



## **REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)**

### **Purchase of Bernard Langlais Indian Sculpture**

**Skowhegan Regional Chamber of Commerce  
Skowhegan, ME**

**Issued: Friday, May 9, 2025**

**Proposals Due: Sunday, July 13, 2025 (60 days)**

#### **Overview**

The Skowhegan Regional Chamber of Commerce is seeking proposals from individuals, organizations, or non-profit entities to purchase and preserve the 70-ft Indian Sculpture created by renowned sculptor Bernard Langlais. Due to increasing challenges with upkeep, the Chamber is offering the sculpture for sale at the nominal price of \$1.

The sculpture, located between Cumberland Farms and Holland's Variety Drug (off High St) in downtown Skowhegan, is an iconic work of art and a significant part of the community's cultural heritage. The Chamber seeks a responsible party who will ensure the continued care, preservation, and public accessibility of the artwork.

#### **Scope of the Proposal**

Proposals must include the following components:

##### **1. Background of the Applicant**

- Name, contact information, and relevant experience of the individual, organization, or non-profit.
- Evidence of previous involvement in art preservation, public art maintenance, or similar projects.
- List of key personnel involved and their qualifications.

##### **2. Purchase Offer**

- Acknowledgment that the sculpture is being sold for \$1, with any conditions of sale clearly stated.
- Acknowledgement that the sculpture sits on private property, and accordingly will require the landowner's consent for a limited maintenance easement and indemnification.

##### **3. Annual Maintenance Plan**

- A detailed plan outlining how the sculpture will be maintained, including structural repairs, weatherproofing, and any necessary conservation treatments.
- A breakdown of the proposed annual budget for maintenance, including any planned inspections, restorations, or other conservation measures.

- The applicant's approach to managing and securing funds for long-term maintenance.
- 4. **Timeline**
  - A proposed timeline for transitioning ownership, assuming responsibility, and implementing the maintenance plan.
- 5. **Insurance and Liability**
  - A statement regarding insurance coverage, detailing the applicant's liability for the sculpture and any associated risks.
  - A commitment to maintain appropriate insurance coverage to cover any damage or loss to the sculpture.
- 6. **References**
  - At least two references from previous projects or related work that demonstrate the applicant's ability to successfully manage and preserve public art.

### **Proposal Submission Requirements**

All proposals must be submitted to the Skowhegan Regional Chamber of Commerce no later than **Sunday, July 13, 2025**. Proposals should be delivered to:

#### **Skowhegan Regional Chamber of Commerce**

Attn: RFP for Bernard Langlais Indian Sculpture

23 Commercial St, Skowhegan, ME 04976

Or emailed to: [admin@skowheganregion.com](mailto:admin@skowheganregion.com)

### **Evaluation Criteria**

Proposals will be evaluated based on the following factors:

- The applicant's qualifications and experience in art preservation.
- The completeness and feasibility of the proposed maintenance plan and budget.
- The ability to commit to long-term preservation and public access.
- The proposed timeline for taking responsibility for the sculpture.
- References from previous preservation projects or related work.

The Chamber reserves the right to reject any proposal or request further clarification. Final decisions will be made within 30 days of the proposal deadline, and the successful applicant will be notified promptly.

### **Contingency Plan for Unsuccessful Proposals**

In the event that no responsible or feasible proposals are submitted by the deadline, or if the selected proposal fails to meet the Chamber's requirements, the Skowhegan Regional Chamber of Commerce will move forward with the respectful dismantling of the Bernard Langlais Indian Sculpture. This decision will be made in consultation with relevant experts, and all efforts will be taken to ensure that the dismantling process is done in a manner that preserves the integrity and historical significance of the sculpture.

While it is the Chamber's hope to find a suitable owner for the continued preservation of this iconic piece of art, the absence of a responsible proposal will necessitate this course of action for the future safety and security of the sculpture.

**Additional Information**

For more information or if you have any questions regarding this RFP, please contact:

**Skowhegan Regional Chamber of Commerce**

Email: [admin@skowheganregion.com](mailto:admin@skowheganregion.com)

Office: (207) 474-3621