



The Trail Creek News Newsletter of the Trail Historical Society

From the Desk of the President

We are pleased to advise that our submission to the BC Historical Federation's *BC History* journal has been selected for publication in their spring issue. The article features the 1961 Trail Smoke Eaters' long journey to the World Hockey Championship in Switzerland that year. Focusing primarily on the team's participation in the tournament, this article will be read all over the province!

Plans are proceeding to publish the 5th issue of the *Trail Journal of Local History* in April. We are excited to be able to bring our community's history to the public through this well received publication. We thank **Greg Nesteroff** for his tireless help in this endeavour.

Trail native **John D'Arcangelo** is collecting stories and memories from people who grew up in Trail, in particular recollections of their neighbourhoods and what life was like during their childhood. John hopes to publish the stories in a book for the enjoyment of all those who remember the 'good old days' in Trail. We will assist John with this project and help secure funding for the book's publication. John hopes to publish the book this year. Thanks to John for undertaking this initiative.

The 100th anniversary of the commencement of World War I falls in 2014. Many communities in Canada are planning events and ceremonies to recognize the significant impact the war had on their

community. Our Society has had preliminary discussions with the Trail Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion to acknowledge the sacrifices the people of Trail made to the war effort. More on this shortly.

We recently finalized our operating budget for 2014. Total revenues and expenditures is estimated at \$85,375, versus \$73,800 in 2013. We feel this is a realistic budget and that our revenue targets are achievable. A copy of the budget is available at our office in City Hall, as is our 2013 Annual Report.

Finally, we will be presenting a lecture on our sternwheelers for **Heritage Week** this year at the **Rosland Museum**. Please join us on Thursday, February 20th at 4:00pm!

2013 Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Society was held on January 29th at the Colombo Lodge. Twenty-six members were in attendance. Our guest speakers were our President and Barb Gibson, Chair of the Trail Library Board, who spoke on the new Museum/Library project.

The 2013 Financial Report showed we remain on a solid financial footing with a net revenue over expenditures of \$11,593. It was a successful year and we are looking forward to 2014. Long standing Vice-President Louis Forte declined to seek a

further term and the position has been filled by Eleanor Gattafoni-Robinson. A heartfelt thank you to Louis for his service. We welcome two new Directors, Fran Moll and David Flux, to the Executive. We look forward to working with them in this year.

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It's that time of year again!

Have you renewed your Trail Historical Society membership?

*Please contact us at
250-364-0829
or download your membership
form at www.TrailHistory.com*

Museum/Library Facility Update

The study to prepare a conceptual design for a facility housing a new museum and archives and a new Trail library is nearing completion. The design of the building was commissioned by the City of Trail to provide sufficient information and a cost estimate to construct the facility on the former Eagles property on Bay Avenue. The project will be submitted to referendum for funding at the fall civic elections.

At the same time, the Society is preparing a conceptual plan for the construction of the museum and archives. This study, when combined with the City's study, will provide our Society with a plan of what a new museum would look and what it will cost to construct. This conceptual plan

will reflect the vision the Society has for a new museum that will not only better preserve and protect our collections, but will also present our community's social and cultural history to the public in a meaningful and engaging way.

The new museum will be modern in design and will provide the visitor with a unique heritage experience. It will engage the visitor in understanding our community's history with specially designed exhibits in an interactive setting. A new archives will allow us to better protect our valuable textual and photograph collections and allow more convenient access to these resources. In conjunction with the Library, we will be able to develop programs that will provide the public

with a hands-on opportunity to learn more about our community's history.

Once the concept plan has been finalized we will begin a public consultation process to convince the public a new museum and archives is needed for our community and that it will be a benefit to the City in many ways.

Once again, we thank the **City of Trail**, the **Columbia Basin Trust**, and **Teck Metals Ltd.** for providing us with the necessary funding to develop this concept. We look forward to meeting with the public in the months to come!

2013 Market Report

Once again, the City of Trail and the Trail & District Chamber of Commerce provided local artisans, farmers, crafters and those selling their wares the opportunity to gather regularly in our downtown for a successful summer and fall market season. The THS attended a total of 5 outdoor markets on the Esplanade throughout the summer and fall.

We also attended the indoor winter markets, once again held in the Trail Memorial Centre gymnasium.

The 8 markets helped to generate nearly \$1000 in sales for the THS. With the introduction of the 2014 calendar to our list of publications and merchandise (discussed

fully in the next article), the executive was pleased with our sales and efforts this year.



Trail's Downtown Markets, held on the Esplanade during the summer months

The THS sees great value in these markets, as we continue to struggle with an effective and visible retail presence in town. We are looking forward to another year of successful markets and interacting with the community.

2014 Fundraising Calendar Report

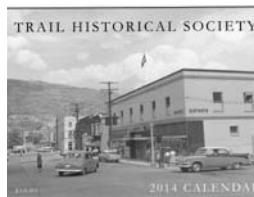
With financial support from the **Columbia Basin Trust's** Community Initiatives Program, administered by the City of Trail, the Trail Historical Society's 2014 fundraising calendar has proved a successful and well-received project.

We are grateful to the following business and organizations for their assistance in selling the calendar: **City of Trail**, **Marino Wholesale**, **Brew**

Shop Too, **Ferraro Foods**, **Crockett Book Company**, **Trail Coffee & Tea**, **Artisan**, **Hall Printing**, **Trail & District Public Library**, **Integra Tire**, **Royal Canadian Legion**, **Shopper's Drug Mart**.

The calendar made a wonderful addition to our list of merchandise and the executive has chosen to

renew this project for 2015. Photo selection will begin soon and we are hopeful the 2015 calendar will be available for purchase during the summer market season.



The THS 2014 Fundraising Calendar

Your continued support of our projects is appreciated. We feel this one, in particular, is an unique way of bringing the collection to life.

2013 Projects Update

Last year's projects include three initiatives that have long been on our "to-do" lists. Firstly, the 2014 fundraising calendar, generously funded by the Columbia Basin Trust, proved successful and will remain an annual project.

Secondly, the Columbia Kootenay Cultural Alliance funded the conservation of one of our oldest artifacts in the museum collection. The 1895 marker that identified the grave site of Frank Hanna Jr. saw some much needed conservation treatments. Undertaken by **Andrew Todd Conservators** on Bowen Island, the marker is presently in the hands of a Kootenay conservator for encasement. The marker showed

obvious and concerning signs of wear, not only due to its age, but also do to its initial resting place in the acidic ground on smelter property. We expect the return of the encased marker in mid-March.

Finally, we have been working



The Trail Creek News building in high water at the end of Bay Avenue in 1904. William Esling stands in the doorway.

diligently on the Trail Times Negatives Project, which received an additional influx of funds from the CKCA for phase two. As Joyce Austin with the Rossland Museum was unable to return to complete her work on phase one, the THS hired Sheila Cosmano to see it through. Arriving in December, Sheila has only two years of negatives left to sort. She will remain with the THS until the end of July, by which time we hope phase two will be completed, which includes identifying images using captions of the published image in the newspaper and its corresponding date. The magnitude of the collection has been reduced drastically to a manageable and usable size. We have had these negatives in our possession for over ten years and we are excited to finally make this collection an accessible and purposeful one.

2014 Grant Applications

This year, we intend to focus our efforts heavily on identifying and securing capital funding dedicated to the proposed new museum and library facility. These applications, which require considerable thought and research, can prove extremely valuable should they be successful. Staff is currently researching capital funding sources for this exciting project. The first capital funding application will be submitted to the Columbia Kootenay

Cultural Alliance under their Major Heritage Capital program.

As mentioned in the President's message, the THS will submit another application to the CKCA for funding towards the much-anticipated collection of local stories currently being compiled by THS member, John D'Arcangelo. This project is an important memoir of our City and we certainly hope it will be successful.

Finally, as we move into Phase Two of the Trail Times Negatives Project, we will require another bank of shelving to house roughly another 12 years of hard copy newspapers. We presently house every issue from 1895 to 1987 and they are accessed regularly. This application will be submitted to the Columbia Basin Trust under the Community Initiatives program.

Colombo Lodge Collections Policy

In 2011, the Trail Historical Society was commissioned to work with the Colombo Lodge's Cultural Committee to assess the state of their archival and artifact collections, some of which is in storage at City Hall (textual records, photographs), with the remainder on display in the Lodge's Archives Room (artifacts).

The Lodge applied for a grant with the Columbia Basin Trust to hire THS staff

to undertake a complete inventory of the collection. Successful in obtaining the funding, the inventory process took place and a list of recommendations for retention, transfer or deaccessioning of the collection was generated.

Although no additional funding was awarded to develop a detailed collections policy, THS staff prepared and delivered a fact-finding workshop with members of the Cultural

Committee and the membership to determine what values and motivations the members have for collecting and preserving their heritage.

A draft collections policy based on the inventory process and findings from the workshop will be presented to the Lodge this month for their review. We hope to see this collection grow and further enhance the cultural experience our city has to offer.

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

1394 Pine Avenue, Trail BC

The Trail Museum & Sports Hall of
Memories are located in the
Trail Memorial Centre

1051 Victoria Street, Trail BC

CONTACT US!

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We're on the web!

www.HistoricSmokeEaters.ca



www.TrailHistory.com



www.TrailSportsHistory.ca



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: \$15.00**
- **Family: \$25.00**
- **Corporate: \$35.00**

For an additional **\$20.00** 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. In addition, members now received 10% of all Trail Historical Society merchandise, including our vintage Trail Smoke Eater collection!

Antiques in the Attic —Round 2!

The Trail Historical Society and the Rossland Historical Museum are pleased to announce the return of **Peter Blundell**, accredited Canadian Appraiser, back to the Kootenays for our second *Antiques in The Attic* event. This year, the show will be presented at the Trail United Church Hall, on Friday, March 28th and Saturday, March 29th.

Fees will remain consistent with last year and are as follows:

- **15 minute session (up to three items) - \$35.00**
- **Spectators - \$5.00**

Pre-booking and pre-payment are mandatory (cash, cheque, and credit card accepted).



Teck's Community Engagement Leader Carol Vanelli-Worosz discusses the interesting history of their assay crucibles, March 2013.

Friday's session will begin at 12:00 noon and run until 5:00pm.
Saturday will begin at 9:00am and wrap-up at 5:00pm.

Peter is a knowledgeable appraiser of antiques and collectibles. He does **not**, however, appraise the following: **jewelry and/or wrist watches (pocket watches are fine), guns, stamps, or coins**. Last year, Peter appraised several china sets, tea sets, works of art, toys, dolls, glass, and instruments.

The event was extremely popular last year and appraisal sessions filled quickly. Book your spot early!

Please contact **Sarah** at **250-364-0829** to secure your appointment! You will be asked what you are bringing for appraisal.

This event is, once again, generously sponsored by:

Teck