

604-795-5210

www.chilliwackmuseum.ca

2018 Annual Report

CHILLIWACK
MUSEUM & ARCHIVES

Table of Contents

Message from the Executive Director & President	1
Who We Are	2
Exhibitions	3
Archives	4
Curatorial	5
Education & Engagement	6
Chilliwack's Gift Shop & Memberships	7
Volunteers & Supporters	8
Heritage Awards & Looking Forward	9

Our Vision

is to connect our community with Chilliwack's History.

Our Purpose

- is to establish, develop, and maintain for the benefit of the community a museum for the preservation and exhibition of objects as examples of historic, natural, and cultural interest and value;
- to establish, develop, and maintain for the benefit of the community, archives for the purpose of gathering and preserving written, oral, and visual information and records connected with the history of the area;
- to promote the study and understanding of the culture of Indigenous People;
- to undertake research, education, and other activities consistent with the other aims and objects of the Society;
- to promote interest in the study of historical objects.

Message from the Executive Director



As the newly appointed executive director it has been my sincere pleasure reviewing all the accomplishments of this organization while putting the 2018 annual report together.

During my first week I was provided a tour of the Curatorial and Archives storage and was blown away by the organization and preservation standards that are in place! Within the first week I was also certain that I had inherited a phenomenal team of individuals who are passionate about their work and connecting the community with its culture and heritage.

On behalf of myself, the team, and the board I would like to take a moment to express our sincere gratitude and appreciation

to Ron Denman. Ron returned from retirement in 2018 to ensure continued operation of the Chilliwack Museum and Archives while the search for a permanent executive director was ongoing. Thank you Ron for your continued support and all you have done, and continue to do to ensure the success of the Museum and Archives.

I believe this report speaks for itself in highlighting the magnificent achievements of the Chilliwack Museum and Archives, and I look forward to continuing the legacy and ensuring our relevancy in 2019.

-Shawna Maurice, Executive Director
Chilliwack Museum & Archives

Message from the President

Year end reporting is a process which gives us an opportunity to look back at our accomplishments over the past year, providing a chance to analyze the financial and general well being of our Society.

Much was accomplished in 2018. Many challenges were overcome. A change in executive directorship prompted the need for a replacement. Thanks Ron Denman for stepping in to fill the gap during the search and managing operations in the interim. Throughout the process the staff, volunteers and the board of trustees all worked extremely hard to ensure the continued success of the Society.

Today we are in good standing, we have a new, very enthusiastic executive director, we have an outstanding team in place to execute the objectives and visions of the Chilliwack Museum and Archives and we have a very productive board of trustees who have worked diligently to maintain the integrity of this organization. The transitions of 2018 have provided a better understanding of each of our roles, setting again a strong foundation for future successes.

In closing, I wish to sincerely acknowledge and thank our Mayor, Council and City staff who provide the Museum and Archives generous financial support and management expertise. Your support is greatly appreciated.

-Charlie Fortin, President
Chilliwack Museum & Historical Society

Who We Are

CHILLIWACK MUSEUM AND ARCHIVES STAFF



Abbie Murphy
Museum Attendant



Anna Irwin
Curator



Laurie Benton
Archives Technician



Jordan Sheffield
Museum Attendant



Sarah Belley
*Education & Engagement
Coordinator*



Shawna Maurice
Executive Director



Tristan Evans
Archivist



Yvonne Contreras
*Administrative &
Volunteer Coordinator*

BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2018

CHARLIE FORTIN, *President*
VIVIAN WALKER, *Vice-President*
FRED FEISTMANN, *Past President*
MERLIN BUNT, *Treasurer*
RYAN MULLIGAN, *Director of Recreation and Culture, City of Chilliwack Liaison*

DAVE CLARKE, *Trustee*
ESTHER HARDER, *Trustee*
TIA HALSTAD, *Trustee (Term Completed)*
PAULINE HEPNER, *Trustee (Term Completed)*

Exhibitions

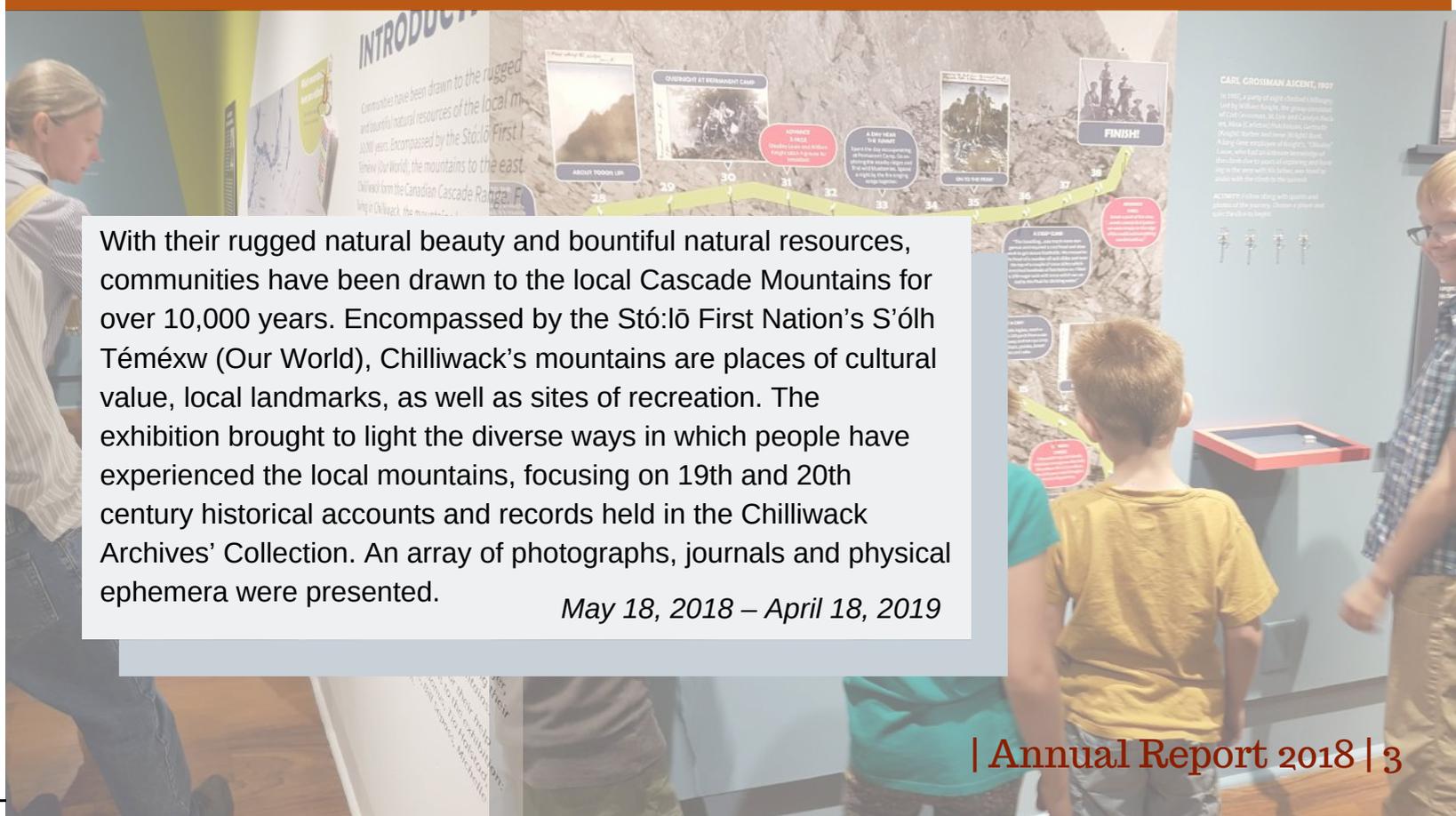
SQ'ÉWLETS: A Stó:lō-Coast Salish Community in the Fraser River Valley



In partnership with the SQ'ÉWLETS First Nation and the Stó:lō Research and Resource Management Centre, we were pleased to present this unique exploration of a dynamic local community. Bringing to life in Chilliwack information presented on their award winning Digital SQ'ÉWLETS website, this exhibition became a context for inter-generational learning.

November 2, 2017 - April 28, 2018

Mountaineers: Community Experience in Chilliwack's Mountains



With their rugged natural beauty and bountiful natural resources, communities have been drawn to the local Cascade Mountains for over 10,000 years. Encompassed by the Stó:lō First Nation's S'ólh Téméxw (Our World), Chilliwack's mountains are places of cultural value, local landmarks, as well as sites of recreation. The exhibition brought to light the diverse ways in which people have experienced the local mountains, focusing on 19th and 20th century historical accounts and records held in the Chilliwack Archives' Collection. An array of photographs, journals and physical ephemera were presented.

May 18, 2018 – April 18, 2019

Archives

In a speech in 2003, Bishop Desmond Tutu proclaimed, “archives are the bulwark of a free society.” Archives are not simply interesting or fun, they are as essential to our future as much as our past. As Laura A. Millar explains, “first and foremost, archives... prove rights, confirm obligations, verify events, and substantiate claims.” And yet, archives are so much more than that. Director of the Smithsonian National Museum of African Art, Dr. Gus Casely-Hayford, claimed archives have the power to make people feel connected to places and things. Archives provide us with a sense of orientation, an understanding of who we are, and a connection to our community. Whether you are brand new to Chilliwack or your ancestors have lived here for thousands of years, archives are essential for building your sense of identity and understanding of the community’s various yet intertwined cultures.

-Tristan Evans, Archivist
Chilliwack Museum & Archives

2018.008.001 | Frederick Walter Lee
Sunset, Chilliwack
Watercolour

2018 ACQUISITION STATISTICS

Archival, Artifact, and Library Donations **69**
Visitors **464**
Visitor Hours **479**
Research Emails **127**
Research Phone Calls **270**
Volunteer Hours **565**
Online Collections Database Searches **8758**
Website Hits **5098**

2018.022.001 | L. Edmondson
Five Corners, Chilliwack
Oil on Canvas

Curatorial

Our Curatorial department was led in 2018 by Anna Irwin, who took over for Interim Curator Adrienne Rempel in June 2018. Key accomplishments by the Curatorial department over the past year include the development and installation of our *Mountaineers: Community Experience in Chilliwack's Mountains* exhibition and the continued development of a new online exhibition, *Chilliwack's Chinatowns: A Story of Diversity, Racism and Arson*, which launched in January 2019.



2018.051 - Ceremonial Masonic sword used by Arthur Kipp



10,465
Artifacts

2018.038 - Mug and dish from the Charles Laughton theatre, c. 1964-1974

Artifact conservation is central to all activities in the curatorial department. Conservation practices, both preventative and hands-on, are crucial to maintaining the condition of artifacts and ensure that we are providing the maximum lifespan possible for artifacts within our collection. Regular artifact maintenance and cleaning, along with monitoring of agents which contribute to the deterioration of our collection, ensures that we are able to take these artifacts forward into the future so they can continue to be enjoyed and studied by researchers and those looking to connect with Chilliwack's history.

-Anna Irwin, Curator
Chilliwack Museum & Archives

2018 ACQUISITION HIGHLIGHTS

The object collection, consisting of 10,465 processed artifacts, continued to grow in 2018. Select key acquisitions from 2018 include:

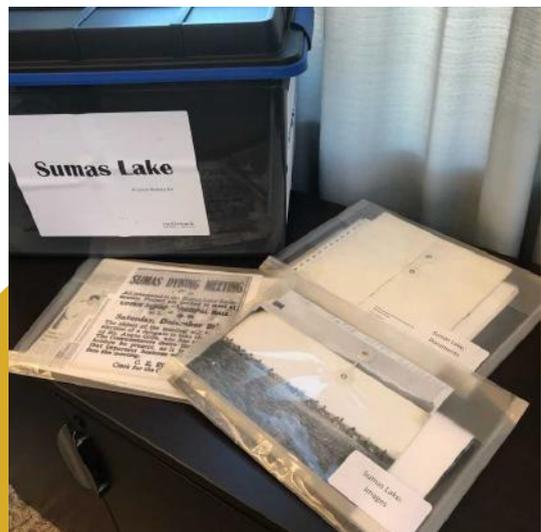
- 2018.011 - Hand painted sign from the Chilliwack Fair, 1952.
- 2018.046 - Sealskin coat purchased from Chilliwack Furs
- 2018.051 - Ceremonial Masonic sword used by Arthur Kipp
- 2018.034 - Eyeglasses and case associated with Chilliwack optometrist Felix McManus, c.1910—1930s
- 2018.017 - Watches (2) used by Jessie Eustache Preston (née Jackman), c. 1940-1960
- 2018.018 - Green and grey suits worn by Robin Lister, c. 1962-1980s.
- 2018.027 - Come-along used for raspberry farming and meat suspension in Yarrow, BC; c. 1920-1930.
- 2018.036 - Wosk Sack co. basketball uniform
- 2018.038 - Mug and dish from the Charles Laughton theatre, c. 1964-1974

Education & Engagement

The numbers for Education Programs booked continued to grow in 2018, up 5 bookings from 80 in 2017. Summer programming included a four week family drop in craft activity, and outreach events for Cultus Lake Day, Party in the Park, and Canada Day that engaged the public with local history activities. The addition of the Sumas Lake Education kit has been a useful addition to the education kit program, helping to record higher booking numbers in 2019. 2019 will see an exciting new departure into fully interactive outreach events, dynamic curriculum based education upgrades, and community minded events that are geared to increase visitors and membership to the Museum.

-Sarah Belley,

Education & Engagement Coordinator
Chilliwack Museum & Archives



School Programs Booked **85**

Education Kits Booked **8**

Children Attended **1955**

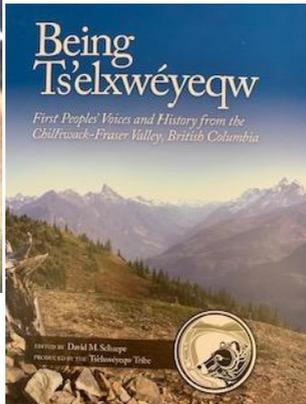
Parents Attended **230**

Teachers Attended **85**



Chilliwack's Gift Shop

We are Chilliwack's specialty gift shop!



It is our goal to feature local history books and merchandise!

Admissions

Youth **366**
 Students **176**
 Adults **962**
 Seniors **481**
 Free Passes **70**

2055 Total

Memberships

Support the Chilliwack Museum and Archives by becoming a Member!

The Chilliwack Museum and Archives is committed to Connecting You with Chilliwack's History through a series of exhibitions, programs, and events, but to do this we need your support!

A supporting membership includes:

- Free admission to the Chilliwack Museum & Archives for One Year
- 2 complimentary guest passes
- Special Invitations to member only events
- Advance Notice of upcoming programs, exhibitions, and events
- Discounts on workshops and public programming
- 15% discount on gift shop items
- 10% discount on archival photo orders
- Voting Privileges (Must be 16 or older to vote)

Supporting membership fees:

- Individual (Adult) \$20
- Family Pass \$35.00 (2 adults and 3 children)
- Individual (Student) \$15
- Grandparents Pass \$25 (2 grandparents and 3 grandkids)
- Individual (Senior) \$15

Lifetime Membership **\$200**

Enjoy all the benefits of a supporting membership for Life!

Also Available!
 Corporate/Organization Membership
 Teacher/Educator Membership
 Not-for-Profit/Charity Membership

Total Memberships **193**

Volunteers

Thank You to our 27 dedicated volunteers who contributed 2456 volunteer hours to the Museum and Archives in 2018.

Arlene Blanchette
Wayne Bowes
Richard Delamar
Lawrie Edwards
Anna Ehro
Shannon Erwin
Cheryl Feistmann

Ann Fontaine
Chris Gillespie
Vicki Grieve
Lisa Gustafson
Marilyn Hooge
Nicole Kilis
Karen Klassen

Wally Klassen
Clarine Knox
Fay Kovacs
Deanna McGonigal
Ev Parker
Joene Parker
Kathy Rempel

Marilyn Ricker
Judy Scholtz
Aleeta Sepass
Louise Smith
Wanda Stevenson
Bryan Stokes

Supporters

Thank You to the many organizations and individuals who opened their hearts to give in 2018. You continue to connect people to Chilliwack's history!

- The City of Chilliwack
- The Chilliwack Foundation
- The Government of British Columbia (Community Gaming Grant)
- The BC Arts Council
- The Government of Canada, in Partnership with the Canadian Museums Association (Young Canada Works Program)
- The Knight Road Community Association



Canadian
Heritage

Patrimoine
canadien



Thank you to all the individuals and companies who made donations towards to continued success of the Chilliwack Museum & Archives in 2018.

Heritage Awards

The Chilliwack Museum and Historical Society presents awards to individuals, businesses, governments or groups whose efforts have made important contributions to the culture, history and/or heritage of Chilliwack.

The 2018 Heritage Awards are presented to:

Marie Weeden for her role in the active conservation and preservation of Chilliwack's history through countless donations to the Chilliwack Museum and Archives.

Pauline Heppner for her active role on the Chilliwack Museum and Historical Society as a Trustee and a Vice-President.

Tia Halstad for her work in promoting Chilliwack's Indigenous Heritage and Culture at the Stó:lō Resource and Research Centre and her service as an active Trustee with the Chilliwack Museum and Historical Society

Looking Ahead

Our goals for 2019 are based on community engagement, education, and maintaining relevancy in our community.

Our Priorities in 2019:
Increased Awareness
Development of Public Programs and Events
Revitalizing Chilliwack's Gift Shop
Promoting Memberships
And Connecting You to Chilliwack's History

CHILLIWACK

museum & archives

"Love the exhibits and archival material! Such a rich Collection!"

-December 8, 2018

"Fascinating local history"

-November 24, 2018

"Fabulous & so interesting!"

-September 22, 2018

"Really enjoyed it and hope to be back!"

-August 14, 2018

"Thank you for a the glimpse of local history"

-June 11, 2018

"Thank you for the fun crafts!"

-March 21, 2018

"Beautiful & Thoughtful Exhibits!"

-January 11, 2018

Museum

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Chilliwack, BC

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Archives

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Chilliwack, BC

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