



SPRING 2017



Museum & Archives as Coastal Community Hub

2016 was a banner year at the SCMA as we embarked on a large scale renovation to make our building more accessible to everyone in our community. We installed a wheelchair lift to the 2nd floor, created an accessible washroom and opened up the entrance to be more welcoming to our visitors. On July 15th we officially reopened to the public and had our highest number of visitors on record for August.

After a busy September, we opened up our doors for the **Official Grand Opening celebrations** on Saturday, October 1st. The Museum was packed to the rafters as Tsawaysia Spukwus (*pictured above*) of the Squamish Nation offered a traditional welcome, and MLA Pamela Goldsmith Jones and Gibsons Mayor Wayne Rowe addressed the crowd. Visitors enjoyed refreshments and had the chance to explore the Museum; board members even offered complimentary lift rides to the second floor! The event also marked the launch of our latest feature

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A Welcoming Experience: the Museum's new forest-themed entrance foyer

exhibit, *Syets-chet Ihen-tumulh txwchelhk w-anam / Our Stories Woven through Time* which was co-curated with the Squamish Lilwat Cultural Centre. The exhibit explores the deep tradition of Coast Salish weaving and features a large floor loom, two wall-mounted woven blankets and an intricately carved spindle whorl.

Since the Grand Opening, we have hosted a variety of community events from our ever-popular **All Hallows' Eve** to a **Coast Salish Weaving Series** this past February. During this time, I have had the opportunity to witness a new energy and excitement from community members as they enter the Museum. We currently have a unique opportunity to harness this momentum to further strengthen our role in the community. We can do this by offering exhibits, programming and events in our revitalized space that speak to the wide variety of people who call the Sunshine Coast home. From Beachcomber fans to genealogists; from Sechelt Nation members to newcomers, we need to reach out and offer something of value to all of our community members. At the end of the day, I would like to see people walk by the SCMA and say: "This is my Museum—it is a place where I feel welcome; my stories live here. *This is my Museum*".

Matthew Lovegrove, Curator/Manager

**This is my
Museum...**



Presented by the Sunshine Coast Museum & Archives

Coast Salish Weaving Series

3 Saturdays in February, 3 special events celebrating Coast Salish Weaving Culture



February 4: Wool Weaving Workshop
Join master Sechelt weaver Jessica Silvey to weave a wall hanging or scarf in the Salish tradition 10:00am-4:30pm \$65/\$85

February 11: Curator's Talk 1:00-2:30pm
Curator's Allison Pascal (Squamish Lilwat Cultural Centre) and Raquel Joe (Tems Swiya Museum) take you on a journey into the heart of Coast Salish weaving culture. Presentation + demo. Admission by Donation

February 18: Cedar Weaving Workshop
Join Tsawaysia Spukwus from the Squamish Nation to weave a cedar headband, coin purse and/or bookmark while learning from her deep cultural knowledge. 11:00-1:30pm \$35/\$55

To register for workshops, call the Museum at 886-8232
www.sunshinecoastmuseum.ca

In Partnership with:  

COAST SALISH WEAVING SERIES

This past February, the Museum was proud to host a **Coast Salish Weaving Series** in collaboration with Tems Swiya Museum, the Squamish Lilwat Cultural Centre and cultural practitioners Jessica Silvey and Tsawaysia Spukwus. The series kicked off with a wool weaving workshop, followed by a Curator's Talk the following weekend, and closed with 2 sold out cedar weaving workshops on February 18th. The events were a huge success, boosting our February visitation to an all time record!



History Repeats: Central Market Delicatessen, Ogopogo Inn Fish & Chips, Gibsons, 1930s

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2017

Join us for our 2017 AGM on **Wednesday, April 26th** doors open at 7 pm. The meeting will be from 7:30pm to 9 pm at the **Sunshine Coast Museum & Archives** in Gibsons. 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. At the event we will be accepting new memberships and renewals. We hope to see you there!



...My stories
live here



Legacy Giving at the Museum

Many of you have supported the Museum in the past by making generous donations to our organization—we thank you!

While there are a variety of ways to support the SCMA, **Legacy Giving** provides a meaningful opportunity to leave a lasting and impactful gift. By leaving a **bequest** to the Museum Society in your will, you can make a big difference in the service and programs that we offer to the community. **Annual charitable gifts** as well as the development of a Museum **endowment fund** with the Sunshine Coast Community Foundation are other valuable ways to contribute to the work that we do.

Call 604-886-8232 for more information



Logging Portraiture: Logging Families of the Pender Harbour area, date unknown

Notes from the Board

Lorraine Goddard, SCMA President

This past year has seen great changes in the Museum. Because the renovation was in progress, our 2016 AGM was held off-site, at Harmony Hall. This year we will be able to once again host the AGM at the Museum. The renovation has provided push button opening of the front door for those who need such, a uni-sex accessible washroom on the main floor, and a lift to the second floor for those unable to use stairs. In addition, the movement of some walls and repositioning of the archives and some exhibits has improved the “first impression” of the Museum by opening up the entrance to the exhibit hall. All of us on the Board of Directors are extremely proud of our new space. As two-year terms have been instituted, this AGM will see the election of approximately one-half of your Board of Directors. Some of those who have been active members of the Board have opted to stand for re-election, and we have had an expression of interest from some other members who state that they are prepared to stand for election. The additional interest is heartening for those of us who have been sitting on the Board for several years. There is always need for new thinking and fresh ideas. We look forward to having a strong representation of our membership in attendance at the meeting to show support, and elect a strong Board of Directors.





Coastal Heritage Events

16th Annual April Tools, Madeira Park Saturday, April 29, 2017 10am– 4pm

Teams of up to 4 people build a boat from materials provided, and no one knows what the materials will be until the day of the race! Then they race around the harbour for cash prizes. There are also youth races, face painting, mini boat building for the kids as well.

Pender Harbour Days July 7-9, 2017

Annual celebration of our marine heritage that features historic boats, land-based heritage displays, sailing competitions, combined with an arts fair and entertainment.

May Day in Pender Harbour May 20, 2017 10 am - 8 pm

Featuring a fantastic parade down Madeira Park Road (11 am), and many free family activities all afternoon at the Madeira Park Elementary school field. Come celebrate with a pancake breakfast, parade, games, vendors, music, food and fun!

For more information please visit:
www.penderharbourheritage.ca

Archival Adventures

Glassford Collection

Marci Beacham Fuller, Archivist

In 1995, the Museum received a donation from Glassford Press, Ltd. of the archives from the now defunct **Coast News**. This donation is now the subject of a new and exciting project being undertaken by SCMA staff. The Coast News archival collection, which is rich in information pertaining to the life and events of people on the Sunshine Coast, includes artifacts from the paper—including a Sunshine Coast News Sign—back issues of the Coast News newspaper (1945-1994), and boxes of photographs and negatives.

As part of the SCMA's mandate to make its archival collections more accessible to the community, we undertook a major digitization project with the support of the UBC Digital Initiatives team, in order to make our newspaper collections—which includes the large collection of Coast News newspapers that were part of the Glassford Press, Ltd. donation—more easily accessible. Now, SCMA staff is beginning a new project with the Glassford Press, Ltd. collection to digitize the Coast News photographic collection, and to properly arrange and describe the materials in order to make them more accessible to researchers. The photographs range in date from the late 1960s to the mid-1980s, and represent many exciting events and newsworthy stories that took place on the Sunshine Coast during that time.



Many thanks to our 2016 Donors

Gold Level:

Don Morison/TELUS
Sharon Venechuk/CIBC
Silas White
Debbie Amaral
Clint Mahlman
Cunliffe Heritage
Endowment (SCCF)
John & Olya Chittick
Vic Bonaguro
Gibsons Recycling Depot

Silver Level:

Donna Thomas
Barrie Stewart
Leslie Bishop
Celia Fisher
Lola Westell
Diane & Larry Penonzek
Pat Edwards
Elder College

Bronze Level:

Cathy, Chris, Tyler Nicholls
Sharon Venechuk
Leslie Young
Ruth and Peter Emerson
Rita Hincks
Lena Grisenthwaite
Sue Thompson
Judith Hammill
Elise Buque
Patti Clement
Heather Woods
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***We couldn't do it
without your support!***



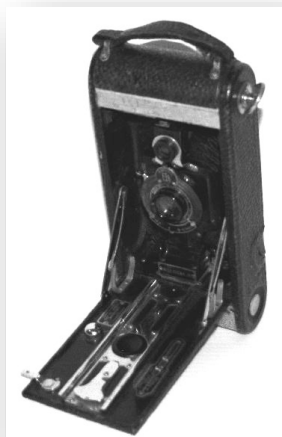
Illuminate the Past Lighting Project

Following the success of our **Universal Accessibility Project** in 2016, we are excited to announce our next Museum improvement project which will shed some light on our amazing collection. The most common feedback that we currently receive from Museum visitors is regarding the poor quality of lighting in our upstairs exhibit gallery.

The **Illuminate the Past Project** will see the installation of 80 LED, Museum-quality light bulbs, allowing for proper illumination that also meet museum preservation standards.

In February 2017, the Museum submitted a grant to the British Columbia Museum Association's CANADA 150 funding stream requesting \$15,000 for the project. An architectural drawing from Teryl Mullock was obtained, along with quotes from Olson Electric for lighting installation and Eecol Lighting for supplies.

We look forward to shining a light on our upstairs exhibits with this upcoming project!



Artifact Alive!

This camera was used by celebrated Sunshine Coast photographer Helen McCall to document life and times on the Coast from the 1930s-50s. This Kodak brand camera used "autographic" film which allowed the photographer to write on the photograph at the time of exposure. Handwritten notes are one of the hallmarks of McCall's work. She may have even used this camera to take the picture of the market on page 3! SCMA 1996.007.01



Annual Antique & Collectibles Roadshow 2017

This year's Antiques Roadshow was another success in raising funds for the Museum. Held in Trail Bay Mall, the Roadshow drew more than 85 people with items for appraisal. The fundraiser brought in about \$1,000 for museum operations and programming. Two highlights were a Fender guitar from the early 1950s valued at \$18,000 and a Maude Lewis painting valued at \$8,000. Thanks to all of the appraisers, volunteers and sponsors that made this year's Roadshow a success, particularly event organizer Ian Thomson. *Good work!*



Thank you to our Members

Your membership in the Sunshine Coast Museum & Archives Society matters. Continued membership helps us to receive funding and support from the Sunshine Coast Regional District, and provides you with the opportunity to provide input on our exhibits, programming and events. You'll find a membership renewal form with this newsletter. Many thanks to our members for their ongoing support.

If you aren't sure if you are up-to-date with your membership, please phone us at 604.886.8232 and we will let you know.

Historical Walking Tours Summer 2017



Dale Peterson,
Tour Guide

Summer 2017 will mark the third season of our popular historical walking tours of Gibsons led by Dale Peterson. One of our most popular annual Museum programs, Dale's tours are filled with fascinating facts and anecdotes about the history of the Sunshine Coast. Born and raised in Gibsons, Dale will guide participants to historical points of interest such as Stonehurst and Pioneer Park Cemetery while sharing local history. The tour ends at the Museum where you can continue your exploration of coastal heritage. Tours will run through out July and August, dates to be announced.

In Memoriam: Celia Fisher

It is with great regret that we note the passing of past SCMA board member Celia Fisher, who passed away on October 26th, 2016. Celia's boundless enthusiasm for improving access to our museum was tireless—without her hard work we would not have been able to accomplish our Universal Accessibility Renovations last year. Condolences to Celia's family.





Connect with Us

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

604.886.8232

scm_a@dccnet.com
sunshinecoastmuseum.ca



Coming Soon: Fixed Link Feature Exhibit

Down at the Museum, we are hard at work on our upcoming exhibit on the proposed fixed link from the Vancouver area to the Sunshine Coast. Historically, the conversation about a bridge or highway connection to the coast goes back at least to the 1950s, when the Coast News was filled with letters discussing the need for a “bridge to Squamish”.

Our exhibit will create a space for the community to come together to learn about the history of the issue, explore the current proposed routes and add their own voice to the conversation. The exhibit will feature a large scale terrain map of Howe Sound, archival documents and audio/video interpretation that brings the fixed link to life.

We are working with a varied project team consisting of student volunteers from Elphinstone Secondary School, digital design/ animator Matthew Talbot Kelly and the Elphinstone Film Club in content creation for the exhibit. Grant applications have been submitted to TELUS and the Sunshine Coast Credit Union to assist in exhibit funding; we are projecting an early summer 2017 exhibit launch.

