



**West Coast Vancouver Island's Carving On the Edge Festival to Celebrate
Traditional and Contemporary Wood Carving, September 15-25, 2011**

Tofino and Ucluelet, British Columbia, August 29, 2011 – Event organizers today unveiled the details of the second annual [Carving On the Edge Festival](#) being held in Tofino and Ucluelet on the West Coast of Vancouver Island from September 15-25, 2011.

Celebrating the work of both traditional and contemporary wood carving artists, the 10-day festival includes fine art wood carving shows, traditional canoe-building demonstrations and workshops, tool-making & design workshops, storytelling events, hands-on wood carving events and a raffle prize drawing for a George Hunt Jr. hand-carved traditional canoe paddle. All events are open to the public at no charge and a "Carving Map," available from local businesses and visitors centres, will lead festival attendees to event locations.

"Carving On the Edge is an arts festival for carvers and people who love carvings," said Festival Director, Norma Dryden. "During our unique 10-day event, neighbors and visitors can learn more about the rich cultural history of carving on the West Coast and meet the amazing artists who live in the area."

Award winning carvers Tim Paul and Calvin Hunt will be teaching and demonstrating their techniques as a part of the Guest Master Carvers workshops. Acclaimed canoe builders Joe Martin and Carl Martin will be giving a 10-day workshop on all aspects of building a traditional seafaring dugout canoe.

Other highlights of the Carving On the Edge Festival include:

"Contemporary Wood" Art Show: Featuring the best work of local contemporary wood carvers from giant carved burls to carved guitars, to a photo show of the architectural works of famed local carver Henry Nolla.

Dates, Times, Locations: September 15-25, 1-6 PM, The Shore and the Wickaninnish Inn, Tofino.

"Cedar Tree of Life" Exhibition: First Nations artists works on display.

Dates, Times, Locations: September 16-25, 9:30 AM – 5:00 PM, Black Rock Resort, Ucluelet and the new Wya Welcome Centre at the Tofino-Ucluelet junction.

Opening ceremony September 16, 6-9 PM, Wya Welcome Centre.

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First Nations Carving Workshops and Market: Participants learn two- and three-dimensional design techniques, tool-making and canoe-building accompanied by storytelling, traditional and local food. Market will feature cedar weavings, medicines, and carvings.

Dates, Times, Location: Friday & Saturday, Sept 17-18, 10 AM – 5 PM, Wya Welcome Centre.

Traditional Canoe Building Workshops: Tla-o-qui-aht canoe carvers Joe Martin & Carl Martin will be passing on traditional canoe building knowledge daily in Tofino throughout the festival.

Dates, Times, Locations: September 15-25, schedule and locations TBD. Call 250-726-5062 to sign up.

Henry's Carving Shed: Film and photographs of the late Henry Nolla's legendary works.

Dates, Times, Location: September 15-25, daily, Henry's Carving Shed at the Wickaninnish Inn.

Community Burl Wood Carving: Festival goers are invited to work together on an enormous wood burl carving.

Dates, Times, Location: September 15-25, 10 AM – 5 PM, Burlwood Studio at the Beaches Centre, Tofino.

Legends and Carving: An evening with First Nations carvers.

Date, Time, Location: Thursday, September 22, 7 PM – 9 PM at the Eagle Aerie Gallery in Tofino.

Carving Demonstrations for Families: Carving play for kids and families.

Date, Time, Location: September 24, 10 AM – 2 PM, Village Green Market, Tofino.

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About the Carving On the Edge Festival <http://www.carvingedge.ca>

In its second year, the Carving On the Edge Festival showcases the work and traditions of West Coast wood carvers. The festival is presented by the [Pacific Rim Arts Society](#) (PRAS), a volunteer-based, non-profit society serving the districts of Tofino and Ucluelet, and First Nations communities in the Clayoquot Sound/ Long Beach area, on the West Coast of Vancouver Island, B.C., Canada. PRAS's goal is to help build happy, healthy communities by bringing people together through arts and culture. Carving On the Edge sponsors and supporters include BC Arts Council, Lisaak Forest Resources, Ucluth Development Corp, Vancouver Foundation, Hamber Foundation, District of Tofino, District of Ucluelet, Province of British Columbia, Clayoquot Biosphere Trust, The Shore Tofino, Wickaninnish Inn, Black Rock Resort, Thornton Motel and Coastal Community Credit Union.

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