

PLRAC arts BEAT

"Shaping Today, Inspiring Tomorrow"

April/May 2006

HAPPY BIRTHDAY! TUMBLER RIDGE TURNS 25

As BC's youngest community celebrates its silver anniversary there are some special events being held to commemorate. The date of incorporation is April 9th and in addition to birthday celebrations for the town, it is also the planned date for the groundbreaking of the new skateboard park.

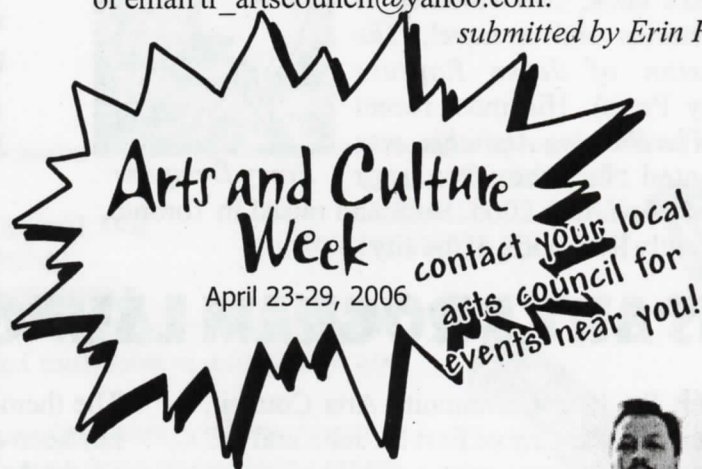
During BC Arts and Culture Week there will be a Performing Arts Day, an Arts Show and Sale, and the Community Choir will be kept busy with their usual round of performances, Gideon Songfest, Easter Services and a Spring concert.

In May, the young people's drama group Theatre On The Ridge wraps for the season with a yet-to-be-announced play. Further ahead, on July 28th is the Review Crew Reunion, which is the gathering of the performing arts group that has made a popular name for itself in the form of adult comedic entertainment. Following that is the highly-anticipated RCMP Musical Ride with two showings on July 29th. More

details as the date approaches..

For information on Performing Arts Day during BC Arts and Culture Week 2006 - as a participant or spectator, please contact Erin Hanna at (250)242-3364 or email tr_artsCouncil@yahoo.com.

submitted by Erin Hanna



Muskwa-Kechika Artist Camp

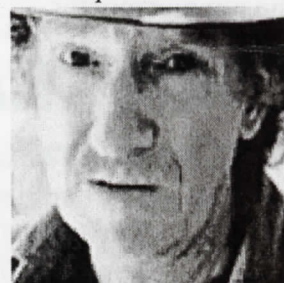
An Artist Camp in the Muskwa-Kechika will be held August 6-14, 2006. This exciting initiative will provide 10 artists from across Canada with an opportunity to create artwork that reflects the diverse and breathtaking Muskwa-Kechika Management Area, located in northeastern British Columbia.

Artists will create collaborative work that will be exhibited at public art galleries throughout the Peace Liard region.

Artists attending include Don McKay, author of nine books of poetry and two-time winner of the Governor General's Award for poetry, story-teller and musician Art Napolean, local artist Emilie Mattson and Victoria based artist Deryk Houston. For more information contact Donna Kane at (250) 784-7613 or email dkane@nlc.bc.ca.



Art Napolean



Don McKay

REGIONAL ARTISTS RECEIVE RECOGNITION

Once again our region has completed a very successful Peace Liard Regional Juried Art Exhibition bringing together the talents of visual artists from throughout Northeastern BC for an opportunity to exhibit and talk to jurors about their work. The South Peace Community Arts Council, Dawson Creek Art Gallery and the Peace Liard Regional Arts Council were the co-hosts for this event, which circulates through five communities on an annual basis.

This year 10 works were chosen for recognition. They were **"Queen"** by Terri LeGear, **"Happy Owls"** by Melina Jacques, **"Kiskatinaw"** by Peter Shaw, **"Second Commandment"** by David Thiessen, **"Geese of the Peace"** by Wayne Sawchuk, **"Chinook Sunset"** by Wayne Sawchuk, **"Blue Cat"** by Patricia Markin, **"String of Pearls"** by Joyce Benson, **"God's Country"** by Carole-May Coty, **"Red Sky at Morn"** by Lorraine Beggs, **"Untitled"** by Lorraine Beggs, and **"Attitude"** by Aleta Tiefensee. From these twelve pieces, a draw was made for a work to receive the **ENCANA RECOGNITION AWARD**. Joyce Benson's **"String of Pearls"** was chosen.

As well, ten honorable mentions were also chosen: **"Oval Vase"** by Laurie Embree, **"Johannes Factotum"** by Alana Hall, **"Sensuality"** by Terri LeGear, **"Al and Joe Go Fishing"** by Mary Mottishaw, **"Connie Comin'"** by David Thiessen, **"Pilgrim's Garden"** by Joyce Benson, **"M' Lady"** by Donna Ony, and **"Millar Road"** by Lloyd Bast.

ENCANA also sponsored a **STUDENT AWARD** which was won by Elizabeth Warner for her work, **"Feline Friends"**.

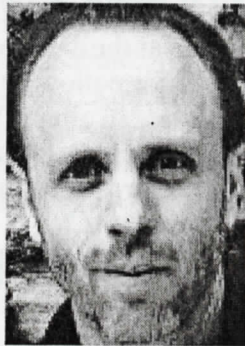
As in previous years the event also included a People's Choice award, this year sponsored by the hosting committee. Visitors to the exhibit will have the opportunity to express their preference for their favorite piece at the Dawson Creek Art Gallery where the exhibit will remain on display until March 25th. Jurors Doug Wills, Tina Martell and Sarah Alford chose the twenty pieces from over 100 works submitted to the exhibit. However each and every artist that entered was a winner as the resulting exhibition was an impressive display of regional talent from throughout the Peace Liard area.

Peace-Liard Regional Arts Council
Shaping Today - Inspiring Tomorrow

Canadian Poets Visit Dawson Creek

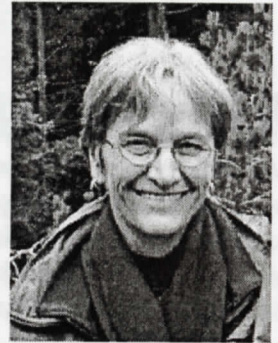
Barry Dempster and Sue Wheeler will read from their newest collections of poetry at the Dawson Creek Art Gallery Monday April 24th at 7:30 pm.

Barry Dempster has written 8 previous collections of poetry, most recently *The Words Wanting Out, Poems Selected and New* (Nightwood Editions) as well as a children's book, two volumes of short stories and a novel, *The Ascension of Jesse Rapture* (Quarry Press). His most recent book, *The Burning Alphabet*, was nominated for the Governor General's Award in 2005. Born and raised in Toronto, he presently lives north of the city.



Barry Dempster

Sue Wheeler lives, works and writes on a seaside farm on Lasqueti Island, BC. Her previous books are *Solstice on the Anacortes Ferry* (Kalamalka Press, 1995) and *Slow-moving Target* (Brick Books, 2000), both short-listed for the Pat Lowther Award. Her most recent book, *Habitat*, was published in 2005.



Sue Wheeler

Admission to the reading is free and everyone is welcome to attend!

BUS ART PROGRAM LAUNCHED IN FORT ST. JOHN

The Fort St. John Community Arts Council, together with the City of Fort St. John and BC Transit, is launching a new arts initiative that will put art on the move in Fort St. John.

"Art That Moves You" is the aptly titled name of the project, and will see local artists' art displayed on the City of Fort St. John Transit Buses, starting in May and continuing through the summer months.

The theme "Sunshine - Here Comes the Sun" has been chosen, and will put a burst of colour on the buses. Local businesses will sponsor the paintings and the proceeds will be used to continue to support public art initiatives.

For more information contact Laurie at (250)787-2781 or email fsjarts@telus.net. Watch for a work of art on a bus near you!



2006 PEACE RIVER ZONE THEATRE FESTIVAL

Hudson's Hope's Pearkes Cultural Centre is the hosting venue for the 2006 Peace River Zone Theatre Festival, held this year from May 3rd to 6th.. This showcase of regional dramatic talent is always an anticipated event, and at this time five groups are confirmed to perform during the festival. These groups are:

1. Alley Kat Players from Fort St. John performing 'Under the Skin'
2. Stage North Theatre Society from Fort St. John performing 'Glengarry Glen Ross'
3. Independent group from Dawson Creek performing 'A Cab Ride Home'
4. Hudson's Hope School from Hudson's Hope performing 'Alice in Wonderland'
5. Independent group from Hudson's Hope performing 'Rock 'n Roll'



Mr. Ian Forsyth is festival adjudicator. He will also conduct a workshop on 'developing community theatre for your community'. For more information on Mr. Forsyth please visit www.theatrebc.org/member/tbnk/tbnk-efgh.htm#Ian%20Forsyth and more information on Theatre BC is available at www.theatrebc.org.

Contact Us!



The Arts & Cultural Society on the Edge (Hudson's Hope)	Rosaleen Ward	783-2377
Phoenix Theatre (Fort Nelson)	Doug Roper	774-2241
Chetwynd Community Arts Council	Yvonne Elden	788-2792
Fort St. John Community Arts Council	Laurie Petrucci	787-2479
South Peace Community Arts Council	Calvin Kruk	784-3600
Tumbler Ridge Community Arts Council	Erin Hanna	242-3364

We would love to hear from you! If you have any comments or information to share, contact the

Peace Liard Regional Arts Council

Phone/Fax (250) 782-1164

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**BRITISH COLUMBIA
ARTS COUNCIL**

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