

## **ACT ART GALLERY SHOWCASES LOCAL PAINTERS IN *CLOSE TO HOME – GARIBALDI ART CLUB***

### **Exhibition is the Fifth of Five Planned for the 2022/23 Season of Visual Arts**

**MAPLE RIDGE, April 27, 2023** – On Saturday, May 6 from 2pm - 4pm, The ACT Art Gallery will open *Close to Home*, a juried exhibition of paintings created by members of the Garibaldi Art Club.

Each year, the Garibaldi Art Club presents a juried exhibition to showcase a strong collection of their members' recent works. This year's theme, *Close to Home*, reflects the current chapter of emerging from a prolonged pandemic period of staying "close to home".

Garibaldi Art Club President Diane Speirs explains, "over the past couple of years, our artists had social limitations, with some members taking to the outdoors to paint, and others having a creative block. Our shared experience was being 'Close to Home' as our worlds were smaller and more intimate, appreciating beauty around us."

In this exhibition, Garibaldi members share their unique experiences and interpretations of the theme. Working in the medium of paint, artworks include topics such as retreating from the outside world, spending time with family, reviving old pastimes, or finding rejuvenation outdoors through walking, gardening, and exploring natural beauty in our local landscapes.

"The Garibaldi Art Club's 2023 juried exhibition responds aptly to the pandemic period we've all experienced in the last few years. *Close to Home* is a great opportunity for the Garibaldi Art Club to gather and showcase to the community what they've been working on during time spent apart" says Courtney Miller, Curator and Gallery Manager.

Since 1959, The Garibaldi Art Club has organized Maple Ridge artists together to hone their artistic skills primarily in the medium of paint. With a current membership of 72 artworks, the group exhibits artwork several times each year in Maple Ridge and beyond.

The Opening Reception on May 6 is a free event open to the public, and the exhibition will run through June 24, 2023. The ACT Art Gallery is open Tuesday – Saturday, 10am-4pm and on selected evenings.

#### **About The ACT Art Gallery and ACT Arts Centre**

The ACT Arts Centre, opened in 2003, is operated by the Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows Arts Council, and provides excellence in Arts Learning Programs, Gallery Exhibitions and Performing Arts Presentations. The centre is home to many cultural and community events, reaching over 70,000 patrons annually.

A dedicated Community Gallery space inside The ACT Art Centre; The ACT Art Gallery fulfills its mission to broaden and enrich the public's appreciation and understanding of the visual arts by presenting engaging and diverse displays of artwork by local, regional, and national artists, and accompanying talks, workshops, and other presentations. The adjacent Gallery Shop offers a diverse selection of art and handmade goods including ceramics, jewelry candles, artwork, art cards, glassware, and home goods, supporting local artists and artisans.

The ACT Arts Centre gratefully acknowledges the generous support of [Morningstar Homes](#) as the 2022/23 season title sponsor, and support from The Department of Canadian Heritage, The BC Arts Council, The Province of British Columbia, The City of Maple Ridge, Prospera Credit Union and many generous individual and business donors and sponsors.

We acknowledge that we are fortunate to be able to work, create, learn, and connect on the traditional unceded territories of the Katzie First Nation and Kwantlen First Nation.

Please visit us at <https://theactmapleridge.org/close-to-home>.

Media contact: Courtney Miller, Gallery Manager and Curator: 604 476 4240.

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**Exhibition Dates:** Saturday, May 6 – Saturday, June 24, 2023  
**Opening Reception:** Saturday, May 6, 2023, from 2-4pm (FREE)  
**Gallery Hours:** Tuesday – Saturday, 10am-4pm and selected evenings  
**Location:** The ACT Art Gallery (at The ACT Arts Centre)  
11944 Haney Place, Maple Ridge, BC, V2X 6G1