



April 2009

### *A Message from the Premier*

As Premier of the Province of British Columbia, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize and commend artists in Vancouver West, as they celebrate the 17<sup>th</sup> anniversary of *Artists in Our Midst*. It is especially exciting to enjoy this experience during the year when Vancouver is hosting the 2009 Cultural Olympiad as a complement to the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games.

*Artists in Our Midst* has grown from humble origins and expanded across many neighbourhoods, with the goal of creating a cultural dialogue between artists and non-artists, enriching and nourishing our cultural spirit. They have endeavoured to inspire a new generation of artistic talent through their educational component at Lord Byng Secondary School and three philosopher cafés. This unique neighbourhood experience is a great opportunity for people to view and appreciate locally created paintings, ceramics, sculpture, photography and more.

I would like to recognize the hard work and dedication of *Artists in Our Midst*, as well as the creative talents of all artists in Vancouver West neighbourhoods. Your accomplishments are an inspiration to all British Columbians.

Congratulations and best wishes for a wonderful celebration.

Sincerely,

Gordon Campbell  
Premier