

Museum Newsletter

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Flintlock musket barrel and spear point donated by Johnny Jones

STILL CLOSED AND STILL AWESOME

The museum will remain closed for the remainder of the 2020 season due to the pandemic. Operational funding from this season will be pushed into a visitor services staffing plan for 2021 to ensure all visitors to the site are monitored and guided through the exhibits.

Individuals can still visit us by appointment for research or reproductions or to donate an item to the museum. Exhibits in the historic houses were not set up this year and the exhibits will remain closed to the public for the season.

Historic homes at museums everywhere face post-COVID-19 cleaning challenges. You might just think it's just a door knob, but in heritage homes, it's also a piece of history. Balancing cleaning and safety... [pg. 2]

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Museum News

CLOSED FOR AWHILE cont'd

with the preservation of history going back 100 years and more is the post-pandemic challenge for many museums. Many Health Canada recommended cleaners could be disastrous for the heritage and historic features in the Shantz/Miller house, and the Barney and Sam Jim houses

High-touch surfaces like hand railings, door frames and door knobs have to be cleaned prior to and in between visitors. The cleaners needed are harmful to those surfaces. We want to make sure the health and safety of our visitors is managed in tandem with the long term preservation of the historic houses.

In Ontario, curator Patricia Phelps of the Annandale Heritage House is taking direction from the Canadian Conservation Institute, which is under the direction of Canadian Heritage.

Simon Lambert, the agency's manager of preventive conservation, said the agency has been working to develop guidelines for museums, art galleries and historic homes looking for the best way to reopen safely while protecting their collections.

"Our mandate and focus is how public-health guidance affects how they care for collections. For instance, historic houses and the considerations there with disinfecting and cleaning," Lambert said. "Our message – very strong – is we should not be disinfecting heritage materials without the advice of a conservator." Developing the guidelines for how to ensure the safety of a variety of collections – some 100 or more years old and comprising countless types of material – is a lengthy process including many experts and even the Canadian Conservation Institute's in-house biologist. "For example, using isopropyl alcohol on a surface – the surface can become cloudy and it can dissolve the finish, and it can accelerate corrosion or dissolve pigments," Lambert said. Other possible solutions include only allowing the public in rotating portions of the home, so that other rooms can "quarantine" themselves. Anything to control the flow of people, including appointments and timed entry, is also included. It's a challenge the conservation institute is seeing a lot with small- and medium-sized historic homes.

The Pemberton Museum will explore all options to get the exhibits open to the public again in 2021.

JOIN US AT THE AGM WED AUGUST 12th

We will be meeting at the museum at 7pm on Wed August 12th for the Annual General Meeting of the Society. We can also provide access through Teleconference Service, please contact us for details.

At the AGM we will elect 3 trustees this year for a 2 year term. If you are interested in becoming a director please contact us. Memberships are due at the AGM prior to the election. 604-894-5504 or email-info@pembertonmuseum.org. The current board includes:

President: Brenda McLeod

Vice President: Judy McNolty

Treasurer: Monique Midgley

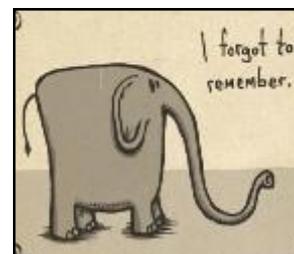
Secretary: Carmen Praine

Directors: Betty Mercer, Rolande Midgley, Fran Cuthbert

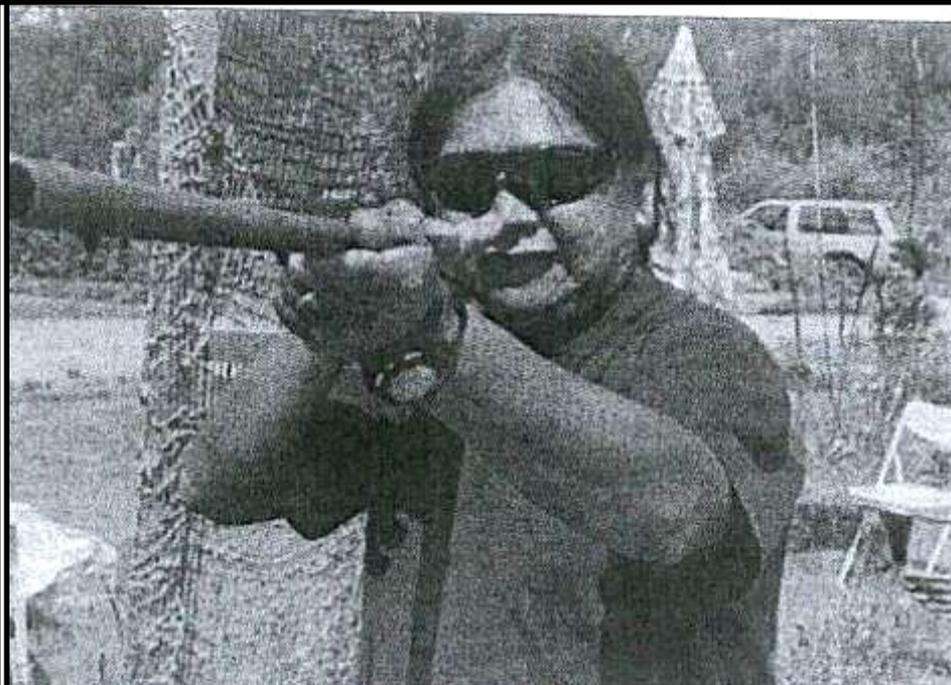
YOUR MEMBERSHIP COUNTS MORE THAN EVER

Annual memberships demonstrate community support when we apply for grants. Individual memberships are \$15, families are \$20. Keep up to date with historical happenings 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. **Pay by e-transfer to**

info@pembertonmuseum.org or by cheque to Box 267, Pemberton, BC V0N 2L0.



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**Johnny Jones eyes up the musket he found at 29 Mile .
Kevin Damaski photo, The Voice, July 9, 1999**

DONATION FROM JOHNNY JONES

In late May of this year the museum received a significant donation from Johnny Jones. Johnny donated a musket rifle barrel that he found at Q'alatku7em (33km) and a metal spear found at Twin One Creek. He also donated two huge pyrite rocks for the displays. His donation included maps that indicate exactly where the items were found . Johnny also donated a newspaper article about these objects published in 1999. The article explains how Johnny was taking part in a Cultural Heritage Inventory for the traditional Lil'wat territory. This work was to create a clear concise map of the areas and artifacts of cultural significance in the territory. Lil'wat territory stretches from Mea-

ger Creek to Lillooet Lake, up the Duffy road and out to Gates Lake to the north and to Rubble creek south of Whistler - you can imagine the walking Johnny has done to document these sites. This work continues to this day.

Johnny was down along Lillooet Lake at the old 29 Mile gold rush stopping place when he saw an item jutting out of the river bottom. Upon closer inspection he realized it was a musket rifle barrel. Johnny believes this is evidence of the story of a war between the Lil'wat and Thompson nations where two Thompson's died and were buried at the 29 Mile site. Aside from the musket barrel he also found graves and arrowheads. here. The musket may be the very first gun ever seen by the Lil'wat people. In the article Jones says, "At one time there were 16,000 people living along Lillooet Lake, then the smallpox epidemic of the late 1800s and early 1900s killed a lot of the people. Their lives should not be lost, their stories told". Johnny had planned on having it dated and authenticated by a gun expert but decided to give the item to the museum to pursue this work.

The spear point is a hand forged piece of metal work that was found at Twin One Creek by Ralph Dan Jr. when he was looking for cedar roots. It may be a decorative piece or it may be a weapon. This item will need more research but Johnny is confident it was not of First nation origin. It could have belonged to an early explorer who made their way up the lakes into the interior or perhaps an item that was traded inland. Johnny likes to believe it was an early Spanish explorer who made his way inland and left it along the way. The museum is delighted to further research this item.

The pyrite rocks were found along the Birkenhead FSR and we know they will delight visitors for years to come when they explore the museum and find "GOLD" abandoned in one of the displays. We have smaller pieces of pyrite that fool folks all the time.

Thanks to Johnny Jones for these donations and the historical evidence they provide of early times in the region. They are also evidence of Johnny's work as a Cultural Technician. These may prove to be some of the oldest items in the museum collection and staff are excited to begin to research their origins.

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REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE

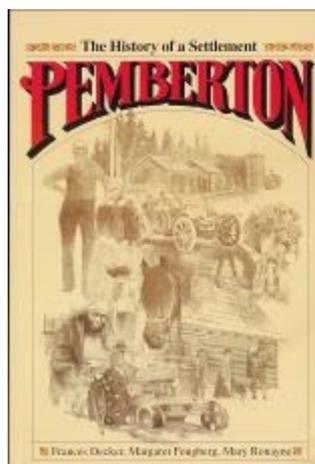
The rains of June have kept the staff busy with lawn and yard maintenance. Dylan Leo, Savannah McKinney-Lincks and Niki Madigan have been busy trimming and cutting the lawn. The Village is maintaining the grounds outside the fence including the park and the site is looking well tended through the closure.

Kaitlyn and Savannah have begun the seasonal routine of cleaning the historic houses. We use minimal cleaning products but every item and surface is wiped and dusted lightly. The vacuum scares off any nesting critters and the curtains and rugs are given a shake in the sunshine. Once the weather turns drier staff will unpack items packaged for winter storage to inspect them and to ensure these items are dry and clean and ready for another winter.

Kaitlyn and Savannah helped with maintaining all of the gardens this spring and have kept the weeds from taking over. Dylan continues to be diligent with the trimming work and raking and the debris pile has grown significantly through June.

Looking for a GOOD READ?

**Pemberton: History of a Settlement by
Fouberg, Decker and Ronayne.**



**ONLY \$20 + \$10
Shipping within
Canada**

**If you are a local
resident we can
drop it off to you.**

**GET IT NOW
WHILE SUPPLIES
LAST!!!**

CANADA SUMMER JOBS FUNDING

Please join us in welcoming Dylan Leo and Kaitlyn Pierre to their new roles this summer. Dylan and Kaitlyn both worked for the museum in 2019 and are excited to fulfill these Canada summer job positions.



Dylan holds the title of Program Coordinator. He assists with content management of our social media and website. Kaitlyn is the new Multimedia Designer. She is creating the video content uploaded to the website.



PEMBERTON STN SCHOOLHOUSE AND JOHN ARN CABIN PROJECT UPDATE

The museum finalized the site layout and submitted it's application for the building permit for the Schoolhouse and John Arn Cabin project. We await feedback from the building inspector. We plan to have the permit in place by August so we can begin preparations for construction. McLeod Building Works is available this fall.

Sadly two grants applied for, the BC Hydro Community Investment and the Community Foundation of Whistler were not successful so staff continue to look for grants to fill this shortfall. Heritage BC advocated for cultural infrastructure projects earlier this spring and the "Rural and Northern Communities Infrastructure Stream" was just announced. Staff will be preparing an application to this program for September. The value of the project is \$236,000. We are seeking 20% of this total in grants to complete the project. To date we have confirmed over \$165,000 in funding for the project and have spent just under \$10,000.

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FLYBACK FRIDAYS

Flyback Friday's are back - a glimpse into Pemberton's past every Friday! This season we will bring you stories and videos from Tea & Tales and our video archives over the last decade that highlight Pioneer life and the resiliency of early settlers and First Nations. We will also share videos and stories that show how local residents have responded to emergencies and challenges in the past, illustrating the power of community ties through all kinds of difficulties – yesterday and today. Here's a list of the stories so far.

Friday June 5th: This week we featured an excerpt from an interview with Nick Andrews in 2003. The interviewers were Jeanette Helmer and Helen Purden who recorded conversations with several local elders in 2003. In this excerpt Nick remembers going to residential school in Mission B.C., going to the movies in Pemberton, horse races and living off the land.

Friday June 12th: This week we featured an excerpt from an interview with Morgan Miller in 2003. The interviewers were Jeanette Helmer and Helen Purden who recorded conversations with several local elders in 2003. Morgan's father was W.M. Miller, one of Pemberton's earliest settlers. In this excerpt Morgan remembers some very long walks into the mountains to Goat Meadows and Chilcotlin country. Morgan also recounts his father's 2000 mile trek down the Yukon River from Dawson City Yukon to Nome Alaska.

Friday June 19th: This week we featured an excerpt from an interview with Margaret Fougberg in 2003. In this excerpt Margaret remembers early days in Pemberton, meeting Slim, the Lundgren (Barbour) house and teaching in Pemberton. When she wasn't teaching, Margaret was also a co-author of the Pemberton history book and started the museum effort. She was the first Curator and established the archives. She was also a trustee on the new school board in the 1950s (SD48) with Slim and lobbied for the creation of the Outdoor School in the 1970s.

Friday June 26th: This is an excerpt from an interview with Bob Priest in 2010. In this excerpt Bob \ remembers moving to Pemberton and establishing the first pharmacy here in 1964. Bob also talks about being a pharmacist in the 1960s, early medical services in Pemberton, public nurses, getting to the hospital and early doctors

If you or someone you know can't access this online content please contact us.
We can burn DVD's for you and drop off if you are located in Pemberton.

SUBMIT YOUR TIME CAPSULE THROUGH THESE PANDEMIC TIMES [info@pembertonmuseum.org]



Village of Pemberton & Pemberton Chamber messaging in
July for Phase 3

As a community museum we rely on contributions of artifacts and photographs from local residents.

We collect three dimensional objects, photographs, documents and videos. Every donation in the museum collection is tied to a resident who donated it and this is what makes the Pemberton Museum Pemberton's longest running community project.

You can contribute material to the collection in person or through email. Consider your donation a time capsule for future residents to unearth.

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TIME CAPSULE DONATED BY MRS. CAMERON'S GR. 1-2 CLASS

Mrs. Cameron's Gr. 1-2 class called up the museum in early May as they wanted to donate a time capsule full of their thoughts and feelings about the pandemic. The donation came in a hand painted box that pictured a silhouette of a rock climber and the hand painted words "We Keep Each Other Supported". On the front of the box a message was painted that read, "CONNECTION—The Pandemic of 2020". Inside the box was a hand painted card by Piper and a red duo-tang of "Thoughts from the Gr. 1 & 2's of Signal Hill". Here is a list of things they are looking forward to when the pandemic is over: 1. Play with friends without distance, 2. Having friends come play at our home, 3. Camping with friends, 4. Friends we haven't seen, 5. Visiting friends from faraway places like Scotland and 6. Seeing everyone back at school at the same time and being able to play and learn with them." Five objects were also in the box with a message attached to each one. You can see the pictures below. The messages included "We spread love with painted stones", "Being Flexible and celebrate at home (rubber band)", "2 meter distance" (paperclips), "Wash hands before treats" (bubblegum) and "Staying in our own circle but stay connected" (washer).

The curator prepared a gift form for the donation for everyone to sign. Mrs. Cameron signed and also Laurie, Charlie, Piper, Kaden and Mia. The museum appreciates the work these students put into this significant donation to the museum collection during these pandemic times.



Pictures of items donated in the time capsule from Gr. 1-2

