

BENCHMARK

CALL FOR ENTRIES 2023 EDITION

QUESTIONS: info@benchmarkmb.ca

COMPETITION FORMAT - 2023 EDITION

Storefront Manitoba and Winnipeg Trails are launching the 2023 Call for Proposals to select a project for Victoria Beach, Manitoba. The selected project will be installed on the Victoria Beach Trail / 8th to McCawley Trail and open to the community in the Summer of 2023.

The 2023 Edition of Benchmark is a tribute to the late David Penner, the founder and longstanding Executive Director of Storefront Manitoba. David spent summers at the cottage with his family, friends, and dogs in Victoria Beach, and had many adventures on the trails in the area. As such, in lieu of a traditional theme, we have included select images of David's work and videos of him at play.

[inspiration - click here](#)

The project site is surrounded by mature conifers (jack pine, black & white spruce) and trembling aspen, birch and poplar. The forest is the framework in which we are inviting designers to respond with their proposals.

[site photos & info - click here](#)

ELIGIBILITY

The Benchmark design challenge is open to local and international individuals and teams. Individual and teams consisting of designers, architects, landscape architects, and / or artists are encouraged to contribute their designs. Individuals may be students, interns, or practitioners. Multiple submissions are permitted.

SELECTION PROCESS

The project will be selected by a jury with the following considerations:

- The creative response to the brief for the 2023 edition;
- Consideration of budget;
- Suitable for outdoor use (durable, weatherproof, etc);
- Fabrication methods relating to site access as described on page 2;
- Context and interpretation of site;
- Potential for public engagement;
- Consideration of the changing and unpredictable nature of the forest.

The winning proposals will be announced in March 2023 on the Storefront Manitoba website and to local / international media. All winning participants will receive the results of the competition by email. The Jury will not consider any optional or additional materials when judging entries.

The jury is comprised of professional architects, landscape architects, designers, furniture designers, representatives from the local community and the Penner family.



© Stationpoint Photographic

M Residence
David Penner Architects

DEADLINE TO SUBMIT PROPOSALS:

Thursday, March 2nd, 2023
at 11:59PM CST

BENCHMARK

Benchmark is an international design challenge which culminates in permanent installations along Winnipeg and Manitoba's trail systems. The design challenge has attracted entries from all over the world: 5 continents, 21 countries, 7 provinces and 12 U.S. states. Storefront Manitoba and the Winnipeg Trails Association invite individuals and groups from around the world to submit iconic designs that enhance the experience and accessibility of the trails to a diversity of users.

Benchmark is an open competition, made possible through the generous support of: Trails Manitoba, Trans Canada Trail, and the RM of Victoria Beach.

GENERAL SITE INFORMATION

Victoria Beach is a rural municipality located on the southeastern shores of Lake Winnipeg, 100 kilometres north of Winnipeg, Manitoba. A unique feature of Victoria Beach is the restriction of private vehicles in part of the municipality during the summer months, creating a summer haven for pedestrians and cyclists. The RM of Victoria Beach is located within the Boreal Shield and is home to a variety of tree species such as black spruce, white spruce, tamarack, balsam fir, trembling aspen, green ash, white birch and poplar.

The project site is located along the 8th to McCawley Trail, on the north edge of the Victoria Beach Golf Course. Located on Treaty 1 land, the 1.3 km long trail is part of the Victoria Beach Trans Canada Trail and the Borders to Beaches Trail, connecting the beaches of Lake Winnipeg to the Manitoba-Ontario border. The site can be accessed by walking, running, cycling and cross-country skiing.

Design proposals will consider the site, with the existing vegetation and forest floor to remain primarily undisturbed. Site delivery, assembly and foundations will respect the existing pathway clearing (approx. 1.8m wide) and must be designed to be installed on grade or with minimal groundwork required. The transportation of materials to site will be coordinated by the curators in collaboration with the RM of Victoria Beach and the fabricator, Shape Industries. The location and layout of the project will be determined following award, in coordination with the design team, Storefront Manitoba and the RM of Victoria Beach.

PROJECT OVERSIGHT AND DESIGN

The designer will oversee the design and construction of the project, in collaboration with the Benchmark curators. Shape Industries Inc., a local manufacturer, will work with the winning entrants to fabricate the design in consultation with the Benchmark curators. Proponents are encouraged to consider budget; however, Shape Industries will not provide quotations and cost consultations in the competition phase. The designer(s) may select an alternate manufacturer with approval from the curators, following award.

SCHEDULE

December 2022	Launch of the Call for Proposals
March 2, 2023	Deadline for Competition Submissions
March 9, 2023	Adjudication
March 15, 2023	Announcement of the chosen project
March & April 2023	Coordination of construction documents
May- July 2023	Fabrication & Installation
July 2023	Unveiling

BUDGET + HONORARIA

A final budget for each constructed piece will be subject to funding. The breakdown is as follows:

Team / Artist Fees:	\$ 2,000
Fabrication & Installation:	\$ 10,000*
Total Budget:	\$ 12,000

*The total budget available for the piece is to include fabrication, construction and installation.



Site Location (In the middle of the forest? Yep!)

Approximate Coordinates: 50.713406, -96.546263



Site Photo - Existing Forest Context

See link on Page One for more site photos

50% of the Team / Artist Fees will be awarded in March 2023, on receipt of a signed agreement in which you commit to provide a constructed work as per your submission and any revisions as requested by the curators. The remaining fee will be awarded following delivery and approval of the installation.

In addition, up to \$1000 will be provided to help offset transport and accommodation costs for winning teams located outside of the province of Manitoba. Out-of-province teams are encouraged to seek travel grants from their own jurisdictions to make up the difference.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Teams are required to register by emailing a completed Registration Form [[Download Here](#)] to info@benchmarkmb.ca. Benchmark will confirm the registration by providing a unique Registration Number via email to the contact person of the team. The unique registration number must be clearly located on each page that is submitted to the competition.

Proposals meeting the criteria outlined below shall be submitted in English to info@storefrontmb.ca before the deadline (with subject line: Benchmark 2023 Design Competition). Email size must not exceed 7.5MB. Files must follow the format and entry requirements listed below for both team information and design proposal information (1 PDF document).

Design Proposal Information

One Page, formatted for 11" x 17", landscape. Ensure designer information (names, logos, contact etc.) is excluded from the Design Proposal documents:

- Project Summary - describe the concept and the experience offered to visitors, including how the design responds to the competition brief;
- 3D rendering / sketches showing the concept in its entirety;
- Design Detail(s), sketches, plan, elevation(s) - drawings required to communicate the idea;
- Indicate size and the specific materials proposed and methods of installation considering existing site conditions.

Submission document must be in landscape format, PDF with 300dpi resolution.

Team Information

Four (4) page maximum, format for 8.5" x 11" printing:

- Name of proposed project;
- Individual or team members names with brief CV;
- Name of one main contact person;
- A maximum 100-word description of the individual or team, including any relevant technical / design expertise.

Information on individuals and team members will be withheld from the jury until the final selection. Information provided will be used to verify eligibility and to assess whether teams have the capacity and expertise required to manage the design and construction of the installation.



2019. Seesaw bench, JeongChoi Works



2020. Reflection Station,
sophie & hans

Photo by Stationpoint
Photographic



2017. Scattered Spheres, Wood Anchor Inc.

Photo by Stationpoint Photographic

FINE PRINT

- * Decisions of the jury represent their professional judgements and all decisions are final. The Winnipeg Trails Association and StorefrontMB reserve the right to reject any and all submissions.
- * The Winnipeg Trails Association and StorefrontMB reserve the right to use & distribute submission documentation and images for promotion and publication.
- * The scope of Benchmark 2023 is contingent upon funding.