

# CANNERY CURRENTS



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FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, REBECCA CLARKE WINTER ISSUE | VOLUME 20, NO. 1 | JANUARY 2015

## 2014 Highlights

### A Banner Year

2014 was a banner year for the Gulf of Georgia Cannery. For the first time in history, more than 50,000 people visited the site. This was a 7.6% increase from the previous high in 2010. This increase was mainly attributed to higher general admission and popular special events.

Visitor feedback remained positive with 100% of those surveyed very or extremely satisfied with their visit. Comments from visitors included, "Wonderful tour!", "One of the best museums I've ever been to!", "Excellent for children." Kudos to all our staff and volunteers for making this happen!

Another record breaking number was the revenue from our gift shop. The

shop brought in over \$188,000, an increase of 26% over last year. Thanks to our stellar gift shop team, the shop not only brings in important revenue to support Society activities but also looks beautiful and gives visitors an opportunity to take home a memory of their visit.

Despite the teacher strike in 2014, our group bookings remained strong with over 250 groups visiting from across the lower mainland and further. Our programs team worked hard to create successful new programs for children in pre-school and out-of-school care centres. Feedback remains positive with one teacher commenting, "Fabulous! Information overload! (a good thing) Two weeks have passed since our visit and we are still talking (daily) about the things we learned."

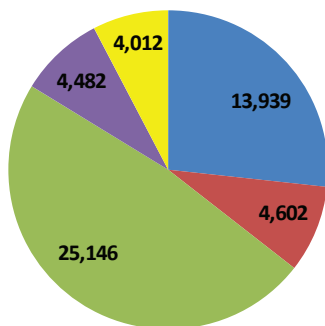
Last but not least was the introduction of the Cannery Farmers' Market this past fall. While a surprise addition late in the year, the Market has proven a success by raising our profile in the Richmond community, bringing in 8400 visitors and over \$10,000 revenue. The Market also provides a new and important way for the Cannery to connect to the community by offering volunteer opportunities and a place for community members, vendors and groups to come together.

I hope you had a wonderful 2014 as well and, like us, are cooking up great plans for this New Year. I look forward to telling you all about them soon.

**REBECCA CLARKE**

### 2014 Visitor Attendance

Total = 52,181



- General Admission
- Promotional Admission
- Special Events
- School Programs
- Group Tours

### OUR NEW WEBSITE!

The Society website has been redesigned with a new look and new content -- have a look at:  
[www.gulfofgeorgiacannery.org](http://www.gulfofgeorgiacannery.org)

Please let us know what you think, and if there is anything we can do to improve it. Visit the website for the latest information on exhibits, events, open hours and Cannery news!

### Collections Spotlight: Helen Moysiuk Photo Collection

This past summer a fascinating set of original photographs belonging to Mrs. Helen Moysiuk was lent to the Society for scanning so that the digital copies could be added to our Historic Photo Collection. Almost all of the images (173 of them!) were taken by Mrs. Moysiuk while she was living and working at the Namu Cannery on the central BC coast during July and August of 1948.

It was wonderful to be able to meet Helen in person and talk with her about her summer working at Namu, and her story certainly gives a great perspective to this photo collection as a whole! She described to me how she and her friend Marg, two 18 year olds fresh out of high school, each took a single suitcase and made the trip up the BC coast on the Union Steamship *S.S. Catala*.

During their time there, Helen worked in the Cannery packing cans of salmon into boxes while Marg worked as a waitress in the cafeteria. Helen's job required her to work fast, packing the cans two at a time to prevent the line from backing up. She remembers there being a lot of other students working the cannery as well, mostly university students that could earn



*Helen (centre), Marg (right) and a few other students making their way up to Namu on the S.S. Catala. G2014.007.015*

quite a bit of money as there was always lots of overtime work available. There were also quite a few First Nations girls from nearby Bella Bella working at the Cannery, though little to no workers of Asian descent.

Namu was situated in a very isolated location, meaning that when the cannery employees were not working, there were a limited number of activities available to occupy one's time. Helen recalls there was a lot of time spent sitting around and talking, playing cards, and taking walks down the board walk to the nearby Namu Lake. On the weekends, many of the fishermen would come to the cannery to visit and rest on their days off as well. It was in these downtimes that

Helen took the opportunity to use her camera and capture her experience of working there – lucky for us!

The Helen Moysiuk Collection will soon be available for viewing in its entirety through our online Historic Photo Database at <http://collection.gulfofgeorgiacannery.com>.

#### HEIDI RAMPFL

*Do you have a story or photos from your experience working in a cannery? If your answer is yes, we want to hear from you! Please contact Heidi, Collections Manager at 604-664-9007 or [heidi.rampfl@pc.gc.ca](mailto:heidi.rampfl@pc.gc.ca) to share your cannery experience!*



*The First Nations village closest to Namu. There were no roads – only trails and boardwalks. G2014.007.038*

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

Cannery Farmers' Market:  
February 1 & 15, March 1, 15 & 29  
April 12 & 26

Feb. 9: Family Day at the Cannery  
(kids under 15 are free admission)

Mar. 16 - 29: Spring Break at the Cannery

April 11: Annual General Meeting and Exhibit Opening

### Salmon in the Classroom

The Cannery is pleased to host the Salmon in the Classroom program for our fourth year. Eggs from Little Campbell Hatchery will transform into fry this spring before being released into the Little Campbell River this spring. Stop by to visit our salmon nursery!

### Spring Break at the Cannery

Spring Break starts on March 16 this year and the Cannery will be hosting workshops from 1-3 on weekdays. Visit us to learn about the boats in Steveston harbour, try your hand at mending net, and discover the fascinating wildlife just off our shores. Visit our website: [www.gulfofgeorgiacannery.org](http://www.gulfofgeorgiacannery.org) for details.

KAREN LEE



*Last year's salmon fry release*

## VOLUNTEERS

### Vancouver Maritime Museum Visit

On November 26th, 2014, a group of society volunteers set sail for another outing, this time to the Vancouver Maritime Museum, where we were first treated to a tour of the St. Roch National Historic Site. Our tour guide Tom, who was a volunteer himself, taught us all about the history of the boat and the challenges the crew faced during its journey through the Northwest Passage.

We also took some time to view the artwork in the TK Gallery, as well as the other permanent exhibits and learned a bit more about what the Maritime Museum has to offer: school programs, submarines, and pirates!

Duncan, who is in charge of the collections, then took us through the new Canadian Navy feature exhibit, which was scheduled to open the day after our visit. We found the exhibit fascinating: we learned many interesting

things, including the fact that BC's Premier covertly purchased a pair of submarines in WW1 from America out from under Chile's nose! The exhibit runs until the spring, so if you have the opportunity be sure to check it out.

In addition to receiving a behind-the-scenes tour of the new exhibit, we were also treated to a tour of the collections space to see many of the different items they have, including pieces of art, old uniforms, and a model of the Titanic. All in all, it was another exciting outing full of fascinating facts and fun times!

D'ARCY SCHUSTER

*We are looking for volunteers to transform into costumed Cannery workers during the summer season, from May 1st to September 30th. Please contact D'Arcy if you or anyone you know may be interested: [d'arcy.schuster@pc.gc.ca](mailto:d'arcy.schuster@pc.gc.ca)*



### CANNERY STORE

New in the Cannery Store: Silver jewellery from First Nations artist Nancy Dawson. Nancy was born in Alert Bay, her mother was from the Mamaleqala Qwe'Qwa'Sot'Enox band and her father was German. She became deeply interested in Kwaguitl art when she was teaching her son about their cultural heritage. She began by carving masks and poles in wood, and expanded to designing and producing jewellery. Her pieces are much sought after and feature First Nations designs, rendered in sterling silver.

ROB HART

# Thank you for your support all new & renewing members

(AS OF JANUARY 15, 2015)

Please note your name appears here only when you renew or join.  
It does not appear in every issue.

## Honorary & Lifetime Members

Jim Barlow	Bud Sakamoto
Robbie Johnson	

## Individual & Family Members

Abbott Family	Margaret Hewlett & Chris Morris	Susan Ramberg
Claire & Milan Banjanin	Anne & Ed Ikeda	Lynda Rathburn
Jana Banjanin & Colin Foster	Josephine Johnson	Ross Richardson & family
Patricia Barnes	Brigitta Knapen	Rita Roberts
Mike Barnsley	Cindy & Ty Knappett	Sharon Renneberg
Gloria Jean Campbell	Joanne Lee & family	Oscar Romero
Aline Ferchichi	Leslie Mcfarland	Roy Sakata
Betty Fernyhough	Errol McKinstry	Jean Sano
Robert Forsman	Jenny & Duncan McLean	Claire Smythe
Peter Goldberg & family	Anna Louise McMath	Ian Sproull
Susan & Scott Gardiner	Frank Millerd	Jacqui Turner
Mary Gardner	Carolyn Nazereth	Glenda Wey
Lynn Green	Robert & Lea Oye	Elaine Wilson
Ben & Diane Gwaltney	Lois Parry	Sheila Woods
	Margaret Perry	Yonnie Yonemoto
	Brian & Mary Phillips	Mari Yoshitake & family
	Gwynneth Quirk	

## Corporate Members

Delta Community Living Society	Steveston Garden Suite
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## BOARD MEMBERS

Dave Semple - Chair	Eileen Carefoot
Kit Grauer- 1st Vice Chair	Ken Flores
Geoff Matheson- 2nd Vice Chair	Ryan Garnett
Jim Kojima - Treasurer	Everett Pierce
Nora Medenwalt - Secretary	Jon Spalding
Ralph Turner - Past Chair	Jim Van der Tas

## SOCIETY STAFF

Rebecca Clarke Executive Director rebecca.clarke@pc.gc.ca	Mimi Horita Marketing & Visitor Services Manager mimi.horita@pc.gc.ca
Rob Hart Operations Manager rob.hart@pc.gc.ca	Annika Penner Public Programs Assistant annika.penner@pc.gc.ca
Karen Lee Program Manager karen.lee@pc.gc.ca	Shannon Macelli Programs Coordinator shannon.macelli@pc.gc.ca
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Patricia Toti Special Events Coordinator patricia.toti@pc.gc.ca	gog.info@pc.gc.ca 604.664.9009

## HERITAGE INTERPRETERS

Ishan Chaudhari	Quinnie Sin
Mary Chen	Mark Turpin
Andrea Park	Abigail Uher
Roberta Price	Andrew Wade
D'Arcy Schuster	Kitty Yan

## GIFT SHOP ASSOCIATES

Lynne Scott	Elizabeth Ang Lim
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## BECOME A MEMBER OR RENEW TODAY !

I wish to join the Gulf of Georgia Cannery Society :

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Fax \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Cheques payable to: Gulf of Georgia Cannery Society |  
12138 Fourth Avenue, Richmond, B.C. V7E 3J1 | Telephone: 604-664-9009

Corporate \$60     Family \$35     Individual \$20     Senior (55+) \$18     New

Renewal     Change of Address     DONATION (amount) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please check here if you do NOT wish to have your name published as a new or renewing member.

As a member of the Society, we will be sending you updates on events and information about the Cannery. Please check below if you do NOT wish to receive these emails.

I do NOT wish to receive email updates from the Society