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Celebrate Diversity with BIPT's Culturegrams

Be a part of the community art project that promotes cultural sharing and understanding

Burnaby, BC: The Burnaby Intercultural Planning Table (BIPT) is inviting members of the public to participate in Culturegrams, a community art project that celebrates the city's diversity and creates an opportunity for cultural sharing and understanding – which is especially relevant this year while we celebrate Burnaby's 125th and Canada's 150th anniversaries. This project is a partnership between Tourism Burnaby and BIPT.

The Culturegram cards ask the question: "What does culture mean to you?"

The back side of the card is blank, leaving space for participants to get creative in their answer - through drawing, painting, collage or the written word. 12,500 Culturegram cards will be distributed through various organizations and locations in Burnaby. All the collected cards will form a vibrant and colourful display the public can view and interact with at the City of Burnaby's massive Canada Day concert and fireworks celebration, which takes place at Swangard Stadium from 5 – 10pm on July 1.

In its first year, the organizers hope to collect at least 1,000 cards for the Culturegrams display. Some of the participating organizations that are distributing and collecting the cards include the Burnaby Public Library, City of Burnaby recreation centres, Burnaby Family Life, Burnaby Neighbourhood House, and the Burnaby branches of Mosaic and SUCCESS.

This project fits in with our strategic action plan which identified that there was a real need for creating opportunities to improve intercultural connections in Burnaby. Our goal is to give Burnaby residents a vehicle to share their stories so that all residents can identify with how we all contribute to what is the culture of Burnaby. This ability to enhance cross cultural understanding, we hope, will result in a more inclusive and welcoming Burnaby for everyone. – Michel Pouliot Burnaby Intercultural Planning Table's Co-Chair.

With community support, organizers hope this project grows into an annual event and becomes a legacy of Burnaby's 125th and Canada's 150th anniversaries.

Visit www.bipt.ca/culturegrams for more information, including the list of participating locations.

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About the Burnaby Intercultural Planning Table

The Burnaby Intercultural planning Table (BIPT) is Burnaby's Local Immigration Partnership (LIP), a working group of more than twenty one prominent community organisations, institutions and agencies that aims to collaboratively facilitate the settlement and integration of newcomers in Burnaby. The work



of the table is also guided by the BIPT Immigrant Advisory Council, which is comprised of 12+ immigrants representing a range of countries of origin, length of time in Canada, occupational backgrounds, age and gender. Funded by Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC), this partnership builds on local services in order to optimize engagement, planning and coordination in the area of newcomer settlement and integration. LIPs do not deliver services directly to immigrants and refugees. Instead, they foster local engagement of organisations that offer services to newcomers, support community-level research and planning and improve coordination of services that help immigrants and refugees.