

MAPLE RIDGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Caboose in Need of New Roof

Caboose is feeling its age

Calling all train enthusiasts and skilled tradespeople! The historic caboose on the Maple Ridge Museum grounds is in need of repairs. Canadian Pacific Railway Caboose 437115 began its life in 1944 at CPR's Montreal Angus Shops. With a wartime shortage of steel, it was built largely of wood, resembling a caboose built in an earlier age. The standard steel train cars were not a possibility by that time in the war due to metal shortages. For the next 40 years the caboose was a part of trains throughout mostly western Canada. When in use, the caboose housed the conductor and train crew, who would use the cupola, or look out, to spot potential danger on



the tracks ahead. During the 1980's while still in use, the caboose got a paint job, turning the Tuscan red colour to the more standard Action Yellow that we still recognize in CPR trains today. Only a few years after that the caboose was retired by CPR and declared surplus. At that time it was donated to the people of Maple Ridge and made part of the Dewdney-Alouette Railway Society and Maple Ridge Museum exterior display. In 1991 the caboose was installed where it is today with great effort by DARS and the Maple Ridge Historical Society. The hopes were that having this piece of history right in our backyard would enhance the museum and model railway experience visitors get at the Maple Ridge Museum, and even share a little bit of that train enthusiasm with the people of Maple Ridge. The caboose has gone through several major repairs over the years. In 2003 the caboose went through a series of repairs that enhanced the tours and even have events there.

Now that the caboose is nearing 80 years old, it is feeling its age. In its current state it is not open for tours, events, and is even more susceptible than ever to break in attempts, theft, and tagging which have, unfortunately, happened to this piece of our history. We love having this wonderful piece of history here for tours, school programs, and community events. The Dewdney-Alouette Railway Society model railway display in the museum along with the restored caboose are a huge draw for the museum. We love that it brings history and fun together with a sense of childhood whimsy to everyone who visits.

The Dewdney-Alouette Railway society and the Maple Ridge Museum are in need of skilled volunteers to do the work and or provide donations towards the work. Help us return this excellent piece of our history to its full glory! Do get in touch if you are able to help with this project.



Meet our summer team!



Kate, Chiara and Tori standing outside the old Whonnock Post Office.

The MRM is lucky to have three new students join our team this summer.

Thanks to funding from the Canada Summer Jobs and Young Canada Works programs, the museum is excited to have Chiara, Kate, and Tori join our team! They have been helping with archival, curatorial, and research projects; including photographing the collections, creating an exciting new exhibit at Haney House, and helping with collection reorganization.

We have been also depending on their amazing enthusiasm to help restart our programming after the pandemic. Tori has been instrumental in setting up our events online, Chiara is preparing for summer museum activations in the park, and Kate is lending her knowledge to lead a project to translate our visitor services information into traditional Chinese.

Upcoming Events and Programs

We are THRILLED to announce the restart of our events and programs!

MUSIC ON THE WHARF is back! (but it'll be a little bit different this year...) visit our website or you can [Learn more here.](#)

The **HEADSTONE PRESERVATION PROJECT** continues for three days this July. [For details and sign up, click here,](#) or visit our website.

Join us for **MUSEUM IN THE PARK**, right outside the museum, on Saturdays & Sundays (11am to 3pm) starting July 10th. Drop by the tent to meet our staff and volunteers, while learning just how fun history can be!

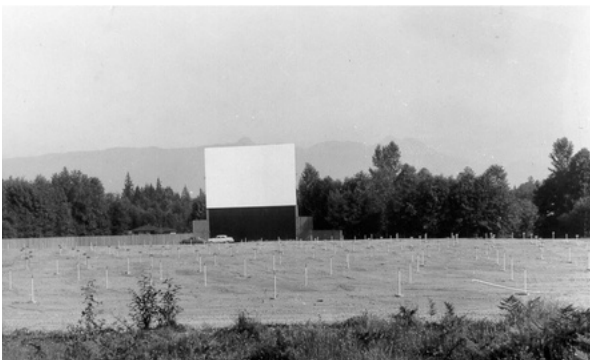


And, stay tuned for more details regarding **HANDS UP!** - a unique theatrical experience coming to the Maple Ridge Museum this September. Partnering with Sea to Sky Entertainment, we will be presenting an exhilarating audio visual experience where patrons will be transported back in time to Billy Miner's train robbery of 1904.

Call for Volunteers

Volunteer support is absolutely essential to make all of our programs and events possible. Day and time commitments can be worked around your schedule, enabling you to choose how much or how little you want to be involved. Opportunities range from simply supporting the logistics during a scheduled event to joining a working group that meets weekly to develop new programs!

Visit: www.mapleridgemuseum.org/volunteer to learn more.



The Ridge Drive-In Movie Theatre, 1940's.

Happenings by the City of Maple Ridge

Drive-In Movies - Join the City of Maple Ridge Saturdays, July-Sept for Drive in movies in the parking lot of the Golden Ears Winter Club

Happenings on the Small Stage - The City of Maple Ridge is putting on concerts and performances on the bandstand from July-Sept

To see the schedule of drive in movies and performances on the small stage, visit their website:
<https://mapleridge.ca/2308/Happenings>



Webber family excursion in 1925 (P02934).

Museum exhibit coming to the ACT Centre

Explore fashion from 100 years ago in upcoming Fall exhibit

The roaring twenties often conjures images of beaded dresses, glamorous parties and life in the big city... but what was life like in the 1920s Maple Ridge? The Bee's Knees: Dressing Up in 1920s Maple Ridge will explore the changing social landscape of the period through the lens of fashion. Through the clothing and accessories on display, visitors will learn about the social movements and scandalous trends that make this decade so captivating.

This will be the first time that the Museum will be putting on an exhibit at the ACT Art Gallery in downtown Maple Ridge. On display from September 10th to November 20th 2021, this exhibit is not to be missed!

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. Note that the DARS train days are cancelled due to Covid-19 for the foreseeable future.

Info: Dick Sutcliffe at 604-467-4301 or

E-Mail: ras1@uniserve.com

Published and printed by the Maple Ridge Historical Society

22520 116th Ave. Maple Ridge BC V2X 0S4 | Phone: 604 463 5311

E-mail: mrmuseum@gmail.com | <http://www.mapleridgemuseum.org>

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