

*"You don't know where you're going
until you know where you've been"*

BOUNDARY MUSEUM & INTERPRETIVE CENTRE

Autumn Newsletter

October 2016

A Word from President Lee Derhousoff

Hi everyone,

On May 14, 2016, I was elected by the Museum membership to sit on the 2016/2017 Board of Directors. Subsequently, at the June meeting, I was elected President following the resignation of President Joe Mottishaw who was moving from Grand Forks. Then, at our July meeting, we experienced a major upset when three Board members resigned. We have now appointed, as outlined in the Constitution and By-Laws, four Museum members to fill the vacancies.

We are nearing completion of one major project that has gone digital, that being **Bob's Tool Room**, the Museum's first Digital Collection Management project that will see a touch screen application for the visitors to view over 1,000 accessioned hand tools in four categories. With employment funding from Young Canada Works, summer student Emma Chapman led the team consisting of Les Johnson acting as volunteer IT supervisor, wood carver David Bevan from the Boundary Woodworkers Guild and myself, developing this new exhibit has been truly amazing. It will eventually be accessible through the Museum's website for viewers to access from anywhere in the world.

Our next priority is to complete the exhibits in the Black Hawk Livery Exhibition Building and review the proposal to add 60' to our 40 X 40 building to house our ever growing restored antique transportation collection. Also, we have acquired more artifacts that have to be accessioned.

We have a lot of work to complete over the coming year to be visitor ready for the 2017 tourist season. Only through grant funding, donations and volunteer time can this be accomplished.

I extend a warm welcome to returning Director Monica Coleshill and newly appointed Directors Dave Dittrich, Bob McTavish and Sam Semenov. I look forward to working with this seemingly eager team to carry on the outstanding work by our many predecessors to continue featuring the Boundary Museum and Interpretive Centre's historical overview of the Boundary that is growing and becoming a much sought after destination to visit.



Left to right top row: Sam Semenov, Dave Dittrich, Bob McTavish
Inserted: Monica Coleshill, Laura Lodder, Lee Derhousoff, Kathy Rush

Bob's Tool Room

For the first time in its history, the Boundary Museum unveiled a digital exhibit being brought to life. This exhibit will display a collection of over 1000 non-motorized hand tools which was generously donated by the DeMaertelaere family. The project, dubbed "Bob's Tool Room", in honour of the late Bob DeMaertelaere, is currently in its final stages with a touch screen application and overhead track lighting to be completed. David Bevan of the Boundary Woodworker's Guild provided his expertise on the tools, Lee Derhousoff accessioned the artifacts, and Les Johnson and Emma Chapman worked on the programming for the digital exhibit. Young Canada Works funding allowed the Museum to hire a local student studying Computer Sciences at UBC-Okanagan Campus.



Top Left: Sign for the Black Hawk Livery Exhibition Building created by the Guild.
Bottom Left: David Bevan delivers the two place carriage in November 2015.
Top Right: The Team working on accessioning artifacts for Bob's Tool Room.

Boundary Woodworker's Guild

The Boundary Woodworker's Guild was incorporated on January 17th 2007. Members of the guild volunteer countless hours working in partnership with the City of Grand Forks and the Boundary Museum & Interpretive Centre.

In 2007, the Boundary Museum & Interpretive Centre granted the Woodworker's Guild a permanent workshop space on Donaldson Drive, originally designed by the City for use by the museum. Since then the Woodworker's Guild and the Museum have had an amiable relationship, with members of the Guild donating hours upon hours of their time working on projects for the museum.

Some of the Guild's most notable restoration projects include the Concord Stage Coach, the Burns Wagon, and the McLaughlin One Horse Sleigh. The Stage Coach was a particular challenge for the Guild, being their first large restoration project for the Museum. Members pooled their knowledge and skills together to complete the piece, learning new things along the way. The Coach made its debut at the 2013 Fall Fair Parade.

Not merely limited to restoration, the Guild has also made unique pieces for the museum completely from scratch. One of the very first exploits they embarked upon was to build cabinets to display some of the smaller artifacts in the collection. The most recent of the notable contributions by the Woodworker's Guild is the work done by David Bevan on the new project "**Bob's Tool Room**". Without the help of the Guild this project would surely not have been possible!



Highlights of 2016

Spotlight on

Doukhobor Culture

February 2016

In honour of **BC Heritage Week** the Boundary Museum showcased *The History and Culture of the Doukhobor People*. The Fructova school site was divided into six venues, each designed to present an aspect of Doukhobor culture. The first venue was traditional bread making outside at the brick bread oven. Venue two served homemade borscht and allowed children to churn their own butter by hand. At the third venue, visitors were shown hand carved wooden artifacts. J.J. Verigin, USCC Executive Director, presided over venue four discussing the Doukhobor's philosophy. Venue five took place in the Doukhobor room, with demonstrations of traditional textile arts. The final venue involved a presentation by Jenny Coleshill, speaking about the Saddle Lake reservoir.



Top Left: BC Heritage Week with JJ Verigin speaking to school classes
Top Right: BC Heritage Week with Christina Medvedeff at her spinning wheel demonstrating wool to yarn
Bottom Right: BC Heritage Week with school children active in the classroom
Bottom Left: Boundary Women in Business hold their luncheon in the shade house on the grounds of the Boundary Museum

Reopening the Archives March 2016 see page 5

Mottershead Foundation Vancouver, BC \$10,000 Grant

April 2016

This generous grant to the Boundary Museum Society completed the upgrade to the upstairs washroom in the main building. It is now family friendly and wheel chair assessable. As part of the project the Museum was able to complete a designated janitor's room next to it.



Thanks to a \$10,000 grant from Ian Mottershead, the Boundary Museum was able to complete renovations of a family-friendly washroom



Jun—Fifteen dogs and their young owners, all members of the 4H Club, participating in Dog Agility Training at the museum

Highlights of 2016 (Continued)



Aug—Herb Noseworthy presents his model of the Canada Customs House behind the Art Gallery to the BMS Board of Directors. Herb was instrumental in the preservation of the building.

Community Ties

August 2016

At the Boundary Museum we are fortunate to receive patrons with family ties in the community, many of whom inevitably have interesting stories to share. Just last year museum staff were delighted to meet the Dietz brothers, whose “great great grand uncle” manufactured the very lantern on display in the first room of the museum.

This August brought a great many visitors to the museum with tales to tell, such as Fred Horkoff who came to Fructova on his 89th birthday to revisit his childhood school. We also hosted sisters Mary Hughes and Linda Wilson, whose great uncle Ralph Wolverton was a miner and claim-staker in the area. Finally, Allison Massie discovered her ancestor’s home in the museum’s collection of historical photographs. What an honour to be witness to so many interesting stories. After all, what is history but a collection of significant stories?



Top—The Summer Students of 2016.
Bottom—The brick bread oven crew, pictured in front of Fructova’s own brick oven.

Summer Students

Summer 2016

This summer, the Boundary Museum & Interpretive Centre was enriched by the presence of four wonderful Summer Students: Marissa Strukoff, Kristina Kaptiza, Emma Chapman, and Anton Strukoff (*pictured above, left to right*). Each of these extraordinary young people brought something special to the museum. Marissa lent her artistic flair in painting the museum’s patio, making it not only useable, but enjoyable to sit at. Anton took over the task of making bread in the brick oven. Emma used her prodigious computer skills to design a digital exhibit for the museum, titled Bob’s Tool Room. Kristina showcased her tenacity working on projects at the archives, writing pieces for the Grand Forks Gazette, creating a Facebook page for the archives, and designing exhibits and events for the museum.



Left—Fall Fair—Michael O’Connor, a volunteer and longtime neighbor of the museum with his classic 1952 International, won first place for entering the Fall Fair Parade!
Right—Summer—The Boundary Museum exhibit on display at the Christina Lake Homecoming celebration. The exhibit was designed by Summer Student Kristina Kaptiza.



Boundary Museum Archives Reopen to the Public at City Hall

Every day I sort through items. These may be photos, maps, documents, videos, newspaper articles and, at one time or another, they belonged to someone or someone's business.

I hold in my hands someone's past, their whole life story or a tiny portion of it. Now and then I have felt a twinge of guilt as it seems like it's none of my business to be looking at other people's things. Then I think about the care that their donated items are receiving. I think about the people that come to the archives looking for glimpses of their past, for friends and relatives that have gone before them. The wedding certificate & birth announcement shown to the lady that thought she was adopted, a photo of a headstone of a loved one thought to be lost. Two wonderful ladies, best friends for over 50 years, learned that they were related to each other. These are just a few samples of the hundreds of requests I have received for information.

For many it is a difficult decision to donate personal items to the Archives. Many think that no one would be interested in them. Believe me, this is not the case, you would be surprised at how many ways your donations of archival items can be utilized.

When the decision is made by the Museum or Archives to accession a donated item, it carries an obligation to care for that object in perpetuity. It is a serious decision. Accessioning an item is the formal, legal process of accepting an item into an archival or museum collection.

Recently we received a wonderful collection from Herb Noseworthy which consists of thousands of photos, negatives, DVD's & other items. I have not had a chance to review it or to start the accessioning process but I did preview one DVD that he had dropped off. It was of Dick Thomas, a departed friend of ours. So good to see him & hear his voice as they toured an old turn of the century sawmill up at the head of the Lake. Great memories of Dick.

Another collection in our Archives that continues to grow is our map collection consisting of over 500 local historic maps – unheard of in most small community archives. These maps are used by researchers, model railway buffs, environmental companies, miners, city planners and more.

Our research facility continues to expand as more information becomes available. Our winter project this year is to upgrade the photo collection. The entire photo collection will be put onto MS Access and from there it can be made accessible to the public via internet. This is a very large project and will be worked on by myself and some wonderful volunteers. There are many, many photos that have no descriptions and therefore are of no value to the archives. We welcome the public to come in and try to put names to those faces or place

Check out our Facebook site:



https://www.facebook.com/gfcityhall/?ref=page_interna

Visit our facility: Tues, Wed & Thurs 9 am – 3 pm at Grand Forks City Hall

Sue Adrain - Archivist

Membership Update

Laura Lodder

Have you renewed your membership?
Did you know your membership is valid for a complete year from the date of purchase?

Membership Cost : Individual: \$ 12.00 ~ Family : \$ 20.00

2016 / 2017 BOARD OF DIRECTORS & STAFF

- ◆ President / Chair: Lee Derhousoff
- ◆ Secretary: Kathy Rush
- ◆ Treasurer: Monica Coleshill
- ◆ Director: Sam Semenov
- ◆ Director: Laura Lodder
- ◆ Director: Bob McTavish
- ◆ Director: Dave Dittrich

Thanks for the generous support of Fortis BC and our neighbor Brent Heric our Regional Rep who noted the dark grounds of the Boundary Museum. Fortis BC generously donated and installed yard lighting.

Memberships can be purchased at the Museum
call Laura Lodder to inquire
ph: 250-442-8495
or email: tlodder@telus.net



Below -- Fortis Lights up the Boundary Museum.

We're Easy to Find!

WE'RE OPEN:

WINTER (Sept-Apr) 10am - 4pm Tues to Fri

SUMMER (May-Aug) 10am - 4pm Tues to Sat

Boundary Museum & Interpretive Centre

6145 Reservoir Road,
Grand Forks, BC V0H 1H5

Ph. (250)bo 442-3737

Email:
boundarymuse@shaw.ca

Be sure to visit our website at www.boundarymuseum.com

Visit all 3 locations:

BOUNDARY MUSEUM & INTERPRETIVE CENTRE

6145 Reservoir Road
Grand Forks, BC V0H 1H5
Phone (250) 442-3737
E-mail: boundarymuse@shaw.ca
www.boundarymuseum.com

WINTER HOURS

Sept to Mid May 10 am to 4pm Tues to Fri

Consider Boundary Museum for your Special Occasion

THE ARCHIVES ~ Located in the lower level of Grand Forks
City Hall Building
7217-4th Street

THE HERITAGE FLOUR MILL ~ 3620 Mill Road
Grand Forks, BC V0H 1H5

Pride of the Valley Flour Sales:

4 Kg bag - \$13.00

10 Kg bag - \$20.00

Whole Wheat White

*Rye sold only in 4.5 kg bags \$14.00

