

Burnaby Village Museum

2017 Annual Report



2017 Year in Review

Where History Comes to Life

In 2017, the City of Burnaby celebrated the 125th anniversary of the incorporation of Burnaby and Canada's 150th birthday. Burnaby Village Museum helped celebrate these milestones through exhibitions, programs, and special events. The temporary exhibit gallery featured a *Burnaby Then and Now* display of historic photographs of Burnaby paired with modern day images of the same locations. Additional programming and entertainment was offered at signature special events, including Canada Day.

An updated version of the "Spring Discovery Days" school program was introduced, with revisions to meet the needs of the new BC curriculum. Educators specializing in First Nations culture and history were hired to help deliver the new program.

Upgrades and maintenance of exhibits continued, including reconfiguring the barber shop to enable visitors to have a seat in one of the barber's chairs. The wood floors at the Bell's Dry Goods building and on the platform of the carousel were refinished.

Staff, volunteers, and community partners worked together on several research projects to better understand the history of Burnaby, including the diverse communities that have contributed to Burnaby's development. Research was presented in the fall as part of the "Burnaby Neighbourhood History Series" that includes lectures and walking tours exploring the history of Burnaby.

Heritage Christmas brought over 56,000 visitors to the site to enjoy entertainment and displays. Presenting sponsor Concord Pacific helped make the event a success. Behind the scenes, renovations were undertaken to upgrade the museum's off-site storage space to store additional Christmas lights and décor.

Deborah Tuytens
Museum Services Supervisor

2017 Highlights

109 volunteers contributing: 11,906 hours
School Program attendance: 12,737
Public Program attendance: 9,945
On-site attendance: 235,813
Grants & Donations: \$9,593
Sponsorships: \$27,400
In-kind Donations: \$1,275.00

2017 Openings

Spring Break: Mar 13-24
Summer Season: May 6-Sep 4
Haunted Village: Oct 27-30
Heritage Christmas: Nov 25-Jan 5

Curatorial

Burnaby's 125th anniversary provided an opportunity to celebrate Burnaby's past and present. Staff collaborated with volunteers, partners, and other City departments to deepen our understanding of Burnaby's unique history, and share it with visitors and the public.

Research

In partnership with the Burnaby Public Library, a series of Neighbourhood History lectures, walking tours, and a film screening were offered featuring Museum staff and a range of community partners. This year, the series was highlighted as part of the Burnaby 125 celebrations.

The lectures attracted approximately 240 attendees in total. Presentations included:

- Burnaby's Birdlife
- Kingsway Memories
- Chinese Canadian Stories
- Saving Burnaby Lake
- Getting to Know Burnaby
- Tour of the Masjid Al Salaam Mosque & Islamic Education Centre (Walking Tour)
- Indigenous Plant Tour of Deer Lake (Walking Tour)
- All Our Fathers' Relations (Film Screening)

The Museum hosted a number of Burnaby research projects, including the preservation of Burnaby Lake and the Brunette River, Chinese Canadian migration to Burnaby in the early 20th century, and Burnaby's urban development. A Chinese Canadian Advisory Committee was formed to provide advice and help staff identify research sources.

Staff also continued to work with local First Nations, including Kwantlen, Musqueam, Skwxwú7mesh, and Tsleil-Waututh to research the First Nations history of Burnaby, with the goal of producing a resource guide to be used in local schools and at the Museum.

Curatorial staff once again participated in the steering committee for the Burnaby Festival of Learning, which was co-produced by the City of Burnaby and Simon Fraser University and held May 7 to 13. The Museum organized a History of Burnaby by SkyTrain tour sponsored by the Burnaby Historical Society and a gardening demonstration in partnership with Burnaby Food First. Two demonstrations by archaeologist Dr. Eldon Yellowhorn were offered to Museum visitors during the Festival of Learning. Dr. Yellowhorn is from the Department of First Nations Studies, SFU and is a member of the Blackfoot Confederacy.

Collections Management

The Museum continues to collect objects that document the history of Burnaby. The Museum's collection now totals over 59,322 objects, including artifacts, archival material, and special collections books. In 2017, 1,484 items were catalogued. 55 donations were made, representing 596 objects that will be added to the collection.

In 2017, a team of volunteers catalogued and researched 717 artifacts in the pharmacy exhibit, that are now available to view online through Heritage Burnaby. The research was used to re-develop the pharmacy exhibit, which will re-open in March 2018. Work was completed on a project to create library-quality catalogue records of the 4,437 books in the Museum's care.



Suey Ying Hung (Laura) at her family farm on Douglas Road near Still Creek, circa 1945-47. BV017.24.26

Marketing

2017 offered opportunities to link into marketing campaigns for Canada 150 and Burnaby's Celebrate! 125 campaign. New initiatives included ads along the Canada Line, programmatic audio ads, features on digital news outlets, and digital ads on Tourism Vancouver's website.

The Museum's social media channels continued to be a priority, including Facebook, Twitter, and Google+, and Instagram. Our positive ratings and reviews on Google+, resulted in high organic search rankings and more direct referrals to our website. Our Heritage Christmas 2016 video, released on YouTube, was a hit. By the end of 2017, it had been viewed almost 15,000 times. The second most viewed YouTube video is the one minute "An Introduction to the Village" which has been seen over 8,400 times.

The burnabyvillagemuseum.ca website attracted over 269,605 visitors in 2017 (up 10,991) and 613,444 page views (up 5,050). The most visited pages were the 'Home' page, Heritage Christmas, Hours & Rates, and Plan a Visit.

Since 2015, members of the Burnaby Detachment of the RCMP participated in our 'Red Serge Days'. Members, wearing their iconic red serge, attended the Village to visit with our guests and pose for photographs. To commemorate Canada's sesquicentennial this initiative was re-named Celebrate 150: Red Serge Days. The promotional campaign for this unique opportunity included outdoor, online and print opportunities allowing the Village to test some non-traditional markets and media.

Exit surveys and online review sites indicated that the Museum was not just meeting visitors' expectations, but exceeding them. During the Heritage Christmas season, an overwhelming number of visitors (89%) rated their experience as good-to-excellent and 91% said it was very likely that they would recommend visiting to others.

The Museum was pleased to work with Concord Pacific as our Heritage Christmas Presenting Sponsor. Concord Pacific stepped forward with a three year agreement for \$25,000 per year. Also for Heritage Christmas, Miss 604, an award winning Vancouver blogger, came on board as an event media sponsor and Whole Foods Market continued to supply ingredients for the Heritage Baking program.

Very interesting!

I enjoyed the theater and the guides.

Jase from Seattle, May 18, 2017



Charming!
First time I've seen a carousel in 40 years.

Sha from Hawaii, July 12, 2017

Conservation

In addition to regular machinery maintenance, horse repair and varnishing, the platform floor of the C.W. Parker #119 Carousel was refinished. All of the horses, high hats, floor plates and numbers were removed to provide complete access to the maple floor boards. Stronger floor-fastening plates were installed on the newly refinished floor to restrain the floor panels when the ride is turning.

Heritage buildings and exhibits received care and maintenance, including refinishing the original wood floors of the 1922 Bell's Dry Goods building. Increased visitation at the Museum and the exceptionally cold weather at the end of 2016 resulted in increased wear to floors and other surfaces. At the Royal Bank, the one hundred year old wood counters, partitions, bench and manager's desk were cleaned and re-varnished. The wicker seats in the 1912 Interurban 1223 tram were also re-varnished.

At the Museum's off-site collections storage, an unused room was prepared by removing old wall and floor finishes, sealing and painting. New warehouse shelving was also installed to ensure easy access and safety for staff and artifacts.

Environmental protection for the Museum's on-site collection was improved by installing a water monitoring and call-out system to provide automated shut-off to water systems to prevent flooding. As a preventive conservation measure, protective box covers were made for large leather bound books in the collection.

In addition to the regular work of the Museum, the conservation lab was used by staff from the Nikkei National Museum & Cultural Centre to safely clean valuable historic texts contaminated by mold.

Conservation staff continued to maintain the working artifacts including the player piano, steam engines, and 1920s automobiles.

Beautiful place and great people.
Also, the carousel was super fun!

Do family from California, June 22, 2017

Staff removing horses from the carousel to refinish the wood platform

Exhibits

Temporary Exhibits

Burnaby 125 and Canada 150 celebrations provided opportunities to reflect on Burnaby's history.

Burnaby, Then & Now

May to September, Stride Studios exhibition gallery

Visitors were invited to explore how Burnaby has changed over the past 125 years. The gallery featured a display of historic photographs of well-known landmarks presented alongside present-day photographs of the same locations. Maps, didactics, and hands-on interactives encouraged exploration of the community's past and present.

Gone, and Best Forgotten?

May to September, several Village locations

Ballot forms and voting stations situated throughout the Village encouraged visitors to vote on whether a selection of products and practices from the past were "best forgotten" or should be brought back.

First Nations Activities

May to September, Multi-Purpose Room

Graphics and interactives were developed to transform a multi-purpose room into an exhibition and program space to host Coast Salish educators.

Demonstration Garden

May to September, Orchard

Garden boxes were installed and used to demonstrate the variety of produce that can be grown in Burnaby. Didactic panels supporting the display covered topics such as ecological preservation, Indigenous food systems, and gardening techniques. *In partnership with Burnaby Food First.*

Exhibit Upgrades

Regular upgrades to permanent exhibits help preserve artifacts, and improve exhibition spaces for visitors.

Barbershop

Visitors can now have a seat in one of the historic barber chairs. Other upgrades included new paint and flooring.

Pharmacy

Planning and renovation for an improved pharmacy exhibit began in 2017. The display will re-open in spring 2018 featuring new didactics and interactive activities for visitors.

Blacksmith

Upgrades to the Museum's blacksmith shop began in September. The renovation includes the addition of two new forges, an improved visitor viewing area, and a children's interactive space.

Outreach Exhibits

The Hat Came Back

Shadbolt Centre for the Arts, January to October
Replica 1920s cloche hats from the Burnaby Village Museum.

Made by Hand

Shadbolt Centre for the Arts, November to January
Hand-made toys from the Museum's collection.

Super cool to see different ways of living.


Loved the "Bring it back or best forgotten"

Chloe from Vancouver, July 7, 2017

Have been around and so good!!

Excited to see all exhibits.

Margaret from Scotland, June 24, 2017



The carolers were good
and the lights were pretty!

Mack from Port Coquitlam, December 9, 2017

Love this place!!!

Family tradition for us.

Annalese & Jude from Coquitlam, January 2, 2017

Heritage Christmas

Concord Pacific was Presenting Sponsor for this year's Heritage Christmas season, which ran from November 25 to January 5 and attracted 56,554 visitors to the site.

Once again, installations of lights and lit decorations on trees and buildings were featured throughout the Village, as well as vintage Christmas displays inside the exhibit buildings.

A popular new addition was the "Swan Lake" display, featuring seven larger-than-life lit swans swimming beneath strings of blue rain drop lights hung from the branches of a large beech tree. Several eco-sculpture displays were provided by Parks Design, including a group of large owls dressed as a teacher and her pupils.

Christmas entertainment included Father Christmas, carolers, street musicians, and theatre performances. Home-made cookies were baked in the wood stove and shared with visitors each Sunday in the Love Farmhouse, ingredients donated by Whole Foods.

The *12 Days of Christmas* scavenger hunt returned for another season. The hunt was refreshed with several clues from previous years replaced with new ones.

Vintage decorations in the Village and traditional Christmas greens rounded out the decorations. The Canadiana Costume Society again provided a costume display at Elworth house featuring outdoor winter clothes and a 1920s child's sleigh. Vintage radios were located in several of the heritage buildings, featuring Christmas music from the early 20th century.

Programming

Spring Break


2017 was the second year for a new Spring Break format, which mirrors the summer season with all regular exhibits staffed, 11am to 4:30 pm open hours, and no admission fee. An extra layer of activity is offered to visitors who purchase an Adventure Guide booklet. Several special demonstrations were offered by interpretive staff and volunteers, including tinsmith demonstrations, steam demonstrations, and coffee grinding in the General Store. The "School Days" program invited visitors to sit in the desks at the schoolhouse during scheduled times and experience a 1920s classroom.

Summer Season

Burnaby's 125th and Canada's 150th anniversaries were celebrated throughout the summer through new hands-on activities exploring the difference between "now" and "then." Visitors were invited to participate in a scavenger hunt comparing past and present, try out old-fashioned stereoscopes to take a virtual sightseeing trip abroad, and participate in laundry chores the hard way—using a scrub board and ringer to wash clothes. Many of the Museum's regular partners rounded out our program offerings, including Tsleil-Waututh Nation's Takaya Tours, Pacific Spirit Quilters Guild, and Burnaby Arts Council's Summer Theatre troupe. They were joined by Burnaby Public Library staff who came on site every week in July with their pop-up library. Visitors could peruse a selection of history-themed kids' books and sign them out on the spot.

Special Events

The milestones of Canada's 150th and Burnaby's 125th birthdays were recognized and highlighted during special events. The Celebrate 150/125 Activation Station attended signature events providing crafts, face painting and giveaways. Federal 125 | 150 grant funds increased and enhanced the entertainment and visitor engagement for signature special events - including Canada Day where two stages offered musical performances all day, including traditional Salish song and dance by The Coastal Wolf Pack. The site played host to 11,293 guests, the second highest attendance for Canada Day. The fun continued over the summer and culminated in the annual World Rivers Day event on September 24. The event, which involved 20 community partners, was included in the city-wide Weekend of Fun celebrating Burnaby's official 125th birthday. Special \$1.25 carousel prices were enjoyed by close to 1000 riders. The Haunted Village experience once again set new attendance records and continues to be a favourite event for the public as well as staff, volunteers and entertainers.



The houses here are cool!
The people here are nice!

Emmy from Taiwan, July 14, 2017



School Programs

In 2017, programming staff introduced a new updated version of the popular field trip program Spring Discovery Days in order to meet the new, mandated BC curriculum. Programming staff met monthly with a Teacher Focus Group assembled by the Burnaby School District, and received valuable feedback from the Aboriginal Enhancement Teacher and Head Teachers to help modify programs to meet the new curriculum's emphasis on First Nations content and reflective thinking. Through partnerships with local First Nations communities and the help of two First Nations educators, the programming team was able to deliver a very informative, educational and popular program. The updated program includes a new guidebook for students and a very thorough Teachers Guide, both created with the guidance of the Teachers Focus Group.

Volunteers & Staff

In 2017, the Museum had 199 volunteers who contributed 13,771 hours of service; 25 of those accrued 100 hours or more.

The Volunteer Emeritus program was announced at the Volunteer Appreciation Tea held in February. This designation honors long-term volunteers who have retired from active volunteer service at the Museum.

The Burnaby-based student volunteer work experience program continues to grow, with students recruited for the May to September public opening as well as over Heritage Christmas to assist with school and public program delivery.

Staff and volunteers attended the 2017 Learning Workshop series which covered diverse topics ranging from the history of fashion to working with young children and special needs visitors. Museum Interpreters received training to expand the number of exhibits that can be interpreted at the Museum.

Programming volunteers and staff were kept informed through a monthly e-newsletter, and updates for volunteers were also posted on the volunteer software program, Better Impact. Staff serve on the City of Burnaby Volunteer Resources Committee, assisting in the standardization of volunteer management policies and best practices, as well as collaborating with Corporate Communications to enhance the Burnaby Volunteering Portal.

(Left top to bottom)
Drummers and dancers from the Tian Jin Temple performing on Canada Day
BC Day craft provided by Tian Jin Temple
Postcard photo stop on Canada Day

(Right top to bottom)
School program visitors at the Royal Oak Garage
Visitors enjoying an Aboriginal Medicinal Plant Tour with T'uy'tanat-Cease Wyss



Way to go for including first nation's history – Finally!

Bredvin from Oslover, Nornada, June 2, 2017

Volunteers



Councillor Paul McDonell (standing) with emeritus volunteers Bianca DeCosse (left) and Pat Cameron

Azmina Abdulla	Teresa Findlay	Linda Lowe	Norman Schmahl
Anna Ashbourne Bruder	Jadyn Flint	Gil Mattila	Gillian Schoenefuhs
Natalie Batista	Amy Flores	Paisley McKenzie	Allen Seager
Jean Beaton	Chris Foxon	Holly McManus	Ewan Sheard
Sarah Beaton	Irene Fung	Bill Mellors	Patrick Sladen
Ty Berry	Bruce Gidinsky	Alicia Moroz	Jammy Smith
Paul Bolam	Ava Green	Randy Morrison	Renee Smitherman
Barbara Bowes	Gwen Guguin	Jennifer Moysa	Cathy Snyder
Maddy Boyd	Lala Hadju	Susan Munkeskov	Janette Steel
Rob Braem	Paul Harris	Annabel Ng	Scott Stephen
Don Broder	Walter Homewood	Ida Niksirat	Barbara Stewart
Juana Bryant	April Huang	Alexander Nolan	Kristie Stewart
Lina Chan	Frank Hucul	Holly O'Neil	Teresa Switzer
Taryn Cheal	Sandre Hume	Lynda Maeve Orr	Malka Syed
Rose Chen	Shirley Hume	Robin Orr	Gail Takeshita
Matthew Chiang	Lorraine Irving	Diane Panozzo	Margaret Taylor
Jo-Ann Chiu	Elena Kalsi	Lisa Peradenic	Kathy Tietjen
Linda Collins	Vivek Kalsi	Nathan Peradenic	Jeff Tsang
Russell Collins	Doreen Kennedy	Carol Pettigrew	Hazel Vandaelle
Natasha Cross	Vera Kharitonova	Bob Proctor	Christine Velez
Roni De Guzman	Teanna Lackner	Ellen Proctor	Charlotte Virgl
Stephanie Dean	Caitlin Lee	Hedieh Rahmani Tehrani	Arlene Wiebe
Angela Dong	Emily Lee	Charlotte Robbins	Jim Wong
Clark Duan	Larry Levchuk	Art Rock	Cindy Xie
Brian Elder	Vivien Li	Sarah Roh	Roy Yeo
Lorri Espeseth	Yooyoun Lim	Amisha Roopra	Amy Zhong
Muriel Ferrari	Sophia Lou	Monica Rosales	
Viancy Fierro	Les Lee Lowe	Clayton Roy	

Community Groups & Partners

Community Groups

Academie Duello
 Arrow Squadron 637
 B.C Hydro Community Outreach
 BC Genealogical Society
 Buckingham Elementary School
 Burnaby Amateur Radio Club
 Burnaby Art Gallery
 Burnaby Arts Council
 Burnaby Christmas Bureau
 Burnaby Food First
 Burnaby Heritage Commission
 Burnaby Historical Society
 Burnaby Lake Park Association
 Burnaby MLAs and MPs
 Burnaby North High School
 Burnaby Public Library
 Burnaby School District SD41
 Byrne Creek Secondary
 Byrne Creek Streamkeepers
 Canadiana Costume Society
 Celebrate 125/150 Activation Station
 Chinese Canadian Historical Society of BC
 Chinese Taoism Kuan-Kung Association – Tian-Jin Temple
 City of Burnaby - Engineering Dept.
 City of Burnaby - Planning Dept.
 City of Burnaby Parks - Eco Sculptures Program
 Deer Lake School
 Deer Lake United Church
 Delta School District
 Edmonds Community School
 Friends of the Carousel
 Greater Vancouver Motorsport Pioneers Society
 Metro Vancouver Tap Water Program
 Musqueam First Nation
 Newcomers Choir
 New Westminster Museum and Archives
 North Shore Black Bear Society
 O.W.L.
 Pacific Spirit Quilters Guild
 RCMP – Burnaby detachment
 Red Hat Ladies - Cranberry Sauceys
 Rotary Club
 Shadbolt Centre for the Arts
 Simon Fraser University – Faculty of Education
 Simon Fraser University – Science Alive
 Squamish Nation
 St. Francis of Assisi School
 St. Francis de Sales

St. John Ambulance – Burnaby Branch
 Stanley Park Ecological Society
 Stoney Creek Community School
 Stoney Creek Environment Committee
 TraiNgang
 Tsleil-Waututh Nation
 Vancouver Heritage Society
 Volunteer Burnaby
 West Coast Harmony Choir
 World Rivers Day Organization

In-Kind Donations

BC Hydro Power Pioneers
 BC Sports Hall of Fame
 City of Burnaby - Mayor's Office
 Dr. Sun Yat Sen Gardens
 Harbour Cruises
 Science World
 Vancouver Art Gallery
 Vancouver Trolley Company

Sponsorships

Burnaby Heritage Commission
 Burnaby Historical Society
 Burnaby Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission
 Concord Pacific
 CUPE Local 23
 New Westminster Museum and Archives
 Rotary Club
 Whole Foods – Brentwood

Grants

BC Heritage Fair Society
 Department of Canadian Heritage
 Real Estate Foundation of BC
 World Rivers Day Organization

I have come many times – never disappoints.
 Wonderful volunteers and experience.

Heather from Burnaby, July 11, 2017

Staff



Regular Staff

Deborah Tuyttens, Museum Services Supervisor
Lisa Codd, Curator
Tom Gooden, Assistant Curator
Jane Lemke, Assistant Curator
Elisabeth Czerwinski, Conservator
Nancy Stagg, Marketing & Sponsorship Coordinator
Sanya Pleshakov, Museum Programmer
Lyndsay Anderson, Museum Programmer
Lorenda Calvert, Assistant Museum Programmer
Lisa Langlet, Assistant Museum Programmer
Dianne McLeod, Assistant Museum Programmer
Orlanda Batista, Office Supervisor
Cyndy Patenaude, Booking Clerk
Marie Uljevic, School Bookings Clerk
Carol Shepherd, Receptionist
Ron Clarke, Maintenance Supervisor
Ettore Abbruzzese, Museum Janitor
Jas Atwal, Museum Janitor
Ted Barber, Museum Janitor
Keith Thompson, Gardener

Auxiliary Staff*

* Many staff work in multiple areas. The area where the majority of hours are accrued is where they are listed.

Design Supervisor

Lillian Tom
Amy Willson

Preparators

Matthew Ball
Carly Bouwman
Elaine Garrett
Doug Hitchen
Jennie Koh
Margaret Kolpin
Leanne Scherp
Albert Woods

Display Technicians

Alison Brown
Heather MacKay

Registrars

Will Archibald
Laura Ferris
Denise Fong
Sharon Fortney
Rebeca Salas

Curatorial Aide

Maya Gray

Conservation Aide

Tania Ainsworth
Hugh Walker

Carousel Operators

Amir Ali
Michael Des Mazes
Kevin Grahovac
George Karpel
Andrew Leow
Kirti Mysuria
Jessica Nelson
Bill Xu

Program Leaders

Aliya Jiwa

Museum Interpreters

Brendan Boylan
Charlotte Chang
Annalee Chow-Wone
Penny Chubaty
Eric Damer
Wendy Morrow Donaldson
Ryan Fletcher
William Gill
Lorne Gray
Michelle Harrison
Andrew Hildred
Sing Hay Ho
Ann-Marie Kehoe
Eleanor King
Stefanie Klaric
Danny Lau
Wilf Lim
Shirley McGrew
Jennifer Moysa
Alodia Mulingtapang
Maria Peradenic
Audra Picco
Diana Pirritano
Jessica Poland
Brian Ross

Ross Saare
Eleonora Sermoneta
Marilyn Sheehan
Amanda Sittrop
Lenard Stanga
Brian Williams
Elwin Xie

Outdoor Leader 4

Kate Procopio

Outdoor Leader 2

Claire Culley
Angela Essak
Maggie Fong
Kyle Rampuri
Nurani Virani

Gift Shop Assistant

Camelia Andrei

Recreation Clerk 1

Patricia Ajiko
William Andrews
Sandy Atwal
Francesca Brar

Lisa Dolinski
Lisa Goebel
Anna Kwan
Linda Hannela
Edna Iorio
Andra Jurzyniec
Omeed Lakhani
Jeremy Leong
Rohan Matts
Milly Milani
Katrina Moscato
Alyssa Murdocco
Karen Nguyen
Christine Paterson
Melanie Perez
Natalie Przeworski
Jenna Ratcliffe
Loveleen Sangha

Julia Sharma
Braden Shewchuk
Daniel Sobolewski
Shally U
Vandana Wadehra
Jamane Wong

Janitor

Mickeal Filain
Mark George
Chris Amond

Maintenance Grounds

Michael Des Mazes
Kevin Ortner
Sean Murphy

Love it. Friendly staff.

5 stars!

Argus Family from Coquitlam, May 22, 2017



Such a wonderful place!

We were pleased and surprised
one of the best places we've ever been.

Nora from Mexico, June 27, 2017

A place to reflect and remove yourself
from the busy lives we lead. Thank you!

Tom & Maggie from Coaldale, Alberta, August 31, 2017