

SUMMERLAND MUSEUM & ARCHIVES SOCIETY

Winter 2017

Wishing you a Happy Holiday!

The Summerland Museum and Archives Society is fortunate to have two very talented and skilled staff members. Stephanie Normandeau is the Archival Registrar. Her focus this year is to catalogue the backlog of artifacts in the Museum and RCMP basement. Steph has a three-year technical degree in documentation from College de Maisonneuve, Montreal. Previously, she was an Archives Intern at the National Archives of Quebec. Steph started working at the Museum in October, 2016. She is presently working full-time. Claire Macdonald started working at the museum on November 1, 2017 as the Administrator. Claire works three days a week. She has a Masters of Public Administration and a Bachelor of Arts degree in History in Art and Indigenous Studies from the University of Victoria. Both young women bring enthusiasm, vitality and expertise to their work at the museum.

We have many projects planned for 2018 and are looking forward to a fresh new year. If one of your New Year's Resolutions is to become more involved in your community, consider volunteering at the Museum or running to be a Board Director in March, 2018!

Sandy Nicolson, Board President



*Smith and Henry
building at the
west end of Main
Street, with one of
their trucks parked in
the lot with a load of
Christmas trees on it.*

ca. 1920

1981-075-
002





*St. Stephen's Anglican Church in winter and at night.
Photographer: Harry Killick. ca. 1962, 1978-830-001*

Accomplishments in 2017

- New Museum and Archives Society Facebook page
- New Museum and Archives website (it is live, but still under construction). Thank-you to Charlie Mayer for assisting in its development.
- Women's Suffrage Exhibit: Thank-you to Joanne Poirier for the lovely costumes.
- New Bylaws to be presented at the AGM
- Five Directors attended the Governance Workshop sponsored by the Penticton Chamber of Commerce. The presenter was Deb McLelland, Executive Director of Kamloops Chamber of Commerce. Due to the enthusiastic feedback from the participants, the Summerland Chamber is looking into sponsoring the Governance Workshop next spring.
- Significant progress in documenting the artifacts in the RCMP basement into the Collection. Thank-you to Steph, our Archival Registrar, for doing such a great job on this.
- Various tours, including the Geology tours which were so popular that extra tours had to be added!
- Updating our Policy Manual (an ongoing work in progress)
- Participated in the Open Doors event and delivered a hands-on presentation regarding accessioning artifacts
- Weekly contributions to the Early Years in the Summerland Review

Get Involved

We have been updating our volunteer program. We have many opportunities for those interested in volunteering. We are looking for more volunteers with expertise in Summerland history, greeters, fundraising, archives, website development, social media, school tours, etc. Please contact Carol Stathers, Volunteer Coordinator, or stop by to pick up a volunteer form at the Museum. Forms will also be available at the AGM.



*A decorated Christmas tree likely from the 1930s.
ca. 1930, 1997-051-001*





Kay Fenwick Treadgold getting ready to hand out flyers to visit the Museum during the Festival of Lights 2017.

Community Involvement

The Museum has enjoyed being an active participant in the following community events:

- Festival of Lights: We are excited to share that we had over 300 visitors to the museum during the Festival of Lights! Thanks to the Arts Council for partnering with us on this. Also, thanks to Melissa Stathers and Heather Treadgold for their artistic talents; Joanne Poirier for the beautiful tree decorating; Karen Halliday and Jen Wheaton of The Service Station @ The Lakeside Church for loaning us their popcorn machine; and to Directors Carol Stathers, Linda Holman, Kay Treadgold, and Ron Rosher, and staff Stephanie Normandeau and Claire Macdonald for running the event.
- Heritage Week and Earth Week
- Thank-you to David Gregory for his contributions to Summerland by leading historical tours and making presentations at various events around our community, including: Geology Tours, Earth Week, Meadowlark Festival, Tours of Lowertown and Lowertown Marsh, Brigade Tour, Millionaire's Row, Pioneers Tea, Heritage Week, the Blossom Pageant, Okanagan Pictographs, Pierre Family History, Trails of the Okanagan, and Tea on Top 2017.

Community Events for 2018

The Museum is looking forward to participating in more community events in 2018. These will include Heritage Week, Action Festival, Remembrance Day, and the Festival of Lights. Beginning in 2018, regularly check our website for additional events we plan.

Methodist Church Christmas production of "Cinderella and the Prince." ca. 1915, 1976-370-001



Education Programs

We had so much fun delivering education programs on immigration, early pioneers, and First Nations (Sylix people) to Primary and Intermediate students. We had five Grade 4/5 classes and four Primary classes from Giants Head Elementary. Thank-you to the teachers and students for making this such a great success. Also thank-you to the Museum Directors, staff, and volunteers, Ron Smith and Joan Davidson, for assisting with the program. The train was highly enjoyed by the students, thank-you to the 'Train Guys' Ron Rosher, Neil Trainer, and Harry Hutchinson. Last, but not least, we are thankful to Bernice Shiosaki for donating artifacts for the Japanese display.



Students on the steps of Trout Creek School. ca. 1916 or 1917, 1976-014-003

New Exhibitions Planned

Volunteers Paul and Eunice Randall have been working hard on our next exhibit ***Summerland: Defenders of the Empire.*** Opening June 1, 2018 we are exploring what happened in Summerland nearly a century ago as the First World War drew to a close.

The Museum is also in discussion with the Kettle Valley Steam Railway and The Service Station @ The Lakeside Church regarding the possibility of creating small satellite exhibits at these other locations. We think this would be a great way to increase awareness of the Museum and have our Collections enjoyed by more people!

Need a last minute gift?

Come check out the gift shop at the Museum! We have beautiful mugs, coasters, fridge magnets, cards, and many great books about Summerland and the Okanagan for history lovers!



*George Dale,
WWI.
ca. 1915
1986-102-003*





Dorothy Britton and Rita Hermiston, trying out recipes and baking a pie and muffins. ca. 1960s, 1991-107-001

A Pioneer Recipe for the Holidays

Pioneer ladies brought recipes with them from their former homes. These are still in use by descendants and their friends.

MRS. GARTRELL'S GINGER COOKIES

1 cup shortening (lard best)	1 cup sugar
1 cup molasses	1/2 cup cold water
1 tsp soda (in cup of water)	1 tbs ginger
1 tbs cinnamon	4 cups flour

Make fairly stiff dough. Roll and cut and bake.

You can see that only basic instructions were written down for these old recipes. A cook had to use her brains when following them. The modern (lazy) way to make these cookies is to make them into refrigerator rolls and slice and bake them.

Excerpt from *Will you Have a Cup of Tea? Or Summerland Grows, 1905-06-07* by Summerland Museum Archivists. Composition by Mary Kidd, printed by New Horizon Printing & Stationary, Summerland, 1992.

Oldtimers Tales and Others

Bert Simpson

The first Christmas bird census for the South Okanagan was taken by Joe Liddell, Eric Tait and myself. During that time other observers joined us and a larger area was covered. For the past few years the census has been taken by the South Okanagan Naturalist Club and they were able to cover many more miles than we did in our pioneer venture.

An amusing incident happened on one of the bird counts. Jack Fossick and I arrived at Major Bill Tweedy's gate just as he came to get his mail. He said it was a deuced cold day, and for sure we needed a drink. So to his house we went. He poured us drinks of rum and we sat and talked. Our glasses were empty and he said, "You can't fly on one wing," so we had another round. When we were ready to leave he said that the third drink would keep us warm for the rest of the hike, so down it went. When Jack and I walked down Prairie Valley Road I wondered if we could tell the difference between a mudhen and a magpie. However, we both agreed that we had a very enjoyable time with the major.

Excerpt from *Will you Have a Cup of Tea? Or Summerland Grows, 1905-06-07* by Summerland Museum Archivists.

