



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee

Date: March 7, 2017

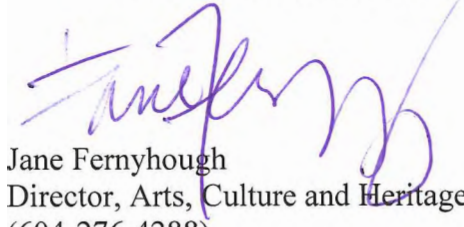
From: Jane Fernyhough
Director, Arts, Culture and Heritage Services

File: 11-7000-01/2017-Vol 01

Re: Richmond Heritage Update 2016

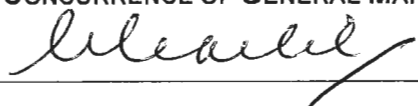

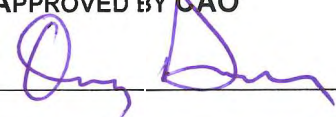
Staff Recommendation

1. That the staff report titled, "Richmond Heritage Update 2016", dated March 7, 2017, from the Director, Arts, Culture and Heritage Services, be received for information; and
2. That the City of Richmond Heritage Update 2016 be circulated to the Community Partners and Funders for their information.



Jane Fernyhough
Director, Arts, Culture and Heritage Services
(604-276-4288)

Att. 1

REPORT CONCURRENCE	
CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER 	
REVIEWED BY STAFF REPORT / AGENDA REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE	INITIALS: 
APPROVED BY CAO 	

Staff Report

Origin

In June 2007, Council approved the Museum and Heritage Strategy vision, goals and objectives to provide an effective and realistic strategic framework that continues to direct Richmond's development and integration of its museum and heritage policies and services.

This report presents the Richmond 2016 Heritage Update (Attachment 1) which highlights the many achievements in Heritage over the past year.

This report supports Council's 2014-2018 Term Goal #2 A Vibrant, Active and Connected City:

Continue the development and implementation of an excellent and accessible system of programs, services, and public spaces that reflect Richmond's demographics, rich heritage, diverse needs, and unique opportunities, and that facilitate active, caring, and connected communities.

2.3. *Outstanding places, programs and services that support active living, wellness and a sense of belonging.*

2.4. *Vibrant arts, culture and heritage opportunities.*

This report supports Council's 2014-2018 Term Goal #5 Partnerships and Collaboration:

Continue development and utilization of collaborative approaches and partnerships with intergovernmental and other agencies to help meet the needs of the Richmond community.

Analysis

Richmond continues to grow rapidly and the increasingly diverse population has created new demands for services. This is particularly notable in the cultural sector where there is a desire to provide services and programs, but also an economic imperative as culture is an important economic generator through the provision of employment and tourism opportunities.

Arts, Culture and Heritage enhance our city and our lives in many unique ways and are central to community life. They provide communities with a sense of identity, a sense of place and shared pride while creating ways to communicate across multicultural boundaries.

The Richmond Heritage Update 2016 showcases the varied and vital investment in Museums and Heritage and the essential role these play in building and sustaining a diverse urban community that is socially and economically healthy.

Highlights and achievements of last year include:

- Restoration of the Interurban Tram Car began with professional industrial movers lifting the vehicle to relocate the trucks (undercarriages) to each end of the building so they could be cleaned and have hazardous materials removed. An assessment of the truck parts was completed and replacement parts acquired or built. The trucks were then painted while further restoration planning took place in partnership with City electricians and carpenters for work on the interior and electrical system.

- *Nikkei Stories of Steveston* project was launched in February 2016 bringing to life the experiences of Steveston's Japanese Canadians through online videos, interpretive street signs, a walking tour brochure and the City of Richmond's App.
- The newly renovated Steveston Town Square Park, adjacent to the Steveston Museum, opened to the public in May 2016 and has already become a well-used outdoor gathering space for local residents and visitors.
- Almost 13,000 site visits happened throughout the ninth annual Doors Open Richmond, held in the first weekend of June. The event showcased some of the city's finest heritage, arts and cultural sites with 49 new and returning organizations at 42 sites.
- A new series of five interactive exhibits were installed in Britannia Shipyards National Historic Site's Seine Net Loft and officially opened on June 30th in conjunction with the Ships to Shore reception hosting 250 people. The exhibits examine innovation and human ingenuity in the fishing and boatbuilding industries of Steveston.
- The City was awarded the Prince of Wales Prize for municipal heritage leadership in 2016. The prize is awarded annually to a municipality that has demonstrated a strong and sustained commitment to the conservation of its historic places. Richmond was one of the first municipalities in Canada to imbed heritage planning objectives into its Official Community Plan. The City has preserved numerous heritage sites and celebrates the community's past through a variety of programs and special events.
- The second phase of Richmond Museum's *Leave Your Mark – Wang Duo: Calligrapher for the Ages* exhibition took a bold step in a new direction. The development of this exhibition was built on strong new relationships with local partners and a museum in China. Close to 300 people attended the December 1st opening.

Financial Impact

None.

Conclusion

The Richmond Heritage Update 2016 highlights the activities and achievements of the City, stakeholders and community partners. It also demonstrates the vital contribution Museums and Heritage make to the livability of our community.



Connie Baxter
Supervisor, Museum and Heritage Services
(604-247-8330)

Att. 1: City of Richmond Heritage Update 2016



City of Richmond

HERITAGE UPDATE 2016

Arts, Culture and Heritage Services



Introduction

The City of Richmond proudly celebrates its history, while actively planning for a bright future with a thriving arts, cultural and heritage sector. The heritage sector plays a crucial role in making Richmond a vibrant, healthy, sustainable and engaged community.

The responsibility for the stewardship of the City's heritage resources is shared by Arts, Culture and Heritage Services, the City of Richmond Archives, Parks Services and Policy Planning. Through partnerships with community societies and the Council-appointed Heritage Commission, staff are committed to preserving, interpreting and promoting cultural and heritage resources and activities. Other heritage assets within the community are privately-owned or are the responsibility of other levels of government.

Exhibitions, educational programming, public programming, special events, volunteer opportunities and artefact collections are managed and presented by the City's museum and heritage staff, and partners. Together they raise public awareness of Richmond's rich past and present. This contributes to civic pride by enhancing a sense of place, and community connections to engage citizens and visitors across generations.

This update provides highlights from Museum and Heritage Services in Richmond for 2016.

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Signature Events

Richmond World Festival

The second annual Richmond World Festival celebrated the City's cultural diversity in a free one-day music, food, art and sport festival on the Labour Day weekend. Headliners Walk Off the Earth and Delhi 2 Dublin lead a diverse, talented line up of artists, which included many local acts on nine performance stages. Over 35,000 people from across the region enjoyed the 40 food trucks, 50 exhibitors, artisans, a cooking stage, poetry, opera, and digital arts.

The 2015 World Festival won Best Festival in Canada at the Canadian Special Awards Gala. It was also a finalist for Best Festival at the international Special Event Magazine awards.



Walk Off the Earth closes out the festival in front of thousands.
Photo credit: Jon Pesochin

Doors Open

The ninth annual Doors Open Richmond was held in the first weekend of June, showcasing some of the city's finest heritage, arts and cultural sites. The event opened on Friday evening at Minoru Chapel, where perfect weather showed the garden and Chapel at their finest. More than 500 visitors enjoyed live music, vendors, children's crafts, light refreshments and other activities.

During the Doors Open Richmond weekend, 49 new and returning organizations offered a multitude of free behind-the-scenes tours and special events across 42 sites. Almost 13,000 visitors explored National Historic Sites, museums, city facilities and privately owned heritage homes, as well as artist studios, specialty businesses and places of worship. Visitor surveys were conducted throughout the weekend with 70 per cent of respondents rating the event as excellent and another 29 per cent as good.

Among the sites participating for the first time were the specialty business Juvelisto Design and School of Metal Arts offering demonstrations in metal jewellery design and the newly opened Pollinator Pasture at Bridgeport Industrial Park.

Doors Open Richmond 2016 was made possible by a partnership between the Richmond Museum Society and the City of Richmond, and the generous support of many sponsors. The dedication of 172 volunteers, who contributed 995 volunteer hours, ensured another successful Richmond-wide Doors Open event.



Acting Mayor Ken Johnston gives an address at Minoru Chapel during the Doors Open Richmond 2016 opening ceremony.

Photo credit: Fabian Dominguez



A future firefighter? A young visitor tries on a helmet and sits on a fire truck during Doors Open at the Steveston Fire Station.

Photo credit: Linh Nguyen



Visitors to the 2016 Doors Open Richmond opening ceremony enjoyed sweet treats and refreshments.

Photo credit: Tharaka Mapalagama



Jewellery making captivated visitors to Juvelisto Design and School of Metal Arts during Doors Open in Steveston.

Photo credit: Linh Nguyen

Richmond Regional Heritage Fair

The Richmond Museum presented the 14th Annual Heritage Fair with an exceptional showcase of history project displays created by Richmond school students.

One hundred twenty-five students from seven Richmond schools presented projects based on history inquiry questions that explored local, regional, provincial and national themes. These students also participated in special Heritage Fair activities, including an exclusive workshop about the history of food in Richmond facilitated by Branscombe House artist-in-residence Rhonda Wepler.

The Heritage Fair concluded with an awards ceremony skillfully emceed by Heritage Fair Alumni Gita Manhas and Vedanshi Vala. Awards were presented by national, provincial and municipal dignitaries.



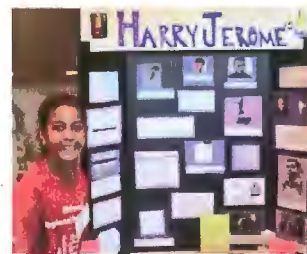
Heritage Fairs are an exciting way for children and youth to learn about Canadian history.



Two children built wooden boats with the help of a volunteer. This Heritage Fair activity station encouraged visitors to learn about Richmond's boatbuilding heritage.



Two children designed geometric good luck patterns inspired by the Indian art of rangoli. This was one of many Heritage Fair activity stations that encouraged visitors to celebrate Canada's cultural diversity.



Malia Bulat, Grade 4 from Lord Byng Elementary School, presented her Heritage Fair project about Canadian track athlete, Harry Jerome.



Daymon Wijayakoon, Grade 3 from Westwind Elementary School, presented his Heritage Fair project about the Richmond Cenotaph.

Richmond Maritime Festival

The 13th annual Richmond Maritime Festival took place at Britannia Shipyards National Historic Site and showcaseded more than 200 local artisans, performers and historical exhibits.

During two days in August, the Festival attracted over 40,000 visitors who participated in activities from children's boat building to creating a knitting tree and boarding historic wooden vessels at the dock. The main stage featured a headline performance by the Matinee and the Myrtle Family Band.

The Maritime Festival received an honourable mention as the best Cultural Event at the Creative City Network Conference.



Visitors boarding wooden boats at the Maritime Festival.
Photo credits: Jon Pesochin

Branscombe House

Branscombe House has completed its second full year of operations after extensive renovations. As planned, the main floor of the 1906 Edwardian farmhouse is being used by the community for meetings and small events. The City's artist-in-residence program, launched from Branscombe House, has also entered its second year.

Artist-in-Residence Program

As the inaugural Branscombe House artist-in-residence, celebrated visual artist Rhonda Wepler presented a range of free public programs in exchange for live/work studio space upstairs in this treasured restored heritage building, one of the earliest homes built in the Steveston area.

During 2016, Ms. Wepler's free public programs attracted an estimated 1,300 visits to the house where she sparked the creativity of Richmond residents. Workshops, exhibitions and monthly drop-in activities typically were based on a food theme or used sculptural food materials such as cookie dough, marzipan or fondant as a medium. Many of her programs were done in partnership with the Heritage Services team: in May, she worked with young Richmond Regional Heritage Fair participants to replicate tiny still life plates of food (with candy) to represent the

culinary eras from Richmond's past; in July, emerging artists learned to paint with watercolours using as their subject a small artefact from the Richmond Museum collection; and in December at the Chinese Bunkhouse at Britannia Shipyards, she installed a collection of illuminated miniature stilt houses created by community members. The houses, meticulously crafted out of recycled cardboard food packaging, were inspired by the homes that once stood in the area.

The call for the second annual artist-in-residence attracted 25 proposals from artists hailing from eight countries. A selection of panelists representing the local arts community worked with staff to select a Regina artist, Barbara Meneley, as the successful applicant. Her artistic practice will connect to Richmond's history with an exploration of maps and archives. The webpage at richmond.ca/branscomberesidency is updated regularly to keep the public informed about upcoming free public programs.

The downstairs space (maximum occupancy 30 persons) is available for rent by the general public through the City rentals office.



Art made in artist-in-resident led workshops includes The Changing Plate.
Photo credits: Rhonda Wepler

Britannia Shipyards National Historic Site

Exhibitions

Seine Net Loft Exhibits

A new series of five interactive exhibits in the Seine Net Loft officially opened on June 30th, in conjunction with the Ships to Shore 2016 reception hosting 250 people. The exhibits examine innovation and human ingenuity in the fishing and boatbuilding industries of Steveston. Five exhibits—*Our Changing Waterfront*, *Mechanizing the Fishing Industry*, *At the Helm*, *The Seine Net Loft 1954-Present* and *Innovation Station*—each explore fascinating stories of our changing waterfront and the individuals from many cultures who worked together to achieve prosperity during both times of plenty and times of economic, political and social turmoil. Engaging photographs, artefacts, films, audio clips, activity kits and an interactive touchscreen enhance the telling of Steveston's rich history.



New permanent Seine Net Loft exhibits opened in June 2016.
Photo credit: Joel Baziuk

A Steveston Beginning: Remembering My Mother

Britannia staff worked with Vancouver sculptural artist Judy Nakagawa to present a show of abstract sculpture to capture the experiences of her Japanese-Canadian mother during her early years in Steveston. The show offered a unique space to reflect and contemplate a time when clothes were made at home, stories were told in books and fishing nets were tied by hand. This exhibit, including an artist's talk, touched on themes of relationship, memory, connection to place and the Japanese Canadian experience.

The exhibit was also accompanied by an audio feature written and composed by Ms. Nakagawa's niece, Carolyn Nakagawa.

A Steveston Beginning: Remembering My Mother was open on weekends from October 8 to 30 and was enjoyed by 1,500 visitors. The exhibit also received significant media coverage, including articles in local papers and an in-depth CBC radio podcast.



Visitors inside the contemporary art installation by celebrated Vancouver artist Judy Nakagawa in the Murakami Boatworks Building.

Photo credit: Joel Baziuk



*Contemporary art installations *Neural Navigation* (left) and *Complicated Heart* (right) by Judy Nakagawa.*

Stilt House Village Island

Britannia staff worked with Branscombe House artist-in-residence, Rhonda Weppler, to offer a series of Stilt House Village Island workshops. As part of the workshops, participants created a community art installation representing a stilt house island. House designs were based on the traditional architecture of the early structures that once lined the shores of the Fraser River. Workshop participants used international packaging materials to construct the house frameworks, which reflect the City's diverse cultural community today.

The Stilt House Village Island unveiling was held on Saturday, December 10. Close to 70 community members attended, many of whom had participated in the workshops. One participant commented, "The stilt house workshop was a great program. I especially liked the tour of Britannia's stilt houses. It was an opportunity to learn about Richmond's history and consider how the community has changed over time." A second participant said, "We need to be doing more of these kinds of community engagement programs in Richmond. ... These workshops gave me a chance to get to know people in my community that I wouldn't normally get to meet."



Stilt houses were connected by a labyrinth of boardwalks.

Public Programming

Family Day Weekend 2016

Family Day Weekend, February 6 to 8, was enjoyed by more than 2,000 visitors exploring exhibits in the Shipyard and the homes of Britannia's diverse workforce. Visitors participated in guided tours throughout the weekend. Families enjoyed opportunities to build hand-held wooden gillnetter boats to take home, while learning about the gillnetter's important role in the local fishing industry, developing hands-on woodworking skills and learning to identify parts of the boat.

This boatbuilding activity was supported by a \$1,000 grant for Family Day events from the Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development, in partnership with the British Columbia Parks and Recreation Association.



Families built hand-held gillnetter boats inside an original Japanese boatworks building at Britannia.

Heritage Week 2016

During National Heritage Week February 20 to 21, over 700 visitors participated in guided tours of the dock and floats, and viewed heritage vessels such as the 1968 gillnetter *Silver Ann*, a 1950s pleasure craft, the *Merrilee II*, and a 1922 steam tug, the *S.S. Master*. Visitors also learned about Britannia's unique West Coast maritime heritage traditions when talking with Britannia Heritage Shipyard Society volunteers as they worked on wooden boat restoration projects.

Doors Open 2016

During Doors Open June 4 to 5, approximately 1,000 visitors enjoyed a wide variety of free programming across the Britannia site. Inside the Seine Net Loft, a costumed interpreter impersonating Mrs. Shorey told fishing stories to an engaged young audience inside a fishing skiff. Others explored the new Seine Net Loft exhibits, learned about making ships wheels and tried out fun family activities at the Innovation Station.

In the Richmond Boatbuilders Building, the Britannia Heritage Shipyard Society provided woodworking demonstrations, a children's boatbuilding activity and an Ask a Shipwright talk delivered by a traditional shipwright. The Richmond Carvers also demonstrated their talents with the creation of carved wooden salmon inside the Murakami Boatworks Building.

The docks were also open to the public for opportunities to Learn to Dragon Boat by Dragon Boat BC. During the Sunday kick-off, the Historic *River Queen* Water Shuttle between Steveston Village and Britannia Shipyards was launched.

Ships to Shore 2016

Ships to Shore 2016 attracted over 45,000 people to the shores of Imperial Landing and Britannia Shipyards (including the Canada Day fireworks show). The three-day festival was spread over two locations, with approximately 20,000 visitors engaging in programming at Britannia including guided tours of historic buildings, participating in free maritime activities and boarding of heritage vessels at the docks. New exhibits in the Seine Net Loft building were open to the public during the Ships to Shore festivities.



Spike Africa was one of the many ships open for exploration during Ships to Shore.

Richmond Maritime Festival 2016

This year's Richmond Maritime Festival was another fabulous celebration of Steveston's waterfront heritage. Over 40,000 visitors enjoyed two full days of programming from boarding historic vessels to maritime-themed activities, traditional crafts, and entertainment by local actors and performers. The addition of a wooden boat zone was well received. It showcased smaller wooden vessels and maritime skills under the coordination of the Britannia Heritage Shipyard Society.

A public survey of 87 per cent of visitors gave the festival an "excellent" rating. Comments included: "[The Maritime Festival allows] all cultures, religions, etcetera to come together to celebrate, enjoy and learn," and "It's really nice to be able to engage with the community and its rich history in such a hands-on way!"



Children at the Richmond Maritime Festival were mesmerized by Rikki the Rat, who recalled his adventures as a dock rat aboard tall ships on stormy seas.

Photo credit: Joel Baziuk



The Richmond Maritime Festival features a variety of maritime-themed activities including a knitting tree that depicted sea creatures.

Photo credit: Joël Baziuk

2016 Heritage Update

Culture Days 2016

During Culture Days, September 30 to October 2, close to 1,300 visitors enjoyed Cultural Legends of the Sea, a selection of hands-on maritime myth activities offered at the Innovation Station in the Seine Net Loft Building. Visitors made sailor hats, tried net knot tying and explored exhibits while participating in a scavenger hunt. Visitors also took part in a community art project, decorating a main sail cover with artwork inspired by cultural legends of the sea. The Richmond Carvers were also present during Culture Days, demonstrating their fine arts craftsmanship in wood sculpture.

Animating History Camps

In 2016, two classes of young animators aged 6 to 12 years created an animated short film, *The Way of the Murakami's*, inspired by Britannia's Japanese Canadian history. Both week-long Spring Break camps were offered in partnership with Reel to Real: A Celebration of Moving Images for Youth Society. A professional animator and historical interpreter fostered the children's critical thinking abilities, local history knowledge and technical skills. The participants were so enthusiastic that they inspired parents to request additional advanced camps and summer camps for 2017.

Britannia Summer Camps

In July and August, six half-day camps were offered to children 5 to 12 years old: Maritime Treasure Hunt, Float Your Boat, All Hands on Deck, Sailor Knots, Cultural Celebrations, Sky Cultures and Sea Monster Myths. The camps used hands-on engagement, storytelling and themed games to teach kids what life was like in the past and what types of activities traditionally were practiced along the shores of Britannia. Almost 60 children learned traditional maritime skills in historic buildings as they experienced Britannia's history come to life.

Learn to Fish

During three sessions of Learn to Fish in July and August, 146 children and parents joined the Freshwater Fisheries Society of BC to learn about fishing, identification, handling, tackle, rod rigging and casting. This program has become very popular, providing a unique opportunity for families to engage in an outdoor recreational activity that directly connects them with our waterfront history.

Historic Water Shuttle

On Sundays from June 5 to September 4, visitors were able to climb aboard the historic *River Queen* for a narrated history and nature tour of Steveston's waterfront.

Passengers purchased fares for their choice of seven different departure times each day, where they could hop on at Fisherman's Wharf and hop off at the Britannia dock for a tour. Working with Vancouver Whale Watch, hundreds of visitors throughout the summer enjoyed this alternative way to travel back and forth from Britannia to Steveston Village.

New Initiatives

Literature Review

In June, a literature review was conducted to gather existing information and to obtain new research about the First Nations Bunkhouse and Japanese Duplex buildings in anticipation of preliminary restoration planning. This Literature Review is a comprehensive, cohesive document that will assist in the restoration of the buildings and future indoor interpretation initiatives.

School Program Updates

All five school programs offered at Britannia were updated to meet new Ministry of Education Curriculum Guidelines. These guidelines connect strongly to the values expressed in the First Peoples Principles of Learning and focus on social studies learning through inquiry, critical thinking and analyzing multiple perspectives. School program participants grew from 1,286 in 2015 to 1,346 in 2016 despite site closures during the month of March for flood clean-up projects. Survey feedback from parents and teachers was overwhelmingly positive.

Extended Hours

Over 9,000 visitors enjoyed extended hours from October to December 2016, when Britannia was open Tuesday to Sunday from noon to 4pm (instead of weekends only). This trial was in anticipation of extended hours in 2017 and received a positive response with many visitors personally expressing their gratitude. One visitor said: "It's usually a surprise when the site is open (in winter). Please tell whoever is in charge of setting the hours that we're so happy you're open!"

New Programs

Music at the Shipyard

The long-standing relationship between the Steveston Folk Guild and Britannia Shipyards was revitalized with collaborative summer concert programming aimed at providing quality performances in unique

heritage environments. Two music events were offered in partnership with the Steveston Folk Guild in the summer. Over 100 visitors enjoyed performances on the Chinese Bunkhouse Dock and the Seine Net Loft Dock, commenting on the wonderful music and scenic views.

Stories from Things

New workshops for ages 55 and older were offered on August 9 and 10, providing community members with guidance for writing their memoirs. The enthusiastic participants were led by Dr. Sultan Somjee, a renowned ethnographer and novelist, using personal objects to inspire “stories from things.” This unique process for developing memoirs supports Britannia’s artefact and oral history-based exhibition approaches, and highlights the importance of telling personal stories that connect visitors with local history.

Innovation Station

The Innovation Station in the Seine Net Loft has been an exciting stop of interest since opening in May 2016. The Innovation Station is an interactive activity area for families which is full of activities and games that challenge visitors to invent, think creatively and innovate to solve problems from the fishing industry’s past and present.

Activities are designed as a collection of kits for a drop-in experience or a school program component that encourages interactive multigenerational learning. They include: You Can Invent Tool, where visitors are given a maritime product design challenge and then brainstorm ideas to invent a prototype; Buoys, Boats, and Floats, where participants can see and touch examples of how buoys, boats and floats have changed over the last 100 years and then consider ways these products could be reinvented to help support the environment by utilizing recycling methods; and Seine Scavenger Hunt, where families explore the Seine Net Loft exhibits and discover secret compartments within the displays that reveal clues from the marine industry’s past and present.

Woodworking Programs

In Fall 2016, Britannia staff supported the Britannia Heritage Shipyard Society to offer new woodworking programs such as Introduction to Woodworking, Build Your Own Wine Rack for Women, and Canvas Canoe Restoration. These programs were well received and have strengthened the engagement and confidence of the Britannia Heritage Shipyard Society’s Program Committee as they plan future programs.

Historic Halloween Ghost Tour

On October 22, visitors participated in a historic ghost tour about the spooky spirits who haunt Britannia’s buildings and docks, complete with unexpected atmospheric special effects. Afterwards, participants made “evil eye” crafts with Branscombe House resident artist Rhonda Weppler. In anticipation of Halloween visitors, Britannia volunteers participated in a pumpkin carving workshop to decorate the site with carved jack-o-lanterns along the boardwalk.

On October 29, a cast of festive, costumed volunteers and staff welcomed over 200 people to trick or treat at the boardwalk’s historic houses for fun, non-edible treats.

Volunteer Program

In 2016, hundreds of volunteers assisted with special events, public programs, tours and activities at Britannia. Adjustments from last year included shortening volunteer shifts and delivering individual training (instead of group orientations). These changes were made as a result of feedback received from volunteers, and have led to success in both retaining current volunteers and recruiting new volunteers—as shown by volunteer statistics, which show an increase from 417 volunteers who recorded 5,296 hours in 2015, to 466 volunteers who recorded 7,853 hours in 2016.



Volunteers enjoyed a beautiful morning at the start of their shift during the Richmond Maritime Festival.

Photo credit: Joel Baziuk

Filming

Britannia Shipyards was busy with film shoots including *Legends of Tomorrow*, *Once Upon a Time*, *The Man in the High Castle* and *Supernatural* filming on location.

Cenotaph

Close to 5,000 citizens attended the 2016 Remembrance Day ceremony at the Cenotaph. The hour-long ceremony remembers the sacrifices that veterans have made for our freedom, followed by a minute of silence. Official and unofficial wreath layings take place at the Cenotaph, showing respect for those who sacrificed their lives.

These ceremonies are followed by a free reception in City Hall, which is organized by community volunteers.

Planning for the event starts in the early fall and includes partners in the Royal Canadian Legion and the RCMP.



The Cenotaph is a three-metre tall Celtic cross monument located near the intersection of No. 3 Road and Granville Avenue, directly in front of Richmond's City Hall.



Thank you

Our veterans did not forget about us. Let us not forget about them.

Thank you to everyone in Richmond who took time to reflect, remember and honour those who served, and continue to serve, Canada during times of war, conflict and peace.

A special thank you to those who contributed to Richmond's Remembrance Day services.

Remembrance Day parade and ceremonies organizing team

Army, Navy and Air Force Veterans in Canada, Unit #284 (Steveston)

Royal Canadian Legion Branch #291 (Richmond)

Richmond Remembrance Day Committee, Matthew McBride, Chair and Master of Ceremonies

Parade Chaplain, Gary Gaudin

Richmond Community Band, Bob Mullet, Director

RC Palmer Choir, Jason de Couto, Director

Piper, Grant Wyenberg

Richmond Funeral Home

Parade participants

Parade Marshall, Carl Huggins

Deputy Parade Marshall, Scott Edmiston CD and Ward Hindson

Colour Party Commander, William Reid CD

Cenotaph Guard, Sgt. Wayne Lysholm CD

Veterans Platoon, Commander Peter Davis CD

39 Service Battalion

Royal Canadian Sea Cadet Corp 195

Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corp 2947

Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corp 2381

Royal Canadian Air Cadet Corp 655

Royal Canadian Air Cadet Corp 692
Royal Canadian Air Cadet Corp 609
Royal Canadian Mounted Police
Richmond Fire-Rescue
Canada Border Services Agency
BC Ambulance Service
St. John Ambulance Brigade Div. 881c
Royal Canadian Marine Search and Rescue Station 10 (Richmond)
Cadet Mass Band

6th Annual Remembrance Day Reception

Judith Hutson, Organizer
Remembrance Day Reception Volunteer Team
Steveston Bakery
Belle's Bake Shop
The Diplomat Bakery
Broadmoor Bakery
The Butler Did It Catering Co.
Richmond Youth Honour Choir

Remembrance Day displays

Friends of the Richmond Archives

Remembrance Day simulcast

Richmond Media Lab youth

First aid

St. John Ambulance



2016 Remembrance Day

London Heritage Farm

Programs and Tours

The London Heritage Farm Society continued to attract new visitors of all ages in 2016. Fifteen school groups from Richmond and nearby districts attended tours of the heritage farm house and grounds. Many also participated in the Richmond Museum's Food for Thought program.

Other visiting groups included 33 senior groups, as well as private groups, including regular yoga practitioners on the South Lawn, and a group of 15 Syrian refugees.

The Society gave tours and hosted lunch for an all-day Professional Development workshop for teachers at the end of October.

Tea Room

The Tea Room was open Wednesday through Sunday in July and August, and weekends-only for the remainder of the year. Tea Room decorations and themed teas enhanced the visitor experience, along with homemade baking, jam, sweets, and the site's signature London Lady Tea.



St. Patrick's Day tea at London Heritage Farm
Photo Credit: Philip Lam

Special Events

In 2016, 33 weddings and other outdoor celebrations—bridal showers, picnics and birthdays—took place on the South Lawn and gazebo area, drawing families and crowds from all over Canada and the globe. Smaller, more formal events were held in the Tea Room, including an 80th birthday party.

New staff, volunteers and students worked in the Tea Room during extended summer hours.

Christmas Season

Volunteers decorated the farm house with Christmas trees and lights. London Farm also participated in the Festival of Trees at the Gulf of Georgia Cannery, with a "tea cup" themed tree.

Classics and Collectibles Car Show

On the last weekend in June, 40 cars of different vintages were displayed on the South Lawn bringing 150 visitors to the farm, farm house and tea room.

Doors Open and Culture Days

Doors Open Richmond attracted approximately 200 visitors. Culture Days was equally successful with many local and international visitors, who stayed for tea and participated in tours of the Farm House.

London Family Farm Day

London Family Farm Day is the largest annual community event at London Heritage Farm. Live music, pony rides, a petting zoo, the Nylon Zoo, and small bird house and toy building activity animated the event. Entertainment included a musician who played on the London Family piano in the Tea Room.

A number of other community partners helped make the event a hit including the Richmond Pop-Up Library, Richmond Wood Carvers, the Vancouver Lace Club and the Richmond Spinners & Weavers. Well-known Vancouver historian, Ivan Sayers, set up a display of his vintage clothing collection in the parlour.



Visitors paint garden signs at Family Farm Day.
Photo Credit: Philip Lam

Richmond Food Bank and Food Security Program

The Richmond Food Security Program again harvested fruit from the site's apple, crabapple and pear trees. Despite a shortage of volunteers and an abundance of fruit, they picked a total of 678 pounds of pears to donate to the Richmond Food Bank. This program ensures that the fruit does not go to waste and helps to keep the site tidy.

Honey and Eggs

The London Heritage's volunteer beekeeper harvested 50 pounds of honey from the Farm's bees in the fall. Some of the honey was blended with an Okanagan honey to create London Heritage Farm's special blend. This popular item was sold in the Gift Shop along with eggs laid by the Farm's chickens.

Collections Management

London Farm is fortunate to have a dedicated volunteer who attends City-wide Artefacts Collection Committee meetings and oversees all collections work. This year a Young Canada Works in Heritage grant made it possible

to hire a summer student who catalogued all of the previously un-catalogued artefacts in each room of the house, worked on de-accessioning artefacts and assembled disaster response kits.

Staff Changes

A new administrator was hired in October to replace the previous administrator, who retired after 4.5 years working for the London Heritage Farm Society. The retired administrator is looking forward to volunteering at the Farm.

Farm House Kitchen Renovations

After closing for the Christmas Holidays, the London Heritage Farm Society brought in a team of hardy volunteers to pack up and clean the kitchen in preparation for renovations in January, 2017.

Filming

London Heritage Farm was used in a variety of student films and featured in the *Supernatural* television series.



Colourful costume fun at Family Farm Day
Photo Credit: Philip Lam

Minoru Chapel

Restoration

The second phase of the Minoru Chapel restoration project was completed in consultation with heritage architects. The work included installing new light fixtures, improving accessibility in the public washroom, assessing the original fir flooring, uncovering original wood wainscoting, designing a new accessible ramp and enhancing the landscaping.

The third and final phase of restoration work will begin in 2017. It will include planning for the installation of a sub-floor to ensure the ongoing preservation of the fir flooring, and assessing the doors and wood siding of the building for damage and rot.

Weddings/Events

Minoru Chapel hosted 58 weddings and eight special occasion rentals.

Filming

Minoru Chapel was once again a popular site for filming TV commercials and the sitcom *Impastor*.



Filming at Minoru Chapel

Richmond Museum

Exhibitions

Leave Your Mark—Wang Duo: Calligrapher for the Ages

(December 1, 2016–May 8, 2017)

The second phase of *Leave Your Mark—Wang Duo: Calligrapher for the Ages* took a bold step in a new direction. The development of this exhibition was built on strong new relationships with local partners and a Chinese museum.

The Richmond Museum was able to borrow unique works of art and artefacts from the Wang Duo Calligraphy Museum in Henan, China thanks to a new partnership with the Canada Multicultural and Arts Exchange Association. Many of the borrowed works of art have never been displayed outside China before. The loans, and the new exhibit, focus on the legacy left by Wang Duo, a famed Chinese calligrapher from Henan, China. He

lived from 1592-1652 during the fall of the Han Chinese-ruled Ming dynasty (1368-1644) and the founding of the Manchu-ruled Qing dynasty (1644-1911). Likely influenced by these difficult times, his calligraphy is revered for its unique, vigorous and emotional style.

Local partners included the Richmond Chinese Calligraphy and Painting Club, who generously provided their expertise and loaned prized objects. The calligraphy on the entry panel to the exhibition was created by Club member, King Li. These Chinese characters spell out Wang Duo's name in traditional Chinese characters.

The Calligraphy Club is not alone in its love for beautiful calligraphy. Walking through the exhibition, visitors are frequently treated to the ephemeral gifts left at the writing stations, where other visitors have written characters in water that slowly evaporates before their eyes.



Leave Your Mark—Wang Duo: Calligrapher for the Ages is open until June 4, 2017.

Leave Your Mark

(June 23–September 26, 2016)

The Richmond Museum's *Leave Your Mark* exhibition revealed how people from the past have created the Richmond we know today, one legacy at a time.

The exhibition celebrated some of these profound and timeless legacies. In the 1990s, Richmond residents banded together to protest the development of the Terra Nova area. The result of this activism was the creation of Terra Nova Rural Park, a 63-acre nature area that includes heritage buildings, a community garden, a demonstration garden, and an excellent habitat for birds and other wildlife.

Thanks to visionary leaders and dedicated volunteers, our city also has an extraordinary collection of artefacts and cultural heritage sites, ranging from Britannia Shipyards National Historic Site to London Heritage Farm and Branscombe House.

Over time, evolving technologies have provided more opportunities to leave different types of legacies—shifting from calligraphy brushes to computers, and from player pianos to iPhones.

The Museum's many donors have left their legacies by donating Richmond-related objects to the City's collection. Wonderful, and sometimes unusual, objects left for posterity range from family portraits to *Richmond Review* printing plates, teacups and World War I medals, and even an egg painted with the City of Richmond's coat of arms.

Museum visitors took an opportunity to leave their marks using the Museum's interactive exhibits: they added favourite landmarks to the map of Richmond, scrawled messages on the graffiti wall and posted self-portraits on social media, using the Museum's hashtag.



A visitor contemplates the workings of the Mergenthaler linotype typesetting machine.



A young visitor leaves her mark in the Discovery Area.

2016 Heritage Update

Open for Business

(November 10, 2015 – May 29, 2016)

The Richmond Museum's exhibition, *Open for Business*, explored how small businesses have built our community and, in turn, how we support small businesses.

The exhibit reached back in history to tell the stories of business owners who have dared to succeed, evolve and innovate. An excellent example at the turn of the 20th century is Hong Wo General Store owner Ling Chung Lam. He created a checklist for customers so they would not forget any necessities when heading out to sea. He also ensured that his business was easily accessible from both land and the Fraser River, so fishermen and landlubbers alike could conveniently purchase their supplies at his store.

Key artefacts were employed to inspire curiosity and promote inquiry. Museum visitors proved especially enthusiastic when exploring a Mad Men-style office from the 1950s and a powder-blue, mid-century dental chair owned by twin brother dentists who owned a practice on Gilbert Road.

The Museum worked with many community members, including Jada Bal, a nine year old who designs greeting cards and then donates half of her profits to the Children's Hospital. Other exhibition participants were just as remarkable. Young innovators Tony Yu and Mikaella Go had literally braved the Dragon's Den on CBC television with their new Nanotips product, which can be added to the fingertips of smartphone users' gloves, allowing them to use their equipment in freezing temperatures. Beekeeper Brian Campbell made a vital contribution to our community's environment, ensuring that healthy bees are here to pollinate our food crops.

The Discovery Area featured hands-on fun for our younger visitors with activities ranging from playing in an old-time general store to a huge Boom and Bust game modelled after Snakes and Ladders. Other visitors used vintage typewriters to leave their thoughts about current issues.



The powder-blue dental chair in the Open for Business exhibition brought back memories for many visitors.
Photo credit: Lance Blomgren

Outreach Exhibits

Spring Break Camp Exhibit: Richmond Cultural Centre

March 17, 2016–August 23, 2016

Spring Break Camp Exhibit: City Hall

March 24, 2016–August 17, 2016

Vic Sharman— Community Motormen: Steveston Interurban Tram Building

April 8, 2016–September 15, 2016

Ages of Accessories: Steveston Museum

May 19, 2016–December 3, 2016

Leave Your Mark: City Hall

August 17, 2016–December 5, 2016

Scouts: Richmond Cultural Centre

August 23, 2016–2017

Remembrance Day: City Hall

November 8, 2016–November 16, 2016

Mayor's Gifts: City Hall

November 16, 2016–2017

End of the Interurbans: Steveston Interurban Tram Building

October 24, 2016–2017

Baking Memories: Steveston Museum

December 3, 2015–September 30, 2016

Leave Your Mark—Wang Duo: Calligrapher for the Ages: City Hall

December 6, 2016–2017



An outreach exhibit about the Richmond Scouts was installed in the Richmond Cultural Centre.

Educational Programming

School Programs

The Museum offered exciting and popular curriculum-based field trips and education kits that encouraged students to explore local history while developing inquiry skills. The Museum also hosted the annual Richmond Regional Heritage Fair and offers free school tours of its exhibitions. In 2016, 2,499 students engaged in these programs.

The Museum lead a collaborative effort to promote learning resources offered across Richmond's museums and heritage sites. At an annual professional development workshop for teachers, the Museum partnered with London Heritage Farm to feature programs and learning tools that tell Richmond's diverse stories of community-building.



Teachers discover new ways to teach local history at the annual Professional Development Workshop coordinated by the Richmond Museum and hosted by a different Richmond museum or heritage site each year.



Students from Quilchena Elementary School use stop-motion animation to explore the history of transportation in Richmond and the historical significance of the Steveston Interurban Tram.

Children's Programs

Children and youth had fun at the Museum during Spring Break and summer vacation. Participants engaged with local history and museology through interactive activities and field trips. A creative group of students curated an exhibit, learning how to handle and care for artefacts.



Children slipped on white gloves to curate an exhibit for public display at Richmond City Hall during the Richmond Museum's Junior Curators Spring Break Camp.



Children deciphered clues about a mystery from Richmond's past during the Richmond Museum's Time Travel Detectives Daycamp—a fun-filled way to learn about local history and explore Richmond's heritage.

Volunteers

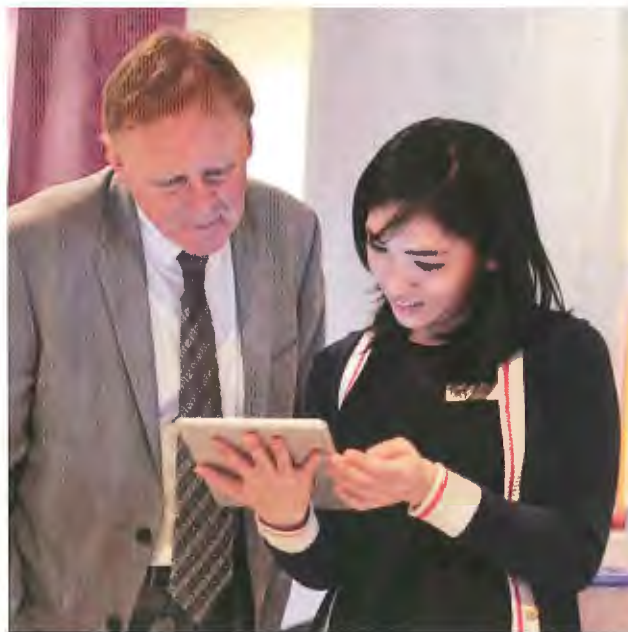
The Museum is thankful for its team of enthusiastic volunteers who generously offered their time to help with exhibit installation, programs and special events. In 2016, 106 volunteers contributed 2,747 hours.



Richmond Museum volunteer Emily Friesen helps catalogue artefacts during the installation of the Leave Your Mark exhibition.

Arts Internship Program

The Richmond Museum partnered with UBC Faculty of Arts to offer two internship positions, Curatorial Assistant and Museum Assistant, for post-secondary students interested in pursuing a career in museums or related fields. In return, interns had exceptional opportunities to work directly with artefacts in a community museum collection and alongside museum, cultural and education professionals. This was invaluable experience for those wishing to build relationships and pursue a career in the museum or heritage sector.



Museum Assistant Intern Sheryl Lim demonstrates interactive features of the Richmond Museum website during the Richmond Museum's Website Launch in March 2016.

Community Field Experience

The Museum partnered with the UBC Faculty of Education to offer Community Field Experience placements, which provide teacher candidates with the opportunity to participate in educational settings in alternative contexts. Teacher candidates had the opportunity to expand their concept of potential learning sites and educational community connections. In 2016, the Museum hosted two elementary and two secondary teacher candidates.

Public Programming

Web Launch

March 10, 2016

Two online web platforms were launched to offer new ways of engaging with the Richmond Museum. The online collection offers searchable access to over 2,000 of the 20,000 artefacts in the City of Richmond collection, while the Richmond Museum Society website offers quick and easy access to essential information about Museum exhibitions, collections, school programs and special events.



Visitors were given hands-on demonstrations of both the collections database and the new Richmond Museum website.

Eating Across Richmond

July 9, 2016

Participants discovered the city's rich history through stories about food on a bus tour through Ling Yen Mountain Temple, Britannia Shipyards, Gulf of Georgia Cannery and the Golden Village. This exclusive post-conference tour was offered to International Society for the Study of Chinese Overseas (ISSCO) Conference attendees in July 2016.



The Eating Across Richmond tour ended with a sample of roast pork from the legendary Parker Place Meat & BBQ, where Program Facilitator Dominique Bautista shared the intriguing, and at times controversial, history behind Chinese BBQ meats in British Columbia.

Artist in Residence—Artefacts and Watercolours

June 2016

The Richmond Museum worked with artist-in-residence, Rhonda Wepler, to deliver a program that combined watercolour painting with artefacts from Richmond's past. Community members selected an artefact that they wanted to paint from the City's collection. These paintings were later displayed in the Richmond Cultural Centre.



A community member chose a toy bug from the City of Richmond Artefact Collection to paint.

Photo Credit: Rhonda Wepler

Culture Days: Curious About Curators

September 25, 2016

The City's curatorial collections staff showed visitors the art and science of cataloguing and caring for artefacts.



Assistant Curator Camille Owens carefully examines and catalogues a meccano set.

Antique Identification Program

November 6, 2016

Ever wonder where your antique heirlooms or vintage treasures come from and what they are worth? The Museum offered an opportunity for community members to ask experts about their treasures. Visitors brought in a variety of objects including ceramics, art and household objects.



Appraiser, Jane Harris examines a beer stein.



Community members show their family treasures.

Map the City

November 15, 2016

This program explored Richmond's changing landscape with the goal of identifying our community's best-loved landmarks—and how they have changed over time.

Exhibition Tours

Tours of current exhibitions were provided for ESL learners and new Canadians.

Collections Management

New Acquisitions

In 2016, the Richmond Museum accepted 140 artefacts, which were added to the Olympic Collection and 554 artefacts, which were added to the permanent collection.

Artefacts new to the Permanent Collection and Olympic Collection included Lulu Island Motors business cards, BC Electric car and bus passes from the 1940s, a series of Calgary '88 Olympic prints, a camp blanket and uniforms that span the history of the Girl Guides in Richmond, horse racing gear from a local family who raced horses at Lansdowne Track and mid-century modern furniture from a Richmond home.

Donations increased in 2016 as many residents in the community are downsizing their houses and have become aware of the need to preserve the City's history.



Calgary Winter Olympics Print, 1988



Lulu Island Motors business card from the 1940s

City-Wide Artefact Collections Committee

City-owned museums and heritage sites—Britannia Heritage Shipyard Society, London Heritage Farm Society, Richmond Museum Society and Steveston Historical Society—meet every two months to coordinate the management of the City's artefact collections. The Gulf of Georgia Cannery's Collection's Manager also participates in these meetings.

In 2016, the Committee focused on discussions about de-accessioning, and the role of collection reviews and rationalizations in community museums and heritage sites.

The Committee organized a best practice trip to Burnaby Village Museum to learn how other cities and groups manage their artefacts, and what successes and challenges they faced during collection reviews.



Members of the Collections Committee learn about best practices in collections care and management at Burnaby Village Museum.

Artefact Storage Warehouse Tours

Tours of the City's primary artefact storage warehouse on River Road were offered during 2016. These tours gave community members and Spring Break and Summer Camp participants access to the City's material culture and opportunities to learn about how the City cares for and manages its artefact collection.

Publications

Mouth of the Fraser

The biannual *Mouth of the Fraser* communicates a broad range of heritage stories to the community. Contributors write stories about a diverse set of heritage-related topics, events and happenings from tram restoration to oral history programs.

The Museum currently prints 300 copies of the newsletter and has made strides to go green by offering subscribers the option to switch to a digital version of the newsletter. The newsletter is also available online.

Oral Histories

The Richmond Museum continues to document the history of our community through oral history interviews. Seven oral histories were conducted with a diverse group of individuals in 2016. The Richmond Museum will use excerpts in educational and interpretive programs and projects, from formal school programs to informal workshops and day camps, and from exhibitions to online interpretation.

History of Richmond Video Project

The Richmond Museum is working to update a 1994 documentary film, *Richmond: A Connection from the Past, Window to the Future*. As part of this project, the history of Richmond will be told in a series of short videos that can be used in the Museum's programming, online and in exhibitions. When the multi-year project is complete, users will be able to watch a series of short video clips about their city's history. The Museum's goal is to complement temporary exhibits in the gallery and inspire a wider audience to learn more about our community and its history.

Mouth of the Fraser
FALL 2016 | Published by the Richmond Heritage Commission and the Richmond Museum

LEAVE YOUR MARK
Legacies for the Future

~ The Richmond Museum's Leave Your Mark exhibition opened June 23, 2016.

LEAVE YOUR MARK

Sheila Hill
Do you have plans to leave a legacy for the future? What will your legacy be?

The Richmond Museum's new exhibition, *Leave Your Mark*, reveals the wonderful, and sometimes unusual, objects people have left for posterity from family portraits to letters, teacups and diaries, and even an egg painted with the City of Richmond's coat of arms.

Some of the most profound legacies are timeless. In the 1990s, Richmond residents banded together to protest the development of the Terra Nova area. The result of this activism was the creation of Terra Nova Rural Park, a 63-acre nature area that includes heritage buildings, a community garden, a demonstration garden, and an excellent habitat for birds and other wildlife.

Thanks to visionary leaders and dedicated volunteers, our city also has an extraordinary collection of artefacts and cultural heritage sites, ranging from Britannia Shipyards National Historic Site to London Heritage Farm and Branscombe House.

Museum donors have contributed by leaving their legacies to us when they donate Richmond-related objects to the City's collection. These vary from *Richmond Review* printing plates to World War I medals, and from a horse-hoof ink well to hand-stitched quilts and Valentine's Day cards. Over time, evolving technologies have provided a larger range of choices about what we leave – shifting from calligraphy brushes to computers, and from player pianos to iPhones.

Take a few moments to visit the exhibit and add your favourite landmark to the map of Richmond, scrawl your mark on the graffiti wall or post a self-portrait on social media, using the Museum's hashtag #LeaveYourMarkRM. We look forward to seeing you *Leave Your Mark* at the Richmond Museum.

~ A young visitor makes her mark in the Richmond Museum by sharing the legacy she plans to leave.

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Mouth of the Fraser

Steveston Interurban Tram Building

The Steveston Interurban Tram Building celebrated its third full year in operation. More than 34,000 people visited Interurban Tramcar 1220 in 2016. To date, almost 150,000 people have visited since its opening in May 2013.



The Interurban Tram building

Public Programming

Doors Open Richmond

The Interurban Tram was one of the most popular sites during the Doors Open Richmond weekend. Almost 1,000 visitors explored Tramcar 1220, enjoying crafts and discussing the Tramcar's restoration with an expert.



Youngsters and volunteers enjoy creating conductor hats at the Interurban Tram during Doors Open.

Photo Credit: Grant McMillan

Canada Day

The Interurban Tram is near the centre of Steveston's famous Canada Day Salmon Festival. The Tram building welcomed 2,288 visitors on July 1; many participated in crafts and rail history provided by staff and volunteers.

All Aboard!

The third annual All Aboard! event on August 6 celebrated transportation in Richmond, past and present. Entertainment for a record 1,588 visitors included live music, vendors and vehicles. Vendors included the HUB cycling network, which provided information about different ways to travel around Richmond and the RCMP who offered free bike registration. The Fraser Valley Heritage Railway Society offered photo opportunities on a rail speeder (a small vehicle to inspect rail lines) and the Transit Museum parked a 1950s vintage bus nearby for visitors to climb aboard and enjoy a nostalgic journey back to the past.



Visitors to All Aboard! climb on the Speeder, a small rail vehicle once used to inspect rail lines.

Teddy Bears Picnic

The third annual Teddy Bears Picnic proved wildly popular with over 1,000 children, adults and their teddy bears converging on Steveston Park and the Interurban Tram Building on August 20. Staff and volunteers from the Tram and Steveston Community Centre offered a variety of teddy bear-related activities from games, crafts and face painting to fortune telling, first aid and best friend certificates. Jack and Rusty, a father and son clown team, were a huge hit with their balloon animals. Local shops donated prizes for a free raffle and the day ended with a long parade of children and their teddy bears around Steveston Park.

Culture Days

Cold, rainy weather resulted in lower than expected Culture Days attendance at the Interurban Tram. The 59 visitors who braved inclement conditions on Sunday, October 1 enjoyed special tours and activities offered by staff and three volunteers.



Culture Days visitors had a hands-on opportunity to explore Tram-related objects.

Winter Tram

Due to restoration work, the popular annual holiday tradition of the Winter Tram was on hiatus for 2016. It will be back in full force in December 2017.

Volunteers

The Interurban Tram's special events could not take place without the hard work of volunteers. In 2016, 34 volunteers greatly contributed in making the Tram's events a success by donating a total of 166 hours of their time.

School Programming

During 2016, all school programs at the Interurban Tram were suspended to accommodate restoration work. Staff plan to offer school programs again starting January 2018.

Interurban Tram Conservation and Restoration

Restoration of the Tram Car began in 2016 with professional industrial movers lifting the Tram Car to relocate the trucks (undercarriages) to each end of the Tram Building. The bottom of the car and trucks were then carefully cleaned, and hazardous materials (lead paint and asbestos) were removed. An assessment of the truck parts was also completed, and replacement parts were acquired or built. The trucks were then painted.

While work on the trucks took place, the Restoration Team in partnership with City electricians and carpenters, created a plan to remove the interior ceiling of the car and restore the electrical system which enabled the interior lights, headlight and destination rolls to light up.

This restoration work will be followed by exterior restoration of the roof, car body and interior finishes. The restoration process will be guided by conservation procedures to ensure that character-defining elements of the Tram Car are preserved.



Pro-Tech Industrial Movers slowly lifted the car.



The trucks were painted with marine quality paint to ensure that they do not rust or deteriorate.



A new wooden plate was installed to balance the car when it is moved back into the trucks.

Steveston Museum

Nikkei Stories of Steveston

The *Nikkei Stories of Steveston* project was launched in 2016. This project brings to life the experiences of Steveston's Japanese Canadians through online videos, interpretive street signs, a walking tour brochure and the City of Richmond's App. Telling these stories ensures that history of Steveston's Japanese Canadians lives on, including their vital role in the fishing industry and the story of their internment.

The *Nikkei Stories of Steveston* were formally launched in February 2016. Ten short videos tell the stories of the people, places and events relevant to the social, economic and cultural life of the Japanese Canadian community in Steveston. Each video combines poignant storytelling with rarely seen archival photographs. These videos, the *Nikkei Stories of Steveston* videos are also available online at <http://nikkeistories.com/#videos>.

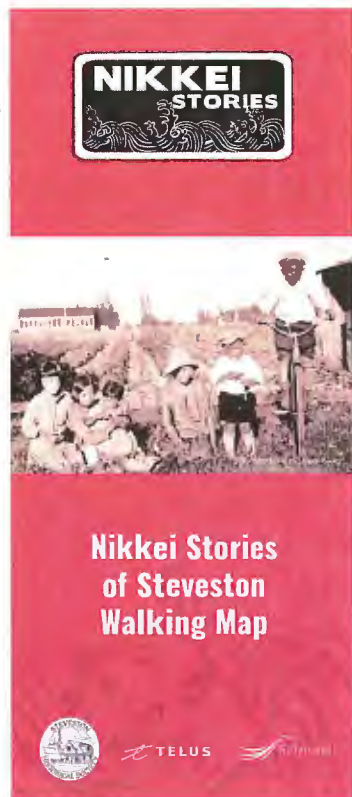
In February 2016, ten interpretive signs were installed on the streets of Steveston, showing where important stories in Japanese Canadian history took place. Each sign provides a link to the Internet for smartphone users, directing them to a video about that specific story.

These stories were also brought to life on the City of Richmond's App, with ten sites each of which includes a link to the videos and additional historical information about the story and the site.

A self-guided walking tour brochure was also developed to provide additional information for visitors.

The *Nikkei Stories of Steveston* was produced by Orbit Films Inc., a Vancouver-based film and new media production company under the guidance of the Steveston Historical Society.

The *Nikkei Stories* received a Heritage Education and Awareness Honour Award from Heritage BC.



This Nikkei Stories Walking Tour Brochure allows visitors to take a "guided" tour of the Japanese Canadian story in Steveston.



This Nikkei Stories of Steveston sign and nine others can now be seen on Steveston's streets.

Public Programming

Town Square Park Opening

After more than a year of planning and upgrades by the Parks Department, Town Square Park adjacent to the Steveston Museum was opened on October 30. The Park has both English and Japanese-inspired elements, including a *suikinkutsu* water feature that produces a beautifully resonant sound. Mayor Malcolm Brodie presided over the opening, which was attended by dignitaries from Wakayama Prefecture. A cherry tree was planted in the park by the Mayor and members of the Japanese delegation.

Despite the Town Square Park being upgraded for the first half of 2016, a number of special events still took place in and around the Museum and Park.



Mayor Malcolm Brodie welcomes dignitaries and guests to the opening of Town Square Park.



Illuminated by festive lights, Town Square Park glittered in the winter snowfall.

Doors Open Richmond 2016

Beneath sunny skies on June 4 and 5, 14 volunteers and staff welcomed 506 visitors to the Steveston Museum and Town Square Park. Visitors enjoyed Japanese crafts and took home a small biodegradable plant pot with a marigold seed to plant in their gardens.



Visitors during Doors Open explore one of the Museum's exhibitions.

Photo Credit: Tharaka Mapalagama

Canada Day

Steveston Museum's Canada Day festivities proved very popular during the Steveston Salmon Festival parade. Hundreds of Canadian flag tattoos were applied to the willing arms, legs and even faces of 802 visitors to Town Square Park. Over 100 Japanese-style fish prints were produced by people seeking a fun and creative activity in the shade of the Museum's newly upgraded park.

Culture Days

A record 44 visitors turned up for the guided historical tours of Steveston Village offered for free on September 30 and October 1. Participants were the first to experience the Steveston Museum's updated *Murder, Mayhem and Morality in Old Steveston*, and *Steveston Stories* tours.

The Steveston Museum also delivered walking tour programs to 75 students during the year, plus provided two information-filled walking tours to 32 adults.



*Visitors begin their exploration of Steveston during a Culture Days *Murder, Mayhem and Morality* walking tour.*

2016 Heritage Update

Colouring Competitions

In 2016, the Steveston Museum partnered with the Splash Toy Shop and the Candy Dish to present three colouring competitions. These competitions attracted 135 vibrant entries from children aged one to 13.

Volunteers

Steveston Museum's special events were successful thanks in a large part to 20 dedicated volunteers who contributed 247 hours in 2016.

Educational Programming

The Museum unveiled a new school program, The Nikkei Return, aimed at Grades 4 to 6. Designed to meet the history inquiry learning outcomes of the new BC school curriculum, this new program explores the real life experiences of local Steveston Japanese Canadian residents during and after internment. Three pilot program classes provided invaluable feedback and the program had its first booking in November.



Students investigate historical text and objects in the Nikkei Return school program.



A kaleidoscope of colourful drawings was entered in the spring colouring contest.

Olympic Experience at the Richmond Olympic Oval

The Olympic Experience (ROX), located at the Richmond Olympic Oval, completed its first full year of operations. The ROX is an inspirational and highly interactive experience with an impressive and vast display of Olympic, Paralympic and sport exhibits and artefacts. Exhibits showcase Richmond's Olympic journey and contribution to making the 2010 Olympic Winter Games successful, rekindle memories of the 2010 Games, celebrate Olympism and the Olympic and Movement by looking back over the 120 years of the Modern Olympic Games and highlight the rich sporting history of Richmond.

The ROX attracted over 19,000 visitors in 2016, which exceeded business plan projections, and 105 volunteers contributed over 10,100 hours of service.

Exhibit highlights include a set of Olympic Torches dating back to 1936, a collection of Olympic medals which include a rare wrestling medal from the 1924 Paris Games, a collection of Olympic sporting equipment through the ages, a collection of artefacts from the 2010 Games Opening Ceremonies and celebrations, and numerous other Olympic, Paralympic and sport artefacts that each tell a unique story.

Richmond Sports Wall of Fame

In November 2016, a special celebration took place to induct the newest members of the Richmond Sports Wall of Fame located at the Richmond Olympic Oval. Each inductee had a significant Richmond contribution or achievement in sport. Added members included inductees to the following categories: (3) Pioneer category; (6) Builder category; (2) Special Achievement category; (3) Athlete category; (2) Masters Athlete category; and (1) Team category.

History of Sport in Richmond

A History of Sport in Richmond exhibit highlighting Richmond's rich sporting history includes artefacts from the City of Richmond Collection and others borrowed from members of the community. The exhibit focusses on some of the sports that helped shape Richmond's development.



Young visitors enjoy the Evolution of Equipment exhibit.

City of Richmond Archives – City Clerk’s Office

The City of Richmond Archives is the official repository for the records of the City of Richmond’s municipal government. The Archives also acquires records through donation from individuals, families, organizations and private companies.

Users of the Archives

There were 1,748 reference requests and visitors to the Archives in 2016. Approximately 30% of research requests originated from City staff. The remainder represented a wide variety of research interests and needs, including local businesses, community groups, environmental and property researchers, public artists, writers, filmmakers, university and high school students, and family historians.



Richmond Museum Spring Break Camp participants visit the Archives, March 16, 2016.

Holdings of the Archives

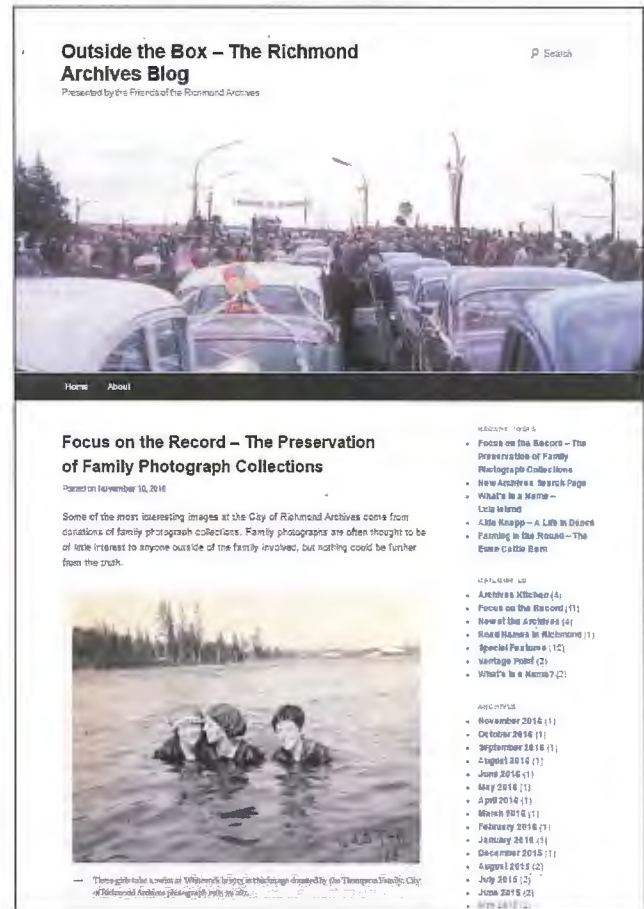
The Archives’ holdings include approximately one kilometre of textual records, 170,000 photographs, 20,000 maps and plans and over 500 sound and moving image recordings. In 2016 the Archives acquired 47 new donations of records from City departments, individuals, companies and community organizations.



Unidentified men having a picnic.
Photo Credit: City of Richmond Archives, accession # 2016 22, Okano family fonds, acquired in 2016.

Social Media Program

The Archives’ social media channels on Facebook, YouTube, Historypin and the Blog *Outside the Box* garnered over 20,000 views in 2016. The Archives’ web pages and online search system on the City of Richmond website also had a large number of users.



Friends of the Richmond Archives blog “Outside the Box.”

Special Projects and Programs in 2016

- Digitization program: over 5,000 images scanned
- Completion of the Database and Web Search Upgrade
- Began the Records Legacy Bylaws Disbinding Conservation Project
- Educational programs: 10 group visits (204 participants)
- Volunteer program with over 2,057 hours of service provided



Contractor Caitlin Lindsay works on the Records Legacy Bylaws Disbinding Conservation Project, January 11, 2017.

The Friends of the Richmond Archives

The Friends of the Richmond Archives is a non-profit society established to promote and support the activities of the City of Richmond Archives. At the end of 2016, the Society had 275 members. During the year, the Friends provided funding and volunteers for projects and programs at the Archives, organized the annual Archives Tea, and carried out a Community Exhibit program. They participated in various community events, including the Steveston Salmon Festival and the Remembrance Day reception at City Hall.



Friends of the Richmond Archives President Barbara Williams is shown with Gilmore Elementary School student Graham Jiang at the Remembrance Day exhibit at City Hall reception.

Heritage Program – Policy Planning Department

Heritage Program – Policy Planning and Development Applications

The Heritage Program in the Policy Planning Department (PPD) is responsible for heritage policy in the *Official Community Plan* and neighbourhood plans, as well as processing applications within Steveston Village Heritage Conservation Area (HCA) including exterior changes to heritage properties and new development.

Council approved several rezoning applications in Steveston Village in 2016, including two relatively large residential commercial mixed-use infill developments on the former “Rod’s Building Supplies” site and the properties to the east of the 1890s Methodist/United Church.

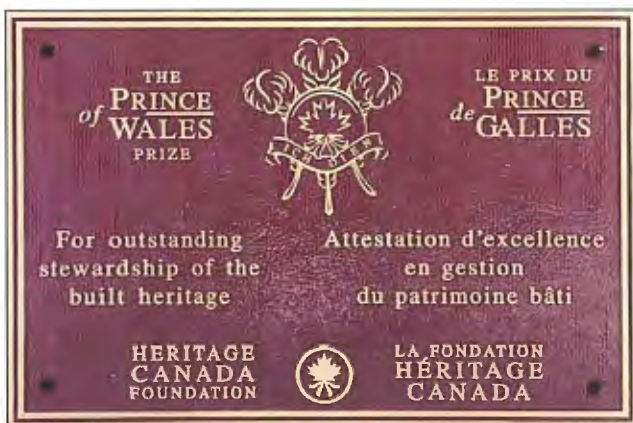
Policy Planning is reviewing heritage- and design-related policies and guidelines in the Steveston Area Plan to make improvements in response to community comments, and PPD is continuing to collaborate with cultural planning on the *Steveston Public Art Plan*.

The heritage planner was honoured to attend the National Trust for Canada conference in Hamilton, Ontario, in October, including the awards gala, where the City was awarded the prestigious Prince of Wales Prize for Municipal Leadership in Heritage Conservation. At the conference, staff co-led the National Forum on Heritage Planning and gave a presentation on Burkeville as a cultural landscape in a session on “Historic Districts.”

Richmond Heritage Commission

Policy Planning is the department that provides a staff liaison, the heritage planner, to the Richmond Heritage Commission. The Heritage Commission is an official advisory committee to Council with the mandate to provide advice on heritage-related matters, including plans, policies, and applications. Also the Commission provides leadership for the annual Richmond Heritage Awards, and partners with and supports community groups and non-profit societies, such as the Richmond Museum Society, Heritage Fairs and Doors Open.

In 2016 the Commission was pleased to present two awards. Christine Wong, a teacher, was recognized for her long-standing volunteer commitment to Heritage Fairs and Orbit Films for *Nikkei Stories* was recognized for a documentary series which includes ten short films on Japanese Canadians in Steveston. The Heritage Commission also sponsored the Richmond Regional Heritage Fair and Doors Open, and, for the first time, had a booth at the opening night of Doors Open. Finally, RHC continues to contribute to each issue of the *Mouth of the Fraser* newsletter.



The City of Richmond was awarded the Prince of Wales Prize for Municipal Heritage Leadership in 2016.

Heritage in Parks

Richmond is home to more than 120 parks with a wide variety of unique settings that celebrate the City's rich natural and cultural heritage. As Richmond continues to grow and become an increasingly urban community, the preservation of our agricultural, maritime and natural history in parks becomes increasingly important.

Ships to Shore is a signature annual event that celebrates our maritime history. In 2016, this annual three-day event attracted an estimated 45,000 visitors to the shores of Imperial Landing.

Sixteen boats were at the docks of Imperial Landing and Britannia Shipyards including the *Adventuress*, the *Thane*, the Royal Canadian Navy, the *Oriole* and the *Martha*, to name a few. A water shuttle transported visitors to and from Britannia Shipyards National Historic Site and Imperial Landing where kayak, rowing and dragon boat demonstrations took place. A dock side area highlighted wooden boats and a fi reworks sail also proved very popular. The entire boardwalk was animated with entertainment including a Chalk the Boardwalk, main stage performances, food trucks, Speaker Series, Children's Cove activity area and a community booth area, which provided a lively connection between the Salmon Festival grounds, Imperial Landing and the Village.

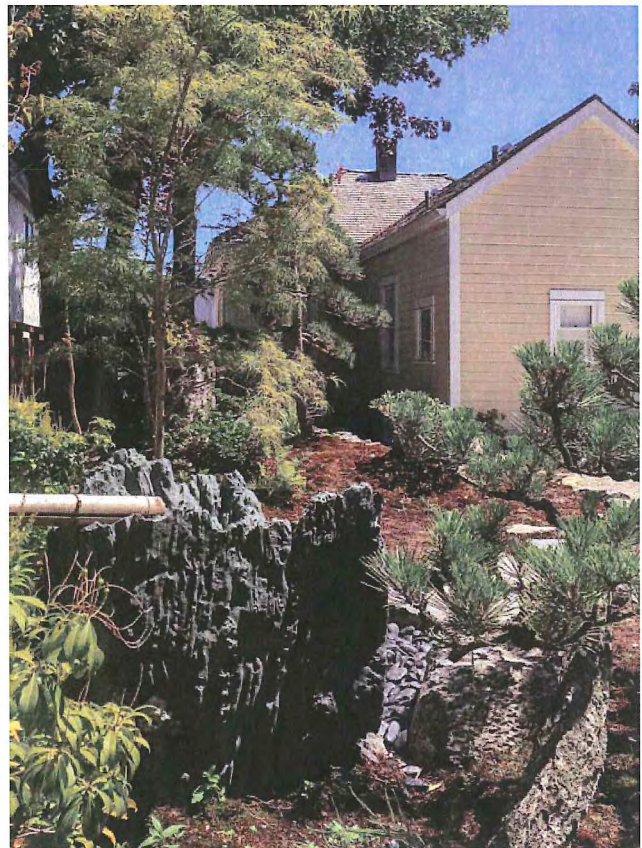
Community partners included the Steveston Community Society, Britannia Heritage Shipyard Society, Dragon Boat BC and the Steveston Harbour Authority.

Steveston Town Square Park

The newly renovated Steveston Town Square Park, located in the heart of Steveston Village at First Avenue and Moncton Street, opened to the public in May 2016 and has already become a well-used outdoor gathering space for local residents and visitors.

Redevelopment of the park was initiated by the desire to tie together the existing Steveston Museum, which operates out of the converted Northern Bank building, with its new addition, the recently relocated Japanese Fishermen's Benevolent Society Building. With the co-location of these important heritage buildings, there was also an opportunity to provide outdoor programming space in the Town Square. The redesigned park includes a series of adaptable spaces that can accommodate year-round activities and events such as school field trips, a scenic location for taking wedding photos and community gatherings.

Perhaps the most striking feature of the Town Square is the *suikinkutsu*, made from a stone basin sourced from Wakayama City, Richmond's sister city in Japan and the home of Steveston's first Japanese settlers. This feature can be found in the secluded north edge of the park. The *suikinkutsu*, a Japanese-style feature that amplifies the sound of water drops falling on it, speaks to the sacred nature of a secluded garden corner and provides a punctuation point for this quiet contemplative spot in the square garden.



The suikinkutsu stone basin in the new Town Square in Steveston was sourced from Wakayama City.

Gulf of Georgia Cannery National Historic Site

Owned by Parks Canada and operated by the Gulf of Georgia Cannery Society, the Gulf of Georgia Cannery National Historic Site is a highlight attraction in Steveston that provides a rich interpretation of Canada's West Coast fishing industry.

The Cannery had another great year in 2016, with over 55,000 visitors attending. Included among these visitors are community groups and schools that wish to learn more about West Coast fishing. In 2016, the Cannery broke its own record with 325 groups from around the Lower Mainland attending. Of these groups, 68 schools and organizations came from Richmond. Elementary schools make up the largest portion with programs about the multicultural aspect of BC's fishing and First Nations fishing methods being among the most popular. The Cannery also offers programming for pre-schools, girl guides, seniors groups and English learner classes.

In 2016, the Society produced the feature exhibit *Women on the Homefront: Women's Contributions During WWII*. On display until Spring 2017, this exhibit highlights the contributions of the women of Canada who harvested crops, kept factories running, looked after the children, and raised money for the war. Using newspaper articles, propaganda posters and magazine advertisements,

Women on the Homefront specially examines women's roles at the Gulf of Georgia Cannery and the creative ways local women saved resources for the war effort inside their homes.

In addition to producing programming and exhibits, the Society maintains a large collection of fishing-related artefacts and archival materials. In 2016, this collection got a boost when the Society renewed its efforts to actively collect stories from people who played a role in BC's industry. With support from the Government of Canada's New Horizons for Seniors Program, the Society trained a team of volunteer interviewers to speak to seniors who fished commercially, worked in a cannery, or otherwise played a role in the fishing industry. These interviews will be digitally recorded and made available to the public through a new online database in Spring 2017. This project is the start of an ongoing oral history collection with interviews added to the online database regularly going forward.

The Gulf of Georgia Cannery National Historic Site is open every day from 10 am to 5 pm throughout the year. For more information on events and activities, visit www.gulfofgeorgiacannery.org or call 604-664-9009.



Children learn about the locations of BC's canneries in the Fishy Business program.
Photo Credit: Sandra Steie

Statistics

Attendance

Signature Events

Doors Open Richmond

- 12,840 site visits

Maritime Festival

- 40,000 site visits

World Festival

- 35,000 site visits

Facilities

Britannia Shipyards National Historic Site

- 124,500 total visitation for 2016 (62,200 for programs and 62,300 for signature events: 1,000 Doors Open, 20,000 Ships to Shore, 40,000 Richmond Maritime Festival and 1,300 Culture Days)

London Heritage Farm

- 8,778 visitors

Richmond Museum

- 34,633 visitors

Steveston Interurban Tram Building

- 5,942 visitors

Steveston Museum and Tourism Richmond's Visitor Centre

- 37,307 visitors

Volunteers

Signature Events

Doors Open Richmond

- 172 volunteers contributed 995 volunteer hours

Maritime Festival

- 128 volunteers contributed 1,359 hours

Richmond World Festival

- 118 volunteers contributed 1,106.5 volunteer hours

Facilities

Britannia Shipyards National Historic Site

- 7,853 hours were logged during special events, programs and regular operational hours

London Heritage Farm

- 75 volunteers contributed 750 volunteer hours

Richmond Museum

- 106 volunteers and interns contributed 2,747 hours

Steveston Interurban Tram Building

- 34 volunteers contributed 166 volunteer hours

Steveston Museum

- 20 volunteers contributed 247 volunteer hours

Weddings/Special Occasion Rentals

Britannia Shipyards National Historic Site

- 114 total rentals (12 weddings, 5 celebrations of life, 2 fundraisers, 2 birthdays, 93 meetings)

London Heritage Farm

- 13 weddings, 33 special occasion rentals, 50 film shoots

Minoru Chapel

- 58 weddings, 8 special occasion rentals



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