# Craft Council of Newfoundland and Labrador

275 Duckworth Street, St. John's, NL A1C 1G9 Tel: (709) 753-2749 Fax: (709) 753-2766 info@craftcouncil.nl.ca www.craftcouncil.nl.ca

## **STANDARDS OF QUALITY**

### **ENAMELLING**

#### Materials

- 1. The colours of the enamels should be clear and crisp, showing the distinct qualities of each, unless the craftsperson deliberately intends otherwise.
- 2. Opaque enamels should be crisp and clean; transparent enamels should be clear and jewel-like; opalescent enamels should have a milky, opalescent appearance.
- 3. Commercial, pre-cut shapes may be used only where these are so neutral as to have no influence on the aesthetic of the finished piece.
- 4. Commercial findings may be used, but must be subordinate to the contribution of the craftsperson to the finished piece.

#### <u>Technique</u>

- 5. If a combination of techniques is used, they should complement one another.
- 6. There should be no unnatural warpage of the metal.
- 7. Enamels should be properly fused to the base, with no crazing, chipping, cracking or pick marks.
- 8. Enamel should be of a pleasing thickness, being neither too thick nor too thin, and have neither bubbles nor pits.
- 9. Edges should be well finished, smooth to the touch, uniform in enamel thickness and free from tool marks and firescale.
- 10. Wire ends should be neatly filed and evenly joined. Tool marks should be removed. Wire should adhere properly, without gaps and without sinking into the enamel.
- 11. If stoning is used in the final finish, the piece should be stoned level, and the full width of the wires.
- 12. If foil is used beneath a transparent enamel, it should lie flat and enhance the colour of the chosen transparent.
- 13. Enamel work should be neither overfired nor underfired, unless such is part of the design, and is intended by the maker.

- 14. The back of an enamelled piece is judged similarly as the front. The enamel used should be of a quality equal to that used on the front and not a mixture of leftover enamels known as "counter enamel".
- \* Enamellers should note that standards for metalwork may also be pertinent and should be consulted.