

You can be part of city mural

Residents invited to create part of community mosaic

Theresa McManus EDMONDS EXPRESS

The Burnaby Artists Guild and Edmonds Seniors Centre are teaming up on a mosaic mural that will adorn the Edmonds neighbourhood.

Burnaby residents are invited to drop by the Edmonds Seniors Centre on Friday, Sept. 30 and complete a 5 by 7 inch canvas that will become part of a larger mural. The Burnaby Edmonds 2011 Mosaic will be unveiled on Oct. 28.

"I am looking forward to seeing everyone come in with an idea, see the canvases they get," said Roxsane Tiernan, a member of the Burnaby Artists Guild. "It will be fascinating. It will be something for the community to look at for years to come."

It's hoped that the finished canvases will be part of a mosaic mural that will eventually be displayed in the new Edmonds Aquatic Centre.

Tiernan was among the artists who participated in a mural mosaic project initiated by artist Lewis Lavoie. Lavoie pre-prepared panels with colour tones and shapes and then had artists create a painting on each of the panels using their own style.

"The perimeters everybody had to work with was this had to be West Coast," said Tiernan. "You weren't given any idea what you were to paint."

Tiernan painted leaping salmon and seal on her purple panel, which was one of the panels featured in Kunamoket Coastal Inspirations mural mosaic of an area.

Organizers of the Burnaby Edmonds 2011 Mosaic have created an overall design for the mosaic. Like Lavoie, they have painted the canvases in assorted colours and people will add their own

designs to those backgrounds on Sept. 30.

"We just want them to do something we think represents Burnaby," Tiernan said. "We have stuck with a Burnaby theme."

The Burnaby Edmonds 2011 Mosaic event is part of Culture Days, which is being celebrated in Canada from Sept. 30 to Oct. 2.

"Whoever comes will get a canvas," Tiernan said. "The idea is to work with the colour you are given."

People of all ages and skill levels are invited to participate in the mural mosaic project.

"We will have water, paint, brushes and canvases," Tiernan said. "We will have no signup list. It's come and pick out a canvas and work on it."

Some of the canvases will have backgrounds of one colour, while others may have two or three colours. Members of the Burnaby Artists Guild will be on hand to supervise.

"Just come and do it. Skill level is not vital," Tiernan said. "I think it will be great fun."

Each of the canvases is numbered and will be assembled into a specific order. The final product will be unveiled on Oct. 28 at 7:30 p.m. at the Burnaby Artists Guild's semi-annual exhibition and sale at the Shadbolt Centre in Burnaby.

"It's a good design," Tiernan said. "It's going to look wonderful."

People are welcome to drop by the multipurpose room of Edmonds Seniors Centre at 7282 Kingsway on Friday, Sept. 30 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. and 4 to 8 p.m. For more information about mural mosaics, visit www.muralmosaic.com.

