MACKENZIE ART GALLERY
engaging people in transformative experiences of the world through art

Job Title: Conservator
Department: Programs
Status: Full-Time in Scope (CUPE 5791) Position

About the role: The MacKenzie Art Gallery (MAG) is seeking a forward-thinking conservator to help steward the collection we hold in trust on behalf of our communities. The MacKenzie cares for a collection of nearly 5000 works that span approximately 5000 years of history, almost one quarter of which is created by Indigenous artists. As the only art institution in the province to employ a conservator, we are seeking a candidate with an interest in a broad range of conservation practices and a passion for culturally appropriate care and innovative stewardship in line with the principals in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP). The MacKenzie has ambitious Equity and community relations goals which affect all corners of operations including conservation.

About the MacKenzie Art Gallery:

The MacKenzie Art Gallery is Saskatchewan’s oldest public art gallery, and is committed to creating transformative experiences of the world through art. This is a watershed moment in the history of the Gallery, as it is undergoing a multi-phase organizational transformation. Programming primarily contemporary art from the prairies, Canada and abroad, the MAG addresses an encyclopedic range of visual art and culture. With a quarter of our collection comprised of works by Indigenous artists, we endeavour to be a strong ally in the research and presentation of contemporary art from across Turtle Island. Housed within an over 115,000ft² facility, maintained to Class A Museum standards, the MAG permanent collection spans 5000 years of art with nearly 5000 works in a variety of media. The MAG was founded on the collection of its namesake, Norman MacKenzie (1869–1936), who bequeathed his collection to the University of Saskatchewan (Regina College), now the University of Regina.

Opening in 1953 in the first purpose-built art gallery building in western Canada, the MacKenzie enjoys a nationally unique partnership with the University of Regina. After separating in 1990, and moving to its current premises, the MAG now maintains separate Board governance, site and an expansive mandate and quarters in the T.C. (Tommy) Douglas Building. The MAG is situated in Treaty Four territory, traditional territory of the Cree, Saulteaux, Lakota, Dakota, and Nakota people, and the homeland of the Métis Nation.. The MAG is located on the edge of the 2300-acre Wascana Centre, the largest urban park in Canada, where nature, culture and education meet. Wascana Centre (1962) was designed by renowned modernist architect Minoru Yamasaki, designer of the original World Trade Center in New York, and is a living artifact of modernist design heritage.

The selected candidate will become part of a team of a dynamic team of staff, volunteers, and Gallery members.
Primary Function: The Conservator is responsible for examining, documenting and conserving objects in the permanent collection of the MacKenzie Art Gallery, monitoring and making recommendations regarding the building's environmental system, providing contract services to private, corporate, institutional, and government collections and maintaining the conservation library. The Conservator will also provide general support to the Head of Program Operations, Director of Programs, and Curatorial team on a regular basis.

Nature of work: Reporting to the Head of Program Operations and working closely with Curatorial and Program Operations staff, the Conservator provides technical conservation guidance to the public, other institutions in the province, artists and fellow MacKenzie personnel. The Conservator must be knowledgeable of regulations and legislation regarding Cultural Properties, customs, insurance, copyright and other related areas. Expertise in Collection Management Software and other related tools such as SketchUp and Adobe CS is also considered an asset. The Conservator will attend and participate in Maintenance, Occurrence Reports, Production, Disaster Planning and Curatorial committees when required. This position can operate in-person, or in a hybrid work model. Some travel to host venues for MacKenzie Art Gallery generated exhibitions to complete condition reporting and supervise crating/uncrating and installation/de-installation will be required.

The role requires a highly organized person with great attention to detail. The successful candidate will communicate professionally, exercise initiative, and have a commitment to contemporary art and continual learning.

1. Conservation: Provide technical advice and recommendations to staff on the requirements regarding safe exhibition, storage, loan and travel of objects including safe handling, display, mounts, matting and framing, and methods of storage, packing, crating and travel of such objects. Monitor and access weekly environmental graphs, and when appropriate develop and implement actions regarding issues with HVAC system, gallery lighting, current weather. Develop and monitor conservation budget and oversee billing and invoicing for conservation services.

2. Examination and Documentation: Examine objects in the permanent collection and in the care of the MacKenzie Art Gallery, document the condition, digitally and physically where appropriate, photograph and document changes to condition and treatments. Provide Analysis of changes in physical state, treatment needs and assess risk in the object with regards to loan, exhibition, environmental conditions, and handling. In collaboration with Registrar and Curatorial Team, review conditions for incoming loans and outgoing loans.

3. External Conservation Services: Responsible for external conservation services to the public, private sector, and other public institutions as a revenue resource for the Gallery. Research and examine treatment methodologies that center indigeneity and intended use.

4. Expertise and Training: Provide technical conservation guidance and advice to the public, other institutions in the province, artists and Mackenzie personnel. Consult with local, national and international colleagues on various issues that pertain to conservation and where appropriate, support repatriation efforts. Knowledge of UNDRIP and culturally sensitive handling protocols.

5. Accessibility and Equity: Committed to the accessibility and equity efforts upheld by the MacKenzie Art Gallery.
See attached [job description](#) for further details.

**Qualifications - Education:** Requires a Masters in Art Conservation or a combination of work experience, life experience and education.

**Qualifications - Experience:** A minimum of five (5) years' experience in related field

**Skills:** Interpersonally competent- liaising effectively with colleagues and external contacts within a museum/gallery environment; project management skills and evidence of the ability to plan work to meet agreed standards, deadlines and budgets; computer literate with experience with Collection Management Software, Microsoft Office, Adobe CS and SketchUp; Collaborator with an ability to work under pressure; Time management skills. Independent learner with a commitment to contemporary art and continual learning.

**Job Status:** Permanent/Full-Time

**Hours:** Full time (37.5 hours per week flex time over a one month averaging period)

**Salary Information:** $65,464 – $74,393

**Benefits:** This position includes a comprehensive benefits package.

The MacKenzie Art Gallery is committed to maintaining an inclusive culture and building a diverse workforce that includes diversity in gender identity/representation, First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples, persons with disabilities and members of racialized communities who have traditionally been and are currently underrepresented in the Canadian workforce. We welcome applications from all qualified candidates.

**HOW TO APPLY**

Please apply no later than 17 June, 2022

Applications for this position can only by submitted via the MacKenzie’s job application portal.

Any applications submitted via email or by mail will not be considered.

To visit the portal and apply, please [click here](#)

Inquiries regarding this position can be directed to Vladan Vukovic, at (306) 584-4250 ext. 4276

The successful candidate must submit a satisfactory Criminal Record Check prior to employment.