

# MUSEUM NEWS

Issue Twenty Three | Spring 2022



## How to Find Us

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## Hours of Operation

The Museum is open  
Tuesday - Saturday  
10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

## Who We Are

Administrator – Jackie Pearase  
Board of Directors 2021-2022  
President: Sandra Farynuk  
Vice-president: Sue Phillips  
Secretary: Bob Cowan  
Treasurer: Diana Inselberg  
Directors: Judy Fischer,  
Joan Cowan, Desiree Roell

**Come visit  
the museum  
this summer!**

## President's Message

While we are all waiting for spring to come, unfortunately, the pandemic has not yet left us. Protocols are still in place at our museum, with masks worn and visitors being asked to not touch the exhibits. Our administrator Jackie keeps very busy cataloguing new donations and answering the many requests for information, as well as posting all the Facebook entries. Our many volunteers have their own projects, mostly digitizing information contained in our paper copies of books and files in our collection.

All of our work here is largely enabled by an annual operating grant from the Enderby and District Services Commission, a special pandemic grant from the RDNO (in 2021) and, of course, the many donations from you, the members, and grateful citizens who received information about their genealogy or historic events.

Once again, I invite you to come and visit our museum and bring your family or friends or visiting relatives. Everyone who comes in is amazed at how much is accomplished here and all our interesting displays.

Your Board of Directors has a new vision for the future to update our floor space and redirect some of our artifacts to a more accessible location. This will be an ongoing project as it will take some time to accomplish all of our ideas.

Once again, we would like to thank everyone for your support and be sure to check out our Facebook page for historic stories of Enderby, the surrounding areas and its people and events.



A view of Enderby in 1977.



## Museum notes

By Jackie Pearase

Hello dear members! Winter is almost behind us and spring is around the corner. It is time to get out another newsletter and let people know what we have been doing and what we have planned.

### Museum board

The Enderby & District Museum & Archives Society's annual general meeting Nov. 19 went well and we gained a new board member, Desiree Roell.

As per our bylaws, the board of officers was determined at the first meeting after the AGM, held Jan. 17. The board was selected by acclamation: Sandy Farynuk, president; Sue Phillips, vice-president; Diana Inselberg, treasurer; and Bob Cowan, secretary. Directors include Joan Cowan, Judy Fischer and Desiree Roell. Sandy is also the new representative on the Enderby & District Heritage Commission, replacing Diana.

### Springbend Hall

The gentleman who had provided grass cutting in the summer and snow removal in the winter at Springbend Hall passed away in 2021. The museum is hopeful someone in the community will come forward to offer this service.

## Looking back 100 years to February 1922...



The official team photograph of the Enderby Hockey Club team of 1922-23, Coy Cup winners of 1923: (front) George Graham, Theodore F. Adams, Sid H. Speers, E. Nibby Broom, George Jones, (rear) Ed Sparrow, Archie D. McQueen, Merve J. Reid, George Sparrow and Rod Sparrow. [edms 0399]

### Hockey captures city's attention

The newspaper was filled with front page news of Enderby's men's hockey team in the early weeks of February 1922. The team made it to the finals against Vernon in a game played mid-month. Enderby citizens were so excited that they advertised a "special" train to take fans to and from Vernon for the game at a cost between \$1.50 and \$1.75 for the round trip. People were told to wear red and green "and a winning smile, and be prepared to articulate lustily." The train took 105 Enderby fans plus another 35 from Armstrong and Enderby's brass band to watch the Valley League championship game.

Alas, the fans were ultimately disappointed when the team maintained a lead in the game until the last 10 minutes, when Vernon popped in five goals to win with a score of 5-8. An article on the game puts the blame on team management: "Some people will tell you that anyone can manage a hockey team."



### Christmas events

While we did not do our usual silent auction at Christmas, we did hold a bake sale and the Toonie Tree. Volunteers and museum members provided lots of goodies for the bake sale, which raised \$592. With Christmas celebrations a question mark when we made plans, we decided to hold the bake sale a week later than usual so it was closer to Christmas. I think we will go back to the light-up weekend this year to go along with a silent auction, for which we are building up an inventory of interesting items to include. The Toonie Tree raised \$170, with Marie Stickland winning half that sum. The long-time museum member donated her share back to the museum, which is much appreciated. Thanks, Marie!

### Museum vault

You see from Sandy's report that there are plans to rework the museum's storage spaces. We have been working toward a new vault for many years without any concrete plans given the green light. This is not due to a lack of will but a lack of space. There are only so many options for adding a new, fire-resistant space to store important archival material. We have explored different spots within the museum and different methods of construction without any real success. We are now looking at making Springbend Hall a more efficient and safe storage facility. The plan is to add sturdy shelving then move some of the artifacts currently stored at the back of the museum into Springbend Hall. This will free up space in the museum where we can create this vault space. It is a huge job but one that will not only result in the long-awaited vault but also provide an opportunity to do an extensive examination of the artifact collection.

Enderby has been working on this theory the past two seasons or more." The writer acknowledges that Mr. Mackay protested his appointment as manager due to his lack of hockey knowledge. The writer also blames the players' penchant for lifting the puck high in the air and sending it up the ice. "Aside from the danger to the players from this practice, it invariably breaks up the combination as much of one side as the other and makes a lot of unnecessary work for the players racing up the ice after the puck," he wrote. (Imagine!)

To make the outcome even worse, the fans endured an unusual trip home. Revelstoke ordered the "special" train to pick up a crippled engine at the Larkin siding at 1 a.m. The engine and its caboose were hooked to the "special" between the working engine and the coaches, wasting an hour. The train towed the broken engine, which had one drive wheel shattered and dangling on its shaft, to Armstrong.

Going slow, the crippled engine stuck to the rails until it went over the trestle at Armstrong, when it jumped the rails and pulled the front trucks of the caboose off with it. The passenger coaches remained on the rails but the passengers were shaken to think of what might have happened had the engine jumped the tracks a few hundred feet sooner or at the other bridges between Larkin and Armstrong.

"When it was seen that the "special" would be tied up four or five hours by the cripple, Bert Fletcher was called out of bed about 2 o'clock and he obligingly pulled out his big school auto truck and seven passenger cars and made two trips to Enderby with the "special's" passengers, the first reaching home shortly after 3 o'clock and the last at 5:30," the article reads.

The "special" train eventually reached Enderby, with the remaining passengers, at about 7:30 a.m. A wrecker from Revelstoke came to rescue the crippled engine at Armstrong. It made it as far as Enderby before slipping the rails again. It came off the rails once more on the way to Sicamous.

While the community bemoaned the championship that almost was, they did not have to gripe for long because the 1922-23 hockey team, under the management of Sid Speers, finished the season as intermediate provincial champions and brought home the Coy Cup.

City council minutes from 1910 include a letter from the police requesting that the city do repairs to the jail at City Hall. Seems the bricks were poorly laid and a prisoner was able to push out the bricks and escape. These days, this bit of business would very likely be in camera and not for public consumption.

### McQueen donation

Long-time museum supporter Jim McQueen bequeathed the museum his genealogical research, photographs and some artifacts in his will. Those items – a pallet full – were delivered to the museum just before Christmas. I opened the package in the new year and have been working through the material since then. The McQueens can trace their family back many generations to Scotland. Locally, the family is related to the Baileys of Grindrod and the Lindsays of Deep Creek. There was also a sweet little slipper chair and a side table. Unfortunately, the shippers were less than diligent in wrapping the pallet and the furniture was damaged. Fortunately, we have the talents of volunteers Herb and Linda Higginbottom at our disposal; they are working to repair both items, and I have complete faith in their skills.

### Fire truck

One reason I have so much faith in Herb Higginbottom's ability is because he already demonstrated those talents when I presented him with the wooden steering wheel from Enderby's first fire truck that is currently being refurbished. The wheel was dried out, the joints had separated and it was a washed-out grey colour. Herb took it home, steamed it, glued it back together and clamped it. He repainted the centre piece and stained the wood. The result is a like-new steering wheel of warmly coloured wood. Absolutely fabulous! The rest of the fire truck project is moving slowly as we have yet to find a rear passenger bumper for the truck. Anyone? Once that is in place, the project will cruise along quickly.



The destruction of the King Edward Hotel on Feb. 15, 1947 was likely an impetus for a new fire brigade.  
[edms 0304]

## Looking back 75 years ago to March 1947...

### *Ten Man Fire Brigade Will Protect Enderby*

A ten-man fire brigade was organized at a meeting at the City Hall, Tuesday evening. R. Hill was appointed fire Chief and Russell Hutchinson assistant chief. G.A. Garner is secretary.

Besides the chief, the brigade consists of Russell Hutchinson, Gordon Garner, Harvey Stenquist, Les Panton, Robert Blumenauer, Bert Webb, Donald MacPherson, Jack Bush, Norman Danforth and John Johnson. One place yet to be filled. Mayor Logan and Ald. J.J. Sutherland, chairman of the fire protection committee of the city council, were also present at the meeting. They informed the brigade what the city proposed to do in the way of supporting them, but added that the scheme had not yet been approved.

There will be twelve paid practices during the year. The first was held last night. In this manner it was felt the brigade could be brought to a high degree of efficiency.

During a fire, the group was told they would be the only ones allowed in the vicinity. If there was a fire of sufficient size as to require additional help, the chief would be empowered to choose bystanders personally. He would have complete charge of the city during a fire and his commands would have to be obeyed.

The brigade is organized on club lines, each new applicant for membership having to pass a vote to obtain admission. The old barn on the city hall block will be made into a fire hall with a club room upstairs and sleeping quarters for one person. A drying tower will be incorporated into the building. (*Enderby Commoner*, March 21, 1947)

## Volunteers

If I am praising Herb's efforts, I would be remiss not to mention the full cadre of volunteers. A few new people have joined the ranks so the amount of work getting done is considerable. Marilyn Cole is adding books to our database, Katherine Gooch is digitizing interviews in the Oral History Project, Nancy Baxter is working on various archival projects and Dallas Gerlib is helping to better organize history files. The rest of the volunteers continue with their jobs: Gerrie on newspaper clippings, Vivian and Bob transcribing, Suzanne updating the historical reference files, Linda and Faith on photographs, Peter on an archival project, Sandy on the Property Inventory Index and other small projects, Diana aiding with the books and database, Diane doing the books and Property Inventory Index, and Joani organizing the back room in preparation for the Springbend Hall project.

## Spring cleaning

I have plans to give the museum a good deep clean this spring. This means moving items out of their space, cleaning out the space and putting things back (or even changing things up in the process). I want to do one section of the museum at a time to minimize confusion and breakage; likely on a day the museum is closed or after we are closed. Give me a call if you want to help out.

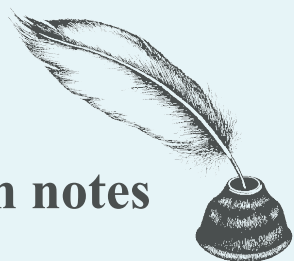


The sign on this horse and buggy taking part in a local parade indicates it is representing the 1947 fire brigade. Walter Bradford is identified as the person seated in the buggy; the other man is not identified. [edms 2342]

The issue of proper fire protection first came to a head in 1905 and city council began exploring the cost of ladders and buckets and where to put in hydrants. In 1907, a fire chief was appointed and told to put together two teams of fire fighters. A hose reel was constructed and a four-foot steel triangle erected by the fire shed to act as an alarm. The need for an organized fire brigade was suggested in 1906 but did not materialize until late 1910. The group initiated practices but by 1912 the group was fractured. A letter to the editor dated Oct. 3, 1912 explains that many fire fighters felt snubbed when the offer of \$25 for an exhibition race during May 24 celebrations was withdrawn and given to the brass band instead; they suggested folks turn to band members for fire service.

Another fire brigade was formed in 1936 with plans for regular practices and an adequate alarm. The group asked the city to remove the hose reels from the two-wheeled carriages and mount them on a four-wheel car chassis with rubber tires, and to allow for a public subscription to raise funds for equipment. By 1937, a power siren was installed at city hall and \$211.40 in donations had been collected. The group was training every two weeks in 1944 and purchased a new pump in 1946. A new fire truck was added in January 1953 and plans got underway that summer to enlarge the fire hall next to city hall.

The city continued to enhance its fire protection services over the years, but that is an article for another time.



## Museum notes



### Heritage Week

The continued and ever-changing pandemic restrictions and regulations have once again nixed any plans for a Heritage Week display at the mall in Salmon Arm this year. Our museum had started making plans for an afternoon presentation on nursing in Enderby to mark Heritage Week, Feb. 21-27. We still plan to do that but will push the presentation date back to the spring when people can get out more freely and perhaps there will be (good) changes around the pandemic. We are planning to host the event on a Saturday afternoon. Anyone out there with a story, artifacts or photos to share around nursing in Enderby is welcome to give me a call at the museum.

### Mammoth tusk

We received a preliminary report from Laura Termes at Simon Fraser University in late December on the mammoth tusk found by Josh Baird at the Baird gravel pit in 2019 and loaned to the museum in 2020. She said testing shows the tusk to be approximately 33,000 years old, which is about 10,000 years older than the mammoth molars also on loan from the Bairds. Laura recently sent the following on the tusk: "I've just heard back from Cara Kubiak, who works on the isotopes on this project, and said she can't interpret the carbon and nitrogen isotopes further without baseline environmental data. However, the mammoths have different sulphur values from each other... There is early research (but not yet published) to suggest sulphur values can indicate permafrost conditions." She continues to work on this interesting development. The tusk is now on display under glass alongside the molars; come by and have a look.

## Looking back 50 years to April 1972...

### *Pool problems a long-time issue*

In a story reminiscent of today, an April 14, 1972 article in the Enderby Commoner describes the deteriorating condition of Enderby's outdoor pool. The article says the city received approval from the North Okanagan Health Unit to operate the pool at Barnes Park for another season. Stipulations around that operation extension included maintaining water clarity and chlorine levels as per Public Health regulations and ensuring bacteriological samples met regulations.

"Permission to allow the pool to open was a follow up to recent activities of the council and ratepayers regarding attempts and preparations towards building of a new pool in the 1973 year. The letter, (which) mentioned the Council's intention of a new pool on or before July 1, 1973, had great bearing on the decision to allow the present pool to open for this one season only," the article reads.

Swimming lessons done in the Shuswap River were part of the community culture for a long time but the drowning of seven-year-old Andrew Graham in 1951 sparked a call for a pool. The Enderby Lions Club took up the cause and a new swimming pool was opened Aug. 23, 1953. The cost was \$6,000 plus numerous in-kind donations of labour and materials. The park was officially named Barnes Park the same year.

The pool would get a fresh coat of paint each year, often with local young people doing the work. A diving board was added in 1956. In 1961, the Lions held an auction sale to raise money for the pool's upkeep and hiring of a pool attendant. The Lions turned over operation of the pool to the city in 1964. Vandals wreaked havoc on the little pool in 1965, plugging the drains, filling the pool with debris and wrecking the change room toilets.

The first trouble with the health and safety of the pool came in 1972 when it was closed twice by Public Health due to murky water conditions. It was said that the lifeguard was unable to see the bottom of the pool. A renovation project began that fall and was completed in July 1973. The pool got a new shell, surge tank, pipes, pump, machinery shed, and fence. The bath houses were also repaired and painted. Talk of a new pool went by the wayside.

### Sewing machine display

It is almost spring, which means Sandy and I will be thinking of a new display for the museum to replace the current one on sewing machines. So, if you have not had the chance to come down and see the machines and accoutrements, please do because it is quite a walk down a seamstress's memory lane.

### 1922-23 Coy Cup winners

I touch a bit on the 1922-23 hockey team in Enderby in one of the articles in this newsletter. Ironically, a relative of one of the team members emailed the museum, after I had written up the article, to see if we might do a special display to commemorate the team winning the Coy Cup. I think it is a great idea so I am looking for stories, pictures, artifacts and archival material related to the 1922-23 team that could be part of a display. The only thing I do not need is the official team photo with the Coy Cup – we have several already. If you have something you'd like to donate to the museum or loan the museum for the display this winter, contact me.

### Special anniversary

It has come to my attention that our little museum will celebrate 50 years of existence in 2023. With such a special anniversary soon upon us, I am open to ideas and suggestions on how to best mark this occasion.



The 1972 upgrading of the Enderby Lions Pool. [edms 3695]

The wading pool was not opened in 1973 after Public Health raised concerns about it having no drain and the water not being drained enough. It reopened the following year with a plan to drain it more frequently.

The change rooms got an upgrade in 1983 and a slide was added in 1984. The pool was sandblasted and replastered in 1985. Serious water quality and safety issues were raised after the liner began to crack in the late 1990s. The marcite lining was removed from the pool and replaced with fibreglass in 2000 at a cost of \$25,000. That fix job only lasted three years; the city had to remove the fibreglass and reline the pool with marcite in 2003.

Stairs were added in 2005. The spray park next to the pool was deemed unsafe and closed in 2012. Also in 2012, the city had to undertake more upgrades at a cost of \$33,244, with the Lions paying \$22,455. The idea of a new spray park was suggested in 2013, with the first phase opening in 2017. The spray park has since been completed but the pool is facing imminent closure. Plans are underway to replace the pool but a timeline and funding is not yet in place.

## Donations

People continue to donate items and funds to the museum. Donations were made to the museum in memory of June Siak (nee Smith), Violet Bauder (nee Bush), Alex Roberts, and Ossie and Gretta Baird. We have also received generous donations from individuals and organizations for use of our photos and for research done on different topics. I have already accessioned over a dozen items in the first month of 2022 including photographs, books and baby clothes.



## Looking back 25 years to May 1997...

### *International recognition*

Uli Friebe can't remember being speechless too many times in his life-time – but last Monday night he was too shocked to say much at all.

"It blew me away," he said. "Who would ever think a little fat fart with an accent would get the Lions International Award?" he joked.

He was given the International President's Certificate of Appreciation, given in recognition of exemplary service.

The plaque signed by International Club President Augustine Soliva is bestowed on a Lion who "builds bridges in partnership to meet the humanitarian objectives of the Lions Club International."

Uli explains that building bridges means that he has helped people understand who the Lions are all about, and has welcomed new members to the club.

In fact he has welcomed more than 42 new members into the Lions Club throughout the district. He also travels to various Lions clubs across the province and has given seminars on how to build membership.

Uli said he's dreamed of getting this award but never actually expected it.

"It put me out of commission. I shook 100 hands on the way up and on the way back. It was a total surprise; I just never expected it," he commented.

He also recognized his wife Hilde, who has supported him in his work with the Lions for the last 21 years.

Last year he won the Melvin Jones Memorial Award; he's won the Judge Brian Stevenson Award and was named Lion of the Year twice by the Enderby Lions Club.

*This article appeared in the May 17, 1997 Enderby Commoner.*



Uli Friebe with his International Lions Award in 1997. Uli died April 3, 2004. [Enderby Commoner]

## Memberships

I have sent out email notices regarding memberships that need renewing. Many people typically renew at the AGM in November but COVID threw a wrench into that tradition. We are also doing annual memberships from the date you become a member so there are memberships coming due most months. So give us a call if you need to renew or want to check the status of your membership. I am always happy to help.



Enderby in 1902, before it was incorporated as a city.