

REGIONAL ROUNDUP

Surrey art students painting huge mural on rec centre wall

The \$60,000 project, measuring nine metres high and 70 metres long, will imaginatively depict three themes — racial inclusion, sport and recreation, and the environment.

SURREY

A group of Surrey art students is painting a massive mural on the north wall of the North Surrey Recreation Centre.

The Spirit of Youth Mural Project — nine metres high and 70 metres long — will depict three themes in the same mural: racial inclusion, sport and recreation, and the environment.

"They feel incredibly proud about this," said coordinator and local art teacher Marc Pelech, who said the project has received \$60,000 in funding from three levels of government.

"It will be the largest youth mural in the country. It's a huge development and they've had to learn how to become a team and blend their styles."

A total of 25 students are painting the recreation centre mural and two other smaller murals — at the Hjorth Road Pool changing room and the Newton Senior Centre — as part of the Surrey Crime Prevention Society's anti-graffiti program.

Pelech said the students are all career art students between 16 and 22 years of age. "It will be remarkable when it's completed."

The three winning murals were submitted by Anshin Chu, Joe Siembida and Jan Dvorak.

The six-week project is scheduled to be completed by Aug. 15.



BILL KEAY/Vancouver Sun

BLENDING OF STYLES: Young artists and their instructors show off a completed section of their "largest youth mural in Canada," which is at the North Surrey Recreation Centre. The six-week project, the work of 25 students artists, is scheduled to be completed by Aug. 15.