



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services
Committee

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

Re: Richmond Heritage Update 2014

Date: May 7, 2015

File: 11-7141-01/2015-Vol
01

Staff Recommendation

That the Richmond Heritage Update 2014 as presented in the staff report titled "Richmond Heritage Update 2014" from the Director, Arts, Culture and Heritage dated May 7, 2015 be received for information.

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

Att. 1

REPORT CONCURRENCE			
ROUTED TO:	CONCURRENCE	CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER	
City Clerk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Parks Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Policy Planning	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
REVIEWED BY STAFF REPORT/AGENDA REVIEW SUB-COMMITTEE	INITIALS:	APPROVED BY CAO	INITIALS:

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 directs Richmond's development and integration of its museum and heritage policies and services.

This report presents the Richmond 2014 Heritage Update (Attachment 1) which highlights the many achievements in Heritage over the past year.

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 2014 Heritage Update 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.

Financial Impact

There is no financial impact to this report.

Conclusion

The Richmond Heritage Update highlights the activities and achievements of the City, stakeholders and community partners for 2014. It also demonstrates the vital contribution Museums and Heritage make to the livability of our community.



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

Att.1: City of Richmond Heritage Update 2014

City of Richmond

HERITAGE UPDATE 2014

Arts, Culture and Heritage Services



Introduction

Richmond continues to be a city that proudly celebrates its past, present and future.

As described in the 2041 Official Community Plan (OCP), many factors contribute to making Richmond a vibrant, healthy, sustainable and engaged community and the presence of a thriving arts, cultural and heritage sector plays a critical role.

The City owns and operates a number of museums and heritage sites, and supports partner societies that assist in the preservation and presentation of Richmond's vibrant and colourful history. Many other heritage assets within the community are privately-owned or are the responsibility of other levels of government.

Arts, Culture and Heritage Services, the City of Richmond Archives, Parks Services and Policy Planning all share responsibility in the stewardship of the City's heritage resources. 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.

Exhibitions, educational programming, public programming and special events, volunteer opportunities and artefact collections are managed and presented by the City's museum and heritage staff and partners to increase 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 2014.

Table of Contents

3	Introduction
4	Signature Events
8	Branscombe House
9	Britannia Shipyards National Historic Site
14	Cenotaph
15	London Heritage Farm
17	Minoru Chapel
18	Richmond Museum
24	Steveston Interurban Tram Building
27	Steveston Museum and Visitor Centre and Japanese Fishermen's Benevolent Society Building
30	City of Richmond Archives – City Clerk's Office
32	Richmond Heritage Commission – Policy Planning Department
34	Heritage in Parks
35	Gulf of Georgia Cannery National Historic Site
36	Statistics

Signature Events

Doors Open Richmond 2014

The seventh annual Doors Open Richmond, one of the largest celebrations of heritage, arts and culture in Metro Vancouver, was held between June 6 and 8. On the evening of June 6, Mayor Malcolm Brodie opened the event at London Heritage Farm where 326 visitors enjoyed free food, crafts and entertainment as they explored the beautiful grounds of this historic Richmond landmark.

Over the Doors Open weekend, 42 sites saw a combined total of 16,658 visits. 49 organizations offered free special events and behind-the-scenes access, showcasing Richmond's diverse heritage, arts and culture and the natural beauty of its parks. Participants were given the opportunity to explore National Historic Sites, museums and privately owned heritage homes through to places of worship and artist studios. Visitor surveys were conducted with 36% of visitors rating the event as good and 63% rating it as excellent.

The 2014 event saw a number of sites participate for the first time, including Kwantlen Polytechnic University, Baba's Beeswax Pysanky Studio, Branscombe House and Vancouver International Airport.

Doors Open Richmond 2014 was made possible by a partnership between the Richmond Museum Society and the City of Richmond, the generous support of many sponsors and the hard work of 299 volunteers who contributed 1,664 volunteer hours to ensure the success of the event.



London Heritage Farm hosts the opening celebration of Doors Open Richmond.



Scotch Pond
Credit: Sharlene Singh



Richmond Museum
Credit: A. Schwab



Steveston Buddhist Temple
Credit: A. Schwab



Trinity Lutheran Church
Credit: A. Schwab



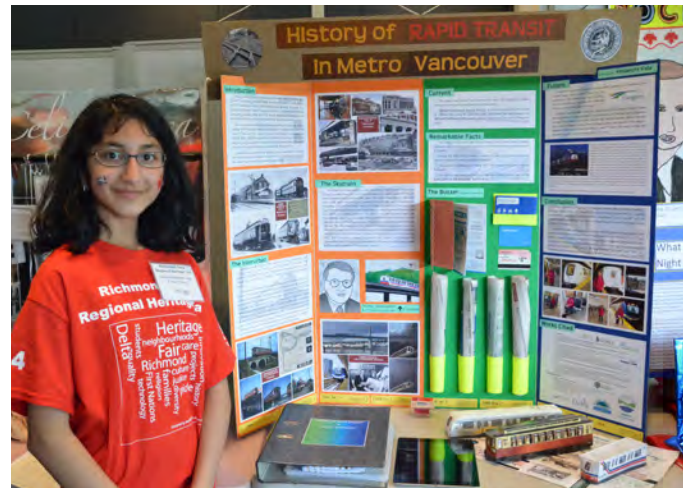
India Cultural Centre
Credit: F. Dominguez

Richmond Delta Regional Heritage Fair

The Richmond Museum continued its partnership with the Delta Museum & Archives Society to present the 12th Annual Heritage Fair with a record number of 100 student project displays created by 128 students.

The biggest highlight was a visit from The Honourable Judith Guichon, Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia, who presented her Historical Literacy Award. The Richmond Delta event was the only Heritage Fair she visited.

The 2014 Heritage Fair featured a unique artefact packaging workshop at the Richmond Museum's artefact collection storage warehouse, as well as numerous crafts, activities and workshops that help make history come alive.



Vedanshi, Grade 7, presents her Heritage Fair project on rapid transit in Metro Vancouver.



Councillors from Richmond and Delta help Honourable Judith Guichon present the Historical Literacy Award.

Maritime Festival 2014

2014 marked the 11th Annual Maritime Festival. Britannia Shipyards was animated once again with over 200 local artisans, artists and performers. Approximately 40,000 visitors attended the festival and participated in such activities like the children's boat building, knitting under a tree or a visit to their favourite mermaid in the Seine Net Loft. Marauding pirates and other maritime creatures were joined this year, by Rikki the Rat, a scabrous shipyard denizen who shared tales of life on the edges of historic Steveston waterfront.

Britannia Shipyard's heritage features included a 190-metre long (600-foot) dock, where a flotilla of beautiful and historic boats and ships were available for viewing and boarding. The ship line-up included the classic wooden sailing ship Providence. Built as a fishing schooner in Denmark in 1903 and later part of the Danish Navy for more than 40 years, the Providence also spent 15 years as a working fishing boat on BC's West Coast. The historic SS Master steam tug, with its beloved and loud, steam-powered ship horn, was also back at the Britannia dock.



Festival goers were greeted by several wonderful characters from the land and sea, walking through the crowds on stilts during the Richmond Maritime Festival.

Credit: Jennifer Strang Photography



Mermaid Oceana shared intriguing mermaid stories from around the world in an intimate setting inside the Seine Net Loft.

Credit: Jennifer Strang Photography



Richmond Maritime Festival 2014 poster designed by contest winner and Steveston artist Hazel Cheng.



Visitors entered the Richmond Maritime Festival through a beautiful and welcoming installation of coloured flags, accompanied by live music and enticing activity areas.

Credit: Jennifer Strang Photography

Branscombe House

The 1906 Edwardian farmhouse at the corner of Railway Avenue and Steveston Highway is once again an icon for the community. In 2014, work on Branscombe House was completed. The house was carefully restored using conservation guidelines that included interior trim and millwork, and the preservation or rehabilitation of as much original material as possible. Interior lath and plaster was preserved and when that was not possible, a finish was applied to mimic a plaster look. New electrical, plumbing and heating completed the rehabilitation of the house. The upstairs has been converted into a two bedroom apartment for a caretaker or artist in residence.

Branscombe House was one of the featured new sites at Doors Open Richmond 2014. Community members, including Branscombe family members and former residents of the house, who have been fascinated by the restoration process, eagerly awaited a chance to see inside the fully restored house. Over 1,200 people visited over the June weekend event.

Future plans for Branscombe House include an artist in residence and community use of the main floor for meetings and/or small events.



Branscombe House During Doors Open Richmond.
Credit: Shelley Niemek

Britannia Shipyards National Historic Site

Exhibitions

Shanghai: A Refuge During the Holocaust Temporary Exhibit

Britannia Shipyards National Historic Site hosted a temporary exhibit from May to August 2014. *Shanghai: A Refuge During the Holocaust* was developed by the Vancouver Holocaust Education Centre, and documents the experience of more than 18,000 Jews who escaped from Nazi-occupied Europe to Shanghai, China between 1938 and 1940. As an open port, Shanghai was one of the very few places that stateless Jews could disembark without passports or visas. As a result, Shanghai became an important, life-saving refuge and resulting complex community for thousands of Jews during the Holocaust. The exhibit was located inside the Chinese Bunkhouse building, and the official exhibit opening ceremony coincided with Yom HaShoah, the day in the Jewish calendar memorializing the Holocaust, and with Asian Heritage Month, where we honour the contributions Asian-Canadians have made to our diverse society.



Several politicians, dignitaries and Holocaust survivors attended the Yom HaShoah ceremony and exhibit opening of *Shanghai: A Refuge During the Holocaust*.

Outreach Exhibits

A temporary outreach exhibit about tall ships and other vessels on the historical Steveston waterfront was installed in the library of Homma Elementary School from March to June 2014. The exhibit aided library programs that encouraged students to create lively short stories focused on history, adventure and travel.



The exhibit explored the story of an important, life-saving refuge in Shanghai, which saved tens of thousands of Jewish refugees that fled Nazi-occupied Europe between 1938 and 1940.

Public Programming

Heritage Week 2014

In February 2014, the public was invited to walk on the floats with a guide to view the boats of Britannia up close. Free activities and hourly tours were offered to families to help celebrate Heritage Week in BC.

Doors Open 2014

Over 1250 people visited Britannia and took part in tours of museum buildings and the launch of two new complementary programs *Ask a Shipwright*, where visitors could ask a professional about boat restoration and maintenance and *Nature on the Waterfront* where visitors could learn about local plants and animals from a naturalist. The docks were open and the public were invited to enjoy a *Royal Canadian Marine Search and Rescue* display and had the opportunity to talk to their volunteers.

Ships to Shore 2014

Ships to Shore Steveston 2014 took place at Imperial Landing and Britannia Shipyards from June 29 to July 1, 2014. Approximately 40,000 visitors attended the festival and fireworks. Britannia visitors were greeted with guided tours, food trucks and boarding of vessels at the docks. The flagship vessel at the dock was the historic Tall Ship, the *Adventuress*. The festival ended with a firework display on July 1 in the Steveston Harbour to celebrate Canada Day and the 125th anniversary of the construction of the Britannia Shipyard building.



Excited visitors boarded large sailing ships and naval vessels on Imperial Landing dock.

Grand Prix of Art 2014

In September 2014, Britannia hosted the 5th Annual Grand Prix of Art, which gathered many local artists in a competition to paint Plein Air pieces throughout Steveston within a time limit of three hours. The artworks were adjudicated and showcased to the public in the Seine Net Loft. The event attracted over 700 visitors to Britannia and new for 2014, was a photo challenge for photographers to capture the spirit of the competition in a digital photo journaling competition.



Under sunny skies, over 200 enthusiastic artists spread out across 38 painting locations from Garry Point Park to Britannia Shipyards.

Culture Days 2014

Over 1,200 visitors to Britannia explored the site's connection to the waterfront and multicultural past through free guided tours and a scavenger hunt celebrating BC Rivers Day. Visitors were treated to a special performance by the Richmond Region Community Band and a presentation about the south arm of the Fraser River by John Horton, a 35 year Search and Lifeboat Commander.

New Initiatives

The Britannia Shipyards National Historic Site Strategic Plan 2014-18 was completed and endorsed by City Council in 2014. This document marks a significant milestone in the history of the site, and coincides with the 125th anniversary of the construction of the original Britannia Cannery. The adoption of the plan will provide a framework for decision-making in years ahead. The strategic plan charts the course for the future development of Britannia as a premier maritime museum under six (6) guiding strategic focus areas:

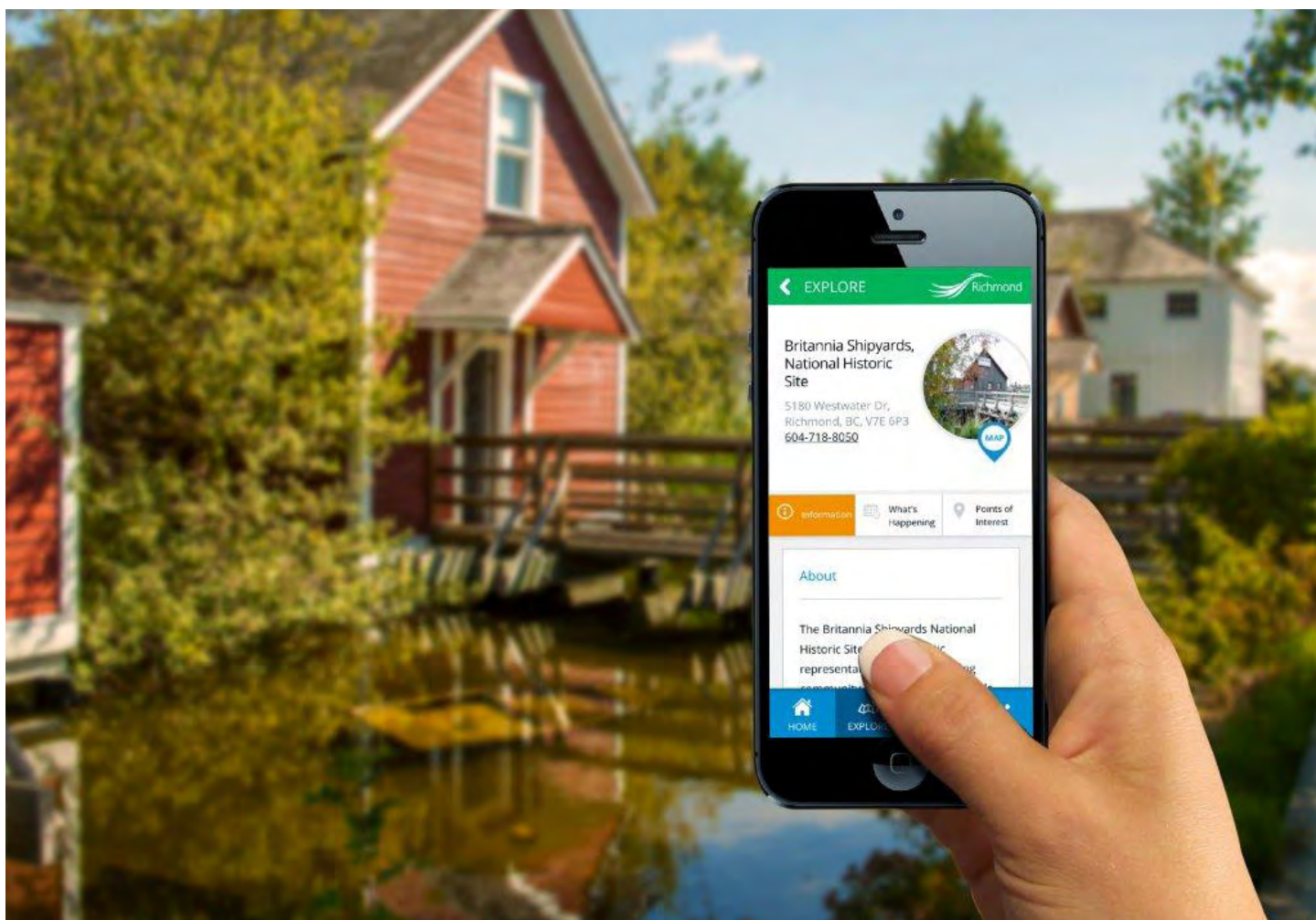
1. Unique spaces
2. Inspirational experiences
3. Relationship-based approach
4. Effective management
5. Outstanding communication
6. Respect for historical integrity and authenticity

iBeacon Project

An innovative new mobile application including wireless iBeacon technology was piloted at the Britannia Shipyards National Historic Site in October 2014. A set of 12 iBeacon transmitters installed inside site buildings enable users to take self-guided tours of Britannia, sending historical information, photos and film directly to a visitor's mobile phone. This revolutionary technology has enabled Britannia to reach out to visitors in a unique way, engage new audiences and act as a personal tour guide even when the site is closed.

Fairmont Promotional Panels

A set of artistic promotional panels showcasing Britannia's key historical themes were designed and hand crafted for installation at the Fairmont Vancouver. These panels were sponsored by the hotel, and were on display during the height of the summer season, May to August, to encourage out of town guests to discover Britannia's beauty and history.



The new hand-held mobile tour technology available at Britannia Shipyards National Historic Site has opened the doors for visitors 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

New Programs

A number of new programs were designed and launched to engage with new audiences at Britannia Shipyard's National Historic Site:

- *Creative Photography at Britannia*: Guided by a photographer, registrants learned how to approach photography at a historic site.
- *Heritage Afloat*: A free drop-in program for families with guided tours of the floats and docks throughout the Family Day weekend.
- *Learn to Fish*: During July and August, Britannia offered three *Learn to Fish* programs for children and their parents. In conjunction with the Freshwater Fisheries Society of BC, 75 children learned about fish identification, ethics, tackle and casting, and tried their hands at hands-on fishing.
- Asian Heritage Month Film Screenings: A sold out crowd joined director Kagan Goh in the Chinese Bunkhouse for documentaries *Stolen Memories* and *Breaking the Silence*. Both films are on the subject of the Japanese Canadian Legacy.
- *PechaKucha Night*: In May 2014, ten speakers of diverse disciplines revealed their *Secrets of the Fraser* to a full house in the Chinese Bunkhouse. Attendees viewed 20 pictures for 20 seconds from each guest speaker, ranging from artists to archaeologists.
- New School Program *Working on the Waterfront*: Students in grades K–3 explored Britannia's multicultural fishing and boatbuilding community through stories, hands on activities and maritime crafts. Classes discover how coastal communities worked together to create innovative maritime products.
- Christmas Concert: In December 2014, approximately 50 people celebrated the winter season at Britannia by enjoying a concert with Louise Southwood, international classical guitarist, who treated the audience to a variety of ancient and modern music.



Britannia's new school program "Working on the Waterfront," led by historical character Dorothy Shorey, wife of Britannia Shipyard's Manager George Shorey.

Volunteer Program

Volunteerism at Britannia continued to be strong in 2014. Over the year, 5,500 hours were logged during Ships to Shore, Maritime Festival, programs and site tours. Volunteers began connecting with other sites and their volunteers by taking a tour of the New Westminister Museum.

Filming

Britannia continued to be sought out as a unique film site and was host to a number of filming projects at the end of 2013 and in 2014, including *Once Upon A Time*, *Psych* and *If I Stay* a feature film on site.

Cenotaph

The Cenotaph has been restored to its original glory after being vandalized with spray paint in February 2014. Traditional graffiti removal methods could not be used due to the historic nature of the monument. Under the guidance of a professional Conservator, Legion members, community volunteers and conservation students spent a week carefully and meticulously removing the graffiti using cotton swabs and acetone. While the work yielded some results some paint was still visible. A poultice was applied and the original letters repainted to protect them from pollutants. Richmond's monument to fallen soldiers stands proud once again.



Legion Volunteer removes paint from the Cenotaph using acetone.

London Heritage Farm

Programs and Tours

Educational programs and historical tours of the farmhouse and grounds are available for visitors to learn about life of pioneer Richmond families in the late 1800s to early 1900s. Over 50 groups visited the farm for historical tours and tea in 2014.

Tea Room

The Tea Room is a popular spot for locals and visitors alike, providing a variety of homemade baking served along with a full tea service that features London Lady Tea, a special blend made at the Farm. The on-site Gift Shop offers collectibles and crafts made by local artisans.

In 2014, Mother's Day Tea welcomed over 200 visitors, and programming included additional themed teas such as Halloween and Valentine's Day Teas. A total of 1,800 visitors came for tea service in 2014. Special themed tea events included Chinese New Year and Easter Tea.



Scones, cakes and cookies served for tea.

Special Events

Special events in 2014 included the Annual Plant Sale attended by 300 people and Family Farm Day which drew in 1,700 visitors who enjoyed the petting zoo, pony rides, storytelling, music and heritage tours. The Farm was busy over the Spring and Summer and in 2014 introduced a Vintage Car Display and Strawberry Tea event, attracting many new visitors. For the winter season and keeping with tradition for two weeks before Christmas, volunteers provided music and Christmas carols to add to winter festivities



Vintage car on display.

Doors Open Richmond

London Heritage Farm was a venue partner with Doors Open Richmond in 2014 and was chosen as the site for the Doors Open opening celebration, which offered a wonderful opportunity to showcase this heritage site. Visitors viewed the heritage gardens, chickens, pond, community gardens, orchard bees, and an interpretive display of large agricultural machinery. The furnished farmhouse, with display rooms and costumed staff, as well as the heritage style Gift Shop and Tea Room were open to the public. Over 900 people visited the site over the two-day event and 326 attended the opening celebration.



Bruce Livingston, Chair, London Heritage Farm Society welcomes visitors to the Farm at the Doors Open opening celebration.

Facility Improvements

In 2014, the Parks washrooms at London Heritage Farm were upgraded to provide increased accessibility to visitors. This included installing new counters and levered taps, and increasing the slope at the entrance to the washrooms.

Collections Management

Thanks to the efforts of dedicated volunteers and a Young Canada Works Summer Student, the Farm's outdoor artefacts and hand tool museum were inventoried. With the assistance of the City-wide Artefact Collections Committee a collections rationalization project has also begun.

London Heritage Farm Society

In 2014, the Society worked diligently to increase the number of weddings and rentals to the site. The Society was also successful in drawing new visitors to events, which included the Antique Car Show, Plant Sale and London Family Farm Day. The Society continues to work with the City to promote joint projects and events including a Pro-D Workshop, Culture Days and Doors Open Richmond.



Doors Open volunteers at London Heritage Farm.

Minoru Chapel

Restoration

The 1891 Chapel was the first heritage project undertaken by City Council in 1967. The wood structure has lasted well and the next stages of the restoration of Minoru Chapel (Phase 1) have been completed. The work included structural upgrades to the roof structure and replacing the wooden shingles and the plywood sheathing. Gutters and any damaged exterior trim were also replaced.

Using conservation guidelines, Phase 2 will begin in 2015 and will include structural upgrades to the crawlspace, rebuilding the access ramp to meet current accessibility standards and codes, upgrading finishes in the washroom, replacing exterior light fixtures and repairing the original fir flooring.

Doors Open

As part of the city-wide free event, the Chapel was open for tours and welcomed 132 visitors.

Weddings/Events

46 weddings, memorials and baptisms were held in 2014.



Minoru Chapel restoration, December 23, 2014.

Richmond Museum

Exhibitions

Interwoven World: Identity and Fashion (November 6, 2014–July 23, 2015)

Richmond Museum's current exhibition, *Interwoven World: Identity and Fashion*, explores how fashion has evolved through time. A diverse array of textiles from different centuries illustrates the many cross-cultural influences seen in fashion around the globe and in Richmond today.

Historic and contemporary fashions show how the West has 'borrowed' and adapted ideas, styles and materials from other cultures around the world and how, in turn, other cultures have adopted our fashion and ideals.

Interwoven World: Identity and Fashion explores our individuality and how we express ourselves through our own unique fashion choices. In the Discovery Area, younger visitors receive tips on how to become fashion detectives, discovering the basics of material science and deducing what they can tell about themselves and others by how they dress.

The exhibition features loans from Ivan Sayers, an acclaimed fashion historian.



Intern Asako Takigawa dresses a mannequin in preparation for the exhibition opening.



This Chinese opera costume, featuring the Emperor's symbol of a five-clawed dragon, was donated to the Richmond Museum in the 1980s.

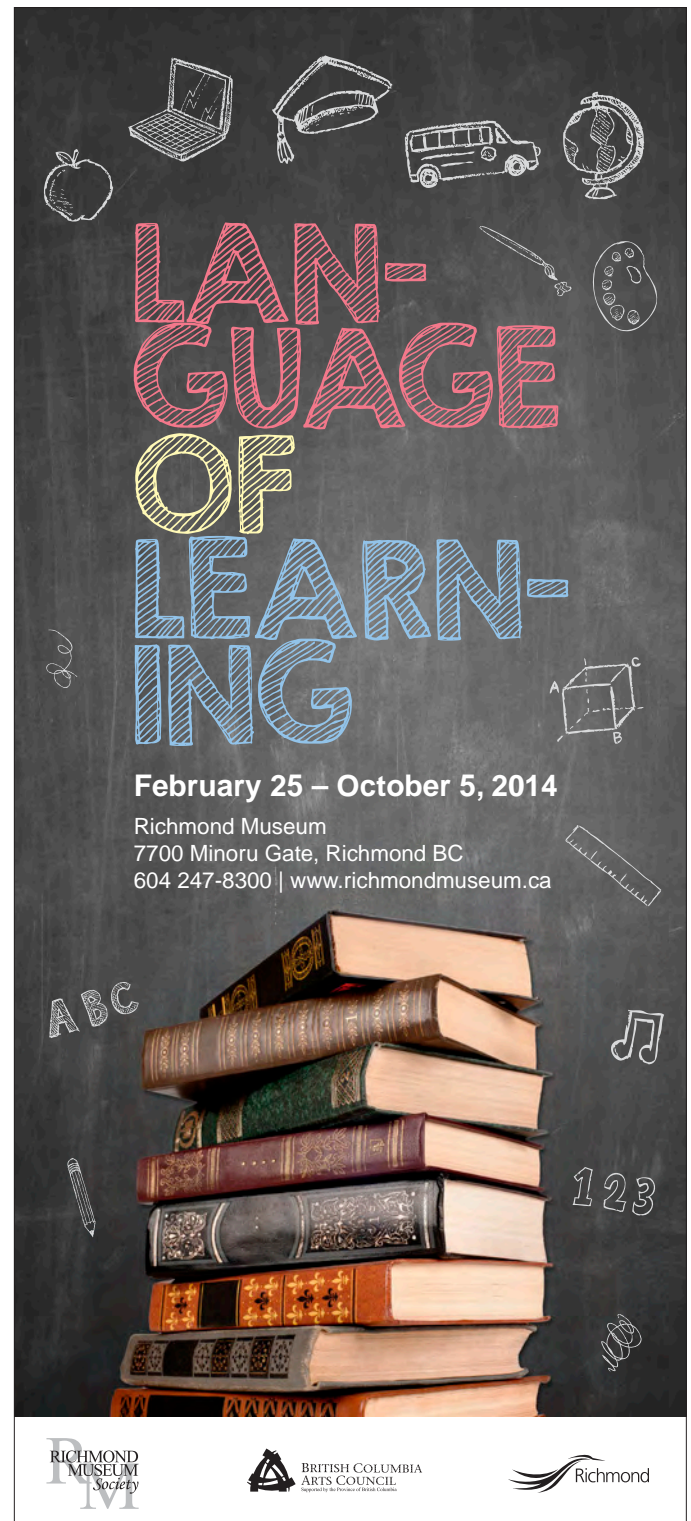
Language of Learning (February 12–November 6, 2014)

The *Language of Learning* exhibition explored the history of education and the concept of lifelong learning in Richmond.

The exhibition featured artefacts and photos which illustrated how learning has been passionately embraced by Richmond's diverse community from early childhood to old age. It also showed how—through years of growth—education in Richmond has gone well beyond the one-room schoolhouse to embrace the development of a wide spectrum of traditional and alternative learning environments, successfully meeting the diverse learning needs of today's modern city.



The *Language of Learning* exhibition explored the evolution of education in Richmond.



Poster for the *Language of Learning* exhibition explored the evolution of education in Richmond.

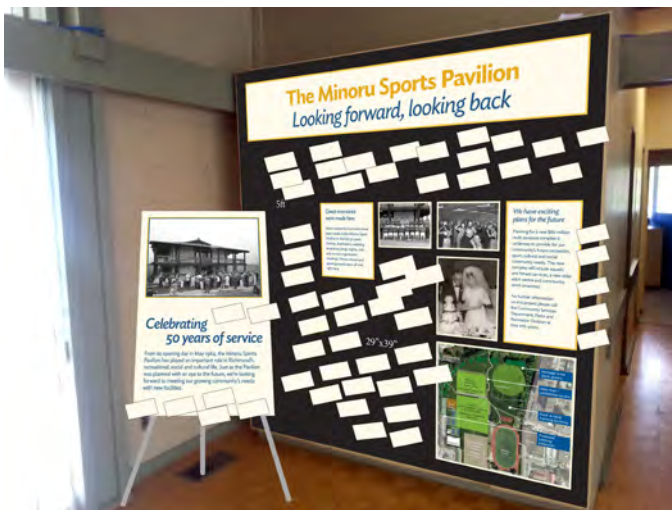
Outreach Exhibits

Minoru Sports Pavilion (July 5, 2014)

A temporary exhibit at the Minoru Sports Pavilion celebrated the important role this facility played for 50 years in Richmond's recreational, social and cultural life.

This temporary exhibit highlighted a range of events from 1964 to 2014 through photographs and artefacts. Visitors were invited to share their memories—and they did, from wedding receptions to Scout meetings and Highland dancing competitions.

The exhibit also looked forward, with a preview of the exciting, new facilities planned for the Minoru Civic Precinct.



Visitors shared their memories of the past and hopes for the future in the temporary Minoru Sports Pavilion exhibit.

City Hall

Art in Unexpected Places

(September 9–November 4, 2014)

The *Art in Unexpected Places* temporary display presented artworks that enhance public engagement, open new audiences and demonstrate the capacity of public art to reflect, explore and transform our everyday environments. This exhibit was developed in collaboration with Public Art,

The Gateway Theatre Turns 30

(November 4, 2014–January 30, 2015)

To celebrate the first opening of its doors 30 years ago, the Richmond Gateway Theatre provided stories, props, photographs and programs from a variety of productions over the years. This exhibit was developed in collaboration with the Richmond Gateway Theatre Society.

Educational Programming

The Museum offers curriculum-based school programs that encourage students to engage with local history while developing historical thinking skills. These include education kits for use in the classroom and field trip programs that bring classes into the Museum and local heritage sites.

In spring and summer, the Museum offers unique daycamp programs that engage children in local history and heritage, as well as the importance of museums to the community.

The Museum also offers an annual professional development workshop for teachers and other educators.

In 2014, nearly 3000 students used an education kit or participated in a field trip program. Approximately 150 children participated in spring and summer programs.



Spring Break Camp participant carefully places her label next to her artefact.



In the *Let's Celebrate Winter* program, students pin cloves into mandarin oranges to make pomanders, a pioneer winter craft.

Animating History

The Museum partnered with Reel-to-Real Film Society to offer unique workshops that engage students in history through stop-motion animation. Close to 200 students have produced short videos about the Steveston Interurban Tram.



Student uses laptop computer to review the last scene of his video about the Steveston Interurban Tram.

Mudflatters Education Kit

Based on feedback from teachers and guided by current trends in education, the Museum updated its *Mudflatters: Richmond's Pioneer History* education kit. The new kit focuses on the stories of six pioneers and features the innovative historical thinking concepts. Two copies of the kit were produced in order to meet current demand.

Public Programming

Culture Days

The Museum offered interesting and interactive crafts for children inspired by its exhibition, *Language of Learning*. One popular craft was folding a graduation cap, complete with a delicate gold tassel.



Girl models the paper graduation cap she made for *Culture Days*.

Temples of Faith Tour

Participants had the opportunity to experience a spiritual and cultural sampling of the City's religious temples and places of worship through a heritage bus trip. The tour included four stops to Minoru Chapel, Ling Yen Mountain Temple, Vedic Cultural Centre of BC and Jami'a Mosque. Participants experienced private tours and lunch at one of the temples.

Richmond Museum presents

Heritage Bus Trip Temples of Faith

Saturday, April 26, 2014
10:15 a.m. - 4:15 p.m.

MEET AT:
Richmond Library/Cultural Centre
7700 Minoru Gate, Richmond, BC

Experience a sampling of the rich diversity of spiritual and cultural traditions within the Richmond community. Participants visit four local places of worship - Minoru Chapel, Ling Yen Mountain Temple, Vedic Cultural Centre of BC and the Jami'a Mosque - where they receive a tour of the community's history and faith. Vegetarian lunch included.

Register for your Heritage Bus Trip Temples of Faith program #505058 by calling 604-276-4300

\$40/person **All ages welcome**

Logos: RICHMOND MUSEUM SOCIETY, BRITISH COLUMBIA ARTS COUNCIL, Richmond

Poster of *Temples of Faith* Bus Tour.



At Lingyen Mountain Temple.

Collections Management

In 2014 the Richmond Museum accepted 67 new donations into the collections including 22 specifically for the Olympic Collection. These new acquisitions account for 207 artefacts added to the Olympic Collection and 170 artefacts added to the Museum's collections, totalling 377 new artefacts.

New artefacts to the permanent collection included a Magnavox Oddysey electronic game from the 1970s, a full set of Kendo equipment from the Steveston Kendo Club, a shoe bag and business licence from Skuse's Shoes and tea set from the 1920s believed to have belonged to Thomas Kidd's grand-daughter.

New artefacts to the Olympic collection included a collection of Judo referee jackets from six Olympic games, 1976 Olympic clothing and memorabilia from local Richmond ball hockey athlete, Lance Carey, a Team Canada running uniform from the 2012 Olympic Games and a pair of Tessa Virtue's ice-skates from her gold medal 2010 pairs performance.



Mangavox Oddysey electronic game.



Skuse's Shoes bag.



Kendo gloves.



1984 Olympics Judo Referee jacket.



Tessa Virtue's ice skates.



Team Canada running uniform.

City-wide Artefact Collections Committee

In partnership with Britannia Heritage Shipyard Society, London Heritage Farm Society, Richmond Museum Society and Steveston Historical Society, a City-wide Artefact Collections Committee was formed in 2013. The Committee meets bi-monthly to provide a coordinated and efficient care and management approach for artefact collections related to City-owned museums and heritage sites.

In 2014, the Committee met regularly and was joined by the Gulf of Georgia Cannery National Historic Site's Collection's Manager to discuss such topics as the care of industrial outdoor artefacts, hazardous materials and large artefact storage. The Committee's upcoming goals include continuing to examine best practices in collections management and reviewing collections rationalization projects.

City-wide Cultural Assets Management System

The Richmond Museum, Richmond Art Gallery and Richmond Media Lab, in partnership with the City's Information Technology Department, are jointly populating a new cultural assets database. This database will provide opportunity for City artefacts, artworks and media works to be organized and tracked and legal documentation to be produced. The database will be activated in 2015 with the launch of the public portal later in the year.

Public Tours

The Museum continues to provide tours of the artefact collection storage warehouse as part of *Culture Days*, the *Richmond Delta Regional Heritage Fair* and spring and summer daycamps.

Steveston Interurban Tram Building

2014 was the first full calendar year that the Steveston Interurban Tram Building was open. 39,200 people visited the home of the Interurban Tramcar #1220 during the year and exciting new public and education programs were introduced.

Public Programming

Doors Open Richmond 2014

1,087 visitors enjoyed crafts, talking with railway historians and climbing aboard the historic Interurban Tramcar #1220 during *Doors Open Richmond* at the Steveston Interurban Tram Building on June 6 and 7.

Canada Day

The Interurban Tram Building is located close to the heart of the popular annual *Canada Day Salmonfest* celebration. Ten volunteers and staff provided information about Richmond's rich transportation history and assisted with crafts, delighting 2,411 visitors on Canada Day.

All Aboard!

The large double doors at the front of the Interurban Tram Building were flung wide upon on August 9 welcoming over 1,450 visitors to the *All Aboard!* event. In addition to exploring the 102 year old tramcar, people enjoyed having their photo taken on a rail speeder (a small vehicle used to inspect rail lines), talking with experts from the City of Richmond's Transportation division, the HUB cycling network and the Fraser Valley Heritage Railway Society and creating transportation-related crafts. Outside the building, the Earbuds String Band entertained people visiting the site.



All Aboard! at the Steveston Interurban Tram Building.

Teddy Bears Picnic

Cute teddy bears and childhood fun were the order of the day on August 23 when almost 600 children and adults flocked to Steveston Park to enjoy the inaugural Steveston *Teddy Bears Picnic*. Staff from Steveston Interurban Tram Building and Steveston Community Centre, together with volunteers, worked together to present a wide variety of teddy bear related activities. Everything from teddy fortune telling and teddy first aid through to creating tram conductor hats for teddies and their young owners was on offer. The afternoon concluded with a joyful parade of over 50 children and their bears around Steveston Park.



Teddy bears receive first aid from a volunteer.



Teddy Bears Picnic parade.

Culture Days and Screwly Sunday

As part of the nation-wide *Culture Days* celebration, on September 28, approximately 250 people came into the Interurban Tram Building as part of a unique program called *Screwly Sunday*. In order to raise awareness and recruit volunteers for the impending restoration of the Interurban Tramcar #1220, visitors were invited to remove contemporary screws from the side of the tramcar. Approximately one hundred and twenty screws were removed during the two hour program.

Winter Tram

715 visitors of all ages embraced the spirit of the season at the Interurban Tram Building on December 6 for the very first *Winter Tram* event. Special guest Santa Claus greeted children and listened carefully to their wishes, giving each child a special edition of the building's souvenir tram tickets with a sleigh bell attached. A number of children wrote letters to him and posted them in a special mail box at the building.

National children's literacy group, Frontier College, gave away hundreds of free books to visitors and the college's volunteers read the classic children's story *The Polar Express* to enthrall children throughout the afternoon. Members of the Richmond Orchestra and Chorus Association sang traditional carols as they strolled through the building and children gathered to create winter tram related crafts and decorations.



Frontier College volunteers read *The Polar Express* to visitors during the *Winter Tram* event.

Visitor Engagement

Close to 3,000 Interurban Tram Building "tickets" have been handed out to young visitors that can be brought back and validated by staff. After five visits, children receive a junior conductor certificate. Inspired by a similar craft at Burnaby Village Museum, thousands of tram craft sheets that can be coloured, cut out and folded into a three dimensional tramcar have been made on site in the meeting room or taken away along with thousands more stickers and general tram colouring sheets depicting a cartoon Interurban Tramcar #1220 through the seasons.



Tram related mementos including stickers, tram tickets and crafts.

School Programming

In early 2014, the *Getting There* school program was piloted with five classes, aimed at teaching grade 5 students about Richmond's history of transportation. Additional classes have since booked the program.

A short program aimed at the 3–5 age group was piloted with seven daycare and pre-school groups in late 2014. The program will be expanded upon in 2015.

Interurban Tram Conservation and Restoration

The BC Electric Railway Interurban Tram #1220, built in 1912, is the largest and most valuable artefact in the City's collection. Care and preservation of the #1220 is guided by the City-wide Artefact Collections Policy. The first phase of restoration was recently completed and included extensive mould remediation, a hazardous materials assessment, an inventory of parts, review of best practices, and a draft restoration plan.



#1220 Interurban Tram.

Steveston Museum and Visitor Centre and Japanese Fishermen's Benevolent Society Building

Public Programming

Doors Open Richmond 2014

225 visitors explored the Steveston Museum site during *Doors Open Richmond* on June 6 and 7. Sixteen of these visitors also took advantage of the free walking tours to learn more about the fascinating history of Steveston Village.



Steveston Museum & Visitor Centre. Credit: Shelley Niemek

Canada Day

An estimated 400 people appreciated the cool shade of Town Square, the small park surrounding Steveston Museum, on a hot and sunny July 1.

Nine volunteers and two staff members handed out over 300 temporary Canada flag tattoos and 147 Japanese-inspired fish prints to visitors to the park. The fish prints reflected the greater *Salmonfest* celebrations and street parade taking place in Steveston Village.



Fish prints drying in the Steveston Museum's Town Square Park on Canada Day.

Picnic in the Past – Styling the Past

Despite inclement weather on July 20, 438 people turned up at Town Square to hear the folk music styling of the Earbuds String Band and the unique comedy and music of Ralph Shaw, King of the Ukulele. The event turnout was one of the best on record for the museum.

The theme for the day was celebrating hair styles from the past. Fifteen visitors took advantage of the free vintage hair styles provided by professional stylists beneath the shady trees and children delighted in creating fake beards and moustaches from cardboard.

Vendors selling traditional wares including homemade soap, jam and pickles did a strong trade surrounded by huge green, pink and white pompoms and other decorations that gave the museum's park a fun and festive air.



Visitors enjoy *Styling the Past*.

Picnic in the Past – Japanese Style

Attendance records were surpassed on August 17 with 467 people enjoying Japanese-inspired crafts and presentations throughout the afternoon in the museum's park. Of all the crafts on offer, fish shaped windsocks, fish prints and origami (taught to visitors by an origami master) were particularly popular.

A massive draw was Tetsu Taiko, Richmond's very own taiko drum group, and Alcvin Ramos playing the shakuhachi bamboo flute. The day concluded with long-time Richmond resident and local identity, Mary Hirano, giving a well-attended workshop on different styles of Japanese summer kimono and how to properly wear them.



Aliah Pingy is styled by Devon Bree Baker during *Styling the Past*.

Summer Walking Tour Program

106 visitors were entertained and informed over the summer with historic walking tours of Steveston Village. Visitors had a choice of two tours: *Murder, Mayhem and Morality in Old Steveston* that looked at the seedier side of local history and *Boardwalks, Bar Rooms and Boats*, which explored how fishing, farming and even filmmaking has helped to define and express the character of Steveston.

Colouring Contests

Steveston Museum, in partnership with Splash Toy Shop and the Candy Dish, ran four colouring contests during 2014 as a way of promoting interest in Steveston's heritage to the younger generation. 195 bright and colourful entries were received.



Entries to the Steveston Museum Halloween colouring contest.

School Programs and Familiarization Tours

Steveston Museum delivered six school programs, including four walking tours and two in-class heritage presentations in 2014. An additional four "familiarization" walking tours were delivered to tour guides and tourism staff from Metro Vancouver to promote the museum and its programs.



Students write with fountain pens during the Steveston Museum in-class heritage presentation.

Site Development

Work continued on the rehabilitation of the Japanese Fishermen's Benevolent Society Building. The exterior rehabilitation was almost completed in 2014 and interior rehabilitation began toward the end of the year. The Building Committee overseeing the project, which includes Council members and members of the Steveston Historical Society, met a number of times during the year to help ensure accuracy and guide the rehabilitation process.

City of Richmond Archives – City Clerk's Office

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

Users of the Archives

There were 3,300 reference requests and visitors to the Archives in 2014. This represents a 4.7% increase over 2013 and a 217% increase since 2007.

Approximately 23% 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.



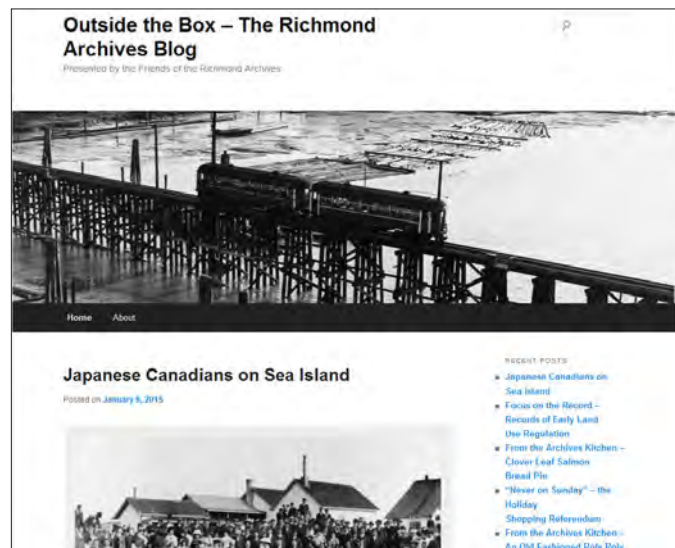
Reference room at the City of Richmond Archives.

Holdings of the Archives

The Archives' holdings include approximately 1 kilometre of textual records, 170,000 historical photographs, 20,000 maps and plans and over 500 sound and moving image recordings. In addition to transfers of records from various City departments, the Archives acquired new donations of records in 2014 from 25 different individuals and companies and 11 community organizations.

Social Media Program

The Archives' social media channels on Facebook, YouTube, and History Pin, and the newly-launched Richmond Archives Blog garnered over 100,000 views in 2014, in addition to the large number of users of the Archives' web pages (richmond.ca/archives) and online search system on the City of Richmond web site.



Richmond Archives Blog at www.richmondarchives.ca.

Special Projects and Programs in 2014

- Digitization and description program: over 5000 images scanned and described,
- Completion of Ted Clark interurban film and photograph project,
- Community organizations records processing project (ongoing),
- New and updated research aids and publications on the Archives' web site,
- Educational programs: 20 group visits (356 participants), and
- Volunteer program with over 2,290 hours of service provided.

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 2014, the society had 261 active members. During the year, the Friends provided funding and volunteers for projects and programs at the Archives, organized the annual Archives Tea, carried out a Community Exhibit program, introduced the *Archives Memory Tour Program* and participated at various community events, including a City-sponsored *PechaKucha* event, the *Steveston Salmon Festival*, *London Farm Family Farm Days* and the *Remembrance Day* reception at City Hall.



Remembrance Day exhibit at City Hall reception.

Richmond Heritage Commission – Policy Planning Department

Membership

Throughout 2014, the Richmond Heritage Commission had a full membership of nine. Kathleen Beaumont was elected chairperson for the Commission, a role that she continued from 2013. A segment of each Commission meeting was dedicated to having the Policy Planning Department staff liaison provide regular updates to the group on matters related to heritage conservation policy and redevelopment projects involving heritage across the City. A focus of the Commission's work in 2014 and well into the future will be to undertake initiatives to bring awareness to work being done by the Richmond Heritage Commission to promote heritage conservation and education.

Report on the 2014 Work Program

The Commission supported the *Richmond Delta Regional Heritage Fair* with a \$2,000 donation to assist with the event and associated workshops. The 2014 event was another success, with Commission members volunteering as panel judges, asking questions and providing feedback to many of the young students participating in the Heritage Fair.

The Commission also continued to support the *Door Open Richmond* 2014 event with a \$1,000 contribution as part of the Commission's ongoing outreach and community awareness initiatives.

Development Applications

As part of the ongoing review and comment on development applications, the Commission provided feedback on three development applications in the Steveston Village Conservation Area. Updates were also received on projects previously reviewed by the Commission that are now under construction.

The Commission also reviewed information and archival photography done for a residential building listed on the Richmond Heritage Inventory, which is planned for demolition in early 2015.

2015 Work Program Plan

The Heritage Commission plans to continue participating in the following items:

- 2015 *Richmond Regional Heritage Fair*: continued support and contribution,
- *Doors Open Richmond* 2015: continued support and contribution,
- Assist in implementing and providing feedback, as required, on the Steveston Village Conservation Strategy,
- Continue with Commission member contributions to the *Mouth of the Fraser* newsletter, and
- Continue to review and provide comment on development applications involving heritage resources City-wide.

Planning and Policy

The Richmond Heritage Commission provides comment and advice on key City initiatives and projects such as updates on the Steveston Village Conservation Strategy, redevelopment (i.e., 3471 Chatham Street) and works proposed to the Japanese Fishermen's Benevolent Society building. Staff and architect presentations on these initiatives and projects enable the Commission to have an understanding of the supporting planning policies and implementation process for these projects.

Programs and Promotion

The Richmond Heritage Commission provides support to annual programming and events such as the *Richmond Regional Heritage Fair* and *Doors Open Richmond*. This support and partnership have enabled more extensive outreach, education and awareness amongst a broad audience. In addition, the Commission also allocates funding to undertake oral histories in accordance with the Richmond Oral History Project in partnership with the Richmond Museum.

Richmond Heritage Awards

The Commission's Annual *Heritage Awards* to recognize exceptional achievement and leadership in heritage were presented at the Closing Ceremonies for the *Richmond Delta Regional Heritage Fair*.

Three *Heritage Awards* were granted in 2014. Annabella Semple was recognized for her volunteer work and promotion of heritage and local history; Laurie Wozny for leadership demonstrated in heritage preservation and promotion and his tireless efforts to liaise with local community groups; and to Barry Cavanaugh for providing support and resources to assist with the restoration and conservation of heritage buildings in Richmond.



Ray Holme and Britney Quail, Richmond Heritage Club members.



Annabella Semple receives *Heritage Award*.



Laurie Wozny receives *Heritage Award*.

Heritage in Parks

Terra Nova Rural Park

Terra Nova Rural Park continues its evolution as one of the City's most important recreational, environmental and cultural landscapes. In September 2014, the Terra Nova Adventure Play Environment was officially opened to much acclaim. The play environment is organised into two zones that reflect the historic uses of this part of Terra Nova Rural Park. The northern zone, referred to as the *Homestead* is set within mature trees that were part of a homestead. A new concrete foundation wall marks the location of the former foundation of the homestead.

The southern zone of the play environment is referred to as the *Paddock* since horses were kept in this area for several decades. In fact many Richmond residents recall learning to ride horses here. To recall this former use a series of new fences and styles have been added and are an integral part of a farm maze play element.

To the east of the Terra Nova Adventure Play Environment is the heritage precinct that includes the recently restored Edwardian Cottage and the Cannery Store. The Edwardian Cottage is now home to the Terra Nova Nature Preschool. Landscape treatments adjacent to both buildings are scheduled for 2015 and will reflect the plant materials of the early 1900s to reinforce the heritage character of the area.

Several of the original farm fields throughout Terra Nova are being maintained to ensure the agricultural traditions of Terra Nova can be part of the park visitor's experience.



A fence stile integrated into the paddock fence at Terra Nova Adventure Play Environment.

Railway Avenue Corridor Greenway

The Railway Avenue Corridor Greenway, from Garry Street to Westminster Hwy was completed in 2014. To identify the location of the former interurban tram stops, station markers and associated schedules have been painted on the asphalt pavement.



Painted stencil identifying historic McCallum Interurban Tram Stop and associated tram schedule.

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 is an important attraction in Steveston that provides a rich interpretation of Canada's West Coast fishing industry.

In 2014, the site broke attendance records with over 52,000 people visiting from around the world. Among these visitors were over 250 groups attending educational programs, including 43 schools and organizations in Richmond.

Cannery Farmers' Market

Over the past year, the Society has worked to reach out to the residents of Richmond with appealing new special events and programs. One example of this is the Cannery Farmers' Market, which takes place inside the Cannery from October to April each year. Market visitors can enjoy a cozy atmosphere, fresh food products, and a variety of vendors showcasing products that follow the "make it, bake it, catch it, grow it" credo.

Exhibitions and Programming

In 2014, the Society developed the feature exhibit *Solidarity on Ships and Shore: Organizing the West Coast Fishing Industry*. This exhibit examines the history of working conditions in the fishing industry on and off shore. A key primary industry in BC, fishing was and still is dangerous work. In the exhibit, visitors learn about the organizations, which formed in response to the safety and economic challenges facing BC fishermen and shore workers over the course of the 20th century.

In the spring, the Gulf of Georgia Cannery Society, with support from Port Metro Vancouver, donated copies of its publication *The Monster Cannery: The History of the Gulf of Georgia Cannery* to all schools and libraries in Richmond. *The Monster Cannery* gives an in-depth account of the salmon canning industry in BC and the rise and fall of the Gulf of Georgia Cannery. To complement this publication, the Society published a Teacher Resource Guide with ideas and activities for how Kindergarten to Grade 12 teachers may use *The Monster Cannery* in the classroom.



2014 Feature Exhibit *Solidarity on Ships and Shore*.



Cannery Farmers' Market at the Gulf of Georgia Cannery National Historic Site.



The Monster Cannery: History of the Gulf of Georgia Cannery publication.

Statistics

Attendance

Signature Events

Doors Open Richmond

- 16,658 site visits

Maritime Festival

- 40,000 site visits

Facilities

Britannia Shipyards National Historic Site

- 123,950 visitors

London Heritage Farm

- 15,613 visitors

Richmond Museum

- 36,704 visitors

Steveston Interurban Tram Building

- 39,200 visitors

Steveston Museum

- 28,262 visitors

Volunteers

Signature Events

Doors Open Richmond

- 299 volunteers contributed 1,664 volunteer hours

Maritime Festival

- 175 volunteers contributed 2,164 volunteer hours

Facilities

Britannia Shipyards National Historic Site

- 5,500 hours were logged during Ships to Shore, Maritime Festival, programs and site tours.

Richmond Museum

- 1,400 hours logged by volunteers and interns.

Steveston Interurban Tram Building

- 37 volunteers contributed 208 volunteer hours

Steveston Museum

- 17 volunteers contributed 102 volunteer hours

Weddings/Special Occasion Rentals

Britannia Shipyards National Historic Site

- 4 weddings and 128 rentals

London Heritage Farm

- 48 weddings, picnics and celebrations

Minoru Chapel

- 46 weddings, memorials and baptisms



City of Richmond

6911 No. 3 Road, Richmond, BC V6Y 2C1
Telephone: 604-276-4000
www.richmond.ca

PRCS - 72