



SUNSHINE COAST
MUSEUM & ARCHIVES

SPRING 2022



Colourized photograph of Ch'kw'elhp Gibsons Landing (1930s). Colourization by Dan Lemieux of the Sunshine Coast Then & Now facebook group (see page 11)

Museums in a Changing World

Over the past few years, you may have noticed that there has been a groundswell of interest in local history. Through our work at the Museum, we have witnessed this first-hand! Visitors are asking challenging questions about how history is presented, and in turn, looking more critically at the role of museums in society. Currently, museums have a golden opportunity to capture the hearts and minds of their communities

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Vancouver Archives
AM54-S4-: Out P1180.15



Sechelt Indian Residential School operated from 1904-1975, housing First Nations children from many different Nations, including the Skwxwú7mesh and shíshálh Nation Photo: C. Bradbury

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by presenting a more honest and accurate representation of history. I am very happy to report that at the SCMA, we have been conducting this challenging work for many years under the strong leadership of our Board of Directors and professional staff.

At the SCMA, we work on many levels to present the diverse histories of the Sunshine Coast. This means it is our job to document and explore the negative aspects of history, not only the celebratory stories that many museums are founded upon. In 2021, we were featured in Macleans Magazine as a repatriation success story for our work with the **Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre**. During this time, we signed on the **BC Museum Association's Call to Action** for the repatriation of First Nations artifacts. We have also been working hard recontextualizing museum exhibits and showcasing a greater diversity of voices in our displays.

While there is still much work to be done, I believe that we have demonstrated that smaller museums can be leaders in the heritage field conducting this challenging work. As the world continues to change, we will be there for our community to reflect their needs and encourage interest in all aspects of Sunshine Coast history. We would love to speak with you about the work that we do. After all, this is your museum!

Matthew Lovegrove, Curator/Manager





ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2022

Join us for our AGM on **Wednesday, April 20, 2022** 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!



Edric Clayton standing beside his cousin Herbert Whitaker's model T Ford truck, one of the first trucks in Sechelt. 1919

President's Message **Mike Clement**



Well, we've had a very busy year in spite of the pandemic! We couldn't have handled it without the hard work of our staff and volunteers, as well as the unwavering financial support of local governments, foundations, and private donors. Our membership drive is on target to meet our goals. Numbers continue to increase in response to appeals for membership. Visit our website and check out our latest promotions.

Last year we began discussions with the District of Sechelt to operate the Sechelt Community Archives. I'm pleased to say we have signed a three-year Service Agreement to do just that. It is our hope that we can help archivist Ann Watson lighten her work load while increasing the services and programs offered at the Sechelt Archives. We are involved in some exciting talks with local governments, partner stakeholders and developers in Gibsons



Thanks to our 2021 Donors

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Canada Heritage
Lisa & Ralph Hilton
John & Lynn Smith
Barrie & Frankie
Stewart
Stephen Suh

Silver Level:

Crazy Red's Breads
Laura Houle & Mark
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Stardust Cottage—
(Maura Laverty)
Trudene Norman &
Bill Longman
Kate Storey
Thelma Tait
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Bronze Level:

Clint Budd & Donna
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Kathy & Trent Farrell
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Elaine Jackson
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Nicky Morgan
Marion O'Toole
Marlene Oussoren &
Gord Cudlipp
Dona-Lyn Reel
Judy Rother
Donna Thomas
Silas White
Gwen Willox & Wanda
Selzer

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



SCMA Photo 98

shísháhl Nation dugout canoe in Porpoise Bay, 1904. Yamamoto Boat Works in background.

President's Message (continued)

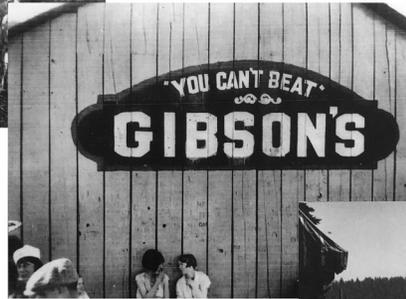
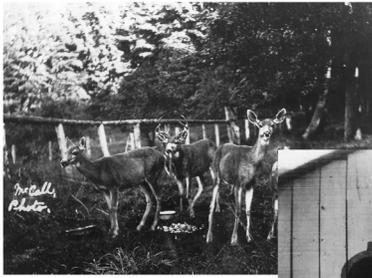
and Sechelt with regard to new and upgraded facilities to increase our ability to provide enhanced Museum services. We are working with many other heritage groups on the Coast to ensure the health and sustainability of all of our heritage organizations. We are pleased to be able to provide support when called upon, and we are grateful for the help we get from those groups in return.

We are in the final stages of implementing our HVAC upgrades at the Museum. We hope to have a more comfortable climate experience for visitors and for the safety and security of the collection by summertime. Our social media presence continues to grow and to offer an increasing number of on-line services.

Please join us at our AGM on April 20, 2022 for details on all Museum activities. Information on the AGM is provided in this newsletter.

**NEW FOR 2022: Renew and pay for your membership on the Museum's website. It's safe, secure, and easy!
Visit: www.sunshinecoastmuseum.ca**





Selection of our 2022 heritage gift cards, complimentary to members



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!

BECOME A MUSEUM MEMBER!

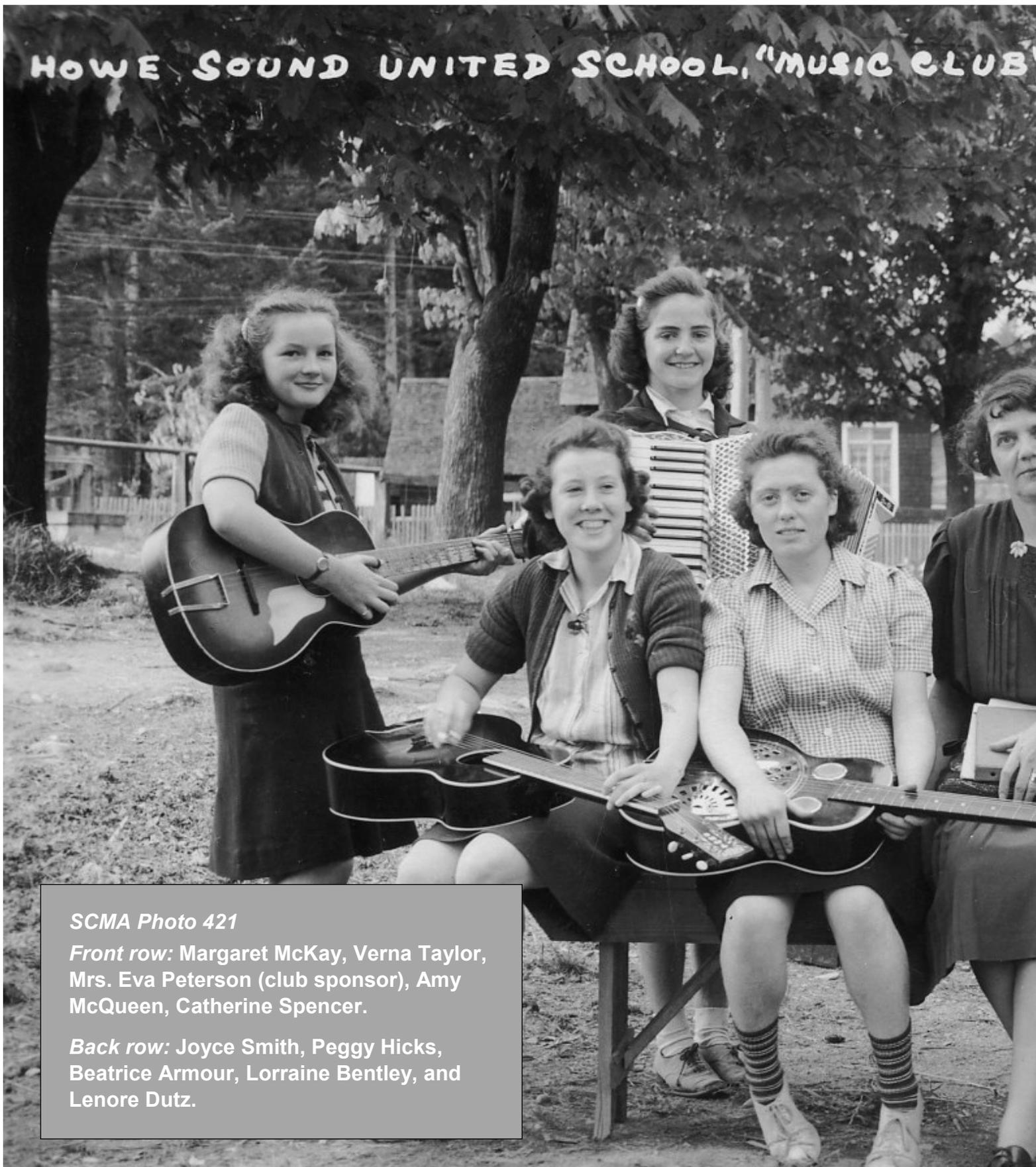
Last year, we revamped our Museum Membership Program, and now we are working hard to increase our member numbers through promotions and a membership drive. Do you know someone who might like to become a member and help support the preservation and presentation of heritage on the Sunshine Coast? Send them our way! Membership now comes with some great benefits:

- **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 a research request

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



HOWE SOUND UNITED SCHOOL, "MUSIC CLUB"



SCMA Photo 421

Front row: Margaret McKay, Verna Taylor, Mrs. Eva Peterson (club sponsor), Amy McQueen, Catherine Spencer.

Back row: Joyce Smith, Peggy Hicks, Beatrice Armour, Lorraine Bentley, and Lenore Dutz.







The Museum In Your Computer: How to Search Our Digital Archives

Many visitors to the Sunshine Coast Museum & Archives ask “Where are the archives?” While we maintain a robust collection of archival documents in storage, many of these archives are not available for in-person viewing due to preservation concerns. What we have on exhibit is only a small percentage of the Museum’s collection, which includes 7000+ artifacts, 1600 archival documents and over 8000 photographs and negatives. We also house *The Coast News* and *The Peninsula Times* newspapers, along with an assortment of other regional publications. The Museum is committed to making everything accessible to the public so we have worked to digitize our collections. This makes them easier to search

through and means that you do not need to visit the Museum, or be trained in archive handling, to go through the archives. You can visit our collection from the comfort of your own home! Let’s research Harry Roberts as an example.

Photographs & Archives

When you visit us online at www.sunshinecoastmuseum.pastperfectonline.com you can use our handy keyword search bar to explore our digitized collection. Once you have clicked search, you

The screenshot shows the website's search interface. At the top is a navigation bar with links: Home, Search Tips, Keyword Search, Advanced Search, Random Images, Archives, and Photos. Below this is a search bar containing the text "Harry Roberts" and a search button. Under the search bar, there is a checkbox for "Items with Images Only" which is checked, and a "Search Hints" section. The results section shows "40 results found." Two results are visible: "1027 - Print, photographic" with a thumbnail of a sailboat and the description "The Chack Chack, a two-masted sailboat built by Harry Roberts, moored at mouth of Roberts Creek. Record Type: Photo" and "1048 - Print, photographic" with a thumbnail of a forest scene.

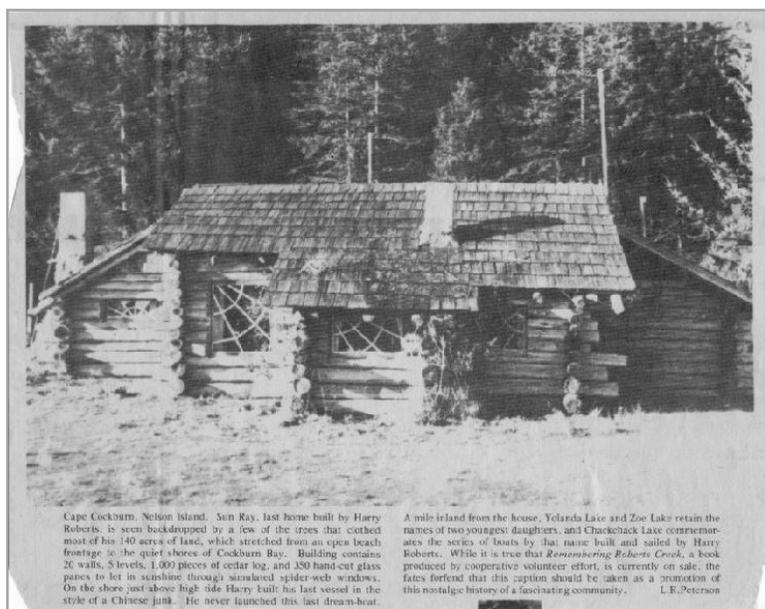
will see photographs appear first, followed by any archival materials that are in the search results. For Harry Roberts, these archival materials include his extensive writings on a variety of topics. Other archival materials that can be found in our collection are maps, pamphlets, books. Anything on paper!

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If you want a digital copy of a photograph that you have found, without that pesky watermark covering it, we've got you covered. For research and private study, low resolution .JPG images (96 dpi) are available free of charge. High resolution .TIFF images (300 dpi) are available for purchase for \$20 (research/private study only). If the image is to be used for commercial purposes, a Usage Agreement may be required. *PLEASE NOTE: Prints are not available for purchase at this time. Printing can be done at home, by a local copy shop or through an online service.

Newspapers



The Museum has digitized several publications that were locally produced, including two newspapers *The Coast News* (1945-1995) and *The Peninsula Times* (1963-1979). These are invaluable research tools that highlight the day-to-day life of the Sunshine Coast as well as chronicle many significant events for the area. Similar to searching for photos, the newspaper search also uses keyword searching and works best

when quotation marks are used. You can choose to search chronologically or within a certain time frame if you are looking for a specific event or article. *The Coast News* has the most articles so it is a good place to start, but do not underestimate *The Peninsula Times*! Searching for "Harry Roberts" will pull up 126 results from *The Coast News* and 23 articles from *The Peninsula Times*.

Research Requests

If there is anything that you cannot find, feel free to ask us. We are happy to help with research requests. Nothing is too obscure! It takes approximately two weeks to complete a request and the first 30 minutes of research is free. Additional research is \$25 per hour. Requests can be submitted by email scm_a@dccnet.com, phone 604-886-8232 or in person. Now that you have read all the way through this guide, you are practically an expert researcher already!

Allie Bartlett, Curatorial Assistant





The wooden bridge over the Glen, edge of Gibsons Landing. Photo taken in 1911 by John Hicks.

New Trails, Old Views: A Walk Through Fairy Glen

Before Winegarden Park or Brothers Park there was “Fairy Glen” (commonly referred to as the Glen), which was located along present-day Marine Drive at Gibsons Creek. It was a popular picnic area enjoyed by locals, summer visitors and cattle alike, but until recently, the Glen was no longer the community gathering space that it was 100 years ago. According to *The West Howe Sound Story*, during the 1920s “the Glen was a lovely secluded picnic area at the north-eastern boundary of the Village of Gibson’s Landing”. Church services and fundraising events such as summer teas were often held there along with everyday picnics. It became so common to have these events that the Gibson’s Landing and District Improvement Association installed two large picnic tables there.

Although the popularity of the Glen faded in the decades since the 1920s, it is being revitalized today as a trail system. The Town of Gibsons, with the help of many volunteers and a grant from the Vancouver Foundation, has developed a new trail through the area. Barry Janyk, former Mayor of Gibsons, worked with neighbours to build the new trail following a dispute over property lines. The Heritage Hills Neighbourhood Association and the Town of Gibsons cleaned up the creek and surrounding area, which had been used as an illegal dumping site, rebuilt the trail and planted a dozen cedars. Janyk, who has lived on the Coast and been involved in community work since 1978, commented that “nothing bonds people like everyone working together on a common goal.” Fairy Glen trail is a great example of this community teamwork.



SCMA Photo 880



Mr. and Mrs. Chappell with A.P. Harrold aboard the Chappell's yacht the Aletha M. on Lékw'émín Jervis Inlet, near Patrick Point.

Sunshine Coast Then & Now



Created by a Roberts Creek resident with a passion for history, **Dan Lemieux** started the **Sunshine Coast Then & Now** facebook page to share historic photos and info. Along with the official SCMA facebook page, *Then & Now* is a great place to explore local history. Scan this QR code to open the *Then & Now* page.



Museum & Archives Strategic Planning

2022 marks the final year of our strategic planning cycle and we are very excited to be preparing for the development of our next 5-year plan. This means that in the coming months, you will have the opportunity to submit your comments and ideas on the work that we do at the SCMA.

Would you like to see a specific exhibit or event at the Museum? How can we improve our community programming and events? What are we excelling at? What can we improve upon? *We want your feedback to improve our heritage service delivery on the coast.*

We will be launching a community survey online to gather information from the public to incorporate into our strategic plan. You can also send an email or call the Museum directly, and we will record your comments to be taken into considered. We would love to hear about your vision of what you would like to see at the Sunshine Coast Museum & Archives. *Get in Touch!*





Main floor gallery featuring the Kwekwinmut Pieces of the Past stone tool exhibit and a Talaysay Tours Candace Campo orange shirt display

Moving Forward Together

This springtime, the **shíshálh Nation** is undertaking the long and heart-wrenching process of investigating the site of the former residential school in Sechelt for unmarked graves. Using ground-penetrating radar (the same technology that has been used at numerous sites across the country), the shíshálh Nation is requesting respect and privacy from the community as they proceed through this investigation.

Something we can all do at this time is to continue our own education to learn more about the residential school system and its role in colonization. Visit the **National Centre for Truth & Reconciliation** website (nctr.ca) to access educational resources (including information on the Sechelt Residential School), or make a donation to the **Indian Residential School Survivors Society**.

In the coming months, there will be opportunities to offer support at the individual and community level to our shíshálh friends and neighbours. Keep an eye out for events from the shíshálh Nation on the **National Day for Truth & Reconciliation** (Sept 30, 2022), and ways that you can offer your support.



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



**See you
at the
Museum!**

