

# **STANDARDS GUIDELINES**

**(REVISED 2012)**

# **PEI CRAFTS COUNCIL**

These guidelines are used as the standard of quality assessment for products sold at PEICC sponsored events.

## ABOUT THE COUNCIL

The mandate of the Prince Edward Island Crafts Council is to encourage originality and promote the making and acceptance of quality handcrafted items through the provision of programs and services.

The Council was formed in 1965 and incorporated as a non-profit organization in 1975.

For more information about the membership application process, programs or other services please contact:

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## **DEFINITIONS**

The creation of **HANDCRAFTED PRODUCTS** is an occupation requiring specialized technical, manual and design skills. While each item is not necessarily one of a kind, there is still that element of uniqueness to each piece because it is made by hand.

An **ARTISAN** is a person who makes objects from original or traditional designs, using specialized technical, manual and design skills to manipulate material in a way that demonstrates an understanding of its inherent qualities and characteristics. Of primary concern is the integrity of the work and its presentation. The artisan is the prime source of those fine things by which the senses are educated and life is enriched. Artisans are the guardians of the highest standard of quality. Their work asserts the absolute priority of the personal in a mechanized society.

## **THE JURYING PROCESS**

The PEICC has a formal jury process. Customers request quality Island-made products. In keeping with our mandate we strive to help artisans maintain a certain level of quality. A panel of artisans examines the products submitted to the PEICC and notifies the producer that:

- a) all items meet guidelines
- b) the items will meet guidelines when minor recommended changes are made or
- c) at present, aspects of the items do not meet the guidelines.

The Standards Committee indicates its decision in writing or via e-mail where applicable to the applicant within two weeks of when the actual jury was held. Recommendations or guidance needed to improve the product will be included.

All work will be juried and the jurors' decision is final. The role of the chairperson is primarily organizational.

When an item is submitted in a medium for which there is no representative on the Committee, the expertise of a reliable person(s) in that field, will be sought.

Applicants are advised to keep in mind that it is the product, not the artisan, which is being evaluated.

The Standards Committee is also responsible for ensuring that Active Members' work meets Standards Guidelines when offered for sale at Council-sponsored events.

### **OFFERING YOUR WORK TO THE JURY**

Steps to follow when applying for your work to be juried:

1) Read the General Guidelines and the guidelines specific to your work.

2) Select 3 items in each medium, which you would like to sell through Council sponsored venues. They must be "ready for sale" and produced within the last twelve-month period with all necessary packaging, labeling and consumer information included. NOTE: The panel will only review 3 items. Do not include more unless you have made prior arrangements with the Standards Committee chairperson.

3) Complete an application form (available by contacting the PEICC) including a description of each piece, design sources (i.e., original or traditional), techniques and materials used. Also, tell us a bit about yourself. An outline of your training is helpful since it personalizes your work and introduces you to the Committee. For insurance purposes, please include retail value of work submitted.

4) Include a non-refundable jurying fee of \$20 plus \$1.00 (GST included).

5) Pack work carefully and ensure work is in the possession of PEICC as per individual instructions from PEICC coordinator or Standards Chairperson not more than one week before jury deadlines: May 1<sup>st</sup>, and October 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **GENERAL STANDARDS GUIDELINES**

THE DESIGN of an article must be the original idea of the artisan or a skillful rendering of a traditional or classic design.

ALL WALL MOUNTED articles must be ready for hanging.

PICTURE FRAMES must be smooth and have properly mitered corners. Distressed framework must be smooth and free from unnecessary rough edges. Frames, where possible, must have paper on back. Work must be mounted so as not to buckle or move around in frame. Hanging devices must be appropriate to the weight of the framed work.

ARTICLES MADE FROM MOULDS are acceptable only if:

- a) the molded object and the original model are the design and product of the artisan, or
- b) the molded parts are subordinate to the overall design of the piece.

Purchased or found parts, commercial moulds, commercial patterns and commercially reproduced materials WILL BE CONSIDERED ONLY IF they are subordinate to the overall design.

COPYRIGHT REGULATIONS Use of copyrighted designs, such as those available electronically or on commercial fabrics, is not considered acceptable.

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT LABELLING, PACKAGING AND PRECIOUS METALS MARKING LEGISLATION - Most clothing and textile items are subject to Federal Government labeling legislation. Some items require permanent labels (able to withstand 10 washings) and others require non-permanent labels. Both require dealer contact information (your mailing address or CA number) and fibre content in percentages. Packaged items are subject to government legislation as are precious metals marking. For information call the Competition Bureau, Industry Canada, at 1-800-348-5353 or visit their website at <http://www.competition.ic.gc.ca> .

PEICC CRAFT FAIR LABELLING POLICIES - In addition to Federal Government labeling requirements. PEICC requires that all clothing and all textile items (such as placemats, runners, scarves, blankets, etc.) include size and/or finished measurements and care instructions. All products for sale at Council-sponsored fairs must be identified as to place of origin. .

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT PRODUCT SAFETY REGULATIONS - Federal Government safety regulations for toys, ceramics/pottery, cosmetics, children's sleepwear and children's clothing apply. For more information call Health Canada - Product Safety at 902-426-8300 or visit their website at <http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca> .

PEICC CRAFT FAIR PRODUCT SAFETY POLICY - Any and all items perceived to present a safety hazard by the Standards Committee will not be approved for sale.

All ELECTRICAL COMPONENTS must be CSA approved.

HANDMADE TEXTILES - Fabric finishing techniques appropriate to hand-made textiles such as weaving, knitting, crocheting, etc., must be used, keeping in mind the nature of the fabric and the purpose of the piece. Hand-made textiles are subject to Federal Government labeling and safety regulations.

**SEWING** – Both machine and hand stitching must be straight, even and of proper stitch length. Thread must be compatible in quality and colour with the fabric and with the purpose of the piece. All marking lines must be removed. Seams must have an even allowance and be properly finished and secured at each end. Intersecting seams must meet evenly and lie flat. Standards for garment construction apply.

**GARMENT CONSTRUCTION** - Garments must be comfortable and not binding. Fabric must drape properly. Hems must be evenly and securely stitched. Interfacing and lining must be properly fitted. Beginning and ending of threads must be hidden. The back of any work must be neat. Proper tailoring is most important, e.g., set-in sleeves must leave no tucks at armhole edges. Fabrics used for garments must be pre-shrunk and well-pressed. Commercial patterns may be used if original ideas or personal touches are incorporated and these are the major design elements of the piece. The use of ethnic or traditional designs is acceptable, especially if the main feature of the garment is the creation of the fabric, or if it is a basis for surface design.

### **SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

The Standards Committee will view the following special considerations on an individual basis.

**FOLK ART, NEW FORMS and INNOVATIVE PRODUCTS** not included under Specific Guidelines are welcomed by the PEICC. However, products must meet General Standards Guidelines and a complete description of the process and materials used must accompany the submission.

**RECYCLED MATERIALS** are acceptable if not prohibited by law and the quality of the materials does not diminish the quality of the product. All items incorporating recycled materials must be labeled as such.

**WORDS, SYMBOLS, and REPRESENTATIONAL PLACE IMAGES** may be considered if they are subservient to and integrated into the overall design.

Generally, the following objects, materials and techniques are **NOT ACCEPTED**: Decals, dried flowers (including pressed), items made from kits, liquid embroidery, commercial “melt-and-pour” bases for soap and skin care products, computerized or other commercial designs, plastic flowers, Popsicle sticks, Styrofoam, string art, and transfers. There may be **EXCEPTIONS** when these objects, materials and techniques are subordinate to the overall design.

**KITS** designed by the artisan must meet General Standards Guidelines. A complete description of the process and materials used to complete each kit must accompany submissions. Kits must show originality in design, be constructed of quality components, and demonstrate technical and manual skills on the part of the artisan. The submissions must include instructions for assembly and a completed sample of each kit. Kits offered for sale must include complete instructions. Packaged items are subject to government legislation. For information call the Competition Bureau, Industry Canada, at 1-800-348-5353.

## **CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR POLICY: ART REPRODUCTIONS**

Original fine art exhibited at the Fair must be produced by a member whose artwork has met Standards Guidelines.

Of the work on display at any given time a minimum of 70% must be original work. A maximum of 30% of displayed items at any given time may include quality fine art reproductions, e.g., of 26 items on display 18 would be originals and 8 reproductions.

Any amount of back-up stock can be stored under a table and brought out as others are sold.

Reproduced items must be framed, matted, or mounted (note cards are acceptable) and protected under glass or quality clear plastic sleeves.

## **STANDARDS GUIDELINES**

### **BASKETS**

Baskets can be made using a variety of techniques, e.g., weaving, coiling, twining, plaiting, etc. Whatever the technique used, the finished basket must be structurally sound and fulfill the function for which it was intended.

Ends must be properly inserted and concealed.

Baskets using a pre-made rim must have the rim situated inside the handle.

Two-part rims, which are lashed on after the basket is made, must be free from cracks and "hairs".

Free-form baskets must have a finished appearance.

Size and shape of handles must suit the basket. Baskets must be properly shaped and must not appear lop-sided or crooked unless as a design feature.

## **BOOKBINDING**

The first principle in bookbinding is that books must endure repeated opening and closing without breaking down.

Books must open flat enough to see into the gutter margins.

All materials must have their grain direction parallel to the spine.

Pages must follow one another when they are turned.

To eliminate the possibility of wear points, there must not be any particles under the covering materials.

To avoid fraying at the points caused by loose material, the corners must be turned in with edges overlapping.

There must be a space on case bindings between the cover boards and the spine of the case so that the boards can flex on opening. Covering material must be well worked down into this area and well attached to the board edges and over onto the boards.

The covering material must adhere to the boards in all areas. No bubbles or creases should occur.

There must not be any visible adhesive on covering material.

It is usual to have a small projection of the cover boards beyond the textbook.

To ensure that the book will stand, the lower spine edge of the cover boards must be cut square.

## **CANDLES**

Low temperature paraffin wax is not acceptable.

Candles must be smooth with no foreign matter, bubbles, grazes, etc.

Wicks must be of proper diameter in relation to size of the candle.

Lead-free metal core wicks must be used for all sand candles.

The use of moulds is acceptable only if

- a) the molded object and the original model are the design and product of the artisan, or
- b) the molded parts are subordinate to the overall design.

Commercially sculpted/molded representational images or shapes, such as figurines, etc., are not acceptable.

Tops on hand-dipped candles must form a gentle curve and bases must be shell shaped (more rounded than the top and not trimmed).

Scented home, bath, beauty and candle products must be packaged to prevent the odor from consuming the airspace in surrounding area. Products may be stored in an airtight container.

Burning and safety instructions must be included with each candle. Applicants should be aware that candles submitted for jurying would be burn-tested by the committee.

### **CARVING STONE, WOOD, ETC.**

Finished pieces must reflect the special characteristics of the material chosen. Material can include “irregularities” but must be stable enough so as not to compromise the integrity of the piece. Unintentional cracks, dents, scratches, splinters or chips should not appear.

Regardless of the chosen finish, the attributes and characteristics of the base material must be apparent.

If piece is painted - design, technical and manual abilities must be evident. Standards for Decorative Art apply.

Should the use of glue be necessary the glue must not be visible on the finished product.

Pieces must be constructed in such a way that they can be easily and securely displayed, and not cause damage to a surface such as a tabletop or wall.

### **CHINA PAINTING**

See guidelines for POTTERY and DECORATIVE ART

### **DECORATIVE ART/SURFACE DESIGN**

Designs must show creative talent and may be of an original design or an interpretation of a traditional design.

The piece may be painted with any medium. The designs must be of sufficient difficulty to show maximum control of brush strokes, linework, paint blending and techniques such as shading.

The piece must display functional integrity, i.e., a good balance of form and function, and be durable and aesthetically pleasing.

The piece must be finished on all surfaces.

High quality workmanship must be evident.

New materials of quality construction must be used for the base or the General Standards Guidelines for Recycled Materials must be observed. Regardless of the medium used for the base, the decorative painting must be the focal point.

### **DECORATED TEXTILES**

See General Standards Guidelines for sewing/garment construction, and for Government regulations on packaging and labeling.

### **BATIK, TIE DYEING, SILK SCREENING, ETC.**

The pigments must be used so they become part of the fibre of the fabric without changing its texture.

Colour must be applied as uniformly as possible over the entire pattern depending on the technique used.

The fabric and pigment used must be light- and colorfast.

### **SILKSCREEN PRINTING**

The design and hand-cut stencils must be based on a drawing or photograph original to the artisan or a skillful rendering of a traditional or classic design.

The cutting of stencils must leave a sharp, clean edge with no fuzziness or blurring.

Non-toxic and colourfast inks must be suitable to the material. Inks must be properly and evenly applied.

There must be harmony between colours, design, and the background of the material to which the screen-printing is applied. Colours must be clear.

The artisan must do registration and printing manually. They must register as exactly and as consistently as possible throughout a printing, given the limitations of a person-based rather than a machine-based system.

On all aspects of silkscreen as a craft the emphasis must be on manual dexterity rather than on machine usage or technology.

New, quality materials must be used for background.

## **ENAMELS**

Successful enameling must demonstrate a good sense of colour, composition, knowledge and control of the chosen process. While colour and design may be said to be personal, the end product must demonstrate an understanding of the qualities of the materials involved.

Design must be original or a skillful rendering of a traditional or classic design, with form and function reflecting the character of the materials and techniques employed.

Opaque enamels must not be discolored due to contamination or improper cleaning of metal.

Transparent enamels must be clear and brilliant.

If foil is used beneath transparent enamel, it must lie flat and not crawl up the edges of wires. It must enhance the colour of the chosen transparent.

Wire designs must have clean sweeping lines.

Ends of wires must be filed neatly and all tool marks removed.

Wires must not sink into enamel. If more than one technique is used then they must complement one another and not look accidental.

Joins must come together evenly and neatly.

If stoning is used in the final finish, the piece must be stoned level and the full width of the wires.

The enamel must be properly fused to the surface and without cracks.

The enamel must not be too thick or too thin and without bubbles or pits.

Pieces must be counter-enameled.

There must not be any unnatural warping.

The piece must not be over fired or under fired, unless it is part of the intended design. Firing must not look accidental.

Edges must be uniform in enamel thickness, not burned away, and free from fire scale.

Edges of jewellery must be polished and free of tool marks.

There must be a minimum of pick marks.

Jewellery pieces must be free of pick marks.

Commercial findings may be used but must be subordinate to the overall design.

Findings must be glued neatly and securely. If soldered, they must be soldered with little or no solder visible.

### **FELTED FABRIC , ROVING, WOVEN BASE, KNITTED BASE, ETC.**

True felt is a mat or web of wool or part wool fibres held together by the interlocking of the scales of the wool fibres. Proper felting principles must be adhered to at all times, and appropriate textile finishing techniques must be applied, keeping in mind the nature of the fabric and the purpose of the piece.

Felted fabric must be stable, evenly textured and of even thickness.

The felt “skin” must not be too soft or fuzzy.

When roving is used as the base the felt must not appear to be too spongy.

When squeezed it must feel as though it is quite solid all the way through.

Fabric must be of appropriate thickness and coarseness for its intended purpose.

Note: felted fabric can be quite irregular on the edges. Cutting (to straighten) weakens the edges. If edges are cut, and if the object is going to have heavy use, edges must be strengthened by re-felting, binding, over-stitching, attaching to wire, etc.

See General Standards Guidelines for sewing/garment construction, and for Government regulations on packaging and labeling..

## **FINE ART**

Paintings and drawings including watercolors, oils, oil pastels, acrylics, gouache, pen & ink, coloured pencil, pastels, tempera and mixed media are acceptable.

Technical ability must be apparent, i.e., perspective; painting technique; use of materials; painterly quality to oils and acrylics; luminosity to watercolors; and pen and ink must be clear and concise.

Design or subject matter may be contemporary or traditional and can include: still life, landscape, marine, portraits, geometric design and abstract painting.

Acceptable supports are canvas (stretched), wood panels, masonite, glass, paper, slate or ceramic tiles. (Paintings on stones, shells and driftwood are unacceptable under Fine Art. See Decorative Art and/or General Standards Guidelines for recycled materials.)

See General Guidelines for framing.

All unframed work must be suitably mounted (note cards are acceptable) and protected with glass or quality, clear plastic sleeves.

Oil paintings must be varnished. Pastels, if presented without glass, must have a fixative.

Medium must be clearly stated and attached to work with artist's name and appropriate information. Artwork must be signed and dated. Artists are encouraged to include permanent label on back.

Etchings must be numbered, i.e., 4/50, the fourth of 50 to be produced.

## **GLASS**

### **ETCHED**

Etching on glass can be achieved with acid or sandblasting. The basic process is a resist method using glue, masking tape, rubber, etc.

Pieces must express skill in design and techniques, e.g., carving, texture variations, shading, glue chipping, gold leaf, slumping, fusing, etc.

Should pieces require commercial bases, frames, etc., they must be of quality construction, solid enough to hold the pieces, and subservient to the overall design.

### **STAINED GLASS**

Originality of design is stressed.

Piece must be designed so that the overall construction is sturdy.

Glass pieces must fit together properly with all seams, inside and out, and outer edges well beaded.

If foil tape method used foil must be even on both sides of the glass.

Flux and solder remnants must be removed from the piece. The piece must be well cleaned and waxed.

If hanging loops are used they must be placed in a seam (make a round loop from wire and leave it with a tail, placing it down on a seam) or appropriate place for greatest strength.

Large pieces must be framed appropriately.

If mirrored glass is used it must be free of black rot or scratches.

All electrical parts must be CSA approved.

## **HANDMADE PAPER**

### **FORMED, POURED, SHAPED, LAYERED, SHEETS, ETC.**

The variety of possibilities inherent in papermaking is seemingly limitless but design, quality and technical skill must be evident in the work. Presentation must reflect appropriateness and care.

If recycled materials are used this must be indicated on the label or hang tag.

All articles made from paper must be completely dry throughout.

All articles made from paper must be sufficiently sturdy to withstand intended usage.

### **SHEETS**

Sheets must show a uniformity of pulp distribution throughout. They must be of even thickness and have a smooth surface unless otherwise intended by the maker.

## **JEWELLERY**

Ornamentation must be subordinate to wearability.

Functional parts must operate smoothly.

Pieces must be cleaned so that solder is minimized.

Where soldering is not practical, cement is permitted.

Commercially made stampings or ornamentation are not acceptable unless subordinate to the overall design.

Hardness of stones must be considered in relation to usage.

Commercial findings must be of good quality and subordinate to the design.

Jewellery must not contain lead.

Identification of stone type is recommended. Sterling and carat marks must be in accordance with Federal Government Legislation. See General Standards Guidelines.

### **KNITTING AND CROCHETING**

Creativity in choice of colours, originality of design or skillful adaptation of a traditional design, must be evident.

Attention must be given to regularity of stitches and tension, elasticity of seams and the working-in of ends.

Fabric finishing techniques appropriate to hand-made textiles must be applied, keeping in mind the nature of the fabric and the purpose of the piece. Fabrics that change texture or shape when washed or dry-cleaned must be washed or dry-cleaned before being offered for sale.

See General Standards Guidelines for sewing/garment construction, and for Government regulations on packaging and labeling.

### **MACHINE KNITTING**

Articles made on knitting machines will be accepted only if the articles excel in originality and the artisan has demonstrated skillful use of the machine. Articles must be clearly labeled "Machine Knit".

### **LEATHER**

Wearables must suit the medium, be well constructed and finished, and be comfortable to wear.

All cuts must be clean and continuous.

Edges must be beveled and buffed where appropriate.

Dyes must be of good quality and applied evenly. Reverse side must be clean and without dye drips.

Findings must be of good quality. No plastic lacings may be used.

A stamp may be used only to create an original design.

Adhesives must not be seen on exposed surfaces.

General Standards Guidelines for sewing and garment construction apply.

### **METAL WORK**

Ornamentation must be appropriate to the piece and to the function.

Unless part of the design, forged metals must be worked so that surfaces are regular and without ridges and undulation.

Soldering and welding must be smooth, well cleaned and joined, and evenly finished.

Finishes must be evenly applied and without bubbles or drips.

Iron must be brightened before finishing and rust proofing is applied.

Sculpture must be ready for display.

Sterling and carat marks must be in accordance with Federal Government Legislation. For contact information see General Standards Guidelines.

### **NEEDLE ART**

See General Standards Guidelines for sewing/garment construction, and for Government regulations on packaging and labeling.

### **EMBROIDERY: HAND AND MACHINE**

Must show originality of design or a skillful rendering of a traditional or classic design, with no computerized or other commercial patterns, kits or pre-printed background material used.

Generally thread beginnings and endings must be secure on back of work, with no knots visible.

Thread tension and thickness must be suitable to background material and approved techniques used with traditional stitches.

Machine embroidery is accepted only if it excels in design, originality and skill.

Machine Embroidery must be clearly labeled as such.

### **SMOCKING**

Must be elastic and of even tension.

Loops must not cross more than three pleats.

All rows must line up at side seam, and beginning and ending pleats must be caught up in the seam.

Smocking must be centered where applicable.

Fabrics that change texture or shape when washed or dry-cleaned must be washed or dry-cleaned before offering for sale.

### **PAPIER-MACHÉ**

Designs must show creative talent and may be of an original design or an interpretation of a traditional design.

The object must display functional integrity, i.e., a good balance of form and function, and be durable and aesthetically pleasing.

A papier-mâché object is more ornamental than practical. Its natural look is uneven and handcrafted.

Basic materials are newspapers, masking tape, flour and water for paste, and paints.

Inner structure may be constructed from chicken wire or densely crumpled, crushed newspaper. Some large objects may also require a wire armature.

The structure must be covered with layers of papier-mâché and detail must be added to the object.

The item may be painted in any medium. If it has a painted-on design, the design must be of sufficient difficulty to show maximum control of brush strokes, line work, paint blending and techniques such as shading.

The object must be finished on all surfaces.

## **FABRIC SCULPTING**

Designs must show creative talent and may be of an original design or an interpretation of a traditional design.

The object must display functional integrity, i.e., a good balance of form and function, and be durable, suitable for climate conditions and aesthetically pleasing.

A Fabric Sculpting object is more ornamental than practical. Its natural look is uneven and handcrafted.

Basic materials are wires, masking tape, aluminum foil and coating.

The item may be painted in any medium. If it has a painted-on design, the design must be of sufficient difficulty to show maximum control of brush strokes, line work, paint blending and techniques such as shading.

The object must be finished on all surfaces.

The object must be weather resistant.

Sculpture/Artwork must be attached securely on a base if so designed to.

The armature underneath must be suitable and strong and enough to hold sculpture.

The armature must be packed tight.

If painted the paint must flow easy and not run. If varnished it must be fully varnished.

## **PEBBLE ART**

Designs must show creative talent and may be of an original design or an interpretation of a traditional design.

The image is expected to be a visually interesting composition.

Acceptable supports are canvas (stretched), wood panels, masonite, glass, paper, slate or ceramic tiles.

Should the use of glue be necessary the glue must not be visible on the finished product.

## **PHOTOGRAPHY**

The photographic image is expected to be a visually interesting composition and one where a strong personal intent or style is evident.

The photographic prints must be of high quality, in black and white or in colour, and may include special techniques such as non-silver processes, toning and hand colouring. The emphasis must be on manual skill rather than electro-mechanical processes. Digital and digitally enhanced photography are not acceptable.

Technical abilities such as perspective, photographic technique, use of photographic and developing processes must be apparent. Photographic printing must be accomplished by the artisan using traditional photographic techniques. Developing can be done commercially.

Photographs must be suitably mounted (note cards are acceptable), matted or framed, and protected under glass or clear, quality, plastic sleeves. See General Guidelines for framing.

## **PORCELAIN DOLLS**

Porcelain must be of high quality, of proper thickness and weight and defect-free without bubbles or sanding marks. Seam lines must be smoothed out. Porcelain must be satin smooth to the touch.

All green ware must be poured and cleaned by applicant. Purchased green ware and china blanks are not acceptable.

Dolls must be signed by the maker, dated and carry the mould mark of the original.

Specific attention must be paid to detail, e.g., fingers, toes, etc. All jointed parts must fit properly.

China painting must be of high quality with attention to detail and colour characteristics.

Body design must pay strict attention to proper proportions. Cloth bodies must be properly stuffed. Stitching must be neat and uniform.

Eyes may be painted; glass or margolite; must be properly sized and aligned.

Hair must be well made, neat and in keeping with the style of the doll.

The artisan must make the clothing and materials used must be in proper scale to the size of the doll.

See General Standards Guidelines for sewing/garment construction, and for Government regulations on packaging, labeling, and safety regulations for children's toys.

## **POTTERY**

The basic shape must be well proportioned and the piece structurally sound and balanced.

Surface decoration must be related in scale and position to the whole piece.

The bottom of pieces must be smooth and bits of clay and kiln wash must be removed.

Wax-lines must be even.

There must be no bits of clay in the glaze and the glaze must be without bare or pin-hole spots.

Irregularities must be controlled unless deliberately used as part of the design, and firing must be sufficient for clay body.

Use of moulds is acceptable only if:

- a) the moulded object and the original model is the design and product of the artisan, or
- b) the moulded parts are subordinate to the overall design of the piece

Glaze must be selected for the use of the object. Lead glaze must not be used on pots intended to hold food. Oxides such as copper and cobalt, which are toxic in raw form, must be completely combined with the glaze and never left in a "scum" form on surfaces which might come in contact with food.

Pottery (ceramics) is regulated in Canada by the Hazardous Products Act. For contact information see Federal Legislation under General Standards Guidelines. All electrical parts must be CSA approved.

## **QUILTED ARTICLES**

Quilting is the layering of filler between two layers of fabric held together with hand and/or machine stitching, or tied.

Materials must be suitable to the function of the quilted article, be durable and able to withstand suitable cleaning methods.

Fabrics that change texture or shape when washed or dry-cleaned must be washed or dry-cleaned before being offered for sale.

Weight, texture and quality of fabric must be compatible.

Must show originality of design or a skillful rendering of a traditional or classic design, with no commercial patterns, computerized commercial designs, kits or pre-printed background material (cheater-blocks) used.

Construction must be smooth. In piecing, points must be sharp, intersections must meet evenly and lie flat, curves must be precise and fabric grain must be consistent. This also applies to appliqué. If edges of appliqué are turned under they must be smooth. The stitching of appliqué, whether hidden or decorative, must be consistent.

No shadowing should appear in either pieced or appliquéd quilted pieces.

Filler must be evenly distributed and suitable to technique with no bearding should occur.

Stitches must be uniform and evenly spaced. Thread must be harmonious and compatible in quality and colour with the fabric, with the design, and with the purpose of the piece. Marking lines must be removed.

Binding must be the same quality fabric as quilted piece, uniformly filled with filler, securely stitched on front and on back.

See General Standards Guidelines for sewing/garment construction, and for Government regulations on packaging and labeling.

## **RUGS**

All rugs must be constructed with durable and good quality materials, which will stand up well under, wear.

See General Standards Guidelines for sewing/garment construction, and for Government regulations on packaging and labeling.

## **HOOKED RUGS**

Must show originality of design or a skillful rendering of a traditional or classic design, with no commercial patterns, computerized commercial designs, kits or pre-printed patterns used.

Rugs must be worked on a firm cloth or burlap.

The foundation must be covered but not so closely that the rug curls.

Edges must be carefully finished.

## **BRAIDED RUGS**

Braiding must be tight and even.

Braids must be fastened together securely and must be joined so that the rug is smooth and flat.

Strips must be of even width.

## **WOVEN RUGS**

Weaving must be tight enough to wear well and to give the rug as much weight as possible.

Standards Guidelines for WEAVING apply.

## **SOAPS AND RELATED PRODUCTS**

Must be neatly packaged and clearly labeled with:

- manufacturer's name and address
- weight of product at time of sale
- complete list of ingredients

Scented home, bath, beauty and must be packaged to prevent the odor from consuming the airspace in surrounding area. Products may be stored in an airtight container.

Soaps and other skin care products are classified as cosmetics by Canadian Law. They must meet the requirements of the Food and Drugs Act and Cosmetic Regulations and the Consumer Packaging and Labeling Act and Regulations. See Federal Legislation under General Standards Guidelines for contact information.

## **SOAPS**

Must contain high quality food grade oils. (No used vegetable oil.)

Only cold-process soap is acceptable; use of commercially made soap is not.

Soaps must:

- be adequately dried;
- not contain toxic dyes;
- lather well and be mild on skin.

Commercially sculpted representational images or shapes are not acceptable.

The use of moulds is acceptable only if

- a) the moulded object and the original model are the design and product of the artisan, or
- b) the moulded parts are subordinate to the overall design.

NOTE: Soaps submitted for jurying will be tested.

## **SKIN CARE PRODUCTS**

Antioxidants must be used to increase shelf life.

Use of petrochemical products such as mineral oil, emulsifying waxes, petrolatum, etc., is unacceptable.

A sea-salt based formula must be used for bath salts.

Use of commercially made bases for skin care products is not acceptable.

## **TANNING**

The leather side of home-tanned pelts must be white in colour with no more than 10% of the surface slightly off-colour (yellowish). No dark spots should be present.

The texture of the leather must be uniformly suede-like after sanding and the edges must be evenly trimmed and without jagged edges or nail holes.

The pliability can vary from very firm to very supple, but must be consistent in the pelt.

There must not be any holes, tears, cracks or weak spots in the leather.

The fleece side of the pelt must be clean, free from unnatural markings, e.g., uneven fleece due to loss of wool, paint brands, etc., and free from off-odours.

Insects, chaff or other dirt must not be present.

It must be easy to part the fleece to the base of the pelt.

## **TOYS**

Toys for children are regulated in Canada by the Hazardous Products Act and packaged items and textile labeling are also subject to government legislation. See General Standards Guidelines.

The design of the toy must be in keeping with its intent, i.e., it must be aesthetically pleasing to, as well as functionally appropriate for, its intended owner. Toys that are designed for older children and adults must be clearly labeled as such.

**SOFT TOYS/SCULPTURE**: dolls, teddy bears, etc

Quality materials must always be used. If toy is for a child, all materials need to be sturdy, washable, non-toxic and as fire proof as possible.

Hair, trims, etc., must be attached securely. There must not be anything on a play toy that could be pulled off and swallowed by a young child. Sticks that can break, wires that can poke out, etc., must be avoided.

If the design involves mobility, e.g., moving arms or legs, it must work well. It is preferable to avoid mobile toys if the moving parts cannot be designed to

move easily and freely

If traditional designs are used, thought should be given to adapting the design to modern fabrics.

Stuffing must be non-toxic, clean, new and synthetic. It cannot contain bean or plant seeds. Toy must be stuffed firmly enough not to sag.

Features, including eyes, can be painted or embroidered. If carrying thread from one feature to another, and/or knotting, ensure that thread does not show through fabric.

If plastic eyes are used they must be securely attached with safety washers. Sewn-on plastic or button eyes, since they can be chewed off, are inappropriate for children. Purchased embroidered eyes are permitted if firmly attached.

Generally, glue should not be used on toys for small children. If it is absolutely essential it must be non-toxic, invisible and of good quality.

Clothing must be made by the artisan and meet General Standards Guidelines for Sewing.

If toy is intended for a child, clothing must be easily removed, fastenings must be easy to manipulate, and clothing must be washable.

Commercially reproduced (purchased) or found parts must be subservient to the overall design.

## **WOODEN TOYS**

Wooden toys must be sturdily made to endure hard use. Small parts, which are easily detached, are illegal, and in the interest of safety, sharp points must be eliminated.

Paint or varnish must be non-toxic.

Each toy must be carefully assembled and neatly and smoothly finished.

## **WEAVING**

### **LOOM**

Technical ability must be apparent, e.g., correct threading, sleying and beating.

Streaks in the warp and weft are undesirable unless they are basic parts of the design.

Originality in design or the interpretation of traditional designs is desirable.

Edges must be neat, even, and lie flat with no puckering.

All ends must be secured unless a tapestry requires that they be left hanging.  
Attention must be paid to finishing appropriate to the nature of the piece and its purpose.

Machine stitching is acceptable where it is required for strength and/or design.

Mixtures of fibres must be appropriate for serviceability.

Fabrics that change texture or shape when washed or dry-cleaned must be washed or dry-cleaned before being offered for sale.

See General Standards Guidelines for sewing/garment construction, and for Government regulations on packaging and labeling.

### **WHEAT WEAVING**

Must be complete with no grains missing.

Must withstand a certain amount of handling without shortening.

Weaving and plaiting must be even and regular.

Glue or wires must not show on the front of the finished piece.

In spiral weaving joints must not be visible.

Wall-mounted pieces must be ready for hanging.

Embellishment is traditionally acceptable with wheat weaving, e.g., ribbons, dried flowers, etc., as long as the piece is completely finished wheat weaving on its own before it is decorated.

## **WOODWORK**

Wood used must be of cabinet making stock and free from blemishes unless the design specifically utilizes these factors.

All pieces must be sanded and smooth to the touch. Finishes must be properly applied and appropriate to the piece's use, e.g., non-toxic finish for articles which come in contact with food.

Joints must be tight and strong.

Working parts must move smoothly.

Plywood is not acceptable unless it lends itself to the design and function of the article.

Use of wood fill is not acceptable.

Including information on wood species is recommended.

Instructions for care and use must accompany each piece.

Wood burning in itself will not be considered as woodworking. Its use as a decoration will be considered if it enhances the appearance of an item and is subordinate to the overall design of the piece. Computerized or other commercial designs are not acceptable.

## **WOOD CARVING**

See **CARVING**

## **OTHER CRAFTS**

Items that are not covered above may be considered as long as they are handmade and follow the general guidelines. Contact PEICC at (902) 892-5152 or at [info@peicraftscouncil.com](mailto:info@peicraftscouncil.com)