

The Salish Sea Spirit

This house post, titled the Salish Sea Spirit, represents the deep roots and traditional knowledge that bonds the Tsawwassen First Nation community's identity to these lands, water, and air. And now, it stands as a symbol of stewardship at the mouth of the Salish Sea.

This traditional work of art was crafted from red cedar by renowned artist and carver, Karl Morgan of the Tsawwassen First Nation, and commissioned by Global Container Terminals. Every detail was designed with intention and layered with meaning from top to bottom.

The Design

THE EAGLE can be seen with a sockeye in its grasp, soaring over the breaching orca. A majestic hunter and fisher, the Eagle possesses the abilities of immense strength and vision, revered by the Tsawwassen First Nation People.

THE BLACKFISH (ORCA) is in the midst of breaching the waters—poised, in balance, between the air and sea. In traditional Coast Salish culture, the Orca symbolizes protection, community, voyage, and harmony.

THE WARRIOR FACE DORSAL FIN signifies the Tsawwassen First Nation's role as protectors of the Salish Sea and all of its inhabitants.

“Overall, I feel this house post carries the purpose of conservation and protection of the Salish Sea for all future generations.”

– Karl Morgan

ABALONE EYES INLAY are used in the eyes of each animal and person shown in the post. The distinctive patterns of each shell mimic the reflections of the ocean, which work to protect the waters of the Salish Sea that is called ‘home’ to all those interlinked in the local bionetwork.

SALMON & DUNGENESS CRAB, detailed in the orca's tail, are both staples within the community, representing the traditional origins of commerce networks and economic growth.

Artist: Karl Morgan
Tsawwassen First Nation
Date: October 14, 2022
Medium: red cedar, acrylic paint, steel beam
Dimensions: 12' x 4' feet



The History of House Posts and the Story of Two Neighbours

According to the traditions of the Coast Salish Peoples, a house post is raised to bring awareness to the land it is placed on. Given GCT Deltaport's distinctive location, the Salish Sea Spirit house post acts as a beacon that tells the story of two neighbours (Global Container Terminals and Tsawwassen First Nation) with shared goals for protecting our vibrant ecosystem and building stronger relationships within our community.

Karl Morgan: The Artist Behind Salish Sea Spirit



Karl is a member of the Tsawwassen First Nation and a Coast Salish artist. He finds his inspiration from the inhabitants of the Salish Sea, the Fraser River, and surrounding Coast Salish lands. Known for working with yellow and red cedar, Karl has been carving for 30 years and was

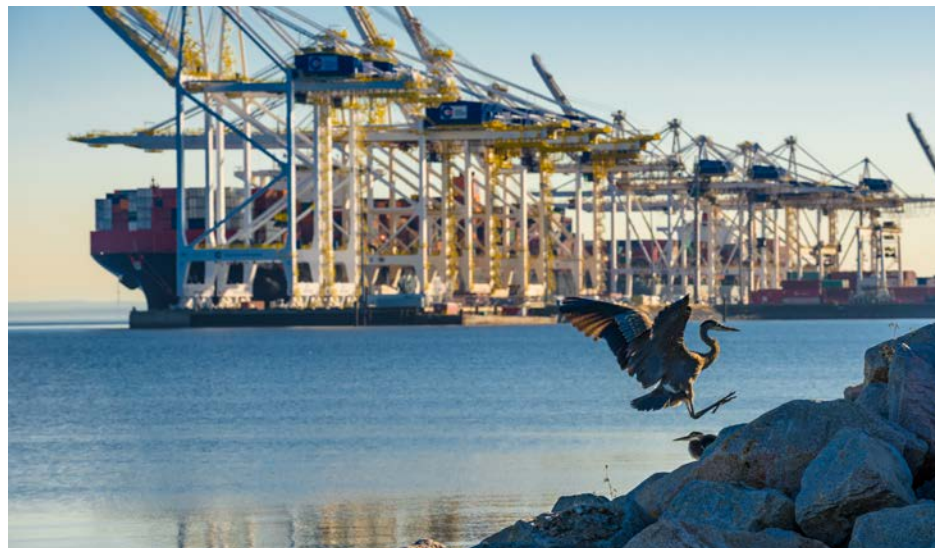
taught by Joe Becker of the Musqueam; Jody Wilson of Ladner, B.C.; and Eric Robertson.

The legacy that Karl leaves behind with this house post acts as a momentous landmark that signifies the continuation of GCT and TFN's positive relationship, built on mutual respect and a common goal to protect these lands.

GCT Deltaport: In the Community Since 1997

Vancouver-based GCT Global Container Terminals Inc. has been operating on the West Coast since 1907 and at GCT Deltaport for over 25 years. We are grateful to operate on the traditional, ancestral, treaty, and unceded territories of the scəwáθən (Tsawwassen), xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), and other Coast Salish Peoples. GCT remains focused on ongoing efforts toward reconciliation and renewal with neighboring Indigenous communities.

As a leader in the shipping industry, we are committed to making sustainability a priority — this is the foundation of our Global Commitment Program, which reflects our dedication to the environment, safety, and community and the development of best practices in ESG (Environmental, Social and Governance). GCT is proud to be Green Marine Certified across all of our facilities and remains committed to providing world-class service while maintaining our commitment to the environment and our local communities.



To learn more about our Global Commitment Program, visit globalterminals.com/globalcommitment