



KASKA DENA COUNCIL
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MEDIA ADVISORY

For immediate release: May 20, 2003

KASKA DENA ART EXHIBIT OPENS THURSDAY IN WHITEHORSE

LOWER POST, B.C. -- Media and the public are invited to attend the gala opening of an exhibit of Kaska art on May 22 at the Yukon Arts Centre in Whitehorse at 7:30 p.m. Artists and representatives of the Kaska leadership will be available to speak to the media at the opening. The exhibit runs through to July 20.

The Kaska Dena exhibit includes 64 works by 19 artists. Visitors will have an opportunity to view a variety of work including masks, beadwork, bone, antler and wood carvings, paintings and drawings.

Other opening activities include artist talks, scheduled for noon on Friday, May 23 and a carving demonstration by renowned Kaska artist William Atkinson, which will run from 1 p.m. – 4 p.m. on Saturday, May 24. People can register for the demonstration in advance by calling Ukjese van Kampen at (867) 667-8578. The Registration fee is \$25 per person.

The Kaska art exhibit is being made possible through the support of many individuals and organizations including Kaska Dena Council, Kaska Tribal Council, the Yukon Arts Centre, the Society of Yukon Artists of Native Ancestry, as well as corporate sponsors.

The Kaska exhibit runs concurrently with exhibits by Frank Grisdale and an exhibit of cinema and film poster art.

The Kaska Nation includes five First Nations in the southeast Yukon and northern British Columbia. Their traditional territory covers about 25 per cent of the Yukon, adjacent areas of Northwest Territories and about 10 per cent of B.C. The Kaska land claims are part of the first comprehensive claim accepted by Canada under its 1973 policy.

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