

EXHIBIT "A"

September 22, 2004

It was wonderful meeting _____, Mr. Joe Otavnik. He has a wonderful enthusiasm for collecting and a great knowledge of First Nation art.

The Thunder Bay Art is very happy with your generosity and on behalf of the gallery Director, Sharon Godwin, and our Board of Directors, thank you very much for this donation of four works by artist Norval Morrisseau to our Permanent Collection. The Thunder Bay Art Gallery is mandated to collect contemporary works by First Nations Artists for its Permanent Collection, and more recently, has expanded this mandate to include works of national significance by established regional artists, or works of regional significance in subject matter.

Benevolent gifting is a wonderful way to find a purpose for your collections. Enclosed is our gift agreement form. Please sign both copies and return both addressed to my attention. We will countersign your copy and return it you for your records.

_____ will work toward Cultural Property Application. The appraisals provided will facilitate the process, and we understand a secondary independent appraisal for each work is on the way. I will keep you abreast of our progress, and once again thank you very much for your gift.

Yours very truly,

Gail Fikis, Registrar

Encl.

1. RECIPIENT INSTITUTION OR PUBLIC AUTHORITY / ÉTABLISSEMENT OU ADMINISTRATION BÉNÉFICIAIRE			
Name / Nom Thunder Bay Art Gallery		Address / Adresse 1080 Keewatin St, P.O. Box 10193	
City / Ville Thunder Bay	Province Ontario	Postal code / Code postal P7B 6T7	Fax. no. / No de télécopieur (807) 577-3781
Person in charge / Personne responsable Sharon Godwin		Title / Titre Executive Director	
Contact person / Personne ressource Gail Fikis	Title / Titre Registrar	Tel. no. / No de tél. (807) 577-6427	
2. DESIGNATION OF INSTITUTION OR PUBLIC AUTHORITY / DÉSIGNATION DE L'ÉTABLISSEMENT OU DE L'ADMINISTRATION			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Designated under Category "A" Désigné dans la catégorie "A"		<input type="checkbox"/> Designated under Category "B" Désigné dans la catégorie "B"	
		Date of designation "B" : D/M/Y Date de la désignation "B" : J/M/A	
3. DONOR OR VENDOR / DONATEUR OU VENDEUR			
		Province Ontario	
<input type="checkbox"/> Proposed donation / Don proposé or/ou <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Date of gift or sale (attach documentation) / Date du don ou de la vente (joindre document) :26/10/2004			
4. DESCRIPTION OF CULTURAL PROPERTY / DESCRIPTION DU BIEN CULTUREL			
Four acrylic on canvas paintings by Aboriginal Artist Norval Morrisseau [b.1931 -] 1.Untitled [animal spirits facing inward],1970 73 x 56 cm - accession # 04.7.1 2.Untitled [two shaman and animal spirits in cameo],1979 72 x 85 cm - accession # 04.7.2 3.Lake Trout with Eggs,1973 114 x 80 - accession # 04.7.3 4.Untitled [fish with minnows],1976 73 x 50 cm - accession # 04.7.4 (If above space is insufficient, provide a summary here and further details on a separate sheet / Au besoin, donner un sommaire ici et annexer une feuille contenant les détails)			
5. DOCUMENTATION			
Attached C-joins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Photographs Photographies 4_ Nombre	<input type="checkbox"/> Slides Diapositives _____ Nombre	<input type="checkbox"/> Finding aid and representative sample(s) Instrument de recherche et échantillon(s) représentatif(s)
6. OUTSTANDING SIGNIFICANCE AND NATIONAL IMPORTANCE / INTÉRÊT EXCEPTIONNEL ET IMPORTANCE NATIONALE			
On a separate sheet, with reference to the "Information and Procedures" booklet, state why cultural property described above is of outstanding significance and national importance.		Sur une feuille distincte, en faisant des renvois à la publication «Renseignements et procédures» indiquer pourquoi le bien culturel décrit ci-dessus présente un intérêt exceptionnel et revêt une importance nationale.	
7. DECLARATION OF AUTHENTICITY FOR CULTURAL PROPERTY / ATTESTATION DE L'AUTHENTICITÉ DU BIEN CULTUREL			
A declaration of authenticity from an individual with the requisite expertise is required for all types of cultural property. Please attach a separate statement following the guidelines in the "Information and Procedures" booklet.		Une attestation d'authenticité délivrée par un expert est requise pour tous les types de biens culturels. Prière de joindre une telle attestation élabo- rée selon les directives énoncées dans la publication «Renseignements et procédures».	
8. FAIR MARKET VALUE OR SALE PRICE OF CULTURAL PROPERTY / JUSTE VALEUR MARCHANDE OU PRIX DE VENTE DU BIEN CULTUREL			
Cultural property will be disposed of by / Le bien culturel sera aliéné par voie de :			
A. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DONATION / DON		Fair market value estimated at (average of appraisals) / Juste valeur marchande estimée à : (moyenne des ...)	
Appraised by / Évalué par		Amount / Montant	\$33,500 (Indicate currency) / CDN (Préciser la devise)
B. <input type="checkbox"/> SALE / VENTE		Sale price / Prix de vente \$	
Amount / Montant		\$33,500	
9. We, the undersigned, hereby certify that the information given in this application and any accompanying documentation is true and correct.			
Donor or vendor / Donateur ou vendeur (Optional / Facultatif)		For recipient institution or public authority / Pour l'établissement ou l'administration bénéficiaire	
		Date Nov 8/04	
10. FOR INTERNAL USE ONLY / RÉSERVÉ À L'ADMINISTRATION			
Date received / Reçue le		Reference number / Numéro de référence	

Submitted by:

Thunder Bay Art Gallery
1080 Keewatin St., P.O. Box 10193
Thunder Bay, ON P7B 6T7
807 577-6427

Donor:



INCOME TAX

Dear

*photocopies
as requested!*

[Signature]

Contents:

Section #3 Donor

- ❖ Letter
- ❖ Gift Agreement
- ❖ E-mail Correspondence (n/a)

Section #4 Description of Cultural Property

- ❖ Artist and Provenance, Condition, Exhibitions, Bibliography
- ❖ Curriculum Vitae
- ❖ Descriptive List of Works
- ❖ Exhibition and Bibliographic Attachments (n/a)

Section #5 Documentation

Attached, following bound section (n/a)

Section #6 Outstanding Significance and National Importance

- ❖ Curator's Narrative
- ❖ Collections Mandate Thunder Bay Art Gallery (n/a)

Section #7 Declaration of Authenticity

Curator's Signed Declaration and Works Listed

Section #8 Fair Market Value



DESCRIPTION DU BIEN CULTUREL

Four acrylic on canvas paintings by Aboriginal Artist Norval Morrisseau [b.1931 -]

These paintings were all owned by private collector Ms. Seetner of Ajax, Ontario acquired in Southern Ontario during the 1990s. They have not been exhibited in public art gallery or museum settings.

1. Untitled [animal spirits facing inward], 1970

73 x 56 cm

signed: syllabic signature, slanting left-right, r centre / on verso, in black acrylic 'Norval Morrisseau 1970'

04.7.1

CONDITION: painting is stretched and framed, verso exposed without backing board; work is in excellent condition; frame is in excellent condition.

2. Untitled [two shaman and animal spirits in cameo], 1979

72 x 85 cm

signed: syllabic signature, horizontal, br c/ on verso, in black acrylic 'Norval Morrisseau 1979'

04.7.2

CONDITION: painting is stretched and framed, verso exposed without backing board; work is in excellent condition; frame is in excellent condition.

3. Lake Trout with Eggs, 1973

114 x 80 cm

04.7.3

signed: syllabic signature, horizontal, br c/ on verso, in black acrylic 'Norval Morrisseau Lake Trout with Eggs 73'

CONDITION: painting is stretched and framed, verso exposed without backing board; work is showing cracking of the medium vertically on 50% of the surface, centre to right edge; minor surface grime exists, fair condition; frame is in excellent condition.


4. Untitled [fish with minnows], 1976

73 x 50 cm

signed: syllabic signature, horizontal, bl c/ on verso, in black acrylic 'Norval Morrisseau 1976'

04.7.4

CONDITION: painting is neither stretched or framed; surface grime and evidence it may have been stored with a work smaller in size as there is an incised square imprint possibly from another framed work being placed on top, roughly 5cm inward from all sides; good condition.


Gail Fikis, Registrar


Date

6. **OUTSTANDING SIGNIFICANCE AND NATIONAL IMPORTANCE /
INTÉRÊT EXCEPTIONNEL ET IMPORTANCE NATIONALE**

The National Gallery of Canada recently pointed to the "archetypal status" of Norval Morrisseau as it assembled a touring exhibition that views his nearly fifty years of artistic production.

Recognized as a brilliant innovator, Morrisseau inaugurated the style of painting, which has come to be called "Woodland", or "Legend" painting by transferring an idiom heretofore inherent in historical rock art and the birchbark Midewiwin scrolls and reinscribing it in western formats with a highly contemporary palette. In doing so, he founded a school of visual art, the predominant style of which persists in active, varied and vital production to this day.

Morrisseau's work insinuates the vision and position of sacred shamanic practises in Anishnaabe culture, embodying a visual lexicon of spiritual creatures that is said to be a direct inheritance from his grandfather. Characterized by pictographic x-ray depictions, the style imparts the inter-connectivity of all life forms and their shared interiority. In its simplest forms, Morrisseau's approach infers to each viewer the unfolding of an entire cosmogony fully empowered with transformational possibility and the capacity for shared indwelling.

One of the most widely collected and exhibited personalities of the entire Aboriginal Renaissance, Morrisseau continues to parallel, inspire and propel Aboriginal art in this country. As a result, his work also continues to call forth new research, increased analysis and collection.

The pieces considered here are all modest in scale, all date from the decade of the seventies, and are fully characteristic. All are original paintings.

Lake Trout With Eggs from 1973 recalls the artist's early monochromatic approaches. The Untitled work from 1979 includes a shaman figure among representative fish, bear, birds and reptile. The Untitled (Animal Spirits Facing Inward) 1970 is an important distillation, pointing to chthonic origins, and the Untitled (Fish with Minnows) is thought to have been an endearing gift for a child. Together these examples expand the repertoire of material that the Thunder Bay art Gallery can offer for research on this highly important national treasure.

Glenn Allison, Curator

7. DECLARATION OF AUTHENTICITY FOR CULTURAL PROPERTY /
ATTESTATION DE L'AUTHENTICITÉ DU BIEN CULTUREL

04.7.1 Norval Morrisseau, Untitled [animal spirits facing inward], 1970
acrylic on canvas
73 x 56

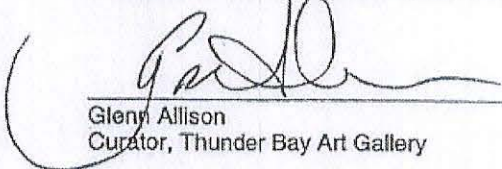
04.7.2 Norval Morrisseau, Untitled [two shaman and animal spirits in cameo], 1979
acrylic on canvas
72 x 85

04.7.3 Norval Morrisseau, Lake Trout with Eggs, 1973
acrylic on canvas
114 x 80

04.7.4 Norval Morrisseau, Untitled [fish with minnows], 1976
acrylic on canvas
73 x 50

The four paintings by artist Norval Morrisseau are currently on site and have been examined;
each painting is signed in syllabic on the face of each work.

I declare the four works listed by artist Norval Morrisseau to be authentic.


Glenn Allison
Curator, Thunder Bay Art Gallery

10/11/04
Date

Mr. Glenn Allison began his career as Research Curator at the Vancouver Art Gallery, working with Doris Shadbolt from 1968 – 1972. His experience of more than thirty years includes management of the Bau-Xi Galleries on the west coast of Canada; instructor of Art History for Columbia Junior College and Capilano College; instructor for the British Columbia Museums Association; instructor for the Association of Manitoba Museums; instructor for Brandon University, Manitoba; Director-Curator of the Art Gallery of Southwestern Manitoba, Brandon 1989 – 1999; Director Canadian Clay & Glass Gallery, Waterloo 2000 – 2003.







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