



CVAG

COMOX VALLEY ART GALLERY

## 2025 ANNUAL REPORT

Presented at the CVAG Annual General Meeting on May 14, 2026

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**May 14, 2026**

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**GRATITUDE**  
**2026 CVAG ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**May 14, 2026**

The Comox Valley Art Gallery gratefully acknowledges that we are located upon the Unceded Territory of the K'ómoks First Nation. We recognize the enduring presence of First Nations people on this land.

We thank our generous funders + community partners for providing the resources that enable us to serve our community.

**CORE FUNDERS**

City of Courtenay  
Canada Council for the Arts  
BC Arts Council  
Government of Canada  
Province of BC  
Community Gaming  
Comox Valley Regional District  
Town of Comox

**PROJECT FUNDERS**

Government of Canada – Service Canada  
Government of Canada – Young Canada Works  
SPARC BC  
Island Health

**PROGRAM SPECIFIC**

*George Littlechild: Hope for a Better World.* – Art Gallery of Alberta (MJ Belcourt), Capital Power Corporation Kisemanito, Dave Johns, Sure Copy, I-Hos Gallery, John Powell, Winnie, Jessie Everson, Rachel Littlechild, John Price  
*because • not despite* – Tangled Arts + Disability, Hornby Island Arts (Melissa Moore), Terri McCormak, Della McCreary  
*Immersed • RETURN TO WATER 2025* – National Film Board of Canada, Charm Games, Voices of VR

**COMMUNITY COLLABORATORS + SUPPORT**

ABC Printing + Signs  
Art of Belonging  
CVOX community radio  
Canada Wild Productions  
Comox Valley Arts Council  
Comox Valley Regional District Connected by Water  
Comox Valley Spirit Walk  
Comox Valley Transition Society  
Creative Employment Access Society  
Downtown Courtenay Business Improvement Association  
Elevate the Arts  
Employment Access Society  
Everybody Deserves A Smile  
Hitec Screen Printing  
Immigrant Welcome Centre  
MIKI'SIW Métis Association  
McLoughlin Gardens Society  
North Island College Fine Arts Department  
Paintbox Painting  
Queer Centre Comox Valley  
Queneesh Indigenous Community Society  
School District 71  
School District 71 Print Shop  
Shine-Eze Ltd.  
Sid Williams Theatre Society  
Wachiay Friendship Centre  
Wachiay Studio

**COVER IMAGE**

Students viewing *Texada* by Josephine Anderson and Claire Sanford at CVAG – Image by Jojo Jaeger, 2025



Canada Council  
for the Arts  
Conseil des arts  
du Canada



BRITISH  
COLUMBIA



BRITISH COLUMBIA  
ARTS COUNCIL  
An agency of the Province of British Columbia



**AGENDA**  
**2026 CVAG ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**May 14, 2026**

1. Call to Order
2. Welcome from Elder Donna Mitchell
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approval of Minutes from the 2025 AGM
5. Message from the President
6. Financial Report
  - a. Motion to Receive Financial Report as circulated
7. Election of Board Members
  - a. Motion to Approve Report of the Nomination Committee
8. Staff Report
  - a. Executive Director Report
  - b. Review of 2025 Programming
9. Announcements
10. Adjournment

**COMOX VALLEY ART GALLERY**  
**MINUTES FROM THE 2025 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**May 22, 2025, 6:30PM**

**1. Call to Order: 6:35pm**

Board President Jasmin Badrin called the meeting to order and welcomed Elder Donna Mitchell.

**2. Welcome from Elder Donna Mitchell**

Elder Mitchell welcomed guests to the unceded territory of the K'ómoks First Nation, and held a moment of remembrance for the victims of the Canadian Residential School System.

**3. Approval of Agenda**

Moved: Meaghan

Second: Brian

**Passed**

**4. Approval of minutes from the 2024 AGM**

Moved: Rosslyn

Second: Kate

**Passed**

**5. Message from the President**

Jasmin heralded the Gallery's 2 upcoming milestones — celebrating 50 years as an organization, and 20 years in its current space. She also shared about her personal experience of involvement with the Gallery over the past 13 years, speaking to a sense of community, nurturing, and belonging for her and her daughter.

**6. Financial Report**

Jasmin reported that, due to unforeseen circumstances, the Gallery's accountant was unable to complete the 2024 Financial Statements in time to present at the AGM.

She reported that based on what was sent to the accountant, the Gallery is expected to retain a small surplus for the year.

**Motion to refer the 2024 Financial Statements to the Board of Directors for approval**

Moved: Kate

Second: Rosslyn

**Passed**

## 7. Election of Board Members

The following names were submitted for further two-year terms on the Board:

- Jasmin Badrin, President
- Brian Charlton, Member

The following names were submitted for two-year terms on the Board:

- Kerry Ann Griffith
- JoAnn Restoule
- Dan Webb

The nominating committee proposed the following slate of table officers:

- President – Jasmin Badrin
- Vice-President – Meaghan Cursons
- Secretary/ Treasurer – Rosslyn Shipp

### **Motion to approve the Report of the Nomination Committee as circulated**

Moved: Rosslyn

Second: Brian

**Passed**

## 8. Staff Report

Executive Director Report:

Glen Sanford referred to his written report in the AGM package. He thanked the Gallery's volunteers, Board of Directors, staff, funders and donors. He noted that the Gallery's current cash flow is healthy, but operational funding from government sources is not keeping pace with inflation. This will lead to a financial squeeze in the coming year, and the Gallery will have to seek more support from individuals, businesses and corporations to maintain operations in the long term.

Programming Report:

Director of Curatorial Programming Denise Lawson opened by expressing her gratitude to the K'ómoks First Nation for their continued relationship with CVAG, and spoke to the Gallery's commitment to fostering indigenous arts. She then acknowledged Gallery staff for a year of community-integration and reciprocity. Denise referred to the programming report in the AGM package. She noted that 2024 programming covered an array of themes such as grief and healing; colonialism and traditional land stewardship; empowerment and resilience. Each of the six exhibitions in the year was complemented by further thematic programming, including community partnerships and collaborations, creative production residencies, accessible public art-making opportunities, and audio-visual activation of the outdoor-facing screen, visible 24 hours every day.

#### Walk With Me Project:

Christopher Hauschildt, Project Operations Coordinator, recounted the recent impact of the de-stigmatizing project, having reached thousands of individuals in 2024, presenting over 850 Walks in 19 communities, and counting. Caresse Nadeau, Arts and Community Engagement Coordinator for the Project, spoke to her experience curating the *SAFE* exhibition, which presented the artwork and stories of People With Lived and Living Experience of the toxic drug poisoning crisis. Many of the featured individuals held community engagement sessions throughout the exhibition, fostering a uniquely welcoming environment. The artwork and research generated by the project has been compiled into a Zine, available through the Gallery's website.

#### Youth Media Project:

Project Coordinator Krista Tupper described the growing community that has formed around the program, through which youth are empowered to create meaningful art and learn job-skills, often leading to their further employment with CVAG. The videos created in the program can all be viewed through the Gallery's website.

#### Mentorship and Internships:

Glen highlighted the Gallery's commitment to mentorship, and introduced a video that was created both by and about CVAG Student Interns, also available to view on the Gallery's website.

### **9. Announcements**

Glen applauded Denise for the success of her first year acting as sole curator, acknowledging her heroic effort and dedication.

Jasmin recognized Cassidy for undertaking the tremendous task of updating the Gallery's outdated bookkeeping systems.

Sarah Clark and Scott Bertram, co-Executive Directors of Comox Valley Arts, announced they will be partnering with CVAG and others to present *Pulse on the Plaza 2025* — a monthly summer program that activates outdoor spaces in ways that are vibrant, evolving, free and accessible.

### **10. Adjournment 7:41pm.**

**MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT**  
**2026 CVAG ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**May 14, 2026**

Welcome to the Comox Valley Art Gallery's 2026 Annual General Meeting!

I will start by acknowledging that CVAG operates on the traditional territory of the K'ómoks First Nation, the traditional keepers of this land. We are grateful to hold this meeting in such a special place.

2025 was an eventful year for CVAG. While the staff team produced and orchestrated a dizzying array of exhibitions, events, and public engagement activities, the Board of Directors took impressive strides regarding the Gallery's policy and governance. In particular, we completed a Strategic Plan (see the next 2 pages) that identifies the Gallery's visions, values and objectives. We worked in close consultation with the staff team and listened carefully to community feedback. The result is a plan that emphasizes the Gallery's commitments to Community, Social Practice, Resilience and Responsibility, and Leadership.

I am very pleased that our Board members are all standing for another term in office, bringing an important level of continuity as we work to update our policies and bylaws in reference to the strategic plan.

As we reflect on the past year, I want to thank our Gallery team and board of directors for their dedication and tireless efforts. My heartfelt gratitude also goes to the artists who create and present artwork, the community partners who collaborate so generously, the volunteers who give so willingly of their time, and the funders at all levels of government who provide the resources we need to survive and thrive. And most importantly, I want to thank everyone in the community who participates in CVAG programming — your open-hearted curiosity and appreciation is what keeps us going.

Here's to another successful year of art and community connections.

Submitted by Jasmin Badrin  
President, Comox Valley Art Gallery

# COMOX VALLEY ART GALLERY 2025 – 2028 BOARD STRATEGIC PLAN

## MANDATE

The Comox Valley Art Gallery (CVAG) is a regional public art gallery located in the territory of the K'omoks First Nation and serving the communities of the Comox Valley. CVAG is dedicated to fostering and presenting contemporary art by emerging and professional artists, and to connecting the Comox Valley to the broader world of contemporary art practice.

## VISION

The Comox Valley Art Gallery boldly amplifies the transformative power of art to provoke, inspire and impact our community and the world.

We are a nexus, linking community with each other, and to the broader world, through art, story and shared experiences.

We cultivate understanding about the context, meaning, and purpose of contemporary art as a social practice that reflects and responds to the issues of our time.

We witness and celebrate the fullness of human experience, identity, and the life journey.

We uphold integrity and excellence and provide leadership for an organizational culture of respect, curiosity and empathy.

## ENDS STATEMENTS / POLICIES

### 1. Community

- a. We are deeply integrated into the rich fabric of the Comox Valley community.
- b. We are a vibrant hub, and social connection point for residents and visitors.
- c. We are experienced as an inclusive, safe, and welcoming space.
- d. We are recognized as a critical community cultural asset.

### 2. Social Practice

- a. We reflect the stories, experiences and identities of our diverse community.
- b. We are committed to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action.
- c. We foster connection to nature and uphold environmental and climate justice.
- d. We are socially engaged, participatory, interactive and facilitates social discourse and risk taking.
- e. We seek to understand and engage in the dismantling of colonial structures, ideologies, and ways of thinking that center Western norms and power structures.

### **3. Resilience and Responsibility**

- a. We have strong succession frameworks in place for board and staff.
- b. We are accountable, with transparency of roles and purpose.
- c. We have well developed, stable and diverse funding sources.
- d. We are creating a legacy of resources and relationships to support the next generation of the institution.

### **4. Leadership**

- a. We collaborate across sectors to strengthen community and cultivate cultural literacy.
- b. We demystify governance and act as mentors the next generation of board members.
- c. We nurture emerging artists, arts professionals and arts leadership.
- d. We are recognized for collaborative leadership in the non profit and cultural community.
- e. We are a trusted employer with a responsibility of ensuring a healthy work environment, fair compensation and ongoing professional development.

## **REPORT OF THE NOMINATION COMMITTEE**

### **2026 CVAG ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**May 14, 2026**

As set out in the Comox Valley Art Gallery bylaws, the nomination committee is responsible for recruiting 10 people to serve on the Board of Directors. Board terms are for 2 years and staggered so that roughly half the board positions are up for nomination at each AGM.

There are currently five board members in the midst of their 2-year terms. They are:

- Jasmin Badrin (President)
- Brian Charlton
- Kerry Ann Griffiths
- JoAnn Restoule
- Dan Webb

The Nomination Committee submits the following names of current Board members who are nominated for renewed 2-year terms:

- Meaghan Cursons (Vice President)
- Molina Dawson
- Judy LeBlanc
- Kate Panayotof
- Rosslyn Shipp (Secretary Treasurer)

The Nomination Committee submits the following names for table officer positions:

- Jasmin Badrin – President
- Meaghan Cursons – Vice President
- Rosslyn Shipp – Secretary Treasurer

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

### **2026 CVAG ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**May 14, 2026**

It feels like such a recent event — construction crews arriving at Courtenay's old fire hall and transforming the venerable downtown building into a new home for the Comox Valley Art Gallery. But shockingly, 2025 marked the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of CVAG's relocation from a rustic (generous term) old pool on 4<sup>th</sup> street to the custom-renovated Gallery where we operate today. And this, our 20<sup>th</sup> year in the former fire hall, was another journey into a world where powerful art exhibitions, thematic programming, and deep community collaboration combined to make CVAG a vibrant cultural hub.

I have been honoured to work with an amazing team of staff, volunteers, artists and community collaborators. On top of another year of incredible programming — detailed in the programming report that follows — a key development in 2025 was the Board of Director's work to finalize a strategic plan that crystallized the Gallery's vision, value and goals.

While the Gallery's programming and community engagement continues to strengthen each year, there are some warning signs about the road ahead. In these challenging economic times, funding from agencies and foundations is simply not keeping up with inflation. In order to ensure sustainability, we must undertake 2 key tasks: diversify our funding sources with particular focus on increasing support from local businesses; and ensure that our financial operations are as streamlined and efficient as possible. We are taking important steps on both fronts. We are reaching out to more local businesses for sponsorships and donations. And, thanks to the heroic work of Operations Manager Cassidy Gehmlich, we are steadily improving our bookkeeping and financial management systems. In 2025, we successfully completed a transition to a new bookkeeping system (Quickbooks Online) and we have engaged a new bookkeeping firm that will help us to increase our efficiency.

**I want to extend my deepest thanks to CVAG's staff and volunteers. The 2025 team included...**

#### **Gallery Staff:**

- Denise Lawson, Director of Curatorial Programming
- Cassidy Ghemlich, Operations Director
- David Lawson, Technician
- Jojo Jaeger, Gallery Assistant
- Cora Silvestru, Branding and Marketing

#### **Youth Media Project:**

- Krista Tupper
- Dan Peruzzo
- Kat Radford

#### **Walk With Me:**

- Sharon Karsten
- Caresse Nadeau
- Christopher Hauschildt

Interns, Summer Students, Key Volunteers, and Contractors:

- Eve Adams
- Marlee Barry
- Joel Fox
- Griffin Halprin
- Rachael Henshaw
- Janess Iverson
- Samantha Johnson
- Holden McKecknie
- Taylor Robinson
- Stew Savard
- Nabidu Taylor
- Lois Tessier
- Rhea Whitehead
- Gabriella Wong

It is such a privilege to work with such a hardworking and dedicated group of people. But of course there are many others who are crucial to the success of our Gallery — the artists, the volunteers, the community partners, our Board of Directors, and the thousands of community members and visitors from afar who take part in the Gallery's programming.

I look forward to another year of powerful art in our community.

Submitted by Glen Sanford  
Executive Director, Comox Valley Art Gallery

# CONVERGENT PROGRAMMING REPORT

## 2026 CVAG ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

May 14, 2026

### BOLDLY AMPLIFYING THE TRANSFORMATIVE POWER OF CONTEMPORARY ART IN OUR TIMES

In 2025 the board and staff team participated in a revisioning of the strategic plan for the Comox Valley Art Gallery. The mandate, vision, and end statements + policies developed during this process are the core values for the curatorial programming imagined and developed in 2025.

*The Comox Valley Art Gallery (CVAG) is a regional public art gallery located in the territory of the K'omoks First Nation and serving the communities of the Comox Valley. CVAG is dedicated to fostering and presenting contemporary art by emerging and professional artists, and to connecting the Comox Valley to the broader world of contemporary art practice.*

Through a multi-faceted thematic approach that includes artists, educators, students, community collaborators, and multiple presentation and engagement strategies CVAG continues to offer dynamic programming that embodies key words extracted from the 2025 – 2028 Strategic Plan's vision:

*Provoke. inspire, impact, understanding, community, social practice, relevance, inclusive, diversity, respect, curiosity, empathy, celebrate.*

The Comox Valley Art Gallery's convergent programming concept has become the way in which comprehensive and relevant programming is developed. In 2025, this approach enabled us to:

- Support creative practice, connection, and reach.
- Present comprehensive thematic programs that were socially relevant and honoured our commitments to meaningful acts of Reconciliation.
- Meaningful collaborations that enrich community arts + culture + connection.
- To create more accessible programming and safer spaces for all and care for the Gallery's past and future.

### SUPPORTING CREATIVE PRACTICE, CONNECTION, AND REACH

During their internships, summer job placements, and practicums, 9 art students from North Island Collage and Camosan College gained hands-on experience with every aspect of programming and community engagement, for example:

- Installation and take down.
- Designing + facilitating Summer Make Art Series workshops for all ages and abilities.
- Participating in hosting CVAG Art Openings and the community partnered Summer Pulse events.
- Taking part in senior artist-led training sessions that taught how to care for specialized equipment + software and support visitor experience of the *RETURN TO WATER 2025* virtual reality presentations.

Manitoba mid-career Tricia Wasney participated in the CVAG Curated Residency program for the third year. This long span of sustained site-specific research and development afforded the artist an opportunity to mature her concepts for new work which will be presented at CVAG in the fall of 2026.

Emerging disability and social practice artist Taryn Goodwin (she/they) held a creative research and community engagement residency and exhibition hybrid. As a process-based residency and accumulating exhibition, *Shape of Care*, linked their two-year community-research initiative through the Canada Council for the Arts' Sector Innovation and Development Grant that is focused on supporting artists receiving Persons with Disabilities (PWD) benefits and building long-term systemic change in the arts. Goodwin's practice deepens understanding and awareness of mutual aid, academic ableism, Disability Justice, and the Politics of Care.

CVAG and the Wachiay Friendship Centre screen printing studio pooled resources to offer a year-long series of artist residencies for artists both local and those in outlying areas of BC — to develop new art making skills and present their new work in exhibition. CVAG's curatorial intern, Rhea Whitehead, designed and installed the show *Fierce Transformation: Art from the Wachiay Residency* in the CVAG Community Gallery.

CVAG linked our community into the national Truth and Reconciliation discourse by:

- Hosting in collaboration North Island College, Edmonton based film-maker Connor McNally to present and talk about his documentary film *Nanekawâsis* that depicts the life and career of George Littlechild.
- By presenting the body of work *Here I am – can you see me? | ôta niya ê-ayâyân – kê-ki-wâpamin?* originally organized by the Art Gallery of Alberta and curated by MJ Belcourt. \*

\* "I have a keen interest in the promotion and education of Indigenous Arts that relate to our cultural life locally, provincially and nationally," MJ says. "Indigenous Peoples rich contribution to Canada's history and heritage reflects perseverance, strength and resilience and 'Art' celebrates these achievements."

## **HIGH CALIBER, INNOVATIVE, ACCESSIBLE AND SOCIALLY RELEVANT PROGRAMMING USING A CONVERGENT APPROACH THAT MERGES MULTIPLE DISCIPLINES, COLLABORATORS, AND CONTRIBUTORS**

***NO BURDEN* | January 25 – March 22, 2025**

**Chrystal Phan + Lindsay Katsitsakatste Delaronde (Kanienehaka) + Christian Yves Jones**

This program explored all the resulting messy politics, memories, and emotions that arise when cultural identities are foregrounded in art. The work in this exhibition ignited important discourse about the shaping influence can become a heavy burden and responsibility for BIPOC artists. Members of the wider community including - the Immigrant Welcome Centre's English as a Second Language students, Berwick Seniors Art Group, and a number of local schools — engaged in tours, conversations, and the artists' interactive artworks to consider cultural identity as a pigeonhole, a niche, a great opportunity, a political act, a positive grounding force and a call to express a unique and underrepresented artistic perspectives.

***Immersed* • RETURN TO WATER 2025 | April 12 – May 24 2025**

**Josephine Anderson + Claire Sanford | Texada VR Experience + Immersive Installation**

**Nettie Wild + Betsy Carson + Rae Hull + Michael Brockington | Uninterrupted-VR Experience**

*Immersed* • RETURN TO WATER 2025 marked the Gallery's 5<sup>th</sup> year of inviting visitors to programming and community activations that explore the enduring relationship we have with this watery region. Artists working in alternative lens-based practices told the story of the geological and ecological deep time of this watery world. Time capture imagery, interactive installations, animation, sound design, video,

and 3D virtual reality immersed viewers in sensorial encounters that gave voice to the more than human world we inhabit.

*RETURN TO WATER 2025's* unique community engagement projects expanded community outreach:

- A comprehensive year long program — **ChronoScapes | Pinhole Camera Project with Sarah Crawley and 100 community participants** that used timelapse exposure to observe the world around them was concluded through participatory exhibition.
- *Waterways* — 9 Comox Valley galleries came together to co-ordinate a “Gallery Hop” of exhibitions that were thematically related.

***Because • not despite | June 14 – August 30, 2025***

**Persimmon Blackbridge + Taryn Goodwin + L'Arche Comox Valley Artists**

“In Western culture, disability is not accepted as a normal part of life. Society does not expect it, build around it, or embrace it within our daily lives.”

This program disrupted historical perceptions of disability as a failing and problem that requires curing, rehabilitation, or condescending charity. Sculpture, accessible installation, social practice residency and community engagement, videos, artist performance + talks comprised this convergent program that upheld the creative passion and artistic excellence of professional and emerging artists who identify as neuro divergent. Their projects contributed to de-stigmatizing prevailing attitudes towards (dis)ability and raise awareness about the many ways in which difference enhances and expands collective perception and understanding of our world.

***George Littlechild: Hope for a better world. | September 20 – November 15, 2025***

“As an artist, educator and cultural worker, my goal is a better world. It is my job to show the pride, strength and beauty of First Nations people and cultures.... In my work, I am committed to righting the wrongs that First Nations peoples have endured by creating art that focuses on cultural, social and political injustices.”

This convergent program offered a comprehensive survey of George Littlechild's creative practice and life story through exhibitions, video, artist talks, tours, feature length documentary film, and extensive community outreach collaborations. This socially charged comprehensive program responded to past political movements, meaningful acts of reconciliation and reclamation, as well as the artist's lived experience of historic and ongoing settler/colonizer oppression. Its reach was broad within and beyond the Comox Valley.

This program and its comprehensive roster of community outreach were intended meaningful actions of Truth and Reconciliation... but one day in particular is highlighted in this report: September 30, 2025, National Day for Truth and Reconciliation — CVAG is typically closed on this day — but for this program the gallery opened its doors and received hundreds of visitors.

## **MEANINGFUL COLLABORATIONS THAT ENRICH COMMUNITY ARTS + CULTURE + CONNECTION**

In 2025, CVAG continued to partner and collaborate in a myriad ways that fostered the deepening of our

connection to across organizations and disciplines to expand social discourse, advocate for the marginalized, celebrate diversity, and promote art + culture.

### **Community Presentation Projects**

#### *The Reason We Walk:*

This short-term exhibition was in solidarity with the Comox Valley Spirit Walk and the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. Items from K'ómoks First Nation, MIKI'SIW Métis Association, Wachiy Friendship Centre, and the private collection of Toresa and Terry Crawford — represented the spirit of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit cultures from sea to sea to sea.

#### Everybody Deserves A Smile | *Bags of Hope:*

The bags presented at CVAG to raise awareness about EDAS were created this year by École Puntledge Park Elementary students in Mr. Swaney's Grade 7 Late French Immersion class. Everybody Deserves A Smile (EDAS) aims to educate and create with local students and their communities in a heartfelt, homemade way to compassionately reach out to those in need during the holidays.

### **Arts + Culture Celebrations | Community Partnerships**

In 2025, CVAG continued its partnerships with numerous organizations.

CVAG Winter Art Faire, 3 Summer Pulse on the Plaza events, Market Days, Moonlight + Magic, and the Winter Solstice brought artists and community and visitors from afar together to celebrate the richness of culture art and diversity in our region.

### **Social Justice Partnerships**

Each year, CVAG shares its space to engage in acts of solidarity to educate and advance awareness of sensitive social issues.

#### Red Dress Day 2025:

The MMIWG2S+ awareness walk will lead attendees through Downtown Courtenay and past CVAG, where there was 2 special, outward-facing presentations visible all day to passersby — *Bury Me in Red*, a video created by Youth Media Project participant Brandon Gane in 2020 and *Stolen Sister | The Métis*, which was created by Gwen Monnet in 2023 and honours lost women and girls.

#### National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women Vigil 2025:

A vigil with the Comox Valley Transition Society is hosted every year on CVAG Plaza in honour of the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women.

### **CREATE MORE ACCESSIBLE PROGRAMMING AND SAFER SPACES FOR ALL AND CARE FOR THE GALLERY'S PAST AND FUTURE**

In 2025, our programming was supported by Tangled Arts Collective in Ontario, who shared guidelines for creating materials that are more accessible to all. Over the year, we engaged American Sign interpreters

and recorded descriptions of exhibitions, created promotional and wayfinding materials with simpler design elements, more readable fonts + layouts, and installed exhibitions that made art works accessible across the spectrum of mobility and sensory integration.

In 2025, the programming included the presentation of archive materials that honoured the foundation on which this organization is founded. The archive and permanent collections project was begun and will continue through 2026 as a way of holding onto the story of this gallery and the creative practices it has represented over time.

(For more in-depth content please visit the CVAG website: [www.comoxvalleartgallery.com](http://www.comoxvalleartgallery.com).)

Submitted by Denise Lawson  
Director of Curatorial Programming, Comox Valley Art Gallery