

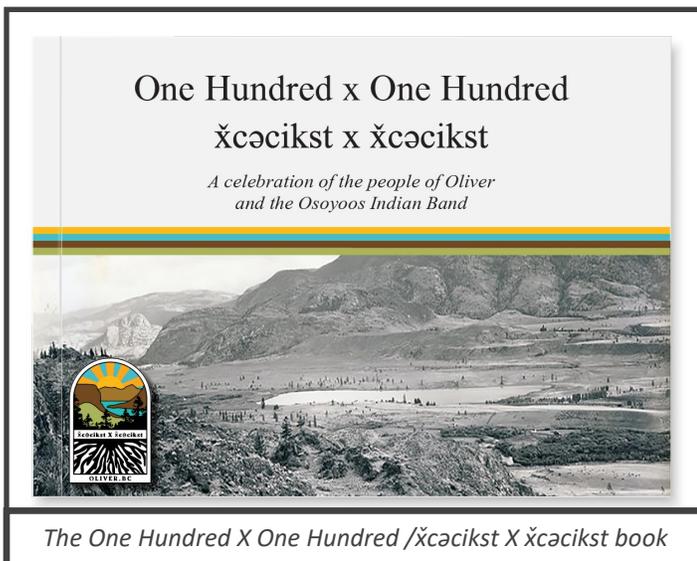


Night of Festive Fun Crafts Part of 100 X 100 Project

A festive crafting session recently took place as part of the 100 x 100 Project. On Dec. 4th at 6:30 pm, a video craft demonstration of 3 holiday crafts was streamed live on the ODHS Facebook page. Curator Rebecca Rizzo demonstrated how to make 3 kid-friendly crafts, allowing participants to follow along from the safety and comfort of their homes. Free kits were available with materials for the crafts, based on ornaments popular during the 1920s. This included a paper carriage lantern, a red cardinal ornament, and a wreath medallion. Kits were available at the Museum or at the District Wine Village's Winter Market. And if you couldn't make the Dec. 4th demo, don't worry. The session was recorded and is available on the ODHS Facebook page to allow you to participate at the most convenient time for you. Happy crafting!



Festive Fun craft kits were available for pickup at the Museum



The One Hundred X One Hundred /x̣c̣əc̣ɪḳsṭ X̣ x̣c̣əc̣ɪḳsṭ book

100 X 100 History Book Update

The One Hundred X One Hundred book is on its way, although unavoidable pandemic delays and supply chain issues have postponed its arrival to the end of December or early 2022. While the book itself will be late, pre-orders of the 96-page commemorative book are an option for holiday gift-giving, and the books themselves will be an excellent future buy for history buffs and local residents year-round. The new book is likely the most up-to-date Oliver history yet written, and features exciting bonus content such as videos, additional stories, and Okanagan words spoken aloud, which are linked to QR codes. Books are available for pre-order by calling or emailing the Oliver Archives at 250-498-4027 or info@oliverheritage.ca.

Seasonal Closure

The Museum and Archives will be closed Tuesday, Dec. 21st to Tuesday, Jan. 4th.

We wish you all a safe and happy holiday season and look forward to seeing you in the New Year!

Staff Update: Meet our Archives Assistant!



Archives Assistant Alec
Wolff

Hello! My name is Alec and I am really excited to be here interacting with the rich history of the South Okanagan. Born and raised in Bellevue, Washington, I moved to Vancouver to attend UBC in 2014, graduating in 2018 with a BA in history. Had I not met my wonderful Canadian fiancée I probably would've found myself begrudgingly moving back to the States, but through her sponsorship I've been lucky enough to become a permanent resident of Canada! After graduation, I lamented the lack of jobs related to my field of study (surprising, I know) and took up a job driving a water taxi in Vancouver as a fun way to earn money. For 3 years I drove the boat and was planning on school at the BCIT marine campus; from there I would have the opportunity to work on the bridge of a large vessel. However, another amazing opportunity presented itself when my fiancée and I decided to move to Osoyoos for her new job as a paramedic with BC Ambulance.

It was a great delight to see that the Oliver and District Heritage Society was looking for an assistant archivist and I am really pleased I can finally utilize my love of history in a professional sense. While having been out of practice for several years I do have experience in archival work. In the past I've done work digitizing old film prints for a documentary filmmaker and I had the unenviable task of sorting through tens of thousands of old pennies for a rare coin store. The coins were sorted by year and place of mint, the hope being that in the haystack of pennies we could find a valuable needle in the bunch. The work I've done so far at the ODHS has been much more rewarding and interesting, I am pleased to say, and it is such a unique opportunity to be able to hold real pieces of history in my hand every day (with gloves of course!). So far, my main duties have been digitizing our collection of the Oliver Chronicle, but recently I was given the opportunity to assist folks who may want to research the veterans they know for Remembrance Day. I really look forward to getting to know the community and its history over the coming months and am extremely grateful for the ODHS for this opportunity to get my foot in the door of museum work.

New Weatherproof Text Panels in Fairview Jail

The Fairview Jail exhibit received a needed makeover last week. Thanks to generous donations from both the RDOS and the Town of Oliver, the current peeling exhibit text panels have been replaced with newly designed weatherproof ones. The old panels in the Jail were made out of vinyl and coroplast which had become damaged due to the building's susceptibility to changing temperatures. Multiple panels had been removed because they were no longer staying firmly attached to the walls. With the new funding, we were able to order new moisture-proof aluminum panels, which were designed and researched by former curator Veronica Parkes. The new panels can endure rain, snow, and changes in humidity. The new panels also present additional information on Fairview and the people who lived there, ensuring that the history of the old mining town is presented in a clear and visually appealing way. You will also notice more archival photographs on the new panels that help to tell the story of the old mining town. We invite everyone to come and see the panels in the New Year.



A display case inside the Fairview Jail shows off some of the new durable and visually appealing text panels

Our deepest thanks to the Town of Oliver and the RDOS for providing this generous funding.

Visit us at www.oliverheritage.ca for the latest news, updates, and heritage resources!

100 X 100 Exhibit Now Open

The Museum's new temporary "One Hundred X One Hundred Exhibit" officially launched on August 14th, in time for the week-long 100 X 100 Festival. The exhibit presents a comprehensive view of the people and events that have shaped the Oliver community from its beginnings in 1921 to the present-day. It also recognizes the importance of the Osoyoos Indian Band and its members, acknowledging and celebrating over 10,000 years of their history in this area, their ongoing partnership with Oliver, and how their entrepreneurial skillset continues to benefit both communities. Designed using the color scheme of the Oliver flag, the exhibit offers a vibrant look into the community's past 100 years, complete with over 60 archival photographs and 40 artifacts from the ODHS collection. One of the visual focal points of the exhibit is a timeline that highlights key events which occurred in each decade, beginning in the 1920s and extending to 2021. Every one of these decades is showered with multiple archival photographs that emit the energy of Oliver at that specific point in time as well as showing ever-changing views of Main Street. The exhibit also offers oral history interview footage of some of Oliver's earliest residents who share stories of the community and their experiences while living here. The exhibit was a joint effort, with past and present ODHS staff members providing concepts and research for new curator Rebecca Rizzo to build upon to research, write,



Attractive displays and plenty of artifacts in the exhibit

and design the final displays and panels. To ensure that the history of the Osoyoos Indian Band was presented accurately, OIB members Terry Baptiste and Jenna Bower lent us their help in editing the panels. Our deepest thanks to Terry and Jenna for their conscientious work which enriched the exhibit with a fuller picture of this community. Final installation required all hands on deck as staff and summer students worked tirelessly to ensure that the exhibit was ready to open in time for the festival. Thank you to everyone! We encourage you to stop by the Museum before May 2022 to view the One Hundred X One Hundred Exhibit. Take a journey back in time to the community's roots and learn how Oliver has grown into the place that we know and love today.

October Tours a Big Hit with Oliver Residents

October was extremely busy with two wildly popular historic tours for the spooky season. The "Historic Cemetery Tour" focused on the lives and accomplishments of some early Oliver citizens and the contributions they made to the community. The tour was run during the day to allow guests the opportunity to hear stories of notable individuals at their final resting places. Participants received a rare glimpse into the personalities of the families and individuals highlighted. The tour included the stories of Harry & Hettie Fairweather, Joseph Renyi, Carl Daniel & Beatrice Duthie Collen, Louis & Molly Deighton, Dr. Norbert John Ball, John Parsons & Sarah Jane McCuddy, Nurse Lucy Hack (nee Crafter), and Judge James Harper Mitchell. The second tour, "Fairview After Dark," took place at night on the Fairview walking trail and focused on the history, events, and unfortunate deaths that took place in the ghost town. Acting Director of the Fairview Heritage Townsite Society Fred Wiley and Okanagan Historical Society member Larry Shannon kindly lent their expertise to curator Rebecca Rizzo's tour research. In the dark with only flashlights lighting the gravel path, "Fairview After Dark" participants braved the cold, with the atmosphere only adding to the eeriness of the former town. With all 4 tours sold out and the addi-

tion of a 5th tour date to accommodate those placed on waitlists, the ODHS is thankful for the overwhelming interest in these tours. Due to the amazing public response, we are hoping to make them a part of our annual fall programming. Many thanks go out to Fred Wiley and Larry Shannon who offered their knowledge of the townsite, to the Fairview Heritage Townsite Society volunteers who spent time clearing the Fairview trails and making them safe, to the Town of Oliver for granting us permission to use the cemetery, and finally, to all the participants who made the event successful. We hope you enjoyed the tours and we hope to see you at our upcoming programming and events.

**FAIRVIEW
AFTER DARK**

Come and join the Oliver & District Museum on a tour of the old ghost town of Fairview and hear about the history, strange events, and disasters that occurred there.

DATES: OCTOBER 23RD & 30TH
TIME: 7:00 PM
LOCATION: FAIRVIEW KIOSK (ACROSS FROM WILLOWBROOK ROAD)
COST: \$2.00 - ODHS MEMBERS \$4.00 - GENERAL ADMISSION

Participants are asked to bring appropriate footwear and a flashlight. Pre-registration is required and spots are limited. Please email curator@oliverheritage.ca or call 778-439-3100 to reserve!

Fairview Tour poster

Three Projects at Museum Complete Thanks to Grant



New cedar shakes sit neatly in rows on the repaired artifact shelter roof at the Museum

A recent grant from the Community Economic Recovery Infrastructure Program (CERIP)'s Unique Heritage Infrastructure stream has allowed the ODHS to complete three major projects on its to-do list. The grant of \$23,626.00 from the Province, administered by Heritage BC, has allowed the Heritage Society to complete gentle and appropriate exterior cleaning and painting of the Museum building, replacement of old, heat-emitting light

bulbs in the 1896 Fairview Jail with fire-safe LED bulbs and fixtures, and repair the artifact shelter roof which adjoins the Garage building. The artifact shelter roof in particular was in very poor condition, and had started to collapse on one side, threatening the agricultural artifacts housed beneath it. The roofing was replaced with replica cedar shakes and the support beams were checked and strengthened. The work was completed in June by Jeremy's Handyman Service. The repaired roof will naturally weather to the same look and color of the Museum's roof, which is also cedar shake.

These three much-needed projects help ensure that the unique heritage infrastructure of the Museum and its associated outbuildings are in good repair and will be preserved along with their artifacts long into the future for the community to learn from and enjoy. If you haven't stopped by the Museum site yet to take a look, we encourage you to do so.

We gratefully acknowledge the financial support of the Province of British Columbia through the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development.



ODHS School Programs Soon to be Available Across BC

As the Covid-19 pandemic continues to make in person learning and visiting difficult, the ODHS has recently partnered with a brand-new online education platform, called "The VR Voyage." This new platform is assisting museums by expanding visitor access to virtual tours and programming. As our province is vast geographically, this platform will allow our educational programming and tours to reach classrooms across BC, allowing students the opportunity to learn more about the Oliver Museum, what we have to offer, and how to take part in our programs through virtual field trips. The VR Voyage website explains: "Virtual trips have recently formed into an entirely new market. Even before COVID, many students were already unable to travel to many places in their curriculum for logistical or cost reasons. The arrival of virtual tours removes that barrier. Now neither parents nor students must spend extra money to cover the cost of travel and programming fees. Many museums, art galleries, and even national parks are now available for exploration online or on platforms like The VR Voyage. Students can go on virtual field trips that were considered out of reach due to COVID or any other reason. Virtual field trips are not only cheaper alter-

natives; they are beneficial for creating memorable and interactive experiences for students which may not be possible for any number of reasons." We are in the early stages of developing our webpage for the platform and once complete, we will be showcasing our education programming on a provincial level. Our next step will be adding our walking tour and garden tour, and advertising the platform as a visitor option. We are excited to see what opportunities this new form of connection will bring and we are thankful to be able to share our knowledge of Oliver history with the rest of the province.



**BC MUSEUMS
ASSOCIATION**



THE VR VOYAGE

The VR Voyage, a partner of the BC Museums Association

First “Research to Remember Week” Held at Archives

For Remembrance Day week, the Archives offered residents help in learning more about the veterans in their family trees. “Research to Remember Week” ran Nov. 8th, 9th, 10th, and 12th, and provided visitors with the chance to drop into the Archives and learn how to look up veterans in their families.

Many Oliver residents have some military heritage, and the Research Week event was a great opportunity to learn more. Resources on offer included signage explaining how to use the Archives research library to find information on past residents, as well as handouts with lists of online databases focusing on veterans and military service records.

There was also a well put-together display of objects, photos, and documents relating to veterans, wartime volunteers, and workers on the Home Front. Archives Assistant Alec Wolff, who curated the display, was available during the week to help direct visitors in their searches.

Alec stated, “I believe it’s a really valuable thing to remember a loved one’s service, and there are few better ways of doing that than finding pieces of their past that can broaden the rich story of a veteran’s life.”

This event may become an annual tradition for future Novembers to allow Oliver residents to continue honouring and learning about the veterans in their lives.

Of course, the Archives is always open for people with research requests about local residents, veterans or otherwise. If you have a research request or would like to use the Archives research library to find information by yourself, please contact our staff to make an appointment. You can reach us by phone at 250-498-4027 or by email at info@oliverheritage.ca. Research requests by students grades K-12 are always free!



Some objects and photos from the Remembrance week display

New Educational Programs Starting for Schools



Gold panning will be one of the mining program activities

The Museum is in the midst of developing new educational programs which will be centered around the BC curriculum, particularly for grades 2 to 5, and be focused on the history of Oliver. Each program includes a hands-on aspect that brings the lessons to life for participants and allows them to put what they have learned during the lesson into action.

The first program “Pack It Up,” provides a history of Oliver’s packinghouses

and provides students with an understanding of the processes and individuals involved with transporting our fruits and vegetables from farming soil to the grocery stores. It also provides an understanding of the types of jobs that were found in packinghouse and who was generally hired for each position. It concludes with reference to the new technologies that have updated the packinghouse process

and how it has changed from when it began. In this program, students will have the opportunity to take part in a mock apple-packing competition where they will get first-hand experience of the grading, sorting, and packing process while racing against the clock to see who in their classroom is the fastest packer.

The second program, “A Miner’s Life for Me,” provides a history of the Fairview townsite and provides students with an understanding of the hardships and lifestyles of the people who lived there. It also provides an overview of the mining processes used at Fairview and a brief explanation on how minerals like gold are extracted from the earth. It concludes with students demonstrating their gold-panning skills. The third program being developed, “Digging Up the Past,” provides a focused introduction into archaeological practices and provides students with an understanding of where archaeological artifacts at museums come from and how they are found. It also encourages students to use inference-type thinking to draw conclusions about what artifacts can tell us about how people from the past lived. It concludes with students participating in a mock archaeological excavation. A brochure will soon be developed to advertise the programs and we can’t wait for prospective schools and students to participate!

100 X 100 Stamps

100 X 100 collectible stamps are now on sale, for a limited time, from the Museum and from Oliver Parks & Recreation. These stamps are real Canadian postage and feature either the colorful 100 X 100 logo artwork by artist Emilie Herbert or a photograph of the heritage-designated South Okanagan Lands Project office, now the Oliver Town office. Stamps are available in sheets of 25 for \$75.00 + tax or books of 12 for \$36.00 + tax.

Limited numbers of each option are available, so purchase your stamps today! Contact the Museum at 778-439-3100 or visit our website at www.oliverheritage.ca to order.

New Gift Shop Items

The Gift Shop has some new arrivals this year, as new 100 X 100 merchandise such as hoodies, T-shirts, stickers, and buttons are now available! These items feature the beautiful 100 X 100 Oliver logo created by local artist Emilie Herbert for 2021, and come in a variety of sizes and designs. They make a great memento and a cozy gift for loved ones. And, new photo magnets are also in stock, showing historic photos of Oliver and the Ditch irrigation system. These magnets are limited in number, so get yours today. Visit the Museum gift shop at 474 School Avenue, or visit our website at www.oliverheritage.ca for more information.

www.oliverheritage.ca

Museum



Location: 474 School Avenue

Mail: PO Box 847 Oliver BC

Email: info@oliverheritage.ca

Phone: (778) 439-3100

Winter hours : Tues-Fri 1pm-4pm

MEMBERSHIPS

You can become a member of the Oliver and District Heritage Society by purchasing an annual membership (\$10 per person) conveniently on our website (www.oliverheritage.ca) or in person at either the Museum or the Archives.

Members will be added to our mailing list, which will keep you updated on important local and regional heritage information. Members also enjoy discounts for archival services, copying, and special pricing in our gift shop.

Archives



Location: 430 Fairview Road

Mail: PO Box 847 Oliver BC

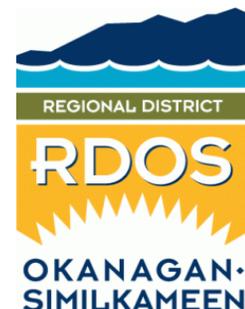
Email: info@oliverheritage.ca

Phone: (250) 498-4027

Hours year-round: Tues-Fri 10am-1pm

Looking for a MUSEUM TOUR or ARCHIVAL SERVICES? Please call ahead so we can serve you better!

Support for the Oliver and District Heritage Society generously provided by:



Visit us at www.oliverheritage.ca for the latest news, updates, and heritage resources!