

CANNERY CURRENTS

INSIDE

Madeleine Therrien

125th Canniversary

*Collaboration is Essential,
and Learning is Constant*

Winter Events



WINTER ISSUE | VOLUME 23, NO. 4 DECEMBER 2018

From the Executive Director

A Message from our new ED, Stephanie Halapija

Greetings and Salutations! It gives me immense pleasure to introduce myself as the new Executive Director of the Gulf of Georgia Cannery Society. It's been a whirlwind three months since I moved from Laxgaltsa'ap, B.C. (about a 17 hour drive north if you are feeling adventurous) to not only join the amazing, passionate and dedicated staff of the Cannery, but to settle as a member of the Steveston community.

I spent the beginning of my career shovelling snow and digging through the clay of Ontario soil as an archaeologist. If I wasn't working and studying in Ontario, I would be slogging sand and basking in the desert sun of the Middle East – if you ever want travel tips for Egypt, I'm your woman! When my 'shovel bum' days ended I transitioned to a field of equal love - museums and historic places. I've been curating, exhibiting, fundraising and director-ing ever since. I've been fortunate enough to work with small institutions like the Nisga'a Museum (my most recent post as Curator and Director), to large organizations such as the Museum of Anthropology and the

Canadian Museum of History. I focus on creating exhibitions and content centered on stories, ideas and shared human history. I am also an ally of Reconciliation; I have spent the better part of my Museum career working for and with Indigenous peoples, within mainstream museum environments and First Nations museums/cultural centres.

It is a very exciting time in our industry, for technological development, reconciliation and the power of a story. I truly believe that museums and historic spaces are unique and magical; they allow for communication and authentic experiences over diverse audiences like no other spaces on earth. They offer a safe place to learn about and discuss difficult topics. Most importantly, they allow us to celebrate the power of stories, of shared histories and unrecorded knowledge. To put it simply, I believe a place like the Gulf of



Georgia Cannery National Historic Site (and museums in general) can change the world. I am excited to be a part of that change and as an avid fisher myself, who grew up fishing almost every weekend with my father, I can see and feel the power of the many stories at the Cannery.

I look forward to working with the incredible team, Board and community to preserve and celebrate those stories.

My door is always open and I am always happy to listen! So please, come and introduce yourself and tell me a tale or two and let's build greatness together.

Warm Regards,

STEPHANIE HALAPIJA

In Memoriam

Madeleine Therrien, a longtime resident of Steveston and member of the Gulf of Georgia Cannery Society, passed away on September 3, 2018. Born in Alberta in 1932, she came to Steveston with her family in 1941. Both her father Jules and brother Paul gillnet fished for Canfisco, and her father worked in the Cannery's reduction plant during the off season. As teenagers, Madeleine and her sister Jackie worked in the Gulf of Georgia net loft repairing nets. "This was where I earned my first pay cheque," she said.

Madeleine was a strong supporter of heritage in Steveston, serving on the Board of the Steveston Historical Society in 1987 as the representative of the then newly formed Gulf of Georgia Cannery Society. As a charter member and Board Director of our Society, she helped to lobby politicians at all levels (city, provincial and federal) in the campaign to establish our site.



Madeleine Therrien points to herself in a 1949 group photo of the Gulf of Georgia net loft crew during a visit to the Cannery in 2011.

Madeleine is also remembered as a teacher-librarian at Hugh Boyd school until her retirement in 1988.

We extend our condolences to her family.

SUBMITTED BY: RALPH AND EDITH TURNER



G1998.013.001.020 – Olaf Anderson, Madeleine Therrien, Walter Lee, and Jackie Therrien pose next to buildings at the Gulf of Georgia Cannery, ca. 1949.



G1998.013.001.008 – Several members of the Gulf of Georgia net loft crew including Roger Goodall, Madeleine Therrien, Jackie Therrien, Matt Stefanich, Mona McDonald, and Mike the dog, ca. 1949.

The Cannery's Quasiquintennial in 2019



Ocean Brand Salmon label, produced for the Gulf of Georgia Canning Co. during the first year of operation in 1894, G2001.038red.

Did you know - 2019 will mark the 125-year "Canniversary" of the building of the Gulf of Georgia Cannery, built in 1894. Keep an eye on our website, this newsletter, and our social media throughout 2019 to see how we will be celebrating this important Cannery milestone!

HEIDI RAMPFL

PUBLIC PROGRAMS

Collaboration is Essential, and Learning is Constant

A few weeks ago, I was speaking with our Youth Leadership Volunteers when one of the students asked me what it is like to work at the Cannery. The short version of my answer is “collaboration is essential, and learning is constant”. Here are a few highlights from the past year that illustrate my point:

Ebb and Flow: Turning Points in West Coast Fishing History

Board Vice Chair, Kit Grauer, and I co-wrote an article about our new film for the BC Museum Association’s magazine *Round Up* Issue 273. The article shares how the Gulf of Georgia Cannery Society and the Port Edward Historical Society (that operates North Pacific Cannery National Historic Site) collaborated to create the 25-minute film *Ebb & Flow: Turning Points in West Coast Fishing History*.

While the Cannery’s original film, *Journey Through Time*, will still play a part in our educational programming, *Ebb & Flow* represents a much-needed update to the main interpretive material shown in the theatre. The film can also be viewed at the North Pacific Cannery

National Historic Site, and on-line. Denman Digital, who produced the film, sought input from multiple stakeholders, fisheries workers, and Gulf of Georgia Cannery Society and Northern Pacific Cannery staff and volunteers, to develop the storyboard for the film. A small group of these stakeholders were filmed in interviews, to add a personal touch to each section of the film. The strength of the film is in these collaborations.

Canning Line Tour Update

If you take a Cannery Canning Line tour in the future, you may notice an Indigenous land acknowledgement during the introduction to the tour. The wording we will use is “The Cannery is on the traditional and unceded territory of the Hən̓q̓əmin̓əm̓ (Hunk-uh-MEE-num) speaking people”.

Hən̓q̓əmin̓əm̓ is the traditional language of people living on the Fraser River delta and up the Fraser River to Fort Langley.

The wording was decided in consultation with Musqueam Protocols Officer Gordon Grant, who I met recently at an Indigenous Collaborative Table group meeting. We confirmed that the wording was respectful to the

Musqueam Nation while also acknowledging that the resources of the area were shared by many groups. I am so pleased to sit at this collaborative table to strengthen our relationships with Musqueam and other arts, culture and heritage organizations in Richmond.

Problem Solving Outdated Audio-Visual Equipment

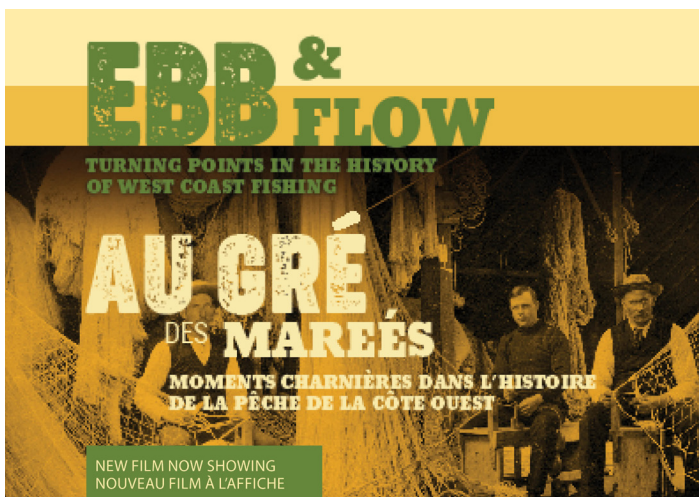


Volunteer Sheldon Nider at one of the cannery line’s audio-video kiosks in need of repair.

Longtime volunteer, Sheldon Nider, has been helping me solve some of the AV challenges along the cannery line. The technology is showing its age and it is getting harder to find replacement parts. Sheldon has been using his tech skills to install, remove, and re-install the screens for the videos along the cannery line as we try different options.

We are looking towards a more permanent solution, but for now, Sheldon’s help has been invaluable to a non-techie like me!

SHANNON KING



Thank you for your support all new & renewing members

(AS OF NOVEMBER 15 2018)

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

Corporate Members

Dave's Fish & Chips Richmond Tourism
Dominique Jarry Sugar Art Steveston Buddhist Temple

Individual & Family Members

Betsy Armerding	Glenn & Diane Ludwig & family
Heather Ayles	Ian Maclean & family
Connie Baxter & Geoff Baile	Renee McFadden
Pauline Bourgeas	Anne-Louise McMath
Catherine Butler	Rachel Meloche
Nancy Buchan	Frank Millerd
Gene S. Chan	William Murdoch & family
Mary Chan	M.A. Nowakowsky
S. Bradley Chong	Margaret Perry
Diane Douglas	Vefa Rahani
Margaret Dunwoody	Sharon Renneberg
Mickey Fitzgerald	Sheila Schaap
Sarah Glen & family	Harvey Sewers
Anne & Tom Green	Priscilla Shung & family
Carlie Holland & Denyne Butler	Brian Treharne
Bonita Hunter	Bill & Mona Westlands
Tomoko Kakehi	Samaya Wittneben

Member's Photo Submission



Thanks to Society member Joanne for submitting this adorable photo of her granddaughter and friend in our Cannery Kids' Corner, dressed up as Cannery workers last year.

UPCOMING EVENTS

December 1-31: Steveston Festival of Trees
Annual display of holiday trees decorated by merchants and organizations from the Steveston community. Included in admission.

December 2: Santa visits the Cannery
Come to the Boiler House Theatre between 2-4pm for photos with Santa Claus (bring your own camera). Timed tickets available at noon.

December 2, 9 & 16, 10am to 3pm: Cannery Farmers' Market Free admission

December 25 & 26, January 1: Cannery closed.

December 24 & 31: Cannery holiday hours
10am to 1pm

February 3 & 17, 10am to 3pm: Cannery Farmers' Market Free Admission

February 19 10am to 3pm: Family Day

BECOME A MEMBER OR RENEW TODAY !

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