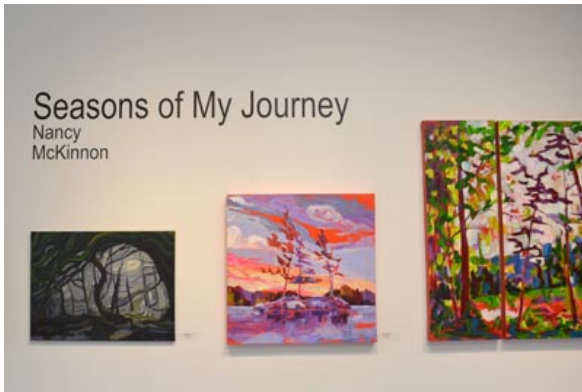


Vibrant local landscapes at gallery



By Tony Pearson

"I don't see things the way most people do." So says Nancy McKinnon, who set up Rockwood Art Studio on Diamond Lake when she retired to this area in 2011. Her subject matter is now the natural vibrancy of nature in our area.

Her current exhibition at the Art Gallery of Bancroft is called "Seasons of My Journey," as it reflects both her four painting styles, and the four season beauty of Algonquin Park and the York River. The initial three works in the exhibition illustrate this. The first, entitled "Sleepy Hollow," is from what she calls her dark period. After comparing her work with others at A Place For The Arts, and taking a trip back to her native Hamilton for discussions with artists there, she decided to brighten and simplify her style.

The next two are thus recent works. The one exploding with almost Fauvist colour is called "Silent Sunset." It was painted at Spring Lake, down Hwy 62 on the way to Coe Hill. The one beside it was painted along the Baptiste Lake Road a few weeks ago.

McKinnon professes her love for bold fresh colours; "the more paint I can get on the canvas, the better," she asserts. "I love the texture and the movement created by the paint." She talks of her thirst for exciting shapes and colours, and states: "I cannot imagine life without venturing into the landscape."

Her exhibit, sponsored by the Bancroft Eatery and Cope-Barrett Accounting, continues at the Gallery until July 2.