

OCTOBER 2019

# MUSEUM OF THE CARIBOO CHILCOTIN

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## NEWSLETTER

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Dear Members,

The museum will be reviving its quarterly newsletter beginning with this October issue to keep our valued members updated and included on the museum's programs and activities.

## RENOS COMPLETED

### NEW EXHIBITS ON DISPLAY

The museum has had an incredibly exciting and busy year with new events and exhibits, and we are getting more comfortable in our location within the Tourism Discovery Centre (TDC). With the lower level renovations completed in May, the museum now has numerous new exhibits in its substantial display area, with staff and volunteers working hard to continue to develop our exhibits to make the best use of our new spaces. This includes a new set of exhibits focusing on historic local businesses, such as our Woodland Jewellers display which we completed with the help of Cindy Watt and Brenda & Kevin Bourdon just last week.

This spring, the museum piloted a very successful education program that included guided tours and crafting sessions. With over ten classes from School District 27 attending the program, it was able to reach over 250 students and over 25 teachers and teaching assistants. The program was well received by teachers and students alike, and it was an excellent opportunity to promote local history, culture, and Indigenous ways of being among the community's youth. The museum is working to stabilize this program and offer it to school groups every year.



The museum had a very busy summer in 2019, seeing 5760 visitors from May through August. The museum's first Heritage Gathering was held on July 1st at the Williams Lake Stampede, and was a successful event that celebrated the history of Williams Lake and the Cariboo-Chilcotin. This free family event included live music, local vendors, children's games, a vintage car show, and a range of First Nations traditional activities and performances to celebrate the rich culture of the Cariboo-Chilcotin. We would like to recognize the many sponsors, generous donations, and numerous volunteers that made the event a success and enabled both visitors and community members to join in the event.

## Volunteers Wanted

Interested in volunteering at the museum or an event?



Contact 250.392.7404 or [mccoffice@telus.net](mailto:mccoffice@telus.net)

# SUMMER STUDENT PROGRAM

We have been very fortunate to have incredible and hard working summer students over the past four years, and this year was no exception. This summer our students diligently worked towards the completion of the museum's cataloguing project to integrate the collection's catalogue records with the museum's online database, while developing new displays, welcoming visitors, and completing research requests.

# RED CROSS PROJECT FUNDING

This summer also saw the beginning of the museum's Red Cross Project which will continue until September of 2020. The museum's 2017 move from its downtown location to the TDC presented many new challenges as it was required on a short timeline and was further interrupted by the fire and the City's evacuation. As a result, the museum's collection requires significant work to improve the catalogue records of the collection, and many of our larger objects are stored off-site due to our limited space at the TDC. The goal of this project is to bring museum artifacts that are currently located off-site into our on-site storage, while improving the collection records and completing preservation on artifacts where necessary.

Under Red Cross grant funding, the museum has hired two full-time project assistants to complete this project, Casey Bennett and Nadia Erasmus. With the assistance and guidance of volunteer and Society Vice-President Mary Telfer, the team is working diligently toward completing the project's goals. We have been able to successfully empty one of our storage locations, relocating items to our on-site storage with the help of a new storage shed located at the Tourism Discovery Centre.

# MUSEUM WELCOMES NEW STAFF

The museum has also welcomed new manager Alex Geris to the museum staff in June this year. Alex and her husband moved this year to Williams Lake from Ontario to start their new life in the Cariboo Chilcotin. We are fortunate to have Alex join us as she brings a background in archival studies and has enthusiastically moved into the position to manage the museum's collection and operations. Davana Mahon has also joined the museum's core team as the Marketing and Promotions Coordinator and is working on actively increasing the museum's online presence and developing new activities to promote the museum and the cultural heritage the museum represents.

The Multi-Phase Digitization Project is currently underway with Sharon MacDonald as project lead and consultant, which will create a digital browser of museum documents, photographs and history. This will improve the accessibility of the information held in our current print browsers while creating more floor space to display our vast collection of artifacts.

Together with the project assistants and our invaluable dedicated volunteers, the museum has a strong team at its base to serve the community and to strive towards achieving the museum's many goals.

The museum is approaching a busy fall, with the Annual General Meeting scheduled for 7:00p.m. on November 21st at City Hall, the Cariboo Country Christmas Craft & Trade Fair on November 23rd at Elks Hall, Holiday Wreath Workshop on Nov 30th at the museum, our Christmas Tea and Bake Sale on December 8th at the Seniors Activity Centre, and a New Year's Eve Concert featuring Kamloops Band Tennessee Walker at Sacred Heart Hall. Please see "Upcoming Events" section of newsletter for more information.



- Left to Right -  
Nadia Erasmus, VP Mary Telfer, Casey Bennett,  
Davana Mahon & Alex Geris

**ATTENTION KIDS**  
MUSEUM IS HAVING A KIDS  
COLORING CONTEST!

Pick up a coloring sheet from the  
Museum and color it in for a chance  
to win cool prizes!

## Museum Hours

Monday to Friday 9am - 5pm

Saturdays 10am - 3pm

Following November 16th CLOSED WEEKENDS

# THANK YOU TO MEMBERS, VOLUNTEERS & DIRECTORS

We would like to extend a warm thank you to our members for your continued support and urge you to join us for our AGM on November 21. Membership renewals are \$10.00 and can be purchased at the museum by cash, cheque, or credit.

**Volunteers Wanted** - If you are interested in the history and heritage of your community, you can help the museum of the Cariboo Chilcotin by volunteering your time to assist with a variety of museum activities that match with your skills and interests. If you would like to volunteer with us, please call 250-392-7404 or e-mail at [mccoffice@telus.net](mailto:mccoffice@telus.net).



## Reminder

ALL MEMBERSHIPS ARE DUE  
FOR RENEWAL

Must have a valid membership  
to vote or to hold director  
position

\$10 Available at museum  
or AGM to purchase



Museum of the  
Cariboo Chilcotin

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[www.cowboy-museum.com](http://www.cowboy-museum.com)  
[mccoffice@telus.net](mailto:mccoffice@telus.net)



# Upcoming Events

## November

**21st Annual General Meeting**  
Thursday, Nov 21st at 7pm  
City Hall (450 Mart Street)

**23rd Cariboo Country Christmas  
Craft & Trade Fair**  
Saturday, Nov 23rd  
Doors Open 10:30am Closes 4pm  
Elks Hall (98 1st Ave)  
FREE Admission  
Santa Photos, Crafts & More

**30th Holiday Wreath Workshop**  
Saturday, Nov 30th  
1-3pm  
Museum (1660 Broadway Ave  
South)

## December

**8th Annual Christmas Tea & Bake  
Sale**  
Sunday, Dec 8th  
11am to 2pm  
Seniors Activity Centre (176 4th  
Ave North)

**31st Sleigh Bells & Silver Spurs  
Fundrasier Concert**  
Tuesday, December 31st  
Doors Open 7pm  
Tennessee Walker LIVE  
PERFORMANCE  
Tickets \$50 \*Must be 19yrs OR over\*  
Sacred Heart Hall (455 Pigeon  
Ave)  
Tickets are available at Margetts Meats,  
All-Ways Travel & the Museum

