

CHARLOTTETOWN

ART

WALK

A Self-Guided Tour

Experience the city
through the eyes of artists



CHARLOTTETOWN

Great things happen here.

Charlottetown Art Walk

Charlottetown has, for a long time, captivated hearts and sparked brilliant ideas. It's no wonder this gem of a city has played host to some groundbreaking moments in history. Perhaps the most famous idea — a new country — occurred during a fateful meeting in Charlottetown in 1864, which eventually led to the formation of Canada.

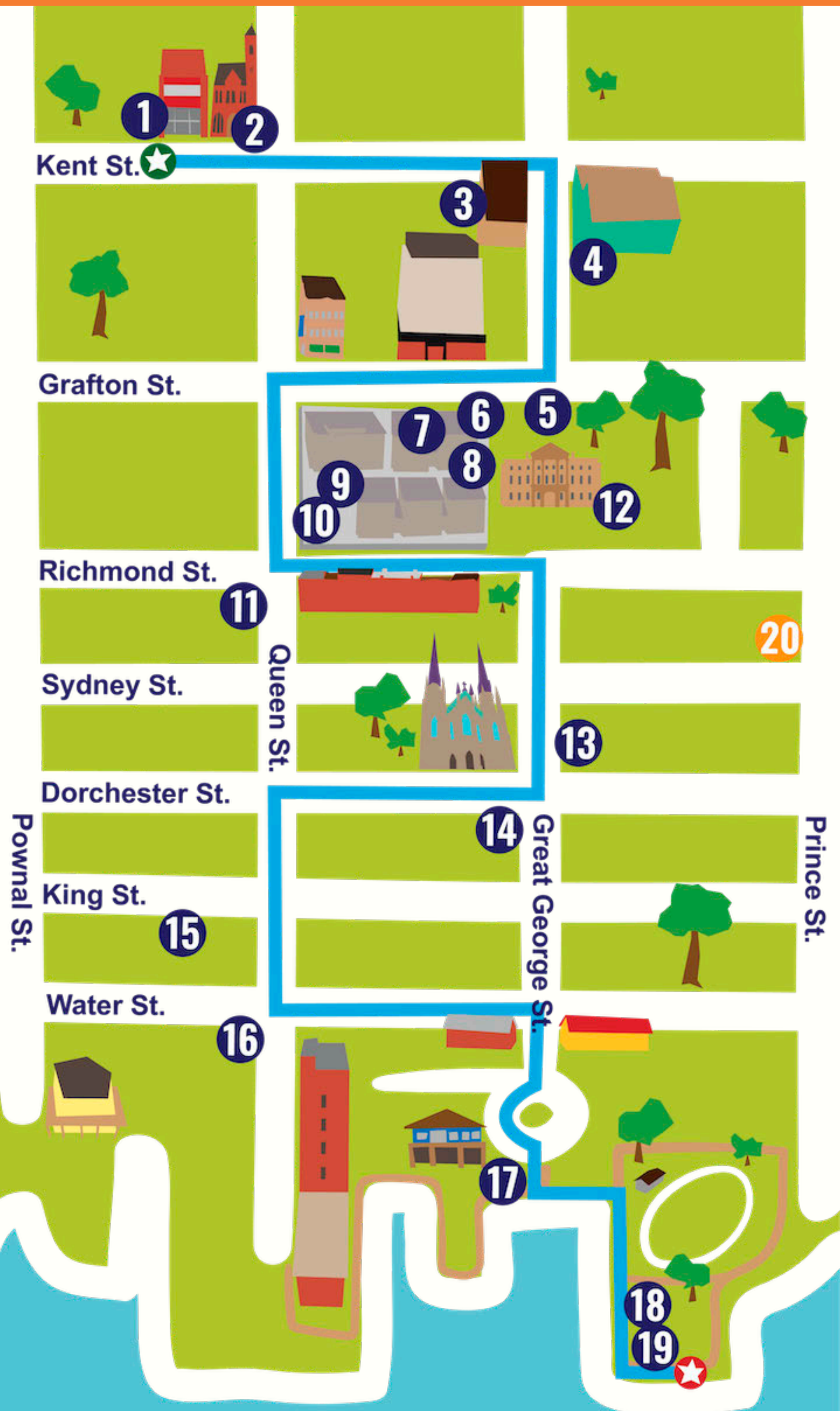
Well before and since Confederation, every corner of this historic city tells an ever-expanding story, and anyone wandering through Charlottetown's enchanting streets bears witness to these overlapping narratives. Artists breathe life into these tales, peeling back the layers of time and inviting us to experience the meaning behind these stories, both old and new.

An essential component of Charlottetown's rich streetscapes is the city's remarkable and growing collection of public art — a beacon of cultural identity. It weaves a vibrant and soulful tapestry that binds the community together and proclaims the diversity of Charlottetown's creative energy.

Focused on the downtown core, this self-guided art walk tour can be enjoyed at your own pace and explored in any order. The suggested route spans just under two kilometres from the Charlottetown Fire Department (89 Kent St.) to Confederation Landing Park. Along the way, you'll discover hidden treasures around every corner, most of which can be experienced from the sidewalk or just a few steps away.

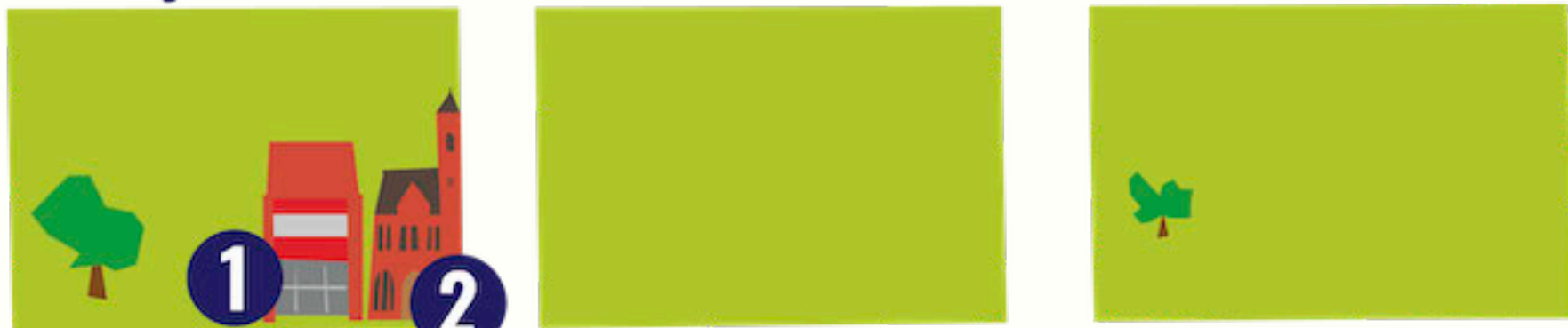
Enjoy a captivating journey along the streets of Charlottetown through the eyes of artists!

Charlottetown Art Walk – full route:



Public art near City Hall:

Fitzroy St.



Kent St. 



Grafton St.



Richmond St.



1. *Mural, Eelco, 2022*



Rotterdam-based artist Eelco's mural depicts owls and foxes camouflaged among expressive colour blocks inspired by folklore and futurism. The vibrant colour palette includes fire engine red, referencing the building's purpose.

Charlottetown Fire Department: Station 1, 89 Kent St.

2. *Eckhart in the City, John MacKinnon, 2009*



Eckhart is the main character in Island author David Weale's book, *The True Meaning of Crumbfest*. Can you find the nine little bronze mice hidden along your route?

City Hall, 199 Queen St., and various downtown locations

Download the clues at downtowncharlottetown.com/eckhart-in-the-city

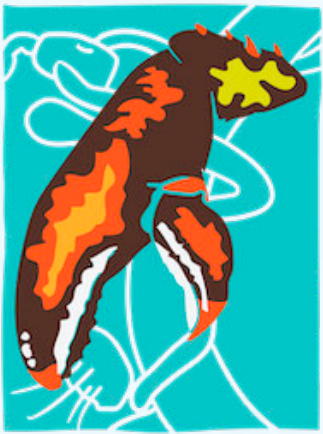
3. *Mural, Misterpiro, 2022*



The swirling and lyrical shapes in Spanish artist Misterpiro's stunning mural have a textural and gestural quality resembling watercolour brushstrokes. The light and airy colours sweep viewers away in daydreams.

151 Great George St.

4. *Mural, Ashop, 2015*



This large mural was created by Ashop, a Montreal-based collective led by artist Fluke. The vibrant spray-painted mural depicts a lobster emerging from a deep blue and teal background featuring intricate nautical imagery.

154 Great George St.

5. *Cenotaph, George William Hill, 1925*



Unveiled on July 16, 1925, this monument honours Islanders who lost their lives during times of war. The site is a focal point for celebrations and commemorative events in Charlottetown throughout the year.

Grafton St. side of Province House

6. *Tahiti, John Nugent, 1981*



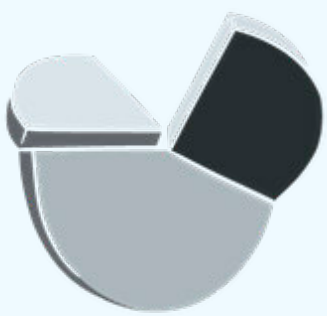
Nugent is known for his influence on Canadian abstract sculpture and occasionally controversial work. His welded steel sculptures often carry prairie landscape metaphors and embody a captivating harmony of ruggedness and elegance.

Lou MacEachern Plaza at Confederation Centre, Grafton St. side

Public art near Confederation Centre of the Arts:



7. *Split Circle*, Gord Smith, 1971



This brushed stainless steel sculpture glimmers in the daylight and is a shining example of experiments in the expressive possibilities of mass and volume that fascinated sculptors in the 1970s.

Lou MacEachern Plaza at Confederation Centre, Grafton St. side

8. *Centennial Dimensions*, Henry Purdy, 1972



Commissioned to celebrate the 100th anniversary of PEI's entry into Confederation, this imposing and distinctly modernist welded steel sculpture conjoins vertical elements arranged in a circle, symbolizing strength in unity.

Outdoor Amphitheatre between Confed. Centre and Province House

9. *Column of the Sea*, Elza Mayhew, 1973



This five-metre-tall bronze column seems at once modern and ancient. Carved with geometric and organic shapes, the piece evokes a poetic monument to an unknown time and place.

Lou MacEachern Plaza at Confederation Centre, Queen St. side

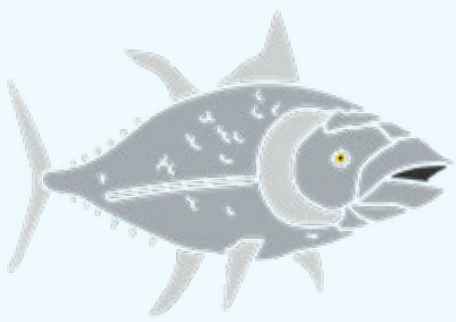
10. *Gothic Ascendant*, Peter Hide, 1986



Much like Gothic literature or architecture, Hide's work strikes a balance between extremes. This towering steel obelisk, featuring an I-beam and train wheel, is animated with sweeping curves and the dynamism of the human form.

Lou MacEachern Plaza at Confederation Centre, Queen St. side

11. *Bluefin Bullet*, Gerald Beaulieu, 2012



This life-sized sculpture of a bluefin tuna is covered in scales made from stainless steel spoons. The metallic fish is a playful commentary on public art as a "lure" in a tourism-driven economy.

97 Queen St.

12. *Boer War Memorial*, Hamilton MacCarthy, 1903



Charlottetown's first war memorial honours those who fought in the Boer War. Two Islanders, Roland Taylor and Alfred Riggs, died in the 1900 Battle of Paardeberg, a major battle during the Second Anglo-Boer War.

Between Province House and Coles Building

Public art in the historic downtown:



13. *John Hamilton Grays, Nathan Scott, 2014*



It's true: the Charlottetown Conference of 1864 had two delegates with the exact same first, middle and last names! The two men, one from New Brunswick and the other from Prince Edward Island, depicted here are engaged in thoughtful debate.

58 Great George St.

14. *Bishop Angus Bernard MacEachern, Hubert Quade, 2012*



Angus Bernard MacEachern emigrated from Scotland in 1790 and became the first Bishop of the newly formed Diocese of Charlottetown in 1829. MacEachern is depicted here holding an ornate crozier, a symbol of the Good Shepherd.

45 Great George St.

15. *Mural, Jieun Kim, 2022*



Toronto-based Jieun Kim is inspired by the folk art of Korea, where she was born and raised. The mural depicts a great blue heron in a dream-like landscape. The bubbles reference the building's history as the former site of Seaman's Beverages.

64 King St.

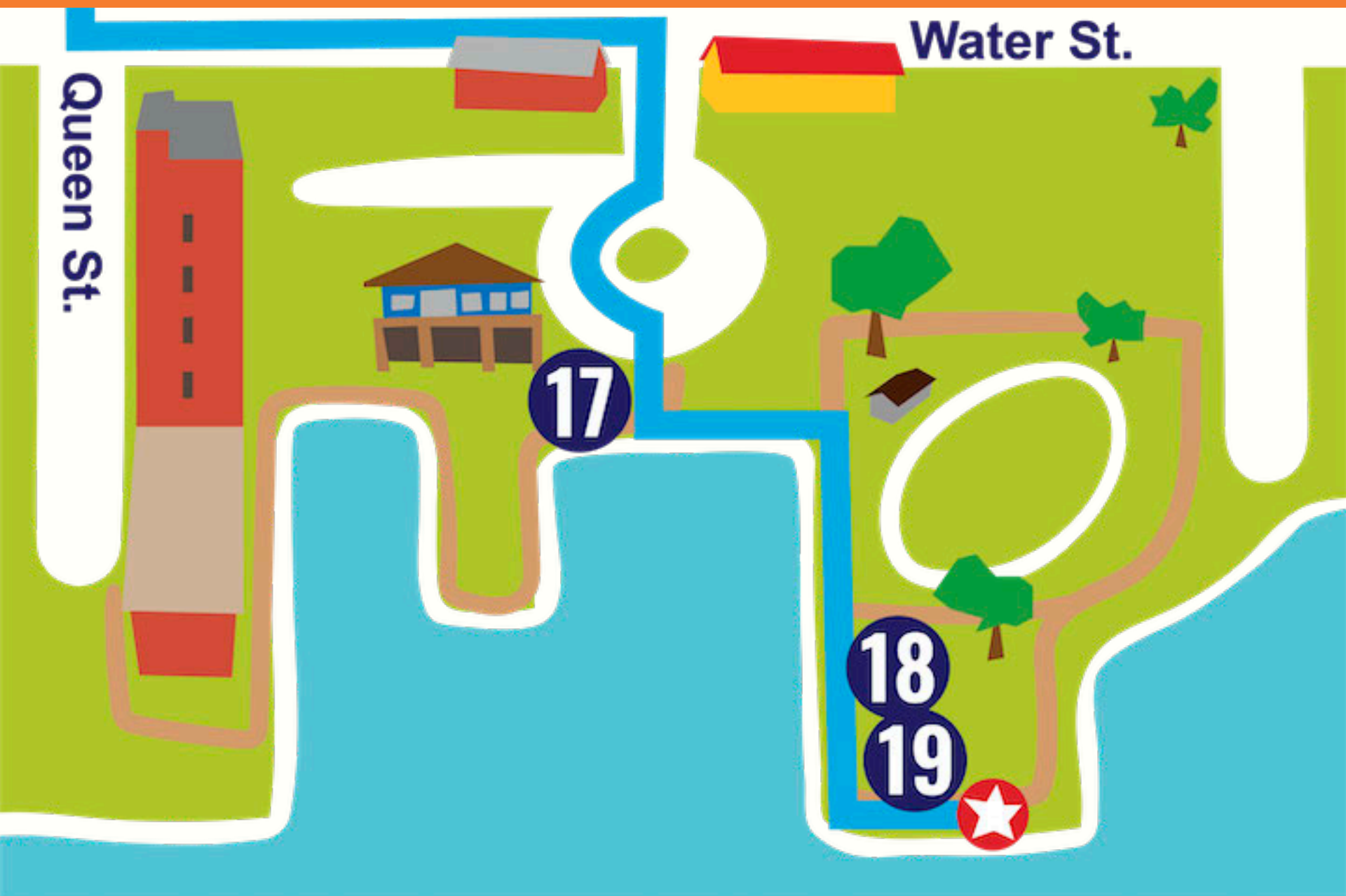
16. *Great Blue Heron, Ahmon Katz, 2013*



Great blue herons are a common sight along the grassy marshes of the Island's coastline. The steel and concrete stucco heron poses patiently, providing a moment of calm amidst a busy intersection.

25 Queen St.

Public art on the waterfront:



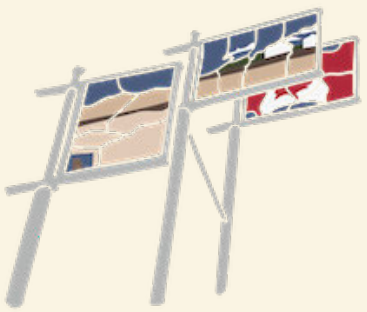
17. *William Henry Pope, Jules LaSalle, 2014*



Pope, one of the most committed pro-Confederation politicians, is depicted here being rowed out to the SS Queen Victoria to greet the delegates arriving for the Charlottetown Conference in September 1864.

11 Great George St.

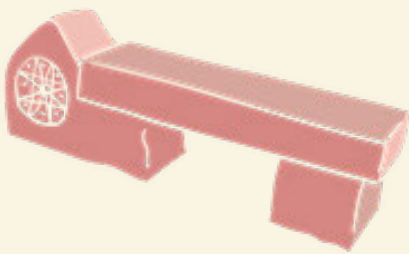
18. *Celebration Then/Now, Christopher and Carl Phillis, 1996*



Created by a father and son duo, this metal and ceramic sculpture depicts scenes from historic Charlottetown and provides a glimpse into the idea of Canada that inspired Confederation.

Confederation Landing Park

19. *Medicine Wheel Garden, Levi Cannon Whitebear and Elder Francis Jadis, 2011*



This garden display is an artistic rendition of the Medicine Wheel, with a bench featuring engravings in Mi'kmaq, English and French. The engraving "Ni'n Na L'nu" translates to "I am one of the people."

Confederation Landing Park

More to see! Public art off the suggested route:



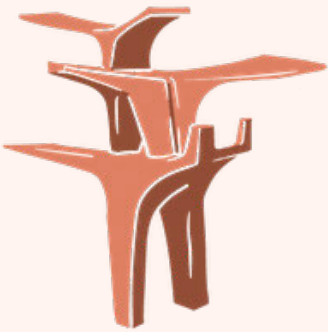
20. *Mural*, Warren Christopher Reeson, 2014



Inside each honeycomb is an image created by children attending a local day camp. Epitomizing the phrase “busy as a bee,” this mural artistically visualizes the building’s occupants’ vital role within the community.

81 Prince St.

21. *Poulia*, Charles Daudelin, 1966



Now the centerpiece of a garden, Poulia, or “birds” in Greek, was originally a water installation. Daudelin links the rusty cast iron sculpture and the pink buildings surrounding it, reflecting the tones of the Island’s famous red soil.

Jones Building, 11 Kent St.

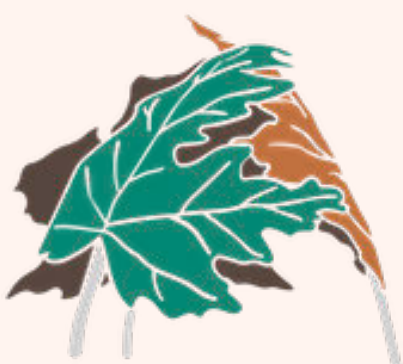
22. *Mark Butcher Chairs*, Kip Jones, 2008



Five bronze chairs, 1.5 times their life-size, are a tribute to furniture maker Mark Butcher (1814–1883). Of Irish descent, Butcher immigrated to Charlottetown, where he opened a furniture factory at the corner of Hillsborough and Kent streets.

Ole King Square

23. *Canopy*, Ahmon Katz and Gerald Beaulieu, 2014



Celebrating the 150th anniversary of the Charlottetown Conference, three enormous bronze leaves — one silver maple, one sugar maple and one red oak — represent our country’s growing and evolving nature.

Charlottetown Event Grounds, corner of Water St. and Grafton St.



For more information on
Charlottetown's public art, visit:
charlottetown.ca/publicart

Charlottetown Art Walk



Designed by Jordan Beaulieu
Illustrated by Duncan Brooks
Cover Photo by Misterpiro


CHARLOTTETOWN
Great things happen here.