

Media Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, May 4, 2005

ATTENTION: NEWS, and ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITORS

KELOWNA, BC: **Censorship in the Okanagan;**

City of Kelowna cancels the premiere screening of **Temporal Transmissions**, an innovative video compilation commissioned by the City of Kelowna as a Centennial public art project that was to be inaugurated at the Mary Irwin Theatre, Rotary Centre for the Arts.

In lieu of this cancellation an alternative screening will be held next door at the Alternator Gallery, 421 Cawston Ave., same day and time as originally planned, Wed. May 4th, 8:PM.

City officials have waited until the last minute to voice their concerns that one videotape in the seven tape compilation is not to their liking. This videotape, "untitled part 4: *terra incognita*", by Jayce Salloum features members of the Westbank/Okanagan First Nations speaking frankly about the history of 'contact' including the legacies of the residential school system and relations with the settlement history. It is a lyrical videotape that in a celebratory spirit also expresses the need to share and help each other in our lives and in our community.

Six other artists, including Dana Claxton, an acclaimed aboriginal filmmaker based in Vancouver, and five emerging artists also have contributed videotapes to the DVD compilation, *Temporal Transmissions*.

One of Canada's leading video artists, Salloum, who was born and raised in Kelowna says, "I will not take this act of censorship lying down. If the City of Kelowna cannot face up to its history during this Centennial year then what is there to celebrate. Our relationship with the First Nations forms the basis of any relationship we have to our entire communities, to our genuine progress as a city, and as sharing individuals".

Admission is Free and all are invited.

Alternator Gallery

Wed. May 4, 8:PM

421 Cawston Ave.

Kelowna