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Innovative Public Art Search at the City of Nanaimo

NANAIMO - Continuing in its strong traditions of culture and technology, the City of Nanaimo is offering residents and visitors an innovative view of Art in Public Places through a new web application.

Art in its many forms has the power to energize public spaces, transforming the places we work, live and play. Public Art can make strangers talk, children ask questions and can enhance a sense of place.

The City of Nanaimo is well known for its support of cultural programs, and received the coveted Cultural Capital of Canada designation in 2008. Development of a Community Plan for Public Art was one of the projects within the Cultural Capitals Program, and included an inventory of Nanaimo's public art as an initial step in the plan.

Given the City's commitment to providing the public with access to information using innovative web services, and its internationally acclaimed use of Google Maps and Google Earth, an online art inventory was a natural fit.

The new online Public Art Inventory allows users of Nanaimo's web site to access information about public art in the City. With this innovative application, you can:

- Explore high resolution, zoom-able photographs,
- View all of the artwork in Google Earth and Google Maps,
- Browse through art photos in a dynamic window, and
- Search by artist, location, type and keyword.

"We have so much to be proud of in our community, and many fine artists enhance our day-to-day lives with their work," says Mayor John Ruttan. "It's nice to have a place where we can go and learn about our local artists and what they have contributed to our cultural experience." Visit the Public Art Inventory today at: <http://www.nanaimo.ca/publicartinventory/> .

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Contact Information:

Jessica Maple
Applications Analyst
Information Technology
250-754-4251 Local 4216
jessica.maple@nanaimo.ca

Kirsty MacDonald
Parks & Open Space Planner
Parks Recreation and Culture
250-755-7506
kirsty.macdonald@nanaimo.ca

Members of the media can also contact Google at press@google.com .