

THE PEMBERTON AND DISTRICT MUSEUM AND ARCHIVES



Pemberton &
District
Museum &
Archives
Society

NEWSLETTER

PembertonMuseum.org



A SUMMER TO REMEMBER

It has been a busy and memorable summer at the museum!

Since opening in June, we have welcomed thousands of visitors from across the street and around the world. School and summer camp tours have filled the grounds with curious young explorers, while Toonie Tea Tuesdays have brought together local musicians, friends, and neighbours. We have hosted wedding parties, birthdays, sweet farewells, community meetings, business gatherings, and staff parties.

Our Season Kick-Off Fundraiser started the season with a bang, with the Hairfarmers helping us raise an incredible \$4,100 for our new washroom facility.

The summer has also brought challenges. The Signal Hill wildfire reminded us how fragile the beautiful place we call home can be. Smoke, extreme heat, rapidly changing weather, and the uncertainty of nearby fires showed us how quickly circumstances can change, while the resilience, kindness, and generosity of our community reminded us how important it is to work together to care for our town and preserve the stories, places, and memories that connect us.

With August just around the corner, there is still plenty of summer fun ahead! We are grateful to everyone who has visited, volunteered, donated, attended an event, shared their talents, or simply stopped by to say hello.

THANK YOU FOR HELPING MAKE THE MUSEUM A WELCOMING PLACE WHERE
HISTORY, PEOPLE, AND COMMUNITY COME TOGETHER!

GOING FOR GOLD! MUSEUM WASHROOM FUNDRAISER



Pemberton & District Museum & Archives Society

THE PEMBERTON MUSEUM IS...

GOING FOR GOLD

DONATE TODAY

Raising **\$50,000** for our new fully accessible washroom facility!

SO FAR WE'VE RAISED

\$17,564.50

Construction is rolling along on our new accessible washroom facility, which will provide year-round washrooms for museum visitors, rentals, and community events. Thanks to McLeod Building Works and their fantastic team of trades, we are getting closer each week to a safer, more accessible, and welcoming museum site.

Our Season Kick-Off Fundraiser raised almost \$4,100, and with admission proceeds and additional donations, our community campaign reached \$17,564.50 as of July 30th.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

- Contribute to our online campaign!
- Purchase an annual museum membership and receive monthly updates about museum news, events and programs.
- Join us for a Toonie Tea Tuesday!
- Come for a visit!
- Donate your refundable drink containers at any Return-It location. (More info below)

Thanks for your support!!!

TURN YOUR EMPTIES INTO MUSEUM SUPPORT

Your refundable beverage containers can help preserve Pemberton's history.

Register or sign in through our Return-It link and choose the Pemberton & District Museum & Archives Society as the recipient of your deposit refunds. You can make a one-time donation from your account balance or direct future refunds to the Museum automatically.

HOW IT WORKS

1. Create or sign in to your free Return-It Express account.
2. Select the Pemberton & District Museum & Archives Society.
3. Return your beverage containers through Return-It Express as usual.

Your containers are counted and the deposit refund is contributed to the Museum. No cash donation required.

A COMMUNITY THAT GIVES



We're thrilled to share that our washroom project received two significant funding awards this summer.

The Whistler Blackcomb Foundation generously contributed \$20,500 toward construction, while the Village of Pemberton's Community Enhancement Fund awarded \$1,500 to support our Season Kick-Off Fundraiser.

These grants, together with donations from our community, continue to move the project forward. Every contribution, large or small, helps create a museum that can serve our community for generations to come.

JOIN US FOR A TOONIE TEA TUESDAY

A museum tradition for more than 30 years, Toonie Tea Tuesdays continue to bring friends and neighbours together for music, stories, conversation, and plenty of treats.

Each week, from 2pm - 4pm, we celebrate the talent, knowledge, and generosity found throughout our community. Thank you to everyone who has shared their time, talents, baking, and good company!

UPCOMING GUESTS

- August 4 – Your Friends & Neighbours
- August 11 – Wildfire Smoke and Your Health with Meghan Straight
- August 18 – TDA
- August 25 – Poetry & short stories ~ Linda K. Thompson & Janet V. Miller
- September 1 – Music and poetry with Kerry Dorey
- September 8 – TBA
- September 15 – TBA

Have a story to tell or a talent to share? We would love to hear from you!

Contact us at info@pembertonmuseum.org



A TREASURED BASKET FINDS ITS WAY HOME

On July 17, the museum repatriated a cedar root basket from its collection to John Haugen of the Nlaka'pamux Nation in Lytton.

The basket entered the museum's collection in the 1980s and was originally believed to be made by Mrs. Rose Skuki (née Ward) of Lytton. The basket is now believed to have been made by Christina James of North Bend, BC, a cousin of Rose Skuki's husband.

In 2019, during a repatriation audit of the collection, former Museum Curator Niki Madigan contacted John to let him know the basket was in our care.



In October 2021, John Haugen, a Council Member of Lytton First Nation, advised the Museum that the basket had been incorrectly attributed to Rose Skuki. Mr. Haugen, who knew Rose Skuki from childhood, confirmed that although she made many baskets, she did not make this one.

A respected Nlaka'pamux knowledge keeper, historian, genealogist, and expert in traditional basketry, John generously shared his knowledge of Mrs. Skuki and her skill as a weaver, laying the groundwork for the basket's eventual return.

Last July, after hearing John speak on CBC's *As It Happens* about the loss of his family's basket collection in the 2021 Lytton wildfire, current Curator Charmaine Carpenter reached out to let him know the museum continued to care for a basket connected to his community.

John and his mother had spent decades preserving cedar root baskets and the cultural knowledge they carry. Much of their collection was lost when the wildfire destroyed their family home and most of the Village of Lytton. In the interview, John reflected on why the baskets are so important to the Nlaka'pamux people: "They connect you to your ancestors, and to our way of life in the past."

On July 14, John contacted the museum while planning a visit to Lil'wat Nation and the Pemberton area. The repatriation process was set in motion, the necessary documentation was completed, and arrangements were made for the basket's return. Three days later, with the Pemberton Valley under evacuation alert due to the nearby Signal Hill wildfire, John travelled to the museum to receive the basket. The timing was a poignant reminder of how quickly wildfire can threaten lives, homes, and cultural belongings.

The Pemberton Museum was honoured to return the basket to John's care. Its return represents more than the transfer of a single object. It reflects a relationship built on trust, shared knowledge, and a commitment to reconnecting cultural belongings with the communities to which they belong.

The museum is grateful to John for the knowledge he has shared and is proud to support the ongoing work of reconciliation through respectful stewardship and repatriation.

To learn more about John Haugen, the Lytton wildfire, and his efforts to rebuild the lost basket collection, search 'Fire Destroys Nlaka'pamux Lytton Basket Collection' on YouTube

WEATHERING THE SUMMER ~ FIRESMART IN ACTION



Like many communities across British Columbia, we are experiencing a summer of unpredictable weather. The Signal Hill wildfire, so close to home, was a powerful reminder of the importance of staying diligent with FireSmart practices and of the value of the investments the museum has made over the past three years.

A big thank you to Chris and his team at Flow Irrigation, who have expanded our irrigation system to protect the museum site and continue to keep it running smoothly.

Our biggest thanks go to the firefighters, emergency personnel, and everyone who worked tirelessly, day and night, to protect our community. Their courage, dedication, and hard work will not be forgotten.

GROWING TOGETHER ~ WELCOMING EVERYONE: FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN

OUR GOAL

We are working to raise \$50,000 in 2026 through community support to help bring this project to life!

BE A PART OF IT

Our museum has always been shaped by the people who believe in it. Your support, by becoming a member, making a donation, or spreading the word, helps ensure our space continues to grow and serve our community, with comfort and ease for all who visit.

Thank you for being part of this next chapter

E-Transfer to:
info@pembertonmuseum.org

Scan Here to
Donate Online:



UNDER CONSTRUCTION, STILL OPEN FOR RENTALS

While construction is underway on our new washroom facility, the museum remains open and available for visitors, programs, and venue rentals. So if you're planning a workshop, meeting, art class, yoga session, or community gathering, think of us! The museum offers a unique setting to connect, create, and celebrate. We'd love to help bring your next event to life.

Emails us about booking the museum: info@pembertonmuseum.org

