

Kinship Rising

UNAPOLOGETIC, RESURGENT, CONNECTED, SOVEREIGN.

Coming Home



A mural created by two Indigenous youth artists who grew up in the B.C. child welfare system
Dorothy Stirling, Nl̓eʔkepmxc Nation, Lower Nicola Valley, British Columbia
Carmin Bear, Peter Ballantyne (Bear) Cree Nation, Pelican Narrows Saskatchewan

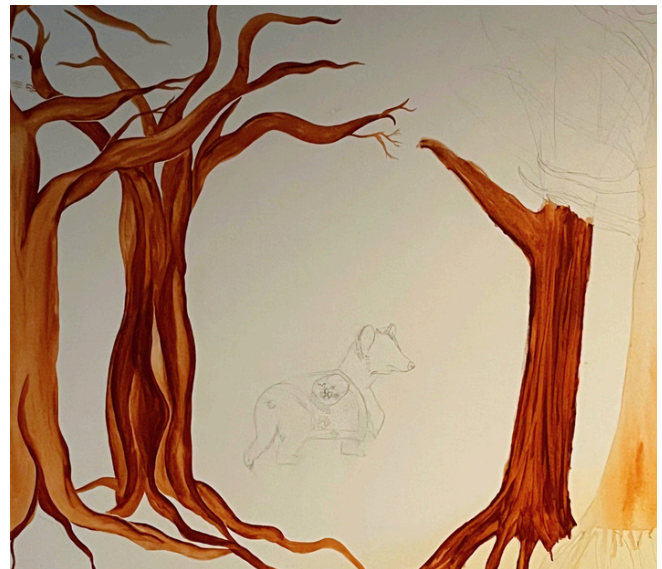
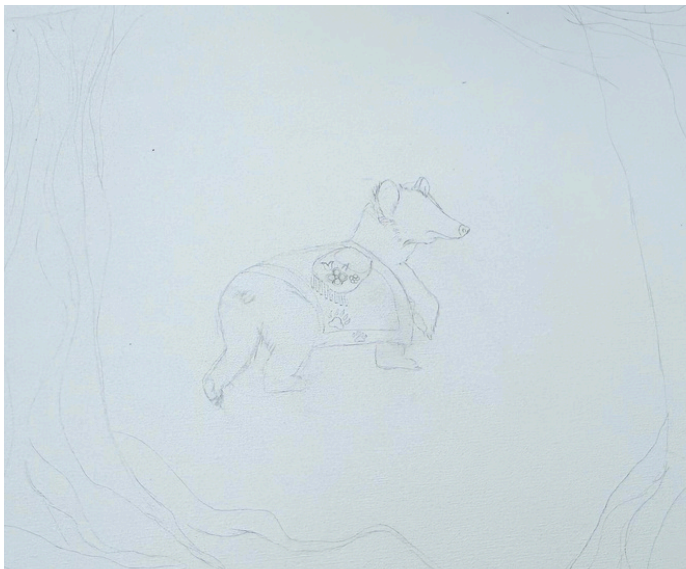
Announcing the gift of the “Coming Home” mural to the School of Child and Youth Care
 at the University of Victoria.

We extend our deepest gratitude to the ancestors of the l̓əkw̓əŋən (Songhees, SXIMEŁEŁ) and W̱SÁNEĆ Nations and commit to everyday practices that uphold their sovereignty.

Coming Home

a mural by Dorothy Stirling and Carmin Bear

“Coming Home” celebrates Indigenous youth in care, and is exhibited outside the School of Child and Youth Care in the Faculty of Health. It welcomes visitors with a reminder of our collective responsibility to support the wellbeing of all Indigenous children, youth, families, and homelands.

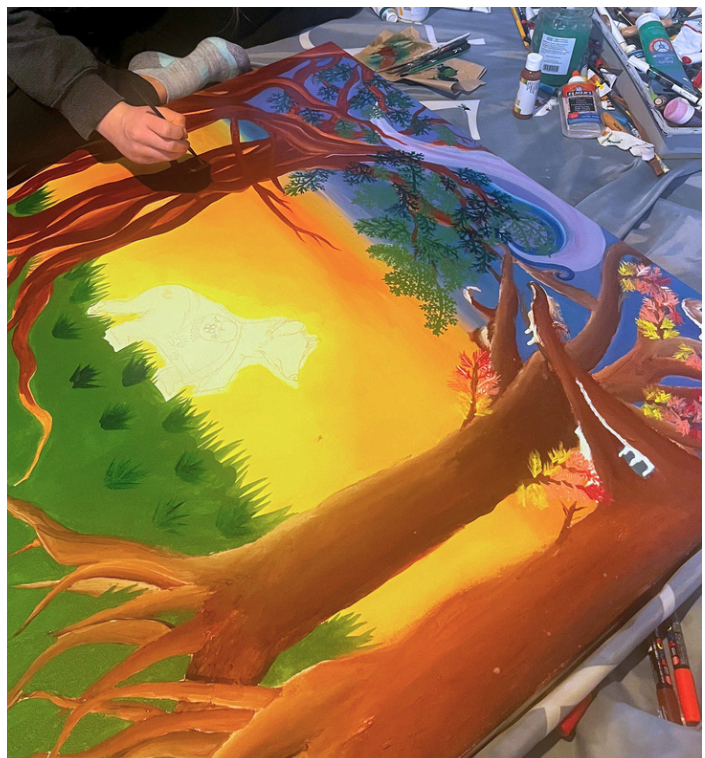


The mural depicts a bear, representing family relations, collecting medicines in its medicine bag as it walks through the four seasons.





The story shares our healing journey of coming home as Indigenous youth who grew up in foster care.



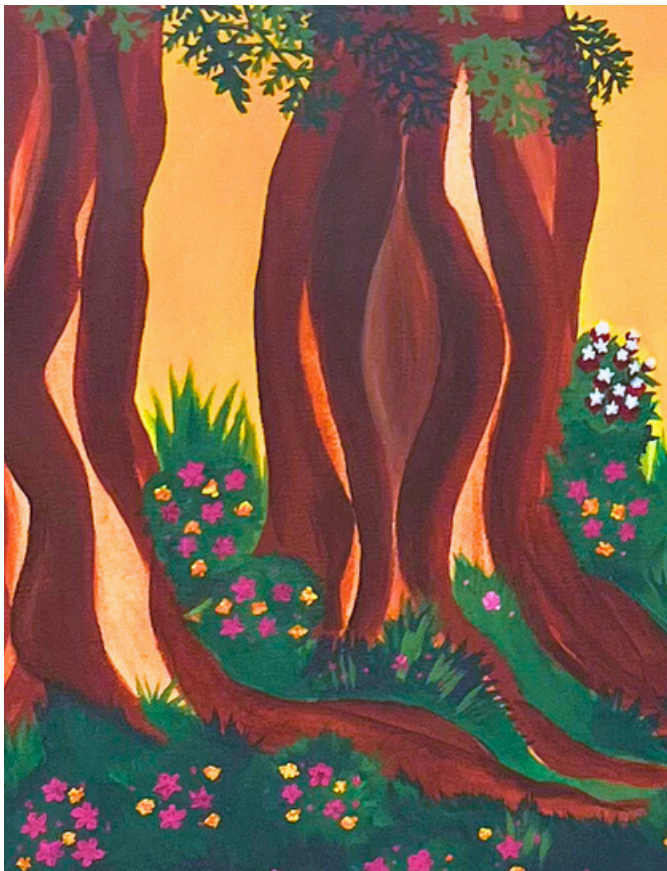
Thunderbird symbolizes rising above
the harms of the child welfare system.



The medicines featured in the bear's path, including flowers, cedar trees, snow, sage, and wind, show our sacred vision for healing, protection, and reclaiming our spirits as urban Indigenous youth in care.



The seasons teach us about the challenges and gifts of the life cycle.





The sage represents the good medicine of the Indigenous Youth Council, which gathers together Indigenous youth in care leaders who advocate for change in the child welfare system.



"Coming Home" was created as part of Kinship Rising, a research project fostering Indigenous youth-led arts-based storytelling projects. For more information, please visit kinshiprising.uvic.ca

Dorothy Stirling

Lower Nicola Valley

Nte?kepmxc Nation

Life plan:

Working to be an Indigenous artist and tattoo artist

Likes:

I like to write and illustrate

Fun Fact:

I like to face my fears





Carmin Bear-Blomberg

Tansi, Carmin Bear, nisîthikâson,
Peter Ballantyne Maskwa (Bear)
Nêhiyaw Nation, Pelican Narrows
Saskatchewan, ochi nitha.

I am a Two Spirit Nêhiyaw (Cree) and mixed European from my Father, Clifford Blomberg. I also carry teachings from my Kwikwasut'inuxw Haxwa'mis family and spirit/passed mother, Qwikilag.

Life goal: Artist. Continue to be a mentor support for urban indigenous youth and families in community, supporting wellness and cultural practice reconnection through art and land methods.

Likes: Drawing, painting, composing music, dancing, longboarding.
Savoury foods and pastries.



Kinship Rising is grateful for funding provided by:



The Canet Foundation supports education and creative arts projects as key to a healthy society



kinshiprising.uvic.ca

Kinship Rising is an Indigenous-led research project based on the unceded homelands of the ləkʷəŋən (Songhees, SXIMEŁƏŁ) and ƵSÁNEĆ Nations. We extend our deep gratitude to the ancestors of these territories and commit to everyday practices that uphold their sovereignty.