

# The Chronicle

NEWSLETTER OF THE QUALICUM BEACH HISTORICAL & MUSEUM SOCIETY



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

**October 2022**

**find us!**



## September 30 National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

This day is to honour the children who never returned home and survivors of residential schools, as well as their families and communities.

Public commemoration of the painful history and ongoing impacts of residential schools is a vital component of the reconciliation process.

*Every Child Matters.*

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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*



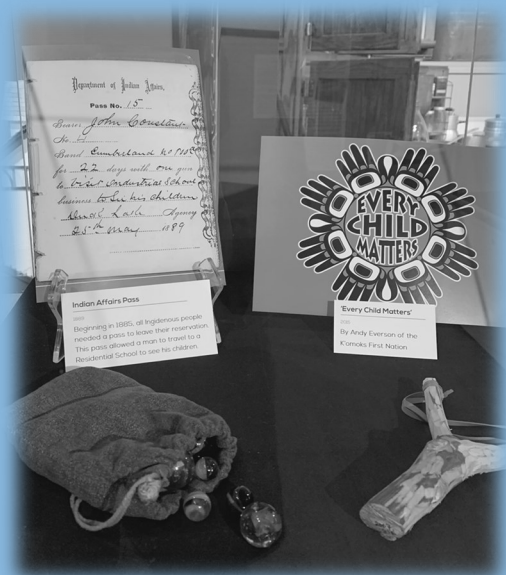
QUALICUM BEACH  
**MUSEUM**

Visit us online at [QBMuseum.ca](http://QBMuseum.ca) Like us on   
Newsletter - Lorraine Bell

### Truth and Reconciliation/Orange Shirt Day

The museum opened on September 30th with exhibits related to the history of residential schools and of the origin of **Orange Shirt Day**.

The day was also recognized by hanging two large banners on the museum gates. Two related videos were screened in the social history theatre upstairs. Visiting children were encouraged to reflect on the meaning of the day by making small orange shirts out of paper with the inscription 'Every Child Matters'.





### The Beginning of Truth & Reconciliation

**1958**

For the first time, inspectors for Indian Affairs recommends the abolition of Residential Schools



**1996**

The Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples releases a report calling for an inquiry into the effects of Residential Schools, including language loss and trauma

**2005**

The Assembly of First Nations announces a class action lawsuit against the Government of Canada

**2007**

The government provides compensation to survivors including a focus on funding Indigenous health & healing services



**2008**

Prime Minister Stephen Harper formally apologizes for Canada's role in the operation of Residential Schools



**2009**

The Truth & Reconciliation Commission (TRC) is launched



**2013**

The TRC holds a meeting in Williams Lake, BC where Phyllis Webstad tells her orange shirt story for the first time

**2013-2020**

Every Child Matters movements begin to spread across Canada in solidarity with Phyllis, and orange shirts become a symbol for the effects of Residential School

**2021**

Canada declares that September 30th will mark the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation and will become an annual national holiday



**2022**

Pope Francis travels across Canada and apologizes for the role the Catholic Church played in Residential Schools



Phyllis Webstad of the Stsweemc Xgat'tem First Nation

#### Moving Forward

Reconciliation is far from over. Every year another step is taken towards the continued healing of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples, and the country as a whole

#### What You Can Do



On September 30, wear orange and attend an event in your local area to show support for the victims and survivors of Residential Schools. Through awareness and remembrance, we can ensure that such violations never happen again

Background image is a 1937 letter from Indian Affairs informing on the death of 4 First Nation boys at the Le Jac Residential School in Fraser Lake, BC

Panel created by Kisselle Reid as part of Truth and Reconciliation/Orange Shirt Day exhibit.



### Vice-President's Report

Dear QBH&MS members and friends,



In keeping with the longstanding annual tradition, the Board of Directors and museum management were invited by the mayor and council of Qualicum Beach to provide an overview of museum activities, from the past to the current operating year and the year going forward.

The event was held in council chambers, Wednesday 15 June 2022. Museum Manager Netanja Waddell provided an engaging retrospective of the numerous accomplishments in the evolution of the museum. The Board is now in the process of engaging a professional consulting group to assist us in defining and mobilizing our next 10-year strategic plan.

On completion of a rigorous selection process our Human Resources (HR) Committee conducted over the past months (which included 18 candidates from across Canada and the USA), Lorraine Bell, was selected as our new Museum Manager. Also joining the museum management team is Assistant Manager, Kisselle Reid. Welcome Kisselle!

The Board of Directors express our profound thanks and appreciation to Bob Orth, our retiring Treasurer, for his outstanding service to the museum and its financial oversight. In every respect, Bob has been the epitome of sound judgment, mentorship, and support.

We are pleased to announce that Merideth Bisiker has accepted our invitation to join us as our new Treasurer. We know she will "carry the ball forward" in an experienced and professional manner, ensuring the museum continues with sound financial principles and practices. Welcome aboard, Merideth!

We hope to see you at the AGM on October 25th,

Respectfully,

-David Ireland,

Vice-President, QBHMS

### QBH&MS

#### BOARD of DIRECTORS

**Vacant** - President

**David Ireland** - VP

**Meredith Bisiker** - Treasurer

**Laurie Richards** - Secretary

**Audrey Cope** – Director

**Cliff Craven** – Director

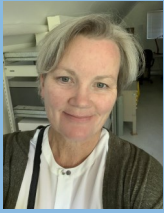
**Chris Lemphers** –  
Past President

**Bill Recalma** - Director/  
Qualicum FN Liaison

**Councillor Anne Skipsey** –  
Town Liaison

**Newsletter:** Lorraine Bell

Hello Everyone,



I am pleased to be taking on the role of Museum Manager after the retirement of our long-serving manager, Netanja Waddell. Our summer luncheon this year was an opportunity to show our appreciation to Netanja for her many years of excellent and devoted service to the museum and her strong work in creating a museum our entire community can feel proud of. In her farewell speech, Netanja outlined some very important goals: to forge a respectful and collaborative relationship with the Qualicum First Nation; to diversify the stories we tell; to continually explore new ideas and offer new visitor experiences; and to be a vibrant part of our community. As we wish Netanja the very best in her retirement and new adventures, we will continue to guide our work by these principles.

We are also very fortunate to welcome our newest team member, Kisselle Reid. Kisselle brings a vast set of knowledge, skills and experience, and a positive, cheerful presence. After a short time she has already contributed greatly to the professional and effective running of the museum.

Apart from our usual programs and activities, we have many exciting projects ahead of us this year. We will be embarking on a new strategic plan, finishing the Powerhouse exhibit on power, energy, and climate change, and looking for ways to make the museum and grounds more accessible.

We will keep you up to date on these developments, and, as always, sincerely thank you for your continued interest and support.

Respectfully,

*Lorraine Bell*

Lorraine Bell, Museum Manager



Netanja and Jan at the farewell party.



Lorraine, Madison, Troy, Netanja and Frances—Summer Luncheon

## Welcome Kisselle!



Hello Everyone! My name is Kisselle and I'm so happy to be working at the museum! I have always loved museums and I like to think of them not as places or buildings, but as living, breathing members of a community. This museum has been an established member of your community for a long time, and I am humbled by the fact I get to be a small part of its history. While I am a member of the Qualicum First Nation, I was actually born and raised in the Yukon, so living on Vancouver Island is a new experience.

My background is in archaeology, and I spent 6 years excavating ancient village sites across the Yukon and Northern BC. Stone tools were my specialty! While prehistoric artifacts are one of my favourites – I love history of all kinds, in all its forms. I believe that we cannot begin to truly understand ourselves without first knowing our history. I also have a secondary background in Wildfire and Emergency Management. From that, I have brought a wealth of experience in working with the public, working under pressure, and managing finances. When I'm not at the museum, you can find me walking the shoreline in Qualicum Bay, hiking one of the Island's wonderful trails, or browsing secondhand bookshops for additions to my antique book collection! I very much look forward to meeting you all. –Kisselle Reid

## Goodbye Summer Staff!

The summer staff did such a great job as always. **Frances** worked remotely this year, updating the paleontology information panels and researching materials for our school program.

Frances also helped out on-site with special events. Thank-you Frances!

Returning staff member **Madison** had a very busy and productive summer. Apart from the usual wide variety of museum duties related to exhibits, research, museum promotion and visitor services, she took on the organization of the *Vintage Sale* and our major event, *Children's Museum Day*. This included securing funds, recruiting volunteers, creating activities, and, most importantly and with tremendous efforts, successfully booking Lucky the Party Pony. Madison will be completing her archaeology degree at Simon Fraser University this year, and we wish her all the best as she embarks on what is sure to be an amazing career.





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## Past Events



RBCM learning kit highlighting history of Paldi, VI.

The wonderful Chris O'Connor, museum educator from the Royal BC Museum, joined us June 2-3 at **Bowser Elementary School**.

We spent time in the classrooms with all grades, and also facilitated a session of museum-based learning with the teachers. Thank you to BES teachers, especially Monique Pelletier, for organizing this event. **Volunteer Appreciation** on May 25th gave us a chance to give thanks to volunteers, and welcome them back after a long hiatus due to COVID... The **Broken Promises opening** June 9th was attended by 30 guests, including Mayor Brian Wiese and MLA Adam Walker. We were honoured to welcome special guest Sachiko Okuda and partner Bruce, who traveled from Ottawa to attend. Sachiko gave a moving speech about her mother Shima, born and raised in Qualicum Beach, who experienced the internment and dispossession of Japanese Canadians in the 1940s... July 14 was our **Summer Luncheon** and **Netanja's Retirement party**. Many members and friends came to offer thanks and well wishes... July 21 was another **Vintage Sale!** One hundred people came, and the sale raised approximately \$800 for the museum. Thanks to those who donated vintage items to the sale! We again donated what did not sell to St-Andrews lodge sale.

Next year the format will change to a community sale where you can rent a table for \$40 [proceeds to the museum] so please consider renting a table for a fun afternoon.

In August we were honoured to welcome the **Fukushima family** who held their family reunion on the museum grounds. They also visited the Broken Promises exhibit, and shared stories of their own family members experiences of the internment and dispossession.



Sachiko Okuda speaking at the Broken Promises opening.



Madison sorting donations at the Vintage Sale.



Sharing memories at the Fukushima family reunion.

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## Past Events



After a two year hiatus, **Children's Museum Day** was finally back and a huge success. Four hundred came to enjoy the activities, music, cookies and fun. *Lucky the Party Pony* was enthusiastically welcomed by many excited youngsters. Great music was provided by the *QB Ukelele Band* and *Dave and Rob's Jazz Duo*. Thrifty Foods provided a delicious volunteer luncheon and Quality Foods donated crucial supplies. Coastal

Community Credit Union donated \$500 toward the event, and upwards of forty QBHMS members and friends volunteered for set up, booths and clean up. Madison Poole expertly organized and publicized this fantastic event. A big thank-you to all who were involved.



Lucky the Party Pony and his new friend.



Guess the Artefact!

**QB Reads!** was held in the warm winter evenings with G. Michael Smith, John MacFarlane and John

Beaton. Don't miss the final author of the season, Shanon Sinn, on October 25 at 2pm.



The dress up tent was FABULOUS!

## MLA's visit museum



September 27 a group of MLA's came for a tour: the Hon. Melanie Mark, Minister of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport, along with MLA's Doug Routley, Niki Sharma, Bowinn Ma, Bob De'Eith, Lisa Beare, and Mitzi Dean. We discussed the challenges and benefits of operating a small community museum.



### Commemoration of Queen Elizabeth II

"AS a local resident of Qualicum Beach and having grown up in and nursed in Brighton, England, I am here to pay respects to Queen Elizabeth II and give thanks for her service and smile.

Sincere condolences to her immediate family and her world family.  
She will always be in our hearts"

(guestbook comment)



### Thank you to our funders and supporters

Many thanks to the Town of Qualicum Beach; the Qualicum First Nation; the B.C. Arts Council; B.C.'s Community Gaming Grants; Canada Heritage; Heritage BC; The Chamber of Commerce; The P.Q.B. Foundation; Coombs Signs; Windsor Plywood; Quality Foods; Thrifty Foods; Qualicum Stationers; QBHMS members and volunteers; community and individual donors; and all who support the research, conservation and sharing of the unique history of Qualicum Beach.



BRITISH COLUMBIA  
ARTS COUNCIL



BRITISH COLUMBIA

Supported by the Province of British Columbia

Heritage BC



TOWN OF  
QUALICUM BEACH



## Seeking new board members



The Qualicum Beach Historical and Museum Society is seeking Board members with a view to assuming an Executive position. Board members advise on the museum's operations, are fiscally responsible and provide counsel on matters such as program and exhibit development, management communication and funding.

The Board meets monthly on the third Thursday morning.

Positions are two year terms.

Board, administration or financial experience an asset. Join our team and help secure our community's heritage for future generations.

See <https://qbmuseum.ca/> for more information about us. For expressions of interest contact call 250-752-5533.

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## Visitor's Comments

**"Thank you, very educational.  
Every child matters."**  
Melanie Mark, Minister Tourism, Arts,

**"Thank you, so well done"**  
Sue Macaulay (Money) (General Money's  
granddaughter)

**"We loved the old kitchen stuff"**  
—Wade and Hiromi

"I came from Japan for vacation and I had no idea about the discrimination and injustice condition the Japanese Canadians faced. At school, in Japan, I only learned about Japanese camp in the U.S. during WWII. Thank you for this exhibition and the effort to correct those important documents." -Emma

**"I know I'm getting old because many  
items trigger memories"**  
*Spoke and Kym 7-2021  
PAT H  
Elodie X Shipley 2021  
Willow*

**"Excellent – Brings back memories"**

"Please consider adding more history and culture of the Indigenous peoples that were originally here prior to others moving to the area. The videos were especially disappointing-no mention of the original inhabitants. This land was not empty prior to settlers coming. Also please consider getting the word 'Indian' changed on the plaque on the totem"

"Hopefully we can finally grow towards a truly unified Nation. How does a country heal from this kind of trauma? Time, patience, support, kindness"

**"So glad to learn more about  
fossils! Thanks for keeping the  
past alive!" Sarah from Maple Bay**

**"Our eyes are finally open, your  
displays are very wonderful"**

**"Thank you for all your work  
and passion to educate"**

"The Indigenous Exhibit was informative, culturally aware, and seemed like it was actually written by and contributed to by local Indigenous folks. Well done. Would love to see more like that. Plus local native plants and ecosystem displays. Fossils are wonderful and the interactive display was very nice."



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## COMING EVENTS



**October 25th:** AGM QB Museum 7pm

QB Reads Shanon Sinn 2pm

**October 27th:** Kid's Spooky Day at the Museum  
1-4pm

**December 15:** Come visit and shop @ QBM  
1-4pm