



# MAPLE RIDGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Annual Report 2019





### **Executive**

President	Erica Williams
Vice President	Jordana Feist
Treasurer	Mike Davies
Secretary	Julie Koehn

### **Directors at Large**

Dick Sutcliffe  
Sheila Nickols  
Ross Dunning

### **Standing Committees**

Operations	
Family History	
Programs	Music on the Wharf Speaking of Art & History

### **Museums Staff**

Executive Director	Val Patenaude
Curator	Shea Henry
Community Engagement Coordinator	Ashley Seymour / Melissa Rollit
Building Manager	Tom Little
Webmaster	Shannon Bettles
Accountant	Luba King
Curatorial/Archival Assts.	Kaity Neff Jessica Hyde Darren Ragoonath
Summer students	Jessica Hyde Darren Ragoonath Madelyn Huston

*Cover: Case Laan built the castle for his Big L Nursery on Lougheed Highway at Laity Street with a grand opening in 1977. It was sold in the early 80's to a car dealership that became Castle Toyota. This photo was taken in January of 1990 when it was for sale again. The next owner removed the castle.*

# Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

21 March 2019 6:30 PM St Andrew's Church Hall



## 1. Adoption of agenda

Moved by Julie Koehn, seconded by Sandra Ayres – carried.

## 2. Minutes of 2018 AGM & motion to accept

Moved by Dick Sutcliffe, seconded by Mike Davies – carried.

## 3. Reports

### *a. President's report – Erica Williams*

Erica discussed her excitement in the activities of the Heritage Society in the past year, drawing attention to her report on page 7 of the annual report. She is excited about the ongoing and increasing amount of community engagement and also acknowledged the hard work of society volunteers. She is also pleased with the Haney House improvements and for the future of the building, now that it is much improved.

### *b. Operations Committee Report – Mike Davies*

Mike discussed the ongoing operations of the society, with the management of the brickyard manager's residence and office, Haney House, St. Andrews Heritage Church, the old post office, and the wharfingers office. He reminded everyone of the ongoing work and management of the buildings and our work partnering with the city to make sure these buildings are well looked after, open to the public, and protected for the future. The operations committee report can be found on page 18 of the annual report.

### *c. Maple Ridge Museum & Haney House reports – Val Patenaude*

Val drew attendees attention to the museum annual statistics on pages 12-13 of the annual report. She noted that we are participating in more and more community events with the city where we are able to present to large numbers of people. These events include city events like Earth Day and Canada Day, as well as doing presentations at local schools and retirement homes.

### *d. Membership report – Val Patenaude*

Val drew attention to the annual membership numbers on page 19 of the annual report. Memberships are down again this year, Val suggesting that the membership is getting older and moving to retirement homes. Memberships are becoming a hard sell in our world today with younger people, as we make accessible, for free, so much information on social media, which is the direction the world is moving. Social media though does reach large numbers of people and is a very positive element in our outreach.



*e. Program Committee – Shea Henry*

Shea drew attention to the events outlined in the annual report, page 21-22. Events were generally successful this year with Shea and Ashley, as new employees, trying a few new events and ways of running events, giving themselves permission to try and fail if need be. They will continue to try new events and programs to draw attention to the museum.

*f. Family History Committee report – Sandra Ayres*

This year the committee celebrates its 20 year anniversary and is excited for the future. They and their membership have completed numerous projects, including the Hammond family history project, and the Allco and WW1 veterans' unmarked graves project. Their report can be found on paged 25-27 of the annual report.

*g. Treasurer's Report and Annual Financial Statements – Mike Davies*

The annual financial statements and treasurers report can be found in the back of the annual report. Mike drew attention to our three primary sources of income. 1. The Maple Ridge Historical Society earned funds, 2. The operating grant with the City of Maple Ridge, and 3. Outside grant money. The board takes responsibility for the finances, Val compiles and looks after everything, and it is then checked by Luba King, an outside accountant. The budget is balanced and we are in good financial standing.

**Accept all reports:** Moved by Sandra Ayres, sec by Alan Woodland – carried.

**Election of Board members**

Erica Williams presented the current list of MRHS Board that will be standing for re-election; Mike Davies, Sheila Nickols, Dick Sutcliffe, Erica Williams, and Julie Koehn. There was one nomination from the floor for Jordana Feist.

Executive positions to be determined at the first board meeting.

**Adjournment of formal meeting**

Moved by Alan Woodland, seconded by Sandra Ayres – carried.

Social time and good food was had.

# Attendance



## **Voting Members**

Dick Sutcliffe	Director
Sheila Nickols	Director
Richard Middleton	Member
David Koehn	Member
Julie Koehn	Director
Fred Keating	Member
Jordana Feist	Member
Sandra Ayres	Director
Alan Woodland	Member
Pat Woodland	Member
Andrew Woodland	Member
Mike Davies	Director
Inge Grootendorst	Member
Val Patenaude	Executive Director
Erica Williams	Director

## **Non-voting**

Shea Henry	Curator
Kiersten Duncan	Council Liaison
Darlene Slevin	P&L Staff Liaison

Members present at AGM – 15  
Total eligible membership – 83



## President's Report

ON BEHALF of the Maple Ridge Historical Society I would first like to acknowledge the efforts of all the volunteers, our representatives on the Community Heritage Commission and museum staff who work to expand and promote our understanding of this great community of Maple Ridge. Your valuable time spent helping to spread the word about our unique history is greatly appreciated. You have continued to work hard this past year to increase our presence and engagement with other community groups, and thus increase the community's awareness of how important our role is in understanding our complex history.

Sheila Nichols, one of the founding members of the Society has retired from the board after many decades of work. On behalf of the board I would like to thank her for the incredible amount of work she has done to preserve and support Maple Ridge History.

I would like to welcome two new members on the Board – Jordana Feist and Ross Dunning. Jordana was on our staff over ten years ago and brings that background to the Board. Ross is a lifelong resident whose family owned and produced the Gazette newspaper. We welcome them and their fresh ideas.

After a number of years representing the Society on the M. R. Community Heritage Commission, Brenda Smith stepped down. I would like to acknowledge the tremendous work she did on promoting the history of Maple Ridge and the Society.

With the repair work on the roof, doors and windows that was done on Haney House in 2018 the Historical Society has been increasing the number of events that we hold at this historic house. On behalf of the board I would like to thank Shea Henry, our curator, for taking this initiative.

The Society continued to sponsor "Music on the Wharf" in old Port Haney on four Monday evenings during July and August. We were lucky with the weather so did not have to cancel. If you are a regular, please keep on coming, and if you haven't been before do come and enjoy the experience this coming summer.

As in previous years I try to give periodic Sunday afternoon walks of the oldest section of our cemetery looking not just at the people but also the symbolism of the markers, the materials from which they were made and stability of the soils. I also do walking tours of the historic downtown looking at various types of historic signage. So keep your eyes open for when these will be offered.

In closing, I would like to extend an invitation to our membership and interested non-members. If you want to become more involved in promoting the stories of this great place, either as a board member or as a volunteer, please get in touch with us through the museum.

*Erica Williams*



# Museum Operations

## Maple Ridge Museum & Haney House

**O**UR YEAR began with new and ongoing events, taking full advantage of the renovated and re-opened Haney House. Our new program, Murder Mystery Nights at Haney House began on February 9th with our very first night. It was a great success and we did two more in March and April; all were sold out.

On family day Community Engagement Co-ordinator [CEC] Ashley and Curator Shea ran an outreach table at family day at the ACT downtown. We made yarn dolls with kids that stopped by and had a display about the Haney family and their pets. 500 people were in attendance at the event.

We held our annual *spring break event* at Haney House, this year's theme was Medical Mysteries and had scavenger hunts, take home recipes and historic remedies crafts. The event was themed to match the *new exhibit* on in the temporary exhibit room at the main museum "Cure-alls that Cured Nothing: A History of Patent Medicine."

In April - May the Maple Ridge Museum participated in *Vancouver Attractions 19th Annual Tourism Challenge*. Our intention was to build on the outreach success of last two years. We receive a significant percentage of our yearly visitors during his 6 week challenge and appeal to visitors to Maple Ridge from the rest of the lower mainland enhancing city tourism.

A big thank-you to the volunteers who helped us cover open hours during those weeks, especially to Dewdney-Alouette Railway Society [DARS] for coming on Wednesdays and Fridays, too. We found the visitors engaged – well beyond the desire to simply acquire stamps for their passports.

In the summer of 2019 we welcomed back students Jessica Hyde and Madelyn Huston to the museum(s), along with new hire, Darren Ragoonath. All of our summer student positions are made possible through Young Canada Works and Canada Summer Jobs grants.

In May we learned that we would be losing CEC Ashley to a move back to her native Ontario. We soon hired a new CEC Meghan, only to lose her within a matter of weeks to a move to Kamloops and a full time position. We then again hired Melissa Rol-lit, fresh off of earning her Master's degree in Museum Studies from the University of Toronto. Melissa came in ready to go, picking up a number of ongoing programs and events. We also decided at this time to do what we could to make the CEC position full time or we would keep losing people.

*Canada Day in Memorial Peace Park* is our annual summer kick-starter where we throw the summer students – especially the new ones – into the frenzy of a big community event. We had an excellent position in the park with a large tent provided by the city. We were able to have time line displays, crafts for children, and engagement with





# Museum Operations

## Maple Ridge Museum & Haney House

many of the 15,000 people who visited the park.

A new summer program we ran this year was to partner with the city leisure centre summer day camps to get campers through both the main museum and Haney House. For a day in July and a week in August we had day campers coming to the museum and museum staff bringing history and art programming to them. Through this program we interacted with and introduced nearly 200 kids to the museums.

Once again we organized two *cemetery clean up events*, this year doing one day at the main Maple Ridge Cemetery, and the second day at the Whonnock Cemetery. Board Vice-President Jordana Feist brought a water truck to the Whonnock cemetery and we and 20 volunteers cleaned up the historic cemetery. Whonnock cemetery and the old section of the Maple Ridge Cemetery were looking great after the two day event.

Once in June and once in August, our summer students set up an outreach booth with the Haney Farmers Market in our annual *History Goes to Market* outreach. We presented the history of berry farming in the area and apple orchards as a way to promote our fall Culture Days event, Apple Fest.

In late summer we had a wonderful collection of Helen Mussallem's WWII officer and nursing uniforms donated to the museum by Mussallem family members. They are a wonderful piece of local and national history, with Helen Mussallem being one of the most famous nurses in Canadian history and the recipient of the Order of Canada.

The fall brought a huge rush of events, beginning with *Culture Days* where we partnered with the library and ACT to do a passport challenge for kids and families. We had a great turn out for our event all about apples and their importance in our history; people got to try some heritage apples, preserves, play lawn games, and tour Haney House.

Fall events continued with our annual *Hallowe'en Event, Eat, Drink & Be Scary*, drawing on previous years success we brought in great crowds. We were able to decorate outside and in with a donation of pumpkins from the Laity Pumpkin Patch - a big thanks to them for supporting us!

We also began what will now be another, more adult themed, Halloween event The Dead of Night: *Paranormal Investigations at Haney House*. Partnering with a group of paranormal investigators, they brought their equipment and expertise and ticket holders could take ghost tours of the house and learn all about ghost hunting. It was a huge success with people enjoying the evening. Five (living) Haney family members came and thought it was a great evening. Cornerstone Supernatural came as volunteers so our \$1200 from ticket sales will go towards keeping Haney House a local treasure.





# Museum Operations

## Maple Ridge Museum & Haney House

We ended the year off with another new, and hopefully annual event, *Holiday Train Night* at Haney House. We had the house decorated in fine style for the holidays and opened the doors while the CP Holiday Train was stationed at Port Haney. With this event we got 80 people through the doors, most of whom had never been to Haney House.

### Collection Processing

We had only 5 lots of accessions in 2018, down 9 from the previous year. With storage space pretty much gone, we are now being very selective with what we accept as donations. The donations this year were all fairly small lots but each was significant to local history and will tell great visual and textual stories when eventually put on display. Two lots of clothes were taken in as they can be stored small and flat and adds to our local fashion history, as well as coming from prominent early families in the area.

We are still on the lookout for touchable teaching collection items we can take to schools and seniors residences and allow them to be handled.

### Archives Processing

We had only 7 lots of accessions in 2019 but they were all welcome additions to our collections.

Thanks to Lynette Harper of the Mussallem family we received a collection of photos of her aunt Helen Mussallem in her WWII nursing and officer uniforms.

Ross Dunning – new to our Historical Society Board – brought us a collection of cartoons from the Gazette newspaper which had long been edited by his parents.

Our big archival effort for the year was the scanning and transcription of a large part of our document collection. As we begin to lose people who can read cursive writing, especially the old-fashioned styles of the 1890's and 1900's, it is more important than ever to get accurate transcriptions that can be word searched and shared easily.

As we continue to be plagued by the inability to grant access to the records due to lack of space, scanning at least allows the sharing of facsimiles of the real items.



# Museum Operations

## Maple Ridge Ridge Museum & Haney House Statistics

MONTH	OUTREACH	TOURS	PRESENT- ATIONS	DISPLAYS	PROGRAMS/ EVENTS
2019.01	Albion tour & Continued Learning tours Heritage Week display at library, upstairs library displays, Cemetery tour; Downtown tour; Continued Learning tour; Murder Mystery night at HH, Heritage Day at the ACT, Seniors Tour; and Behind the Scenes Museum tours. Spring Break at HH [3 days], Murder Mystery night at HH	2			
2019.02	Library display upstairs, Earth Day event, Metro Vancouver Tourism Challenge, Murder Mystery at HH	3		7	2
2019.03	Speaking of Art & History event, Metro Vancouver Tourism Challenge, St John the Divine anniversary display Library display upstairs, History Goes to Market, Murder Mystery at HH	1	1	4	4
2019.04	Canada Day, Music on the Wharf (2), Cemetery Clean-up (2), City Summer Camp day, Presentation to Council				3
2019.05	Music on the Wharf (2), Summer Student library display, History Goes to Market, City Summer Camps (4)		2	1	5
2019.06	Library display upstairs, home school tour, Culture Days - evening event, Culture Days - Harvest event	1	4	4	2
2019.07	Halloween at Haney House, Paranormal Event at HH Library display upstairs, Webster's Corners Elementary tour	4	3	5	2
2019.08	Christmas library display, school tour for Grade 10 class, Holiday Train open house at HH	1		3	1
2019.09		2			2
2019.10					
2019.11					
2019.12					
TOTAL		14	11	29	23



# Museum Operations

## Maple Ridge Ridge Museum & Haney House Statistics

Maple Ridge Museum & Haney House	2017	2018	2019
Adult Admissions	1,665	1,479	1,551
Child Admissions	720	407	647
Off-site Events Attendance	2,580	2,800	18,208
Volunteer Hours*	1,311	1,415	876

*\*The increase in off-site attendance is due to more accurate counting mechanisms and the inclusion of prominent displays like those in the library.*

*The drop in volunteer hours is due to the lack of a big Family History Group project in 2019.*



*Our crew of staff and volunteers cleaning headstones at Whonnock Cemetery.*





## Museum Operations

*Guests for the Paranormal Night at Haney House find electromagnetic signals coming from the 120 year old dress of Anne Haney.*

*Opposite:*

*The museum staff also enjoyed our own dress up activity at Canada Day.*



*One of our smallest visitors enjoying dress up and an apple at Apple Fest day for Culture Days.*

*Opposite:*

*Visitors to our tent at Canada Day, enjoying doing crafts and learning from our hanging time lines.*

*Opposite:*

*Culture days Apple fest – Eat drink and be spooky – Kids enjoying Haney House at our Eat Drink and Be Spooky event in their Halloween costumes.*









## Operations Committee Report

**T**HE OPERATIONS COMMITTEE is responsible for overseeing, on behalf of the Society, the execution of the Maple Ridge Historical Society Operating Agreement with the City of Maple Ridge and the upkeep, maintenance and operation of St. Andrew's Heritage Church Hall, the Old Post office, and the Wharfinger's office.

St Andrew's Heritage Church Hall is available for rent and is regularly used as a meeting place by a number of community groups while the Old Post Office has a single renter and is in full-time use as a pre-school. A full rate schedule for St Andrew's Heritage Church Hall is available from the Maple Ridge Museum or online at: <[mapleridgemuseum.org/about-us/facility-rentals/st-andrews-hall/](http://mapleridgemuseum.org/about-us/facility-rentals/st-andrews-hall/)>

The work completed this year included an upgrade to the electrical system at the Old Post Office along with the installation of exterior motion lighting. St Andrew's Heritage Church exterior trim received a fresh coat of paint.

At the museum, the web site renewal project was completed. The new format allows staff to do the work in house with only the occasional need for specialist assistance. Our IT volunteer Darren Durupt had to leave us so we will be looking for an individual to take over. Thank you Darren for your assistance over the years.

The Wharfinger's Office has continued to be vandalized throughout 2019 resulting in a decision to remove the building from our inventory. Complexities due to its location and the need for a haz-mat survey slowed the process so it is still there at year's end. Any remaining 2019 infrastructure dollars will be carried forward to accumulate for future projects.

Buildings Manager, Tom Little, looks after the renting and day to day maintenance of the facilities. The majority of the year's work related to the ongoing maintenance for the buildings with Tom Little completing the work along with City of Maple Ridge staff and contractors.

The Historical Society works closely with the City of Maple Ridge to assist in maintaining the buildings we occupy and operate. In 2019, the Maple Ridge Historical Society signed a new 3 year Operating Agreement with the City of Maple Ridge. The Society, through this agreement, will continue to help in providing the historical component for the City of Maple Ridge and its citizens.

There have been some staff changes. Ashley Seymour left the CEC position and was

# Operations Committee Report



replaced by Melissa Rollit who is now our 3rd Full time staff person.

Val Patenaude has announced that she will be retiring in 2020 and in the meantime, has reduced her work to 4 days a week.

I would like to thank the Operations Committee members, Val Patenaude, our Buildings Manager, Tom Little, museum staff, and the City of Maple Ridge staff for their hard work and support through 2019.

*Mike Davies*

## Membership Report



**A**T THE END OF DECEMBER 2019, the Society had a membership of:

- 47 Individual Members
- 17 Family Memberships (eligible for up to two votes)
- 6 Life members, most of whom make a donation each year.
- 2 Organizational/Business Memberships [\$120]

The total is equivalent to 89 individual members which is up by six over previous years. Our membership is aging and we all need to try to find ways to attract younger people. In this day of ready internet access, it is harder to get people to pay towards the costs of an organization when they can find newsletters and other information online for free.

In addition to membership fees, members donated a total of \$1,810. We issue tax receipts for any amount over \$20 so please think of us when considering your annual charitable giving. Our particular goal at present is to add some display cases to Haney House which will allow us to display smaller items without fear of theft but where the cases will fit with the existing décor.

While we have vastly increased the number of people we reach through Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, it is not translating to paid subscriptions but perhaps that day is done. We have 2,000 people who receive every bit of information we post to Facebook and huge numbers regularly visit our photos on Flickr and our website. That is the new reality.

*Val Patenaude*





## Program Committee Report



### MUSIC ON THE WHARF

There were 40 applicants for the Music on the Wharf 2019 series. From these applications, a varied and popular lineup was assembled.

Each band is paid \$500 for their performance. Donations from the Meadow Ridge Rotary Club, Haney Rotary Club, Kiwanis Club, The ACT Member Grant, and City of Maple Ridge Festival grant went to pay the cost of performers, insurance, and advertising. Thanks to the generosity of the Billy Miner Ale House, we were able to eliminate the cost and vandalism of the portable washrooms though the savings were eaten up by a doubling of the insurance costs.

Donations from people attending the concerts brought in \$1,323. We are thankful for a generous year, which helps to offset years with inclement weather, where we still have to pay artists fees and forgo donations.

The concerts were well attended and donations came in steadily from each, these numbers are as follows:

#### July 13th *Jackson Hollow*

200 in attendance, \$316.25 collected in donations

#### July 27th *Reid Jamieson Band*

225 in attendance, \$367.80 collected in donations

#### August 10th *Bruce James Orchestra*

225 in attendance, \$327.05 collected in donations

#### August 24th *Lincoln Street Union*

230 in attendance, \$311.95 collected in donations

Total: 880 in attendance, \$1323.05 in donations (average \$330 per concert)

# Program Committee Report



## MURDER MYSTERY NIGHT

We began offering murder mystery parties at Haney House. The 2019 game – “Tampering With Temperance” – ran three times in the spring, twice as a museum event individuals could sign up for and then once as a pre-booked group event.

All three runs were a huge success, with guests reporting having a great time, meeting some new people, and experiencing Haney House either for the first time, or in a new and exciting way.

Groups were encouraged to dress up along with the 1920's gangster theme and they did not disappoint, with everyone coming in their flapper finest. This event has successfully brought in a new demographic into the museum space.



*Murder Mystery – The group assembled in the parlour. The “Happy Birthday” banner was a prop for the story.*



## Program Committee Report



*Murder mystery night goesers enjoy the ambiance of Haney House dressed in their 1920s finest.*

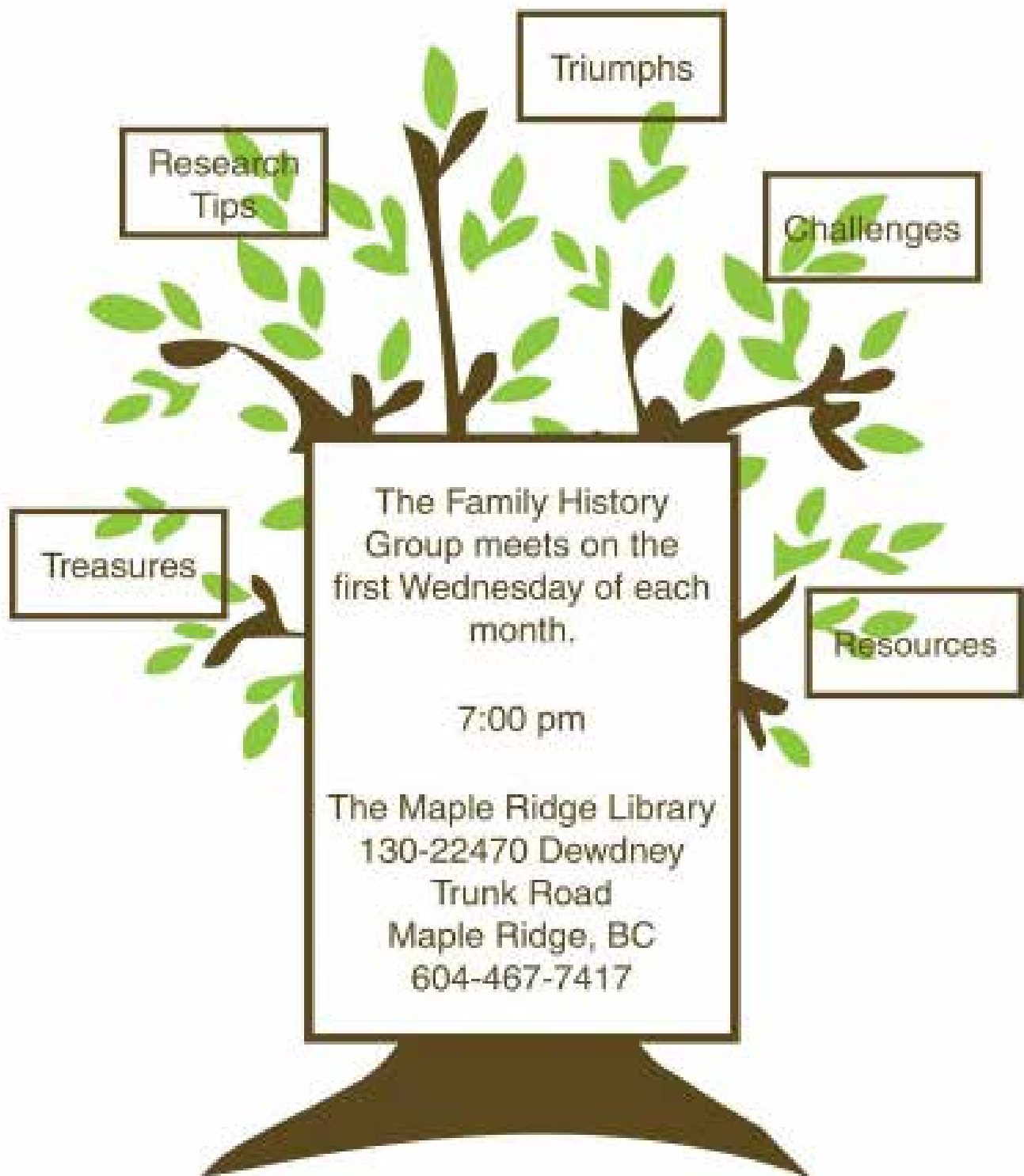
### SPEAKING ON ART AND HISTORY

This was our fourth year doing a speakers series at The ACT Arts Centre, with the goal to highlight the intersections between art and history.

Our first speaker on May 7th was our curator Shea Henry, speaking on the history and culinary art of chocolate and chocolate making. It was a fun evening full of information and of course chocolate samples.

Our second event was scheduled for October 3rd – We had scheduled the City of Maple Ridge’s new artist in residence Gerry Sheena. Unfortunately he was unable to attend due to unresolved contract issues with the city. We ended up canceling the event as it was only a week away.

# Maple Ridge Family History Group Report







## Maple Ridge Family History Group Report

**T**HE FAMILY HISTORY GROUP celebrated its 20th anniversary in 2019, having come a long way from the days when a handful of people gathered in a member's living room.

The Maple Ridge Family History Group meets on the first Wednesday of each month at the Maple Ridge Library. The Group has an average regular attendance at meetings of between 15 and 20 members. Maple Ridge Library and Parks, Recreation and Cultural deserve special thanks for facilitating program and meeting space.

Meetings are informal and include: upcoming programs and events of interest, updates on individual research, discussions about breaking down brick walls, and research brainstorming, as well as celebrating research successes. The Short Program is an anticipated part of the monthly meetings. The program, organized by Alberta McNamara, includes guest speakers, presentations on topics of interest to members, and research challenges which encourage members to look at their family histories in new ways.

Some topics covered in 2019 included: copyright, prison records, Canadian passenger lists, using the [familysearch.org](http://familysearch.org) library catalog, WW I soldiers, and "Fact or Fiction – Are Those Family Stories True?"

The Maple Ridge Family History Newsletter is produced every other month and accessed online through the Maple Ridge Museum and Archives website. Members and guests contribute articles. The newsletter also contains notice of upcoming programs, conferences, and research sources. The newsletter is shared on a reciprocal arrangement with numerous BC genealogical societies.

Queries for research help concerning former residents of Maple Ridge were received, asking for advice and support. In 2019 our members located the families of medal recipients, lost family members, and determined ownership of cemetery plots.

In December the Group submitted a brief to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Industry, Science and Technology In Regard to Statutory Review of the Copyright Act. The brief, one of over 140 submissions, delivered a user's view of copyright, and was the only submission by an organization seeking to persuade changes that can improve access to the records needed by citizens to tell the Canadian story.

In 2018/19 the Group produced its fourth community history research project – expanding on and verifying existing information about brothers John and William Hammond, including their family in England and their contributions to Maple Ridge and to British Columbia. The completed project was presented at the Maple Ridge Heritage Awards in February, and the research materials and displays have been deposited in the community archives.

# Maple Ridge Family History Group Report



The project team proudly accepted a Maple Ridge Heritage Commission (CHC) Commendation Award in 2019 for excellence in enhancing the understanding of community history.

Member Gina Leigh was awarded the CHC History and Heritage Research and Publication for her Unmarked Grave Program Research of former WWI veterans, residents of Allco Infirmary, which resulted in 13 grave markers being installed in Maple Ridge Cemetery. Through the perseverance of one of our members the Stanley Park Rock Garden, which was created by his great grandfather, is now listed in the Canadian Register of Historical Places.

The Family History Group is a standing committee of the Maple Ridge Historical Society and by extension of the British Columbia Historical Federation, an umbrella organization for provincial historical societies. This allows for participation at various levels in that organization.

Members attended family history conferences: Abbotsford Stake Family History Day in May, Abbotsford Genealogical Expo in September, and Surrey Stake Finding Your Roots 2019 in October. The Maple Ridge Family History Group also had displays at conferences and workshops in Victoria, Campbell River, Powell River and Kamloops. Several members were guest speakers at conferences and educational programs within BC and other provinces, presenting on a variety of topics.

The Group participates in Maple Ridge Family Literacy Day with displays and consultation services. The Group maintains three cabinets in Maple Ridge Library with changing displays. In January the group participated in the library's Family Literacy Day and provided consultations to those both new to family history research and those looking for help with a roadblock. Simple family pedigree charts were given out.

The Maple Ridge Family History Group is a partner in the Local Voices program held at the Maple Ridge Library. The first Monday evenings of October to December and February to May continue to draw audiences interested in learning about who their neighbours are, why they live in Maple Ridge, and what they do here. Since 2015 we have heard from 21 presenters each year. Librarian Sarah Jost joined the team with Julie Koehn picking up representation of the Community Heritage Commission, and Brenda Smith representing the Family History Group.

Maple Ridge Library is the proud owner of a new digital microfilm reader/printer, the only such unit in the Fraser Valley Regional Library system. Input from the Family History Group helped library management appreciate the necessity of making the purchase. Users have access to the microfilmed copies of the historical Maple Ridge newspapers as well as the ability for interlibrary microfilm loans.

*Gina Leigh, Secretary*



## Maple Ridge Family History Group Report



*Birthday cake for the celebration of the 20th anniversary of the Family History Group.*

*Presenters and organizers for Local Voices for November 2019: Karen Hendricksen, Brenda Smith, Ineke Boekhorst, Sharon Malone, and Sara Jost.*



*Maple Ridge Family Literacy Day  
Annette Fulford, Julie Koehn and Brenda Smith.*



*Arvie Bourgeault and Gina Leigh of the Family History Group  
with the Library Quilt Project.*









*The staff decorate Haney House Museum for Christmas each year.  
From left, Alison Pocock, Kaity Neff and Jessica Hyde.*