

# MUSEUM NEWS

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## How to Find Us

Box 367

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## Hours of Operation

The Museum is open  
Tuesday - Saturday  
10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

## Who We Are

Administrator – Jackie Pearase

### Board of Directors 2022-2023

President: Sandra Farynuk  
Vice-president: Sue Phillips  
Secretary: Bob Cowan  
Treasurer: Diana Inselberg

Directors: Judy Fischer, Ted Morrison  
Joan Cowan, Desiree Roell

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membership  
today!**



## A day in local history

Local curler Sandra Farynuk took this picture on March 30, 2010 of Paralympians (l-r) Ina Forrest and Sonja Gaudet when they visited the Enderby & District Curling Club and posed with members (l-r) Hubert van Berkel, Bert Schweb and Phil Halvorson. Ina was second for Canada's team at the 2010 and 2014 Winter Paralympics, winning a gold medal on both occasions. She was inducted into the Canadian Curling Hall of Fame in February 2016. Sonja played lead when she brought home gold from the 2006, 2010 and 2014 Winter Paralympics. Both women also won gold medals in the 2009, 2011 and 2013 World Wheelchair Curling Championships. [edms 8021]

## President's Message

*Hello to all our museum members. Well, the party's over but what a great celebration we had for our 50th Anniversary! We are so grateful that so many people of our community came out to all our special events. We hope many of you will also come to our Heritage Night with a presentation of the history of the Hunters Range Snowmobile Association. This year's ongoing project is continuing work to make the back work room into a fire-resistant vault to safely preserve our collections of archives and artifacts that are not in the display rooms. Our many volunteers are all busy with their individual tasks but we still welcome anyone who would like to come and join us. If you haven't already, check out our Facebook page where Jackie is highlighting many historical events, people and places from bygone eras in our district. Once again, I would like to thank everyone for your generous support, both monetary and physical, to our museum.*

~ Sandra Farynuk

## Museum notes

By Jackie Pearase

### Christmas events

It was a wonderful Christmas at the Enderby Museum. The volunteers decorated the museum beautifully and quite a few people dropped in to see the transformation.

We do a couple of fundraisers during the holidays. This year's bake sale was stupendous, with almost \$1,000 raised. The board is discussing the idea of doing the bake sale for just one day this year, as the Saturday is not too well attended. We think all day Friday will work fine. Trinity Valley Christmas Trees once again donated a tree to the museum for the Toonie Tree, which raised \$187 for the museum and \$187 for single mom Amber Wilson, who was delighted to have some extra cash for the holidays. Our silent auction of vintage items was not too popular but we did raise about \$200. We are looking for fresh holiday fundraising ideas to replace the auction. So, give me a call if you have any suggestions.

### Museum board

The museum's 2023-24 board of directors elected at our AGM in November have all agreed to continue on in their positions from 2022-23. Huge thanks to each board member for their dedication to the museum.

## Enderby's sports facility has complex history

Enderby's first winter recreation facility was built in 1904 by Andrew Baird next to the river at the end of Regent Street.

The building included a curling rink, hockey rink, dressing room, grandstand and balcony.

After opening Jan. 12, 1905, there was an eight-team bonspiel in early February, and an ice carnival, skating and races in late February.

The Enderby Rink Company rented the rink from Baird in 1906 and added railings, a promenade, warmer dressing rooms and a refreshment booth.

Baird opted out of the rink in 1908 due to an insufficient return on his investment, which included offering the rink at no cost to charitable events.

Peter Greyell opened a rink at Knight and George streets with dressing rooms and electric lights on Dec. 16, 1908. The tennis club opened a second rink the following evening, also with lights and a dressing room.

Greyell's rink continued in 1909 while curling was established on the city's recreation grounds (now Barnes Park).

In 1910, Sam Polson offered land for a rink but the public wanted the city to build it on the recreation grounds.

Nothing was done until 1921 when Enderby Rink Ltd. was established at a public meeting.

Shares were sold for \$10 each and \$2,500 was quickly raised for the rink that was expected to cost between \$4,000 and \$4,500.

Polson once again stepped forward with an offer of land for the city in exchange for land it owned through tax sales.

There was some concern that Polson's property (now Riverside Park) was too far from the centre of town and heavily treed, but 10 acres and 1,000 feet of riverfront was too hard to resist.

The Enderby Rink & Agricultural Hall Co. Ltd. was incorporated and work got underway. Lumber came from Enderby and Grindrod mills.

When complete, the rink was deemed "possibly the largest in the valley and as substantially built as could be." (Okanagan Commoner, Dec. 29, 1921)

The building included a skating rink and curling ice with a four-foot panel separating the two ice sheets, dressing rooms, balcony for spectators and large door for driving in livestock, etc. during fair time.

The rinks were immediately popular, with a 10-rink bonspiel organized for early January 1922. A mid-month curling league game against Vernon generated over \$125 from the approximately 300 people in attendance.

The first ice skating carnival held under cover on Jan. 23 had 180 people on the ice and 150 spectators.

Complaints about hockey dominating ice time surfaced by February, in March shareholders voiced concerns over un-issued shares and the absence of a shareholders' meeting, and the question of a fall fair was raised in April.

At the first meeting on Sept. 18, 1922, shareholders were asked to endorse a \$1000 mortgage on the property to fulfill financial obligations, as payment had not yet been received from all 395 subscribers. In its first year, the rink generated \$498.47 in revenue.

The United Farmers of Enderby Local held a fall fair Sept. 15, 1923 with 500 entries from 154 exhibitors and raised \$150 after expenses.

Use of the building for an agricultural fair was short-lived though, with no further newspaper reports on the event. It would seem the fairs established in Mara, Grindrod and Armstrong were sufficient for local needs.

Repairs were needed in winter 1944, with the poor shape of the curling rink putting the entire structure at risk. No further mention of repairs is made in the newspaper but curling and hockey are well underway in January 1945.



Enderby first enjoyed indoor winter recreation at the skating rink and agricultural hall shown here in the year of its construction, 1921.

[edms 8361]

### Museum changes

Local carpenter Marc Ferland did a project in the museum during our Christmas closure. We had him close off a door between the workshop display and the back room. He put in fire-resistant drywall, leaving a smooth wall in the back room and two inset shelves in the workshop. A great job! The result is a newly organized display in the workshop and improved storage space in the back room. Now, all we need to do is replace two regular doors with fire doors and the back room will serve as a fire-resistant archival area.

The board is also looking at taking out two superfluous doors at the front of the museum and covering them over. This would provide some smooth walls for better displays while reducing the amount of dust and grime that creep into the museum through the doors.

A reconfiguration inside the museum has given the living room a new look. We flipped the living room around at Christmas to accommodate the tree and everyone liked it so much, we decided to leave it that way.

### New display

The hunting and fishing display in the front display case was removed after Christmas and replaced with Purses & Pretty Things. The display features several purses along with jewellery, fans, hats, photographs and other things of beauty, plus some history on the handbag. Come down and have a look.

### OHS meeting

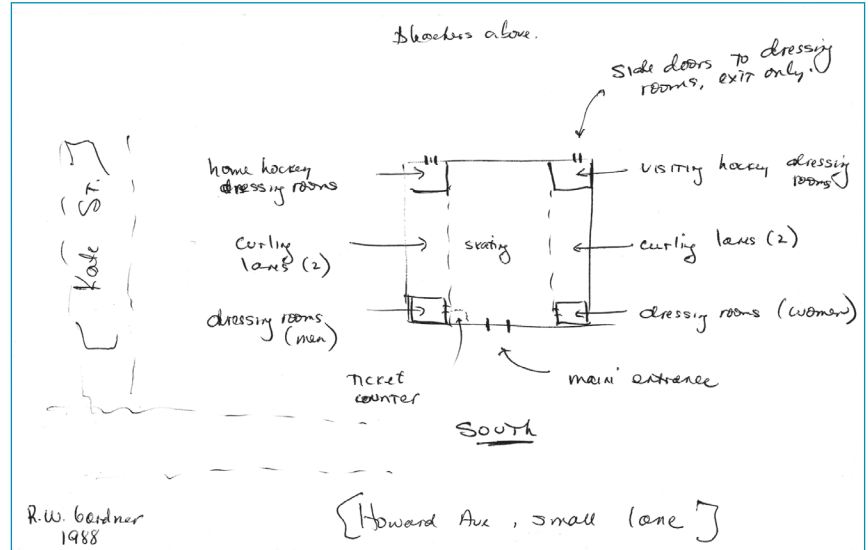
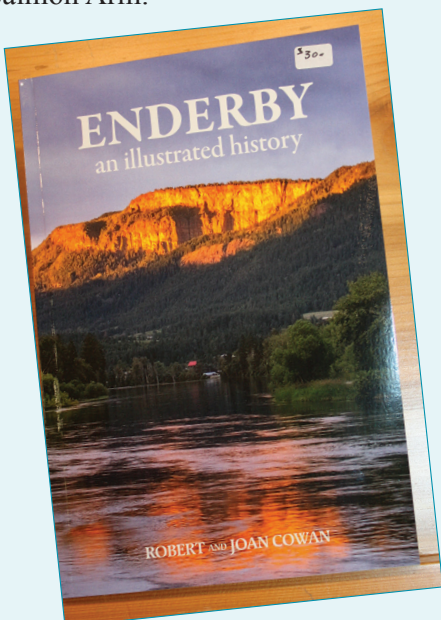
The Armstrong-Enderby branch of the Okanagan Historical Society is hosting its general meeting at the Enderby Museum on April 7 at 2 p.m. Yours truly is the guest speaker. The topic is The History of Flooding in Enderby & District.

## Heritage Week

Did you know that the Hunters Range Snowmobile Association was incorporated as a non-profit organization in BC on Aug. 31, 1977? You can learn lots more about this long-standing recreational group at **Heritage Night being held at the museum on Friday, Feb. 23 at 7 p.m.** HRSA secretary Kyra Evans will be there with a photo presentation, Dale Fennell will speak about Snowarama, and the museum is putting together a display. The museum will also have a photo display of the HRSA at Piccadilly Mall Feb. 21-24. Look for us beside the Deep Creek Tool Museum.

## History of Enderby

The second edition of *Enderby, an illustrated history* by Bob and Joan Cowan is now on sale at several locations. Sales were brisk in December so we hope that trend continues into 2024. You can get a copy of the book for \$30 at the Enderby Museum, Enderby Jewellers, Askew's Enderby, Armstrong Spallumcheen Museum & Art Gallery, and Hidden Gems Bookstore and Bookingham Palace in Salmon Arm.



A sketch of the Enderby Arena done by Ronald "Bunny" Gardner in 1988 showing what the rink looked like in the 1930s.

By its 25th birthday, the rink had paid no monetary dividends but its value to the community was appreciated by residents regardless.

Operating the rink as a private, unprofitable company prompted a 1951 delegation to ask the city to take over the rink, which it did. In 1952, the side wings for curling were removed, as the club had a new rink on Russell, and a cement foundation was added at the sides.

In 1953, the floors were fixed, walks and rails replaced, and lighting repaired – all paid for by the city, with donations of labour and materials solicited.

The Enderby & District Lions Club managed the rink in 1953 and spearheaded more repairs.

Ironically, the covered ice got mushy quickly because it was too warm, so discussion began in 1962 around installing artificial ice as a centennial project in 1967.

A centennial committee developed a plan to renovate the existing structure, replace the beams, install artificial ice infrastructure and repair the roof.

The \$41,000 cost of the project would be split, with the rural district paying \$19,000 and the city paying \$21,000. Under regulations of the day, only rural residents were required to vote in a referendum on the issue.

The June 24, 1967 referendum passed with 182 in favour and 72 opposed.

The Enderby & District Recreational Society began construction in September.

The arena walls were extended to the east and west for more spectator seating and the exterior got new plywood and paint.

The renovated rink was operational by January 1968 and officially opened with a grand affair on Feb. 16, 1968.

The first year of the new rink resulted in a \$196.11 profit and a capital expenses deficit of \$1,700. Different fundraising initiatives were held to eliminate the deficit.

A three-tier bleacher was added and the concession upgraded in 1970 and a cement floor was added in 1971.

The work done was said to add 30 years to the arena, yet a consultant was hired in April 1974 to prepare drawings and estimates for a new arena.

The goal was to have a regulation size rink and convert the existing structure into a four-sheet curling rink. The cost was \$360,000, with \$120,000 coming from a provincial grant and the city and Area F residents paying the balance.

A referendum on a new arena passed, with 305 for and 143 opposed in the city and 144 in favour and 107 opposed in Area F.

Work got underway in February 1975 and the new facility was opened Nov. 22, 1975 with a gala.

Work always seemed to be needed, though. The wash-

rooms were in “deplorable” condition in 1983 and three new heaters were added in 1985.

A BC Hydro Power Smart program grant paid for new lighting in 1990 and the ice plant was upgraded in 1991.

The chiller had to be replaced in 2002 and again in 2015.

An extensive renovation in 2007 was done with a 2010 Olympic/Paralympic Live Sites grant of \$128,750 that was matched by Fortune Parks and Recreation.

A \$500,000 upgrade completed in November 2010 included a new curling club roof, safety upgrades, new sprinkler system, and water system and lighting upgrades.

The 1921 curling club roof was worse than expected, with project manager Doug Buchholz commenting, “Underneath it looked like someone took a machine gun and basically sprayed the roof.”

A January 2022 report to the Enderby & District Services Commission notes that the curling club structure has exceeded its useful life while the arena has 37 years remaining.

A refrigeration system problem in January 2024 closed the arena and curling rink for the rest of the season, raising questions about the future of the complex.

Replacement cost of a new sports complex is estimated to be between \$13 and \$15 million.



Construction of the new Enderby Arena in 1975. [edms 3685]



### CGIT

Members of Canadian Girls in Training (CGIT) in 1959: (l-r) Sadie Bennett, Gerrie Danforth, Marilyn Thomson, Laurel Imbeau, Doree Trimble, Hazel Duncan and Hattie Howe. CGIT was founded in 1915 by the Young Women's Christian Association. Aimed at girls age 11 to 17, it was an alternative to Girl Guides and focused on service to God and community. The group was active in Enderby from the early 1920s to the 1960s. CGIT members took part in a wide variety of activities including summer camp, lectures, field trips, concerts, debates, banquets, bazaars, church services, and conferences. In fact, two of the girls pictured, Marilyn Thomson and Laurel Imbeau, along with Sharon Glen, represented Enderby at a three-day Senior CGIT Conference at Ryerson United Church in Vancouver in 1958 that was attended by about 44 girls from BC. [edms 1399]



### New at museum

Here is a glimpse of the museum's new display, Purses & Pretty Things.

## Historical marker for majestic home and creamery

The Enderby Heritage Commission and the City of Enderby recently erected a historical marker in the location of one of the city's most striking homes.

The Columbia Flouring Mills built a brick mansion at 1009 Belvedere St. for its manager, F.V. Moffet, in 1910.

The manager lived in the house until the mill closed in 1914. The home was occasionally rented over the next decade.

In 1925, Reinhold Karnagel, a buttermaker in Salmon Arm for 10 years, bought the house and remodeled it into a creamery.

He named it the Palace Creamery, hiring Theodore Adams as buttermaker and manager, and John MacPherson as truck driver.

He experienced some early success making award-winning butter from local farmers' cream and opened a second creamery in Lumby in 1927.

But he faced stiff competition from the P. Burns Company of Calgary, which had purchased the bankrupt Armstrong creamery and installed T. Everard Clarke as manager.

P. Burns had deep pockets and offered interest-free loans to farmers to help them expand their herds while deducting the principal from their monthly cream cheques.

By 1928, the North Okanagan Creamery Association (NOCA), owned by P. Burns, was paying farmers 10% more for their cream than Palace Creamery. As a result, Karnagel lost his money and his health and sold out to NOCA.



The North Okanagan Creamery Association (NOCA) plant at 1009 Belvedere St. circa 1928-37. The concrete posts remain, along with a new historical marker. [edms 3857]

By the early 1930s, the Enderby operation was superfluous to NOCA, as Vernon could process all the cream produced in the North Okanagan.

But the NOCA board decided to keep Enderby and improved the location by adding cement floors, an icehouse for cold storage and a bigger butter churn.

Ernest Skelly, a former P. Burns employee, was put in charge of Enderby NOCA and he worked hard to make the creamery stand above the rest.

In the 1930s, Skelly entered local butter in provincial exhibitions, sending the 14-pound samples by train.

In 1935, Enderby butter earned first place in Saskatchewan out of 84 entries. By 1938, the creamery had won the top award 33 times over six years at exhibitions in Toronto, Ottawa, Brandon, Regina, Calgary and Edmonton.

A fire at the Enderby NOCA in August 1939 damaged the second floor but the building was saved.

David Howie of Vernon was hired to remove the remainder of the second floor and renovate the first floor.

The result was a concrete bunker with no resemblance to the previous mansion.



NOCA in Enderby in December 1939 after a fire destroyed the top floor and the building renovated. [edms 0024]

Ernie Skelly moved to Creston around this time and Bill Cameron took over as the buttermaker in Enderby. Enderby NOCA experienced good success at this time and went into milk production in 1943.

In 1953 they purchased the Salmon Arm Creamery and became independent of the P. Burns Company.

But expansions to the Vernon and Salmon Arm plants and improved roads made the Enderby operation redundant and by the mid-1950s Enderby was a storage drop-off and pick-up location for NOCA.

The building was torn down in 1978 and Mountain View Electric built its new premises in the location.

The butterchurn from the Enderby creamery is now on display in the gazebo at Barnes Park, after being rescued from being burned in Spallumcheen by Hank Lundquist.



### On the ice in Mara

The Mara Lakers hockey team in 1962: (rear, l-r) Gordie Almaas, Wayne Cornish, Larry Schulte, Gerry Almaas, Earl Hazard, Zoltan Balas (coach), (middle, l-r) Rich Anchikoski, Bob Sutherland, Herman Halvorson, Leonard Goebel, (front, l-r) Gary Czepil, Daryl Koskimaki, Glen Trueman, Don Koenig and Carl Thomas. [edms photo MS99-479]

## Coach's scrapbooks give players lasting memories

The museum's archives have numerous interesting vessels of information that I sometimes stumble upon.

Fonds MS 109, Enderby Fortunettes is one such find. This fonds (a term used to describe a collection of material about an individual, family or organization) consists of three handmade scrapbooks made of construction paper secured with shoelaces.

There are also a few loose photographs, team statistics and a North Okanagan South Zone Basketball Championship patch. But it was the scrapbooks that caught my eye.

The scrapbooks belonged to Carol Danforth Berger and were donated to the museum by her mother, Gerrie Danforth in 2005. Carol played with the Fortunettes from 1970 to 1973.



1972-73 Fortunettes (rear, l-r) Tom Witherly, Laurie Oviatt, Jennifer Petty, Marjorie Carbert, Cathy Hagaradt, Cathy Collins, Jennie Jonson, (front) Arden Snell, Jane Matejka, Carol Danforth, Marilyn Nadrozny and Pat Johnson. [edms 8595]

They were created by the team's coach, Tom Witherly. Tom was a teacher and coach at the high school but also a professional photographer.

Tom made a scrapbook for each player with photographs he had taken throughout the season along with a personal note from him, game scores and individual statistics.

He included notes and photo captions throughout the books, and many of the individuals pictured in the photos are identified, either by Tom Witherly or later by Gerrie Danforth.

Pictured in these books with Carol Danforth are Fortunettes Lynn Archer, Opal Baird, Loretta Bogert,

Susan Brodoway, Marjorie Carbert, Cathy Collins, Betty Haberstock, Cathy Hagaradt, Leanne Hawrys, Brenda Hill, Jennie Johnson, Patricia Johnson, Dani Lundquist, Jane Matejka, Marilyn Nadrozny, Irene Olsen, Laurie Oviatt, Jennifer Petty, Arden Snell, Cheryl Stanley, Lynne Stickland, and Shelley Stickland.

During this time the team was coached by Tom Witherly and Marlene Krueger.

Doris and Ralph Witherly came to Enderby with sons Tom and Paul in 1956 from Falkland, having moved there from Vancouver in 1954. Doris taught kindergarten from her home and then at the Fraternal Hall.

Tom began coaching girls' basketball at Enderby High School in 1968.

He started with the junior team, and in 1969 he began coaching the senior team.

The senior team was first called the Fortunettes in 1970 and included girls from grades 8 through 10. The Fortunettes, a team of Grade 8 students, were on the courts for at least two seasons: 1975-76 and 76-77.

Tom taught a variety of subjects including social studies, math, PE, graphic arts and photography. He taught at the high school until 1985 then at M.V. Beattie and Shuswap Junior Secondary School.

He was a strict coach who expected players to demonstrate good sportsmanship but also ready with deserved praise.

The 1971-72 scrapbook includes the following note from Coach Witherly to the team after a Vancouver tournament:

"Your bubbly spirit, your refusal to quit (Clearbrook), your all-round great behaviour; your willingness to pitch in and help unasked (dishes, packing) and above all your friendliness, thoughtfulness and willingness to include me in your activities and talk made this a trip an extremely proud and pleasant one for me."

The Fortunettes had some good success on the courts and the team continued into the 1992-93 school year, when they became the Lady Falcons.

The scrapbooks are a wonderful glimpse into a different era of sports, coaching, teaching and sportsmanship.