

The Cosmo Murals



Students who were taking art courses or a business course called Enterprise & Innovation ...decided that the idea of leaving something permanent behind as well as something creative to look at...appealed to all of us. We worked out the theme of small patchwork-like areas that students could work on even if they weren't artistically inclined. Ex-students...bring their friends and family over to the Whyte Avenue area to see our contribution to the Strathcona Market scene and the Cosmopolitan Music Society building. Considering that the students in our Fresh Start program were struggling kids who didn't always have too many positive educational experiences, it does my heart good to see how proud they are of their work.

- Maureen Panek, Teacher



This mural was a project of WHAM, Whyte Avenue Murals Committee and The Old Strathcona Foundation in 1997.

The wall was an eyesore with very graphic nasty graffiti. We went to The Paint Spot for help and David and Sidsel arranged for one of their paint companies to supply the paint. We set up a competition to choose an artist and Tim Heimdal from Grand Prairie was the winner. He spent much of that summer on that mural.

The rest of us set about raising the money to pay him. We did that by selling the faces on the mural.

Gerry Wright had just died and his family asked friends to donate to the mural in memory of Gerry. That's him at the piano in his white tie and tails. Carole Halko is the damsel next to him. Sidsel and David are there, Ted and Nancy Power are there; me too!. Elly and Herman deJong are there as are Harriet Winspear and various others from Cosmopolitan and businesses on Whyte.

The artist sketches are at The Paint Spot.

- Judy Berghofer, OSF Supporter