



New Mural to Enhance Topaz Park

Date: Monday, July 19, 2010

For Immediate Release

VICTORIA, BC — Local artist Miles Eldredge, youth and City staff will gather tomorrow morning to celebrate the completion of a new mural in Topaz Park. Located on the park's retaining wall, the mural beautifies an area that once attracted graffiti, and is the winning submission to the City's Parks Mural public art competition held in the spring.

PHOTO OPPORTUNITY

Media are invited to attend the mural celebration and meet the artist. The mural is located in the south west section of the park, parallel to Blanshard Street, directly below the sports field. Parking is available at the south end of the park on Topaz Avenue.

What: Celebration of Topaz Park Mural
When: Tuesday, July 20, 2010, from 11 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
Where: Topaz Park, 3000 Glasgow Street

Local artists were invited to submit a mural design that would engage the public and feature activities and events that have been held in the park. Eldredge's 82 square metre mural depicts various recreational activities, such as soccer, baseball, the annual Highland Games, and children at play. Painted by hand in acrylic paint, the colourful artwork appears larger than life and greatly enhances the area.

Eldredge studied at the San Francisco Art Institute and has exhibited his work at numerous professional venues, including the Martin Bachelor Gallery and Polychrome Fine Arts, and on an international level, on Sothebys online. He currently resides in Victoria. For more information, visit: www.zeromiles.net

Miles Eldredge was one of two artists who participated in the mural competition. Entries were judged by a selection panel comprised of a local artist, a member of the Public Art Project Advisory Committee, and a representative from the Blanshard Community Association, Victoria's sports community, and the Parks, Recreation and Culture Department. The selection process followed the City's current public art policy established in 1993.

Last week, the Governance and Priorities Committee approved in principle a proposed *Art for Public Places Policy*, that if adopted by City Council in August, will increase funding for art in public spaces and expand opportunities for artists and members of the public to participate in the process.

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For More Information:

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