



FOR RELEASE

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## **Exhibition celebrates fine craft in Yukon**

WHITEHORSE—An exhibition of fine craft from the Yukon Permanent Art Collection opens today at the Yukon Arts Centre gallery in honour of Craft Year 2015. The exhibition, titled *Found, Forged and Fused*, includes eight new acquisitions to the collection.

The celebratory year is led by the Canadian Craft Federation. Across Canada, exhibitions, fairs, workshops and other community festivals and celebrations are taking place. In recognition of this nationwide celebration, the Commissioner of Yukon proclaimed 2015 as Craft Year.

"The Yukon Permanent Art Collection features exquisite examples of Yukon's diverse and accomplished craft practice," Minister of Tourism and Culture Elaine Taylor said. "The proclamation of Craft Year and the exhibition honours the talent in our community, inspires others to learn and practice craft, and shares Yukon's rich craft-making traditions with resident and visiting art lovers."

The Friends of Yukon Permanent Art Collection Society and the Department of Tourism and Culture purchased the new artworks earlier this year following a craft-focused call for submissions.

"Yukon fine craft has been a major part of our collection since its beginning in the 1980s," society president Matthew Poushinsky said. "Audiences will experience a fascinating array of approaches, materials and traditions that comprise this part of the collection."

One of the new acquisitions is a piece called *Juk Juk* by Lena White, who used traditional materials and sewing techniques to create an intricately beaded, three-dimensional scene depicting a mother and daughter on a dog sled.

"It is a great honour for me to have a piece purchased for the Yukon Permanent Art Collection," White said. "I appreciate the recognition of the hard work involved and of the devotion I have to my art—it is part of my daily life."

Throughout the summer, the new acquisitions will be on display alongside other works of fine craft from the collection.

"We are thrilled to be showcasing this exceptional display of Yukon fine craft," Yukon Arts Centre gallery director Mary Bradshaw said. "This exhibition demonstrates the rich and varied craft traditions across our territory, from fine beadwork and textiles, to traditional wood and antler carvings to more unusual materials such as hog guts or paper made from nettles."

The annual budget for new acquisitions to the Yukon Permanent Art Collection is \$25,000. The collection now comprises more than 370 original works of art.

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See list of 2014/15 Yukon Permanent Art Collection acquisitions below.

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**2014/15 Yukon Permanent Art Collection Acquisitions**

Title of Work	Artist	Media
<i>Caribou Flagon</i>	David Ashley	Metalwork
<i>My Mother, My Inspiration</i>	Elizabeth Bosely	Traditional sewing
<i>Brothers</i>	Calvin Morberg	Carving
<i>Winged Owl</i>	Maureen Morris	Carving
<i>Red Book of Annaghmakerrig</i>	Helen O'Connor	Fibre art
<i>Wood Ash Glazed Vessel with Lid</i>	Monika Käte Steputh	Ceramics
<i>Journey</i>	Brian Walker	Metalwork
<i>Juk Juk</i>	Lena White	Traditional sewing

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