

Innovations Advisory Panel Biographies - August 2006

Vincent Collison is from the maaman gitanee eagle Clan. He has served as a Heritage Resources Officer, Cultural Centre Coordinator and Deputy Chief Councillor for the Old Massett Village Council. As co-chair of the Haida Repatriation Committee, he has travelled to museums in Canada, the United States, England and Germany over the past eight years, meeting with museum personnel to discuss issues regarding Haida ancestors and treasures. He has been instrumental in implementing practical advances such as Haida internships and continues to work towards the ultimate goal of free, practical access from the Haida with Haida collections the world over. Recently he has worked as one of four Haida Curators with the Vancouver Art Gallery on "Raven Travelling: Two Centuries of Haida Art". He also co-authored an article entitled "*The Repatriation of Our Ancestors and the Rebirth of Ourselves*" in the accompanying book for the exhibition.

Barbara Cole works as a public art consultant for public sector and private development clients throughout BC's lower mainland. She has led workshops, lectured widely, and published articles on the subject of art in public space. Barbara is a practicing artist. She has also taught sessionally for 17 years at the Emily Carr Institute of Art and Design, and has served on numerous boards and visual arts juries. She is the founder of *Other Sights for Artists' Projects*, a non-profit society that initiates curatorial projects and provides services to artists and curators in the production of temporary artworks in public space.

Pamela MacKeown has worked in the arts and culture industry for over 12 years in a variety of roles. She has worked with Public Dreams Society in a range of positions from Volunteer Coordinator to Associate Artistic Director; was Board Chair during the transitional phase of the Community Arts Council of Vancouver. She has been the Community Arts Coordinator for the City of Surrey since 1998 and is also Artistic Director for the new and growing Surrey Children's Festival.

Catherine Caines has taught and directed at most of Vancouver's professional acting training programmes. She has also been artistic director of her own training programmes and several professional theatre companies. Catherine is a much sought after adjudicator and acting coach throughout BC. The theatre has been her passion throughout her long career. She also works as a drama therapist, offering a unique blend of process oriented psychology and Stanislavsky method of training actors as a facilitation of personal awareness work. Currently artistic director of Soulfire Theatre, Catherine offers professional acting training and acting for your life courses.

Bill Usher is a senior artist who recently moved from Ontario to Golden. Throughout a 40 year career as a writer, performer and producer, Bill has received numerous awards including three Juno Awards, and artist grants from the Canada Council, the Ontario Arts Council and ArtStarts. Bill has been active in the business of the arts working in both the private sector as a managing owner of two record companies (Elephant Records, Kids' Records) and in the public sector with the Ontario Arts Council, the Toronto Arts Council, the Ministry of Culture (Ontario), and Kicking Horse Culture in Golden. Bill is Vice Chair of the Columbia Kootenay Cultural Alliance Steering Committee and sits on the Board of ArtStarts in Schools. Read more about Bill's new album of "good-getting-older" love songs at www.billusher.com.