



March 23, 2003

EnCana art auction to support Wellness

Calgary: March 23, 2003 - EnCana Corporation will auction rare and valuable pieces of its inventory of Canadian art to benefit the Integrative Health Institute. The auction will be conducted on Sunday, March 23 in Calgary.

"EnCana is, first and foremost, an oil and gas company. We feel we can create a win-win situation by making these valued pieces more public while at the same time supporting a community organization that is helping Canadians better manage their health and wellness," said EnCana Executive Vice-President, Corporate Services Drude Rimell.

The artworks include an extremely rare mountain drawing by Group of Seven member Frank Carmichael, and a large 1950s gouache painting by Jean-Paul Riopelle as well as a number of excellent pieces by Canada's most celebrated landscape and contemporary artists. Artists include William Kurelek, Franz Johnston, Gerald Tailfeathers, F.M. Bell-Smith, Nicholas de Grandmaison, Mary Pratt, Doris McCarthy, H.G. Glyde, Alan Collier and A.C. Leighton.

The acquisition of some of the art dates back to the early days of the Canadian Pacific Railway collection. Artists were encouraged to travel west with the railway and capture their visual experiences on canvas. Canadian Art Gallery owner Doug MacLean assisted with selecting the 125 pieces in the auction inventory.

The 125 pieces of art is collectively valued at more than \$400,000.

"The inventory represents an excellent selection of original works by Canadian artists. Acquired over many years, the consistent overall quality is exceptional and will be of interest to collectors, galleries and museums. Values of the art range from \$150,000 to \$500, which will provide an opportunity for first-time buyers to own original works of Canadian art as well as appeal to seasoned collectors," she said.

The Integrative Health Institute, beneficiary of the art auction, was established in 2001 to provide evidence-based information on the whole spectrum of health options including complementary and alternative therapies.

The Institute (www.integrativehealth.ca) has a team of experts from both conventional and complementary and alternative medical communities that evaluate information and provide workshops pertaining to health, wellness and healing for the general public and Calgary's corporate and health care communities.

"Wellness is one of EnCana's core values," said Rimell. "The proceeds from the sale of the art will be specifically used to support the Integrative Health Institute's education and research programs."

The auction will be held Sunday, March 23, 2003, 2:00 pm. at Hodgins Art Auctions, 5240 1A Street SE, Calgary. Previews: Saturday, March 22, 2003 noon to 5:00 pm. and Sunday, March 23, 2003, 10:00 am. to 1:00 pm. The art can be viewed online at www.hodginsauction.com.