

NEWS RELEASE – October 18, 2015

For Immediate Release

FAMILY HEIRLOOMS – WHAT'S YOUR LEGACY?

Antigonish, NS – Everyone is invited to visit an artistic installation consisting of salvaged goods, titled Family Heirlooms. It's on display at Antigonish Market Square for Waste Reduction Week, October 19 – 25, 2015 during regular mall hours. Family Heirlooms is presented by artists Emily Kane and Adam Tragakis. It investigates our connection to consumerism, and how the decisions we make today, affect those we love tomorrow.

Today we know recycling has made a tremendous difference at reducing waste disposed in a landfill. We see the difference each time we carry the garbage out for collection. We also know from data that waste sent to landfill has decreased by more than 50% over the last 20 years. That's something to be extremely proud of, however recycling alone will not bring about the necessary global change for tomorrow. To further improve we need to get better at reducing and reusing waste.

It's one of those situations where every little bit helps; the more you can reduce the better. There are some standard suggestions such as the use of reusable coffee cups and shopping bags. If you like to shop, consider only buying what you really need and before you decide to buy something new, question if it's something you'll use enough to need for yourself; or maybe it would be better to rent, borrow or buy secondhand. If it's a consumable item, consider the packaging. Is there another use for the package or is it recyclable? If it's a convenience disposable item, such as any wipe, consider the waste from the product when weighting the other factors to determine if the convenience is really worth it.

As an active consumer there are so many options and wonderful enticing things to buy, justly you should also decide if they are they really necessary. Because like the Family Heirlooms installation signifies with the bed of waste, there are valid concerns with today's consumerism. If we don't change our ways there could be consequences to future generations. As individuals and caring communities, if you haven't already, it's time to take responsibility. This is the opportunity for a legacy of less waste and a sustainable future. You can participate by making a personal commitment not only to recycle, but to reduce and reuse waste whenever possible.

Special thanks to Antigonish Market Square for providing the space for the exhibit near Robins in the hallway and to RRFB Nova Scotia for MAP funding. Check us out on Facebook to learn of any upcoming events – Antigonish & Guysborough Counties Waste Info. #WRWLegacy or call Eastern Region Solid Waste Management at 902-232-2563.

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More information
Nicole Haverkort, ERSWM, 902-870-2817

Information on the artists

Emily Kane is a multi-disciplined artist and environmental educator. She is a graduate Canada's oldest arts college, the Ottawa School of Art and a recipient of the Ted Marshall Memorial Scholarship. She has recently relocated home to Nova Scotia, but her artistic endeavours span across Canada, United States and New Zealand. Look for her recent work, a Town of Antigonish mural on Main Street's, Webb Building and her 'Heart Strings', public pianos in the downtown district this autumn.

Adam Tragakis received his Bachelor of Fine Arts from the University of British Columbia and is a St. FX Art Department Faculty Member. After working as a sculptor's assistant in Toronto he moved back to his hometown of Antigonish to devote his time to oil painting. He has shown his work in galleries in Vancouver, Toronto and the United States.