

# Museum Newsletter

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## **THANK YOU FOR AN INCREDIBLE 2022 SEASON!**

**It has been an incredible season at the Pemberton Museum and the new management team would like to thank everyone who was a part of making 2022 a huge success.**

Thanks to our dedicated staff that helped keep the museum gates open and our planned events moving forward. Tara Ritchie, our devoted Museum Supervisor, kept our team on task and motivated with kindness and support. Natilyn Edmonds was a dedicated member of the team and was instrumental to the success of our Halloween extravaganza. Thanks also to Jessica Hill, Smokii Rae Edwards, Nakeisha Williams-Botkin, Savannah McKinney-Lincks, Deanna Andrews, Kaitlyn Pierre, Abi Ronayne and Ethan Ronayne, for the part they played in the success of the 2022 season.

Thanks to our incredibly supportive Board of Directors: Brenda McLeod, Clara Ronayne, Judy McNolty, Fran Cuthbert, Carmen Praine and Ola Perkins and to Niki Madigan for continuing to support the team.

A huge thanks to Bill McLeod and his team at McLeod Building Works, the team at Wire-It Electrical Contractors and Ian McLeod and Dwayne Dick, for keeping our buildings and site in great repair and our staff safe.

**And finally, thanks to the businesses and community of Pemberton!  
We can't wait to see you again in the spring!**

# Museum News

## REMEMBRANCE DAY 2022: LEST WE FORGET

REMEMBERING WITH RESPECT AND HONOUR, THOSE THAT HAVE SERVED TO PROTECT OUR FREEDOM.

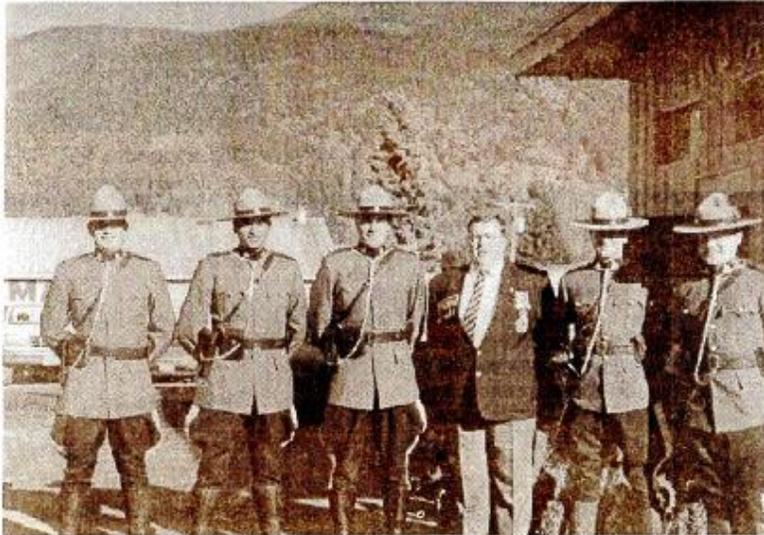
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## A TALE WRITTEN IN PEMBERTON

### Pemberton Detachment attends ceremony



Above, Const. Cliff Chastellaine, Const. Prasan Ballappa, Const. Scott Bowden, Legion Sergeant at Arms and Pemberton Detachment CO. Sgt. Bruce Wait, Const. Al Sutherland, Const. Dave Brown

Just a list of some of the people who joined up during WW II, some who never returned, others who returned to resume life in the Valley, whether in active service overseas or as part of the Coast Mountain Militia Rangers..... Joe Joseph, Marg. Blaquiere, Elsie Miller, Dick Green, Ronie Miller, Patrick Wilson, Harry Erickson, Bill Jamieson, Ben Kay, F.H. McEwan, Stan Gott just to name a few.



73 yr. old Veteran Peter Williams makes his way forward to place a wreath for his comrades who never returned. Peter served in Italy during WW II and returned to Mt. Currie 12 later after leaving the army.



Above: Sgt. Arthur Mawbey, a veteran of WWI, who along with Morgan Miller, trained members of the Coast Mountain Militia Rangers. One of the main training areas was an area called the "Rock Pit" located at the corner which is now part of the Bluffs roadway. Some great history left untold.

## Remembering the men of Pemberton

The list of names on Lillooet's Cenotaph includes two men who were not from Lillooet. They were from Pemberton. One of them died in the Battle of the Somme, which may have also claimed the life of the second man.

On just one day in that battle - July 1, 1916 - 60,000 Englishmen fell, 20,000 of them dead. It was the bloodiest day in the history of combat.

Walter Ure Landsborough, age 42, 29th battalion, B.C. Regiment, was killed in action on the Somme on Sept. 15, 1916.

Landsborough was the fourth son of the minister of the parish church in Kilmarnock, Ayrshire, Scotland.

Prospects at home were scant for the fourth son of a minister, so Landsborough sought his future elsewhere. He lived first in New Zealand before settling in the Pemberton Valley. When the war began, he was working in the fish hatchery at the confluence of Owl Creek and the Birkenhead River.

In its Nov. 8, 1916 edition, the Lillooet Prospector reported on the eulogy given Landsborough in the church at Kilmarnock:

Rev. J. Hamilton recalled how Walter had gone back to Scotland in 1901 for his father's jubilee:

"After some presentations and complimentary speeches, Walter replied in his unaffected and generous way, and finished up by saying that he did not expect they would make much money, but one thing Henderson Church would expect of them would be that they should do the right thing,

and he hoped that they would do that. He was the kind of man who should have lived to be a leader of men in the West. But when the call to serve his country came he was determined to go to the front and although rejected several times he finally succeeded in getting passed. No doubt in this also he did the right thing."

The editor of the Prospector added a postscript. Although not personally acquainted with Walter Landsborough, he wrote, "In business relationships we found him most honorable, he even settling for his subscription to the Prospector to date before leaving for overseas."

Private Eric Coleman from Pemberton was also killed in action during the First World War.

Eric Coleman was a farmer who was just getting established on his land when the war broke out. He never had time to send for his wife. After his death, his widow, who was remembered as a "dainty little wife," journeyed west to Pemberton to see where he had lived.

Father Bob Haggarty has not been able to determine how and where Eric Coleman died. However the Book of Remembrance records that a Private Edgar Coleman was killed in the Battle of the Somme on Sept. 17, 1916 at the age of 44. He was survived by his wife Emily of London, Ontario.

Were Eric and Edgar the same man?

That remains a mystery Father Haggarty still hopes to solve.

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# Museum News

## OCTOBER VISITORS

Thanks to the warmer than normal weather, a steady stream of local students and a big Halloween turn out, the Pemberton and District Museum welcomed 932 people to the site in October.

## SCHOOL VISITS

The museum welcomed over 260 students from a variety of ages visiting from Lil'wat to Whistler in 2022. Our tour guides took the opportunity to create new tour scripts, crossword puzzles, scavenger hunts and photo matching games for the students to gain knowledge of the self sufficiency of the Lil'wat people before first contact and life for settlers before the arrival of the railway, electricity, plumbing, and grocery stores.



## HAUNTED MUSEUM OF HORRORS HALLOWEEN EXTRAVAGANZA

The Pemberton Museum was thrilled to bring back in-person Halloween fun this year and we celebrated properly with 3 fun-filled days of spooky haunted décor, hidden candy, screaming competitions and unexpected frights brought to you by the drama students of Pemberton Secondary School. We welcomed over 750 guests over the 3 days and raised over \$1000 for next season's operations.

Thanks to the Ecole La Vallee PAC for hosting their annual party on October 29<sup>th</sup> ensure our first night of Halloween festivities were a smashing success.

Special thanks to the Village of Pemberton for the Community Enhancement Grant and to all of the Pemberton businesses that supported us for this event and others through out the season.

- ~ Pemberton Valley Supermarket
- ~ AG Foods
- ~ North Arm Farm

- ~ Back Country Pizza
- ~ Valley Chainsaw Recreational
- ~ The Beaumont Studios (Vancouver)



# Museum News



## **BC MUSEUM ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE 2022**

After a hectic Halloween weekend, the management team were delighted to attend the BC Museum Association and BC Heritage Joint Conference from November 1-4, in beautiful Victoria. Topics that were covered at the conference included: Reconciliation through Reciprocity, Creating a Culture of Reciprocity, Putting Repatriation Into Action, and Implementing 'Decent Work' in Non-Profit Museums. The topics were heavy but given in a spirit of understanding and support, and confirmed that the work the management team of the museum plans for the winter season is fitting and supported by provincial and federal governing bodies.

In addition to the informative workshops and there were multiple opportunities to meet and connect with fellow museum professionals, talk to government partners, and meet with professionals in the Museum and Heritage sectors.

Charmaine and Tara left Victoria with a renewed sense of purpose and the knowledge that the projects they are undertaking at the Pemberton Museum reflects the direction of museums across Canada and the world.

## **BUILDING REPAIRS AND BC HYDRO UPGRADE**

Big shout out to Bill McLeod and his team at McLeod Building Works for pouring us a new foundation and repairing the roof of the Sam Jim Cabin, as well as completing the new roof on the Purden General Store. Both projects were completed in record time ahead of the cold, wet weather.

The BC Hydro upgrade is almost complete thanks to the team at Wire-It Electrical. We look forward to the transfer being complete before December.

