

# SUMMERLAND MUSEUM & ARCHIVES

Spring 2018 Newsletter

## A Note from the President

Welcome to all our new Society members and to those who have renewed their memberships.

Happy Spring! If you are like me, you have been out in your yard cleaning up from the winter and getting things ready for the spring and summer. Plants are emerging after the long winter and flowers are starting to bloom. I am thinking the same about the museum. With all the work the Board and staff did over the past year, I believe we have cleaned up our 'yard' and produced a good, solid base for a productive year to come.

Our hard work and long hours of debate paid off when the new bylaws were passed at the AGM on March 10<sup>th</sup>. With those in place, we have a firm foundation for moving forward. Our Collection Management Policy was passed by the Board on February 15<sup>th</sup>. Both documents are on the museum website ([www.summerlandmuseum.org](http://www.summerlandmuseum.org)). The Three Year Strategic Plan will be available shortly. With that in place, we have a roadmap for moving forward over the next three years. We realize that things and priorities change and have built in the ability to adjust the plan accordingly. As well, the following committees are being formed and will be up and running very soon: Governance, Financial, Nominations, and Community Involvement.

We welcome new Director Greg Richardson to the Board and bid a sad farewell to Carol Stathers and David Hanna. Carol has taken on more of the responsibility of recruiting awesome museum volunteers and working with staff in planning events for the museum, such as Appraisal Day and the Researching Family History Workshop with Judith Chidlow. David is planning a 'road trip' to Newfoundland. Carol and David, your contribution to the Board of 2017 is greatly appreciated, and you will both be missed. We also welcome Chad Douglas, who has been hired through a B.C. Rural Development Grant, to head up a fundraising campaign for the museum. We are looking forward to working with him. We need all the help we can get to maintain the staff, the collection, and the programs as well as to increase our contribution to the community of Summerland.

## Board Positions

**President:** Kay Treadgold  
**Vice President:** Dave Hill  
**Treasurer:** Linda Haddrell  
**Secretary:** Linda Holman  
**Director:** Sandy Nicolson  
**Director:** David Gregory  
**Director:** Ron Rosher  
**Director:** Greg Richardson

*There are still two spots open on the Board. If you are interested in history and community involvement, consider joining!*



c. 1938. Chrysanthemums grown inside a greenhouse at the Research Station.  
1989-042-002



March 10: Packed house at the AGM!

## Meet our work experience student!

We are so excited about our work experience student from Summerland Secondary School—Justice! She is a great addition to the team and has been a huge help in digitization and organizing the clothing in our collection.

## Community Involvement

From January to April, we have been busy putting on the following events. We are thankful to everyone who helped in organizing these events and to those who participated in them.

- **Presentations** to the Blossom Pageant candidates, Rotary, the Municipal Council, and a history class from Summerland Secondary School
- **Heritage Week:** Exploring Family History workshop by Judith Chidlow, window displays in Main Street businesses, and a display at The Service Station @ The Lakeside Church for Joe Smuin's presentation on the Trout Creek Canyon Bridge
- **AGM** and sneak preview of the upcoming WWI exhibit by Paul Randall
- **Water Week:** Screenings of *A River Film* and presentation by Brian Symonds
- **Participated in the Tourism Showcase** for the Summerland Chamber of Commerce
- **Vimy Ridge Presentation** by Paul Randall
- **Appraisal Day** with Peter and Marian Blundell



Justice, work experience student

## Highlighted Volunteer: Judith Chidlow

Judith Chidlow became a museum volunteer in 2010.

She coordinates the museum's family files. Family files have been created on many pioneer and other families in Summerland. They contain information such as names, dates of birth, marriages, deaths, photos, stories and more. Judith researches, updates, and summarizes the files as needed.

Judith is also the Program Director of the South Okanagan Genealogy Society. She recently did a workshop at the museum on researching family histories, which was very well attended.

Previously, Judith worked in many different types of libraries. She relocated to Summerland after her retirement in 2006.

If you have information about your family to add to a file or want to see if there is a family file already created, contact the museum. Judith can also be reached through the museum if you have questions.



February 19: Exploring Family History workshop by Judith Chidlow

## Great News!

We recently hired a Fundraising Consultant, Chad Douglas, through the BC Rural Dividend grant. He has an MBA and a breadth of management experience in tourism, events, sales, and non-profit organizations. We believe that his business and financial background coupled with his local knowledge will make him very successful in this position. He will develop a Fundraising Needs Assessment and Action Plan and implement fundraising activities over the next several months.

## Get Involved

Greeters are needed on Saturdays! Contact the museum if you are interested!



c. 1908. Review Office. 2005-030-001

## Other News

- The microfilm of Summerland Review issues from 1908 to 1929 have been digitized, and they are available on our website under “Archives & Collections.”
- The Women’s Institute materials (excluding those related to Summerland) have been moved to UBCO where they will be digitized and made more accessible to the public.
- The museum had their taxidermy collection inspected by a taxidermy professional who found that all of the test subjects were infected with carpet beetle. He recommended that they be removed to prevent further damage to the museum’s collections and to end health risks. Fumigation was not a viable option due to its unreliable success rate, cost, and health risks; additionally, the animals were already decomposed from the infestation. On review of the professional’s inspection report, the Board made a motion to have the taxidermy removed in accordance with the museum’s Collections Policy. The animals were a great addition to the museum, and their presence will surely be missed.

# Summerland's Pageant History

It's almost time for this year's Blossom Pageant Coronation, so we wanted to celebrate this long-standing program by sharing photos of past Summerland royalty.



c. 1946. Summerland's first Fall Fair Queen, Joan Nisbet.  
1997-653-001



c. 1968. Katy Evans crowning the incoming Queen, Lynn Gartrell.  
1991-025-001



c. 1981. Blossom Queen Kathy Nakagawa passing on the crown to her sister, Mary. 1991-106-001



Candidates for the 1966 Miss Summerland Pageant: Pat Gillespie, Gail Palmer, Griselda Evans, Rita Rusaw, Dianne Selinger, Judy Steele, Donna Holmes, Areta Caldwell. 2012-004-025