

Bateman mural rising

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Noted Winnipeg muralist Charlie Johnston is at work in Thompson painting a 10-storey-high mural based on a work by famed wildlife artist Robert Bateman.

The northern Manitoba community is financing the project as part of its ongoing Spirit Way walkway, which will include 18 points of interest.

The mural, on the north face of the Highland Towers apartment block in Thompson's Eastwood neighbourhood, is being promoted as the first to be based on a Bateman painting. Bateman did the original wolf painting in 1990.

Volunteer organizer Volker Beckmann says that Johnston's mural is set to be finished Sept. 9.

Organizers are in the process of setting up a web camera for Sept. 7, so that viewers can watch Johnston in the final stages. You'll be able to find the link from the city's website, www.thompson.ca.