

Organizational Achievements:

- Nearly ten-fold increase in membership; sustaining engagement through member check-ins, newsletters, and members-only participation opportunities.
- Board of Directors has completed Board orientation and training
- Strategic planning process and review of policies/bylaws underway

Operations Highlights:

- Return to previous operating hours and standards; meeting and exceeding pre-COVID programming levels and attendance.
- School participation has dropped from peak during COVID but still triple pre-COVID rates; fall and spring seasons.
- Recent transition to new cloud-based collections management platform; public online access anticipated within next year.

Community Impact:

- Nearly 24 contributors, over 60 objects, approximately 32 stories combined to create "Our History, Our heroes: The Legacy of Ice Sports in the Creston Valley" exhibit at Community Complex
- Facilitated the production of Chris Luke Sr.'s video to support inclusion of Yaqan Nukiy community in Centennial celebrations.

Going Forward:

- Major initiatives over next two years include storage/display of large collection of belt-driven machinery; potential partnership for management of red grain elevator; and significant facility upgrades to improve accessibility challenges.
- 5% increase in RDCK/Town funding ensures continued ability to deliver very high level of community programming, especially through support of seasonal staff salaries. Between rising salaries and maximum-funding levels, seasonal staffing grants are now supporting 50% of salaries, down from previous 75%.

Community Involvement and Participation:

- Provided support and resources for **6** community Centennial events
- Special presentations or programs for **5** additional community events
- **23** local school groups = **450** local students
- **3** local youth hired for summer work; **2** retained for year-round temporary position
- Average **17** volunteers, **100+** hours/month
- **32** public programs and activities
- **38** seniors presentations: **4** different groups, **654** participation opportunities
- **66.2%** local participation in programs/activities
- **5** local organizations use our meeting/workshop space an average of **21** times every month
- **280** members, **267** of whom are local

Respect:

"An honest, thorough, and interesting presentation of local life and history" – Museum visitor, 24 Aug 2024

Engagement:

Local first-time visitors exploring family history accessed exhibits, orchard surveys, maps, downtown information, phone books.

Inclusivity:

NEXUS groups (Creston & Cranbrook) visited nearly weekly all summer for tours, programs, lunch.

Interactivity:

Used collections and exhibits to support elementary Focus on Youth project, teach high school historical thinking concepts, and support college environmental planning project

Leadership:

BCMA Work-From-Home and Remote Positions webinar "one of the most substantive" for several participants

The Creston Museum uses the past to inspire connections with the community today, address its challenges, and make it a better place to live, learn, and explore