



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 1, 2021

New traveling exhibition celebrates Indigenous Art and Activism through Skateboard, Snowboard, and Surf culture in Canada

Boarder X opens at the Museum of Vancouver on October 2, 2021

VANCOUVER, BC – Tonight (October 1, 2021) the Museum of Vancouver will host a virtual and in-person opening celebration for its newest feature exhibition, Boarder X. Originally exhibited at the Winnipeg Art Gallery in 2016, the traveling exhibition reveals skateboarding, snowboarding, and surfing as vehicles that challenge conformity and status quo.

Boarder X features work by contemporary artists from Indigenous nations across Canada including Amanda Strong, Bracken Hanuse Corlett, Jordan Bennett, Meagan Musseau, Roger Crait, Steven Davies, Mark Igloliorte, Mason Mashon, Meghann O'Brien, Colonialism Skateboards in collaboration with Kent Monkman, and Les Ramsay. Included from the MOV collections are works by contemporary Indigenous artists K.C. Hall, Olivia George, Skokaylem Zac George, and Takeover Skateboarding as well as older works by unknown Indigenous artists.

The exhibition, which recently was recognized for outstanding achievement by the Canadian Museums Association (CMA), reflects cultural, political, environmental, and social perspectives related to the landscapes and territories we occupy. Examining contested spaces, political borders, hybrid identities, and traditional lands, the artwork draws parallels to urban areas prohibiting skateboarding, ski runs unwelcome to snowboarders, and surfers' constant search for uncrowded waves.

Boarder X also showcases how art can be inclusive and transformative, by bridging the present – the passion that many Indigenous youth have for skateboarding, surfing, and snowboarding – with the past, which weaves together paintings, carvings, photography, video and textiles that shine a spotlight on cultural, political, and environmental issues.

Through financial support from Vans Canada, MOV was able to build 2 quarter pipes within the exhibition space. This mini ramp will be activated throughout the year for workshops, and public engagement events. MOV is partnering with local community groups, Nations Skate Youth and Takeover Skateboarding, to create opportunities for public programming and youth involvement and engagement within the exhibition. Once the exhibition closes the 2 quarter pipes will be donated to a community group for ongoing use.

Boarder X will be on view at MOV until October 1, 2022.

Quotes:

Sharon Fortney, Curator of Indigenous Culture and Engagement, Museum of Vancouver –

“A museum needs people to be relevant. The Boarder X exhibition provides a wonderful opportunity for MOV to connect with Indigenous, and other youth, within the city of Vancouver. We were so pleased to have the opportunity to include a mini half pipe in the gallery space,

where we can use it year-round for community engagement and add another level of animation to the gallery space."

Jaimie Isaac, Chief Curator, Art Gallery of Greater Victoria -

"Boarder X has created a space for active engagement through art, culture, and boarding in venues on a coast to coast tour across Turtle Island. The interdisciplinary art produced embodies how the artists relate to the environment and cultural landscapes. Working with local skateboarding, youth and art communities, the artists and Vans as a sponsor has been an amazing experience."

Learn More:

For more information on the exhibition, visit: museumofvancouver.ca/boarder-x

Watch the live-streamed opening celebration: <https://youtu.be/6kC6lceMWew>

About Museum of Vancouver

The Museum of Vancouver connects Vancouverites to each other and connects Vancouver to the world. The museum's programs, exhibitions, and collections bring people together and inspire conversation about the future. The museum, an enthusiastic civic advocate, is an independent non-profit organization dedicated to inspiring a socially connected, civically engaged city.

About the Winnipeg Art Gallery

WAG-Qaumajuq has grown into one of the country's leading visual art museums with an international reputation! Founded in 1912, the WAG is one of Canada's first civic art galleries, housed in an iconic modernist building in the heart of downtown Winnipeg. WAG-Qaumajuq features an impressive collection of over 27,000 artworks spanning centuries, cultures, and media, including the largest public collection of contemporary Inuit art in the world.

Exhibition Sponsors: Vans Canada and the Canada Council for the Arts

Institutional Partners: City of Vancouver, BC Arts Council, and the Province of British Columbia

Partners in Redress and Decolonization: x^wməθk^wəy^əm (Musqueam), S^kw^xwú7mesh (Squamish), and səliiwətaʔ (Tseil-Waututh) Nations

Listing Information

Boarder X

Dates:

Opening October 2, 2021

Location:

Museum of Vancouver: 1100 Chestnut Street, Vancouver, BC

Website:

museumofvancouver.ca/boarder-x