May 11 to May 16 is Public Art Week!

2015 Public Art Installs

On January 19, 2015, Council approved seven new pieces of public art as part of the 2015 Temporary Outdoor Public Art Program. *Installations have already begun in preparation for Public Art Week in Nanaimo!*

1. **EMBARKING** *(installed!)* by Marc Walter
2. **SOLSTICE** *(installed!)* by Elizabeth Wellburn, Deryk Houston & Samuel Houston
3. **INFRAwolf** *(coming soon!)* by Tonya Hart
4. **CAKE** *(coming soon!)* by Ron Hart & Michael Futega
5. **TALL CRABS** *(coming soon!)* by Michael Truelove
6. **DANCING EAGLE** *(coming soon!)* by Joel Good
7. **COMING SOON** *(coming soon!)* by Jason Gress

View the full City of Nanaimo Art Inventory @ www.nanaimo.ca/goto/publicart

SPINDLE WHORL Relocated and Public Seating Installed

Carved by artist Joel Good in 2013 as part of the City’s Temporary Public Art program, **Spindle Whorl** was been displayed in Maffeo Sutton Park for public viewing. This week, Spindle Whorl was relocated to the corner of Commercial Street/Wallace Street/Victoria Crescent (location of the old Spar Tree & High Rigger) with a new public seating feature installed. It’s amazing the power public art has to transform a space into a vibrant place.

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. Joel Good is a member of the Snuneymuxw First Nation who brings a unique personal style to traditional Coast Salish designs. View artist profile on the City of Nanaimo Youtube Channel at www.youtube.com/watch?v=W_2SyHpRKWs.
Created by Quebec Land Artist Marc Walter, EMBARKING was constructed over a week-long period in April 2015 right in Maffeo Sutton Park using local recycled branches. The piece is already capturing the attention and imagination of those visiting the park. It was one of the first “on site” builds the City’s temporary program has experienced, and took 85 hours to complete! The sculpture invites people to dream about a voyage, whether physical or emotional.

**About the Artist**

Originally from Paris, France, Marc Walter has been living for 20 years in the Outaouais, Quebec. He has a 10-year experience creating site-specific landart objects, spaces and events, mostly in a communal way. Particularly prolific in his field, he was awarded the 2014 Favourite Prize of the Fondation pour les arts, les lettres et la culture en Outaouais and its 2007 Grand Prix d’Excellence. Marc has been featured in many Canadian landart-specific events as well as numerous international events in Canada and abroad. The artist is intrigued by how the creation of a separate piece on a given location alters the ability of a visitor to perceive his/her own emotional response. He sees himself as a social actor as much as a revealer (www.marcwalter.ca).

**EMBARKING by Marc Walter**

Created by Quebec Land Artist Marc Walter, EMBARKING was constructed over a week-long period in April 2015 right in Maffeo Sutton Park using local recycled branches. The piece is already capturing the attention and imagination of those visiting the park. It was one of the first “on site” builds the City’s temporary program has experienced, and took 85 hours to complete! The sculpture invites people to dream about a voyage, whether physical or emotional.
**SOLSTICE** by Elizabeth Wellburn, Deryk Houston & Samuel Houston

Created by island-based artists Elizabeth Wellburn, Samuel Houston and Deryk Houston, SOLSTICE has been installed at MacGregor Park. Inspired by a quote by the 20th century French author, Albert Camus, who wrote:

“In the depth of winter, I finally learned that within me there lay an invincible summer.”

The design of this sculpture evokes the idea of transitions (seasonal or otherwise) that happen to people and to the natural world. The days grow shorter and then longer. Colours change as the months pass by. The sculpture is formed by a stainless steel arch in two pieces, with a gap that allows the viewer to pass through or stop and sit while the sun reflects around them, enhanced by translucent mosaics of recycled glass.

**About the Artists**

A three-person family team of island-based artists created SOLSTICE: Elizabeth Wellburn, glass artist; Samuel Houston, sculptor and metal artist; and Deryk Houston, sculptor and painter. As a glass artist, **Elizabeth Wellburn** works in recycled glass of many types, ranging from discarded bottles to discarded industrial glass. Her techniques include kilnforming and mosaic work, preserving glass objects that might otherwise go unused. For this project, she used discarded glass sourced from the Nanaimo area. She recently completed a commission for the Richmond BC “Art in Unusual Places” initiative, with a large mosaic now in place at the Richmond Recycling Centre. **Samuel Houston** is a young artist whose work is already known to the City of Nanaimo through past involvement with the City’s temporary art program (view Artist Profile on the City of Nanaimo Youtube Channel at: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=bIqWjM0ApLc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bIqWjM0ApLc)). **Deryk Houston** resides in Victoria, BC, and has exhibited internationally. He has mounted one man exhibitions in Canada, the USA, Scotland, Iraq, and the former Soviet Union. His work was featured in the documentary film “From Baghdad to Peace Country” by the National Film Board of Canada. He has completed ground art, earthen works in Iraq, Canada and Scotland, in support of children’s rights. Samuel and Deryk have both contributed to Nanaimo’s art scene in the past, including sculptural works at Maffeo Sutton Park. ([www.glass-on-glass.ning.com](http://www.glass-on-glass.ning.com) & [www.derykhouston.com](http://www.derykhouston.com))
Saying Goodbye to a Few Favourites

With the arrival of seven new pieces of temporary art in 2015, we say goodbye to a couple favourites from past years.

• **BORROWED LIGHT** by Samuel & Deryk Houston (2013)
• **GIANT PACIFIC OCTOPUS** by Dan Richey (2014)

Under the temporary art program, all artworks are returned to the artist after being displayed in City parks for at least one year.

DUNGENESS CRAB Home Again

Created by Dan Richey in 2013 as part of the City’s Temporary Public Art Program, the beloved DUNGENESS CRAB has finally returned to his spot on the waterfront!

2015/16 City Street Banners
Installed Along Major City Streets & Corridors

In late 2014, the City of Nanaimo invited all amateur and professional artists to submit designs for the City’s 2015/16 Street Banner Design Competition. A total of eight submissions were received.

The successful banner design, by local artist Laura Timmermans, has now been installed on lamp posts on major streets throughout Nanaimo. The inspiration from the banner design came from her experiences living in Nanaimo, and focuses on lifestyle one can experience while visiting or living in our community.

Laura Timmermans is currently working as a freelance Graphic Designer in Nanaimo. She received her BA Degree in Graphic Design from Vancouver Island University in 2013.

Did you know... The banner program has been brightening our city streets for close to 30 years!
Thank you for supporting the 2015 Culture & Heritage Awards Ceremony!

Thank you to all recipients, performers, sponsors, volunteers and guests who participated in the City of Nanaimo’s 2015 Culture & Heritage Awards Ceremony! Without your help, these awards would not be possible. Held at the Port Theatre on April 9, the 2015 Culture & Heritage Awards Ceremony we honoured the following recipients:

- Arlene Blundell  Honour in Culture  Watch the Video!
- Grant Leier & Nixie Barton  Excellence in Culture  Watch the Video!
- Amanda Scott  Emerging Cultural Leader  Watch the Video!
- Andrea & Tim Lawry - Owners of the McCourt Residence  Heritage Building Rehabilitation (Residential)
- Anglican Diocese of BC - Owners of St. Paul’s Anglican Church  Heritage Building Rehabilitation (Institutional)

Learn about this year’s recipients online at www.nanaimo.ca/goto/culture > Culture & Heritage Awards.

Outstanding performances by:

- Students of Sylvia Knapp’s Tempo Dance Academy, Cayra & Isabel Tansey, students of Vibrant Dance Studio Anwar Ali, Jake Buettel, Jacksun Fryer, Luke McNicoll & Taylor Spooner, and singers Grace Bleaney & Emma Hooton
- Mourning Dove (Alex Hicks & Max Fraser)
- Holly Bright of Crimson Coast Dance Society & Genevieve Johnson

Supported by:

- Members of the 2012-2015 Cultural Committee and Heritage Commission
- The Port Theatre Staff & Society
- Bruce Williams (Master of Ceremonies)
- Kim Smythe (Artistic Director)
- Students of the Wellington Secondary Jazz Academy
- John Barsby Photography Students
- Turley’s Florist
- Blonde Ambitions Communications
- Craig Letourneau Photography
- The Footprints of the Wolf
- Ms. Naomi Beth Wakan (Poet Laureate)
- Chocolaterie Bernard Callebaut
More What’s New...

Nanaimo’s Poet Laureate, Ms. Naomi Beth Wakan

The purpose of a Poet Laureate for Nanaimo is to serve as a “people’s poet” and to raise awareness of poetry and the literary arts and the positive impact literature and poetry can have on community life. Since October 2013, Naomi Beth Wakan has stood as Nanaimo’s inaugural Poet Laureate. Read about Naomi on Island Women or at www.naomiwakan.com.

Naomi made over 30 appearances as Poet Laureate in 2014! View Naomi’s full schedule of upcoming events, photos of past appearances, etc. online at www.nanaimo.ca > Departments > Culture and Heritage > Poet Laureate.

Naomi’s Schedule

- **April 3-May 3** Cascadia Poetry Festival (Nanaimo, BC)
- **May 1** Welcoming Poets to Cascadia Poetry Festival (Nanaimo, BC)
- **May 9** Workshop for ArtLab (Nanaimo Art Gallery) (Nanaimo, BC)
- **May 16** Workshop for Haiku Canada (Victoria, BC)
- **May 17** Gabriola Museum Agriculture Celebration (Gabriola, BC)
- **May 21** Luncheon Speech to Retired Doctors (Nanaimo, BC)

Cascadia Poetry Festival, April 30 to May 3

View the full schedule of events @ www.cascadiapoetryfestival.org/?page_id=1026 or contact ascentaspirations@gmail.com with your questions.

Nanaimo is filled with poetry! It’s the skin of our city, poet Kim Goldberg says. We have a poet laureate, Naomi Beth Wakan; a poem gallery (at the downtown branch of the library); monthly readings with an open mike run by the WordStorm Society at the Vault Café and many other readings and book launches in Nanaimo and vicinity. Now, for the first time, outside the U.S., the Cascadia Poetry Festival will be held in Nanaimo from April 30 to May 3, 2015. See more at: http://www.harbourliving.ca/event/cascadia-poetry-festival#sthash.kWk27ywD.dpuf

Some of the best poetry minds in the bioregion will gather, discuss this place and begin to better understand Cascadia and our role here. The festival was founded by SPLAB, a Seattle-based non-profit organization founded in 1993 and the first iteration happened in 2012.
More What’s New...

Heritage Bike Tour, Sunday May 24

Join the Heritage Planner on Sunday, May 24 for a heritage bike tour of historic downtown Nanaimo. Explore the history of Nanaimo’s past, by bike. Beginning on the E&N Trail outside of Fibber McGees, journey through out town and identify some of Nanaimo’s historically significant homes and structures. Register online at @ireg.nanaimo.ca (using barcode 138408). Registration fee is $5.00 and includes bell or reflective light for your bike.

Want to Participate in Heritage Days?  
Group seeking artists, vendors, floats & more!

Would you like to participate in the Heritage Days Parade?  
Participating in the Nanaimo Heritage Days Parade is fun and easy! Tell your story related to Nanaimo’s past, present or future; and, use your imagination to showcase your people, organization or business! All entries are encouraged. Vendor registration is available online at www.docs.google.com/forms/d/1Wffc90pYmw5zq97RyAuoFKvG0PHxoWy5izqcvUIEVcl/viewform?c=0&w=1.

Deadline for registration is Friday, May 8 at 4:00 pm. For further information, visit www.facebook.com/nanaimohd or www.nanaimohd.com or contact event coordinator Angie Barnard (250-713-9409 / angie@nanaimohd.com)

Nanaimo Army Camp Footage (1930s)

Check out this clip of rare footage of the Nanaimo Army Camp (1939 to 1944) featuring military parades, views of Harewood and downtown. Courtesy of the Nanaimo Community Archives (available on YouTube at www.youtube.com/ArchivesNanaimo or www.nanaimoarchives.ca). All slideshows, images and videos are copyrighted.
More What’s New...

Welcome Nanaimo Culture and Heritage Commission Members (2015-2018)

Following a review of applications, Council appointed new members to a variety of Committees, Boards and Commissions (full listings available here) for a three-year term ending March 31, 2018.

“Council Committees, Boards and Commissions play an important role, both in terms of reviewing and discussing topics of important community interest, but also in their service as a valuable source of information and advice to Mayor and Council. I would like to welcome everyone to their new positions and acknowledge their ongoing commitment to Nanaimo.” — Mayor Bill McKay

Congratulations to those who have been selected to serve on the newly established Nanaimo Culture & Heritage Commission!

- Mr. Daniel Appell
- Ms. Diana Johnstone
- Ms. Jacquie Howardson
- Mr. John Manning
- Mr. Richard Finnegan
- Ms. Wendy Pratt
- Ms. Dawn Marusin
- Ms. Diane Brennan
- Ms. Jill Stannard
- Mr. Mark Robinson
- Mr. Ross MacKay

Thank You to Exiting Members of the Cultural Committee and Heritage Commission

Our most sincere thank you to outgoing members for their ongoing service and dedication to culture and heritage matters in the past years.

We will miss your thoughtful comments and perspective on enhancing the well-being of your community. Goodbye and good luck!

- Mr. Loyd Sherry
- Mr. John Hofman
- Ms. Christine Meutzner
- Ms. Charlene Riches
- Ms. Wendy Smitka
- Mr. Bill Gard
- Ms. Kerrie Low
- Ms. Geraldine Manson
- Ms. Gerda Hofman
- Mr. Kim Smythe
- Ms. Charlene Riches
- Mr. Bill Gard

Nanaimo Conservatory of Music Presents: Festival of Recitals, May 30

The Nanaimo Conservatory of Music’s annual Festival of Recitals will be held on May 30, 2015 from 10:00am to 5:00 pm. The Festival of Recitals is an exciting day of scholarship award presentations, Nanaimo Conservatory of Music student performances, Suzuki Groups performances and scholarship student performance presentations and popular silent auction. Over 300+ people will be in attendance with both students and families Learn more at www.ncmusic.ca.

The Nanaimo Conservatory of Music is currently requesting silent auction items from the business community for their annual fundraising. All donating businesses will be mentioned on Facebook, in the NCM’s recital program schedule and charitable receipts are available. A big grateful thank you to businesses who have already donated silent auction items and services including: Nanaimo Toyota, McLean’s Specialty Foods, Yellowpoint Lodge, Island Naturals, and The Flying Fish. If you would like to support the music community and donate a gift basket, product or service please call 250-754-4611 or email ncmusic@island.net.
FOCUS ON HERITAGE

Identify this piece of Nanaimo’s history and win a limited edition art print of historic downtown Nanaimo by local artist Fred Peters!

How to Participate

1. Can you identify this piece of Nanaimo’s history? Watch this newsletter each month as we feature a close-up visual “clue” that highlights a piece of Nanaimo’s history.

2. Send your response by email only to cultureandheritage@nanaimo.ca.

3. Answers must be sent by email only. The first person to respond with the correct answer will receive a limited edition art print by local artist Fred Peters. Winners will be notified via email.

Last Month’s Clue: Congrats to Pamela Mar, who successfully identified the April 2015 FOCUS ON Heritage Photo Clue: Esplanade Street Tiles!
More What’s New...

Presented by the Nanaimo Historical Society:
Our Coast on Canvas - The Time & Life of E.J Hughes, Thursday May 14

The Nanaimo Historical Society’s general meetings and presentations are held at Bowen Park Complex, Room 1 (500 Bowen Road), on second Thursday of each month at 7:30 pm. This month’s presentation: Our Coast on Canvas: The Life and Times of E.J. Hughes delivered by Nanaimo Art Gallery docent Marie Egan and her husband Mike. Included will be answers to the questions:

• What is E.J. Hughes connection to Canada’s famous Group of Seven painters, and to BC’s most famous artist Emily Carr?
• Where did E.J. spend his childhood years? What is the secret of the Malaspina Mural at the Nanaimo Convention Centre?
• How did E.J. become famous across Canada and Internationally?
• What did he contribute to art and to Vancouver Island?”

All are welcome and admission is free.  Visit the Nanaimo Historical Society’s Facebook page at www.facebook.com/pages/Nanaimo-Historical-Society/466384560135141 to learn more.

The Art of Life Dreams, Saturday May 23

The Art of Life Dreams event will be held in the Diana Krall Plaza on Saturday May 23, 2015 from 12:00 noon to 4:30 pm. Don’t miss out! Get a mini life coaching session around your life dreams (for only a twoonie!); watch local artists turn people’s life dreams into art! see the giant mosaic artwork “THE HOPES AND DREAMS OF VANCOUVER ISLANDERS”; check out the tradeshow of local artists / health & wellness entrepreneurs; and enjoy live music.

For details, contact janetmcdonaldart@gmail.com.

Bastion Opens May 18

Bring your family, friends and visitors to the Bastion for a unique look into Nanaimo’s colourful past. Managed by the Nanaimo Museum, the Bastion is open to the public from May 18, to Labour Day (September 1). Admission is by donation. Along with three floors of exhibits, costumes, and photographs, the Bastion is well known for its exciting cannon firing ceremony which takes place daily at 12:00 noon.
More What’s New...

Poetry with Wordstorm

The Living Room: A free and open democratic reading where people read their own work and listen to others in a circle format. Held on the last Thursday of the month from 4:30 to 6:30 pm at the Nanaimo Harbourfront Library (Room B).

Reading Series @ The Vault: On the last Tuesday of every month, WordStorm meets at The Vault Cafe, 499 Wallace St. Nanaimo, BC to hear new and published writers read their work, and talk about it briefly. 6:30 pm for live music and featured performers. Each event begins with an Open Mic, followed by several featured readers. Come down anytime to hear some great writing, and sample some of Nanaimos finest baked goods! Open mic starts at 7:00 pm. Bring a poem (3 minutes) or prose (5 minutes). Sponsored by the The League of Canadian Poets,The Writers’ Union of Canada and the Canada Council for the Arts. Full details at www.wordstorm.ca.

Bastion Waterfront Farmer’s Market, opens May 15

The Downtown Farmer’s Market will reopen on May 15, 2015 with a new name and new hours. The Bastion Waterfront Farmers Market will be held in the same location (Pioneer Plaza beside the Bastion on Front Street) in downtown Nanaimo. The name change is to better articulate the market’s location. The newly branded market will also replace the Friday Evening Market and will address downtown’s need for a market that allows visitors and employees downtown access to the market which will be held Fridays from 2:00 to 6:00 pm from May to September.

Good Samaritan Kody Laughlin

An inspired heritage bouquet to Speedy Glass technician Kody Laughlin! When noticing spray paint on the window of a downtown business (and heritage building), took it upon himself to grab some cleaning supplies and remove the mess! Full story at Nanaimo Daily News - Good Will Grows Among Businesses (www.nanaimodailynews.com/news/goodwill-grows-among-businesses-1.1873535)

Follow us on Instagram!

See what all the fuss is about! Follow the Culture & Heritage Department on Instagram at www.instagram.com/cultureandheritage.

Connect With Us

Our office is open Monday to Friday, from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. If you have questions or would like more information, please contact us:

Phone: 250-755-4483
Email: cultureandheritage@nanaimo.ca
In Person: Service & Resource Centre (411 Dunsmuir Street)
By Mail: 455 Wallace Street, Nanaimo, BC V9R 5J6