



FOR RELEASE  
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## **Permanent art collection acquisitions feature tradition and innovation**

WHITEHORSE—Audiences attending Arctic Winter Games cultural events at the Yukon Arts Centre will have the chance to see *Surface*, an exhibit of new works recently acquired for the Yukon Permanent Art Collection.

"We're excited to showcase the collection during the games for visitors and residents to enjoy," Tourism and Culture Minister Mike Nixon said. "Every piece expresses a unique vision, whether it's a mixed media sculpture remembering the historic fur trade, or a painting honouring First Nation Elders. The permanent art collection is an important record of the territory's evolving visual arts scene and a cultural legacy for generations of Yukoners."

The acquisitions were chosen by the Friends of the Gallery through a call for submissions process. Ten new works were purchased through a \$25,000 contribution from Yukon government.

Jean Taylor's painting *Working with Grandmothers* recalls the sense of peace the Tlingit artist felt as a child being taught to sew by her elders.

"I am honoured that the Yukon Permanent Art Collection has acquired this painting," Taylor said. "I like that it has found a permanent home in Yukon as it reflects an activity of women of a Yukon culture. Relationships between a child and grandmother can be sacred and this was in my mind as I painted. I hope people enjoy viewing it as much as I enjoyed painting it."

Other works acquired include:

- Ben Gribben, *Diving Shark*, carving
- Belinda Harrow, *Hudson Bay Company Otter and Suite of 3 Drawings*, textile and drawing
- Meghan Hildebrand, *Firewalking in the South Seas*, mixed media
- Valerie Hodgson, *Yukon Women*, painting
- Manu Keggenhoff, *Water: Change of Moods*, photograph
- Blake Lepine, *Listening for the Ancestors*, carving
- Sylvie Martin, *En tête-à-tête avec Gaïa (Face to Face with Gaia)*, mixed media
- Karen Rhebergen, *I Will Build You a Home*, textile
- Rosemary Scanlon, *Glacial Magic*, painting

*Surface* opens March 6 in the art centre's community gallery and runs until March 29.

For more information on the permanent art collection and the submission process for new work visit the website.

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Contact:

Elaine Schiman

Heather LeDuc

Cabinet Communications  
867-633-7961  
elaine.schiman@gov.yk.ca

Communications, Tourism & Culture  
867-667-5318  
heather.leduc@gov.yk.ca

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