

## Graffiti - Legal/Safe Zone - Cannington Skatepark

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### Overview

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Worldwide, over the course of history, graffiti has been both chastised and revered (we've found examples from ancient Rome even!). More recently however, in the twenty-first century, it is being more and more often viewed as the latter, often celebrated and sought out.

For example, large chunks of buildings in London were cut out after works created by Banksy started fetching ridiculous amounts of money. This occurred after the artist began to gain notoriety.

Many businesses in large urban areas are commissioning graffiti artists to make custom wall murals for their buildings and establishments.

While closer to home, the Durham Board of Education offers graffiti classes in its Durham Integrated Arts Camp because, more and more, young people are becoming interested in this art medium.

For this reason, it is somewhat imperative that we create spaces where artists can create and experiment, without the worry of being charged with vandalism or mischief; allowing them to encourage others and create works, which can move and inspire our community.

### Goals

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1. Define a legal safe zone where artists can create graffiti art in Brock Township.
2. Specifically defining a zone at the Cannington Skatepark.
3. Promote a community that encourages best practices in creating the art, while avoiding anything that could be viewed as crude, offensive or juvenile.

### Solutions

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Have the Township of Brock recognize the art form, and provide a legal safe zone for artists to create graffiti works on the concrete of the skatepark, and only within this area of the public park. Any other areas in the township could be open to discussion, but this proposal concerns the skatepark exclusively.

### Benefits

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The Cannington Skatepark currently does a good job of attracting people from outside the community into the town of Cannington. It would be an added bonus then, to attract even more people; creatives travelling here for the day, from other local communities or those on cross country road trips, who seek it out because they've heard through word of mouth or from the internet, of this small town with an open mind towards what art and community means.

## Artist Information

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I am a self employed artist currently focused primarily on building a brand within digital art and NFTs, but I would like to get back to physical works once more and it seems like a win, win to promote my art and my community at the same time.