



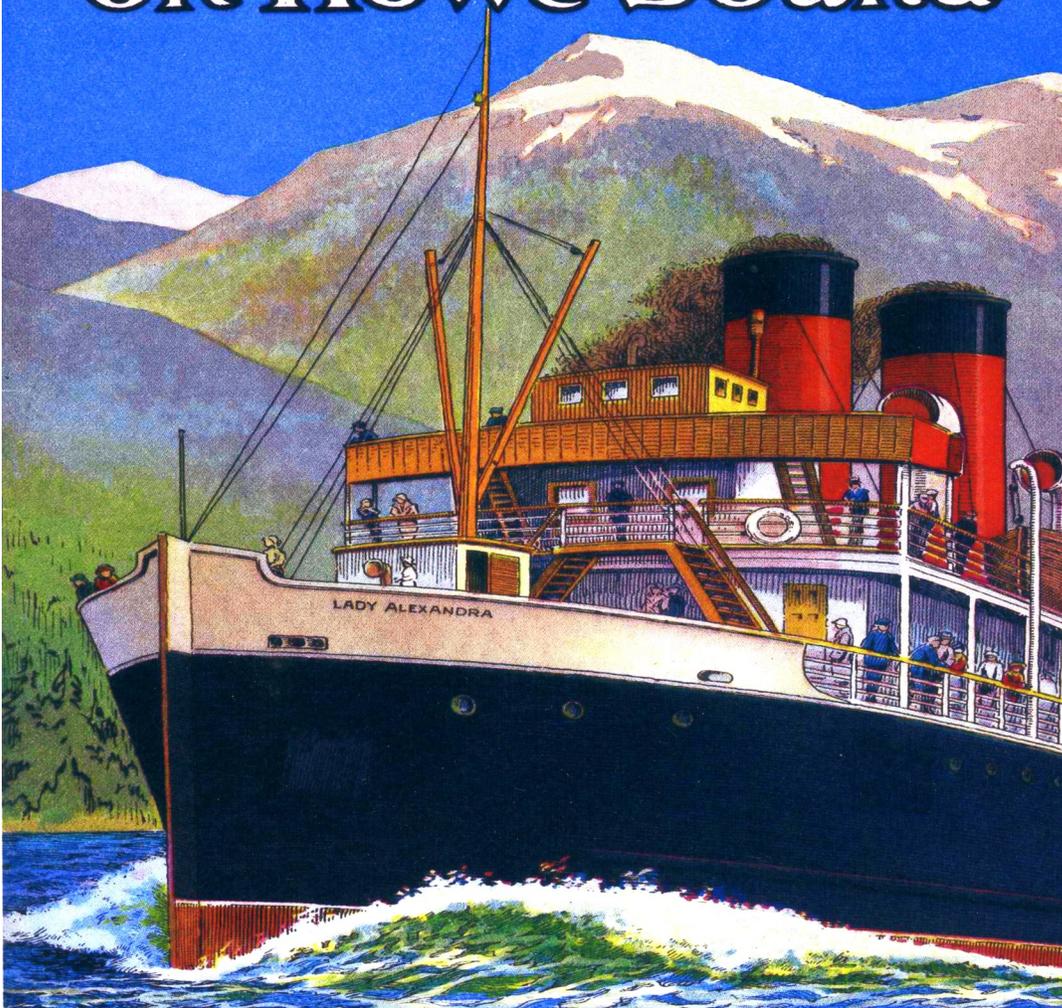
SPRING 2021

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UNION STEAMSHIPS

The Magic Day Sea-Trip on Howe Sound



The Lure of the Coast Sea-Trails

*Detail from Union Steamship
brochure promoting travel to
Sunshine Coast, 1920s-30s*



Sechelt Archives
6.7.148



Sanji Konishi raising rabbits on the Konishi Farm, Sechelt (1930s). The Konishis ran the Settler's Supply Store before their internment in 1942

Sunshine Coast Museum & Archives Membership Drive!

All aboard -- We are very excited to be launching a membership drive complete with fantastic new benefits for our valued members.

Membership to the Museum & Archives is an important way to show your support for the ongoing preservation and presentation of the history of the Sunshine Coast. Funds from the purchase of memberships are used in a variety of ways, from buying expensive archival quality supplies, to purchasing materials to build great looking exhibits. We want to offer the best possible service to our community in our exhibits and events, while actively collecting artifacts to reflect the diverse histories of our region. To do this, we need to generate income from a variety of sources, and membership is an important piece of this puzzle. Your support also signals to our supporters that you value engagement with local history on the Sunshine Coast. In short, ***your membership matters*** and we would love to have you as a member!

On Page 4, you will see a list of all new member benefits that now come with membership, from giftshop discounts to invites to members-only events. Just like the passengers on the USS Lady Alexandra (*cover*), we would love to have you onboard as we work together to explore the fascinating histories of the Sunshine Coast!

Matthew Lovegrove, Curator/Manager





ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2021

Join us for our AGM on **Wednesday, April 21, 2021** from the comfort of your own home! This year's virtual meeting will take place on Zoom from **7:00pm - 9:00pm**. Learn about all of the exciting news at the Museum, vote for a new Board of Directors and hear about our plans for the upcoming year. We will be sending out meeting information via email, or call the Museum to receive details on how to access the meeting.

Hope to see you there!



VISITING THE MUSEUM DURING COVID-19

Expect the same friendly greeting when you visit, with a few changes. Masks are mandatory; maximum number of visitors is 8 at a time. Brightly coloured floor stickers encourage social distancing. Most of all, expect to still have fun learning about local history!

President's Message Mike Clement



Once again I am pleased to have the opportunity, through this Newsletter and on behalf of the Board of Directors at the Sunshine Coast Museum & Archives, to thank all persons and organizations that make it possible for us to offer Museum services to our residents and visitors both in person and virtual.

First, thank you to our staff and volunteers who work tirelessly (especially through the pandemic) to care take, conserve, and improve the collection and the visitor experience.

Little of what we do would be possible without the financial support of all branches of government, memberships, donations and supporting granting agencies on and off the Coast. We are truly grateful. Your continued support ensures a sustainable community resource and the safe keeping of all of our many shared stories and cultures.



Thanks to our 2020 Donors

Gold Level:

Estate of Jon Hird

Sunshine Coast
Community Forest

Canada Heritage

Barrie & Frankie
Stewart

Reed Road
Development

Trudene Norman &
Bill Longman

Wanda Selzer & Gwen
Willox

Silver Level:

Thelma Tait

Bronze Level:

Kim Wilkinson

Mara Parnell

Elaine Jackson

Ken & Fay Fiedler

Don & Sandra Cunliffe

Eve & Harris Johnson

... and many thanks to all
others who donated to
the Museum!



Vancouver Archives
AM1257-S26-F23-24



Trail Bay waterfront in Sechelt, 1916. Herbert Whitaker's store on left

New Membership Benefits

After community consultation, speaking with other Museums, and much brain-storming, we are excited to announce new membership benefits that make joining the Museum even sweeter! Benefits will be available for the membership year (January 1-December 31).

- **Museum Giftshop Discount** — Save 10% on all giftshop purchases including Tshirts, gift cards, books (excluding consignment items)
- **Heritage Card Set** — Every member will receive a set of 3 art cards featuring an archival photograph of the Sunshine Coast (\$15 retail price). New set of cards released every year!
- **Exclusive Members Only Events** — Members receive exclusive access to members-only exhibit openings and events
- **Unlimited Museum Visits**— Enjoy unlimited visits to the Museum without donating at the door. *You could come every day if you like!*
- **Museum Services**— Vote at the AGM, conduct an archival research request, give input on programming and exhibits

NEW FOR 2021: Renew and pay for your membership on the Museum's website. It's safe, secure, and easy!

Visit: www.sunshinecoastmuseum.ca





Driftwood Players Theatre and community members at Halloween Block Party 2019, our busiest event ever hosted at the Museum & Archives!

We ♥ Our Community!

It's really no secret, but we consider ourselves so very lucky to be supported by such an amazing a community here on the Sunshine Coast. The support that we have received in all forms since the Covid-19 pandemic started has been remarkable. From sending a quick note of thanks on social media to dropping off cookies to share with staff, we are very thankful for every gesture of support, big and small. It's what makes our work at the Museum so satisfying: knowing that we have made a positive impact in peoples' lives.

One of the most powerful experiences that a museum can offer is a personal connection to a story, place, or object. We want to foster these connections with every member of the Sunshine Coast community. There are also many ways for you to collaborate with us, from donating artifacts and archives from the Sunshine Coast, to bringing new ideas and perspectives to the work we do. We love working with individuals and organizations on events, exhibits and museum programming. Some of our most successful projects, including the award-winning Time Travel Sunshine Coast project, would not have been possible without our community's talent and passion.

Thank you to our Sunshine Coast community for all of your support!



Membership Program Changes

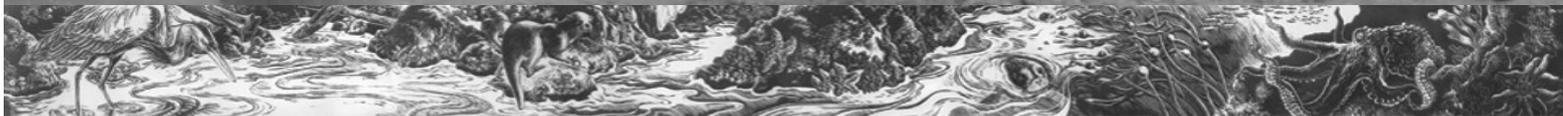
Your membership in the Sunshine Coast Museum & Archives Society matters.

Along with new member benefits, we have also changed the dates of the membership year, which will now run from **January 1 - December 31**. Fees will remain \$20 for individuals and \$25 for family membership. Tax receipts will no longer be issued for membership fees.

A membership form is included with this newsletter. If you aren't sure if you are up-to-date, please phone us at **604-886-8232** and we will let you know!



*All Aboard
Union Steamship
Lady Cecilia!*



ONLINE PHOTOGRAPH COLLECTION

Did you know that we have over 7000 digitized archival photographs that you can search online, for free? You can search the collection by keyword and date. *Visit our website to access our online photo collection today!*



HAM'S LD9, B.C.

623.

H. McCALL, PHOTO.



SCMA Photo 3107



Employees of Burns & Jackson Logging (names unknown) hand-logging (Roberts Creek ,1937)

Early Japanese & Chinese Loggers on the Coast

Something special happens when you present a historical artifact on exhibit. Through the process of curation and interpretation, an artifact becomes a vehicle for meaning-making, often by presenting a certain historical narrative. Recently, I have been considering how some histories are given the privilege of being preserved in museums and archives, while others have been omitted from this process.

I think about the early Japanese and Chinese loggers on the Sunshine Coast fairly often. When I search through our photograph database at the Museum, I come across minimal documentation about their lives. Out on the trails of Mount Elphinstone, I think about who these people were, and what their lives were like labouring in the old growth and helping to build a community they were never really a part of. During this time, Chinese settlers were legally barred from pre-empting (claiming) land, lessening their chance of settlement on the Sunshine Coast.

We know that there were Japanese and Chinese logging camps up and down the coast; specifically, I am thinking of the camps at the **Stoltz Shinglebolt** operation, or *First Camp* above Cemetery Road in Gibsons (circa 1920s). During this time, the socio-cultural conditions in British Columbia were well-marked with discrimination and racism towards Chinese and Japanese Canadians. This was observed in the anti-Asian riots in Vancouver (1907), and their long-running

Continued next page





SCMA Photo 973

A group of children playing in the pond at First Camp on Mount Elphinstone, the Stoltz flume (pictured in the background) was used to transport cut shinglebolts to the ocean.

Stoltz Shinglebolt Logging Camp

Operating at the former site of the Drew Battle flume, the Stoltz logging camp began operations in 1920. Chinese and Japanese workers lived in two separate camps, and worked felling trees and operating the flume. The camp ceased operation in 1922; remnants of the flume can still be seen on Mount Elphinstone.

disenfranchisement from the vote (in BC, Chinese Canadians could not vote until 1947; Japanese Canadians until 1949).

Historically, race and class have been two primary ingredients that have played an active role in privileging certain perspectives in cultural institutions like museums. In the museum world, things are changing as organizations are actively working to fill in the gaps of historical knowledge to create a more accurate view of our shared history. This takes some critical self reflection, and also some help from our communities.

Do you have any photographs or archival documents that could help tell the stories of the early Japanese and Chinese Canadians on the Sunshine Coast? Perhaps you know someone who would be great to interview for our oral history collection? Then we would love to speak with you! One of the best parts of our job is working with our amazing community, so we look forward to hearing from you.

Matthew Lovegrove, Curator/Manager



Roberts Creek in the 1940s-1950s: *The Life & Times of Jeff Newman*



SCMA Photo #2743: Jeff Newman shoeing his horse Apache , 1952

There are certain people who have a special ability to take you back in time when they tell a story. Jeff Newman was one of those people. Suddenly, you are there with him in a fishing boat reeling in a 72-pound lingcod, or watching him ride a horse up the steps of Elphinstone High School, much to the chagrin of the teachers.

Born on September 8th, 1934, Jeff arrived on the Sunshine Coast in 1940, and lived in a cabin on Crowe Road in Roberts Creek with his adoptive parents. Upon swimming every day with the other children in the area, Jeff's first impression was that "he had it made" in his new home. His chores included delivering milk, for which he was paid 35 cents a week, the only caveat being that he bought a war savings stamp every Monday. Luckily Jeff mused, he had enough money leftover to buy two 5 cent ice creams! Jeff attended East Roberts Creek School and soon became an avid reader, something he would keep up his whole life. Coastal renaissance man Hubert Evans soon took Jeff under his wing, bringing him out fishing in his hand built double-ender rowboat (which is currently on display at the Museum). Indeed, Jeff's early life was full of west coast adventures and hijinks.



Sharp as a tack in his early-eighties, we spent several days with Jeff Newman processing his photos and archives for our collection. We also took the opportunity to record an oral history interview with him on his life and times on the Sunshine Coast (1940s-50s). To hear Jeff speak about pulling in that lingcod, or riding *Apache* up the steps of Elphinstone High School is to travel back with him to those moments of his life. Through his storytelling, Jeff was able to provide a direct connection to the historic places and people on the Sunshine Coast with vivid precision. It wasn't so much about the intricate details, but more about the joy he seemed to have reliving these memories. And through the process, we were able to share that joy with him.

Sadly, Jeff Newman passed away earlier this year at the age of 86 years old. We have compiled some audio clips from our interview with Jeff, and posted them on the Museums Soundcloud account, which can be accessed through our website. *This one's for you Jeff!*

Matthew Lovegrove, Curator/Manager



Jeff Newman on his horse Apache (1952); Jeff after our Museum interview (2017)





(L –R) Kaylin Schober and Matthew Lovegrove from the SCMA welcome MP Patrick Weiler for a visit, summer 2020. Patrick enjoyed a tour of exhibits and offered his support for the Museum & Archives. Photo: Lucie McKiernon

Visit the Sunshine Coast Museum Online

Have you visited the Museum’s website lately? We are always adding new content, updating information, and streamlining access to make it easier to find the information you are looking for. One website highlight is our *Virtual Tour* where you can take an immersive 3D “walk-through” of museum exhibits, watch historical videos, and zoom in to explore artifacts on display. Another highlight is the link to our *Community Storytelling* Soundcloud account (part of the Museum at Home education portal) where you can sit back and listen to audio interviews with Sunshine Coasters about their lives. Many of the stories featured are heartwarming, some are hilarious, and all of them are entertaining! Finally, we have updated our website so you can pay for your membership or make a special donation using your credit card. It’s safe, secure, and easy to use. Visit the SCMA website to continue your exploration of historical Sunshine Coast!

www.sunshinecoastmuseum.ca



Connect with Us!

The Sunshine Coast Museum & Archives is the regional Museum for the Sunshine Coast. Our collection includes photographs, archives and artifacts.

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sunshinecoastmuseum.ca



**See you
at the
Museum!**

