



E-NEWS

SPRING 2018



GVMA #19218

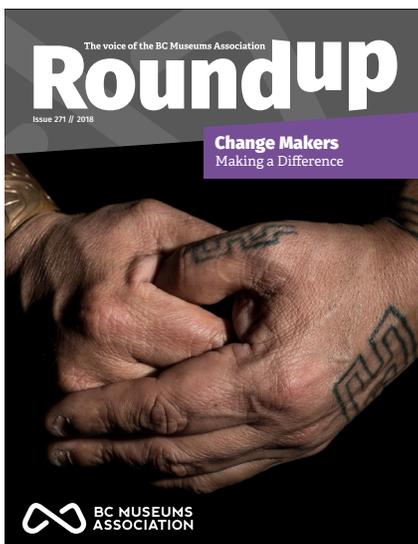


GOODBYE CHRISTIE!

We are sad to say goodbye to our wonderful Archives Intern, Christine “Christie” Waltham. Christie was on a Young Canada Works Internships for recent graduates, sponsored by the Canadian Council of Archives. She will be sorely missed not only in the Archives, but throughout the museum. Christie enthusiastically took on roles outside of her job description during her six month internship, relieving gift shop staff, assisting with exhibits, helping in the education department and taking on any task asked of her in preparation for or during our special events.

We wish Christie all the best in her future endeavors, and know she will succeed in anything she sets her mind to. Her next adventure will take her to France at the end of March where she will spend six weeks immersed in French culture before returning to look for permanent work in the Archives field.

DOUBLE CONGRATS TO GABE & OUR FIELD SCHOOL PARTNERS!



Our Field School, created and facilitated by Education Coordinator Gabriel Newman has won not just one but two awards recently! The BC Museum Association’s Round Up magazine selected the GVMA’s Field School as one of its top 10 “Change Makers” for 2018. The magazine celebrates those who are “making a substantial contribution to the cultural field” and includes “some of the most innovative and imaginative projects currently going on across BC. The projects were selected because they tackled an idea with a new solution, whether the project was large or small.”

To read the full article visit <https://issuu.com/bcmuseumsasn/docs/271-roundup-web> .

VERNON MUSEUM FIELD SCHOOL

Enhancing Knowledge through Intangible Heritage

The Vernon Museum Field School is an education driven project that is designed to celebrate the rich tangible and intangible cultural knowledge that exists in the North Okanagan. Field School does this by offering a series of workshops that partners with businesses or individuals that practice skills, or have knowledge of traditional skills, that are rarely used.

Heritage is all around us, not just in designated historic sites or museums.

The goal of Field School is to highlight the importance of our collective heritage and acknowledge that it exists everywhere in our region, be it in a business, on a farm, in workshops, or on beaches. Heritage is all around us, not just in designated historic sites or museums.

Field School is organized by Gabriel Newman, the Educator at the Greater Vernon Museum, but the workshops are led by members of local businesses, farms, individuals and organizations. By doing this, the project has positioned the Vernon Museum, not as knowledge holder, but as knowledge facilitator. Their intention, beyond hosting the work-

shops, is to begin the conversation about the region's historic places and knowledge and to let others continue it.

Field School has partnered with the Okanagan Indian Band, hosting a workshop at a traditional Sylx fishing camp. Another Field School took place in the midst of a grain field owned and operated by Fieldstone Granary in Armstrong. Other workshops included a straight shave demonstration at the Gentleman's Barber Shop in downtown Vernon and retiree and inventor Garry Garbutt, hosted individuals at his scientific workshop on the outskirts of town. All of these workshops worked to highlight that place-based historical knowledge and thinking is all around us.

Field School takes an innovative, holistic approach to community and community connections. It does not focus on single units of built heritage, but rather looks at the entire community as a place filled with both built and living heritage. By celebrating the entire greater community as a place of stories and knowledge, it creates a much stronger foundation of awareness, respect and reverence for what we have as community members and for where we live.

Field School is also a multigenerational community tool, as it focuses on topics of individual interest rather than being age specific. This engaged a much wider demographic audience than other typical museum projects. Seventy three people have participated in these workshops so far and their ages rang from children to seniors.

Field School has generated a lot of publicity and interest in the collective community. It has shown participants the value and variety of our cultural knowledge and has sparked a number of critical conversations that center not only on the history of the community but also on tangible and intangible heritage conservation.

Field School aims to engage citizens in the value of local knowledge as heritage. It has succeeded in that and has created interest from participants of all ages. By engaging and informing citizens, Field School has incubated sustainability which, we hope, will aid in meeting social and environmental goals.



Project Organizer:
Gabriel Newman is an active, energetic writer and educator. He has an MEd in Interpretive Performance from UBCO which has helped him utilize his performance skills, love of stories and his investment in community to help work on the Okanagan. Coordinator of the Greater Vernon Museum and Archives.

Photo credit: Gabriel Newman
© Gabriel Newman

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Heritage BC



The Field School was also recognized with “Outstanding Achievement” in the Heritage Education & Awareness category by Heritage BC. Congratulations again to Gabriel, for creating this innovative series and to all the participants and workshop leaders who’ve participated thus far. To date, we’ve held Field Schools at The Gentlemen's Shop & Shave Parlour, Fieldstone Organics Ltd. in Armstrong, in inventor Garry Garbutt’s workshop, with Ruby Alexis at Marshall Fields and along the shoreline of Okanagan Lake, and at Spinners Sound Centre. Thanks to all of these amazing partners for sharing their knowledge and passions...you are the reason for these accolades!

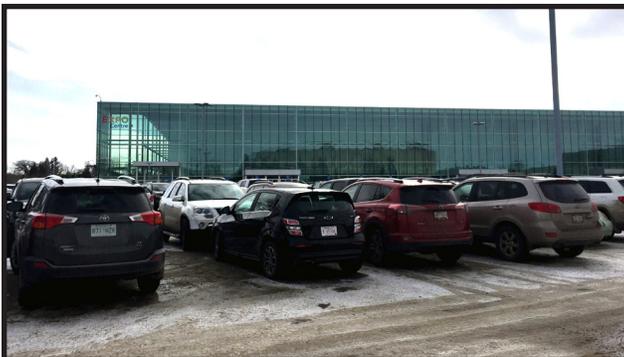
ALBERTA GIFT FAIR PROVIDES PLENTY OF NEW GIFT IDEAS



Denise attended the massive gift fair held at the Northlands Expo Centre in Edmonton at the end of February.

Being approximately double the size of the fair in Vancouver, she returned with a long list of possible new suppliers and a stack of catalogues, brochures, flyers, contacts, etc.

Staff are now working on making the tough decisions as to which products to purchase and what will need to be put on a wish list for the future. Keep an eye out this summer for some new products in our gift shop!



NOW AVAILABLE IN THE ARCHIVES: NOCA DAIRY RECORDS

(Written by Christie Waltham, Archives Intern)

As the current archives intern, a big part of my job is to prepare records in the archives' collection for researcher use. This is called "processing" – where the records from each fonds (a set of records created by one person or entity) are arranged into a cohesive order with any duplicates weeded out. An overall description is then written, and the records are stored properly for preservation.

I recently finished processing the records from NOCA (North Okanagan Creamery Association). NOCA was a dairy co-operative and brand that was founded in Armstrong in 1916 and ran until it was bought by Dairyland in 1982. Some of you will remember NOCA as your go-to dairy brand at the grocery store, or maybe you or someone you know even worked at the plant here in Vernon.

The NOCA fonds consists primarily of photographs (over 2000!) from the early 1950s to 1982, but also includes administrative records and copies of newsletters published by NOCA from 1927 to 1981. These records provide us with a really interesting window into what work, business, and agriculture was like in the North Okanagan in the mid-20th century, and we hope that if you're interested you will come and have a look!



W.C. Cameron, Henry Wiens and an unidentified woman viewing the selection of NOCA products at a grocery store, 1960s



Plant workers packaging NOCA butter, 1950s



Promotional shot of NOCA's Ogopogo and Carnival brands of ice cream, 1960s

UPDATE FROM THE SILVER STAR MOUNTAIN MUSEUM

In 2018, Silver Star celebrates 60 years of snow sport development on the Mountain. We kicked off this anniversary year with “60 Toques in 60 Days.” So while the record-breaking snow fell during the past 60 days, the knitting needles were flying, resulting in 60 toques now on display at Bugaboos Bakery Café. Stop by to view the creativity and imagination of local knitters while the toques are on display until the end of March, when they will be donated to the John Howard Society and the Vernon Women’s Transition House Society.

On March 10th, the Silver Star Mountain Museum hosted the Vancouver International Mountain Film Festival at the National Altitude Training Centre in Silver Star Village. The films are award-winning and internationally acclaimed selections about mountain culture, adventure and mountain sports. The sold out fundraiser, sponsored by Silver Star Mountain Resort, raised \$2500 for the Silver Star Mountain Museum.

Thank you to Silver Star Mountain Museum event organizer Patti Wild and all her committee members for organizing and managing these events. For more information email skiwild@live.ca.



RECENT EVENTS

WHAT DO I DO WITH...? PANEL DISCUSSION

A full house attended this event armed with questions for our four panel members. Lawyer Brett Squair from Davidson Pringle LLP spoke to the legal aspects surrounding estate planning and the benefits of gifting while you are living. Taylor Saunders, of Heirloom Antiques, answered questions such as “How do I know if this is worth anything?”, “Am I better off trying to sell this item myself?” and gave some tips as to what is popular in today’s market. Museum Archivist Barbara Bell described the types of items the archives collect, and pointed out that photos you may not think are historically significant, or perhaps those taken within the last fifty years, can be very valuable to the archives. She also emphasized the need to be selective in accepting donations as space in the archives is now very limited. Registrar Jesslyn Jarvis clarified the museum’s artifact donation procedure, noted areas of our collection that are lacking, and discussed tax receipts for donations.

A special thanks to our four panel members, to our facilitator Gabriel Newman, and everyone who came out to learn more.

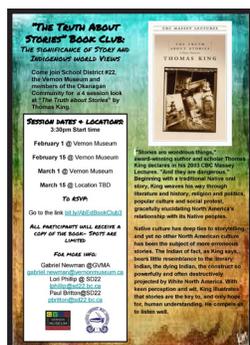


BUSINESS AFTER FIVE DRAWS A CROWD



A huge crowd of business people crammed into the museum to attend the first Business After Five event of 2018. Attendees were treated to delicious apple pie and ice cream, wine, door prizes, archives tours and of course lots of networking and mingling opportunities. We were also fortunate to witness the “surprise” announcement of the Good Citizen of the Year Award by JCI Vernon to the very deserving Cindy Masters. A special thank you to our wonderful sponsors, Davison Orchards and Safeway for supplying the food.

“THE TRUTH ABOUT STORIES” BOOK CLUB



This was the second book club organized through a partnership with School District #22, GVMA and members of the Syilx Community. Stay posted for more information as the book club will likely become an annual activity.

#MUSEUMSELFIEDAY

Did you know January 17th was #museumselfieday? The internet event invites museum visitors and staff to snap a photo of themselves in front of their favorite collection and share it on social media. Museum staff and board members had fun posting pics throughout the day on our Facebook and Instagram accounts posing in front of their favorite museum collection. If you'd like to see more of the photos visit our Facebook and Instagram pages.



FIELD SCHOOL: TURN TABLE WORKSHOP



During the Saturday evening workshop vinyl and audio specialists shared tips on how to get the most from your turn table, how to take proper care of your records, and much more. Those in attendance received a free record cleaning and sleeve, food, drinks, and the opportunity to win door prizes. Watch for more workshops in this hands-on educational series which teams up with local businesses, organizations, and experts who have "historic skills" to present to adults.

A huge thank you to host Carl St. Jean of Spinners Sound Centre and all who were involved in one of our most popular Field School's to date!

HISTORY TRIVIA NIGHT

This Vernon Winter Carnival event saw seven teams participate for bragging rights and prizes donated by downtown Vernon businesses. Teams competed in three rounds, the first following the carnival theme of Winter Wonderland, the second a round of local trivia and lastly a speed round of Canadian trivia.

Congratulations to this year's winners, the "Ministry of History", aka the Ministry of Transportation team.



"VERNON INTERNMENT CAMP 1914-1920" TALK & SLIDE SHOW

Vernon Internment Camp
1914 - 1920
Talk & Slide Show

Library and Archives Canada Pk 127105

During World War I, Vernon came to the attention of leading politicians in Ottawa, Washington, London, Berlin, and even Vienna. Why? Because of the men, women, and children imprisoned at an internment camp in the town's north end - subjects of the German and Austro-Hungarian empires, transformed into "enemy aliens" by the outbreak of war. Recent research by members of the Vernon and District Family History Society has brought to light a vast amount of information about the lives of these prisoners and the men who guarded them.

Richly-illustrated booklet for sale at the event.

In a half-hour talk and slideshow Don McNair offers some of the highlights of these findings. He also invites the general public to find out if their families, too, have a connection with the internment camp.

This research was made possible by a grant from the Endowment Council of the Canadian First World War Internment Recognition Fund.

MARCH 3, 2018 1:00PM - 1:30PM
GREATER VERNON MUSEUM & ARCHIVES
SPACE IS LIMITED, PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED
ADMISSION BY DONATION

250.542.3142 WWW.VERNONMUSEUM.CA

A packed house was in attendance for Don McNair's excellent talk and slide show. Museum volunteer Maggie Strom said "you could hear a pin drop. Don made it real by taking you through one family's internment experience." The attentive crowd was full of questions and many left asking when and how they could learn more.

Copies of *Vernon Internment Camp 1914-1920* can be ordered through the gift shop.

GRANDPARENT & GRANDCHILD DANCES



Our second Winter Carnival event was enjoyed by the young and the young at heart! Grandparents brought their grandchild(ren) to the museum for one of two dances. Thanks to the multi-talented 'Kiki the Frozen Fairy' (aka Tanya Lipscomb) the crowd was movin' to silly interactive childrens songs, were on their feet for a round of square dancing and the afternoon dancers even got in some line dancing! During the dance break, ice cream sundaes from Lollipop Lane located inside Vernon Teach & Learn were enjoyed by many.

We were thrilled this year to add professional photographer Camillia Courts' services to our family event. Camillia took a portrait of each pair or group as they entered and provided Grandparents with a digital copy to remember this special day. A sampling of Camillia's photos as seen at the bottom of this page.

Thanks to the dedicated and hard-working Vernon Winter Carnival executive for recognizing the museum's Grandparent & Grandchild Dance as the 1st Runner Up for a Family Event for the second year in a row. We are so honored to be acknowledged.



CHINESE LANTERN FESTIVAL



The first in our Celebrate & Learn Series left smiles on the faces of all who attended. Guests were delighted by the bright colorful costumes and wide variety of dance performances by the Rejoicing Team of the Okanagan Chinese Baptist Church.



Sitting in the beautifully decorated lantern-filled museum, guests were treated to an authentic Lantern Festival dinner provided by the Royal Garden Restaurant.

Watch for more events to come in this new series.

Thanks to Wayne Emde for these wonderful images!



"THE SOCIAL LIFE OF WATER IN THE OKANAGAN" TRAVELING EXHIBIT



The members-only and public openings of our newest traveling exhibit took place last week. Those in attendance at the members-only opening participated in hands-on water activities led by Clark from the Okanagan Science Centre, and during our public opening Chantelle from Allan Brooks Nature Centre, and Jennifer from the RDNO offered hands-on activities and information.



We'd like to express our appreciation to our partners for their participation, as well as thank Davison Orchards who donated apple juice and salsa for both events. Special thanks to the RDNO for their sponsorship of this multidisciplinary exhibit that explores our fundamental relationships with water throughout the Okanagan Valley.

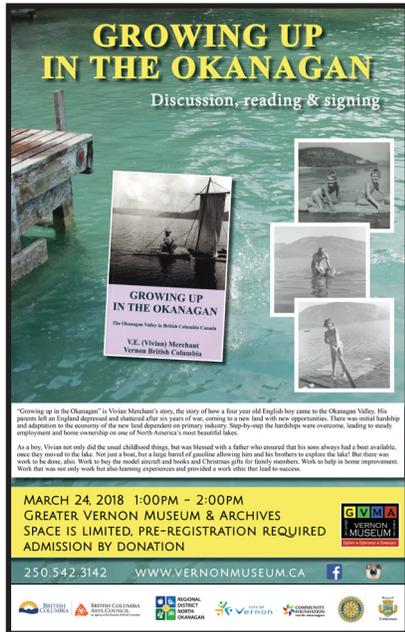


If you haven't seen the exhibit yet, don't delay...it will wash away May 12, 2018! Open during our business hours. Regular admission fees apply. Free to members!



UPCOMING EVENTS

“GROWING UP IN THE OKANAGAN” DISCUSSION, READING & SIGNING



Fitting right in with our focus on water is our upcoming discussion, reading and signing March 24th of “Growing Up In The Okanagan” by Vernon author, Vivian Merchant.

It is the story of how a four year old English boy came to the Okanagan Valley. His parents left an England depressed and shattered after six years of war, coming to a new land with new opportunities. There was initial hardship and adaptation to the economy of the new land dependent on primary industry. Step-by-step the hardships were overcome, leading to steady employment and home ownership on one of North America’s most beautiful lakes.

As a boy, Vivian not only did the usual childhood things, but was blessed with a father who ensured that his sons always had a boat available, once they moved to the lake. Not just a boat, but a large barrel of gasoline allowing him and his brothers to explore the lake!

Make sure to pre-register by calling 250-542-3142 as space is limited. Admission is by donation and copies of his book will be available for purchase.

Many thanks to the following contributors for their continued support of the Vernon Museum and its In-Spot Museums.

