



Indigenous Silkscreen Artist painted by Young Jarus during Medicine Hat Mural Fest.

## Downtown Murals

Medicine Hat Mural Fest started in 2018 when Jeff Goring saw more possibilities for the vandalized brick walls in the city, so he invited artists from across Canada to bring colour and new stories through mural paintings.

The murals now found on every street in Medicine Hat's Historic Downtown come from local and national artists who've painted in France, Mumbai, Ukraine, Spain, Portugal, and many other cities and countries around the world.

For the community, this mural festival has become something bigger than

paintings on a wall. Local artists have the opportunity to paint beside, learn from, and collaborate with the out-of-town artists who share the same passion and artistic calling, through murals that give visitors and community members hope, inspiration, and a lovely piece of art to admire.

"In life, if you're interested in large scale paintings, you don't always have the opportunity to be given a large wall to paint on. To me, this is about showing local artists that they can really do this. Art is an outlet for a lot of people, and it's a needed outlet," says Goring. "We


always try to add meaningful murals to the downtown. You can change the look and change the atmosphere just by putting up some quality and positive art."








**1 No Rain, No Flowers**

 Painted in 2020 by Teanna Church, a message of hope is tucked into a small corner on the upper edges of downtown Medicine Hat. It is worth the walk to see the pretty floral mural carrying the message “no rain, no flowers.” Beautiful in its simplicity and featuring a bouquet of nearly a dozen flowers, this small mural is one of the most inspiring in the city.

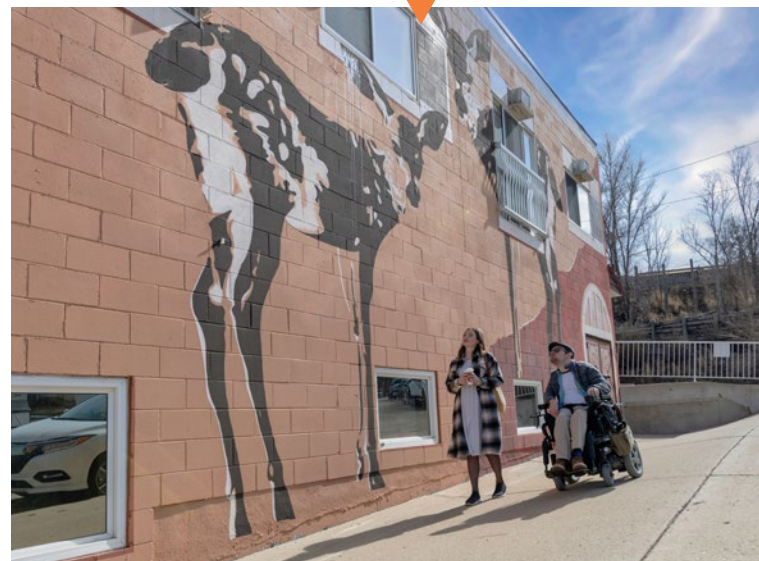
**2 Indigenous Woman**

 Two tattoo artists from Calgary, honorboundtattoos and danbirdtattoos, worked together to bring this mural to life. They’ve both recently moved towards mural painting, and this was one of their first pieces. While the majority of the mural is spray-painted, the trees in the background were created with a house-paint roller. Once you’ve grabbed your coffee from

Madhatter Coffee Roastery, be sure to check out this mural across the street above Motiv.

**3 Deer in the City**

Painted by local artist Wendy Struck, Deer in the City is a fittingly named tribute to the commonly sighted deer who live along the river valley and can be seen throughout Medicine Hat.





#### 4 Indigenous Silkscreen Artist



As you walk down Fifth Ave, you'll see a mural of an Indigenous silkscreen artist from Toronto that was painted by Young Jarus. Jarus has been a huge influence for the large scale art scene in Canada. Using only a brush taped to an extended pole, he freehands his entire paintings without using a projector. After spending a few days painting this mural, Jarus left for Vancouver to paint an 11-storey building. His original style is the shaded eyes and long drips.

#### 5 Penny Profit



One of the best and most prominent examples of classic graffiti in Medicine Hat, this mural covers the long-standing Penny Profit discount store's back wall almost entirely. The mural depicts a stylized graffiti artist spraying graffiti on the walls of Canada's Sunniest City. This mural was a collaboration between Australia-based artist c4m71 and local artist Will Oskam.

#### 6 Hope and A Future



Bright, in both imagery and message, this mural by Medicine Hat artist Sonz1 is an unavoidable message of positivity and optimism. Found on the Southwest wall of The Hat's Olive Tap in the downtown core, this welcoming message greets everyone and reminds us that there is indeed hope and a future for all.



#### 8 Exposure



Edmonton, Alberta-based artist Josh Creighton explores the dimensions between composition and complementary colour configurations.

#### 9 Somnium (the Face)



This mural is another excellent example of classic graffiti. Bacon, a Toronto-based artist, is known for his colourful works. His Medicine Hat piece, titled Somnium (the Face), brings life to Medicine Hat's historic Assiniboia Hotel.

#### 10 Butterflies



Local artist Kari Kanvas painted this mural in 2019 with a spray can for the first time. The mural was in commemoration of the lives lost due to those battling with addictions, and she invited over 30 families impacted to paint a butterfly on the mural. More of Kari Kanvas' paintings can be found inside Moose & Squirrel Bistro and on South Railway Street.

#### 11 Moose & Squirrel Bistro

From the front all the way to the back, this outdoor ice cream spot is full of colourful murals that each tell an array of stories from different artists. From the "Hello Gorgeous" painting in large white font on a black brick background, to a mural in honor of the owner's cat, there are many paintings here that will catch your attention while you cool down with a cold dessert on a warm summer's day.

#### 12 Growing Hope in Our Community

The Medicine Hat Women's Shelter and Station Coffee Company teamed up to promote a feeling of hope with this mural by Sarah Slaughter Art. "Growing Hope in Our Community" is a positive message designed as a reminder that no one should have to endure family violence, and there are those who can help.



#### 7 The Yard



This family-friendly seasonal patio has an energetic mural painted on the large, brick walls, adding extra personality to the outdoor hangout spot. The graffiti artists came up with the idea to create a futuristic, robot theme with similar colours they'd collaboratively paint with. Conz and Toner finished this mural in a few days. With a fresh drink in hand, your eyes will never bore looking at the artwork around you.







### 13 Vehicle Underpass

One of the most striking murals is also one of the easiest to miss. Mere minutes from the Riverside Veterans' Memorial Park, this bright, colourful mural was led by street artists Dokter and Jesse Gouchey as an homage to missing and murdered Indigenous women. Across Canada, hundreds of unsolved cases of murdered or missing Indigenous women where the RCMP say there was no foul play. This mural is a reminder that all life has value, and we must not turn a blind eye to injustice.

### 14 Tunnel Vision

**South Railway St. Side** — In 1988, the Winter Olympics were held in Calgary, only 300 kilometres Northwest of Medicine Hat. A legacy project of the 1988 Olympics was the Saamis Tepee, which now sits along the Trans-Canada Highway in Medicine Hat. This mural features an artistic silhouette of the Tepee during a bright Medicine Hat summer sunset. This vibrant piece is a combined effort by Will Oskam, Sonz1, and California-based FASM Creative.



**North Railway St. Side** —The Underpass is a hub of street art connecting Medicine Hat's Historic Downtown to North Railway Street's eclectic neighbourhood and into the park-like River Flats neighbourhood. This mural features a combination of geometric shapes, intersecting straight lines, and circles. Blues, greens, and greys are reminiscent of the city's iconic Assiniboia Hotel sign, which can be seen in this mural's background.

**The Underpass Interior** — Medicine Hat's downtown tunnel has been transformed into a showcase for dozens of local graffiti artists, sponsored and vetted by the Medicine Hat-based Pop Up Parks organization. As with all art, it starts underground before emerging for the world to see.

### 15 Botanicals

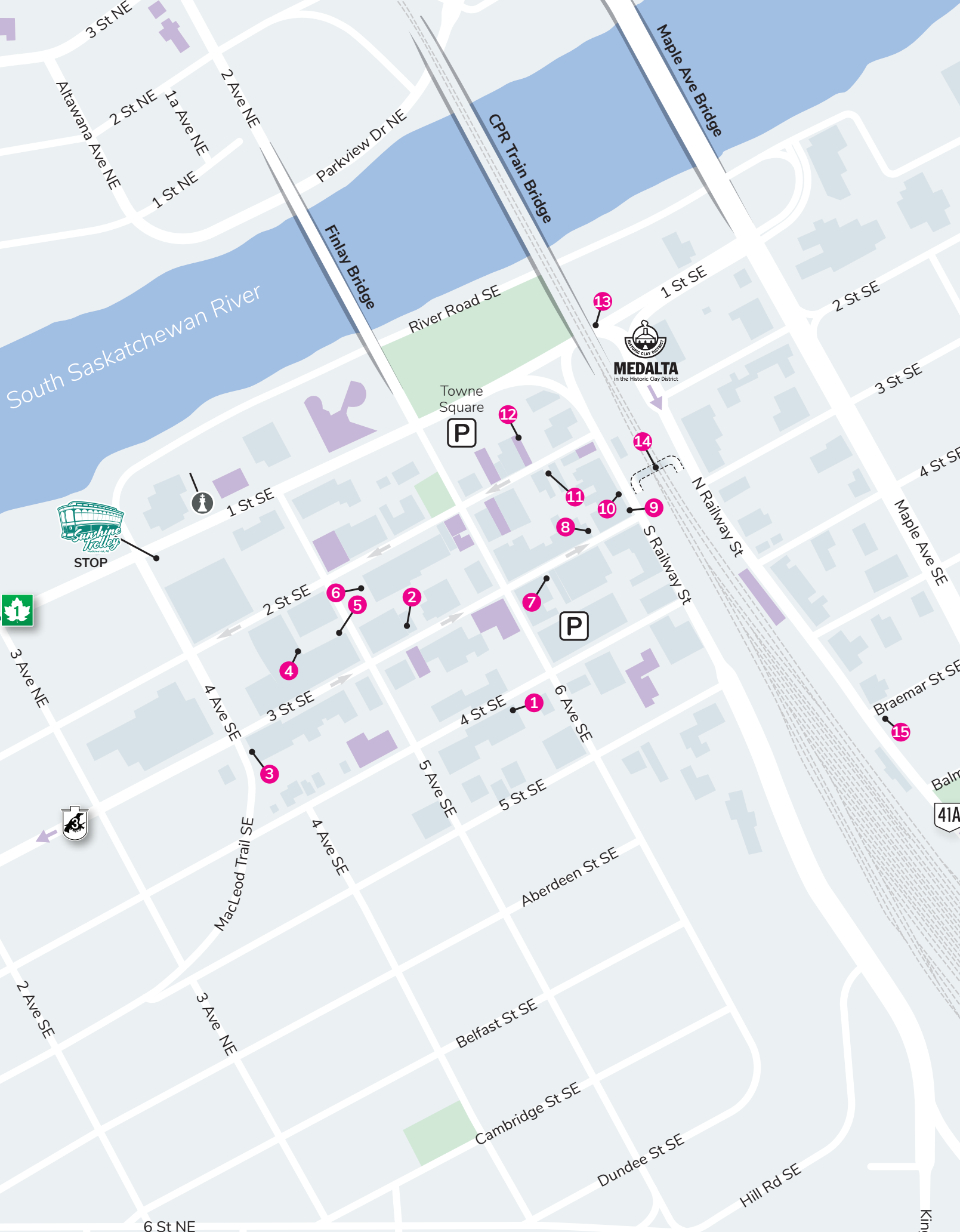
This animated mural adds colour to one of Medicine Hat's most historic streets, North Railway Street. The mural was inspired by the blossoming plants that live inside Botanicals and is painted on the outside of the business' building. Local artist Christy Vince, Paintergirl, has a lively style, and this mural is the perfect backdrop to any photo that radiates sunshine and warm weather.



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River Road SE

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3 St SE

4 St SE

Maple Ave SE

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