

### SENIOR WORKSHEETS

1. Consider the three paintings you saw in the video – *Birch Grove* by Tom Thomson, *Jan Q.C.I.* by Emily Carr and *Aboriginal Title* by Robert Houle. In each case, the artist believed that they were doing some good beyond just creating a work of art. Identify the motive or good that each artist intended.

2. As historical artists, both Tomson and Carr are products of their time. That means that they were working within the social and political framework of their own historical periods. It is now, looking back that we can understand the problematic nature of their work, even as we continue to celebrate their artistic achievements. For each of these artists, describe the ‘problem’ that we must now consider when we talk about these works.

3. How does Robert Houle use the elements and principles of design to convey his message, even if we don’t know the significance of the dates?

4. The decision to place these three works together on one wall in the Gallery, which is where they now hang, was a very intentional choice, meant to put them in ‘conversation’ with each other, and to ask the visitors to think about them together, rather than just as individual works. Do you think that this placement is an effective way to encourage people to think about their own perspectives on how we represent Canada through landscape art?

5. Robert Houle created his painting with the intention of starting conversations about reconciliation and representation of indigenous rights, specifically within the gallery and museum setting. Do you think he would approve of this grouping? Why or why not?