



The Hands of Time: Celebrating the City of Victoria's 150th Anniversary

The Hands of Time artwork by British Columbia-based artist Crystal Przybille (pronounced Sheh-bill) commemorates the City of Victoria's 150th anniversary of incorporation in 2012.

The artwork is series of 12 bronze sculptures depicting life-size hands engaged in activities symbolic of Victoria's past. Each of the three-dimensional hands is unique, varying in culture, age and gender, and quietly conveys significant elements, eras and stories of Victoria's past.

The 12 sculptures consist of hands carving a canoe paddle, holding a railway spike, performing with a fan, carrying blankets, carrying books, holding binoculars, tying a rope to a mooring ring, panning for gold, raising a tea cup, holding a mirror, cupping dogwood blossoms, and digging camas bulbs.

The Hands of Time artwork is designed to reveal a depth of meaning about Victoria – quietly symbolizing significant elements, eras, and stories of Victoria through the ages to the present, beckoning exploration and contemplation. The 12 sculptures represent the twelve numbers on a clock face, 12 months in a year, and Victoria's sesquicentennial in 2012.

The artwork is the winning submission to the City of Victoria's national, juried public art competition to create artwork that celebrates and acknowledges Victoria's 150th anniversary, and was funded by the City's Art in Public Places Reserve Fund.

About the Artist



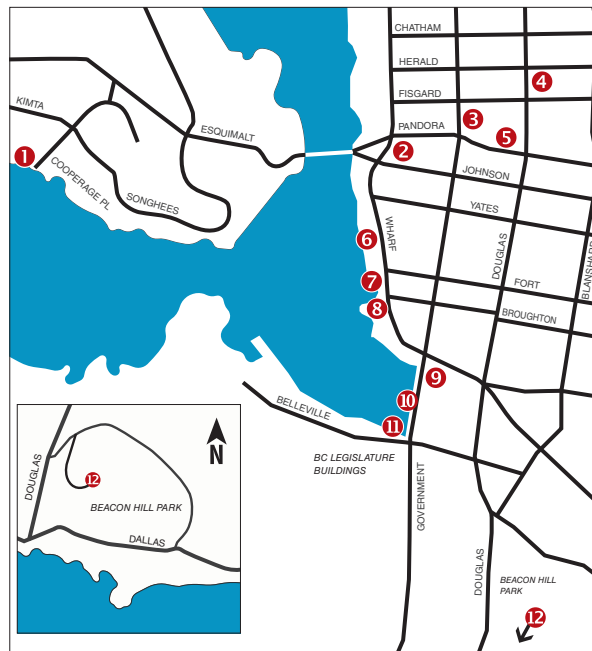
Crystal Przybille was born in Vernon and currently resides in Kelowna, British Columbia. She has a fine arts degree with Distinction from the University of Victoria.

Przybille is known for The Father Pandosy Mission 150th Anniversary Commemorative Sculpture, which commemorates the 150th anniversary of the oldest Euro-Canadian settlement in the Okanagan Valley and is part of the Kelowna Public Art Collection.

The Hands of Time is the first of Przybille's artworks in the City of Victoria's public art collection.

We invite you to explore Victoria's history and identity depicted through The Hands of Time.

The Hands of Time Location map



1. Carving a Canoe Paddle
2. Holding a Railway Spike
3. Performing with a Fan
4. Carrying Point Blankets
5. Carrying Books
6. Holding Binoculars
7. Tying a Rope to a Mooring Ring
8. Panning for Gold
9. Raising a Tea Cup
10. Holding a Mirror
11. Cupping Dogwood Blossoms
12. Digging Camas Bulbs

Descriptions of each sculpture are provided on the reverse.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

City of Victoria, Parks, Recreation and Culture Department, Culture Division

T 250.361.0361

E culture@victoria.ca

1 CENTENNIAL SQUARE, VICTORIA, BC V8W 1P6 | www.victoria.ca/150artwork



The Hands of Time: Celebrating the City of Victoria's 150th Anniversary

1. Carving a Canoe Paddle

Location: On bedrock in Lime Bay Park, southwest of Songhees Walkway

Description: The paddle element of this sculpture was designed by First Nations artist, Clarence Dick. The sculpture references Lekwungen culture, both past and present.



2. Holding a Railway Spike

Location: On lamp standard east side of Wharf Street (between Pandora Avenue and Johnson Street)

Description: This sculpture references the history and impact of the construction of an island railroad in the 1880s, which connected Victoria with the railway system of Canada. This artwork is in proximity to the old E&N railroad.



3. Performing with a Fan

Location: On lamp standard east side of Government Street (between Fisgard Street and Pandora Avenue)

Description: This sculpture symbolizes the significance of Chinese culture and the performing arts in Victoria's identity. It is situated in proximity to the McPherson Playhouse and the gates of Canada's oldest Chinatown.



4. Carrying Point Blankets

Location: On west entrance of The Hudson at 1700 Block of Douglas Street

Description: This sculpture references the historical significance of the Hudson's Bay Company to Victoria's identity. The Hudson's Bay Company extensively traded wool point blankets during the North American Fur Trade.



5. Carrying Books

Location: On west wall of Victoria City Hall at the Pandora Avenue entrance

Description: The sculptural books symbolize education and governance in the Capital City of British Columbia.



6. Holding Binoculars

Location: On brick wall west side of Wharf Street, near Bastion Square

Description: This sculpture looks out to the ocean, referencing the compelling nature of Victoria's geography and the foundation of its tourism and sightseeing industries.



7. Tying a Rope to a Mooring Ring

Location: On bedrock near David Foster Way, below Wharf Street (between Fort and Broughton Streets)

Description: This sculpture references the arrival of the first tall ships to the area and Victoria's nautical identity. Original mooring rings – remnants of Fort Victoria – can be found at this location.



8. Panning for Gold

Location: On rock within landscaping below Wharf Street, near Broughton Street

Description: This sculpture references the Gold Rush of 1858 that brought many people to Fort Victoria. This sculpture is situated near the Custom House, where mining licences were administered.



9. Raising a Tea Cup

Location: On lamp standard at corner of Government and Humboldt Streets, near the Fairmont Empress Hotel

Description: This sculpture references Victoria's traditional, customary and historical connections to Britain.



10. Holding a Mirror

Location: On Lower Causeway wall, below Government Street, near the central staircase

Description: This sculpture reflects the Inner Harbour, which is key to Victoria's history and identity. The reflection and text in the mirror reminds us that where we are now – the present – is a result of all that has come before, and is part of all that is yet to come.



11. Cupping Dogwood Blossoms

Location: On lamp standard north side of Belleville Street, near Government Street

Description: Pacific Dogwood is British Columbia's floral emblem. This sculpture symbolizes Victoria as British Columbia's Capital City, and the importance of appreciating the present and nurturing the future.



12. Digging Camas Bulbs

Location: On rockbed in a landscaped garden on Beacon Hill at Beacon Hill Park

Description: The gathering basket element of this sculpture was designed by First Nations artist Carolyn Memnook. Gathering baskets and digging sticks were utilized by the Lekwungen people to gather Camas bulbs for food. The site of this sculpture overlooks a vast Camas bulb field, a traditional territory of the Lekwungen people.

