

E-NEWS

FALL 2018



Vernon Museum upon completion in 1967 GVMA # 11665

WOULD YOU LIKE TO...

see a revitalized, safer, more vibrant downtown?

attract new development to the downtown core?

realize an economic boost to our local economy?

attend more special events, workshops,

presentations, and educational programming?

go to culturally diverse events in a 150-200 seat performance space?

ensure our unique history is preserved and safeguarded for generations to come?

see more interactive and engaging permanent exhibits?

view more of our museum collection? Currently less than 10% of our collection is on display.

have dedicated classroom space for school groups to enhance

visit a variety of inspiring in-house & travellings exhibitions?

have access to more public research stations and a larger research area in the Archives?

browse in an expanded Gift Shop offering a wider

Then vote "YES" to borrowing up to \$25 million for the construction of the new multi-purpose Greater Vernon CULTURAL CENTRE on October 20th.

Vote YES for CULTURE!

The Greater Vernon Cultural Centre is more than our museum and art gallery. It will be utilized by many interest groups from our schools to our cultural organizations, including a variety of stakeholders who will be able to take advantage of this beautiful new facility.



A FEW FACTS:

- The proposed location for the Cultural Centre is the Vernon Block located at 3313 30th Street, known as the old Coldstream Hotel site. It will take up 1/3rd of the property with the remaining earmarked for mixed-use development.
- The annual impact on the average household (with an assessed value of \$430,000) is just \$12/year. That's \$1/month!
- Operating costs are anticipated to be \$1/year for the average household.

To learn more about the proposed Greater Vernon CULTURAL CENTRE visit www.gvculturalcentre.ca or contact the Community Services department if you have questions. Community Services staff can be reached by email at culture@rdno.ca or by calling 250-550-3700.

Public information booths are also scheduled at the Vernon Farmers Market Mondays and Thursdays from 8am-1pm up until October 18th, at the Village Green Mall October 6th & 13th from 9:30am – 5:30pm and at the Downtown Vernon Association's Free Parking Day October 6th, 9:30am-5:30pm. Or, pop into the museum and have a chat with us!



Image shown above is just to give sense of place. No detailed building design has been done.



VOLUNTEERS! WE NEED YOUR HELP TO SPREAD THE WORD!

Can you spare some of your time and talents for this turning point? We're looking for volunteers to help with:

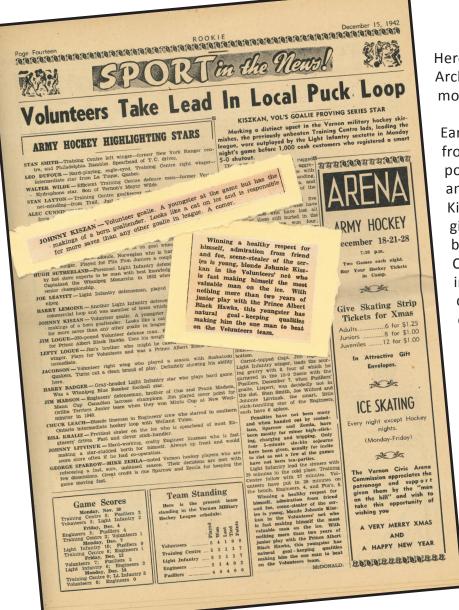
- Communications
- Administration
- Community Outreach
- Information Booths
- And, just about everything else!



Even a few hours would mean so much and go such a long way. To volunteer, please contact Maria Brunskill at yes4culture@gmail.com, 250-542-3142 (museum), 778-241-5840 (personal cell). Please let her know your contact information, availability and a specific area(s) you would be willing to help out with.

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STORIES FROM THE ARCHIVES



Here's a story from the Vernon Museum Archives about a person who might be more familiar to you than you think!

Earlier this year I received a phone call from an individual trying to track a possible connection between Vernon and a fellow by the name of Johnny Kiszkan, during WWII. The information given was that this person could have been training at the Vernon Military Camp. Our archival records do not include lists of soldiers training at the camp, but our files do hold copies of several different camp published newsletters, which I hoped might prove useful. These include the 'Battery Blast', 'Doin's', and the 'Rookie'. After some searching, the name of Johnny Kiszkan turned up in the December 15th, 1942 edition of the 'Rookie'! He was mentioned in a report on the latest hockey game, where, as the goalie for the 'Volunteer' team, Kiszkan was described as "a youngster at the game but has the makings of a born goaltender. Looks like a cat on ice and is responsible for more saves than any other goalie in the league. A comer."

Following the war, young Johnny from rural Saskatchewan went on, as predicted, to enjoy a notable and lengthy career as a professional goalie. For those of you who may not have guessed his identity by now, Johnny Kiszkan, the WWII trainee at the Vernon Military Camp, changed his name to Johnny Bower and became a hockey legend, earning the nickname "China Wall" for his goal stopping abilities, and helping the Toronto Maple Leafs win four Stanley Cup championships in the 1960's. Johnny Bower was inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame in 1976, and died on December 26th, 2017 at the age of 93. He is just one of many interesting people whose connections to Vernon can be traced through our archival records.

Barbara Bell Archivist

FEATURE PHOTOS

The archives recently received on loan several photo albums from the Denison/Fleming families. In particular, two large albums belonging to Eric Denison caught my attention. To my delight the photos were dated and had corresponding names... a rarity sometimes. Not only were there fantastic images from the 1930s and 1940s of his family, high school life, cadets, scouts, Vernon views etc., but also, dance and movie ticket stubs, transit tickets, military leave forms, membership cards, menus etc. These albums are truly a wonderful family treasure and we are extremely grateful to the Denison family for allowing us

to make copies for our archives.

Liz Ellison, Archivist



Included in the albums were great images like this Doug Kermode photo of the Vernon High School Band in 1943. Front row left to right: Ron Dennys, sax; Eric Denison, vocalist; Mike Dunkley, sax; Doug Wylie, clarinet. Second row left to right: Robert Clerke, piano; Rod Garrett, drums; John Fleming, trumpet and Dave Fisher, trumpet.

STUDENT'S PRIVILEGE CARD
FOR

CAPITOL THEATRE
VERNON, B.C.

This card when presented at the Theatre box office will admit

Evenue September 1

Age, September 1

Age, September 2

Age, September 2

Age, September 2

Age, September 3

Age, September 3

Age, September 3

Age, September 4

Age, Septembe

Capitol Theatre student card for 1942-1943.

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NEW LOCALLY HANDCRAFTED PRODUCTS BY DORIS "NEESA" BONNEAU



RECENT DONATION

The Civic Arena opened in 1938 and is the oldest facility of its kind in the Okanagan. As a result of its upcoming demolition, the Museum saved several artifacts significant to the arena's long history. One such artifact is this old goal judge's chair. During a hockey game, this chair was stationed behind the net as a vantage point for the goal judge, who determined the legitimacy of goals.

Jesslyn Jarvis, Registrar / Curatorial Assistant

NEW DISPLAYS

Barbara Bell has created another intriguing display located just past the Gift Shop. The Early Land Surveying display features engineer and surveyor Gilbert C. Tassie. Surveyor's tools, a Vernon Irrigation District map, and even a section of the Grey Canal Wood Stave Pipe, plus a map of the Grey Canal are incorporated into this display. A map drawing station and Grey Canal Q & A blocks add a fun interactive component.





The Allan Brooks Gallery has received a fresh coat of paint and a revitalization. Not only will you find a wide range of Allan Brooks' original works from our vast collection, you will also have the pleasure of viewing artwork from a number of other local artists, including Charles Holliday, Howard Totenhofer and Holly Middleton to name a few. A Haida Argillite collection generously donated to the museum by Greg Abraham rounds out the gallery.











NEWS FROM OUR SATELITTE MUSEUMS

SILVER STAR MOUNTAIN MUSEUM





The Silver Star Mountain Museum had an action packed summer and is now closed for the season. They are working hard behind the scene already for next summer's opening. year. In the off-season make sure to watch their facebook page https://www.facebook.com/silverstarmountainmuseum for updates, historic photos, and their wonderful "Faces Behind the Run Names" series. For more information on the museum please contact silverstarmuseum@gmail.com.

OKANAGAN LANDING STATIONHOUSE MUSEUM

The Okanagan Landing Stationhouse Museum comprises one wing of Paddlewheel Hall. It celebrates the history of the area and houses an amazing 21'x 4' scale model (courtesy of North Okanagan Model Railway Association) depicting Okanagan Landing and the shipyards in 1914.

The museum is now officially closed for the season, however off-season or group tours can be arranged by calling 250-558-4233.

Admission by donation.





CADET CAMP MUSEUM



It's been a long hot summer, and plenty of good work has been achieved with new displays and exhibits in the Vernon Cadet Camp Museum. We

are so very proud of our hard working summer student Marina Craig who was awarded the Commanding Officer's Certificate of Appreciation as well as his coin during the grad rehearsal parade, in recognition of her work and positive attributes. A most deserving award. Well done Marina!



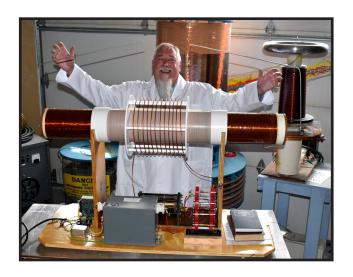
RECENT EVENTS

ALL THINGS REPTILES! PRESENTATIONS





MORNING WITH AN INVENTOR WORKSHOP TOURS



SUMMER GHOST TOURS









UPCOMING EVENTS

Flin Flon Flim Flam Documentary Screening (presented by Amnesty International, Kairos and the Outreach group from Trinity United Church) - Tuesday September 25th, 7pm - 8:30pm

Museum Alive! Open House - Saturday September 29th, 12pm-3pm

Public Opening of World War I Exhibit - Thursday October 4th, 7pm - 9pm

"Fernie at War: 1914 - 1919" Presentation/Book Signing, Wayne Norton - Saturday October 6th,1pm-2pm

Ghost Tours of Vernon with Gabriel Newman - October 28th - 30th, 7pm nightly

"Defeating the German Army in 1918: the 2nd Canadian Mounted Rifles and the Hundred Days Campaign from Amiens to Mons" Presentation, Howard Hisdal - Wednesday November 7th, 7pm-9pm

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





