

The Chronicle

NEWSLETTER OF THE QUALICUM BEACH HISTORICAL & MUSEUM SOCIETY



You'll find more than a little history...

Feb/March 2023

find us!

Celebrating Heritage Week

February 19-25



Heritage can mean many different things...people, family, language, art, place and culture, and more.

What does heritage mean to you?

Come visit the museum, and please add your thoughts to our feedback board.

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We respectfully acknowledge that the land on which we gather is the unceded traditional lands of the

Coast Salish Peoples, specifically the Qualicum First Nations whose historical relationship with the land continues to this day



QUALICUM BEACH
MUSEUM

Visit us online at QBMuseum.ca Like us on 

Newsletter - Lorraine Bell

Vice-President's Report

Dear QBH&MS members and friends,



We have had a very productive winter season, starting with our annual general meeting held in person in October, with twenty-two members in attendance. Both Lorraine Bell, Manager, and I gave reports regarding the year's events and accomplishments. We do hope that, with the easing of COVID concerns, we can soon return to our previous AGM format, including refreshments and a guest speaker. We are currently in the midst of an intensive strategic planning process, facilitated by the Hatlie Group. Our goal is to develop a robust vision and plan for the museum, to be implemented in the coming years.

In addition to our planning work, we have started some important projects, including improving the accessibility of the museum-both inside and outside-and updating the outdoor and communications exhibits. Also recently was our March 1st participation in the Town's *Meeting of the Whole*, where we presented our financials, budget and workplan to the town in support of a renewed Fee for Service Agreement. We look forward to another busy Spring and Summer at the museum. I thank you for your continuing support for our work in preserving and sharing the fascinating history of Qualicum Beach with our community and visitors.

Respectfully,

-David Ireland,

Vice-President, QBHMS



1940's era rotary phone on display - still in perfect working order.

-QBMuseum communications collection

QBH&MS

BOARD of DIRECTORS

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Qualicum FN Liaison

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Newsletter: Lorraine Bell
and Kisselle Reid

Hello Everyone,



I hope you have had a great year so far.

Although we are only open to the public Tuesday and Thursday afternoons in the winter, we find many other ways to stay busy, such as grant applications, school program development and with visits from school and community groups.

This year we created thematic displays and opened the museum for Truth and Reconciliation/Orange Shirt Day; 'Kids Spooky Day'; Remembrance Day; and also Family Day. The kids on Family Day helped us make a beautiful exhibit of swimming salmon! We will be open extra hours during the Brant Festival with both 'spot the Brant' and 'make a herring' activities.

Behind the scenes, we have been providing some much needed care and attention to the collections. This means accessioning, cleaning, digitizing, storing, and cataloguing historical materials with our team of dedicated volunteers. An example of a very special addition is two Coast Salish baskets. The baskets will be with the Indigenous Belongings, which are held at the museum with the permission and consultation of the Qualicum First Nation. We were also thrilled to receive the late Jim Kilburn's fishing-related materials, including an array of beautifully tied flies, and an intriguing fisher's vest with many useful things in the pockets.

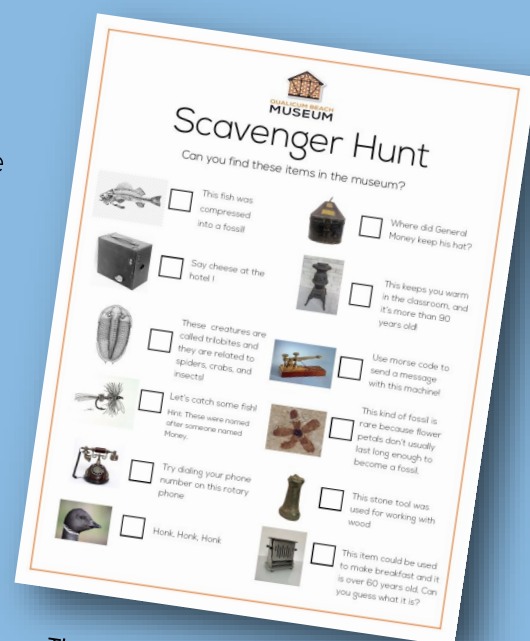
We also enjoyed welcoming nineteen teachers for our annual ProD day held at the museum on February 17th. We presented our various museum resources and activities that compliment the BC Curriculum. It was fantastic to see Clayton Bambrough, who worked here as summer student. He has now finished his training and is teaching at Ballenas Secondary. The teachers had a lot of insights into how our museum can help add local history and paleontology to students' learning.

No wonder time has gone so fast! I hope to see many of you soon, either at upcoming events or even a quick visit at the museum.

Respectfully,

Lorraine Bell

Museum Manager



*The ever popular Scavenger Hunt
for children...of all ages!*



Greetings Fellow Museum Enthusiasts!

I've been at the museum for almost half a year now, and I have to say that meeting everyone and getting to know the museum family has been absolutely wonderful. Lorraine and I have been doing so much these last several months, it's hard to believe how fast time has flown.

Through this winter, we've been getting the chance to focus our attention on the collection. We recently received an exciting donation to our display collection—a group of toy soldiers! We counted 107 pieces, with soldiers in various uniforms ranging across the early 20th century, and accessories such as cannons, horses, bicycles, and even a goat! Each item has been meticulously hand-painted and well looked after. We look forward to displaying them in the future!



Soldiers and the Goat getting prepped for storage

One of the big things we've also been busy with is school and community tours. The museum has



Elasmosaurus puppet made with the QFN kids group

received a couple of unique visitors this winter. Through November, a small group of QFN kids came to the museum weekly to participate in various educational activities. One of their highlights was getting to examine and identify the war memorabilia we had on display. Also, we recently had the Oceanside Photography Club visit us to take pictures of the artifacts and the buildings/grounds. We look forward to them sharing their results with us!

In between everything we do behind the scenes, Lorraine and I are also taking online courses from Canada's History Society on the topic of Historical Thinking. On top of that, I have also enrolled in a professional development course at UVic, where we explore how museums communicate with the visitor through their exhibitions.

We have lots planned for the future and I'm looking forward to sharing it with you all!

Kisselle Reid Assistant Manager

Artefact Feature: "Vacuuming the carpet" as a domestic chore is a relatively new idea. The first electric vacuum cleaner hit the market in 1908. However, it wasn't an instant success. Electricity was not widely available, and the fear of electrocution was high. On top of that, the first electric vacuum cleaner in the U.S. sold for a whopping \$60—which would be \$4,600 in today's money!



1912 Advertisement

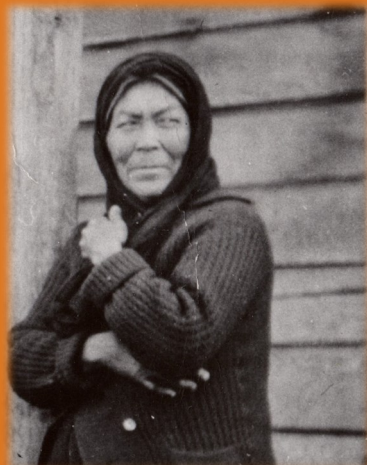
Enter the Baby Daisy Vacuum.

Designed in 1910, the Baby Daisy was manually powered, so there was no need for electricity. It required two people to operate it. The first person would stand on the base and move the bellows back and forth with the aid of a broomstick. This movement was a key design feature as it had double connected bellows, meaning that the movement in either direction created a vacuum effect. The second person would use the attached hose to clean. While the Baby Daisy had limited suction power, it was far better than cleaning the carpets with a broom!

The Baby Daisy could have been yours for two guineas—\$164 today!



Social Media Top Post of 2022



On March 8, 2022, we posted this great picture of Qualicum Annie on Facebook in honour of International Women's Day. The post received 109 'Likes', 37 'Shares', and 34 comments. In December, we were still receiving likes and comments on this post! Most of the comments were from descendants of Qualicum Annie, who noted how special it was to see their Great x2 or x3 Grandmother.

Other popular posts this year include a snapshot of Queen Elizabeth's and Prince Phillip's signatures in the Eaglecrest Lodge's guestbook, and an archival image of the interior of St. Andrew's Lodge at Christmas.

"Was so great to learn about my heritage"

"Very well done"
Stoughton, Saskatchewan

"Love it here. I will come back!" -L.C.

"First time here, what a beautiful museum"

"A Wonderful Visit" - G.L.

"Fun time" - Niamh
"Awesome" - Auria

"Discover Montessori—amazing time—will definitely be back. Great learning" :)

"Loved it, can't wait to come back"

"Quite impressed, wonderful museum"

"Very lovingly displayed" G. and E. M.

"Very cool place"

"Meh"

"Here for Family Day 2023!"
-S and S

"Thank you for the fish drawing, scavenger hunt and prizes. What a fun family day! :)"

"UBC students here to celebrate Thank's birthday!
Love the fossils! :)"

"First time here and loved it!"

"Spinach"

The Chronicle

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COMING EVENTS



April 1, and 4-8: Museum open for the Brant Festival. Historic Brant display and crafts.

June 1st: Summer hours begin

June 17: Display at St. Andrew's

June 29: QB Reads 7pm

July 13: Membership Luncheon and Volunteer Appreciation

July 16: Display at Beach Day

July 22: Vintage Sale 10-3pm

July 27: QB Reads 7pm

August 19: Children's Museum Day!

August 25: QB Reads 7pm



Arthur Norman 'Art' Skipsey



Amongst his many accomplishments and contributions, Art served as president of the Qualicum Beach Historical and Museum Society for eleven years. His friendship, enthusiasm and hard work in support of our community continue to inspire.

May he rest in peace.