

Trails Sites and Personages Committee report for 2018-19.

Part 'A' Report on Warburton Pike Monument

Report on progress of Pike Monument, May 5, 2019

The 2018–19 Trails, Sites and Personages Committee agreed to concentrate on building a modest monument to Warburton Pike, explorer, hunter, miner, entrepreneur and gentleman on Saturna Island, the most southerly of the Gulf Islands. We formed a joint committee with three members representing Saturna and four representing the BCHF. We had four meetings, September, October, November 2018 and January when the following was agreed:

Agreed on location site of old Pike cottage at Thompson Bay on Saturna Island.
Agreed on a sandstone boulder about 4 ft. long to be placed into the ground.
Agreed on 3X3 inch bronze casting made of Pike's head in three dimensions.
Agreed on a brass plaque about 14 X 16 inches upon which to put the cap that will be fixed to the stone.

We have found that the casting is extremely expensive and have decided to do the 3D art work ourselves, which is technical and difficult.

Our group is very dedicated and has collectively put in many hours of research both with the various libraries and on the ground. So far the Saturna Community are enthusiastic and on board. There is no indication of any negative back lash against the project.

The project could possibly be finished by the fall of 2019 but may take until May 1, 2020 to finalize all the finishing details.

The BCHF has offered a sum of \$2,500 toward the construction of this particular monument but it will probably cost a little more. The cost of everything is rising.

Part 'B' Report on the new proposed Canadian Chinese Museum, April 2019

Chinese Museum

On January 26, 2019 I attended an informational meeting In Victoria's China Town to hear and discuss the plans for a Chinese Canadian Museum in B.C. I attended partly for my personal interest in the subject but also as a member of the Trails, Sites and Personages Committee of the BCHF. I wondered if there was any part that our federation could play because so many of our members are knowledgeable about the old ghost towns and Chinese communities in B.C.

The room was packed for two separate sessions with about 150 people attending our first session. There seemed to be far more Chinese people there than any others.

It was suggested that they had four possibilities in mind:

An on line museum - cost 5 million dollars

A living museum & visitor center with tours - cost 5-10 million dollars

A history museum with permanent and temporary exhibitions - cost 50- 100 million dollars

A history museum and culture center with public programs and Chinese language education - cost 50-100 million dollars.

They suggested that a hub system could be worked out with Vancouver being the large central hub, Victoria a smaller hub and Kamloops and Quesnel being smaller still. Cumberland might have a small center as well.

The meeting was very well organized and the Chinese Museum group has a pretty good idea where they want to go and what they want to do. It is a very big project. The Chinese people in attendance were extremely enthusiastic about the prospect outlined.

As this project falls broadly under the 'SITES' division of Trails, Sites and Monuments Committee, we would like to recommend that our Federation send a letter of support for the new Museum.

Respectfully submitted John Whittaker and Tom Lymbery
Trails, Sites and Personage Committee