

TEAR DOWN
FENCE
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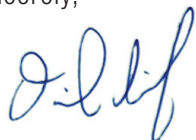
Dear K-W Border Resident,

I'm writing to you because you live on the K-W border. I am an artist from Berlin, Germany and have been invited by the Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery to make a project for their international exhibition, Building Berlin (Sept. 18, 2009 - Jan. 23, 2010). As an artist, I am interested in making sculptures, films, and performances about a particular place, in this case the border between Kitchener and Waterloo. My interest in your area comes, in part, from my work in Germany as the director of a sculpture park on the former military zone of the Berlin Wall.

I would like to learn about the history and hear your stories about life along the K-W border. As you're probably aware, prior to World War I, Kitchener was called the town of Berlin. In anticipation of this year's 20th Anniversary of the collapse of the Berlin Wall, I want to invite you to tear down a wall or fence on your property! There may be no reason or many reasons that you should take down your fence, perhaps for landscaping purposes or because it's falling apart. I hope that my invitation might provide a symbolic reason. I will document the event on video. Like pieces of the Berlin Wall that have been gifted and displayed around the world, I will display your wall at the Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery as a work of art, a symbol of self-empowerment and change, or simply as your fence. If you are interested, I will lend a hand and can organize extra help. As a token of my gratitude, I offer you a commemorative, miniature sculpture, photo or video of the wall or fence removal.

I hope you like the idea. Whether or not you would be inclined to tear down your wall or fence, I would like to document your stories about how the K-W border does or doesn't affect daily life (i.e. How do you figure out which city will pick up the trash?). At your convenience, I would be grateful to meet and ask you a few questions. I will be in Kitchener from Sept. 6-16. If you have a few moments, please contact me or inquire with Crystal Mowry (519-579-5860 ext 215), Curator of the Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery. I look forward to hearing from you!

Sincerely,



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