The small slide at the old Gyro Pool in Baker Park - circa 1950

This was the shorter of the two slides made for the original Gyro Pool that was located in Baker Park along 14th Ave from about 1929 to 1965. A taller slide was located a little way from this one at the south end of the pool, but was much higher and longer - resulting in a breathtaking plunge into the relatively cold water. The metal slide was kept slippery by water running over the surfaces.

The two slides along with the diving tower at the north-east corner were all removed when the pool was closed and filled in about 1965 due to the inability to properly controlled water quality required by the Dept of Health. The concrete outline of the pool can still be seen and the area is often used as a skating rink in winter.

CBK1980.068.0008,
The 500-Year Museum Plan - why 500 years?

Historic information is now being researched in the Archives and in the special collections (part of the curatorial function of the Executive Director’s position) something that has not been done on this scale for almost 20 years since work began the new site preparation and facilities construction.

So far, one of the posters has been completed on the “Crab Train” - the 1907 Soo Spokane Train Deluxe. It was unveiled on Tues, Jan 24 in time for the most recent CAMAL Board meeting. The role of the posters is mostly to answer the many questions that visitors have after a tour of the historic trains. They include prices (1907 and now) for the first class tickets plus the sleeper supplements, and daily incidental costs such as the dining car shown on a menu with the prices in 1907.

Other original material includes timetables and promotional photos of the cars interiors, along with various maps and “travelogues” that were given to passengers to explain the entire route of the train between Minneapolis and Spokane (and Penticton beginning in 1909) and all of the communities and features along the route, with Cranbrook highlighted due to its importance as a service centre for the train. A copy of the July 4, 1907 Cranbrook Herald also details the first class appointments on the train and similar to what most museum organizations do around the world.

In its words, museums are: “Institutions created in the public interest. They engage their visitors, foster deeper understanding and promote the enjoyment and sharing of authentic cultural and natural heritage. Museums acquire, preserve, research, interpret and exhibit the tangible and intangible evidence of society and nature. As educational institutions, museums provide a physical forum for critical inquiry and investigation. Museums are permanent, nonprofit institutions whose exhibits are regularly open to the general public.”

In this accepted definition, museums are not defined as tourist attractions, although some may have tourist potential depending on their artifact collections. However, this is not the primary mandate of a museum, and this distinction is critical when designing museums and their operations.

Boards of Directors of Public Museums usually subscribe to a set of principles to meet the above definition to guide them in the development and operation of their museum. However, ensuring different museums can do what they want with the collections, including selling them, but they do not have access to public capital and operating subsidies.

HO-scale Model Railways Development

Museums volunteer works on some of the local highlights on the HO-model including the Cranbrook Railyard with original Ice-House, Station, and Railway-YMCA. The other end of the model has the “Kootenay Landing” and station with an HO-scale model of the CPR Lake Steamer “Moyie”, which originally linked Kootenay Landing with Nelson and Proctor. The room will not be able to get a public “occupancy permit” until the HVAC, electrical and protective glass shields are completed at an estimated cost of about $150,000. Local groups can assist with this local project by contacting the Museum 250-489-3918 or any of the Board members noted on the back page.
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CBK 1980.068.0088.

View of partially completed Galleries # 2 and #3 of the "Exhibition Galleries" on the upper floor of the Freigh Shed.

When the large Exhibition Galleries on the floor of the Freigh Shed above can be completed, they will provide a substantial expansion of Cranbrook history and art programs for Cranbrook residents through temporary exhibitions on a wide variety of local history themes with some room for local art as well. Traveling exhibits from other Museums and Galleries will further enhance the local cultural heritage & arts programs of the Museum.

In this Issue...
1) Cranbrook Museum Developments
2) Five new interpretive panels being built at the new museum - (May 2012)
3) What is a bona fide public Museum?
4) 2012 AGM Announcement - Tues Feb. 21
5) 2012 Royal Alexandra Masquerade - SAT Feb.25 (always the last Sat in Feb)
6) Model Railways Development

Insert #1

- included in separate spaces within the larger Railway Museum Facilities -

1) Cranbrook Archives, Museum and Landmark Foundation
2) British Columbia Archives
3) Cranbrook Historical Archives located at the Museum
4) Cranbrook History Gallery on the floor of the Freight Shed above
5) The Cranbrook History Gallery, which opened June 17, 2011, is a strategic stage in the development by the Cranbrook Archives, Museum and Landmark Foundation of a "MUSEUM ABOUT CRANBROOK." It is located in a separate part of the large facilities of the Cranbrook Museum of Rail Travel (ie. upper and lower floors of the Freigh Shed) to maintain its own identity and be available free at all times for local residents and tourists.

It is also an important part of a Museum's new Cranbrook History part of the School Educational Program. The hours of the Historic Trains for schools are also now being re-developed to provide two separate but complementary parts of the school educational program. All material in the Cranbrook History Gallery is from the Cranbrook Archives located at the Museum and contains about 50,000 items of local history.

A major part of the Cranbrook History Gallery are the permanent Historic Photo Collages of Cranbrook, containing 52 frames with over 180 images of the community and it’s early development. There are 5 frames, collages yet to be filled to complete the Gallery, which will be titled "Early Business Movers and Shakers of Cranbrook - 1904". 59 photos with names and titles were found in a very deteriorated copy of the 1904 Special Cranbrook Edition of the Cranbrook Herald. This copy is not available to the public due to it’s extreme fragility, containing 52 frames with over 180 images of the community and it’s early development. There are 5 framed collages yet to be filled to complete the Gallery, which will be titled "Early Business Movers and Shakers of Cranbrook - 1904". There are 5 frames, collages yet to be filled to complete the Gallery, which will be titled "Early Business Movers and Shakers of Cranbrook - 1904".

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6:30 Doors Open
- memberships and displays - here is your chance to update your membership if it is due
- Cranbrook 2005 Centennial Book on sale at special price
- View the Cranbrook History Gallery, a free venue just off the Entrance Hall:
  This gallery includes the 2005 Centennial Quilt, the new large "Explore Historic Cranbrook" heritage tour map with 96 listings of historic sights, and the 50 historic photo collage frames with over 200 historic images of early Cranbrook. It is hoped that the final 5 frames will be completed by the AGM which will be titled ‘Early Cranbrook Business Movers & Shakers’ showing nearly 60 photographs from the 1904 Special Christmas edition of the Cranbrook Herald.
- View one of the new train tours Historic Posters in the Gift Shop/Interpretive Area that are being created in great detail for visitors returning from tours of the various train sets. The one completed so far is of the 1907 SOO-SPOKANE (The ‘Cranbrook’ Train)
- refreshments

7:15 - 7:45 Annual General Meeting
- Business meeting
- Election of Board Members

8:15 Presentations
- Presentation of 2011 Heritage Awards
- Brief presentation on the 500-Year Museum Plan now nearing completion

9:00 End of Program (approx)
- refreshments
- short tour of two of the large 3,000 sq. ft. Exhibition Galleries that have been painted to illustrate how they will appear when completed (as funds permit). One of the new large window units in the ‘Long Gallery’ is also expected to be installed before this meeting due to a donor from Calgary

EVERYONE WELCOME
Please phone the Museum Office at 250-489-3918 if you are coming so we can set the required number of chairs.

LIST OF FOUNDATION BOARD MEMBERS 1976-2012

* This lists the start dates of individual terms, but does not show how long each director served.
* (Chair) - persons who have held chair positions at least once.
* (dec) - deceased
* (N) - First Nations representative

1976
1) Gary Anderson (Chair) 1976-1979 - 1979 became Executive Director
2) Janette Cameron
3) Cindy Duthie
4) Don Isherwood (dec)
5) Greg Savnuk (Chair) 1980-82
6) Karen Savnuk
7) Clark Stephens

1977
8) Frank Baynes
9) Brian Clarkson
10) Terry McIntyre
11) Allan McKenzie
12) Meredith Melnick
13) John Quince
14) Teresa Strong
15) Greg Stacey

1978
16) Vera Andrews
17) Ted Fidler (dec) (Chair) 1984-86
18) Joe Ward (dec)

1979
(Board expanded 8 to 12 members)
19) Pearl Becker
20) Hugh Campbell (dec)
21) Anne Edwards (Chair) 1982-86
22) Don Heron
23) Bob Langin
24) Tom Metnick (Chair) 1979-80
25) John Rayson
26) Don Savnuk
27) Bonnie Comeau
28) Ed Micle
29) Stan Harrison (dec)
30) Sharon Waarynchuk
31) Paul LePage
32) Doug Martin
33) Mike Patterson
34) Maureen Quinn
35) Harry Keller
36) Hilda Lang (dec) (Chair) 1986-89
37) Netta Gansser (dec)
38) Bob Mansfield
39) Lorne Leeson
40) John Wilkey
41) Phil Jennings
42) Len Archibald (Chair) 1995-1998
43) Thor Frohn-Nelson
44) Wendy Rankin
45) Odette Rouse
46) Wilma Carry (Chair) 1989-91
47) Ken Zurosky (dec)
48) Dr. W.O. Green (dec) (Chair) 1986
49) Richard Bryson
50) Ron Dale (dec)
51) Gary Anderson (Chair) 1976-1979
52) Richard Nix
53) Frank Spring (dec)
54) George McDonald
55) Don Sam (N)
56)Kerry Leeson
57) Bob Mansfield
58) Leonard Szabo
59) Paul Sargent
60) Dick Chadwick
61) Shirley Lushier
62) Glenn Finley (dec) (Chair) 1999-2005
63) Norm Gill (dec)
64) Trent Taylor
65) Gentschen Whetham
66) Melba Hanson
67) Gerald Hudson
68) Paul Knipe
69) Leonard Saabo
70) Alsek Henriksson
71) David Kater
72) Lee Williams (N)
73) Stewart Wilson
74) Frederick Schofield
75) Margaret Tenesse (N)
76) John Wilkey
77) Joe Ward (dec)
78) Peter McCoy (N)
79) Owen Nicklin
80) Dave Maclachlin
81) Bob Bennison
82) Arnold Lowden
83) Ron Sam (N)
84) Richard Nix
85) Odette Rouse
86) Peter McCoy (N)
87) Allen Davis
88) Pierre Simon
89) Gerry Werner
90) Angus Davis
91) Gentschen Whetham
92) Margaret Tenesse (N)
93) Corrine Friesen
94) Bud Caldwell (dec)
95) Lilian Rose (N)
96) Melba Hanson
97) Tom Kirk
98) Jim Ellingon
99) "no change"
100) Bev Evancho
101) Charlotte Osborne
102) Alec Rogers
103) Don Saby
104) Astarte
105) Sioux Browning
106) Greg Ringness
107) Dr. David Urban
108) Jill Johnston
109) Brad Muellerbeld
110) Jim Cote

BOARD MEETINGS AND MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

Each year, the Nominating Committee of the Board seeks new Board members to replace those retiring. If you are interested, please contact the Museum office to find out more on this committee. We always welcome new people interested in preserving and promoting Cranbrook heritage and the Railway Museum.

EVERYONE WELCOME