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BC FERRIES AND FIRST PEOPLES' CULTURAL COUNCIL REVEAL INDIGENOUS ARTWORK FOR NORTHERN SEA WOLF VESSEL

VICTORIA – BC Ferries and the First Peoples' Cultural Council revealed today the Indigenous artistic designs for the Northern Sea Wolf. Kwakiutl First Nation's Richard Hunt and Nuxalk Nation's Danika Naccarella designed the artwork that will adorn the Northern Sea Wolf. The artwork will be displayed on the interior and exterior of the vessel for customers to view, along with profiles of the artists.

BC Ferries and community stakeholders named the Northern Sea Wolf in honour of a First Nations' legend in which the Sea Wolf is a manifestation of the Orca. The designs depict the beauty of the majestic animal, with The Sea Wolf the symbol of family, loyalty and the protector of those travelling their waters.

In December 2017, the First Peoples' Cultural Council issued a call for artists from the Central Coast to submit their portfolios for consideration. A jury of artist peers and BC Ferries representatives identified a shortlist of artists who were invited to submit specific design concepts for the Northern Sea Wolf. The jury reviewed the design concepts with attention to artistic excellence, Indigenous style and the ability to express the vessel name through artwork, selecting and commissioning the designs of Richard Hunt and Danika Naccarella.

Direct seasonal service between Port Hardy and Bella Coola commenced this September with the Northern Adventure. Starting in spring 2019, the Northern Sea Wolf will provide direct summer service between Port Hardy and Bella Coola, with a connector service once a week between Bella Coola, Bella Bella, Shearwater and Ocean Falls. The Northern Sea Wolf will have a significant role in driving tourism, as well as providing ferry service for local residents. Bookings will open shortly for the 2019 summer season on this route. For more information visit www.bcferrys.com.

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Quotes, Artwork Rendering and Artists Biographies Attached.

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Quotes:

“I am proud to showcase the beauty of Nuxalk art with my design for the Northern Sea Wolf,” said Indigenous artist Danika Naccarella. “My design will live on for many years as a representation of my community and our strength. It is an honour to share this opportunity with Richard Hunt and I want to thank BC Ferries and the First Peoples' Cultural Council for selecting our designs. I hope my artwork will help inspire youth in our community and the next generation of Indigenous artists.”

“I would like to thank BC Ferries and the First Peoples' Cultural Council for collaborating on this project and choosing my design, Sea Wolf,” said Indigenous artist Richard Hunt. “Sea Wolf comes from a big family and so do I. I am proud to have the opportunity to showcase my culture, Gilakas'la. I also want to congratulate fellow artist, Danika Naccarella, and extend my thanks to the Songhees people. I look forward to seeing my design come to life on The Northern Sea Wolf.”

“Richard and Danika have created striking designs which pay tribute to the people of the Central Coast and the territory where we operate,” said Mark Collins, BC Ferries' President and CEO. “It has been a privilege to work with two exceptionally talented artists and we are honoured to display their designs on our vessel, the Northern Sea Wolf.”

“We congratulate Danika Naccarella and Richard Hunt for creating these beautiful works of art that will be shared with those travelling their coastal territory. This work is a visual statement to the vitality of the art and culture that comes from this land and is thriving today,” said Tracey Herbert CEO of First Peoples' Cultural Council. “We are so proud to be involved in a project that raises the profile of Indigenous artists and informs travelers of the people who have always lived here and their deep connection to the Salish Sea. Making space for Indigenous artists in this way is an important piece of reconciliation in action and we commend BC Ferries for their continued support through this project.”

Artwork Rendering, Media Conference Photos Attached Below

Interior Designs – Hunt & Naccarella



Exterior Design – Hunt



Event Photos



November 23, 2018 (From left to right): Indigenous artist Richard Hunt, FPCC CEO Tracey Herbert and BC Ferries' President & CEO Mark Collins stand next to Richard's artistic design for the interior of the Northern Sea Wolf.



November 23, 2018: Nuxalk Nation dancers with Indigenous artist Danika Naccarella (centre) and North Coast MLA Jennifer Rice (far right).



November 23, 2018: Dancers from the Nuxalk Nation perform at the unveiling of the Northern Sea Wolf artwork reveal event.

Biography – Richard Hunt

Richard Hunt was born in Alert Bay, British Columbia in 1951. Richard is Kwakiutl and is from T'sakis (Fort Rupert, BC). Richard Hunt's Kwakwaka name is highly appropriate, considering his accomplishments. Gwe-la-yo-gwe-la-gya-lis means "A man that travels and wherever he goes, he potlatches." Through his art, his speaking and his dancing, Mr. Hunt has indeed given much to the world.

Richard's mother was Helen Hunt; her maiden name was Nelson (Kingcome). Richard comes from a family of internationally respected artists, which include his father Henry Hunt, his grandfather Mungo Martin, as well as his brothers, and his cousins. He has lived most of his life in Victoria, where he completed his high school education. He began carving with his father, the late Henry Hunt, at the age of thirteen.

In 1973, Richard began work at the Royal British Columbia Museum as an apprentice carver under his father. The following year he assumed the duties of chief carver in the Thunderbird Park Carving Program. Richard continued in this role for twelve years. In 1986, Mr. Hunt resigned to begin a new career as a freelance artist.

In 1991, Richard Hunt received the Order of British Columbia "... In recognition of serving with the greatest distinction and excellence in a field of endeavor benefiting the people of the Province of British Columbia and elsewhere." This prominent award program was established in 1990. Richard is the first Native artist to be so recognized.

In 1994, Richard received the most prestigious award of his career, The Order of Canada. "The Order was established in 1967 as a means of recognizing outstanding achievement, honouring those who have given services to Canada, to their fellow citizens or to humanity at large."

In 2002, Richard received the Golden Jubilee Medal, the approved creation of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II in honour of the 50th anniversary of Her accession to the Throne, and presented to citizens of Canada "who have demonstrated exceptional qualities and outstanding service to their country."

In May 2004, Richard was accepted into the membership of the Royal Academy of the Arts in recognition for his outstanding achievements within the visual arts. In June 2004, Richard received an Honorary Doctorate of Fine Arts from the University of Victoria. This prestigious award has a special meaning to Richard because his late father, Henry Hunt was awarded the same degree in 1983.

In October 2009, Richard received the BC Creative Achievement Award for Aboriginal Art. "By interpreting what they see, what they experience and their great cultural traditions, these artists provide a gift to all British Columbians through their artwork," said then Premier Gordon Campbell.

In March 2012, Richard received the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal, created to mark the 60th anniversary of Her Majesty's accession to the Throne, and is presented to citizens of Canada “who have demonstrated exceptional qualities and outstanding service to their country.”

In May 2014, Richard was inducted into Victoria High School's “Wall of Fame”. In April 2015, the Victoria TC 1OK road race chooses Richard Hunt's design, “Dancing Heron” as their race logo.

In March 2015, the Royal Canadian Mint releases a third coin with Richard Hunt design. The first, “the Welcoming” followed by “Two Loons” and recently, “Mother Feeding Baby”. In May 2016, Harbour Air Seaplane Terminal unveiled Richard's artwork, “The Family”. In 2017, Roger's Chocolates chooses two Richard Hunt designs, “Hummingbirds” and “Kingfisher” for commemorative tins. This is Richard's fourth and fifth tin for Roger's Chocolates.

Richard is currently working on a 15-foot totem pole for a private collector.

Biography – Danika Naccarella

Danika Naccarella is a Northwest Coast artist descending from Nuxalk & Gwa'sala-Nakwaxda'xw ancestry from her mother and father's side. Danika first began her art practice in the 7th grade when she moved to her mother's home community of Bella Coola in 2009. While attending Acwsalcta School for her high school years she had the opportunity to create and learn Nuxalk art, culture and language. Danika enjoyed painting with acrylic mediums and continued to dedicate her spare time to painting Nuxalk designs drawn by her art teachers. Eventually, her Nuxalk art teachers encouraged her to start learning how to create her own designs. That began her studies of Northwest Coast art forms, from books to museum research. When the time came to pursue post-secondary education it was without a doubt that Danika would decide to enroll in the Freda Diesing School of Northwest Coast Art, at Northwest Community College in Terrace, B.C.

While attending Freda Diesing School, she was instructed and mentored from Stan Bevan, Ken McNeil, Dean Heron, and Dempsey Bob. She learned the very basics of Northwest Coast 2D form line drawing, knife making, and basic wood carving in her first year, which gave Danika a very solid foundation. It was in her second year when they began more complex studies and projects such as bentwood box designs and crest mask carving. After completing the Freda Diesing Diploma program, she returned home to her community where she became the Nuxalk art teacher's assistant. She helped plan and teach Nuxalk art lessons for Kindergarten - Grade 12.

In the summer of 2017 Danika was accepted into the Earthline Tattoo Training Residency, where 6 participants became qualified cultural tattoo practitioners which included design application, cultural safety, and the health aspects of tattooing. Danika learned traditional hand poke and skin stitch tattooing. Culture is very strong in the Bella Coola Valley where the Nuxalk Nation strives on teaching and reviving our traditional ways of life. Danika is now reviving traditional tattooing in the Nuxalk community and ensuring that the culture is being translated in a proper and healthy

way to bring strength to indigenous identity.

Danika is currently working at Acwsalcta School as a teaching artist. Integrating and creating an art curriculum for the students. She is also working on larger mural projects around the school involving student participation. The projects will focus on awareness to suicide prevention using Nuxalk traditional designs & many other topics around our school. While Danika continues to work within the community, she still creates her own paintings and carvings, but hopes to begin expanding her art practice by working with various artists and experimenting with new mediums including jewelry.