

BC HERITAGE FAIRS SOCIETY





PROVINCIAL FAIR PARTICIPANTS AT GOLDSTREAM PROVINCIAL PARK, JULY 4, 2019

Message from the Executive

Evan Fryer, BCHFS Vice-President

As a current educator in BC schools, I am consistently presented with the following quote at professional development workshops across the province:

We are currently preparing students for jobs that don't yet exist, using technologies that haven't been invented, in order to solve problems we don't even know are problems yet – Richard Riley.

The solution, more often than not, is to invest in STEM skills: Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics. There is no doubt that these skills are important, but the notion that content is the only means to growth is misguided. The skills needed to solve some of the world's biggest issues today, such as the climate crisis, will require many intangible skills that can't be summed up in a 4-letter acronym.

The students of tomorrow need to develop these personal and social competencies that are often intangible. Heritage Fairs are the perfect playground for these young ambassadors of knowledge to explore the past, ask questions, and make progress for the future. In this regard, the BC Heritage Fairs Society (BCHFS) strives to: encourage young people to develop their own opinions and values based on a respect for evidence; provide opportunities for young people to see history around them; promote an appreciation of the diverse experiences of people in the past; connect local and family stories to the larger narratives of Canada's history; develop approaches to teaching and learning that combine enjoyment and active engagement in historical thinking; forge connections between youth and the community; encourage student leadership; and, develop informed and involved citizens of tomorrow.

As a not-for-profit society in the heritage sector – a sector which has seen a rapid decline in funding in the province over the last decade – it has been a challenging year for the BCHFS to promote these core values. However, organizations must have a bias toward action, and I am so proud to work with a fantastic group of volunteers on the society's Board of Directors who dedicated their efforts to a number of initiatives over the last year.

With a need to raise funds for short-term sustainability, we organized two fundraising events, one in Vancouver in September and another in Victoria in December. Between these two events, we will be able to provide the opportunity for thousands of students to engage in heritage in their communities and create a Heritage Fairs project – this is so exciting. Over the next fiscal year, we will look at increasing our capacity to fundraise, while looking for long-term sponsorship to continue providing these opportunities for students. We would like to thank our dedicated sponsors and membership who already do help make history come alive for so many students across BC.

As a board, we must continually engage in scenario planning, constructing, and evaluating an array of options that offer a broader view of the landscape and possibilities for success. We have spent the last few months conducting an internal review, with a goal of being as agile and resilient as possible, so that we can continue doing the work we do in the heritage sector for many more years to come.

As a student who once did my own heritage project on “My Coal Mining Family” on Vancouver Island, I can't imagine my life without the formative experience that Heritage Fairs provided me. I want the same to be true for every young kid, so that they can solve the world's problems – even the ones we don't know are problems yet.

Board Members 2018–19

Becky Burns
Lorenda Calvert
Mary Campone
Judy Dunn
Evan Fryer
Kris Foulds
Jennifer Garner
Michael Gurney
Andrew Hildred
Jennifer Iredale
Rachel Meloche
Katie Powell
Cindy Rowell

Provincial Fair Report

Evan Fryer, Provincial Fair Coordinator

The 12th annual five-day Provincial Heritage Fair was held in Victoria, BC from July 3rd to July 7th, 2019. All delegates arrived on July 3rd having traveled by air, sea, or land. The 36 delegates, chaperones, and organizers were housed at the University of Victoria Residence, who has been a gracious sponsor of our fair for the last decade. In attendance at various times throughout the fair were Judy Dunn (Director), Cindy Rowell (Director), and Jennifer Iredale (Director) who helped make the fair a huge success.

The Opening Ceremonies for the Provincial Showcase was held once again at The Mungo Martin House (Wawadit'la) and planned in conjunction with the Royal BC Museum, which has been a large supporter of the Fairs Program for a number of



years. Amongst the many dignitaries present were Dr. John Elliott, MP Murray Rankin, Dr. Lorna Williams, Dr. Helen Davies, Ms. Tania Muir, and Dr. Peter Cook. The BC Heritage Fairs Society was also very proud to have had representatives from many of our sponsors attend the festivities including Mr. Jim Gemmill and Mr. Pat McGuire from the BC Hydro Power Pioneers, Mr. Gord McDonald from Heritage BC, and Ms. Julie Shueck, Heritage Consultant.

The 2019 Provincial Fair provided these young heritage ambassadors unique activities that allowed them to explore the local area of Victoria. Students visited Fort Rodd Hill, Goldstream Provincial Park, as well as the Royal

BC Museum. This year, for the first time at a Provincial Fair, we partnered with the Robert Bateman Gallery, who generously provided art and nature guides for our students to explore the intricacies of the natural environment in Beacon Hill Park. The students then had an opportunity to check out the exhibit on display at the iconic steamship terminal in downtown Victoria.

This year, our three alumni students took on a special project at the Provincial Fair called, "Reconcili-Action: Student Exemplars: On Working with Elders in your Community". Alumni recorded and interviewed Saanich Elder STOLCEL John Elliott and Saanich artist TEMOSEN Charles Elliott. One part of the interview inquired into how non-indigenous students should approach and work with Elders in their communities. STOLCEL also welcomed the Provincial Fair delegates and took delegates on a guided walk talking about ethnobotany and cultural history of the W̱SÁNEĆ people.

The Provincial Fair could not be possible without the help of our 6 chaperones from the corners of the province who dedicated their time to travel to Victoria with the 36 delegates and 3 alumni students. The BC Heritage Fairs Society would like to thank everyone involved in putting together the 2019 Provincial Fair as we look forward to our next fair in Kelowna in July 2020!



Financial Report

Judy Dunn, Treasurer

BC HERITAGE FAIRS SOCIETY
STATEMENT OF ANNUAL FINANCIAL POSITION
 AUGUST 31, 2019

	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
<u>ASSETS</u>		
Current		
Cash	\$48,350	\$77,819
Accounts Receivable	3,750	—
Government Remittance Recoverable	<u>1,973</u>	<u>1,428</u>
	<u>\$54,073</u>	<u>\$79,247</u>
<u>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</u>		
Current		
Accounts Payable	\$1,250	\$1,250
Deferred Government Grant	<u>—</u>	<u>18,000</u>
	<u>\$1,250</u>	<u>\$19,250</u>
Net assets	<u>\$52,823</u>	<u>\$59,997</u>
	<u>\$54,073</u>	<u>\$79,247</u>

Fundraising Committee Report

Andrew Hildred

2018-2019 has seen some changes to the fundraising committee. Committee chair, Jennifer Iredale took a leave of absence and Andrew Hildred stepped in as interim chair. Although she took a step back, Jennifer Iredale was instrumental in helping the society secure a Heritage Legacy Fund grant.

Working with alumni student Lucas Hung and director Evan Fryer, Lucas and Jennifer applied for a grant to Heritage BC for a project entitled Taking Action with Elders. This grant enabled alumni students attending the Provincial Fair in Victoria to work with indigenous elder, Dr. John Elliott. Jennifer also initiated a Giving Tuesday campaign and drafted a comprehensive fundraising plan for 2018-2019.

Although we were unable to reach the plan's ambitious target of raising \$70,000, the committee did have some success in moving forward with fundraising initiatives including an annual fundraiser, A Night at the Museum with Heritage Fairs. The

committee also initiated meetings with the Ministry of Education and Mary Campone made a concerted effort at connecting with school boards and asking for transportation funds for students attending the Provincial Fair.

Overall, there is still lots of work that needs to be done, but we have a dedicated group of directors who will work together to ensure that the society is able to carry out its vision of bringing Heritage Fairs to young people across the province.



Highlights

Heritage Legacy Fund Grant - \$7500

Letter Campaign to BC School Districts to offset the cost of transportation to the Provincial Fair - \$11000

Annual Fundraising Event – A Night at the Museum with Heritage Fairs - \$5000

Giving Tuesday Campaign - \$1000

Individual Donations

Facebook Birthday Campaigns – Jennifer Iredale & Hoberly Hove

Corporate Donations

BC Power Pioneers

Acme Building Services

Don Luxton Associates

Iredale Architecture

Julie Schueck Consulting

School and Regional Fairs Committee Report

Mary Campone

This committee comprising of new and past members of our Society began the new fiscal year with great expectations. With the addition of new members, Visiliki Douglas and Jen Garner, joining the team of Stephanie Haddaway, Sarah McLeod, Evan Fryer, Lorraine Lindsay and myself, our expectations were excellent with one of our main goals being to focus on editing and revising the existing BCHFS Manual, which continues to be a work in progress. Unfortunately, the unexpected resignation of our Provincial Coordinator meant some internal reorganization of responsibilities within our Board. Our focus changed as more time was needed to continue working with Regional Fairs Coordinators with registration forms and travel arrangements to the Provincial Fair, work on sponsorship applications, pursue a number of funding initiatives including a letter writing campaign to school district Superintendents, Ministry of Education and Ministry of Land, Forest and Natural Resources (Heritage Branch), and working on the fundraising event.

Both Sarah and Evan are to be commended for their continued efforts, along with fellow director, Jennifer Iredale, to meet numerous times with Ministry of Education and Ministry of Land, Forests and Natural Resources staff in Victoria. As well, Sarah is to be commended on attending the First Nations Education Steering Committee Conference in Vancouver and promoting BCHFS, Heritage Inquiry and the Heritage Fairs Program.

We continue to be appreciative of the long-time support of the following agencies for providing Awards for our Program:

- BC Hydro Power Pioneers
- The Chinese Canadian Historical Society of BC
- The Lieutenant Governor of BC
- The United Empire Loyalists Association of Canada
- BC Heritage Branch (Historic Places)
- Heritage BC (Rich Culture/Other Voices)
- Canada's History Society

We would like to thank Christa Hanson from the National Historic Sites of Canada, Coastal BC Division for providing the Parks Canada National History Award added this year. As well, the Chinese Canadian Historical Society of BC surprised many of our participants by inviting some of the recipients this Award to their Annual Gala Dinner in Richmond in May.



Membership Committee

Evan Fryer & Judy Dunn

The purposes of the Membership Committee are two-fold:

1. To expand membership
2. To develop and improve benefits for members of the BCHFS

Towards these purposes the Committee took responsibility for the following:

1. This is the fourth year that every Provincial Fair Delegate has joined the BCHFS. Not only is this beneficial for membership numbers, but this campaign raises additional funds for the society as well as raising the profile of the society and keeping students connected to BCHFS for at least a year following the attendance at a Provincial Fair.
2. Updating the website to allow for memberships to be collected on-line through Pay Pal. This is the second year we have done this and there continues to be growing pains but it does allow for membership to be paid on-line.

Next year, the Committee would like to continue to improve the following:

1. Building upon and advertising the benefits for members of the BCHFS
2. Explore ways to retain our youth members of the Society.



Number of Members:

2014-15:	41 Members
2015-16:	84 Members
2016-17:	119 Members
2017-18:	126 Members
2018-19:	71 Members

Alumni Committee

Rachel Meloche, Alumni Committee Coordinator

For 2018-2019, Rachel oversaw the Alumni Council, and Keilin Gorman assisted. The council completed social media and blog posts, monthly conference calls, and the major project we completed for the Gulf of Georgia Cannery.

In terms of social media, Julia Fabbro-Smith managed the Instagram account and will continue to manage it for the next year. Many of the alumni on the council contributed to posts and the account was used to advertise upcoming events, fundraisers, etc. One of the council's ongoing projects is the "On this Day" Facebook posts. For the blog posts, two alumni were tasked with writing an entry every month. The posts were focused on helping teachers and students get involved in Heritage Fair or develop their projects. Additional blog posts were welcomed if anyone was interested in a particular topic or historical event.

Monthly conference calls were scheduled to discuss the Gulf of Georgia Cannery project and share updates on all of the moving parts. This was effective in checking in with each member of the council to ensure that they were completing their share of the project. The rest of the call was dedicated to a discussion topic, covering everything from everyone's family history, analyzing primary sources, or how to lead difficult historical discussions.

The Gulf of Georgia Cannery project was led by Vedanshi Vala as she has lots of experience with editing and creating video projects. Although the focus was on the 125th anniversary of the cannery, the history of each region represented by the council was included as well. The alumni were separated into groups for filming, researching, and creating a script. A timeline was set to ensure all deadlines were met by the council and Rachel was the liaison between the council and the Cannery Society.



Regional Award Winners and Projects

Central BC

BC Hydro Power Pioneer Award
 Eliana Thomas (Grade 5) Empowering the Peace Pioneers
 Parks Canada National History Award
 Jenna Sutton (Grade 6)How Viola Desmond Changed Canada
 Historic Places
 Tia Parker (Grade 4)Barkerville
 Rich Culture / Other Voices (Heritage BC)
 Mya Gervais (Grade 7) Canadian Truth and Reconciliation
 Chinese Canadian Historical Society
 Alysha Cheang (Grade 6) Racism
 BCHFS Stellar Achievement Awards
 Valerie Wood (Grade 7)Canada's Ups & Downs
 Daniel Wilson (Grade 7) Coast to Coast: RCMP Air Service
 Lila DiGiusepp (Grade 6) Devil's Club: A Journey into Ethnobotany
 Ava Matthews (Grade 4) Woodland Caribou
 Danya Gray (Grade 5) Hudson's Bay Company

Delta-Surrey

BC Hydro Power Pioneer Award
 Avnaj Bhullar (Grade 4) Natural Resources
 Parks Canada National History Award
 Izabella Kourouma (Grade 4) Viola Desmond: Civil Rights Hero
 Historic Places
 Dylia Walden (Grade 6) The Orpheum
 Rich Culture / Other Voices (Heritage BC)
 Kushneet Buttar (Grade 7)The Highway of Tears
 Chinese Canadian Historical Society
 Herleen Kaur Viridi (Grade 5) The Last Spike
 United Empire Loyalists
 Tomas Lemay (Grade 4) Samuel de Champlain
 Lieutenant Governor Literacy Award
 Anshveer Pelia (Grade 4) The Canadian Horse
 BCHFS Stellar Achievement Awards
 Gursimran Mann (Grade 4) Residential Schools
 Jaslin Samra (Grade 5)World War One
 Fenix Guay (Grade 4) Quebec City
 Lucy Diaz (Grade 7) Accessible Washrooms: Are They?
 Mannraj Phul (Grade 5)Terry Fox: A Story of Hope
 Mila Kanda (Grade 5) Proud to be Canadian

Fraser Valley

Historic Places
 Kenton Gilbert (Grade 7) Walhachin Ranch
 Chinese Canadian Historical Society
 Jaden Drummond (Grade 5) Canadian Pacific Railway
 Rich Culture / Other Voices (Heritage BC)
 Mika Takasaki (Grade 7)Japanese Internment
 United Empire Loyalists
 Jack Smeed (Grade 7) How was a distant relative of mine...
 Parks Canada National History Award
 Sukhveer Buttar (Grade 8)One Syringe, Big Difference

Kamloops-Thompson

Historic Places
 Tanis Frangiadakis (Grade 6)Walhachin
 BC Hydro Power Pioneer Award
 Kaiya Kobayashi (Grade 5) Kobayashi's History in BC
 Rich Culture / Other Voices (Heritage BC)
 Mariam Williams (Grade 6)The Edmonton Grads
 Chinese Canadian Historical Society
 Gabi Rempel (Grade 5) Canadian Pacific Railway
 Lieutenant Governor's Literacy Award
 Gavin Ewan (Grade 6)Fighting the Good Fight
 United Empire Loyalists
 Devon Worthington (Grade 5) Vimy Ridge
 Parks Canada National History Award
 Josh Valdal (Grade 5)Canadian National Parks

North Vancouver Island

Historic Places
 Kayla Stuber (Grade 6)Hudson's Hope
 BC Hydro Power Pioneer Award
 Vivo Navina (Grade 6) Don Cherry

Chinese Canadian Historical Society
 Billie Naisby (Grade 6)Cumberland's Chinatown
 Parks Canada National History Award
 Breen Beswick (Grade 6) Jack Newton
 BCHFS Stellar Achievement Award
 Hadley Gillis (Grade 5) Roberta Bondar

North Vancouver Island

BC Hydro Power Pioneer Award
 Arwen Rauguth-Treleaven (Grade 7) O'Keefe Ranch
 Chinese Canadian Historical Society
 Belle Fournier (Grade 5) Family Immigration from England
 Parks Canada National History Award
 Sierra Scott (Grade 5)Viola Desmond

Okanagan

Chinese Canadian Historical Society
 Lukas Sissor (Grade 6) Fire, Ice and Silver
 Parks Canada National History Award
 Crystal Jiang (Grade 6) Murder by the Shore
 Peer's Choice Award
 Matthew Domeij (Grade 6) Tyrant 22
 BCHFS Stellar Achievement Awards
 Lauren LaRocque (Grade 6) Bruce Aikenhead: Space Pioneer
 Sidra Sarwar (Grade 6)Mosques in Canada
 Alexandr Turner (Grade 7) Homesteading in Canada

Richmond

Historic Places
 Ian Wan & Marcus Yee (Grade 4)Fort Victoria
 BC Hydro Power Pioneer Award
 Trevor Yeung (Grade 7) David Suzuki
 Rich Culture / Other Voices (Heritage BC)
 Preet Dhillon (Grade 7) Japanese Canadian Internment
 Chinese Canadian Historical Society
 Michelle Wang (Grade 6) Discrimination Against the Chinese
 United Empire Loyalists
 Alivia Lam & Valerie Chow (Grade 4) The Man Who Ate His Boots
 Lieutenant Governor's Literacy Award
 Chloe Lam (Grade 6) Interviews with L.M. Montgomery
 Parks Canada National History Award
 Libby Kiesman (Grade 8) Steveston's Legacy
 BCHFS Stellar Achievement Awards
 Jayden Dulay (Grade 5)Early Sikh Settlement
 Raymond Liu (Grade 4)Bird Watching in BC
 Amrit Singh (Grade 9)Sikh Canadians
 Desta Daniel (runner up; Grade 5)Viola Desmond

South Vancouver Island

Historic Places
 Elizabeth Clark (Grade 5) Chinatown
 Rich Culture / Other Voices (Heritage BC)
 Salina Dhrolia (Grade 5)Viola Desmond
 Chinese Canadian Historical Society
 Bryce Kong (Grade 8)Force 136 Behind Enemy Lines
 Lieutenant Governor's Literacy Award
 Keira Liebel (Grade 5) Working on the CPR
 Parks Canada National History Award
 Thomas Jungen (Grade 6) Chronicles of the Coast

Vancouver

Historic Places
 Brandon Kwan (Grade 4) Steveston Village
 Rich Culture / Other Voices (Heritage BC)
 Sarah Ziff (Grade 7) From Criminals to Equals
 Chinese Canadian Historical Society
 Ella McLaren-Kennedy (Grade 4) Yip Sang
 United Empire Loyalists
 Abhiyan Azad (Grade 6) Francis Pegahnagabow
 Lieutenant Governor's Literacy Award
 Shuyou Wen (Grade 4) Unwanted Warriors
 Parks Canada National History Award
 Sadie Koshan (Grade 7) Tommy Douglas