



Trail Creek News

Newsletter of the Trail Historical Society

Trail Museum now open!

Summer has arrived and the Trail Museum opened for business on June 2. We were funded for the one summer student for which we applied back in February. The grant, funded through the Federal Government's Canada Summer Jobs Program,

provides us with enough money to hire a student for 13 weeks. We hired Katie Moorhead at the end of May and so far, Katie is doing a great job. She is also looking after the digitization of the photograph collection, which should take her the summer to complete. Be sure to stop by and visit Katie. Your membership entitles you to free

admission, so please be sure to take advantage of this.



Be sure to stop by the Trail Museum, in the Trail Memorial Centre.

We've been forced to abandon our plans for the 2010 fundraising calendar for the time being. We managed to secure sponsorship for only half the calendar. It is unfortunate, yet it will force us to become more creative than ever when it comes to fundraising, especially locally.

We have submitted an application to the BC Gaming Commission under the Direct Access Grant program that provides operating funds to non-profit societies to cover expenses like salaries and wages. The application was submitted at the end of May and word on the application is expected to be received at the end of August. Securing this funding will be a feather in our cap and could develop into annual support from BC Gaming. Diversifying our core funding base is of the utmost importance and we are continually striving to identify funding bodies that provide these opportunities.

BC Historical Federation Conference

This year, the BC Historical Federation Conference took place in Nelson, BC during the May long weekend. The Trail Historical Society sent member Buddy Devito as the THS representative.

Buddy provided a

thorough report of the conference and specifically enjoyed the theatrical production on Selwyn Blaylock and Ginger Goodwin.

Buddy commended Touchstones Nelson for hosting such a well-organized event

and was thrilled to reconnect with old friends from the heritage industry.

We thank Buddy for attending on our behalf and representing us so well..

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DID YOU KNOW?

The Fort Shepherd cairn plaque was unveiled on July 5, 1951. The cairn was erected by the Kinsmen Club of Trail and the plaque was provided by the Department of Trade and Industry, Province of BC. It was unveiled by Miss Letitia Schofield, who was the great grandniece of Dugald McTavish, chief factor of Oregon for HBC.

Heritage Federation of Southeast BC AGM

On May 3rd, the Heritage Federation of Southeast BC held its AGM in Creston. President Jamie Forbes and Museum/Archives Director Sarah Benson attended on behalf of the Society.

Those in attendance from both the West and East Kootenays discussed a number of issues of importance to heritage organizations in the region, including CBT funding, BC Gaming grants and other potential funding programs that are available to us. It was decided to maintain the membership fee at \$25 for



Image of Fort Shepherd, circa 1858, used in Jamie's lecture that was presented at the HFSEBC AGM in May.

organizations and \$10 for individuals. There are currently 37 organization members and 10 individual members.

The members agreed to apply for funding from the CBT for a workshop for heritage groups in 2010. In preparation for this, Jamie and Sarah agreed to conduct a 'needs survey' of heritage institutions in the Kootenay Boundary region to determine what type of training they need the most. The draft survey has been completed for the Director's approval and it will be sent out in July.

Following the meeting, Jamie and Sarah presented the Society's history of Fort Shepherd.

Columbia Basin Trust's Community Initiatives Program Funding

In March, the Trail Historical Society prepared an application for the CBT's Community Initiatives Program, which is administered by municipal and area governments. The application proposed to replace the bronze plaque that has been missing from the Fort Shepherd cairn and to install heritage signage on Highway 22A across from the

site to tell a brief history of the HBC fort.

The proposal was partially funded and will only be enough to cover design, printing and installation of the roadside heritage signage. Replacement of the cairn plaque is not possible at the present

"Replacement of the cairn plaque is not possible at the present time."

time.

We have once again contracted with Kathy Verigin to develop the design and have applied to the Ministry of

Transportation to install the signage. We hope to see this project completed by the end of summer.

Columbia Kootenay Cultural Alliance Program 12 Funding

The Trail Historical Society has been considering developing a website separate from our current site to best tell the story of the Smoke Eaters using our collection of historical footage, interviews and photographs. An application proposing this project was submitted to the Columbia Kootenay

Cultural Alliance at the beginning of April for consideration under Program 12, Heritage Innovations.

We are pleased to announce the project has been fully funded (\$4000) for



The new site will feature footage and photographs of our world-renowned hockey team.

this initiative and work will begin in the summer.

We will be working with World-MarkIt, our current website domain hosting company, which has extensive experience in website development and marketing.

Teck/THS Fall Programming

In the spring, the Society was approached by Teck's corporate wellness coordinator, Megan Olson, to consider developing educational programming for employees of Teck relating to heritage and cultural issues. While this group, whose motto is "*Inspiring Wellness*," initially began as a health awareness committee, they have branched out into educational and learning initiatives. The Society has felt it important to embrace this opportunity and develop some broad educational programming that is not only of interest to Teck employees, but also to the community in general.

Two programs are being slated for

the fall, most likely November. The first program will offer an introduction to genealogy. This will be a basic course that provides participants with resources to begin their genealogical search, such as websites, archives and other repositories.

The second course will look at preserving photographs. Everyone has come across shoe boxes full of old family photographs or albums that are neither well protected or safe in their current state. This



Museum & Archives Director, Sarah Benson, and Teck's Wellness Coordinator, Megan Olson, at the 2009 Health Check.

course will provide participants with the tools to both recognize unstable photographs and remedy the problems.

The program will also consider the safe storage of digital files.

We look forward to this partnership and feel it will be a positive opportunity for both groups.

Modifications in Sports Hall of Memories

Society president Jamie Forbes and Museum & Archives Director Sarah Benson were busy this spring refurbishing some of the sports exhibits in the Sports Hall of Memories. New editions include Jimmy Morris's 1939 gold medal, as seen in the photo to the right. Removed were the multiple Babe Ruth plaques which were replaced with one commemorative plaque.

Some of the hockey cases have been de-cluttered and all of the bronzing photographs in our little league cases have been reprinted.

With more space



Museum & Archives Director Sarah Benson, President Jamie Forbes and Mrs. Isabel Morris show off Jimmy Morris's 1939 gold medal.

available, we will be presenting a separate exhibit of lacrosse memorabilia and photos.

Please take the opportunity to visit the SHM and see the new additions and changes.

Community in Bloom Activities—Neighbourhood Signage

The Society is working closely again with the Community in Bloom Committee to continue with heritage signage throughout the city. The main focus of this summer will be the neighbourhood heritage signs that will briefly describe our city's residential communities and feature a few

archival photographs for each. Eight signs will be designed and installed for the following residential communities: Tadanac, Gyro Park, Sunningdale, Shaver's Bench, Butler Park, Riverside Avenue, Glenmerry, and East Trail.



An image of the Gyro Park bathing pavilion that will be featured on the Gyro signage.

Keep your eyes open for these new additions to our heritage promotion around the city.

The Trail City Archives is located on the
2nd floor of City Hall

1394 Pine Avenue, Trail.

The Trail Historical Society meets bi-
monthly, the 2nd Tuesday, in
Committee Room 2, upstairs in City
Hall, at 1:30 PM.

Meetings held February, April, June,
September, November

Trail Museum, Sports Hall of Memories
and Trail City Archives operated by the
Trail Historical Society

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We welcome anyone interested in our City's history or in supporting the Society's work to become a member. A membership form is available on the website and can be forwarded to the Society at the above address. Membership fees are as follows:

- Regular: \$12.00
- Family: \$20.00
- Corporate: \$30.00

For an additional \$15.00 you may obtain a one year's subscription to the *British Columbia History*, journal of the **BC Historical Federation**, at a savings of \$2.00 off the regular price. This high quality journal contains a variety of articles on BC's history and is a must have for students of our Province's history. It is published quarterly.

Ore Car Exhibit

At the April membership meeting the question of what should be done with the Society's concentrate car currently in storage in Tadanac was discussed. It was agreed we should proceed to develop an interpretive exhibit using the car in Jubilee Park. City Council has previously approved this location for the exhibit.

Since then discussions have taken place with Dan Rodlie of the CIB Committee and a meeting with Teck officials will take place soon to determine how the car can be repainted and moved to the site. The preferred location in the Park will require a portion of the rock planter parallel to Helena Street to be removed. This issue



This image features ore cars of roughly the same era as that in our collection. These cars are crossing Stoney Creek, into Tadanac.

finalize our proposal and present it to Council in the near future.

The exhibit is designed to depict the City's industrial heritage and the role the mining and smelting industry played in shaping our community. The concentrate car will serve as a symbol of this important part of our City's history.

has been discussed with Eileen Pederson of the Rock Wall Entusiastico Society and they are opposed to this plan. Notwithstanding their concern, we intend to