



2018 STAFF REPORT
TO THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF
THE SUMMERLAND MUSEUM AND ARCHIVES SOCIETY
MARCH 9, 2019

We are pleased to advise that we had 3,153 visitors at the museum in 2018 (roughly a 73% increase from 2017). We also saw an 80% increase in volunteer hours with 4,380 hours logged in 2018. We had 4,538 visitors to our website and 11,100 page views. We also gained 833 social media followers on Facebook and Instagram.

We had some great (but temporary) additions to our staff thanks to grants from Young Canada Works and the BC Rural Dividend Fund. Sydney Dunn was our Summer Program Coordinator who facilitated history programs for children throughout the summer. Julien Butler was hired as our Archivist Intern for six months. Chad Douglas was hired as a Fundraising Consultant to develop a Fundraising Needs Assessment and Action Plan. We also had a work experience student from Summerland Secondary School for the winter semester who helped with archival and digitization work.

Archives Registrar Stephanie Normandeau and Archivist Intern Julien Butler made a huge amount of progress on our backlog of unaccessioned artifacts and archival documents stored in the RCMP basement. They accessioned 916 objects (693 photos and 223 artifacts) into our permanent collection and attended to over 200 other objects. Roughly 80% of the work involved in the backlog of objects stored at the RCMP basement has been completed. Staff also answered over 40 research requests in 2018.

Our photograph collection and some other archival materials are now far safer due to the decision to purchase five fireproof cabinets. Staff, students, and volunteers worked hard to reorganize our backroom and transfer the collection into the new cabinets.

Through our partnership with the University of British Columbia, more archival documents have been digitized and are available online in their Digitized Okanagan History repository at: <https://doh.arcabc.ca/islandora/object/summer%3Aroot>

Staff and volunteers worked hard last year to increase our community engagement, facilitate meaningful presentations, and fundraise. Some of the activities we put on last year included: Exploring Family History Workshop by Judith Chidlow, Vimy Ridge presentation by Paul Randall, Appraisal Day, screening of *A River Film*, exhibit opening of *Summerland Remembers the Defenders of the Empire*, cemetery tours by David Gregory, René Goldman presentation, book signing by Karen Autio and Loraine Kemp, Summerland's War Brides presentation with the Legion, Remembrance Day programming, and our "Light at the Museum" fundraising campaign. The museum was also involved in Summerland's Fall Fair, Action Festival, Ryga Festival, Festival of Lights, Summerland Rotary Pioneer Tea, and Heritage Week.


Staff and directors spent a significant amount of time on updating our collections management policies, terms of references for committees, adopting a governance structure, branding, and developing a three-year strategic plan.

We are continually working on putting more archival resources online. We uploaded issues of the *Summerland Review* from 1908 to 1929 on our website, as well as several letters sent from Clarence Gordon McDougald during his service in World War One. We have also made it possible to donate and renew memberships online.

We would like to thank the District of Summerland for their continued support through our annual operating grant and in-kind services. We are grateful to the following granting agencies for their support: BC Rural Dividend Fund, Young Canada Works, Community Foundation of the South Okanagan Similkameen, and the Regional District of the South Okanagan. We would also like to thank the community for their generous donations, the Summerland Legion Branch 22 for their donation and partnership, our society members, the local media, and our dedicated volunteers.

Respectfully submitted,

Curator, Claire Macdonald  _____

Archives Registrar, Stephanie Normandeau  _____