

media release

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For immediate release

THE GROUP OF SEVEN COMES TO COQUITLAM Art Gallery at Evergreen Cultural Centre announces summer exhibition & corporate partners

COQUITLAM, BC – The Art Gallery at the Evergreen Cultural Centre is very pleased to announce its summer exhibition ***Dawn: Sketches by the Group of Seven***, part of the provincial touring program organized and circulated by the Vancouver Art Gallery. Comprised of 30 oil sketches from the Vancouver Art Gallery's permanent collection, the exhibition opens July 11 and will remain on display through October 4, 2008.

“This exhibition marks an important achievement for the Tri City area”, says Ellen van Eijnsbergen, Evergreen's Visual Arts Manager. “We are very excited about the opportunity to provide such a significant example of Canadian culture to the local audience. As new partners with the Vancouver Art Gallery *Across the Province* program we look forward to providing the community with high quality exhibitions at their doorstep.”

Dawn: Sketches by the Group of Seven is made possible through the generous support of City of Coquitlam and several corporate partners, HSBC Bank of Canada, Polygon Homes Limited and Western Printers & Lithographers. Without this funding and in-kind support, Evergreen would not be able to bring this outstanding exhibition to the community.

Dawn: Sketches by the Group of Seven includes oil sketches by all seven original members of the Group of Seven: Lawren Harris, A.Y. Jackson, Franklin Carmichael, Francis Johnston, Arthur Lismer, J.E.H. MacDonald and Frederick Varley. The exhibition explores how all seven landscape painters used the *sketch* as a fundamental tool in their artistic process; how they used Canada's backcountry as their studio, taking paints, brushes and small panels into the wilderness. Painting directly from the dramatic scenery they explored, the Group not only gained material for later elaboration on larger canvases, but also captured the landscape with an extraordinary sense of immediacy.

The month of July will take on the quintessential landscape theme at Evergreen with numerous art programs scheduled around *Dawn* including week-long adventure art classes for children and youth, en plein air art class for adults and a master landscape painting weekend.

Visit our website for more information on these programs and other special events. Go to www.evergreenculturalcenter.ca

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