

Press Release
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Richmond Art Gallery
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VANCOUVER
FOUNDATION

Richmond Art Gallery receives grant from Vancouver Foundation

The Richmond Art Gallery (RAG) has received an award of a grant from the **Vancouver Foundation** of \$8,500. The grant will contribute support to the exhibition and catalogue for *25 Years/25 Artists*.

25 Years/25 Artists will be the focal point of events commemorating the RAG's Silver Anniversary. The exhibition and catalogue will acknowledge shows and artists that have been key to the development of the Gallery.

"This project is much more than a celebration", says Director/Curator Corrine Corry. It offers the opportunity to raise the Richmond Art Gallery's profile locally and nationally. The 25 artists selected for the exhibition will represent elements of the life of the Richmond Art Gallery as well as the history of contemporary art in BC. The number of artists involved and the diversity of the work to be exhibited suggests that *25 Years/25 Artists* will reach a very large regional audience. Each of the artists will show not only a work from the era of their earlier exhibition, but will present an artwork recently produced. This pair of works from each artist will characterize developments in artist's practice and will allow an appreciation of contemporary art practices.

The RAG receives operating funding from the City of Richmond, BC Arts Council and Canada Council for the Arts; project funding from BC Gaming Branch as well as numerous sponsors and donors; and the Association raises funds through their annual gala, *Life is a Masquerade*. The grant from the Vancouver Foundation provides a major portion of those funds.

(30)

See page 2 for backgrounder information on Vancouver Foundation

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Backgrounder Information

Vancouver Foundation At A Glance

Vancouver Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to strengthening Communities across British Columbia. As Canada's largest community foundation, it manages more than 830 separate endowment funds worth approximately \$546 million. In 2003, Vancouver Foundation distributed more than \$32.3 million to community organizations across British Columbia.

Vancouver Foundation helps donors support projects that enhance the quality of life in their communities. We do this by pooling the charitable gifts of donors to create permanent endowment funds and using the investment income from these funds to make grants that support a wide range of social, cultural, health, environmental, educational and other community needs.

Donors can choose from a wide variety of endowment funds, from start-up or unrestricted funds to advised and designated funds, allowing them to structure their giving to best suit their individual priorities. Vancouver Foundation's prudent fiscal management and low administration fees ensure that the vast majority of fund income goes to community projects, not overhead.

Vancouver Foundation makes timely grants to community-based programs throughout BC that build on the abilities of local residents to create long-term solutions to community concerns. We help people help themselves and their communities. Many of the grants allocated by the Foundation are based on the recommendations of advisory committees, which are made up of more than 130 experts and community leaders who volunteer their time to review grant applications two to three times a year. Their experience and expertise allows Vancouver Foundation to keep abreast of emerging community needs and ensures that grants are distributed to where they will do the most good.

There is one advisory committee for each of our eight fields of interest: education; medical research and services; youth philanthropy; environment; health and social development; children, youth and families; arts and culture; and animal welfare. Vancouver Foundation also provides philanthropic leadership to communities throughout BC by encouraging collaboration among charitable organizations and providing learning opportunities for staff of non-profit organizations.

In all our activities, Vancouver Foundation is guided by a commitment to achieve three principal goals:

- Invest donor funds prudently with the goal of optimizing long-term returns, so we are better able to help donors achieve their charitable objectives.