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MUSEUM NEWS

Princeton & District Museum and Archives Society

Spring 2025



Beginning of a trek to Hope over the Trail 1930

We acknowledge the Similkameen Valley on which we learn, work, and organize is the ancestral, traditional and unceded territory of the Similamix People, and is home to the Upper Similkameen Indian Band

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

As your new president I offer my congratulations to the incoming board of directors and my appreciation to those that have served in the past. My special thanks on behalf of all the museum members is to Marjorie Holland who has served so faithfully and efficiently these past years and will continue to serve on the new executive as past president allowing for continuity as we move forward.

The museum has seen much interest in the community over the past months with a record number of visitors. We have also enjoyed a successful series of 'Sunday Speakers' on the first Sunday of the month - the calibre of presenters and the fascinating subjects of their talks have really been popular as it continues to be.

We will be having a part time student do some valuable work at the museum over the summer months - hoping to catch up on the huge volume of works that need to be scanned and processed as donations to the museum collection seem to be at an all time high. Perhaps you have some interesting artifacts that you'd like to see curated? If so please email our Manager Todd and he can assist you.

We are so excited to expand on our partnership with the Upper Similkameen Indian Band as our recent meeting with elders will contribute to a redesign of the First Nations section of the museum. Look for changes and additions hopefully by the fall of 2025

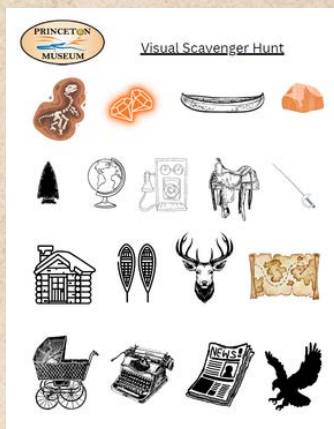
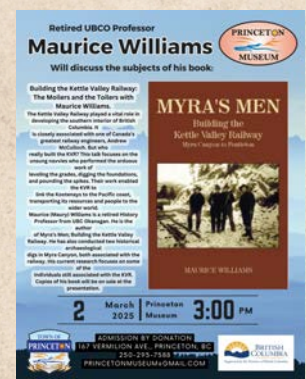
Enjoy your summer and be sure and put a visit to the museum on the bucket list for visiting family and friends.

Bob Long,
President.

HAPPENINGS

Rika Ruebsaat and Jon Bartlett have been working hard to organize a live performance for the first Sunday of each month. Andre Sutherland Begin entertained us with prose by Robert Service in January, followed by Jon Bartlett's discussion of his new book "When heroes Become Villains" in February. The March event was delayed by illness but Maurice Williams will make his "Myra's Men" presentation on June 1st. Randy Manuel came back to speak on "The Good , The Bad and The Ugly" in April and Dawn Johnson spoke on the subject of the Rockefeller family in May. Our new events website:

www.princetonmuseumevents.com
is the place to go for the latest information.



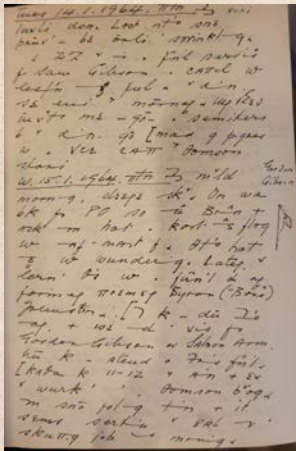
We have had several group tours so far this year. The Girl Guides came in one evening. Two classes of Grade One students from John Allison Elementary came in and enjoyed a Visual Scavenger Hunt created for them. The Skills Center hosts a Matrix program for unemployed Youth and we work with them frequently. A group of Seniors from a home in Osoyoos came through the Museum.

Todd visited Ridgewood Lodge and entertained the residents with old photos, artifacts and some lively discussions. We participated in the "Memory Cafe" Alzheimer's event along with several other venues. It was a particular pleasure to host a group of Elders from the USIB and LSIB.



RAMBLINGS

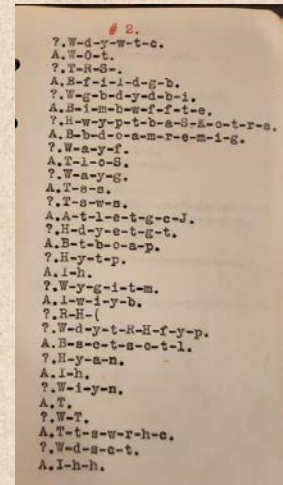
Chris and Penny Goodfellow made a very generous donation of \$3,500 to the Museum Legacy Fund to assist with the future care of the amazing Goodfellow Collection that we are still working on. Museum Manager Todd Davidson accepted the donation on behalf of the Society.



One of the more intriguing aspects of the Goodfellow Collection is the fact that near the end of his life, Rev. Goodfellow took to writing his memoirs in a cryptic shorthand, which we believe he created. We have spent some time on this and believe that we will be able to transcribe these writings.

Another Goodfellow mystery is this little black book written in a cryptic code. Rev. Goodfellow served overseas in World War One so this will likely turn out to be associated with his military service.

A 75 page document on the HBC Brigade Trail surfaced from the Goodfellow Collection and was enthusiastically received by Kelley Cook and Sally Nault (USIB).



We have now had something in the Similkameen Spotlight every edition for the last two years.

Ross Hodge's efforts to get the two old telephones connected has paid huge dividends with the recent visits by the Grade Ones and the Girl Guides. They Love It!

The Society received a Legacy Fund dividend cheque from the Community Foundation for \$750.

RAMBLINGS

For some time now we have been printing out a large poster advertising our next event and placing it on a sandwich board on the lawn. Many people stop to read it. Our printer makes it in 4 panels which we tape together, eliminating high priced printing.



Not particularly newsworthy, but notable, just the same. The Town fulfilled our recent request for new flags and reconnected the drooping lights. Thank You!

Here is an amazing photo of Rev. Goodfellow and his three partners at the summit of their Hope-Princeton Trail trek in august 1930. This trip was thoroughly documented with 90 photographs, step by step commentary and handmade drawings of special features. A very special gem!





UPCOMING EVENTS



There are no events currently planned for July and August, however, should this change, we will email the membership.

September 6th

"The Most Difficult of Our Camps" : Vernon Internment Camp 1914-1920 with Don McNair. This research project of the Vernon & District Family History Society uncovered a vast amount of information concerning the internment of "enemy aliens" in BC's interior after the outbreak of hostilities in 1914. Ukrainians, Poles, Croatians, and other subjects of the Austro-Hungarian Empire predominated, but Vernon Internment Camp focused on the detention of Germans, mostly young men but also several families. They formed an isolated, contentious, and despised enclave at the north end of Vernon, a town that profited by hosting a military training camp at the south end as well. A rich photo collection enables the story to be told with plenty of human details of the prisoners and the troops that guarded them.

October 5th

The Battle of Vimy Ridge with Yasmin John-Thorpe

Award-winning author Yasmin John-Thorpe has written a book for middle grade readers entitled *Grandpa's Gift*. The book tells a story through a grandpa's eyes to his grandson of an historical battle won by Canadians during WWI on the 100th anniversary. Winning Vimy Ridge from the Germans was instrumental in placing the young nation of Canada on the world map. Many Canadian lost their lives fighting to give the Allies a win after so many losses. Yasmin John-Smith was born in the Caribbean on the island of Trinidad. In early childhood she learned the importance of reading and writing from her parents. Yasmin married a Canadian and came to Canada in 1975. She has two daughters and one grandson. Today, she is a children's author, fiction and non-fiction writer, and mentor. Copies of *Grandpa's Gift* will be available for sale at the presentation.



This edition edited by Todd Davidson-Editor position available!

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Just a reminder...

Is your membership up to date?

We have resolved to return to the annual membership scheme whereby dues are to be paid at the turn of the year. so just before or just after the New Year, please pay your dues (still only \$12) We can now accept many different methods of payment to make it as convenient as possible.

The Princeton Museum is a partnership between the Princeton & District Museum and Archives Society and the Town of Princeton.

We gratefully acknowledge the support of:



VOLUNTEERS

Thank you to all of the great volunteers that keep our institution running. There are many jobs that need to be done so whatever your skill level, if you have some time to spare, consider helping out at the Museum.