



**Save the date – Two CANADA 150 events for June 4**

**HERITAGE GEOCACHING**

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*June 4 from 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm*

*Kanaka Creek Regional Park – Kanaka mouth*

*Maple Ridge Museum, 22520 116 Ave*

*Maple Ridge Park – 232 Street north of 129 Avenue*



The Community Heritage Commission is marking Canada 150 with some historically themed geocaches in the community.

Geocaching encourages outdoor recreational use and exploration of parks and public spaces. It is an accessible family activity that is popular all over the world.

Put on your sleuthing hat, comfortable shoes and come find these geocaches at Kanaka Creek Regional Park, Maple Ridge Museum and Maple Ridge Park.

These Canada 150 geocaches will officially kick off on June 4



A nature art mandala using found materials.

**CULTURE WALK – EXPLORING  
OUR NATURE**

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*June 4 from 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm*

*Kanaka Creek Regional Park - Cliff Falls & Kanaka mouth locations*

*Maple Ridge Museum and Haney House*

*22520 116 Avenue / 11612 224 Street*

The Culture Walk is an experience with landscape, history and neighbourhoods through encounters and activities along the walk from/to Kanaka Creek Regional Park and Maple Ridge Museum and Haney House. It will allow people to see and experience landscape and neighbourhoods in a different way.

Join Artists in Residence Robi Smith and Kat Wahamaa, Maple Ridge Heritage Commission, Maple Ridge Historical Society and Kanaka Education, Environmental Partnership Society (KEEPS), for a fun and inspirational afternoon that includes creating a nature mandala at Cliff Falls using found materials.

This Culture Walk event also celebrates Metro Vancouver Regional Park's 50th anniversary. Everyone is encouraged to car pool, bike, walk or take the shuttle bus from the four event sites. Tours will be provided at both museums with children's activities also available at Maple Ridge Museum.

Your journey can begin at any of the four locations.



## CITY OF MAPLE RIDGE – TEN YEAR CULTURAL PLAN

The City of Maple Ridge is developing a ten-year Cultural Plan and five-year Tourism Strategy designed to guide the City and community's role and investment in cultural services and tourism marketing and development over the next ten years. They are seeking input from a wide range of people who live, work and play in Maple Ridge on what types of culture and tourism amenities people currently participate in, and what should the City make a priority for cultural and tourism investment.

Your help is needed to shape their priorities which we hope will include a new museum and archives facility. The Survey opens on Monday, May 1 and ends on Friday, June 2, 2017. Please help to circulate widely to friends, family, colleagues and others. More information can be found on our website [[www.mapleridge.ca/park-sand-rec](http://www.mapleridge.ca/park-sand-rec)] and questions can be submitted via email [[submissions@mapleridge.ca](mailto:submissions@mapleridge.ca)].

Alternatively, hard copies are available from The ACT Arts Centre, Maple Ridge Public Library, Maple Ridge Business Centre and Leisure Centre for pick up and drop off.

## SEEKING ALL CULTURAL CHAMPIONS!



There will be a Cultural Champions Summit on Monday, June 26 at 6:30 pm at the ACT Arts Centre.

The Cultural Plan Task Group invites everyone to the Summit to find out what we've heard about the state of culture in Maple Ridge and vision for the future.

Everyone is welcome. Please RSVP by e-mail [[submissions@mapleridge.ca](mailto:submissions@mapleridge.ca)].

## CANADA DAY AT MEMORIAL PEACE PARK

The museum will be joining the free celebration in Memorial Peace Park Canada's 150th Birthday celebration on Saturday, July 1st!

There will be a chance to play with games, heritage crafts and there will also be a touchable artifact booth and exhibits on display.

This event will run from 10am – 3pm



## EARTH DAY RE-CAP

Thanks to a very organized committee for Earth Day, the event set up went very smoothly. Our tent space was located in the main area along the path cutting through Memorial Peace Park.

We hosted a fishing craft and a bean-bag toss for children, and a display titled Seeking the Wild. We gave away many brochures and #ExploreBC postcards, engaging in conversation to advertise the Maple Ridge Museum and the Historical Society.

Our presence at Earth Day was well received: we had approximately 180 children and 150 adults, for a total of 330 people. Our next event at Memorial Peace Park will be for Canada Day!

## CHECK IT OUT

This year the Maple Ridge Museum is participating in the 17th Annual Tourism Challenge presented by the Vancouver Attractions Group, in association with Tourism Vancouver.



If you are participating in this challenge, or know others who are, make sure to tell them that the Maple Ridge Museum is a 2- Stamp Stop!

The challenge runs until June 2nd and we have already been encouraged by the number of participants coming into the museum.

Full details at [vancouverattractions.com/tourismchallenge](http://vancouverattractions.com/tourismchallenge).

Please note that we are open on Wednesday and Sunday afternoons only.

## MUSIC ON THE WHARF SCHEDULE

This year we had over 60 applicants to our summer concert series.

We are thankful to our sponsors; City of Maple Ridge, Meadow Ridge Rotary and the Kiwanis Club for their continued funding support and are looking forward to kicking off the summer soon with an exciting line-up!

Join us on the Port Haney Wharf starting in July at 7:30pm (except the last concert, which starts at 7pm).

July 10th – The Kwerks

July 24th – Bruce James Orchestra

August 14th – The Palomars

August 28th – Kailyarders



Historic Stewart Farm, located at 13723 Crescent Road Surrey, is part of a network of "old house" museums in Greater Vancouver and the Fraser Valley.

At a recent meeting of curators for small house museums, it was agreed that we would profile the other heritage homes in our newsletter while they include Haney House Museum in theirs. Our goal is to achieve greater awareness of these small gems in the region.





## HISTORIC STEWART FARM

*Your name, where you work, and your role at your organization:*

My name is Jerrlin Spence, and I am the Curator, Exhibits and Programs for the City of Surrey, Historic Stewart Farm. In my role as site supervisor am I responsible for the garden, orchard, buildings, exhibits and displays.

*When was Historic Stewart Farm built and when and how was it made a historic site?*

John Stewart bought the property in 1880, and the farmhouse was built in 1894. The Stewart family lived in it until 1944 when it was purchased by the Ward family. The City of Surrey acquired the property in 1984, and it became a designated a Heritage Site in 1984. A major farmhouse restoration project was completed in 1988 and then opened to the public that summer.

*Who were the Stewarts?*

John Stewart was born in 1844 in Scotland and moved with his family to Quebec in the early 1850s (died in 1926). Annie Stewart was born in 1852 in Quebec (died in 1913). John and Annie married in Nanaimo in 1884. William James Stewart was born in 1885 (d. 1962) and his brother, John Massey Stewart was born in 1891 (d. 1919). John Stewart served as Municipal Councillor, helped to build the Mud Bay Church and with a few neighbours dyked the Nicomekl River to help control flooding.

There are not many first hand details available about the family of John and Annie Stewart. There are few photographs of the house, people and activities in the 1890-1910 period and there are no living witnesses.

Knowing general trends, issues and the way of life of the surrounding community helps to understand the Stewart Family and its heri-

tage and activities. The Stewart family was not typical of a farm family – they only had two children which was relatively uncommon in a community of much larger families (for example John Oliver of Mud Bay had 5 sons and 3 daughters, the Thrift family included 6 children and Alice and James Loney raised 6 children as well). They were not wealthy and their house, although lovely by today's standards, was not the largest or most lavish in the community. By comparing photographs of other families and their homes it can be seen that the Stewarts were of average means. They were hard working farmers who were fortunate enough to be able to engage work crews during the hay harvest season.

*Is the house open to visitors? If so, what can visitors expect to experience?*

Yes, the house and other buildings (including the Pole Barn and Root Cellar) are open to visitors 6 days/week. Visitors are greeted by a costumed guide in the farmhouse who will share stories and information about the Stewarts and early farm life in Surrey. Visitors are welcome to try items from our teaching collection such as toys and kitchen tools or get dressed up in items from our costume trunk. Some events include samples of our woodstove-baked treats.

The Stewart Hall building (the former threshing shed) houses an exhibition of "Canadiana – Canada Is...". Items from the City of Surrey's collection and Archives as well as loans from the community help to define what it means to be Canadian.

The surrounding park is a great place for walks. In addition to our lovely heirloom garden and historic buildings the park features well maintained trails through the forest and along the river with lots of birds and plant life to keep it interesting every time you visit.

*What types of events and programming do you feature?*

We have registered programs for all ages: toddlers and preschoolers enjoy Farm Tots and

Tykes, school aged children can visit with their class for a curriculum-based school program, attend day camps or other themed programs, teenagers and young adults can watch movies in the farmhouse, adults and seniors can enjoy tea on the verandah, hop on a Heritage Sites Bus Tour or learn about heirloom gardening or cooking during one of our many workshops. Seasonal special events (free) are a great opportunity for people to experience the whole site: Royal Victorian Party (coming up soon on May 21), Old-Fashioned Easter, Father's Day Open House, Olde Harvest Fair and Pioneer Christmas. New this year is a celebration of Canada's 150th with our two-day Dominion Days Festival – our biggest event yet.

*Upcoming events?*

Royal Victorian Party May 21 11am-3pm includes Morris dancing, royal crafts, a visit from "Queen Victoria" and a piece of her birthday cake too.

Surrey Doors Open June 17th 11 am-4pm

Father's Day Open House June 18 11am-3pm featuring the Greater Vancouver Garden Railway Associations trains

Dominion Days Festival July 1&2 11am-7pm - live music and entertainment, crafts, races and games, heritage demos and a calithumpian parade.

*What do you like most about working at Historic Stewart Farm?*

I love the beauty of our site – a historic site nestled along the river amongst the trees. We have so many things to offer and so many opportunities to create great experiences. We are working hard to bring new things to new people so there's never a dull moment here!

*Where can I find out more about Historic Stewart Farm?*

[www.surrey.ca/stewartfarm](http://www.surrey.ca/stewartfarm)

twitter: @stewartfarmbc

Facebook: heritagesurreyBC

*ARRIVING AT WHONNOCK, my friend Mrs. [Louisa] Halpin met me. Her cottage was charming, surrounded by a pretty garden and fruit trees, with a glorious view over the Fraser River, the fertile valley and majestic snow-capped Mount Baker in the distance. It was place one might dream about, both peaceful and idyllic.*

*The next afternoon Mrs. Halpin said "Let us walk over to Mr. Harris' and get some strawberries." On the way over she told me the two Harris brothers lived together in a small cottage and grew strawberries. They were young Eglismen, Oxford graduates. Ever year one of them went home to England for a holiday. They took it in turns. One stayed on the strawberry farm and with the help of Chinese labour cultivated, picked and shipped the fruit. We walked slowly, enjoying the fresh air, the beautiful scenery and the gentle breeze soft as a caress on our cheeks.*

*As we drew near the small cottage a very tall young man with a moustache and dressed in white flannels, sauntered toward us. He was carrying a tennis racquet. When he noticed Mrs. Halpin he quickened his step and exclaimed: "My dear Mrs. Halpin, how nice to see you," in a beautiful cultured voice – "a few strawberries?" as he had noticed the hallocks.*

*Despite our protest that he was going to play tennis and must not bother himself, he took the hallocks and walked over to what seemed to me a large field near the cottage. Laying down his tennis raquet he simply bent over like a large white bow, talking pleasantly and without effort as he picked the berries. It seemed only a few minutes until he straightened with the hallocks full of the most luscious strawberries I have ever seen.*

*I told him I had never seen such lovely berries before and in such quantity. "This is only our small field," he said, "The big one is over there." He pointed to a three-acre field of well-cultivated berries a short distance away.*

DEWDNEY-ALOUETTE



#### **Visit the Dewdney-Alouette Railway Society's diorama in the museum.**

On the last Sunday of every month, members of the Dewdney-Alouette Railway Society are present to "talk trains" and operate the Diorama. Model Railroaders are welcome on the Tuesday and Thursday evenings before the last Sunday of the month.

Info: Dick Sutcliffe at 604-467-4301 or E-Mail: ras1@uniserve.com

## **WHAT IS A HALLOCK?**

To the left is a quote from the memories of Evelyn A. Cameron of a visit to Whonnock shortly before the First World War as published in *It Happened in British Columbia* published by the BC Centennial '71 Committee.

Before the First World War, starting with the Spilsbury brothers, Whonnock attracted a few better educated (and classed) British settlers - a kind of local gentry. They never "farmed" but had "ranches" where they cultivated fruit trees or, as in this case, grew berries.

A "hallock" is the name of a small rectangular wood veneer berry basket. Hallock, of Queens, New York, was first producing these boxes in large quantities. The British terms for this kind of containers is punnet or chip. *fb*



Hallock: a veneer berry basket.



Today's molded and plastic berry baskets.