



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 14, 2021

Select works of emerging and mid-career Indigenous artists from BC and the Yukon to be displayed at the Museum of Vancouver and later at YVR Airport this fall

Indigeneity Rising, a new micro-exhibition at MOV featuring artwork by the 2020 YVR Art Foundation scholarship recipients

VANCOUVER, BC – On September 15, 2021, a new micro-exhibition featuring emerging and mid-career Indigenous artists opens at the **Museum of Vancouver (MOV)**. The micro-exhibit, **Indigeneity Rising: Celebrating Our People, Our Stories, and Our Traditions**, provides an opportunity for the 2020 **YVR Art Foundation (YVRAF)** scholarship recipients to exhibit artwork they have created over the past year. This is the second year that MOV has hosted this collaborative exhibition.

“The YVR Art Foundation supports Indigenous artists in BC and Yukon through scholarships, travel grants and awards. Part of our mandate is also to secure exhibition opportunities for Indigenous artists. Partnering with the Museum of Vancouver again means that a second cohort of YVRAF scholarship recipients is able to exhibit their artwork in a public museum, and to have an opportunity to reach new audiences.” Susan Jackson, Executive Director, YVR Art Foundation.

The micro-exhibition, which will be on display at MOV until November 14, 2021, celebrates the resilience of Indigenous community members who carry forward artistic and cultural traditions in their daily lives and the resurgence of self-directed Indigenous visual expression. Each of the featured artworks demonstrates the diversity and uniqueness of Indigenous identity today by reflecting upon memories embedded in stories, places, and people from the communities of the featured artists. The works in the exhibition will relocate for display at the Vancouver International Airport in late November.

Through the assistance offered through the YVR Art Foundation Scholarship program these artists have been able to expand their knowledge of Indigenous design by attending art school or studying alongside mentors and masters. The museum is honoured to display these works and invites the public to connect with each artwork to further explore Indigenous Identity, Memory and Culture today.

“For many community members this last year has been a difficult one, from the isolation and fear wrought by Covid 19, to the ongoing recovery of the little ones who were lost to residential schools across our nation. It is important to always recognize and remember these events, but to also find ways to heal. The work of the YVR Art Foundation is about redress and encouraging resilience through awards that support art creation while expanding the cultural literacy of recipients through mentorship opportunities, formal study, and/or encounters with belongings in museums and galleries. The results are powerful and thoughtful works that imbue the power of self-realization.” Sharon Fortney, Curator of Indigenous Collections and Engagement, Museum of Vancouver.

Indigeneity Rising features the work of the 2020 YVR Art Foundation scholarship recipients including: Christopher Auchter, Cyril Bennett-Nabess, Marlo Wylie Brillon, Shoshannah Greene, Jade Hanuse, Jared Kane, Cody Lecoy, Sage Nowak, Toonasa (Jordana Luggi), and Naomi Watkins. The YVRAF's scholarship program awards \$5,000 annually to BC and Yukon Indigenous emerging and mid-career visual artists to pursue their art practice through mentorships, education, or community focused art projects.

About Museum of Vancouver

The Museum of Vancouver connects Vancouverites to each other and connects Vancouver to the world. The museum's programs, exhibitions, and collections bring people together and inspire conversation about the future. The museum, an enthusiastic civic advocate, is an independent non-profit organization dedicated to inspiring a socially connected, civically engaged city.

About YVR Art Foundation

YVR Art Foundation is a not-for-profit, charitable organization that supports the development and advancement of BC and Yukon Indigenous art and artists by providing scholarships, travel grants, awards, and research and exhibition opportunities. For more information about the YVR Art Foundation visit www.yvraf.com.

Institutional Partners: City of Vancouver, BC Arts Council, The Canada Council for the Arts, and the Province of British Columbia

Partners in Redress and Decolonization: xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Sḵwx̱wú7mesh (Squamish), and səliłwətał (Tseil-Waututh) Nations

Listing Information

Indigeneity Rising: Celebrating Our people, Our culture, and Our traditions

Public Opening Date: September 15, 2020

Location: Museum of Vancouver: 1100 Chestnut Street, Vancouver, BC

Website: museumofvancouver.ca/indigeneity-rising

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For further information, interviews, or media inquiries please contact Lorenzo Schober at lschober@museumofvancouver.ca or 604-730-5309.