

# PLRAC arts beat

"Shaping Today, Inspiring Tomorrow"

www.PeaceLiardArts.org

## High on Ice Winter Festival a success

FORT ST. JOHN - The ice chips have fallen and the flurry of snow has settled leaving numerous beautiful ice and snow sculptures in Fort St. John after the High on Ice Winter Festival on January 18-20, 2008.

Many of the carvings featured this year's theme for the competition Celebrating Canada in the North in honor of British Columbia's 150th Anniversary including a sasquatch, a Mountie on horseback, and abstract representations of the northern wind. An abstract sculpture of historic explorers paddling north by northwest through a rushing river was created by local favourites, Peter Vogelaar (formerly of Fort St. John), and Jesse Forrester.



Amateur carvers at work: clockwise from top: Brad Redl and Keith Redl; Laurie Petrucci; Eliza Stanford and Danielle Yeoman

This year the Fort St. John Community Arts Council hosted professional ice carving teams from Japan, Russia, Washington state, Manitoba and British Columbia, as well as local amateur carvers from Fort St. John, including three intermediate teams, four beginner teams, and four snow sculpting teams. Representatives from Chetwynd, Taylor, Dawson Creek and Fort St. John also took part in the Mayor's Challenge event, with Chetwynd successfully defending its title for the fourth year in a row.

An exciting part of this year's ice carving events was the harvesting of local ice from an unidentified pond outside of Fort St. John. Prized for its blue colour, indicating higher purity, the ice was used for the commissioned pieces that are located in Centennial Park and in front of a local hotel.

*Submitted by Chandra Wong*

## Art Catalogue Opportunity

Fort St. John artist Judi Roberts has taken art marketing in her own hands with the publication of an art catalogue featuring work by local artists. The first issue of the catalogue, released before Christmas, features current work available for sale by Peace area artists. Judi's venture grew out of a frustration with the limited space available for local artists to display their work, and in her generosity organizes the layout and printing of the catalogue free of charge, with participating artists covering the actual cost of printing their gallery page. Judi sees future issues as being available bi-annually, and if you are interested in hearing more about her project, contact her by phone at 250-262-1445 or email at [secret@telus.net](mailto:secret@telus.net).

## Dawson Creek's 50th Anniversary in Pictures

The Dawson Creek Art Gallery is pleased to host the 50th Anniversary Photo Exhibit starting February 12th and running through to March 1st, 2008

To help commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the City of Dawson Creek, the Dawson Creek Art Gallery invited local and regional residents to submit their favourite photographs depicting the history of our community after its establishment as a city in 1958. Photographs chosen from submissions, as well as the Dawson Creek Archives, have been printed on canvas and will be on display at the gallery for the duration of the exhibit. From

the work submitted, one will be drawn to receive a \$500 recognition award.

Dawson Creek has an exciting and varied history since 1958, grounded in a vibrant agricultural economy and strong community pride. Take time to enjoy these wonderful images of Dawson Creek's past and present through the eyes of your friends and neighbours.

There will be an opening for the 50th Anniversary Exhibit on February 12th at 7pm at the Art Gallery. Everyone is invited to attend.