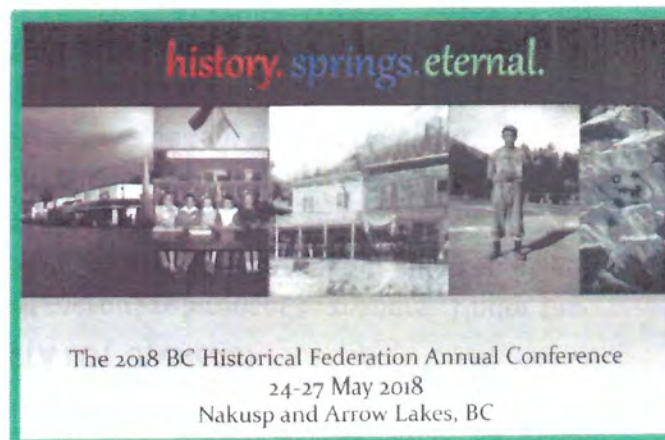


BCHF

BRITISH COLUMBIA
HISTORICAL FEDERATION

Members' Annual Reports

Conference 2018



AGM

Thursday, February 1, 2018

Bamfield Community School

5:00 pm

Opening remarks: Welcome and thank you for coming.

Minutes from previous AGM: Rae Hopkins

Treasurer's Report: Shirley Pakula

Report from Chair: Heather Cooper

This past year has again seen many successes.

- Our Annual Exhibit was a retrospective of selected banners from past exhibits. These included *100 Years of Lifesaving at Sea; Transportation & Supply Vessels of Barkley Sound; The Women of Bamfield; Fishing in Bamfield; Sharing our Stories* and *The Life and Legacy of R. Bruce Scott*. They spanned nine years of exhibits by the Bamfield Community Museum and Archives.
- Our Annual membership drive was again a success. We currently have 65 members. Thanks go out to the group of directors, including Christine Gruman, Shirley Pakula and Stella Wenstob for putting together the Bamfield Tide Chart as a thank you to members. Clay Evans, one of our directors, made a presentation on Lifesaving. Clay, who is a former OIC of the Bamfield Lifeboat Station and currently resides in Victoria, is also on the board for the Maritime Museum of BC in Victoria, and served as chair in recent years.
- The society continues to be a member in good standing of the BC Historical Federation. The AGM is to be held this May in Nakusp. It's a great opportunity to network with other societies. There is a sense that we are making a mark for our society outside of Bamfield. It was gratifying to hear a CBC radio fan mention us on Cheryl McKay's weekend morning show, North by Northwest and say that she has a greater feel for her family's history in Bamfield as a result of our efforts. The Tofino-Clayoquot Heritage Society has also reached out to us for collaboration saying that they "could learn a lot from how well the Bamfield Historical Society has taken advantage of an online platform to reach a wide audience with digitized collections."
- Thanks go out to Ian Wallace, one of our directors, who spent two days in the archives room with me, transferring files into our new archival storage containers, which were a result of the money we received following Judith Phillip's successful application to the Terry Reksten Memorial Fund last year.
- A group of directors and members have been working on content for our sign project, 10 interpretive panels that will go up on permanent display around the community. We have reached out to Huu-ay-aht First Nations and the Chamber of Commerce as partners.
- For the second time Chris Neufeld brought a group of university students to access our archives for their projects. One of the things that fascinated them was our newspaper clipping files and the ease of finding what they were looking for.

- I made a presentation to Kristin Russell's class of students on the anniversary of Minnie Paterson's efforts to rescue the crew of the Coloma, during a storm at Cape Beale in December 1906. The students were engaged and keen to learn. Kristin and I quizzed them at the end and they didn't miss a single question. I look forward to the society working with the students in the future.
- Bamfield Community School Association, our partner in the archives, applied for two students through Canada Summer Jobs program this past year. The Bamfield Historical Society paid for part of the salary of one of the students who assisted with scanning and archiving. We are grateful to two community members who have contacted us to offer volunteer time in the archives room. We will work towards training them in the near future.
- Judith Phillips and I have, for the past several years, donated proceeds, after expenses of our book, *Bamfield Houses*. We have been told that the summer interpreters on the Francis Barkley promote the book to the passengers on the ship. Consequently, the Bamfield Mercantile and Marine, in particular, sell a great many of the books in their store. We are grateful to all the merchants who have sold them over the years and who take only a small sum of money for doing so. Neither Judith nor I have ever made and money from the book, and indeed have spent money on its production but we would like to confirm that we will continue to donate the proceeds this year as the book has provided substantial income for the society and as such is worthwhile.

Election of Directors

Call for Adjournment

British Columbia Historical Federation
2018 Annual General Meeting: Member Society Report
British Columbia History of Nursing Society (BCHNS)
Website (www.bcnursinghistory.ca)

Our mission is to discover, disseminate, and preserve BC's nursing history.

In 1989 interested registered nurses banded together and formed the B.C. History of Nursing Professional Practice Group under the umbrella of the Registered Nurses Association of BC (now the College of Registered Nurses of BC.)

In 2008 the organization became registered under the Society Act of BC and is now known as the B.C. History of Nursing Society (BCHNS). The majority of members are B.C. registered nurses and nursing students, but membership also includes groups, nurses, researchers, historians and nursing students from across Canada. An active membership is essential in order to meet our goals.

I have copied the above statements from the first page of our website. Although last year we accomplished much of our mandate, we are beginning to recognize that, after 29 years, our legacy is in jeopardy and we must try to generate continued interest in keeping our society alive. In the last year, two similar groups, one in Manitoba and one in Ottawa, disbanded. The reason is essentially aging of the main contributors and declining membership numbers.

We are fortunate to have our office and archival holdings in the School of Nursing at the University of British Columbia. We work closely with the school and recently partnered with them in an extremely successful Nursing History Symposium. One of our valued members, Ethel Warbinek, along with Francis Mansbridge, our archivist, completed the UBC School of Nursing Fonds, dating from 1921 to 2004, comprising of nineteen boxes of records that illuminate much of the history of the beginning of the School in October 1919.

We continue to showcase our society at professional meetings and venues, offer scholarships to nursing history students, produce a newsletter three times a year and maintain an appealing website.

BCHNS sincerely appreciates all the *behind the scenes* work contributed by our President, Board of Directors, committee chairs and others who offer their help to our society.

Respectfully submitted, Nan Martin, Archives Chair, BC History of Nursing Society

Cowichan Valley Museum & Archives | Cowichan Historical Society

The Cowichan Valley Museum & Archives has undergone a dramatic transformation thanks to an \$81,000 Canada 150 grant and collaboration with André & Associates Interpretation and Design. The project received community support from local businesses, governments and organizations. The Canada 150 Project's title, *Many Families in One House: Diverse communities in the Cowichan Valley*, is the result of a decade of collaborations with community members who were previously underrepresented. Their stories are featured in a permanent Asian Canadian gallery and an enhanced First Nations gallery, in which we continue to promote the preservation the Hul'q'umi'num' language. The renovation has given us an opportunity to offer fresh interpretation of our exhibits and improve the visitor experience to better meet changing needs and expectations. An attractive new entrance through new double doors, designed in the architectural style of the train station by Wescon Doors, enhances the street presence of the museum and provides better access for people with mobility challenges. **Supported by the Province of British Columbia through the *British Columbia | Canada 150: Celebrating B.C. Communities and their Contributions to Canada* grant program.**

Do You Remember Me?, a short video about Asian Canadian communities in the Cowichan Valley, was developed by André & Associates, Langara College intern Alexandra Sia, and the museum. The video introduces visitors to the often-difficult history of Asian Canadians, including Mayo Singh's logging town of Paldi, Duncan's Chinatown, the uprooting of people of Japanese ancestry from the Cowichan Valley, and the story of the Cowichan Intercultural Society. The new galleries provide an excellent springboard for developing and delivering school programming in response to the new K-12 curriculum, with its focus on inclusion of previously ignored voices.

Since 2007, our organization has been championing the preservation of the **Elkington House**, located on the Nature Conservancy of Canada's Cowichan Garry Oak Preserve. This year, our organization supported the newly established Oak Park Society, whose mandate is to see the house rehabilitated and repurposed as a destination for the public in which programming and interpretation of the site play an essential role.

The City of Duncan funds the museum's **Totem Tour Program and Duncan Info Centre Program** to better meet the needs of visitors to Duncan's historic downtown. In the summer months, free hourly tours are offered. The museum is housed in the heritage designated Duncan Train Station, a landmark building that draws people to visit, many of them with tourism-related inquiries.

Drs. Imogene Lim (Vancouver Island University, Nanaimo) and Tusa Shea (University of Victoria), and Curator/Manager Kathryn Gagnon co-curated **150 Years and Counting: Fighting for Justice on the Coast**, a traveling social justice exhibit commissioned by the University of Victoria's Asian Canadians on Vancouver Island: Race, Indigeneity and the Transpacific SSHRC funded project. The exhibit was featured most recently at the 2018 Heritage BC Conference in New Westminster as part of a presentation by the co-curators.

The museum was invited to co-host, along with the Paldi Gurdwara, a community consultation for the **Punjabi Canadian Legacy Project** to which members of the Punjabi Canadian community were invited to share their stories in an effort to document the contributions of the community to the history of BC and Canada. The Royal BC Museum, in partnership with the University of the Fraser Valley and the South Asian Studies Institute, organized the event.

NELSON and DISTRICT MUSEUM, ARCHIVES, ART GALLERY
and
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
(a.k.a. Touchstones Nelson Museum of Art and History)

2017 in Review

- 15,550 Visitors
- 1,500 Students, Children, Youth
- 565 Members (100 new Members in 2017)
- 75 Active Volunteers [3,550+ hrs]
- 41 Accessions added to Collection
- 133 Archive research inquiries

VISION: An inclusive society inspired by the convergence of art and history.

MISSION: To be a cultural hub that provides integrative art and regional history programs to encourage new perspectives and foster a collaborative community.

- Jean-Philippe (JP) Stienne began as Archivist and Collections Manager in January
- Nelson Family History Talks: February and June
- Historical Treasures sale raised over \$7,000 in support of the collections move from the old museum on Anderson Street to the new Bunker site in the Post Office adjacent to the current museum. Over 60% of the collection has been moved and the remainder of the collection will be relocated in 2018
- The Bunker and Collections Move project received support from the City of Nelson and from a Columbia Basin Trust Heritage Assets grant
- First World War Kootenay Soldiers Photograph Project — over 200 photos of WWI soldiers featured in a photograph album were identified by a dedicated SFU student during the summer of 2017. These photos and brief biographies are available online via Touchstones' Flickr website and have received over 90,000 views. Over 3.7 million hits have been received on this Flickr website since its launch in 2010
- Exhibition: *George A. Meers, Nelson, BC* — photographs, Mar. 4 – May 21
- Exhibition: *River Relations* — a multi-disciplinary investigation into the ecological and social impact of hydroelectric dams on the Columbia River, Sept. 23 – Nov. 12
- Exhibition: *Art Deco in Modern Times* — public and private buildings in Nelson, 1920-1950, Nov. 18 – Feb. 11
- Exhibition: Women's Suffrage in collaboration with the Women's Centre, April
- Touchstones Nelson hosted three Book Launches in 2017

R. J. (Ron) Welwood

North Shuswap Historical Society Report

Loretta Greenough

Our last year has been busy and successful. We continue to have a good turn out at our Historical Photo Shows. We held one in March as usual and again in July for Canada Day. We also held an Open House at the museum T & L Reflections – a Little Museum in Scotch Creek and had a great turn out. The day was filled with activities such as making butter, cross cut sawing, sewing on a treadle machine, washing clothes on a scrub board etc. Fun was had by all.

Our members were also working on the editing of Volume #11 of the Shuswap Chronicles. It is presently at the printers and should be in the stores soon.

We were pleased to receive two grants – one for the Canada Day Celebrations and Photo show and the second one to improve the museum. We have new shelves and displays and now have a security alarm system in the museum. Both grants were greatly appreciated.

Our Pot Lucks in Dec and June are always popular as well as our yearly Mystery Trip. Our regular programs at our monthly meetings continue to be varied with numbers attending ranging from fifteen to thirty.

Report from the Victoria Historical Society, 2017-2018

We regret that very few members of the Victoria Historical Society are present at this conference. The late May date conflicts with our annual general meeting which is booked well in advance for the fourth Thursday of May.

We have about 120 paid-up members and an average attendance of 80 at our monthly meetings. We attribute this to the quality of our speakers, to the variety of the topics, and to an effective publicity program. Not only do our talks appeal to our members, but they also attract community members as visitors. A talk on the early history of the Dominion Astrophysical Observatory, for example, drew people interested in astronomy. We charge visitors a \$5 admission fee, but give them a credit, if they take out a regular membership at the next meeting. We publicize our meetings through rack cards placed in local libraries and recreation centres and through notices in local newspapers and magazines that carry free announcements of coming events.

We have a newsletter and send out e-mail notices of related historical events in the community. We also have two outings a year. One is usually a day trip to a local historic site and the other, an overnight trip. Last year, a group visited Fort Nisqually in Washington State.

We hope that in the future the BCHF conference will not conflict with our meeting and that the Victoria Historical Society will, as in the past, be well represented at the annual BCHF conference.

*Our losses this year
(in April)*

*Geoff Castle
Pen Brown*