



Whistle Stop Gallery News

January 2007

Happy New Year to all..
2007 is going to be a great
year!.

We have McBride's 75th Anniversary coming up in August and the town will be full of your friends and relatives. McBride Commemorative coins are available for you to create your own 75th Anniversary memorabilia.

We are looking for artists who wish to participate in the celebrations. We are going to create a cutout of people in period dress – the sort visitors can put their faces into and have their photos taken - Bring **your** ideas to the Station. Period costumes, artist demonstrations - whatever you think is fun! All ideas welcome.

A big thank you to our hardworking board of the Whistle Stop Gallery. We had our AGM on January 18th and we welcome new Chairman Ron Hawkins. Sheilagh Foster accepted the position of Vice-Chair. Linda Fry is our Secretary and Glen Frear remains our treasurer. Directors are: Margaret Griffiths, Regina Kemp, Eleanor Johnson, Debbie Alexander, Margaret Graine and Darrell Roth.

The Whistle Stop Gallery Annual Report will be available at the Whistle Stop for anyone who wishes to have one and online at www.whistlestopgallery.org - click on the members link. Also available is our 2007/2008 Strategic Plan. Please contact the Gallery if you have any questions or suggestions.

Remember that the Board and staff at the Gallery are always available to you and your ideas. Drop by, take a look at all the wonderful things, read the comments in our guestbook and give us your thoughts.

Denise Lamming is a welcome part time addition to our staff and hopes to meet you all in the coming year.

Website

The Whistle Stop website has been updated and will continue to be added to. If any artists have pictures, promotional material, etc. Please bring them in and we will put them on the site. Send us a link if you have a website and be sure to link the Gallery to yours.

Community Work Shops

The Whistle Stop Gallery is conducting artist workshops. Conducted by working artists and crafters, these workshops will offer hands on instruction to anyone who wishes to participate. We are looking for someone each month to teach 2 or 4 (up to you) one hour classes in their area of expertise. Margaret Griffiths was our first instructor and Doreen Beck will be next. This is a great opportunity to pass along invaluable skills to the next generation. There will be a small fee charged to participants to cover materials and the cost of the artist's time. Please call the Gallery at 569-8891 if you wish to participate.

Whistle Stop Art Walk

The Art Walk was a great success this past summer. Some things however do need more thought and improvement. First is the display procedure. We will be working more closely with businesses to ensure that the artwork is attractively and properly displayed. Businesses that do not have proper displays will not have the artwork and we will give others the chance to display a piece. In the coming months the Gallery will work to find the funding for

outdoor kiosks and secure display units in order to protect the artwork and give the public the opportunity to see it.

Second is the ownership issues. We will be asking the artist if they wish to donate the work to the Gallery on the condition that it remain public art work. All of these pieces over the next few years will become part of a larger art display in town, including town murals, sculptures, studios and gardens. If you have any questions or want to contribute an art piece please call the Gallery.

Art Mural Project

The Whistle Stop Gallery has received some funding towards a community mural project. Combining the skills of young people and the teaching experience of our own talented artists, in cooperation with the Village of McBride and local businesses we will paint the town beautiful. Stefi McLean has graciously agreed to spearhead the mural team and will be calling on Gallery members for assistance. Our target date for completion of the first set of murals is July 1st. The people returning in August for the 75th will get a treat!

HAPPY CREATING IN 2007!

Our Website Address:

whistlestopgallery.org

Phone: 569-8891

Email: whistlestopgallery@telus.net



To the Artists,

It has been another fantastic year. Our membership has grown and the quality and variety of the arts and crafts on display keeps getting better. I am looking forward to another great year with you all. I would like to thank the Board of Directors and especially Sheilagh Foster for her advice, encouragement and support. All of you have my thanks as well – it is a treat to work with you.

Dannielle