



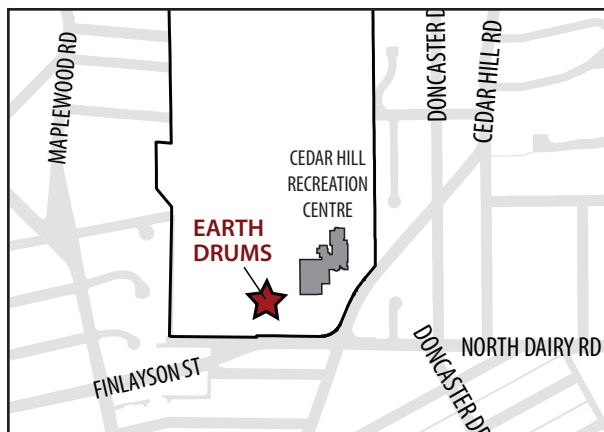
About the Artist

Carey Newman (Hayalthkin'geme) is a multi-disciplinary artist, master carver, filmmaker, author and public speaker of Kwakwaka'wakw, Coast Salish and settler heritage. Highlights from his career include the *Cowichan 2008 Spirit Pole*, an installation for the 2010 Olympic Games entitled *Dancing Wind*, and writing and co-directing the documentary *Picking up the Pieces* that premiered at the 2018 Vancouver International Film Festival.

Perhaps his most influential work, *The Witness Blanket*, deals with the subject of residential schools and was commissioned by Canada's Truth and Reconciliation Commission. It is now part of the collection at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights.

Carey was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal in 2017, was named to the Order of British Columbia in 2018 and is the 6th Audain Professor at the University of Victoria.

Earth Drums was permanently installed in Cedar Hill Park in September 2019.



Located in Cedar Hill Park. Access Earth Drums off Finlayson Street or from Cedar Hill Recreation and Arts Centre, 3220 Cedar Hill Road.



The District of Saanich Public Art Program supports public art in civic and private places as an important and enriching aspect of the public environment. Funding through the 1% for Public Art Policy stimulates the creation of new civic works of art to enhance parks, civic buildings, and other public spaces. Public art incorporated into private development is also encouraged.

Learn more about this and other artworks at www.saanich.ca/publicart or contact the Planning Department at:

770 Vernon Avenue
Victoria BC V8X 2W7
T: 250-475-5471
E: planning@saanich.ca



Earth Drums

by Carey Newman

Public Art



About the Artwork

To commemorate Canada's 150th anniversary and to inspire creativity in the community, *Earth Drums* was commissioned by the District of Saanich through a juried public art competition. The seven member jury composed of artists, community representatives, and Saanich staff, worked together to oversee the public art competition process as outlined in the *Comprehensive Arts Policy*.

Placed in the natural landscape of Cedar Hill Park at the junction of three pedestrian pathways, *Earth Drums* displays distinctive designs of a wolf, raven, and frog, which represent three concept groups: land, water, air | elder, adult, youth | past, present, future.

The artist, Carey Newman, encourages people of all ages to interact with the artwork while asking us to change our relationship with the land from one of ownership and property to one of stewardship and responsibility, addressing reconciliation and the environment through Indigenous perspectives.

You are invited to play the large "box drums," carved from red cedar, using the palm of a bare hand. As envisioned by the artist, when playing the drums, one will feel the natural texture of the wood, hear and feel the reverberations and in what can be a personal or shared experience, create a song or rhythm. Playing the drums will also generate

reverberations below human hearing that resonate into the ground, making music for the earth.

Building on the Canada 150 themes of reconciliation and environment, the artwork also addresses themes of diversity and inclusion by being accessible to all ages, cultures, and abilities, and engages youth by representing them in the iconography, encouraging their participation, and considering their rights.

At the official unveiling event, a song composed for *Earth Drums* by artist Bradley Dick of the Songhees Nation, was performed and placed on the drums by members of Victoria-based Unity Drummers.

