



Bald Eagle over Masset, Haida Gwaii © Robin Rowland



SEMINARS & WORKSHOP PROGRAM

August 6, 2016

Welcome to Kitimat

Welcome to Kitimat and the North West Photo Fest, an August festival of celebration of photography in northwest British Columbia.

In 2015, the Kitimat Museum & Archives held the successful “Local Lens” exhibit. Based on that success, Kitimat and area photographers and their supporters began planning a friendly regional photo festival for August 2016.

So here it is. We are featuring a new exhibit of photography from across the northwest at the Kitimat Museum & Archives from August 5 to August 27.

Today’s program will give you just a glimpse of the photographic talent in the British Columbia northwest. We live among some of the most spectacular scenery in the world that features wildlife from humpback whales and orcas, grizzly and black bears to tiny songbirds. The region is more and more in the news, so photojournalism is a vital field to explain the north west of Canada and the world. Photographers in this region also explore all aspects of the image, with portraiture and projects that push the limits of the comfort zone.

The theme for the exhibit is “Why we live here” or “Why we stay.” Despite the boom and bust resource economy and the uncertainty of tourism, many people chose to remain in the northwest or make every effort to return if their careers had called them away.

As we were developing today’s workshops and seminars, another theme emerged – the special challenge of photography in a small town where, as Dwight Magee says, “everyone knows your name.”

Thanks for coming and enjoy today’s events.



Robin Rowland
Co-Chair North West Photo Fest

Program Line-Up

Time	Seminar or Workshop
8:00 am	Registration opens
8:45 am	Welcome
9:00 am	“Daily Life” with Andy Clark
10:15 am	Coffee break
10:30 am	Local Portraits - “Seeing Things Poetically” with Doug Keech & “Environmental Portraiture” with Talon Gillis
11:45 am	Lunch (provided)
12:00 pm	Lunch and Learn - “Facing Your Fears in the Back Country” with Kelly Marsh and Mike Stekelenburg, Kitimat Search and Rescue
1:30 pm	Observing Wildlife - “The North’s Summer Song Birds” with Walter Thorne & “Wildlife Observation” with Rob St. Jean
2:45 pm	Coffee break
3:00 pm	“Pushing Comfort Zones in Small Towns” with Dwight Magee
4:30 pm	“Voices from the Wild” with Paul Colangelo
7:00 pm	Barbecue sponsored by Minette Bay Lodge and North West Photo Fest

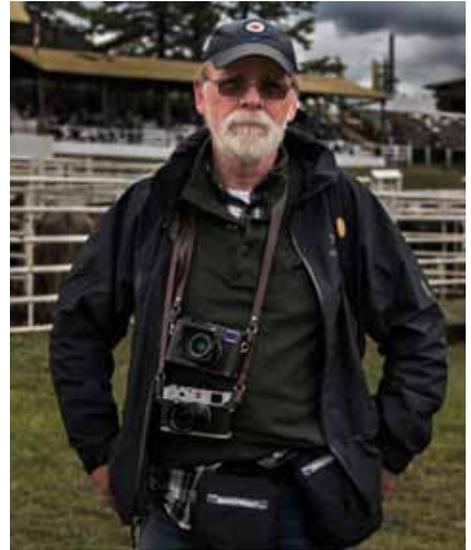
Andy Clark

Photo Journalist

9:00 am - Workshop

Looking For and Photographing Images of Daily Life

Andy Clark began his career with The Canadian Press as a copyboy in 1970. Working his way up through the ranks he became a staff photographer in 1974 and transferred to the Ottawa bureau covering Parliament Hill. In 1978 Andy left CP to join the staff of The Hamilton Spectator. Later that same year he returned to news agency work signing on with United Press Canada working first in Vancouver and then again in Ottawa. In 1985, Andy briefly joined the newly created Reuters News Pictures operation before accepting a position as Prime Minister Brian Mulroney's official photographer. In 1987 Andy re-joined Reuters and has been based in Belgium, England, Toronto and Vancouver. In 2014, Andy left Reuters after 27 years. He has traveled extensively throughout the world covering famines, disasters, world summits, global sporting events, the first Gulf War and conflicts in the Balkans.



© Andy Clark

Talon Gillis & Doug Keech

10:30 am - Small Town Portraiture Panel
Seeing Things Poetically & Environmental Portraits

Talon Gillis

Talon Gillis is a self taught photographer who grew up in Prince Rupert and now lives in Terrace. Talon is an adventurer at heart with a strong passion for photographing people. He combines the beauty and excitement of being outside with a relatable human element that allows the viewer to identify with the image. His photography allows him to explore the world with an observant perspective. He will describe how he comes up with ideas for photographs that tell stories or portray a specific mood as well as how a photographer can earn trust in a small community.



© Talon Gillis

Doug Keech

Doug Keech has been taking photographs since he was about 10 years old. He loves being outdoors always searching and watching for special moments. He enjoys studio work, portraiture, landscape photography and street photography. "Photographing in a small town can be a great deal harder than it would at first seem. Most people search for something beautiful or extraordinary. But there is a real timeless value in photographing the everyday and learning how to see things poetically."



Kitimat Search & Rescue

12:00 noon - Lunch and Learn

Facing Your Fears in the Back Country

Kitimat Search and Rescue (KSAR) serves the Kitimat Valley and down the Douglas Channel, as well as providing mutual aid to the other SAR teams in the area. KSAR is normally tasked by the RCMP, BC Ambulance Service or the Coroner.

At some point, most people have experienced fear or anxiety when venturing into the backcountry. Among those fears are what to do if you ever get lost and how to survive if you do. Another is what to do if you encounter a bear. Kitimat Search and Rescue will share some of the knowledge and training on how to prepare for an experience into the backcountry, including some specific training in bear aware, preparing a pre-trip before going out, basic compass work as well as what you need to know if you do get lost so you are prepared to survive.



Mike Stekelenburg (left) is a Search Manager with KSAR and the Northwest Area representative with BC Search and Rescue Association.

Kelly Marsh (right) is a Search Manager and has been a Kitimat Search and Rescue volunteer for 13 years.



Courtesy of Kitimat Search and Rescue

Walter Thorne & Rob St. Jean

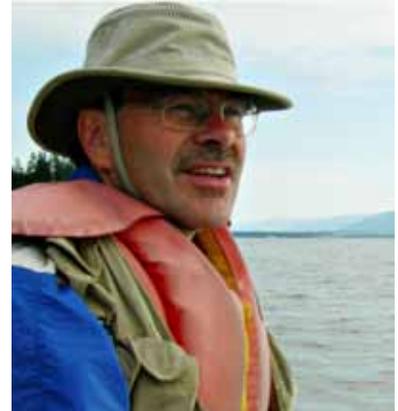
1:30 pm - Observing Wildlife

The North's Summer Song Birds & Wildlife Observation

Walter Thorne

Walter Thorne is a semi-retired teacher and 40-year resident of Kitimat who has a passion for photographing birds. His other passions are heritage, the outdoors, boating and his family. Walter spends many summer hours aboard his boat Blackjack exploring the shores of the Douglas Channel and beyond. Walter is the co-author of two volumes of the history books Kitimat Chronicles and writes a heritage column for the Northern Sentinel.

Summer song birds are miracles of nature. Nonetheless they and their habitats are in decline. For three years Walter and his wife Susan have volunteered at a bird banding station on Williston Lake. The migrating birds banding program works to cherish and protect the birds. As well as sharing his photographs taken at the banding station, Walter will explain how banding stations function. Other photographs will showcase migrating waterfowl – which ones are visitors and which are residents to our Kitimat habitats.



© Walter Thorne

Rob St. Jean

Rob St. Jean graduated from UNBC in 2006 with a degree in Wildlife and Fisheries Management. After a few years working throughout northeastern BC as a consultant in both the forestry and environmental industries, Rob started working as an environmental construction specialist on large scale projects in Northern Alberta. Rob is currently working on the LNG Canada project as an environmental specialist focused on site construction. Rob is an avid hunter who enjoys some recreational fishing. He is a P.Bio, EP (environmental professional) and NCSO (safety designation).



Dwight Magee

3:00 pm - Workshop

Pushing Comfort Zones in Small Towns - *Adult Content*

Dwight Magee took his first picture at the age of 10 and has been hooked on photography ever since. Forty years and a couple of hundred thousand images later, Dwight recently retired from his career as a corporate photographer for a major international mining company where he developed a talent for capturing people working in their element. His work has appeared in many corporate publications including news magazines and annual reports.

After leaving the corporate world, Dwight now has time to focus his passion for photographing people. "Everyone has a story and I like to visually share their story with the world", he says.

Dwight has had three solo exhibits to his credit and is currently working on his fourth exhibit called "The Passionate Ink - a celebration of the human body as a canvas". The exhibit opens in Terrace on Sept 2, 2016 and in Kitimat next summer.

Dwight will showcase samples of his photographs from the show and will discuss the highlights and challenges of creating a diverse portfolio where the majority of subjects are posing nude for the first time in their lives. The fact that the subjects live in a small town where everyone knows your name doesn't help.



© Dwight Magee



Paul Colangelo

Wildlife Documentary Photographer

4:30 pm - Workshop

Voices from the Wild

Paul Colangelo is a wildlife documentary photographer. Much of his work has focused on the Canadian wilderness and its mix of wildlife, culture and industry. Paul's work helped lead to the protection of the Sacred Headwaters in 2012. His images have been exhibited at the Telluride Film Festival and the Banff Mountain Film Festival. He was named one of Photo District News's 30 Photographers to Watch in 2015, and he is a National Geographic grantee and a fellow of the International League of Conservation Photographers.



Paul will take you on a journey through Canada's vast wilderness and its messy mix of wildlife, cultures and industry. From Nisga'a oolichan fishermen on the west coast, to Inuit beluga hunters on Hudson's Bay, Paul will explore the many wildly different perspectives all connected by the wild. Paul will also share the joys and challenges of a life spent immersed in the lives of others.



© Paul Colangelo

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