

Family Pole

Working with master carver Simon Charlie enabled Doug to enhance his carving skills. Doug's ties to his family influenced this pole; his son Bear (Doug Jr.) is represented here.

MOTHER BEAR
(TEN' U THU SPE'UTH)

I grew up in Duncan and I loved working in Duncan. I raised and looked after my family all the time. With Native people, family is huge; everything in life is based on families. My wife, Kathy Horne, and I had a son, so I decided to carve a baby Bear being held by a mother Bear. Family ties and beliefs, that's why I picked the Bear (Doug LaFortune, Sep 2012).

BEAR CUB
(SPE'UTHAL-LH)

The inspiration for the design of the pole came from Kwagu'l carver Henry Hunt.©



1986 | Size: 13'2" (4.0 m)

Doug LaFortune (a.k.a. William Horne)

Doug was born in 1953 and grew up in Duncan. He is Coast Salish of Quw'utsun' (Cowichan) and Tsawout, WSÁNEĆ (Saanich) heritage. On his mother's side, his grandfather Dick Harry was a chief. Doug started carving when he was nineteen years old. Doug's brothers Perry, Howard, and Aubrey LaFortune all helped carve his poles for this collection. His other artistic passion is drawing.©



Courtesy of Jane Mertz.