

The Chetwynd International Chainsaw Carving Competition started in 2005 and included 7 carvers from BC and the US. Today the competition involves 12 carvers, comprised of 4 Canadians, 4 Americans and 4 international participants.

The competition takes place over 4 days and the carvers work for a total of just 32 hours! While the carvings are made primarily with a chainsaw, other tools such as dremels and torches can be used as well.

Western Red Cedar is the wood used for each carving and the participants draw for the log they will carve. Each log is about 8 feet tall and 40 to 50 inches in diameter.

Before being placed on Carver's Row, the new carvings are treated with at least 3 coats of Minwax to help them withstand the elements. Cedar wedges and sawdust are used to fix cracks that may occur with time.

The competition usually takes place on the second weekend of June although this has been subject to change. Feel free to call the Visitor Centre to find out when the competition will be this year.

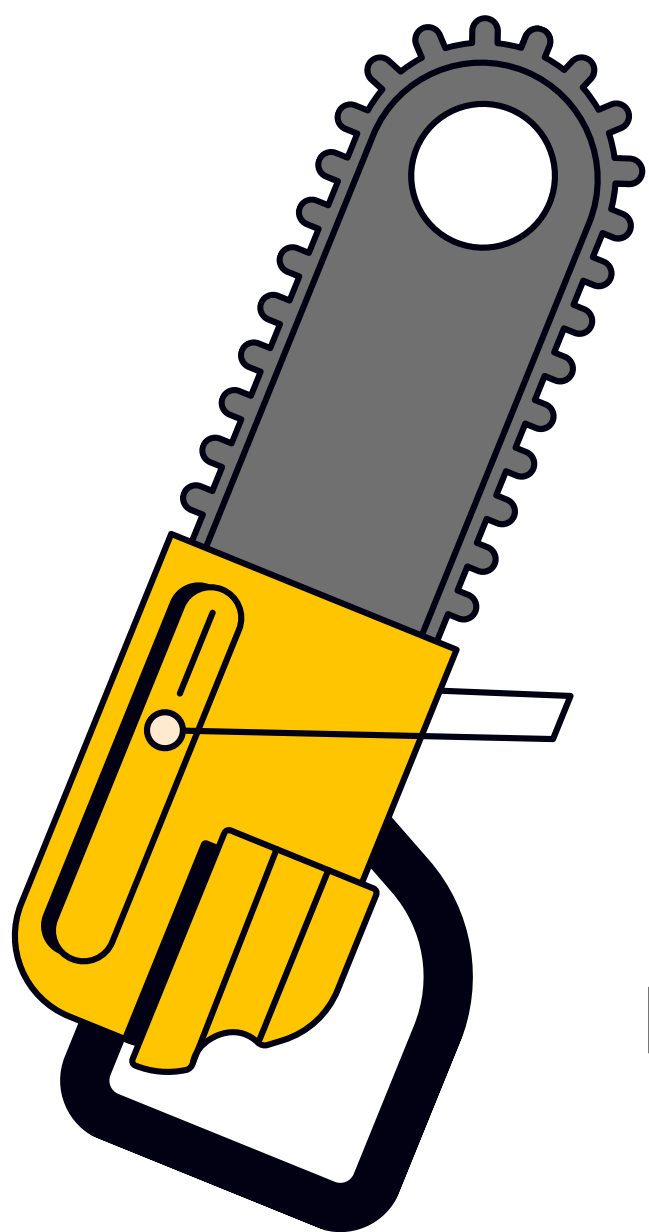
**Scan for more info on the
competition and to access a digital
Chainsaw Carving Map!**



**Chetwynd Visitor Centre
5400 North Access Rd. Chetwynd BC
250-788-1943
tourist@gochetwynd.com
www.gochetwynd.com**

Benji Waretini-Hemara

Benji is a proud carver from Vancouver, BC



He's made quite a name for himself with his stunning wooden art, excelling in competitions and garnering multiple commissions in Canada and Aotearoa.

With old tree trunks as his medium, Hemara creates intricate carvings that pay homage to the natural world, referencing the abundant wildlife found in British Columbia and his native New Zealand.

