

MUSEUM NEWS

Issue Eighteen | Spring 2020



How to Find Us

Box 367
901 George Street,
Enderby, BC
V0E 1V0
250-838-7170
enderbymuseum@shaw.ca
www.enderbymuseum.ca

Hours of Operation

The Museum is open
Tuesday through Saturday

Winter Hours:
12 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Summer Hours:
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Who We Are

Administrator – Jackie Pearase
Board of Directors 2020-2021
President: Sandra Farynuk
Vice-president: Sue Phillips
Secretary: Bob Cowan
Treasurer: Diana Inselberg
Directors: Judy Fischer,
Joan Cowan



A Message from Museum President Sandra Farynuk:

Hello to all our Museum supporters! As we all are going through these unprecedented times, we at the museum have had to make adjustments to our routine, as well. We have, of course, still been closed to the public for some time now but the Board has been virtually busy behind the scenes.

Our most important task was the hiring of our new Administrator, Jackie Pearase, who will be taking over after the resignation of Kristina Parkes, who, unfortunately, had to leave due to health issues. We are currently awaiting the go-ahead to reopen and hoping everyone will stop by to have a little chat and meet Jackie.

The Board is grateful to once again receive our annual grant from the Enderby and District Services Commission approved. An added bonus was an increase to the grant from \$20,000 to \$25,000. Thanks to the City of Enderby and Area F of the Regional District of North Okanagan.

Thanks also go to the Enderby Drill Hall Committee for its annual grant to the museum for looking after bookings for the hall and everything else that goes with that. The committee also saw fit to provide a raise this year from \$1,200 to \$1,500. The museum is thankful for the support.

Museum notes

By Jackie Pearase



Hello, I am the new administrator at the Enderby and District Museum and Archives. I have been training under the wing of Joan Cowan for a few weeks now. The learning has been intense and involves many, many moving parts but I am having a lot of fun. I look forward to becoming more involved in all aspects of the museum when coronavirus restrictions are lifted and we re-open our doors.

Re-opening plans

Currently, the museum is answering emails and phone messages. A few requests for information have given me some hands-on training and whet my appetite for more. The board has opted to wait until July 7 to re-open fully to the public. Some restrictions to how visitors interact with some exhibits may still be required but we will do our utmost to adhere to government requirements aimed at keeping everyone safe and healthy.

Heritage Week 2020

By Bob Cowan



Pharmacist Dave Lynes in front of People's Drug Mart at the corner of Belvedere and Cliff in 1980. EDMS photo.

Heritage Week is always celebrated on the third week in February in British Columbia. Thankfully it isn't the third week in March or it would have been cancelled as with most activities in North America.

The Enderby Museum has always participated in Heritage Week by taking display boards to the Piccadilly Mall in Salmon Arm and having a guest speaker at the end of the week. Joan Cowan created the display boards showing buildings past and present in Enderby, and we took them over to the mall on Monday morning and retrieved them the following Saturday. Once again they were set up next to Herb Higginbottom's Deep Creek Tool Museum display. Herb has been a long-time supporter of the Enderby Museum and was on the board of directors for over 30 years. He looked after the display boards and answered questions from the visitors. He reported that the display was very well received. Thank you Herb.

In January, I asked Dave Lynes to be the guest speaker on Friday night at the end of Heritage Week. For almost 50 years, Dave was a pharmacist in Enderby. He served on Enderby City Council during the 1970s and early '80s when contentious issues like shopping malls, downtown revitalization, a new bridge and improve infrastructure were considered. He agreed to speak, and I agreed to let him speak on any subject he wanted. He took his task seriously and visited the museum to research and refresh his mind every Saturday for a month previous to his talk.

Great volunteers

Several volunteers have stopped in during my training to do work and/or introduce themselves and the projects they are working on. Volunteers are key to the museum. I have seen first-hand how much work has been done in the past, what is currently underway and what still needs to be done. That work is phenomenal. I cannot say how much these people are appreciated; the museum would not exist without their dedication and hard work. I invite all existing volunteers to drop in at the museum and say hi, share your ideas and show me your work. Any wanna-be volunteers are also welcome to come in and find out what kinds of projects need help. Just stay home if unwell.

On tour

Bob Cowan showed me Springbend Hall and the Museum in the Park before touring me around the area while sharing stories from the past. Bob is a fantastic storyteller and I learned many things that day. We noticed some wear and tear at Springbend and Bob went out shortly after to make some repairs and give the hall a new coat of paint. The gazebo at Barnes Park filled with artifacts is quite unique. Bob gave that a spring cleaning after our visit as well. Thanks so much, Bob. The gazebo has some large glass display cases that need to go so if you know someone....give me a call.



Museum notes

He began by outlining his growing up in Penticton, pharmacy school at UBC, and his early working career. He discovered that Ed Sparrow was interested in selling his business in Enderby in 1968, and Dave purchased it. He spoke about adding onto the Drug Store, moving a heavy safe that fell through the floor, and placing two huge beams to reinforce the roof using cranes brought in from Kamloops. He outlined the changes in technology over the years from moving from hand operated to electronic tills and onto computers.

He created a map of the downtown (which he gave to the museum) which identified all the businesses that were in place when he first went into business here. He took the audience on a virtual tour up and down Cliff, Belvedere, Maud, and Old Vernon Road. The more than 35 people in attendance could be heard to say “I remember that.” His talk was very well received. He was presented with a Jaime Seward Enderby Centennial Print in appreciation.

I had the pleasure of transcribing Dave’s talk and placing it in the Museum Archives where it can be read at any time.

“Flu” Breaks Out

Armstrong Has a Number of Cases of a Mild Type — Precautionary Measures Taken to Prevent Spread

There is a great deal of graft in all this “flu” hullabaloo in the larger cities. Makers of “flu” masks, veils and pills are working the scare to the limit. However, there are all sorts of people in the world and candor compels the statement that a nifty white gas mask doesn’t detract in the least from the appearance of some of them.

At the same time, it isn’t wise for anyone to throw caution to the winds and go out to catch the “flu” bug. It is serious enough to warrant caution, but not to warrant the reign of frightfulness the dope manufacturers are forcing.

In Vernon some eighty cases are reported. Two deaths have occurred but the victims were persons who came in from the coast and were advanced cases when they reached Vernon. All local cases are reported to be of a mild type, and while every precaution is taken in treating them, it is believed the epidemic will soon run its course.

Fundraising figures

Fundraising Committee Chair

Diana Inselberg shared some figures from 2019 fundraising events. The Photobooth Fundraiser grossed \$2,285, the third annual Silent Auction brought in \$889, the Christmas Bake Sale generated \$715.50, the Toonie Tree earned \$34, and the museum received \$284 for doing the Okanagan Historical Society book mail-out. That is a grand total of \$4207.50 – not bad for our little museum.

Donations

We are grateful for any and all donations that help us maintain and improve the museum. We received our annual grant from the Pat and Jim McQueen Foundation and generous donations were also made by George Malpass, Cleo Jones, and Ray and Daphne Bray. Marie Stickland made a donation in memory of Don “Moose” MacPherson while Elaine Carson (nee Imbeau) made one in memory of her aunt Eleanor Rowena Skyrme (nee Mack). Your generosity is well noted and appreciated, thank you.

Thanks

As a final note I would like to say thank you to everyone who has put their faith in my ability to do this job with passion and dedication. I am forever grateful to Joan Cowan for her guidance during my training and beyond; I hope to one day fill her very large shoes. I eagerly look forward to the future of Enderby’s great little museum.



Museum notes

Twelve cases are reported at Armstrong. The schools and picture shows have been closed and all public gatherings forbidden.

Mayor Wright is taking up with the proper authorities the matter of getting the use of the drill hall as an isolation hospital for all cases. Four rooms are already furnished and could quickly be made ready to receive patients.

Enderby thus far has escaped. Last week’s notice by the school board that the schools would be closed with the first outbreak of the epidemic in Enderby, together with the precautionary measures suggested, made the parents and school children take measures to prevent the disease getting a hold here. The danger is not over, however, and everybody is urged to take every precaution against getting or carrying flu germs.

The least anyone can do when attacked is to remain at home until all danger of spreading the disease is passed. School children should not be allowed to run the streets while the schools are closed. All have yards at home to play in and there they should be compelled to remain, for their own protection and the protection of other children.

This article/editorial appeared in the newspaper on Oct. 31, 1918 during the initial stages of the Spanish flu outbreak in BC.

Spanish flu in Enderby

In Enderby, the outbreak of the 1918 Spanish flu did not cause too much discomfort among the general population.

Two local residents did die but not in Enderby.

An article in the Nov. 7, 1918 Okanagan Commoner reported the death of Mary Woods:

“Miss C. Wood (sic), who had been nursing at Salmon Arm, contracted influenza last week and on Sunday night passed away. She was 23 years of age; a young woman of strong character and a nurse whose whole aim seemed to be to serve the sick in her care. The funeral took place from her Enderby home Wednesday, Nov. 6th; interment at the Enderby cemetery.”

R.J. Haney Heritage Village and Museum has some interesting information on the local Spanish flu outbreak in its online blog (www.salmonarmmuseum.org/ and go to Curator’s Corner):

The report includes some additional information on Mary Woods: Then a health professional died. Nurse Woods, of the Enderby passed away early in November. She was just 22. [Clara] Woods had been in Salmon Arm nursing George Dobie, who had pneumonia. Mr. Dobie recovered well enough to permit Nurse Woods to look after Mrs. Fossett.

Mary Bell, 19, of Salmon River died of the flu while attending normal school in Victoria in December.

By late November, the Okanagan Commoner reported that just three Enderby residents were reported to be diagnosed with the flu.

Mary Bell, 19, of Salmon River died of the flu while attending normal school in Victoria in December.

There were between 300,000 and 350,000 people dead from the flu in the US in mid-December 1918 and Vancouver had recorded 4,627 cases and 562 deaths by January 1919.

The local medical officer lifted the “ban against influenza” on Jan. 2, 1919 but cautions against re-opening schools in Spallumcheen until after the Christmas holidays.

A shortage of nurses is reported in late November but medical staff continue to work 16-18 hour days without extra compensation, and some even volunteering their services, until the outbreak subsides in 1919.



Nurse Mary Woollam prepares to give some youngsters a polio inoculation in 1954. EDMS photo

Spanish “Flu” Coming

If you catch the Spanish “flu” you will be laid up four or five days. You will have pains in your head and eyes and all over your body. Your eyes and nose will run with water and your eyes will be so weak that you will not be able to face the light.

Here are some rules given to the school children of Vancouver and which apply elsewhere:

Don’t spit in school or in the playgrounds or anywhere else.

Don’t take a lick off another child’s sucker.

Don’t take a bite off another child’s apple or let another take a bite off yours – cut it with a pocket knife.

Don’t bite the end of your pencil or pen.

Boys, don’t lick your marbles.

An excerpt from a newspaper article dated Oct. 10, 1918.

The painting on page 1 of the newsletter is of A.L. Fortune’s farm with the Enderby Cliffs in the background. It was painted for the Fortunes by G.T. Brown based on drawings he did of the region in 1882. It peaked the interest of a relative of Bathia (Ross) Fortune, resulting in the museum gaining possession of nine letters from Bathia to relatives, one of which mentions money needed for the painting. EDMS photo

Brick vault dates back to 1905

This brick vault on Old Vernon Road at Russel Avenue is a new view for many but, in fact, it was installed at the site in 1905.

The site at 709 Old Vernon Rd. was originally owned by Robert Lambly and passed through a few hands before the Okanagan Lumber Co. Ltd. took ownership. The business ran its lumber mill in Enderby and by May 18, 1904, according to the *Edenograph*, "...in addition to erecting and installing this large mill, the company has put up a handsome office building..."

The same newspaper in its June 7, 1905 issue has a news item listed in the 'Enderby Doings' column that states, "A.R. Rogers Lumber Co. has had a vault, 6x8 inside measurement, built in connection with its office." (Okanagan Lumber changed its name to A.R. Rogers.)

The vault has "J&J Taylor Toronto Safe Works" painted on the door, the business name and "established 1855" its embossed on the safe dial and "J&J Taylor Makers" is in raised lettering on a plate screwed above the top of the door.

The vault was purposely left standing after the recent demolition of the building on the site.



New paint for Springbend Hall



Bob Cowan recently gave Springbend Hall a fresh coat of paint. Springbend Hall north of Enderby is looking spiffy this spring with a new coat of paint.

Enderby and District Museum board member and volunteer Bob Cowan took the time and effort to paint the old hall in mid-May in white with dark green trim.

In addition to the paint, Bob mended some holes in the roof overhang where birds decided to set up house.

One nest remained occupied at the time of this writing (and the parents feeling particularly harassed by Bob's presence) but the family will get their walking papers and the remaining holes covered once the chicks fledge.

Originally Springbend School, the building on Hwy. 97A just past the Hwy. 97B intersection was built in 1924.

The Springbend Community Club purchased the building for \$1 when the school closed in 1955.

The hall was the venue for many potluck suppers, bake sales, Christmas concerts and reunions until the society folded in 1997 and sold the building to the Enderby and District Museum Society for \$1.

The museum considered using the hall for different uses but it became the storage spot for large artifacts and items that couldn't be stored at the museum.

Things were a bit cramped inside until recently when Bob and Joan Cowan did a major cleaning of the interior, leaving it orderly.

The new paint gives the old hall a new lease on life. Thanks, Bob.