

Tourism and Culture banner project 2017

In 2017, six Yukon artists were selected to create original artwork to appear on tourism banners throughout the territory.

The Tourism Banner Project seeks to showcase Yukon artwork, while welcoming visitors to Yukon communities. The banners are displayed outdoors at visitor attractions and along roadways.

Banner designs creatively feature six themes highlighting Yukon's culture and wilderness, Canada's 150th anniversary and Alaska Highway's 75th anniversary.

Erin Dixon

Alaska Highway 75th Anniversary

A long time Yukoner, Erin Dixon is inspired by the territory's trails and trees. Her family spends summers camping and hiking, and winters ice fishing and snowshoeing. She uses lively and intense colour combinations to define Yukon's wilderness and express what it is like to live here.

In Alaska Highway 75th Anniversary, Dixon draws from the many childhood trips she made up and down the highway with her family. The mountains in the painting are drawn from one of her strongest memories of the Old Alaska Highway, where the road ran through Pink Mountain and Steamboat Mountain, and the cliffs rise up one side and drop down the other.

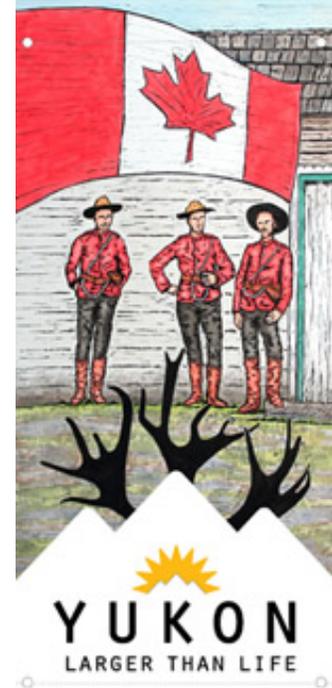


Leslie Leong

Canada's 150th Anniversary

Leslie Leong lives and works in Whitehorse, Yukon. She has an inquiring mind and an obsessive drive to create. While her practice began with photography, it became multi-disciplinary, often involving non-traditional materials and techniques. She is currently focusing her artistic expression in five areas: jewelry, ceramics, mixed-media art, photography and linocut printmaking.

For Canada's 150th Anniversary banner design, Leong created a linocut of Klondike Gold Rush Mounties in red serge, and hand coloured the print with watercolours. The design illustrates Yukon's unity with Canada, the world-famous period in Yukon's history and iconic caribou antlers of Canada's north.



Daphne Mennell

Living History

After more than 35 years in the territory, Daphne Mennell is still falling in love with this place. She is a self-taught artist whose work covers a variety of media including textile and stained glass. Over the last few years she has gained a reputation for her oil paintings and the large public metal sculptures that she creates with journeyman welder Roger Poole.

Mennell's oil painting Living History is inspired by traditional hand games. Mennell highlights a chorus of drums held by young First Nation drummers, a familiar scene in stick gambling. The animated ring of drummers surround the competitors as each team takes turns guessing and tricking each other.



Stephanie Ryan

Immersed in Nature

Stephanie Ryan is a watercolour artist living in Whitehorse, Yukon who also works as a backcountry ranger on the Chilkoot Trail. The wild rivers and mountainsides inspire her art and spirit, and in the winters she paints in her studio and skis the local mountains.

Ryan was inspired by the theme and title of her banner, Immersed in Nature. She offers the viewer an experience of being underwater in a spawning-salmon stream, with a grizzly bear! For Ryan, the beauty of art is the freedom to depict that which is not readily seen by the naked eye and to inspire people to connect more deeply with the world around them.



Rosemary Scanlon

Encounter Adventure

Rosemary Scanlon holds a Master of Fine Arts from Glasgow School of Art and a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Concordia University. Her watercolour paintings explore the fantasy and reality of northern life and are influenced by diverse sources such as medieval tapestry, paintings of religious icons and photographs of everyday life.

In creating the artwork for the Encounter Adventure banner, Scanlon strived to reflect the magic of Yukon and the trip one takes to get here. Wanting to keep the experience and access to the journey neutral, she placed the figure in silhouette; anyone may cast themselves into the adventure.



Lorraine M. Wolfe

The Yukon

Lorraine Wolfe is an Inland Tlingit of the Carcross/Tagish First Nation. She belongs to Dakhl'awèdí (Eagle) or Killer Whale Clan. During her childhood, her family lived off the land for several years in a cabin on Francis Lake. She has spent most her life in the small community of Teslin and during her years there, she and her children were immersed in the strong and rich Tlingit culture.

Wolfe found inspiration for The Yukon banner in the vast range of colours and northern lights that illuminate Yukon's majestic beauty. The design in her piece references the legend Raven Brings Light, which has many slightly different versions, of Raven keeping the moon and sun safe inside a bentwood box.



For more information about this project, email arts.yukon@gov.yk.ca.

