



**LEARNING HUB OF EDUCATION & DESIGN SCHOOL
2022-2023**

PROGRAM

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Date: November 2023 1st – 10th

Location: Vancouver Island, British Columbia, Canada

Program Duration: 10-day Intensive Fur program

Participation: Twenty-Five (25) students

Cost: \$1250 Per student

Program Instructors:

- ♦ **Professor Vasilis Kardasis - Royal College of Art, London. England**
- ♦ **Panagiotis Panagiotidis- Master Furrier- FurCanada**
- ♦ **Calvin Kania- CEO FurCanada**
- ♦ **Guest Speakers: To be announced**



- ♦ **All students must provide a resume and a portfolio which they must forward to furschool@furcanada.com**

LEARNING HUB- PROGRAM OUTLINE

Material to be used:

FUR : Seal, Beaver, Mink, Canadian Marten, Fox & Coyote, Bobcat, and Lynx

LEATHER: Smoked Tanned Moose, Elk, or Deer, Commercial Leather

TEXTILE; Hemp. Plastic & High Tech Fabrics

- DAY 1: INTRODUCTION
- DAY 2: Presentation Class/Studio
- DAY 3: Class/Studio Time -Guest Speaker
- DAY 4: Class/Studio
- DAY 5: Class/Studio
- DAY 6: Class / Studio Time – Guest Speaker
- DAY 7: Class /Studio Time
- DAY 8: Class /Studio Time – On going Completion of Projects
- DAY 9: Guest Speaker- Projects Complete
- DAY 10: Presentation of Completed Projects , Award Certificates.

Questionnaire, Dinner Party & Celebration All invited



WHO WE ARE



Calvin Kania, Panagiotis Panagiotidis and Vasilis Kardasis (From left to right)

We are a group of some of the worlds most experienced and knowledgeable experts.

Professor Vasilis Kardasis Is a tailor, practitioner, artist: skilful and virtuous. He's a Visiting Professor of the Royal College of Art, London England with a broad list of other Universities and educational establishments worldwide.

Work Experience includes tenures with prestigious Dior, Givenchy, Balenciaga, Saga Furs of Scandinavia (Design Director 1996-2000) Studio NAFA (Director 2007-2014) with a myriad of engagements and accomplishments within the entire spectrum of the Greek Fur Industry. Including Project Director of the Greek Summer Fur School. Innovated, created, constructed and lead many fur projects throughout Europe & the World.



FurCanada Booth at China International Import Expo 2019, Shanghai

Currently on contract as Innovation & Design Director with FurCanada for which he designed and lead the company's Trade Show Delegation to the 2nd China International Import Expo (CIIE) Shanghai 2019. Successfully directed FurCanada's First Seal & Fur Workshop March 2020.



Mr. Panagiotis (Panos) Panagiotidis a Master Furrier with several years of experience working in Europe with many European Union Fur Companies. He's also a teacher with teaching credentials from the Fur School Kastoria Greece. Under supervision for the Ministry of Education & Ministry of Labour to the Hellenic Democracy. He's skilled beyond measure, knowledgeable and resourceful. His teaching comes from experience and practice. Panos has worked in tandem with Professor Kardasis on the successful and culmination of the Greek Summer Fur School Program. He currently holds the position of Master Furrier and Production Manager at FurCanada.

Mr. Calvin Kania is CEO and President of FurCanada / Kania Industries Inc in Nanaimo, British Columbia. For the past 20 years Mr. Kania has led the company from a small Fur Manufacturing ,Taxidermy & Home Décor business to its present day success. The company has Eight full time employees, with a Manger for

each department covering Fur, Taxidermy, Production, Sales, Design & Innovation and a Director of China operations located in Shanghai.

FurCanada has spent several years nurturing the China market successfully exhibiting at the 2018 & 2019 China International Import Expo. In fact the company was the only Fur company exhibiting from Canada with a significant Canadian Maple Leaf brand.



WHY WE WANT TO OFFER IT

For the preservation and continuation on the use of fur as an “Honest Fabric” in Canada, but most importantly for the survival of the fur trade world wide. To survive and succeed in the 21st century, the Industry must reach out to our most important benefactor, ally and the original producers of Fur - Indigenous First Nations people of Canada. The Fur Trade existed and flourished among Indigenous First Nation communities long before white settlers arrived on our eastern shores.



Our good friend Chief Roy Jones Jr. from Haida Gwaii Indigenous First Nations exemplified to us, **“the fur trade in Canada dates back to Ancient Times”**

The education program is not only to teach and extend our knowledge on the techniques and use of fur for future upcoming Designers and Furrier's. It's also meant for students to understand the origins of Fur and why it's a **Honest Fabric**. For the future success of furriers and designers , they must go out into the world with all the knowledge we can possibly instill upon them during this 10-day program. These students will be the future of the trade. We must give them the necessary tools to be successful.

WHAT WE CAN OFFER

We can offer students 10 days at the **Learning Hub of Education and Design** an excellent setting and venue here on Vancouver Island, British Columbia. We will bring together professionals throughout the trade as Guest Speakers. To enhance the knowledge on how the most regulated Industry in Canada works, Government Environmental Officials will be in attendance to speak. We'll bring together the media and offer spots in the program for journalists to take part so they too will have the knowledge of the Fur Trade to tell our story.

Students will pay a nominal tuition fee of \$1250 each for the program and must get themselves to Nanaimo, British Columbia . From there the Learning Hub of Education and Design will provide **Fur ,Fabric, tools and machinery** to successfully complete their projects.

Upon arrival students will be divided into smaller multicultural groups in order to exchange experiences, skills and to learn to be a member of a team with the goal to create a project that represents them, a project they will need to finish within the 10 days. This will be a complete experience not only for the participants but also for their tutors their sponsors and all who have participated in helping us arrive to this stage.



HOW WE INTEND TO OFFER IT

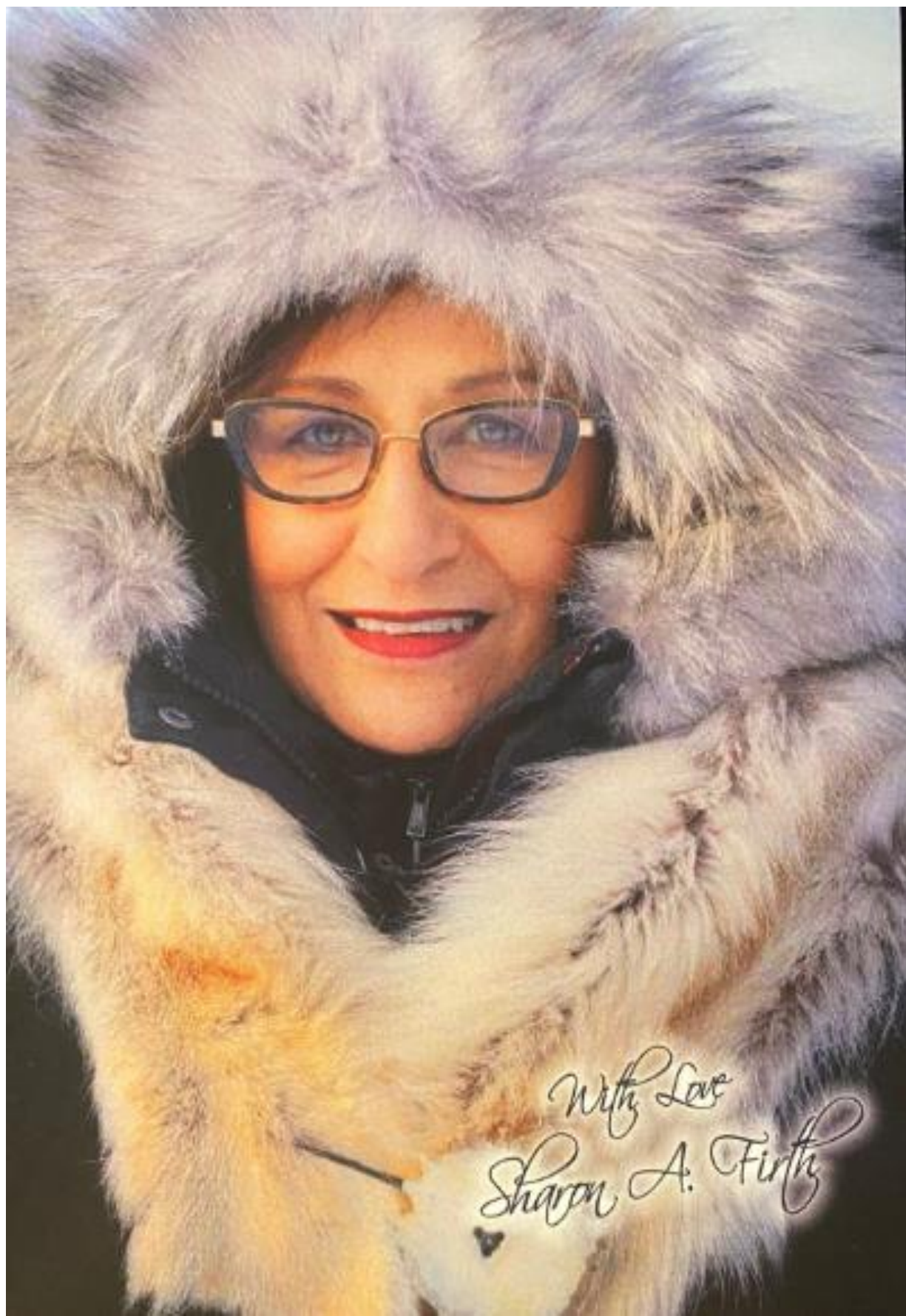
The Learning Hub (Venue) will be in a natural surrounding stress – less atmosphere on Vancouver Island. Here on the West Coast we famously refer to as - **Supernatural British Columbia** . We'll provide the students with the necessary equipment, tools, furrier supplies, an abundance of fur skins / fabric to select from along with a genuine heartfelt Canadian welcome for a successful project.

SPONSORS & YOUR PARTICIPATION

With your help we can make this project happen. We are reaching out to our Indigenous First Nation friends and colleagues in the fur trade for cooperation and sponsorship funding. For organizations providing funding, a 30 minute Guest Speaker spot will be allocated and reserved for their presentation. Representation will consist of Indigenous First Nations, Fur Retailers, Fur Trappers, Fur Farmers, Fur Manufacturers, Taxidermists, Fur Auction Houses, Fur Tanneries, Industry Associations, Government Environmental and Enforcement Officials.

Two (2) Canadian News Media spots will be reserved for journalists to take part in the 10 day program. As we want the world to know Indigenous First Nation Fur Trappers and the Canadian Fur Trade is here to stay, to revive, to flourish and to succeed. Because we all know Fur – “The Honest Fabric” is our countries' Cultural Heritage.






Dear Mr. Kania:

"I have first hand knowledge of the struggles Aboriginal youth face and am committed to promoting the development of programs and services that promote positive self-esteem, self-awareness, healthy choices and positive lifestyles for youth.

Speaking at events across the Northwest Territories and Canada, I share a message of motivation and excellence, as well as the principles and values I drew upon as a female Aboriginal athlete to achieve success. I recognize that I am a voice for our people, and I carry this responsibility in high esteem and revered dignity and honour. This is why I fully endorse the "**Learning Hub of Education & Design School**" that encompasses a significant Indigenous First Nations component to the program."

Mashi Cho Dr. Sharon Firth

4 X Indigenous Olympian, Cross-Country Skier



Dr. Sharon Anne Firth, C.M., O.N.W.T

The first Gwich'in Indigenous woman to compete in four winter Olympics:

- 1972 Sapporo, Japan,
- 1976 Innsbruck, Austria,
- 1980 Lake Placid, NY, USA,
- 1984 Sarajevo, Yugoslavia.

Awards and Recognition:

- 1987 The Order of Canada
- 1990 Induction into the Canadian Museum Ski Hall of Fame
- 2002 The Queen's Golden Jubilee Award
- 2005 National Aboriginal Achievement Award
- 2008 Inducted into the Banff Sports Hall of Fame
- 2012 The Queen's Silver Jubilee Award
- 2012 Inducted into the NWT Sports Hall of Fame
- 2015 Inducted into Canada's Sports Hall of Fame
- 2017 Honorary Doctor of Laws Degree from the University of Alberta
- 2018 Canada Post Stamp "Canadian Women in Winter Sports Series"
- 2018 Canada Post Trustee
- 2018 Adjunct Professor University of Alberta, School of Public Health
- 2018 Order of the Northwest Territories

Sharon Anne Firth, Gwich'in, première femme autochtone à participer quatre fois aux Jeux Olympiques :

À Sapporo (Japon) en 1972,
à Innsbruck (Autriche) en 1976,
à Lake Placid (États-Unis) en 1980
et à Sarajevo (ex-Yougoslavie) en 1984.

Prix et distinctions :

- 1987 : Ordre du Canada
- 1990 : Intronisation au Temple de la renommée du ski canadien
- 2002 : Médaille du jubilé de la reine Elizabeth II
- 2005 : Prix national d'excellence décerné aux Autochtones
- 2008 : Intronisation au Temple de la renommée des sports de Banff
- 2012 : Médaille du jubilé de diamant de la reine Elizabeth II
- 2012 : Intronisation au Temple de la renommée des sports des TNO
- 2015 : Intronisation au Temple de la renommée des sports du Canada
- 2017 : Doctorat honorifique en droit de l'Université de l'Alberta
- 2018 : Timbre de Postes Canada dans la série « Championnes canadiennes des sports d'hiver »
- 2018 : Administratrice, Postes Canada
- 2018 : Professeure adjointe à l'École de santé publique de l'Université de l'Alberta
- 2018 : Ordre des Territoires du Nord-Ouest

Government of Northwest Territories / Gouvernement des Territoires du Nord-Ouest

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Learning Hub of Education & Design School Endorsements



Canada Mink Breeders Association

