

Museum Newsletter

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AGM ON JUNE 3rd, 2015

Don't miss the AGM as it will summarize the 2014 operating year and outline the plans for another busy year this coming season.

We will elect four trustees this year for a 2 year term. Come and see the new exhibit, have a cup of tea and enjoy an evening at the museum.

The meeting starts at 7:00 pm. Current Directors are: Florence Bilenduke—Treasurer, Grace Chadsey—Secretary, and Betty Mercer, Judy McNolty, Heidi Kym-Lieberherr, Laura Burt, Brenda McLeod and Georgena Erickson.

MEMBERSHIPS DUE

Annual memberships are now due. Individual memberships are \$15, families are \$20. Keep up to date with museum events and contribute to the preservation of Pemberton and District history by becoming a member. We can provide charitable receipts for cash and in-kind donations.

NEW TRANSPORTATION EXHIBIT OPENS THIS SPRING



Exhibit Committee members enjoying the new exhibit in March

The Transportation Exhibit opens soon and is the result of the efforts of many individuals. The purpose of the exhibit is to provide information about the history of transportation in the area. The exhibit provides an activity for school groups through the spring and fall which is part of the museum's plan to extend the operating season this year into October.

The exhibit consists of 7 storyboard panels and over 100 artifacts relating to trails, the railway, roads, hydro expansion and taxes. The wall of wheels illustrates the different types of vehicles used from gold rush wagon wheels to 1950's logging truck tires. The panels were professionally designed and printed and look wonderful under the lights.

The content for each panel was researched and the museum collaborated with Lil'wat Nation's Land & Resource Office on the Lil'wat Trails panel and worked with BC Hydro on the Bridge River Project panel. John and Michelle Bek also assisted with checking some of the spud stats on the Life After the Railway panel. Exhibit Committee members and staff proofed the panels, proofed some more, and proofed one last time before printing. It was a big effort and many people had a hand in the final result.

The exhibit was funded by The Pemberton & Area Endowment Fund, American Friends of Whistler, and BC Hydro, along with local government funding (Village of Pemberton and the SLRD).

See inside for more details about the new exhibit. To arrange a tour Contact Us! www.pembertonmuseum.org

Museum News

EXHIBIT HIGHLIGHTS

This was the museum's first major exhibit project in many years. The MAP funding received from Heritage Canada in 2013 enabled the cleaning and re-cataloguing of artifacts from the machine shed. Once these items were cleaned and moved to the new exhibit space the Exhibit Committee began choosing items for a transportation exhibit. Research into the artifacts provided some great information for the exhibit panels.

The museum had the opportunity to collaborate with the Land & Resource Office of Lil'wat Nation. Anthropologists Randy Bouchard and Dorothy Kennedy helped ensure the accuracy of the Lil'wat Trails exhibit panel. Johnny Jones, Cultural Technician, provided a map that illustrates the traditional travel routes to the coast. The panel is titled "Lil'wat Trails—Fleet of Foot" and illustrates the traditional territory of the Lil'wat. The museum extends its gratitude to all those involved in the creation of this panel.

The museum also collaborated with BC Hydro on the Bridge River project panel. A meeting was arranged with the plant manager Chuck who toured the Curator around the site. The archivist with BC Hydro provided archival images of the Bridge River Project. The Bridge River town site was recently rebuilt but one of the old buildings remains and is used as a community space by hydro workers. This building has some artifacts from the era of the project and they have offered to loan a few items for the new exhibit to display over the summer.

An interesting fact was provided by the planning manager Chuck Wootten. The original plant called for many more penstocks but during construction the slope was found to be too weak to support the pipes. Today there is one penstock that jogs to the left due to the slope instability. The project as initially conceived was not possible but the plans were adapted to ensure completion. (See image on the left.)

Remembering David Midgley

Our Vice President, David Midgley passed away suddenly on Nov 12th. David was a dedicated board member and volunteer and will be greatly missed.

David became involved in 2005 and helped to lobby for the tax referendum for museum operations that was passed with overwhelming support from locals. David became a trustee in 2007 and served as VP for the museum since 2011.

David volunteered regularly at museum events and was a familiar face at the gate. He also donated hours of his time on the site, hauling materials with his van and lifting the heavy stuff! David's legacy to the museum was his dedication, service and volunteerism that helped the society grow and develop into a 7 month a year operation.



Dave at Tea & Tales last summer. He often rode his bike to the Tea.



BCFS 100th Committee 2012

Thanks to George Henry

George Henry resigned from his role as President this winter. George joined the museum board in 1999 and became President. He replaced Philip Perkins who stepped down in 1999.

George's first action was to help the society install a fence around the museum. He continued to tackle large projects over the next 15 years including the museum entrance sign, the gift shop, the archive building, the Soo building and the new building. That was dedicated "The Henry Place" in 2014. George helped the society hold many events and was a great promoter of local history. He also introduced the museum newsletter and was the voice of the museum for many years.

The museum has undergone a tremendous amount of change over the past decade and George's vision has ensured the success of the many projects undertaken. The board of trustees wants to thank George for all of his efforts at the museum over the last 15 years. His contributions will leave a legacy for years to come.



Dave & George hamming it up at the Railway 100th in August last summer

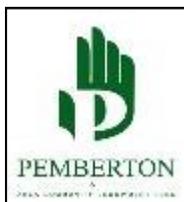


AGM 2014

Museum News for Schools

LOCAL GRANTS A HUGE SUCCESS FOR A LITTLE MUSEUM

The museum was fortunate to receive funding for the transportation exhibit in 2014. The fundraising began with confirmation of our application's success with the Pemberton and Area Community Endowment Fund who granted \$2000. The Community Foundation of Whistler administers this community fund for Pemberton. Following this good news applications were also submitted to American Friends of Whistler (\$1300) and BC Hydro Community Grant (\$2700) which were also successful. The Pemberton Area Community Endowment Fund and BC Hydro funded the exhibit panel design and production. American Friends of Whistler funded the wall of wheels exhibit element and the mounts required to secure the wheels to the wall. The project directly helps us achieve more public access to the collection. It also enabled us to work with a variety of individuals and groups to complete this project. Funding from local government for operations enabled the museum to write these grants and complete the research required for the panels.



OPENING DAY MAY LONG WEEKEND

The museum will open on the long weekend in May. We will be open to the public on a part-time basis until the summer students start in early June. The museum hopes to extend their operating season through to October this year and have requested more funding in 2015 to accomplish this.

We will be connecting with local schools and children's groups to promote the new exhibit. We have developed many educational activities that can be organized for a group.

We provide Scavenger Hunts at several reading levels in English & French. We also developed a teaching collection of artifacts that can be held and examined to answer the questions in the trivia game called 'Pioneer Pursuit'. For more information about activities for groups of all ages please Contact Us.

SUMMER STUDENT JOB OPPORTUNITIES

The museum is able to access Young Canada Works for Heritage Organizations by nature of being a museum and a member of the Canadian Museums Association. YCW funds up to \$8000 per student and will pay 75% of the wages. Student job descriptions & the application has to support Heritage Canada objectives. This year we are celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the National Flag and will be creating some activities to promote Canada's flag history this summer. Students will also begin identifying objects and activities that can be created to celebrate Canada's 150th Anniversary in 2017.

The museum will be hiring a Program & Promotions Coordinator and a Collection Coordinator this year. We have also requested funding for a Program & Promotions Supervisor. The positions provide 500-600hrs of full-time work for Canadian students aged 15-30 who were in school full-time in 2015 and are returning in the fall of 2015. The positions will be posted at the end of April and we will begin taking applications. Students can also apply directly through YCW at <https://www.youngcanadaworks.ca/index-eng.cfm>. Job offers are dependent on confirmation of funding.

STUDENT VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The museum provides local youth with the opportunity to gain skills through volunteering.

Volunteer jobs are various at the museum and include Tea & Tales (setup & teardown and visitor services), Events (programs), yard work and gardening, painting, working with artifacts and/or working with computers.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer please contact us at info@pembertonmuseum.org. *Volunteers under the age of 16 must have signed permission to volunteer from legal guardian.

Museum News

Three Objects and their Stories from the New Transportation Exhibit



The PGE Baggage Wagon 1930s

Warner Oberson, who worked for the Railway in Pemberton for many years, donated the baggage wagon in 1985. Audrey Oberson donated some images for the Railway 100th celebration last year from their personal collection. Warner was the Terminal Supervisor for the P.G.E. and B.C. Rail. The Obersons have supported the museum since its formation and donated the Shantz house which became the first exhibit space. It seemed fitting that the signature artifact in the new exhibit was donated by the Obersons.

The wagon was stored under cover for many years. It finally saw the light of day in the summer of 2014 with volunteer help from Pemberton Fire & Rescue. After a vigorous brushing to remove the spiders, the wagon was wiped clean and rolled into the new space.



Knife & Nails 1860s

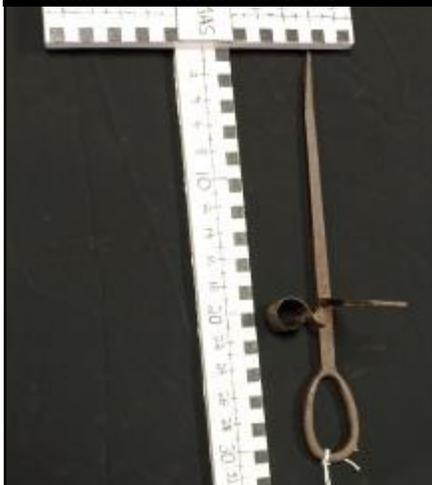
These fragments Ray Pierre, Leonard Andrew, and the Fougbergs picked up enroute to Blackwater Lake on June 23, 1963 at the old halfway house two months after it burned.

The 4 nails are "square", hand made and not completely uniform in length. The rusted knife blade is hand forged and weakened by fire. The house burned in April 1963. It was torched by a railway crew. These artifacts are believed to be from the gold rush era of the 1860s.

The Fougbergs collected and donated many of the materials that make up the collection today. Margaret was the first Curator and was a dedicated member until her death in 2010. She was pre-deceased by Slim in 1995. These artifacts are part of many they collected from the old settlement sites that are associated with the gold rush era and early pioneering.



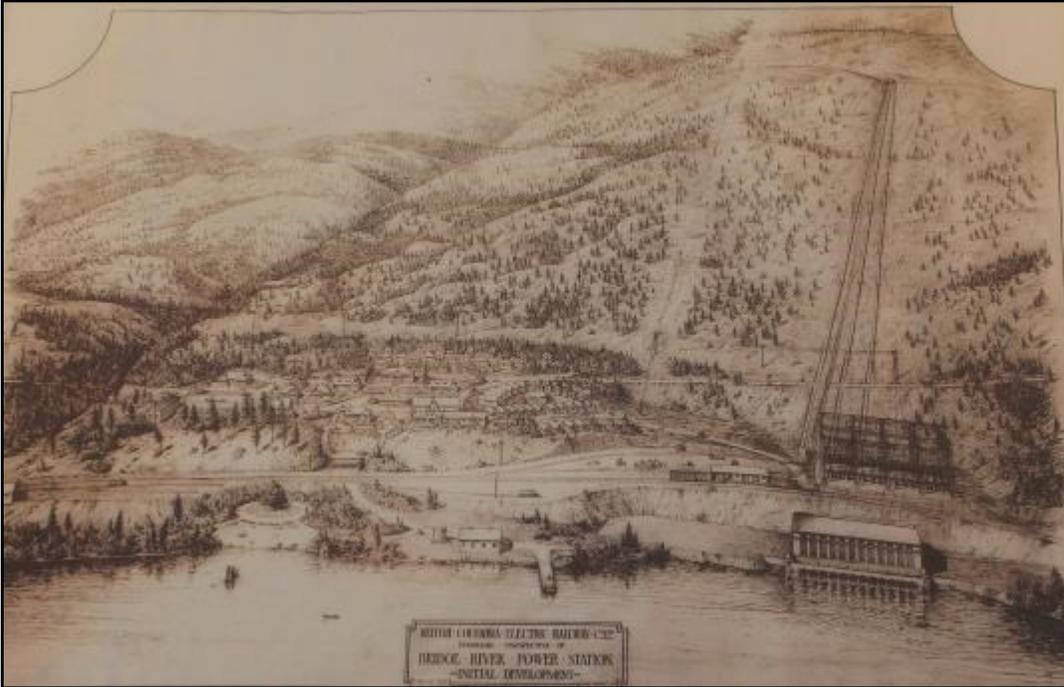
Miners Candlestick 1900s



This is a Miner's candle holder. It was used for holding a candle and could be used to orient a candle several different ways. It is a metal spike that is curled to form a loop at the other end. The circular band for holding the candle is attached to one side and there is a hook on the opposite side.

This was donated along with close to 100 items by June Perkins from her husband Philip's collection. June was involved in the original exhibit committee in the 1980s and contributed to the museum for many years. Philip's father Bert was a packer on the Pemberton Trail and was an early Pioneer in the area. A story called "Race You to the Dance" is featured on the "Grassy Trail" panel that tells the story of Bert's race. He raced by foot to a dance in Squamish, beating a man on horseback.

Museum News



The Initial Development drawing of the Bridge River Power Station 1912

Museum Connection

Marjorie Gimse, the first museum president, was the daughter of Geoffrey M. Downton who is credited with envisioning the project in 1912.



Driving the Highline 1940's

FIELD TRIP TO BRIDGE RIVER TOWNSITE

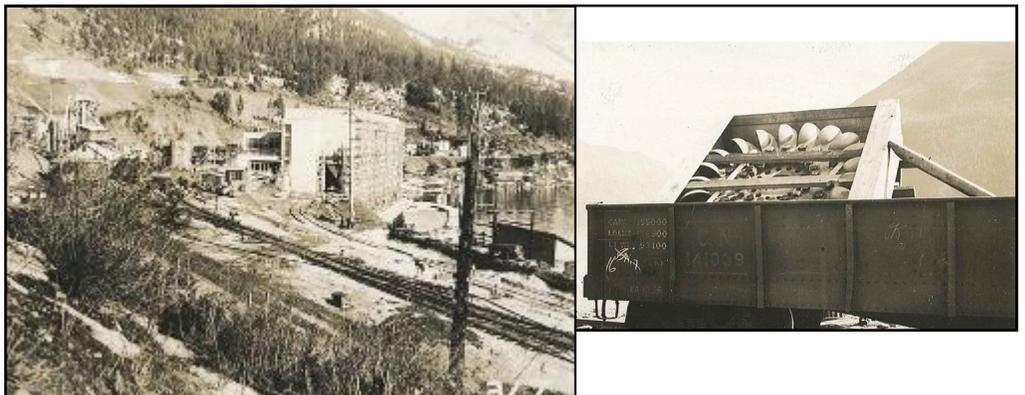
The images on this page were provided by BC Hydro. The museum wanted to display the story of the Bridge River Project as part of the Transportation Exhibit as the Hydro roads eventually became Highway 99 in the 1960's. The Bridge River project was begun in the early 1900's but didn't see completion until the late 1940's.

The Bridge River project provided freight for the PGE to haul during a time when the PGE was struggling. Combined with the traffic from the mines at Bralorne and Pioneer, the Bridge River town site was a place of tremendous activity. The Shalalth station was the busiest one along the railway in the late 1930s.

The project diverts water from the Bridge River to Seton Lake, a drop of over 1000 feet.



Surveying and installing the penstocks 1940s



Construction of the Power Station and a Pelton wheel in a railcar 1940s

Museum News



Pictures of the New Transportation Exhibit



DISPLAY CABINET DONATED

The Pemberton Library has offered the museum the beautiful glass display case in the library. The museum plans to use the cabinet in one of the buildings to provide better protection for some of the items on display which are vulnerable to pests and other critters that may choose to tour the buildings when the doors are wide open in the summer.

FINANCE MEMBERS MEET WITH PVUS

The museum finance team attended a budget meeting with the Village/SLRD committee in February to present their case for an increase in this year's requisition amount. We are requesting an increase of \$5000 to fund extended operations at the museum this fall, along with monies for repairs & maintenance needed. We are also requesting that \$4000 be put in reserve. Due to recent changes in Council, the museum provided a brief overview of its history as a society, the mandate and the collection it preserves. The presentation was well received and we look forward to confirming our funding for the year ahead soon.

MEMORIES OF THE HYDRO ROAD

We ran out of time to create one last exhibit panel that will illustrate the coming of the highway. We are collecting stories from local residents this summer about their memories of travelling the hydro road south and the early highway. We will use highlights from these stories on an exhibit panel to be created in the fall. If you have any images or recollections of driving the early highway south to Squamish please contact us. Mail: Box 267, Pemberton BC V0N 2L0. Email: info@pembertonmuseum.org

OLD PEMBERTON SIGN

The Village of Pemberton has donated the old Village of Pemberton sign to the museum. The old sign had to be removed due to MOT plans to blast the rock it sits on.

The sign was commissioned by the Village of Pemberton and installed in 1976. Mike Smith designed and carved the sign which depicted some of the wildlife common to the area including moose, beaver and leaping salmon. The location of the old sign marked the old Village boundary which has since expanded to the south to include the Rutherford area.

We're thankful the Village is helping to preserve this little piece of Pemberton history. The sign has arrived at the museum and a decision will be made soon regarding its permanent location at the museum.

TRIVIA CORNER

PIN MONEY

In the 16th and 17th century it was common to give your wife or daughter a small amount of money for pins and other necessary things.

RED TAPE

This phrase comes from the days when official documents were bound with red tape.