



MAPLE RIDGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Message from the Executive Director

To the Members of the Maple Ridge Historical Society,

It is my absolute pleasure to introduce myself as the new Executive Director of the Maple Ridge Historical Society. Though I entered the role in early July, I have been involved with the Society and the Museum for half a decade: first as the Archivist (2021-2024), and then as Secretary of the Board from 2025.

As I return to this wonderful and unique workplace, all the hopes and ideas I previously had for the Museum and Community Archives have come rushing back. I owe a debt to our previous Executive Directors, Sheila Nickols, Val Patenaude, and Shea Henry, whose dedication and years of hard work have built a legacy the community can be proud of.

Most recently, Shea and the team made great strides to raise the profile of the Museum, renewing exhibits and revealing the stories of those often forgotten by history as their physical footprints faded from view. Staff were involved in myriad new events, from farmer's markets to expanded headstone preservation efforts, and it has reinvigorated the relationship with the community.

I plan to build on the scaffold left by my predecessors by expanding public access to our collections, especially digitally, as well as continuing to invite new voices to be heard. The foundations for digital access have already been laid, with the introduction of the CollectiveAccess collection management system, which can be expanded to put our catalogue online. Staff have also been working hard to have our exhibit text translated into as many languages as possible.

I believe in listening to what the community wants out of its heritage spaces and taking pride in the work we do as stewards of the history of Maple Ridge. I hope we can go even further in this leg of our journey to honour the people who have built this place, from time immemorial to the present.

I look forward to working with the brilliant team at the Museum and you, our members, to make these years the most successful yet for the Historical Society. I cannot wait to make our dreams reality together!

Yours Truly,

Gordana Dimovska



Meet this year's summer interns!



Sophia Barker-Voisine, the Haney House Curator for the summer, is starting her second summer internship at the museum, having also maintained her position as a museum assistant throughout the school year. Currently in her fourth year of undergraduate studies at SFU, she is pursuing a degree in global humanities and physical geography. Her passion for history drives her interest in the museum field, where she aims to actively contribute to the preservation of cultural belongings and the history of the community she grew up in. Sophia is eager to continue learning from museum professionals and contributing to the vital work of the Maple Ridge Museum.

Charlize Davis is returning to the Maple Ridge Museum for a 3rd summer as the Collections Assistant Summer Intern. She is currently a fourth-year student at Concordia University, with a major in Education. She enjoys working at the museum as she has a desire to deepen her understanding of the community she grew up in and to enhance her skills for her future career in teaching. Charlize's goal for the summer is to help develop and update educational programs and resources that align with upcoming exhibitions or themes. Additionally, Charlize is eagerly looking forward to participating in the various events scheduled for the summer.



Jess Stewart-Lee is a student at Toronto Metropolitan University, studying Film and Photography Preservation and Collections Management. She is joining the Maple Ridge Museum as this summer's Archival Assistant, where she will be helping to catalogue and digitize our collections. She is thrilled to join the Maple Ridge Museum team, bringing with her a passion for local history and a penchant for falling down research rabbit holes. If you spot her amongst the boxes of documents, feel free to say hi!

Updates to our displays:

Stop by the Museum to see our newly updated display on the history of medicine in Maple Ridge. You can learn about topics like Maple Ridge's first doctors to the ill-advised ingredients of patent medicines. This revamp of our much beloved display case was done by Kelsey Sullivan.



Upcoming Events

Headstone Preservation Project

We are once again looking for locals who value historical preservation to help with the important task of cleaning and maintaining the headstones in our cemeteries.

Thursday July 9 5-8pm (Maple Ridge Cemetery)
Saturday July 11 9am-12pm (Whonnock Cemetery)
Wednesday July 22 5pm-8pm (Whonnock Cemetery)
Tuesday Aug 4 5-8pm (Maple Ridge Cemetery)
Saturday Aug 8 9am-12pm (Whonnock Cemetery)
Saturday Aug 15 9am-12pm (Maple Ridge Cemetery)
Saturday Sep 12 9am-12pm (Maple Ridge Cemetery)

mapleridgemuseum.org/headstone-preservation-project



Music On The Wharf

Join us for the 30th annual Music on the Wharf concert series at the historic Port Haney Wharf.

July 13 7:30pm - Gift Shop
August 3 7:30pm - Knudson & Connaughton
August 10 7:00pm - Cat Murphy Band
August 24 7:00pm - Golden Ears Jazz Band

mapleridgemuseum.org/music-on-the-wharf



MUSEUM ON THE MOVE

Museum on the Move brings free, accessible, and inclusive museum learning to all corners of Maple Ridge. The goal of this project is to bring the museum's stories and programs to the residents and visitors of our city by setting up a mini "pop-up" museum in locations that are frequented by the public as they go about their usual summer activities.

July 24-26 - Albion Fairgrounds
Event: Country Fest

September 27 - Memorial Peace Park
Event: National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

Join the Maple Ridge Museum and the Pitt Meadows Museum at...

COUNTRY FEST

Celebrate 125 years of the Fair with both Museums at the Albion Fairgrounds

July 25th 10 to 7
July 26th 10 to 6

mapleridgemuseum.org  pittmeadowsmuseum.com

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.

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