## Kimberley McNeil

## Meet the Artist

Kim was born in the culturally diverse land of poutine and smoked meat (Montréal). She migrated across the country to Calgary in 2002 to see if the Rocky Mountains were all they were cracked up to be; they were.

She's been creating since I could hold a pencil. No, since she could spread paint around with my hands. Her parents considered her early works contemporary. Her first solo art exhibition was in 1982 when her work was displayed on her family's avocado-coloured fridge.

As life has a way of doing, Kim's took her away from the arts. For almost twenty years, she didn't so much as look at a sheet of drawing paper. Then, after searching for an outlet to manage several painful life events, she went back to the thing that felt most natural to her: drawing.

Under the tutelage and encouragement of her art teacher and mentor, Michelle Austen, she picked up a paintbrush in 2015 and hasn't looked back. Now an internationally-sold visual artist <u>represented by Bluerock Gallery</u> and recognized by the Calgary Stampede Art Show, the Leighton Art Centre, the Alberta Society of Artists, and the Squamish Arts, she divides her time between painting, writing, and teaching others connect with their creative side. Where painting is concerned, <u>her distinctive cold wax art</u> focuses on Canada's stunning landscape and wildlife.

No matter where she's lived Kim has always felt most at home in front of an easel. She's honoured to have her work grace the walls of collectors and promises to bring her passion for nature into every piece she paints.

