

Manager's Report

12 August 2025

Update From Last Meeting:

Two key discussion points from last month regarding financial sustainability: to follow up from last month's meeting:

- **Carr Building Rentals:** Main question was challenge of availability for other renters given heavy use by quilting groups.
 - Advise leaving quilters as they are, as they represent ~12 half-day rentals per month, guaranteed ~\$3,500 annual revenues, plus cleaning for virtually no effort on our part. It would require a minimum of 15 hours of my time each month, plus promotion time/costs, to replace that with no guarantee of success.
 - Working on establishing a booking system directly on our website so potential renters can see when it's available, book and pay directly. Setting it up to also allow online booking of patio/gazebo. Increasing suggested donation to \$50/half-day for one-time renters.
 - Will begin undertaking more active promotion of the space once booking system is in place.
- **Gift Shop Development:**
 - Jan Potyok, with many years experience in tourism gift shops, provided sound advice and offered to volunteer to help source products and develop the gift shop.
 - Investigating several local artisans and talking to Morris Flowers about partnering to share in Canadian-branded souvenirs without incurring high minimum orders.
 - Increased 2026 gift shop budget to \$5,000 to support expanded inventory.

Operations Highlights:

- Visitation good, with several very busy days.
- Annual report to RDCK submitted; 2026 funding received
- Provided forest management company with evidence of an historic trail/public road that may prevent them having to build new access road.
- Senior explicitly said our presentations are helping her regain her memories after "picking up a bug" that has taken a lot of them.

Further Discussion:

- Still no response from CBT re grain elevator status
- Term Deposits: two maturing this month plus RDCK funding to allocate.

Important Dates:

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| • Summer Camps: First/third weeks August | • Fall Fair: September 5-6 |
| • Columbia-Kootenay Culture Tour: August 9-10 | • Alfa Romeo Club: September 13 |
| • Brown Bag History: August 30, September 20 | • Tammy's Fall Holidays: 28 Sep – 5 Oct |

Collections:

Funding received through Terry Reksten Memorial Fund to add advance photos to database; applying to BCHDP to complete Review online

Programming:

Hugely positive response to History About Town. Kids Camps, Library Summer Reading Program underway

Exhibits:

Planning collaboration with Env. Sci. class at KRSS for "Peril" exhibit; funding possible through Digital Citizen Program.

Community:

Fall Fair exhibit, activities with theme "Farm Kids" supporting FF needs

Volunteerism:

Recruiting volunteers to help staff Museum during September.

Staffing:

Summer staff end Aug. 21-30. Ashley, Brenda remain through September. Contacting Alyson re her expected return.

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

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



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