

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **AfterBurn: Stories from a Season of Fire**

ANNAPOLIS ROYAL, Nova Scotia (March 24, 2026) – In 2025, wildfires across Nova Scotia altered landscapes, disrupted communities, and filled the skies with smoke. In Annapolis County, including areas such as West Dalhousie, residents experienced evacuation alerts, prolonged burn restrictions, and a heightened awareness of environmental vulnerability.

“AfterBurn” is an exhibition and community art initiative that reflects on the aftermath of these events. Grounded in the lived experiences of the Annapolis region while extending across the province, the project brings together artistic and community responses to consider what remains in the wake of wildfire.

“Artists from across Nova Scotia were invited to submit work in any medium, including visual art, installation, photography, film, sound, text, performance, and interdisciplinary practices. The resulting exhibition presents a range of perspectives that explore themes of loss, resilience, memory, and environmental change,” said Sophie Paskins, ARTSPPLACE Gallery Director.

Community members were also encouraged to participate in this ongoing conversation. With a particular emphasis on the Annapolis Region, residents and artists across Nova Scotia were invited to share personal reflections and experiences from the 2025 wildfire season. These contributions will be thoughtfully integrated into the exhibition and preserved as part of an evolving community archive. Participants may choose to be credited or remain anonymous.

Community members who wish to contribute may do so until April 7, and artists may submit work until April 10. All are welcome to attend and engage with this collective exploration of environmental impact and community response.

*“AfterBurn” opening reception, Sat. April 18, 2025, 12-2 p.m. Light refreshments served, all welcome. Exhibition continues through May 30.*

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ARTSPPLACE is a public Art Gallery that is operated by the Annapolis Region Community Arts Council, a registered charitable, community organization dedicated to encouraging and promoting the arts. Supported through the Province of Nova Scotia and the Canada Council for the Arts.

ARTSPPLACE Gallery is located at 396 St. George Street in Annapolis Royal, Nova Scotia

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