

Catherine (Myrtle) deMeulles. (b. 1941)



Myrtle deMeulles, the daughter of Joseph and Margaret McCauley, grew up on the trap line in Cumberland House, Saskatchewan, before moving to The Pas and subsequently Churchill in 1956. She has been a volunteer with countless community events in Churchill. Myrtle has been a member of the Manitoba Métis Federation for more than 30 years and served as president of the Churchill Local for 14 years. Now an Elder at the Local, she has been a valued storyteller for the past 15 years, helping to keep Métis culture alive. After raising her family, she turned to the Aboriginal art form of caribou hair tufting and began to create unique pieces of art by sculpting in three dimensional layers to achieve a new look and new form now known as “Myrtle’s Caribou Hair Sculptures.” Her works of art, which celebrate scenes of the north, have been sold around the world. She received the Order of Manitoba in 2008.



Her trademark artwork, “caribou hair sculpting,” on which she holds the patent, was inspired by the wildlife and landscapes of the Churchill area. These things are all found in Wapusk National Park, and Myrtle has shared her love of the land with Parks Canada by giving a workshop on her sculpting method to the students involved in the park’s “Leaders for our Planet” youth leadership camp.



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