

I am delighted to have a painting from my "Currents" series hanging in the office of Reed Point Marina.

I grew up across the Inlet from where the marina now sits. During my childhood Pacific Coast Terminals, development above Barnet Highway's two lanes and the building of the marina were still to come. I am dating myself, I know, but trains that traveled the track along the shore were powered by steam engines with memorable whistles, Baird's Tugs herded log booms to Flavelle Cedar Mill and small coastal freighters visited the Imperial Oil docks. We spent our summers in the water at Fraser's beach where the annual Alderside Regatta was a much anticipated community highlight. I have a silver trophy that my (much later to-be!) husband, Wayne, won as an 8 year old.

The coastal waterscapes of Burrard Inlet, the Fraser River, Active Pass and Pender Harbour have always been a part of my life. I have watched the Salish Sea from many locations and spent a short, but unforgettable, time on Haida Gwaii. I recognize that all of these experiences have deeply influenced my "Currents" series of paintings. It is rewarding to have the thoughts and emotions I am learning to represent in my abstracts shared by viewers of my canvases.

My mother, Blanche Drake, painted with oils and water colours. She shared her love of water colours with me - as well as her brushes and tubes of paint. As was true for her, time for painting was rare until I retired and life's responsibilities lessened.

I worked primarily with water colours until about four years ago. When a water colour weekend workshop with artist Yvette Newman, Heartful Retreats, was cancelled, I attended the alternative offering - an acrylic abstract class. It was my first experience with both and I thoroughly enjoyed the introduction to this new medium and focus. The freedom of abstract work along with the challenges of composition, texture and colour were exciting discoveries.

Subjects abound in the water world. I look forward to days in my grubby painting clothes, my hands covered in hues of blue-green, while I attempt to capture the magic on canvas.

