



www.princetonmuseum.org



MUSEUM NEWS

Princeton & District Museum and Archives Society

Fall 2025



CIRCA 1952

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

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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear Members and Friends,

Now that fall is approaching and we leave the blistering heat of the summer behind us, the museum looks forward to resuming the 'speaker series' on the first weekend of each month. I must say a big 'thank you' to Rika Ruebsaat for the wonderful job of lining up such great presenters. Do check our 'events website' www.PrincetonMuseumEvents.com for all the details and be sure to attend one of the sessions, as I'm sure you'll find the subjects intriguing and it also gives you a chance to visit the museum and meet other members too!

Members of the board and volunteers will endeavour to rearrange some of the displays on the main floor over the next few weeks and we hope to have the help of a staff person, funded by provincial and federal grants, to continue to scan and catalog the many photographs that have been donated or loaned to the museum over the past year - and, thanks to the efforts of our manger Todd and the many volunteers that Todd works with, we are able to have our collections accessed on the www.PrincetonBCMuseum.com website for the world to see. The statistics of what is stored there and the impressive amount of visitors that view the webpages shows that interest in Princeton history is very high.

So with all that's going on at the museum, we are always looking for more volunteers, come by and see us if you would like to help - and if you are not already a member I hope that you will consider joining our museum society.

Exploring the past, helps us be inspired for the future.

Bob Long - President 2025

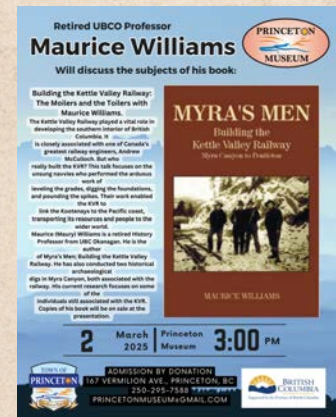




HAPPENINGS



On June 1st, retired Professor Maurice Williams gave a presentation on "Myra's Men", the men that built the Kettle Valley Railway. The event was well attended, the subject matter was fascinating and Mr. Williams was an excellent presenter.



Museum volunteers set up a booth at the Canada Day celebration held, for the first time, at the new Bridge Street Plaza. It was a very hot day and the wind in the afternoon played havoc with our display but a good time was had by all.

It is a real bonus for our guests to interact with the Fiber Arts Group that meets each Wednesday in the Museum. Exhibiting traditional products and techniques adds significant value to their Museum experience.



Once again, we hosted the Town of Princeton's Summer Camp for a Sports Day. The weather was beautiful and the kids enjoyed all of the activities that were provided. Thanks to John Henry and Eliza Palmar for helping with this event.



RAMBLINGS



The Goodfellow Collection is the gift that just keeps on giving. Recently, an important document was discovered there. We now have on display the original school report for the month of September 1900 from the school established in the Allison house. The location is listed as "Allison, BC". This school only lasted a short time as another was opened in Princeton later that same year.



Our contract workers did an amazing job of working in the Archive room and digitizing oversized items this summer. The space is much better organized now. Kaitle Sevold has rejoined us for a second term and is currently working on cataloging the backlog of photographs.

We received a significant artifact relating to the Similkameen Star newspaper recently. The "Galley Proof Press" had been stored in a nearby house for decades. This device is used to check the typesetting work before publication.



The Valley Antique Engine Club joined us again this year to exhibit their running motors at the Princeton Show and Shine on August 30th. We hope that this collaboration will continue.





RAMBLINGS



On a rainy Wednesday in August we had 78 visitors come through!

Our attendance is about on par with last year but it seems that the guests are being more generous.

The Visitors Centre gets at least 10 times the volume of guests that visit the Museum.

We get about 4,000 guests in the Museum but have 3 to 4 times that amount annually online.

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

J. Jill Robinson is a Canadian writer and editor. She submits the following.

"In 1960 my father, Alex Robinson, brought his family from Langley to Kennedy Lake, where we stayed in a fine rustic cabin and had such a grand time in the water, on the beach, and tramping around exploring the area. The people in the family photo: Jill, Jane, Martha, Dorothy, Cathy"

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/J._Jill_Robinson





UPCOMING EVENTS



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.

November 2

Howard Hisdal - The Liberation of the Netherlands in 1945 and the British Columbia Dragoons

November 14

The Town Recreation Department will be hosting a "Night at the Museum" sleepover event for young children.

December

There is talk of repeating the Scrooge reading that went so well last year. With more participants, it will be even better.

January 4

Don Gayton - Will James: Cowboy Artist & Author



This edition edited by Todd Davidson-Editor position available!

Join the **CROWD** and meet the old gang  for a **MARVELOUS TIME** at the **Howdy!** 

Blakeburn - Coalmont REUNION

  **Old Time Fete**  

SATURDAY 2—BIG DAYS—2 SUNDAY

29 AUGUST 30

1981—

SATURDAY:

10:00 a.m. — PARADE
Prizes in Various Categories
... at Coalmont



11:30 a.m. — ... at Coalmont
Mixed Slow-pitch BASEBALL
Rad'o Station CINL on location in Coalmont

2:00 p.m. — ... at Coalmont

 **Fashion Show**
Pretty Gals in pretty clothes more or less
Photographer in attendance

9:00 p.m. — DANCE
OUTDOOR at COALMONT
Judging for
Mr. UGLY Contest



REGISTRATION
\$12 at the Coalmont Hotel
covers Barbecue, Dance and Souvenir Newspaper
Information: 295-3251, 295-6047

SUNDAY:

7:30 a.m. — LIONS' PANCAKE BREAKFAST 

10:00 a.m. — Bicycle Race
COALMONT to TULAMEEN
✕ MORE BASEBALL ✕ 

12 Noon — BARBECUE
at GRANITE CITY MEADOW

2:00 p.m. — Lottery Draw

SPORTS EVENTS —
OLD TIMERS FITBA' COALMONT HOTEL vs Similkameen Star

 * Horseshoe Pitching * TUG-OF-WAR
* Slow Bicycle Race
* Three-Legged Races
* Egg-and-Spoon Race
* Sack Races 

ONGOING EVENTS: ● PONY RIDES ● HAY RIDES
● TOURS TO BLAKEBURN ● MUSEUM DISPLAY
Old-Time Print-shop; Personal Souvenirs from Coalmont Courier type

Many Other Events *for Auld Lang Syne*   B/C

EVERYONE WELCOME!!

By *SIMILKAMEEN STAR since 1900, with some original types of the sensational short-lived 1912 Coalmont Courier

A fine example of Dave Taylors printing.





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.