



Presented by

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Chairs will be auctioned off to benefit each community group starting August 1st and will remain on display through Labour Day.

For more information and auction details, scan QR code or visit artswhistler.com/LIFTing.



#liftingthecommunity
#artswhistler

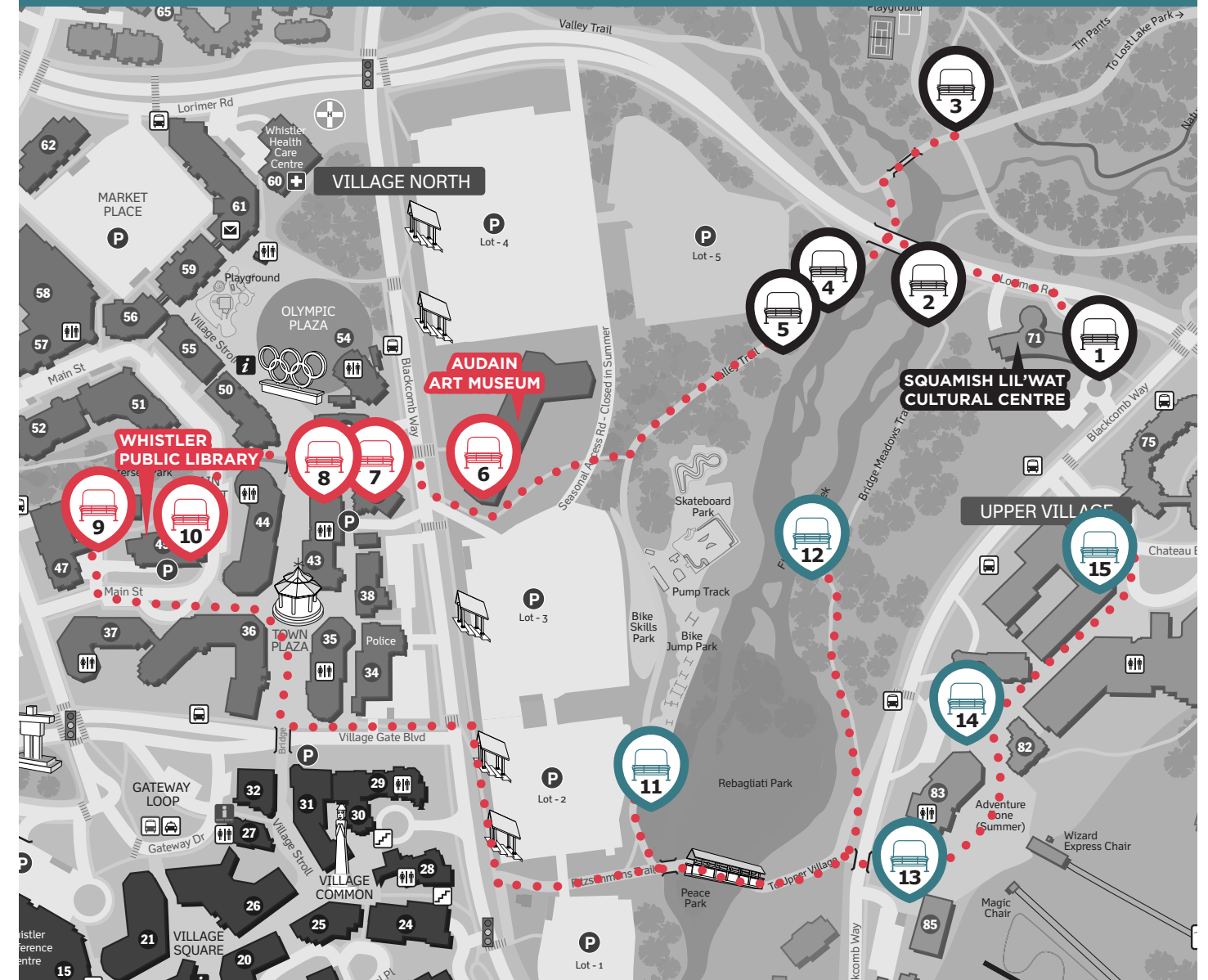


We brought together 18 artists and 15 community groups to transform 15 retired Catskinners chairs into works of art on the theme of community and belonging.

Please sit, enjoy, take photos, spread the love and be kind to our chairs.

How many can you find?

LIFTing the Community has been created to enhance the sense of belonging in Whistler and the Sea to Sky. Whether Whistler is home for a few days, a season or a lifetime, a sense of belonging benefits us all. Over several weeks, local artists transformed retired Catskinners ski lift chairs into a work of art reflecting the theme of belonging, as perceived by the community group they were paired with. These reimagined chairs can be found in surprising locations all within a short walk of Whistler Village. Visit all 15!



Map courtesy of RMOW



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Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre
The Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre (SLCC) is the first centre of its kind in Canada. Two Nations came together to celebrate and share their cultures with the world while creating meaningful employment opportunities for members of both the Skwxwú7mesh Úxumixw (Squamish Nation, Coast Salish) and Lilwat7úl (Lil'wat Nation, Interior Salish).

Artist: Taka Sudo & Dominique Nahanee

Born and raised in Tokyo, long-time Whistlerite **Taka Sudo** takes influences from these totally different environments to create his unique style of artworks. **Tsawaysia, Dominique Nahanee** of the Squamish Nation is an SLCC Cultural Ambassador and artist; she shares songs and dances of the Squamish Nation and works in contemporary Salish designs and abstract art.



Whistler Community Services

Whistler Community Services Society (WCSS) has a strong history of quickly responding to the needs of the community using an effective, collaborative and unique approach. WCSS works with community partners, members, funders and other non-profits to provide programs and services that support and advocate for a healthy community.

Artist: Laura Scarr

Laura Scarr is a contemporary landscape painter. Whether it is a sunrise bursting through snowy trees or light cascading through a forest canopy, the light that bursts through the landscapes of British Columbia is the main source of inspiration for Laura's work.



Youth Centre/Alphabet Soup

The Youth Centre (YC) works with youth 13-18 years of age with a drop in center and a referral capacity, linking youth to various resources and strives to create a safe and stimulating environment for all youth to call their own. Alphabet Soup is a monthly drop-in program for LGBTQ+ individuals along with their friends, family, and allies.

Artist: Ace MacKay-Smith & Mercedes Nicoll

Immature artist and professional scrounger, Ace MacKay-Smith has been repurposing materials all her life (ask about her toaster head) and riding chairlifts even longer, so this project fit her to a T-bar. Mercedes Nicoll is a four-time winter Olympian in snowboard halfpipe. During recovery from a crash at the 2014 Winter Olympics, Mercedes turned to art and hasn't looked back since.



Whistler Public Library

The Whistler Public Library was formed in December of 1985 by a dedicated group of community-minded citizens meeting in the basement of the Whistler Municipal Hall. Today, the library receives over 250,000 visitors per year on average, serving locals, second homeowners and tourists from around the globe.

Artist: Michaela Ivancova

Michaela Ivancova, is a passionate artist that finds inspiration in nature and personal experiences. Coming to Whistler opened many possibilities for her artistic visions. Mountains and animals became her new inspirations which she depicts in various media.



Whistler Adaptive Sport Programs

WASP provides year-around, sport and recreational programs for people of all ages with physical, sensory or cognitive disabilities. We are committed to introducing as many individuals with a disability as possible to sport, recreation and therapeutic programming.

Artist: Vanessa Stark

Vanessa "Nes" Stark was born during a mid-winter snowstorm on Canada's West Coast. Her life has been shaped by her love for the mountains, adventures in nature, animals, snowboarding, mountain biking, family, friends and community. Nes' bold and unique "Mountain Contemporary" style has organically evolved, reflecting her life's passions.



Whistler Museum and Archives

The Whistler Museum & Archives shares stories of Whistler's past, from the days of fishing lodges and logging to the development of skiing and beyond.

Artist: Alyssa Bruijns

Alyssa Bruijns is a Canadian adventurer who brings stunning natural landscapes to the world of pen and ink through her work under the name Snowline Art.



Whistler Blackcomb Foundation

The Whistler Blackcomb Foundation is dedicated to providing financial support to organizations whose activities provide benefit to residents of the Sea to Sky Corridor in the areas of health, human services, education, recreation, arts & culture and the environment with a special emphasis placed on youth and family programs.

Artist: Mike Tyler

Artist, sculptor and entrepreneur, Mike is a self-taught artist. Mike's various styles of art have left their mark in, and on, some of the finest homes in Whistler and beyond. His art, as well as many other creations, have become well known for their unique style and attention to detail.



Whistler Community Foundation

The Whistler Community Foundation is the steward of money gifted to the community and provides grants in the areas of environment, arts and culture, social service and education. Our vision is to be impactful in supporting the charities and organizations that address evolving community needs.

Artist: Stan Matwychuk

An artist and a jack of industry trades makes Stan Matwychuk of Homebase Studios a well-rounded hands-on creative and collaborator. Stan always brings community and collaboration to the heart of his projects, believing that creativity will allow for new ideas and momentum.



Squamish Arts Council

The Squamish Arts Council's vision is to embed arts and culture into the fabric of Squamish's community and ensure arts are a vital component of its identity. We support local artists and raise awareness of and access to arts and culture.

Artist: Kendra Hicks

Kendra is a self-taught artist. After buying a small collection of paint, one brush, and a sketch book in the summer of 2015, she immediately became hooked and hasn't looked back. All of her paintings are acrylic on canvas and they're all of mountains.



Kids on the Move

Supported by the Whistler Blackcomb Foundation and run by Whistler Community Services Society, Kids on the Move provides funds to young people up to 17 years old in need of financial support for arts and sport programs.

Artist: Kris Kups

As I evolve as an artist and art mentor, I find extreme value in opportunities to work with kids and communities on creating something beautiful. Being able to share my passion and engage participants at the same time is an unbelievable feeling.



AWARE

The Association of Whistler Area Residents for the Environment (AWARE) has been Whistler's environmental charity for more than 30 years. We work independently and with others to respectfully connect people with nature and build more sustainable communities.

Artist: Ben Poechman

Benjamin Jacob Poechman was born and raised on an organic egg farm in the foothills of southern Ontario. Ben's creative focus has focused on moving from "what" to "why". With this approach he finds new ways to bring about positive change through his work.



Arts Whistler

Arts Whistler strives to make creativity a part of everyone's Whistler experience. We program, promote and advocate for the arts and local creatives, and provide the community with access to bold, inspiring, and engaging experiences in the arts.

Artist: Anna Lynch

A self-declared "British craft nerd", Anna Lynch has made Whistler her home since 2010. With a focus on tactile artworks, Anna primarily uses textile mediums such as weaving, felting, knitting, and beading together with painted canvas.



The Point Artist Run Centre

The Point Artist-Run Centre (PARC) was formed in 2009 by a diverse group of Whistler artists working in a variety of disciplines. They formed a creative centre that incubates artistic activity through affordable space, educational and mentorship opportunities, and collaborative projects between artists within and outside Whistler.

Artist: Sherry Klassen

Sherry Klassen is an emerging artist who paints primarily in acrylic. She is inspired by all things west coast, in particular birds and animals. She chooses to paint images that bring a bit of happiness or humor to add a little joy to the world.



Mature Action Community

MAC strives to make Whistler an inclusive, supportive community where residents can actively and comfortably age in place. They connect, engage and advocate for Whistler seniors.

Artist: Tonnja Kopp

Tonnja Kopp's passion lies in the act of creation. She was born in Canada but raised in Switzerland where her experiences cultivated her love for art. Natural objects in unusual, unique compositions or astonishing light conditions are some of her favourite subjects.



Audain Art Museum

The Audain Art Museum boasts a comprehensive Permanent Collection of the province's most celebrated artists. Exemplifying the richness of cultural difference in Canada, the collection takes visitors on a transformative visual journey from the late 18th century to present.

Artist: Dave Petko & Liz Thompson

Dave Petko and Liz Thompson have collaborated on large scale art installations around North America for festivals including Tortuga Music Festival, Pemberton Music Festival, Lost Lands Music Festival and Bass Coast Music Festival. They use recycled and upcycled materials in their art.