

## Sustainable Art and Awareness



# William Frymire

1878 Sedgewick Drive Kamloops, BC V2E 1Z8  
frymire-art.com  
info@frymire-art.com  
250.851.8791

## Project Description

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As a place of higher learning, TRU is in a position to encourage and support the students and the communities it serves to think critically and take action to address key issues that challenge us locally, regionally and globally. We are all aware of the challenges we face with our environment, but we aren't always sure what actions we can take that will help.

This project is designed to create awareness around one action that is possible for many of us - using alternative, healthy transportation methods in our everyday routine. Thus, this project also supports one of the core academic themes in the TRU Academic Plan - health, well-being, and leisure.

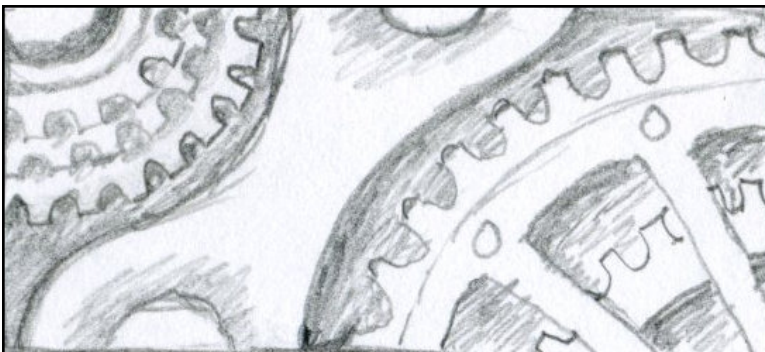
Using materials that are destined for the landfill, a mosaic art piece will be created on the surface of an existing, unsightly bicycle shelter. The mosaic will be comprised of cut-up remnants of vinyl housing siding that is no longer useful to the building industry. These cut-up vinyl "pixels" will come together to form a collage of gears and bicycle elements that will draw attention to the shelter and thus bring awareness of an alternative transportation method.

This treatment will cover all four sides of the shelter and will be highly visible from Summit drive. The vinyl siding pieces will be drilled and secured to the chain link fencing using aluminium rings. The final artwork will never rust and does not pose a safety hazard as it does not have any sharp edges and maintains partial visibility within the shelter as the artwork only occupies a portion of the holes in the fence.

During installation, campus and community volunteer teams will prepare the materials and install the art, fostering a greater bond between TRU and Kamloops communities while providing an opportunity for experiential learning. To create further awareness, an up-cycled bicycle, custom painted by students from the TRU Fine Arts department, will be prominently displayed atop the shelter and given away at the launch. The bicycle will remain on top of the bicycle shelter for a few weeks leading up to draw.

A video outlining the project has been uploaded to :

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=guMP\\_Nnsxu8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=guMP_Nnsxu8)



Initial sketch of artistic idea.

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## People Partnerships and Performance Measurement

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To create a true community linkage project, our team consists of:

**William Frymire**, local public artist, alumni and former faculty member who will act as lead for this project doing artwork design, and mosaic creation. **Rae Imeson**, TRU Fine Arts student, who will coordinate the launch and the give-away bike paint job. **Alana Frymire**, Interim Manager, Community Engagement, who will facilitate volunteer help to create and install the mosaic. **Dr. Peter Tsigaris**, Professor, School of Business and Economics who will serve as an environmental consultant.

This project has received the support of the newly formed **Kamloops Bike Riders Association**. The project has also received a \$600 grant from the **City of Kamloops** BC Festival of the Arts Legacy Fund. An application to the Kamloops Arts Council was submitted but did not receive funding.

To measure whether the project increases awareness of the bike shelter and ultimately, its usage, before and after counts of the shelter's use and on-campus surveys will be conducted.

## Level of Impact

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Students from the Fine-art program will help with the bike decoration and it is anticipated that students from other disciplines and staff will volunteer to help with the assembly of the mosaic.

One of the core academic themes in the TRU Academic Plan is health, well-being, and leisure. This project will feature artistic images that will bring awareness to a facility that is already available on campus and encourage students, employees and the greater community to consider lifestyle choices that positively impact both our environment and our health care system. ("TRU Academic Plan," 2010).

The integration of students and Kamloops community members throughout the project will garner community and press interest, opening a dialogue about sustainability on campus and in our city.

I have received numerous positive comments from many Kamloops residents on my existing Terry Fox tribute mosaic which demonstrates the ability of this art form to garner attention. The beautification of our surroundings has shown to be a major driver in how connected to their community people feel.\*

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## Project Feasibility

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The project will take 2-3 months to complete and has a total cost of \$10,461. However, due to gifts in kind and a \$600 grant already received, the proposal request is for **\$4,911** with costs reflecting the design and installation of the artwork.

This project would align very well with “Bike to Work Week” May 25 - 31, 2015 and the launch of the newly enhanced shelter could be promoted at this time.

It is possible to move the project forward in stages. By enhancing only the TRU side of the shelter (one side vs all four), the cost to TRU could be reduced to \$2,000.

For a recently completed project in Fort Chipewyan, Alberta, William Frymire worked with community leaders, architects, engineers, and suppliers to design, fabricate, deliver and install a 7000 lb. glass canopy with 17,000 tiles in the middle of the winter, on budget and on schedule. Frymire’s community outreach experience includes working with elementary school children to create a collaborative eco-art piece and also a commemorative public art fence for my local city. The art fence was made with sustainable materials with the help of the community and support of the city.

## Planning

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Les Tabata from TRU facilities has given tentative approval for the project pending detailed construction plans to ensure visibility and ventilation is maintained.

No sustained funding is anticipated.

Environmental sustainability, healthy lifestyle choices, and connection among TRU students and the greater Kamloops community, are just the beginning of our project’s learning and networking opportunities.



Here is an example of the type of artwork that will be created. This portrait of Terry Fox was done in conjunction with the 2013 run and donated to the City of Kamloops. To the left you can see the milk carton `pixels` that are made of up-cycled plastic.



Here is the bicycle shelter as it is now.



Here is an example of the vinyl siding.

## References:

Thompson Rivers University (2013) TRU Academic Plan, Available online: [https://www.tru.ca/\\_\\_shared/assets/Academic\\_Plan24460.pdf](https://www.tru.ca/__shared/assets/Academic_Plan24460.pdf) (last access February 26, 2014).

Thompson Rivers University (2012) TRU Campus Sustainability Action Plan. Available online: [http://www.tru.ca/\\_\\_shared/assets/CSAP25792.pdf](http://www.tru.ca/__shared/assets/CSAP25792.pdf) (last access February 26, 2014).

\*<http://www.soulofthecommunity.org/sites/default/files/OVERALL.pdf>