

NEWS RELEASE

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"Spindle Whorl" to be Relocated

Public art to be installed at corner of Commercial/Wallace/Victoria Cr.

Summary

Since 2010, the City of Nanaimo has been involved in a dynamic and evolving temporary public art program that enhances and animates our City's parks. Each year, outdoor artwork is installed on a temporary basis for the enjoyment of residents and visitors. City parks essentially become outdoor art galleries and showcase artworks for a limited period of time.

"Spindle Whorl" was carved by artist Joel Good in 2013 as part of the City's Temporary Public Art program. Since 2013, "Spindle Whorl" has been displayed in Maffeo Sutton Park for public viewing.

Joel Good is a member of the Snuneymuxw First Nation who brings a unique personal style to traditional Coast Salish designs. Historically used as a tool for spinning wool into yarn, the spindle whorl has become an iconic symbol for the Snuneymuxw. Carvings in relief depict family stories and legends.

This week, "Spindle Whorl" will be relocated to the corner of Commercial Street/Wallace Street/Victoria Crescent (location of the old Spar Tree & High Rigger) and a public seating feature will be installed.

Strategic Link: Public art helps animate our public places and spaces, making them more welcoming, attractive, and contributing to cultural vitality.

Key Points

- "Spindle Whorl" was created by artist Joel Good in 2013 as part of the City's Temporary Public Art program.
- Historically used as a tool for spinning wool into yarn, the spindle whorl has become an iconic symbol for the Snuneymuxw. Carvings in relief depict family stories and legends.
- "Spindle Whorl" will be relocated to the former "Spar Tree & High Rigger" location (at the corners of Commercial/Wallace/Albert) and a public seating feature will be installed.

Quotes

"Public art projects that engage the community in aspects of history and culture can provide communities with the means to improve their environment and the opportunity to develop a sense of pride and ownership over their parks, streets, and public spaces."

Chris Barfoot
Culture & Heritage Coordinator
City of Nanaimo

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Contact:

Chris Barfoot
Culture & Heritage Coordinator
City of Nanaimo
chris.barfoot@nanaimo.ca
250-755-7522

Main Office
Culture & Heritage Department
City of Nanaimo
cultureandheritage@nanaimo.ca
250-755-4483



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