



### **About *Pause in Plight***

The 17-piece Art Exhibit, created in support from the Endowment Council of the Canadian First World War Internment Recognition Fund (CFWWIRF), aims to inform the masses of the WW1 national security fears and wartime prejudice, which led to the internment of 8,579 men, among them, women and children, identified as "enemy aliens". ***Pause in Plight*** will tour across Canada between 2020-2025 to help bring awareness to this historical injustice. The internment art exhibit is laid out in five different sections: War Posters, Light Installation, Emotional Interpretation Series, Old Eyes Series, and To Hell with the Alien Enemy.

This modern and timely Art Exhibit will help educate and enlighten mainstream Canadians by raising national awareness of Canada's first national internment operations. There were 24 internment camps across Canada in WW1 between 1914-1920, this is still unknown to much of the population today. On her journey to completing ***Pause in Plight***, Parnell realized how very few people are aware of this unfortunate time in history. Parnell feels that this exhibit and other projects that commemorate the experiences of the ethno-cultural communities, who were and still are affected by the internment operations, are very important. Parnell feels confused why this part of our history is not taught in schools, not in our history books and is only unearthed now. Why did it take more than 100 years for this story to be exposed? The story is finally coming out with the efforts of the Endowment Council of CFWWIRF. Parnell feels honoured to be a part of this movement. She feels that we can only move forward in a positive way as a nation, if we truly understand our past and learn from our mistakes.

We wish to bring this exhibit to mainstream galleries, museums and provide an educational platform for schools and students across Canada.

### **About Kerri Parnell**

Kerri Parnell creates art that inspires community connections. Born and raised in Winnipeg Manitoba, Kerri attended the University of Manitoba-School of Fine Arts and the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design University in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Her passion is to collaborate with others on projects that promote social awareness and change. Her results are both thought provoking and aesthetically beautiful. Nowhere is this more evident than ***Pause in Plight***.

"I am thrilled to have the opportunity to create this Art Exhibit, and to work with amazing people towards a common goal to expose the truth. The Canadian First World War Internment Recognition Fund (CFWWIRF) was pre-empted by the Endowment Council. Their initiative to commemorate and acknowledge those affected by Canada's first national internment operations

inspired me. It ignites my heart and reminds me that history is not condemned to repeat itself. As we learn from our past, may we collectively move forward in better light.” says Parnell.

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