

Mr. Cross presented his initial concept of a giant painting on an easel to the Altona & District Chamber of Commerce in March of 1997. With the Altona painting being his first, and the uniqueness of the concept, Mr. Cross spent countless hours and days refining, fine tuning and perfecting all aspects of the project. Due to the originality of this concept, his dedication and research, and most of all his experience (having painted the Canadian and Australian replicas) Mr. Cross is the only qualified artist capable of painting this giant masterpiece.

Mr. Cross graduated from the University of Manitoba in 1990 with a degree in Fine Arts and Education, and began teaching art at W.C. Miller Collegiate in Altona in 1995. Mr. Cross has participated in numerous art shows and exhibitions in Altona since that time.

Mr. Cross' initial intentions with this project have been to erect seven giant replicas around the world. Altona takes great pride in the fact that it is home to the very first of these. As more are erected around the world, Altona anticipated increased exposure and attention globally.

When Altona unveiled it's giant painting on an easel, it was featured in newspaper, magazines, radio and television features throughout Canada and The United States. Altona continues to receive media exposure due to this landmark because of its originality and immensity. Altona continues to realize increased tourism due to the attraction the painting provides. At any given time, a visit to the landmark site guarantees the presence of visitors identified by license plates from across North America.

We look forward to having Goodland, Kansas join the limited and prestigious group of communities fortunate enough to be called home of one of the seven giant paintings on an easel.

Sincerely,

**Brian Enns**  
**President**  
**Altona & District Chamber of Commerce**