

Manager's Report

10 June 2025

Update From Last Meeting:

Last month saw considerable discussion about grounds and maintenance. Here's what's been happening:

- Landscaping is progressing very well under volunteer Ann Day's direction. The Victory garden alongside the schoolhouse is planted, as is the heirloom garden above the steps. Cleaning and additional planting in other gardens is well in hand; rain barrels are ordered.
- Jarrett has been keeping up with lawn maintenance, repainted the caution strips on steps, and is working on significant splitting and surface erosion on sidewalks and patios, etc.

Operations Highlights:

- Low level of visitation to start season is curious; we're about half of last year's May numbers and well below 2023. School programs also well below last year, though visitor response continues to be very positive. Increasing promotions and community networking to address this.
- Summer staff are trained and working well. Leanna is working with Ashley and Brenda to prepare for Kids Day and Canada Day. Rico is undertaking data clean-up in the collections database.
- Patience Palmer has been volunteering through CoTR and will be coming back at the end of June; she is also working on collections data clean-up.

Community Impact:

I have been reconnecting with Kootenay Employment Services and the Chamber of Commerce, offering volunteer placements for KES job-skills clients and supporting the Chamber in their business ambassador work.

We provided historical information for the Seniors' Association re-dedication of Staking Park, the Bird festival, and a naturalists' tour to Williams Falls. Luanne Armstrong is coming in weekly to access information for her planned book. Creston Climate Action has invited us to do a presentation on the history of electrical and other power in Creston and beyond. Seniors' programs continue.

Further Discussion:

- Revised Strategic Plan in progress; will be presented in July.

Important Dates:

- Kids Day: 21 June
- Canada Day at Canyon Park: 1 July
- History About Town Week: 14-19 July
- Tammy's Summer Holidays: 21 July – 3 August
- Summer Camps: First/third weeks August
- Tammy's Fall Holidays: 28 Sep – 5 Oct

Collections:

Data cleanup progressing; beginning to work through process for online publishing

Programming:

Very positive response from teachers, visitors, but visitation is very low compared to previous years.

Exhibits:

Working on signage to explain significance of demonstration gardens

Community:

CoTR job skills program focus group providing feedback on exhibits, visitor orientation, etc.

Volunteerism:

Working on setting up simple physical and virtual volunteer job bulletin board.

Staffing:

Museum Host position to start mid-June. Interviewing end of this week

We bring the rich history of the Creston Valley to life.

The Creston Museum connects, educates, and engages to support a vibrant, inclusive community.