - What facilities would be used?
 - Briefly describe your expected schedule in relation to the proposed time frame described in this document.
 - Briefly describe why you would like to be involved with the competition and why your group should be selected.
2. **Preliminary Design Sheet** One (1) page maximum.
 - A preliminary idea in the form of sketches, pictures of a model, a collage, a painting, etc. about your design.

Schools are asked to email their documents to: peter@sputnikarchitecture.com

The deadline to receive the documents is **Tuesday, October 6, 2026 at 2:00pm CST**.

Proposals may be presented as part of an online exhibition. By taking part in this call for proposals, entrants authorize Warming Huts: Art & Architecture Competition on Ice, to make public, exhibit and disseminate their proposals.

Project Oversight and Design:

The school representative will oversee the design and construction of the project in collaboration with the Project Manager assigned by The Forks Renewal Corporation. The entrants chosen to participate in the competition agree to work to the schedule established by The Forks.

Honoraria and Budget:

The budget for the creation and construction of each project is \$16, 500 (CAD). This budget is divided in the following fashion:

- up to \$3,500.00 for the designers' honorarium
- up to \$7,500.00 (including taxes) for the purchase of materials and/or the employment of consultants necessary for the realization of the project. This budget is managed jointly by The Forks and the school representative
- up to \$4,000.00 for labour costs for the construction of the project
- up to \$1,500.00 for Construction Management conducted by The Forks

Up to \$1,000.00 is available for accommodation expenses and up to \$ 2,500.00 is available for airfare.

Schedule:

October 6, 2026 2:00pm CST

October 9, 2026

October 12, 2026

October 13 – 29, 2026

October 30, 2026

November 20, 2026

November 23, 2026 - January 26, 2027

December, 2026

January 27, 2027

January 28, 2027

January 29, 2027

Deadline for submissions

Jury Review

Selected School Notified

Design Documents Produced

Design Documents Due

Construction Documents Due

Construction Period

Winner Announcement – The Forks Social Media

Deliver Hut to The Forks

Orientation, Food for Thought Presentation at Faculty of Architecture, 10x20x20 Presentation

Morning TV interviews, Press Conference, Luncheon

The Forks reserves the right not to follow up on this call for entries.

Resources:

Please reach out to Peter Hargraves peter@sputnikarchitecture.com for any questions.

WARMING HUTS v.2027 – SCHOOL EDITION

SCHOOL PROCESS AND TEAM INFORMATION SHEET

Warming Huts: An Art + Architecture Competition on Ice

Please email this document to: peter@sputnikarchitecture.com

The deadline to submit the documents is **Tuesday, October 6, 2026 at 2:00pm CST.**

List the name and location of the school:	
Name of contact person, including email and phone number:	
List faculty members to be involved, and students. Describe student group, grade(s), and age range:	
Briefly describe your interpretation of the project goals:	
Describe your process of designing a hut: Who would you involve and how would you involve them?	
Why is this process meaningful to you and the school?	
Who would be the potential construction team?	
What facilities would be used for construction?	
Briefly describe your expected schedule in relation to the proposed time frame described in this document.	
Briefly describe why you would like to be involved with the competition and why your group should be selected.	