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***MacKenzie Art Gallery and South Saskatchewan Community Foundation
Announce an Anonymous Gift of \$1.6 Million***

Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada – Anthony Kiendl, Executive Director and CEO of the MacKenzie Art Gallery, and Christina Attard, Executive Director of the South Saskatchewan Community Foundation (SSCF) have announced that the Gallery has received a \$1.6 million gift from an anonymous donor through the SSCF.

“This donation comes at pivotal moment in time for the Gallery as we explore and reimagine the model of a leading public art gallery in Canada,” said Anthony Kiendl, Executive Director and CEO of the MacKenzie Art Gallery, in making the announcement. “This gift will enable the Gallery to realize a number of plans and initiatives that will set the stage for the transformation of the MacKenzie Art Gallery.”

“I would like to extend my most sincere and heartfelt appreciation to the donor,” noted Kiendl. “This level of philanthropic support speaks to a belief in the MacKenzie’s unique ability to honour the past, celebrate the present, and imagine the future, and the importance of art in our everyday lives. We are pleased to work with our partners at the South Saskatchewan Community Foundation, as we make meaningful contributions to society as a place where people and communities come together—a social, cultural, and artistic hub of energy and ideas. This is an extraordinary gift to our Gallery, to our city, and to Saskatchewan.”

The grant was made from an anonymous donor through a fund endowed at the South Saskatchewan Community Foundation. “SSCF acts as a bridge between donors and charities in southern Saskatchewan to help create and maintain a strong community for generations to come,” says Christina Attard, Executive Director of the South Saskatchewan Community Foundation. “We are a catalyst and resource for philanthropy, and a vehicle for generous individuals, families, and businesses who want to give something back to their community both during and after their lifetime. Together, we help build strong and resilient places to live, work and play.”

Robert Perry, President of the MacKenzie Art Gallery Board of Trustees, commented: “This is a gift to the people who live and work in Regina and to all visitors from Saskatchewan and beyond who come to visit our province’s oldest and broadest public art institution in terms of collections, exhibitions and provincial reach. The arts are a cornerstone to the cultural, educational, and economic vitality of southern Saskatchewan. The Board of Trustees is profoundly grateful for this level of support and we look forward to the continued transformation and revitalization of the MacKenzie Art Gallery.”

In reimagining the role of a public art gallery, the MacKenzie Art Gallery seeks to become an immersive, community-engaged, centre for art focusing on visitors and artists, Indigenous culture and diversity. Grounded in history, education, and sustainability, the Gallery will be experimental, creative, and playful in fostering transformative experiences. This gift will provide critical support to a number of current priorities, including:

Expanded and enhanced education programs to serve wider and more diverse communities

The MacKenzie Art Gallery will play an increasingly important role in the social fabric of Saskatchewan, contributing to ideas of critical interest and importance to society through an expanded and enhanced education program, touching the lives of thousands of students and families each year. The Provincial Touring Program will be reinvigorated with its capacity doubled, to bring exhibitions of original art to at least 30 rural and northern communities throughout Saskatchewan annually. Young and old, urban and rural, newcomer and long-time resident; everyone can benefit from the MacKenzie’s unparalleled ability to serve Saskatchewan’s growing and ever-changing population.

Growth as a centre for excellence in Indigenous art

The MacKenzie Art Gallery is known nationally and internationally for its longstanding commitment to the work of Canada's Indigenous artists—having presented 88 exhibitions of Indigenous art over the past 40 years. This gift will enable the Gallery to enhance its reputation as a centre for excellence in Indigenous art through research, exhibitions, programs, and collecting.

Creating an innovative space for artists and being home to a world class art collection

Artists are at the heart of the MacKenzie Art Gallery's vision for the future. Among the projects this donation will support are a major commission of public art on the grounds of the Gallery, marking the occasion of Canada's 150th anniversary, and providing a legacy for the future.

Undergoing capital upgrades for an enhanced community and programming space

As a gathering space for everyone, this gift ensures the MacKenzie Art Gallery is uniquely positioned to enhance the sense of belonging—of community spirit—in Regina. Through the addition of a café and newly created public programming space, the Gallery will increasingly become a place for friends and family to gather, enjoy art, and spend quality time together in a unique social and learning environment.

“At a time when we are examining all aspects of the MacKenzie Art Gallery's diverse range of exhibitions and public programs, this anonymous gift is a tremendous vote of confidence that we are headed in the right direction,” said Johanna Salloum, incoming President of the MacKenzie Art Gallery Board of Trustees. “In Regina, the city of ‘infinite horizons’, the vast range of possibilities for the future of the MacKenzie Art Gallery is more exciting now than ever before.”

About MacKenzie Art Gallery

The MacKenzie Art Gallery is Saskatchewan's oldest and widest-ranging public art gallery, collecting and presenting over 5000 years of art from around the world. The MacKenzie Art Gallery Vault is home to more than 4,500 works in the Permanent Collection by internationally renowned artists such as Picasso, Rodin, and Anthony McCall, as well as an impressive Canadian collection with pieces by Greg Curnoe, Joyce Wieland, Dorothy Knowles, the Regina Five, Joe Fafard, Bob Boyer, and many others. The MacKenzie features world-class exhibitions and public programs, research, publications, and more. For more information, please visit mackenzieartgallery.ca.

About the South Saskatchewan Community Foundation

The South Saskatchewan Community Foundation (SSCF) was established in 1969 and acts as a bridge between donors and charities in our community. Our focus is on long-term community endowment building in order to make sure that our community is a vital one where everyone has a fair chance to work, play and live. Learn more at sscf.ca. SSCF is a proud member of Community Foundations of Canada, the national network for Canada's 191 community foundations. Learn more at communityfoundations.ca



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