**Press Release**

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**For immediate release**

***Red Ribbon Round It walking tour app launched***

**Nelson, BC (June 20, 2022):** In fall 2020, the Nelson Museum launched Red Ribbon Round It, an interventionist exhibition curated by Museum Educator Lesley Garlow. This exhibition enshrouded the 2nd floor Museum space in a bright red ribbon, covering some of the outdated information and offering dialogue and opportunities for critical thinking in its place. Red Ribbon Round It—the physical installation from 2020, and the ongoing project today—takes a closer look at the realities of oppressive policies that affected and continue to affect Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples alike. It examines the legislation that Indigenous people live under every day today, specifically looking at the Indian Act and its relationship to this area.

The Museum has created a legacy piece for this thought-provoking exhibition—a self-guided tour through the history exhibition space, which is being launched on National Indigenous Peoples Day, Tuesday, June 21 and is available for free on the Touchstones Nelson Museum Walking Tour app.

"The information gathered in the tour are stories that I grew up with as a kid, and perhaps didn’t yet understand how they conceptualized my existence in this place, as an Indigenous person,” says Garlow. “We have a teaching in our culture called the Seven Generations teachings, that what happens seven generations in the past affects the seven generations in the future, therefore it is important to have an understanding of our interconnected past, so we can plan and work now towards a better future for the seven generations to come.”

The Museum will be open from 12-3 on Tuesday, June 21 (National Indigenous Peoples Day) and from 12-4 on Friday, July 1 (Canada Day) and visitors are encouraged to explore the new tour. Admission is free on both days.

“Red Ribbon Round It is another wonderful opportunity for audiences to explore the complexities of history in a welcoming environment,” says Nelson Museum Executive Director Astrid Heyerdahl. “The Nelson Museum prioritizes anti-oppressive education, critical dialogue, and a reexamination of traditional historical narratives in order to help in the creation of an inclusive community.

“Lesley’s great work with Red Ribbon is a phenomenal example of how curatorial work can be harnessed for social change.”

The Tour app is available for both iPhone and Android platforms. There are links located at touchstonesnelson.ca and through QR codes in the Museum. There are tablets available to borrow at the front desk for those who don’t have a mobile device.

The 2nd floor Museum is beginning to evolve, bringing new life and new voices through response films such as Missing Voices and Five Things Five Kids Say, the ‘Speakers Corner’ style interactive booth to gather thoughts and feedback located in the turret. The Museum continues to follow the TRC Calls to Action, UNDRIP, the First Nations Principles of OCAP, the Steering Committee of Canada’s Archives Reconciliation Framework, and the Indigenous Repatriation Handbook to guide the work in the museum, gallery spaces, and archives.

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