





2018-2019 Report to the Community



Premier's Message

On behalf of the Province of Nova Scotia, it is my pleasure to congratulate the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia on another year of showcasing fine arts for Nova Scotians and visitors alike.

Our province is proudly home to a vibrant and thriving arts community and our culture sector is a source of pride for all who appreciate great art and creativity.

As a province, we lead with a bold vision for our arts, crafts and cultural sector. A vision to have Nova Scotia known for its strong, empowered and vibrant communities – a province known for its thriving creative economy. To this end, recently we announced that the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia will move to a new, modern space on the Halifax waterfront. This move will even further enhance the province's position as leader in the visual arts, inviting the world to celebrate our culture.

As Premier of Nova Scotia, I am proud of the work done by the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia and the role it plays in showcasing and promoting our vibrant creative sector and in inspiring the next generation of artists.

Sincerely,

Honourable Stephen McNeil, M.L.A. Premier



Eric Sande, Board Chair and Nancy Noble, Director and CEO

Remarks from the Board Chair and CEO

The Art Gallery of Nova Scotia had an exceptional year. Visitors experienced exhibitions highlighting Nova Scotia's unique history, contemporary works that challenged our perceptions of Canadian history, including those by Indigenous artists. The Gallery showcased 28 exhibitions, which included the national touring exhibition *Shame and Prejudice: A Story of Resilience* by Cree artist Kent Monkman, and the exhibition *Ketu'elmita'jik*, by artist Jordan Bennett, which further explored his Mi'kmaq roots. These two exhibitions, along with others, allowed the Gallery to further diversify and better reflect our community.

Our exhibitions and programs celebrated artists from across the country and attracted an increased number of visitors from around the world. Our commitment to make art more accessible continued with a range of programming that gave participants the opportunity to experience art first-hand. More than ever, the continued efforts of our volunteers, staff, and supporters helped make this past year one of our most successful to date.

As we look to the future, there are exciting changes on the horizon. Our new vision, to be an inclusive public gathering place that connects people with art to inspire new ways of thinking, will guide our plans for a new building on the Halifax waterfront. This important development will add to the evolving landscape of the city's downtown and further the Province's reputation as a cultural destination. The Art Gallery of Nova Scotia looks forward to creating an exciting new space and program for all Nova Scotians.

ESak

Erik Sande Board Chair, Art Gallery of Nova Scotia

nmble

Nancy Noble
Director and CEO, Art Gallery of Nova Scotia

The Gallery welcomed

70,500 visitors to Halifax and Yarmouth in 2018-2019

Laying the Groundwork

2018-2019 was an exciting year for the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia. During the spring and summer, the Gallery undertook an intensive public consultation and engagement process to rethink what it means to be a gallery for all people. The result was the articulation of a new vision, mission and belief pillars which will lay the groundwork for a new type of Gallery that will evolve as we move towards building a new home on Halifax's waterfront. The vision, mission and beliefs were formalized in early 2019-2020 and act as the cornerstone of gallery operations and public offerings.

The Gallery also worked closely with Develop Nova Scotia, Communities, Culture and Heritage, and NSCAD University, along with local and international consultants, to evaluate location options, space requirements, and a vision for an arts district on the Halifax waterfront, anchored by a new Art Gallery of Nova Scotia. On April 18, 2019, Premier Stephen McNeil and the Honourable Bernadette Jordan announced federal and provincial funding for this project.

The Gallery hosted



exhibitions in 2018-2019

Exhibition Highlights



Shame and Prejudice:

A Story of Resilience by Kent Monkman

Halifax: October 14 – December 16, 2018

Curated by Kent Monkman

Kent Monkman created Shame and Prejudice: A Story of Resilience as a critique of Canada's colonial policies in response to the celebrations of Canada's 150th birthday. The work served as a journey through Canada's history guided by Monkman's gender-fluid, time-travelling alterego Miss Chief Eagle Testickle, which starts in the present and goes back to the years around Confederation. The journey starts in the harsh urban environment of Winnipeg's north end before travelling back to the period of New France and the fur trade, addressing some of the darkest chapters of Canada's past and narrating a story through the lens of First Nations' resilience.

As both artist and curator of the exhibition, Monkman placed his own paintings, drawings, and sculptures in dialogue with historical artifacts and artworks borrowed from museum and private collections across the country.

Supported by:









Ketu'elmita'jikby Jordan Bennett

Halifax: December 1, 2018 – March 31, 2019 Curated by David Diviney

For this solo exhibition, Jordan Bennett was invited to create a site-specific wall painting that responded to the architecture of the gallery space. Drawing influence from historical and pop cultural references, Bennett's new composition, together with examples of recent work, resulted in an immersive environment that considered the institutional mechanisms through which Indigenous Peoples and practices are often framed.

In arriving at this installation, Bennett researched Mi'kmaq objects from the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia's Permanent Collection as well as other institutions, expanding upon their patterning and iconography within the mural format alongside which they are displayed.

Ketu'elmita'jik, which means, "they want to go home" in the Mi'kmaq language, was Bennett's first solo exhibition in Nova Scotia and included an artist residency at the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia.

Supported by:





Close to the Edge... The Work of Gerald Ferguson

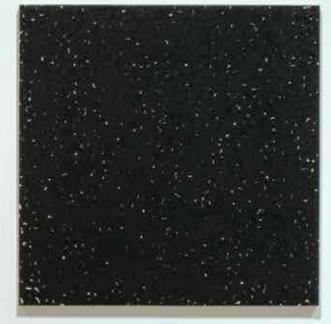
Halifax: September 15, 2018 – January 20, 2019 Curated by David Diviney

Close to the Edge... The Work of Gerald Ferguson offered a comprehensive overview of Gerald Ferguson's practice through signature works from the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia's Permanent Collection such as 1,000,000 Pennies (1979), Halifax City Hall – A Painting (1980) and Neoclassical Still Lifes (1994).

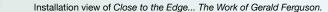
The exhibition included examples of painting, printmaking, drawing, and sculpture made by the late artist over the forty-year period that followed his arrival to Halifax in 1968. In tracing his lengthy career, of primary attention is Ferguson's ongoing relationship with the history and discourse of painting.

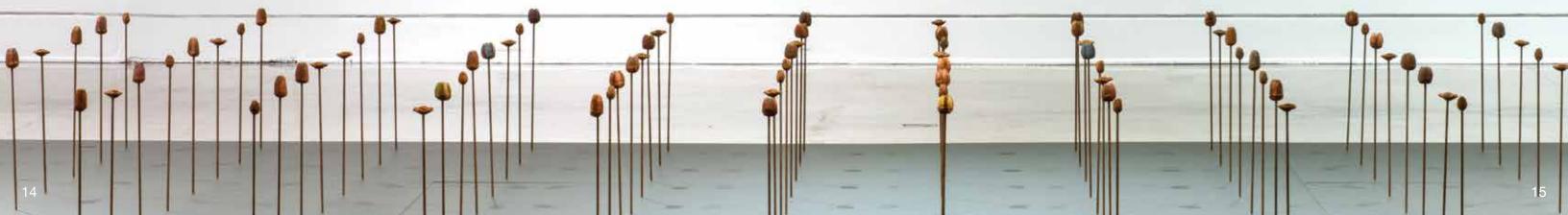














The Light Fantastic

Halifax: March 23 - September 16, 2018

Artists in this exhibition shone a greater light on uncomfortable issues as they questioned identity, sexuality, and the seeming futility of existence through works that utilized neon, video, print, paint and photograph.

Recalled from John Milton's poem of 1645, the title line, while seeming to extoll a light and bright dance, is rooted in heavier political movements and questions about the nature of existence.

Installation view of The Light Fantastic.



Blue Rocks

Gerald Ferguson, Marsden Hartley, and John Hartman

Halifax: May 19 - October 11, 2018

American modernist painter Marsden Hartley spent two summers in Nova Scotia, in 1935 and 1936, where he captured the sea's harshness in paintings and writings. Painter and conceptual artist Gerald Ferguson recaptured the works of Hartley in his own works as we witness his conversation with the past. Artist John Hartman added to the conversation, building on Ferguson's examination of Hartley's time in Nova Scotia. Together, this collection offered an opportunity to trace the full circle between each of these artists' exploration of a single theme: Blue Rocks, Nova Scotia.

Supported by:

John Hartman, Marsden

Hartley's Studio, Blue Rocks, NS (detail),





2011. Gift of the Artist,
Penetanguishene, Ontario,
2014, with assistance from
the Fred and Elizabeth
r view of
Fantastic.
Contemporary Art.











On the Edge of Modernism

The Group of Seven and Lismer's Legacy in Nova Scotia

Halifax: May 19 – September 3, 2018 Curated by Sarah Fillmore

This exhibition explored the rise of modernism in Canada and the legacy of the Group of Seven, including Arthur Lismer, in Nova Scotia. In 1920, the Group of Seven introduced a new, triumphant, Canadian modernism to Canadian art audiences where they explored the unique character of the Canadian landscape together. Some of these works were seen here, such as views of Algonquin Park and suburban Toronto as well as of Nova Scotia, painted by Arthur Lismer.

Supported by:





Installation view of On the Edge of Modernism: The Group of Seven and Lismer's Legacy in Nova Scotia.



A Sense of Site

Halifax: February 9 - May 12, 2019

Curated by David Diviney

A Sense of Site drew upon the conceptual framework of Landmarks2017/ Repères2017, a cross-Canada project that invited people to explore and deepen their connection to the land through a series of commissioned contemporary art projects in and around Canada's National Parks and Historic Sites.

Artists: Michael Belmore, Rebecca Belmore, Chris Clarke and Bo Yeung, Raphaëlle de Groot, Jeneen Frei Njootli, Maureen Gruben, Ursula Johnson, Cheryl L'Hirondelle and Camille Turner, Douglas Scholes, and Jin-me Yoon.

Supported by:



In 2018-2019 the Gallery hosted

programs in Halifax and Yarmouth

Program Highlights



Afternoon Shift

The Art Gallery of Nova Scotia recognized the emotional and mental health challenges young adults face through *Afternoon Shift*, a new drop-in program launched last year that provided them and their families and support networks with a space to channel their efforts into self-directed creative projects. Through a partnership with Wonder'neath Art Society, the Gallery transformed its studio into a comfortable gathering space for creation, conversation, and self-care with art-making materials, snacks, and artist facilitators.

Worn Inward

A Response Exhibition and Mentorship Program

In 2018-2019, eight young emerging artists from across the region participated in the development of a response exhibition to Jordan Bennett's *Ketu'elmita'jik*. These artists aimed to collaboratively create an exhibition grounded in Indigenous self-representation, cultural resurgence, and professional development which will launch in 2019. Diving into museum collections, group discussions, and workshops, these artists explored self-representation through adornment and wearable design. *Worn Inward*, will host a collection of multimedia practices including photography, painting, and embroidery, shedding layers of self-preservation in celebrating ongoing survivance.





Supported by:



Supported by:





Mark Bursey and Jane Wells



Artful Afternoon - Hannah's Story

Art has connected Hannah Minzloff and her father Rainer for as long as she can remember. Now a filmmaker and sixth-generation photographer, Hannah got her passion and appreciation for art and music from her father. When she heard about *Artful Afternoon* at an Alzheimer Society conference, she knew it would help keep the connection going.

Hannah and Rainer have been participating in *Artful Afternoon* at the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia since 2016. The program has been offered since 2012 in partnership with the Alzheimer Society of Nova Scotia and is designed for individuals living with dementia and their partners in care. In each monthly session, they participate in Gallery tours, art discussions, and creative hands-on activities led by artist Lux Habrich. It's a program that Hannah says is "a great way for us to connect outside of our usual care-driven routine."

She notes the long-lasting impacts of each session where Rainer will talk with his wife about what he saw, what was discussed, and what was made for months afterward.

"It's amazing to see how Dad opens up to the staff and volunteers, participating a little more each session," she said. It took two years before her father started to draw spontaneously at the sessions, so a memory she cherishes is watching him draw a flower on kraft paper, which she used as a template for a felted pin that Rainer gave to his wife.

"Be sure to come," said Hannah. "Especially on days when the person you are caring for doesn't want to. It will magically turn their day around."

In partnership with:



The Windsor Foundation

The Gallery acquired

new works in 2018-2019

Acquisition Highlights

Miss Chief's Wet Dream Miss Chief's Wet Dream is the largest work produced by artist Kent Monkman and was generously gifted to the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia by Donald R. Sobey on October 12, 2018. The piece, measuring 7.5 meters by 3.5 meters, is showcased permanently on view in Gallery 5 as part of An Exhibition Highlight: Monkman, Johnson & Bennett. Kent Monkman, Miss Chief's Wet Dream, 2018, acrylic on canvas, 365.7 x 731.5 cm. Pending gift of Donald R. Sobey, 2018.



Helen Weld

Lowell, Massachusetts, USA, 1904–1996, Pembroke Dyke, Nova Scotia

Untitled [Landscape with Distance View of Ocean] (detail) n.d. Watercolour on wove paper 42.7 × 35.1 cm Gift of Mark Connell, Sussex, New Brunswick, 2018 NTL2018.26



35

David Milne

Burgoyne, Ontario, 1882–1953, Bancroft, Ontario

Lady in the Park 1913

Oil on canvas 56.2×46.0 cm Gift of Sumac Corporation Limited, Stellarton, Nova Scotia, 2018 2018.10



York Wilson Toronto, Ontario, 1907–1984

Speech from the throne c.1970
Watercolour on wove paper
44.3 × 59.6 cm
Gift of Patti Vaison, Nova Scotia, 2018, with assistance from the Sheldon and Marjorie Fountain Endowment Fund
2018.48



Micah Lexier

Winnipeg, Manitoba, 1960

Duly Noted 2013

8 custom-made light boxes, backlit transparancy film 11.5 cm overall Gift of the artist, Toronto, Ontario, 2018, with assistance from the Fred and Elizabeth Fountain Endowment for Contemporary Art 2018.28



Calgary, Alberta

Shroud: the Macara Barnstead Bulding 2 2013

Pencil, crayon, mylar, ink and image transfer on somerset paper 57.0 × 75.8 cm
Purchased with a gift from Mark Bursey and Jane Wells, Halifax, Nova Scotia, 2018 2018.2





Bill Vazan

Toronto, Ontario, 1933

P.E.I. Low Tide Works (Sandforms Seaweed Disk) Paul's Bluff, P.E.I.

1968, 2003
Chromogenic photo prints
(Lambda-Flex) on paper, 1/1
151.7 × 126.7 cm
Gift of Danielle Vazan, Montreal
Quebec, 2018, with assistance from
the Sheldon and Marjorie Fountain
Endowment Fund
NTL2018.675



The Shore, Wind 2018
Acrylic and oil on canvas
91.8 × 61.0 cm
Purchased with funds from the Elizabeth
Connor Endowment Fund, 2018
2018.8

View in Gaff Point 2018
Acrylic and oil on canvas
91.7 × 61.2 cm
Purchased with funds from the Elizabeth
Connor Endowment Fund, 2018
2018.9







Norman Laliberté

Worcester, Massachusetts, USA, 1925

Tulip Cortege c1980
Wool, fabric, thread, mirrors
134.0 × 146.4 cm
Gift of Roger Salhany and Tannis
Yankewicz, Ottawa, Ontario, 2018,
with assistance from the Sheldon and
Marjorie Fountain Endowment Fund
2018.22



Edith A. Smith

Halifax, Nova Scotia, 1866–1954, Petite Riviere, Nova Scotia

At the Gorge, N.W.A. 1920s
Oil on canvas $40.2 \times 52.0 \text{ cm}$ Gift of Brian Oickle,
Ottawa, Ontario, 2018
2018.45



Leeds, Yorkshire, England, 1936–2003, Halifax, Nova Scotia

Starry Starry Night 1999

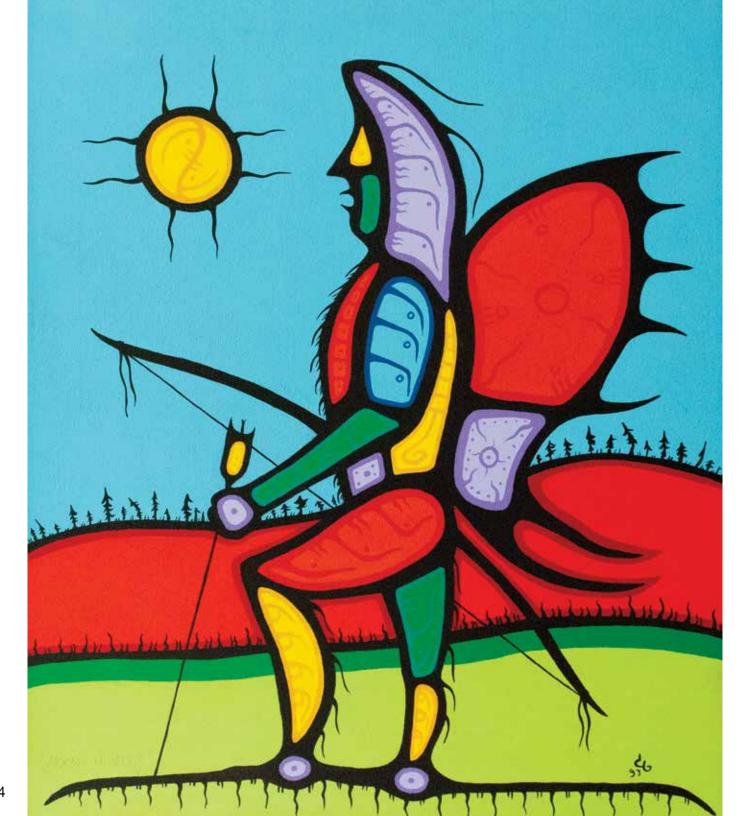
Oil on canvas 101.8 × 127.1 cm Gift of Elizabeth Haigh, Halifax, Nova Scotia, 2018, with assistance from the Sheldon and Marjorie Fountain Endowment Fund 2018.24





William Woollett (after Benjamin West) Maidstone, England, 1735–1785, London, England

The Death of General Wolfe 1776
Hand coloured engraving
on wove paper
47.5 × 61.7 cm
Gift of John and Norma Oyler, Halifax,
Nova Scotia, 2018
NTL2015.185



David J Brooks

Truro, Nova Scotia, 1950–2014, Indian Brook, Nova Scotia

Moose Hunter 1993
Acrylic on canvas
60.7 × 50.3 cm
Gift of Nova Scotia Teacher's College,
Nova Scotia
2018.20

2018-2019 Supporters

Annual Giving

April 1, 2018–March 31, 2019

The Art Gallery of Nova Scotia gratefully acknowledges the generosity of individuals, corporations and foundations that made contributions in support of 2018-2019 annual operations.

\$5,000+	\$5.	00	00+
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59

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Permanent Collection Support

We are grateful to the following donors who supported the Permanent Collection with works of art in 2018-2019.

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Every effort is made to ensure proper recognition of each donor. Please email rachel.solomon@novascotia.ca regarding any omissions or corrections.

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Blue Rocks: Gerald Ferguson,

Marsden Hartley and John Hartman May 19—October 11, 2018

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On The Edge Of Modernism: The Group Of Seven And Lismer's Legacy In Nova Scotia

May 19—September 3, 2018

CBCL Limited

FBM Architecture • Interior Design

Jordan Bennett: Ketu'elmita'jik

December 1, 2018—March 31, 2019

Stewart McKelvey

Artful Afternoon: Seaside Memories

December 15, 2018—June 2, 2019

The Windsor Foundation

A Sense Of Site

February 9-May 12, 2019

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Worn Inward: Ketu'elmita'jik Response

Exhibition and Mentorship program

RBC Foundation

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Mark Bursey & Jane Wells

Yarmouth Programs

Friends of the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia,

Western Branch Society

Government Support





Conseil des Art du Canada



Membership

Members of the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia form a community of art enthusiasts that celebrate culture and diversity through the visual arts.

Support from our 2,595 members is vital in allowing the Gallery to fulfill our mission of engaging people with art and inspiring new ways of thinking. Their generosity benefits every visitor, school group, and community partner served by our exhibitions and programs.

2018-2019 Highlights

- 4 exhibition previews
- 168 reciprocal member visits
- 578 students engaged
- 3,086 visits from members

This year, we relaunched our membership levels with some exciting new additions and offerings. Our new auto-renew option allows members to save on their annual membership fee. We are thrilled to offer a new membership level for professional artists. Our Patron Memberships were introduced in the fall; these enhanced memberships offer a unique way for members to experience art through two exclusive programming series, while providing significant support to the Gallery.



Members attend the opening celebration of Kent Monkman's Shame and Prejudice: A Story of Resilience.



Life Members gathered in Chester for a special event.

Volunteers

Through the tireless efforts of more than 200 volunteers in both Halifax and Yarmouth, we were able to deliver an enriching experience for our visitors in 2018-2019.

Sarah An	Jean Clulee	Dan Earle	Beth Hawco
Ava Austin	Linda Marie Coakley	Heather Elms-Wood	Annette Henderson
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Our volunteers are the heart of the Gallery!

TOP: Congratulations to Robbie Shaw for receiving a 2019 HRM Volunteer Award (pictured) and a 2019 Provincial Volunteer Award. The impact of Robbie's long-term commitment to the Gallery is immeasurable, and we offer a heartfelt thanks for the many ways he gives back to his community as a volunteer. (Photo: Paul Darrow) LEFT: Volunteer guides Vicky Parker and Liam Ross were on-hand during Nocturne to help animate the exhibitions to hundreds of visitors throughout the night. Pictured here with Gerald Ferguson's 1,000,000 Pennies (1979). RIGHT: Volunteer docents and guides tour On the Edge of Modernism with Chief Curator. Sarah Fillmore.

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David Fielding, Honorary Governor Fred Fountain and Board Member Bonnie Kirby at a special summer celebration.



Honorary Governors Donald and Rob Sobey pictured with artist Kent Monkman, Monique and Jane Sobey and Bernard Doucet during the opening of *Shame and Prejudice: A Story of Resilience*.

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Donor Relations

Colin Stinson
Director, Marketing and
Visitor Experience

Don Van Buskirk Preparator

Troy Wagner
Assistant Registrar

Kris Webster Assistant Curator of Programs Casual Preparators:
Oliver Hill
Aaron Mangle
Kyle Martell
Jesse Mitchell
Marc Montanchez
Ben Mosher
James Norton
Bruce Smith

Alex van Helvoort

2018-2019 Financial Results

Statement of financial position

As at March 31

	2019 \$	2018 \$
Financial assets		
Cash	240,464	607,153
Accounts receivable	328,751	166,030
Inventory for resale	118,913	128,283
Investments – endowment	4,146,918	3,827,925
	4,835,046	4,729,391
Financial Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	285,150	319,106
Deferred revenue	413,786	339,768
	698,936	658,874
Net financial assets	4,136,110	4,070,517
Non-Financial Assets		
Tangible capital assets, net	23,007	50,610
Prepaid expenses	34,875	14,529
Other assets	35,694	16,861
	93,576	82,000
Accumulated surplus	4,229,686	4,152,517
Accumulated surplus is comprised of:		
Accumulated operating surplus	3,994,215	3,951,484
Accumulated remeasurement gains	235,471	201,033
	4,229,686	4,152,517

Statement of operations and accumulated surplus

Year Ended March 31

	2019 \$	2018 \$
	[actual]	[actual]
Revenue		
Operating	3,079,697	2,914,433
Programming	365,140	369,710
Gallery shop	534,724	539,822
Other revenue	128,321	122,208
	4,107,882	3,946,173
Expenditures		
Salaries and benefits	2,228,713	2,244,112
Programming	564,729	485,731
Administration	408,750	333,153
Development and marketing	237,281	211,314
Acquisitions	7,905	12,752
Western branch	159,645	148,822
Gallery shop	418,081	395,524
Building operations	12,441	14,557
	4,037,545	3,845,965
	70,337	100,208
Amortization of tangible capital assets	27,606	45,487
Annual surplus	42,731	54,721
Accumulated operating surplus, beginning of year	3,951,484	3,896,763
Accumulated operating surplus, end of year	3,994,215	3,951,484

Statement of remeasurement gains and losses

As at March 31

	2019 \$	2018
Accumulated remeasurement gains, beginning of year	201,033	288,803
Unrealized (losses) gains attributable to investments Capital gain reclassified to statement of operations	36,974 (2,536)	(83,634) (4,136)
Net remeasurement (losses) gains for the year	34,438	(87,770)
Accumulated remeasurement gains, end of year	235,471	201,033

Image Installation view of Jordan Bennett: Ketu'elmita'jik.

Chair Seat Cover: Artist was known, Mi'kmaq, Nova Scotia, Chair Seat Panel, c. 19th Century, Porcupine quill, birchbark, root. Collection of the Canadian Museum of History, III-F-268.

