



**Member Societies'
Annual Reports**

**as presented at
BCHF 2017 AGM,
May 27, 2017, Chilliwack BC**

**British Columbia Historical Federation
2017 Annual General Meeting: Member Society Report
British Columbia History of Nursing Society (BCHNS)
Website (www.bcnursinghistory.ca)**

Representing our society as delegates, Glennis Zilm, our President Kathy Murphy, and myself are pleased to participate in the 2017 Chilliwack Conference. In reviewing the activities of our society over the past year, I am impressed with all our achievements! In fact, they are too numerous to list in this report so I have listed just a few of the highlights. In this modern digital world, I recommend that you check us out via our Website blog, Facebook or Twitter.

The Annual Conference of the Canadian Association for the History of Nursing took place in June, in Vancouver, British Columbia. Our society was one of the sponsors of the conference which was held at St. Paul's Hospital, an acute care hospital in Vancouver. The conference had a strong international representation with presenters from several universities in Spain, several registrants from the U.S. and two attendees from the UK's Centre for History of Nursing and Midwifery. An innovative feature of the conference was a live interview with Alice Baumgart about her incredible experience as a nurse leader, and Glennis Zilm organized the successful launching and sale of newly published historical books on war, nursing and social themes.

We had a day of celebration on October 13th, 2016 when we launched our New Website with Anita Petersen, our webmaster. Our very able archivist, Francis Mansbridge, keeps our archival artifacts and documents in good order and our archive committee member, Ethel Warbinek, works diligently with Francis preparing our vast collection of Biographical files and Oral histories for posting on our website. We honoured Ethel this year with an Honorary Life Membership.

BCHNS sincerely appreciates all the *behind the scenes work* contributed by our President, executive, committee chairs and others to ensure that nursing history is collected, preserved and displayed through the website, newsletter and physical displays in buildings, public venues and professional meetings.

Respectfully submitted,

Nan Martin (nmartin7@telus.net)

April 17, 2017

**NELSON and DISTRICT MUSEUM, ARCHIVES, ART GALLERY
and
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

(a.k.a. Touchstones Nelson Museum of Art and History)

2016 in Review

- 14,750 Visitors
- 1,240 Students, Children, Youth
- 415 Archive Researchers
- 48 Accessions added to Collection
- 73 Archive research inquiries
- 550 members
- 60 Active Volunteers [3000+ hrs.]

Hired replacement Executive Director: Astrid Heyerdahl

Hired replacement Archivist: Jean-Phillippe (JP) Stienne

Farewell to long-term employees Leah Best (to RBCM) and Laura Fortier (Local History Coordinator, Saskatoon)

- A new, long term lease, storage facility located in the adjacent Post Office (Grey Building) 'Diefenbunker' was negotiated. Plans are underway to move the collection to this facility.
- Exhibition: Greetings from Nelson, Historic Postcards from the Collection, May 28 – Sept. 11
- Exhibition: Out of the Woods: a History of Forestry in the West Kootenay, Nov. 26 – Feb. 19
- Virtual Exhibit: Impact of Hydroelectric Development on the Landscape of British Columbia. A collection of colour slides taken by Ron Waters in the late 1950s to early 1980s.
- Special Project: The *Ladybird*, "Speed Queen of Kootenay Lake", built in 1922 by Walton Boat Works, achieved many boat race victories in the 20s, 30s and 40s. The *Ladybird* was donated to the Museum and with the aid of grants she was restored in 1986-87. In 2016, the *Ladybird* emerged from Museum storage and exhibited in the Road King's vintage car parade. She brought many happy memories and much excitement to members in the community.

R.J. (Ron) Welwood

OLD CEMETERIES SOCIETY OF VICTORIA

Report to BCHF for 2017

Meetings and Events

There were no Member's evenings or bus trips during 2016

The Annual General Meeting for 2016 was held on February 15, 2017 at Old Craigflower School. One of the oldest existing school houses in the province.

Ken Johnson, President of Hallmark Society, gave an illustrated talk on the history of Old Craigflower School House. He included the usage of the grounds over the years by First Nations People. He had a display of articles found on the grounds.

Projects and activities

The society's tour program included Sunday afternoon tours at Ross Bay Cemetery as well as other Greater Victoria historic cemeteries; tours for Women's History Month in October; the Annual Halloween Ghost Walk at Ross Bay Cemetery; and 5 Ghost Bus-tours at the end of October attended by about 400 people. Society tour guides also delivered approximately 22 tours to 850 persons, mainly school groups. These tours were on various themes, such as Ghost Walks, Remembrance Day, and BC history. There was a presentation to a community group and a senior's group.

Nellie Cashman Project

A Nellie Cashman project was established. We intend to commemorate the 100 year anniversary of her death with a commemorative marker. Funds are currently being gathered and a fund has been established. We have been in contact with a distant relative who has been put in charge of her memories. He visited Victoria and has approved this project.

The Research Committee continued its work on the Ross Bay Cemetery burial database and gathered material used for the Sunday tour program. Researchers attended a number of family history fairs and responded to many requests from descendants for information on gravesites and family history.

Volunteer recorders inventoried and checked over 100 Ross Bay Cemetery monuments while 70 monuments received cleaning during the year. A student under contract has entered about 8000 photos into our data base.

BC Historical Federation Conference

The British Columbia Historical Federation held its annual conference in Revelstoke on May 27 & 28 of 2016. A number of OCS members attended. This included bus trips to the Revelstoke Hydro Dam and to Rogers Pass.

Booths

We had a booth at the Black History Event, Buccaneer Days and the Family History Seminar. At these events, we answer questions about the final resting place of relatives & friends. We distribute our Sunday tour schedule.

Office volunteers continue to organize the photograph collection, biography files and obituaries in the office.

Marker Repairs

A number of grave markers were subject to varying degrees of refurbishing.

Old Burying Ground Revitalization

From 2012 continuing on into 2017 your executive was involved on City of Victoria advisory committees for both Ross Bay Cemetery and The Old Burying Ground. The revitalization of the Old Burying Ground commenced in 2013 with phase 1 & 2 being completed. The city has work scheduled for phases 3 over the next two years, depending on funding. This is a work in progress depending on funds with no action occurring in 2016.

Membership is now at about 175. We attracted about a dozen new members this year.

I would like to thank the hard working executive for all their support and effort.

Lastly I would like to thank all the volunteers and members that help to make this group the success it is.

Thank you.

Gerry F. Buydens

President, Old Cemeteries Society of Victoria

May 20, 2017