

## NEWS RELEASE

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### City of Nanaimo Celebrates Public Art Week, May 11-15

*Seven new pieces of temporary art to be installed*

#### Summary

The City of Nanaimo is celebrating Public Art Week from May 11 to 15, 2015. Seven new pieces of temporary art were approved for 2015 and will be installed throughout the city in anticipation of Public Art Week. Over the course of the week, residents are encouraged to explore and celebrate the collection of public art found throughout Nanaimo.

Art Approved for 2015: CAKE by Ron Hart & Michael Futega; COMING SOON by Jason Gress; TALL CRABS by Michael Truelove; INFRAWOLF by Tonya Hart; DANCING EAGLE by Joel Good; and SOLSTICE by Elizabeth Wellburn, Deryk & Samuel Houston.

To date, EMBARKING and TALL CRABS has been installed at Maffeo Sutton Park; and SOLSTICE has been installed at MacGregor Park.

Public art is created by artists for public sites. It can increase the sense of place for individual neighbourhoods and the city as a whole. Some art pieces can be permanent such as "Pacific Sails" on the Harbourfront Walkway, while others are temporary such as the Downtown Festival of Banners. Public art energizes public spaces, promotes thinking and debate, and transforms the places we live, work and play into a more welcoming and beautiful setting.

How will you celebrate Public Art Week?

*Strategic Link:* Public Art Week furthers the goals of the Cultural Vitality (Creativity, Diversity, Heritage and Innovation) pillar of the City's Strategic Plan by promoting ongoing investment in public art.

#### Key Points

- The City of Nanaimo will celebrate Public Art Week from May 11 to May 15.
- Seven new pieces of temporary art were approved for 2015, and will be installed in anticipation of Public Art Week.
- Residents are encouraged to explore and celebrate the collection of public art found throughout our City.

#### Quotes

"A successful public art program helps communities develop a sense of pride and ownership in public places and neighbourhoods."

Bill McKay  
Mayor  
City of Nanaimo

## Quick Facts

- Back by popular demand: DUNGENESS CRAB, a popular temporary art piece carved by Dan Richey in 2014, has returned to the waterfront.
- SPINDLE WHORL, carved by Joel Good in 2013, was recently relocated from Maffeo Sutton Park to the corner of Albert Street/Victoria Crescent along with an integrated public seating feature.
- The 2015/16 City STREET BANNERS have been installed on major routes throughout the City. The banner was designed by artist Laura Timmermans.

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