



Mural Series Designed to Reduce Graffiti in City Parks

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For Immediate Release

VICTORIA, BC — Murals have the extraordinary ability to transform blank walls into community canvases, resulting in the beautification of local neighbourhoods. This summer, the City's Artist in Residence Luke Ramsey is collaborating with three Canadian artists to develop a series of colourful murals to enhance three City park public washrooms and reduce graffiti vandalism.

Ramsey is collaborating with artists who have extensive mural painting experience: Meghan Hildebrand of Powell River, Jill Stanton of Edmonton, Alberta, and Andrew Dick, a Victoria-based artist. The three parks include Gonzales Park, Vic West Park and Hollywood Park.

MEDIA OPPORTUNITY:

This week through Monday, Luke Ramsey will work with Edmonton-based artist Jill Stanton on the mural at Vic West Park, which will feature a landscape of dogs, people, playful shapes and plant life.

WHAT: Mural painting at Vic West Park
WHEN: Thursday, July 20 – Monday, July 24, interviews from 11 a.m. – noon; painting until 3 p.m.
WHERE: Vic West Park public washroom (near Wilson Street parking lot)

In his role at the City, Ramsey 'keeps art in mind' and works collaboratively with staff and the community to identify and develop a creative artwork for capital projects. In his discussions with staff, it was noted that the exterior walls of public washrooms in parks can often be a hotspot for graffiti vandalism. Ramsey suggested creating artwork that would both enhance these facilities and deter tagging.

The result will be the co-creation of three murals to be featured in the City of Garden's gardens; each with its own theme reflecting its park's attributes. In June, Ramsey and Hildebrand collaborated on the mural at Gonzales Park, which features a landscape of local flora and fauna, representative of the Fairfield neighbourhood, with playful motifs and shapes of beach activities.

The final mural in the series will be painted in collaboration with Andrew Dick at Hollywood Park from July 31 – August 3, which will showcase a landscape of sports equipment mixed with abstract textures and shapes.

The guest artists will receive a fee based on their mural's size and the time associated with creating the piece. The Artist in Residence program budget will cover artist fees and materials, with the City covering the cost of the anti-graffiti coating to be applied to each mural.

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For More Information:

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