

CALGARY HERALD

PROUDLY CALGARY SINCE 1885

Bill Brooks covers the city's social scene
[read more >](#)



Quick Links: [Shopping](#), [Obituaries](#), [Horoscopes](#)

Find a business or person on:

- Home
- News
- Opinion
- Business
- Sports
- Entertainment
- Life
- Health
- Technology
- Travel
- Jobs
- Cars
- Homes

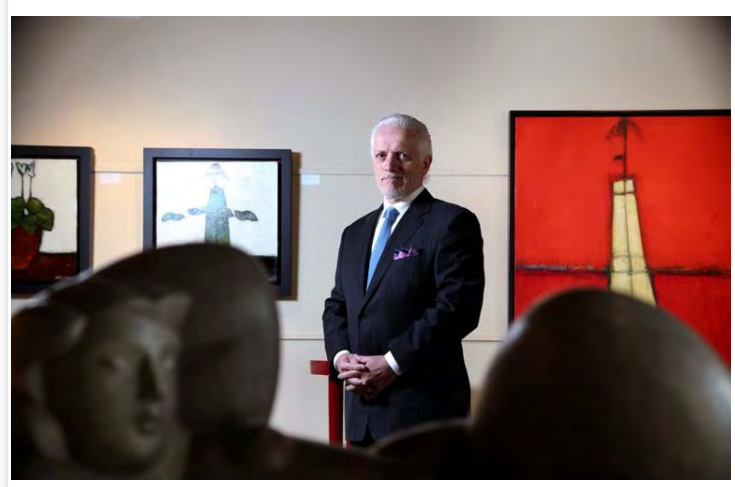
Classifieds

Calgary contributes to 'Painting Canada'

BY DAVID PARKER, FOR THE CALGARY HERALD OCTOBER 31, 2011 10:09 AM

[Recommend](#) Confirm
 [Tweet](#) 3
 [+](#) 0
 [Comment](#) 0
 [ShareThis](#)

- STORY
- PHOTOS (4)



[More Images >](#)

Rod Green, owner of the Masters Gallery in Calgary, contributed to the 200th anniversary celebration of the Dulwich Picture Gallery in England last week by lending a couple of paintings from his gallery to the exhibition.

Photograph by: Leah Hennel, Calgary Herald

Rod Green, owner of Masters Gallery, was a proud participant at last week's opening of the exhibition to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the Dulwich Picture Gallery, England's first public art gallery, housed in a magnificent structure in southeast London.

Proud because of the exhibition unveiled to the British audience: a collection of Canadian art under the title of Painting Canada: Tom Thomson and the Group of Seven.

And because after the Dulwich contacted Green two years ago as an expert on Canadian art, he was able to organize the loan of two of its paintings from Calgary owners. They are a good example of the quality of works in collections in this city, many of which were acquired through Masters.

MORE ON THIS STORY

- David Parker columns
- Calgary Herald Business Blogs
- Calgary Herald Energy Blogs
- Breaking business news alerts
- Follow Calgary Business news on Twitter
- Follow Calgary energy news on Twitter
- RSS feed: Get the Calgary Herald Business newsfeed directly to your desktop
- Join the conversation on our Facebook page

STORY TOOLS

[E-mail this Article](#)

[Print this Article](#)

Font: [A](#) [A](#) [A](#) [A](#)



RELATED TOPICS

- http://www.calgaryherald.com/columnists/David_Parker.html
- Calgary
- Peter Ohler

TOP PHOTOS

- Gallery: Television's
- Gallery: Lady Gaga in
- Gallery: Halloween
- Gallery: Costume
- Gallery: Calgary
- Celebrities turned

[More photos >](#)

RELATED STORIES

Masters is celebrating its 35th anniversary this year.

It was opened in the fall of 1976 by Peter Ohler Sr., who had moved here from Vancouver, where he had been a successful dealer for a decade, with a sense of adventure and to test the art appreciation waters in Calgary.

He brought with him 12 Group of Seven sketches: a Lawren Harris Algoma painting sold right away and he was in business.

It was a tiny shop across the alley from Masters' present location along 4th Street S.W., and it was there that Rod and Lois Green wandered in looking for something to hang on the wall of their new home.

Green says he was "flabbergasted" to find such treasures in Calgary - he thought one had to travel to Ottawa to see the like - and that they were for sale.

He began "hanging around" the gallery, became firm friends with Ohler, was asked to look after the shop while the owner ran an errand, and then despite having a degree in aquatic biology and working for Canadian Wildlife Services, joined the gallery on a fulltime basis in 1979.

By 1983, Masters was doing very well in its bigger 17th Avenue location that allowed it to represent great local artists such as Janet Mitchell, Marion Nicoll, H G Glyde and Illingworth Kerr, and sales had reached \$6 million.

The economic crash saw all of its 10 neighbouring galleries close down. But Masters, sticking to its reputation of dealing in quality and its mandate to serve only Canadian artists, not only survived, but was able to continue its growth.

In 2005, pending the demolition of its 17th Avenue building, Green relocated to 4th Street in 5,000 square feet that houses the gallery's collection that he has been so successful in acquiring, along with his knowledgeable staff of 10.

Important works are difficult to find, as only a few examples by our great artists exist. But Green is well known across the country and many are purchased as trades from customers wanting to upgrade to better pieces.

Masters also has a fulltime buyer in England who constantly searches for Canadian art.

Unlike many other galleries, Masters owns all of its historic paintings; only a few of its own stable of 40 contemporary artists are on consignment.

The building is also home to the gallery's framing shop, with its own entrance on 22nd Avenue, where craftspeople are kept busy with all of the shop's and customers' exacting framing needs.

Ohler retired and returned to Vancouver, but his son Peter remained in Calgary as a partner until recently. He has now also moved to Vancouver where he is planning to open a West Coast Masters Gallery next summer.

* * *

Bob MacDougall, senior managing director in the Calgary office of Cushman & Wakefield, was pleased to tell me that Chris Saunders has

FROM AROUND THE WEB

[Who should pay for a bridge? Those who drive on it](#)

Ottawa Citizen, Canada
Thursday, October 13, 2011

[Kevin Libin: Calgary tax grab the bad kind of penny pinch](#)

Full Comment
Friday, October 07, 2011

[Kevin Libin: How Calgary's politicians killed art](#)

Full Comment
Friday, September 23, 2011

MOST POPULAR NEWS

[MOST READ](#)

[E-MAILED](#)

[COMMENTED](#)

▣ [Jaywalker killed on 17th Avenue](#)

▣ [Gallery: Totally weird images of the week](#)

[more »](#)

CALGARY HERALD HEADLINE NEWS

Sign up to receive daily headline news from the Calgary Herald.

[SUBMIT](#)

▣ [Our Privacy Statement](#)

MORE NEWS HEADLINES »



[Runaway truck refuses to stop for Ontario police](#)

Ontario Provincial Police are currently on the tail of a runaway tractor-trailer on a busy highway in the Toronto area.

17 MINUTES AGO

COMMENTS (0)

[Edmonton imam released after being 'shackled' in Saudi jail](#)

1 HOUR AGO

[Thousands of Atlantic Canadians without power after storm](#)

1 HOUR AGO

[Cheers and fears as world population hits 7 billion](#)

joined the firm as senior vice-president and industrial practice lead.

Saunders is former president of Inducor Real Estate Solutions and a former partner with Colliers International. He will lead a team of seven specialists in the sales and leasing of industrial land and buildings.

* * *

Doug Pilip of [Avison Young](#) has completed leasing arrangements to consolidate chartered accounting and business consulting firm MNP's Calgary offices into the ERCB tower at 640 5th Ave. S.W. MNP will move into 70,000 square feet over four floors.

David Parker appears Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Read his columns online at [CalgaryHerald.com/Business](#). He can be reached at 403-830-4622 or e-mail info@DavidParker.ca.

© Copyright (c) The Calgary Herald

[E-mail this Article](#) [Print this Article](#) [Share this Article](#)

What Do You Think? [Login or Register](#)

Already a member?
To comment, please [Login](#).

New to the site?
To leave a comment, you need to [Register](#).

Questions? - Visit our [FAQ](#)

ADS BY GOOGLE

[Doing Business in Dubai?](#)

Exporting, expanding or relocating? Business Without Borders can help! [bwob.ca](#)

[OMVS - Stock Soars](#)

OTC Mobile App Stocks
View Ticker and Invest Today
[www.OnTheMoveSystems.com](#)

[Oil Jobs in BC](#)

Competitive salaries, benefits
Priority on safety - Apply here
[NaborsCanada.com](#)

INSIDE THE CALGARY HERALD



[Gallery: Take a sneak peak inside Calgary's new Telus Spark](#)



[Gallery: Scary 'n' sexy for Halloween](#)



[Gallery: Top 10 best new restaurants in Canada \(Calgary not on list\)](#)



[Reader photos: Are you proud of your pumpkin? Share a photo!](#)



[Gallery: Halloween snowstorm](#)

[Home](#) [News](#) [Opinion](#) [Business](#) [Sports](#) [Entertainment](#) [Life](#) [Health](#) [Technology](#) [Travel](#) [Jobs](#) [Cars](#) [Homes](#)

[Classifieds](#)

DON'T MISS

[Check your neighbourhood's trick-or-treat score](#)

[Is Telus Spark admission too high?](#)

[World Junior Hockey Championships](#)

[Project Calgary data centre](#)

MOST POPULAR

[Telus science centre opens with grand ceremony, concerns over admission costs. What do you think?](#)

[Missing Shell worker Barry Maguire found dead in Netherlands](#)

[Friends mourn two Calgary men killed in Sunday crash](#)

FORMATS

[Sitemap / RSS](#)

[Contests](#)

[Blogs](#)

[Columnists](#)

[Photo Galleries](#)

[Videos](#)

[Mobile](#)

THE HERALD

[About Us](#)

[Contact Us](#)

[Work for Us](#)

[Advertise with Us](#)

[Subscribe to the Print Edition](#)

[Herald Carrier Jobs](#)

TOOLS

[Search for a Job](#)

[Buy/Sell a Car](#)

[Real Estate Listings](#)

[SwarmJam Sweet Deals](#)

[SEARCH](#)

[Place a Classified Ad](#)

[E-mail Alerts](#)

[swervcalgary.com](#)