



## Exploring Vancouver in the summertime

By Jurian ter Horst & Jess Quan

Our typical June issue contains an article describing our upcoming field trips, but with none scheduled this summer due to COVID we decided to ask some friends of the VHS for ideas about summertime walks.

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Formerly heavily industrialized, the shoreline of the Fraser River has been opened up with some interesting pathways and viewpoints such as this one at the foot of Gladstone Street (photo from the City of Vancouver Archives by Alan J. Ingram, 1977).



Before setting out, watch the film by Trevor Marc Hughes called *The Young Hustler*, exploring the legacy of his father who eked out a living on workboats called “Young Hustler” on the Fraser beginning in the 1930s. You can watch his film at <https://youtu.be/Fj5LVHjvIk4> on YouTube. The film is not publicly listed yet.



VHS member Maureen Charron has been looking for interesting sidewalk stamps, and when asked to choose one, said it was like “trying to choose a favourite child.”

“How many of you have heard of the road called Kitsilano Diversion in Kitsilano? I only recently became aware of it as I was walking around the neighbourhoods of Kitsilano, Quilchena and Dunbar recording the sidewalk stamps that the City stamped into the concrete in the early part of the last Century.”

“You’ve all driven it hundreds of times. It’s the stretch of

West 12th Ave from Stephen’s to MacKenzie (crossing MacDonald where it joins up with West 10th). You’ll see it on the street name signs at the SW and SE corner of MacDonald and at the SW corner of West 12th (street between MacDonald and the Kitsilano Diversion).”

This diversion was one of several included in the 1928 Harland Bartholomew Plan for Vancouver, intended to smooth the way for motorists on the City’s arterials. A few others worth noting are at Oak between 14th and 16th, 12th Avenue between Main and Kingsway, and Commercial Drive between Adanac and Venables.



(It will be hyperlinked in the email you receive if you get the electronic version of the newsletter.)

According to Hughes, it’s an official selection of the Montreal Independent Film Festival, and notes that “the locations in the film are Fraser River Park, Gladstone-Riverside Park, McDonald Beach Park and the North Arm Jetty walk at Iona Beach Regional Park.

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If you follow Balaclava Street south to the Fraser River you’ll come to a curious parking lot, full of history and impending change. The historic Celtic Shipyards and Cannery lands are the last

piece of waterfront yet to be developed, a place of memories for ship building, the Musqueam First Nations, Japanese Canadians who lived by the river before World War II, and many more who found employment and sustenance along the River. You can see the last remaining shipbuilding structure, walk along an easement and spot a Places That Matter plaque and a Japanese memorial garden, and reach Deering Island Park (a peaceful spot next to the bare-land-strata-title 1980s development). It’s hard to imagine Southlands without the horses, mansions, and golf courses, but less than a generation ago, you could still see and hear local industry.

Please note:  
**The next lecture is in September**

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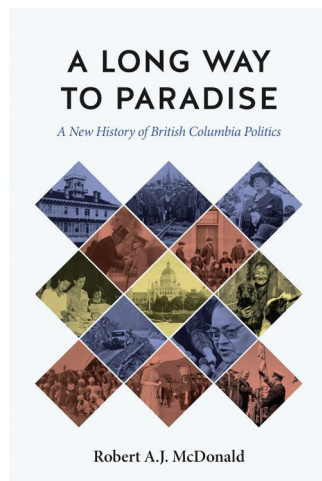
## President's Notes

The briefest of notes this time as the VHS winds down for the summer break. I extend my thanks to the two dozen members who attended the virtual Annual General Meeting on May 26th, and the more than 30 members who sent me their proxy. The board and I appreciate the trust you've shown in us during COVID, and your continuing support. If any member reading this didn't receive the AGM package due to a lack of email access and would like to have one mailed, please write to our postal address (on the masthead below) and I'll send a copy.

Have a happy and safe summer. I'm hoping we will be able to return to 'live' at MoV in October or November.

Michael Kluckner, President  
presidentvhs@gmail.com

## Update on Bob and his book



Many of you will recall nearly two years ago the tragic loss of our past president, the historian Robert A.J. McDonald.

A recent UBC announcement said that awards totalling \$3,150 have been made available through an endowment established by friends, family, former students, and colleagues in memory of Bob, for outstanding graduate students in the Department of History specializing in the history of British Columbia.

And, the book he had just finished when he died, *A Long Way to Paradise: A New History of British Columbia Politics*, will be published by UBC Press in September.

## BC History Magazine subscriptions

A note to VHS members who buy *BC History* subscriptions when they renew their VHS memberships: if you are renewing your membership after August, you will be contacted separately by *BC History* for a subscription renewal. The VHS will not be collecting money and remitting for magazine subscriptions in the future. This new policy is intended to benefit both organizations.



## Upcoming Speakers

The VHS invites everyone to attend our monthly talks, which are being held online by Zoom during the pandemic. Members will receive complete information by email a few days before the lecture.

September 23, 2021

### Landscapes of Injustice (the Nikkei Experience in Canada)

Speaker: Dr. Jordan Stanger-Ross (University of Victoria)

During the 1940s, Canada enacted mass displacement and dispossession of people on racial grounds, a collective moral failure that remains only partially addressed. Japanese Canadians lost their homes, farms, businesses, as well as personal, family, and communal possessions. The multi-year, multi-university project primarily focused on the forced sale of Japanese Canadian-owned property. Dr. Stanger-Ross last spoke to the VHS on this project in 2014.

Our fall and winter program is beginning to take shape, made complex by the unsure COVID situation for public gatherings. We can, however, look forward at least tentatively to sessions and events that include:

- An ethnobotanical talk on "forest gardens" and food sources for local First Nations
- The history of the Jericho Golf Course
- The Unheralded Artists book series published by Mona Fertig
- Eve Lazarus and her book, *Vancouver Exposed*.
- Kim Louie on the Marco Polo restaurant and nightclub.
- And, a presentation of Bob McDonald's forthcoming book.

### Welcome to new VHS Members

Ann Daskal  
Mary Kean  
Ruth Leibik

Glenn Woodsworth  
Jamileh Yazdi

### Vancouver Historical Society Executive Board: 2021 - 2022

(ELECTED MAY 26, 2021)

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VIDEOGRAPHY	Elwin Xie
NEWSLETTER MAILING	Jeannie Hounslow
NEWSLETTER TEMPLATE/LAYOUT	Kellan Higgins/MK

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The photo above shows the Celtic Japanese language school and students in 1920, courtesy of the Nikkei National Museum.

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The Jericho, Locarno and Spanish Banks beaches are some of the most popular in Vancouver. Their Squamish names give us a better understanding of this area's history. Most Squamish place names were given to places visible from the water, since canoeing was the primary mode of transport prior to contact. *Iyálmexw* means "Good land" and refers to the location of a Musqueam village (*šx̣ʷsyiΦəm*); the area was named Jericho Beach after Jeremiah Rogers in the 1860s. Settlers then used the land and water for logging, reserves, and military purposes, of which the Jericho Sailing Centre, Arts Centre and Youth Hostel are reminders.



The Locarno and Spanish Banks beaches are not only known for its evergreen trees, but also for its crabapple trees, and is therefore called *Kwekw7úpay̓* ("Lots of crabapple trees"). An important seasonal food source, crabapple trees are native to the Northwest Coastal lands, and grow on moist sites and along the coast and rivers. (Information from Squamish Atlas.com)



The anonymous photo above shows the New Brighton hotel in 1886, courtesy of the City of Vancouver Archives, AM54-S4-: Dist P13.

With fabulous views of the grain silos, Second Narrows Bridge and the North Shore, New Brighton Park is situated near the northeast corner of the city and was the closest "resort" in the couple of decades before Vancouver was incorporated. If you enjoy Hastings Park's many delights (Momiji Garden, skatepark, pump track, and Empire Field) fol-

low the trail to McGill Street via the underpass and you'll arrive at New Brighton Park. The pool is a fabulous spot during the summer months, and truly exciting is the shoreline habitat restoration. In 2017, chum and chinook were sighted using the salt marsh, and many interpretive panels connect what was once here, along with Indigenous significance, to what is being restored. It's a wonderful place of current industry, ecosystem restoration, and leisure greenspace, a calm spot next to Highway 1.

From Lorraine Irving: "When I first started to research Mountain View Cemetery, I noticed this very large monument near the corner of 33rd Avenue and Fraser Street. The death certificate for Catherine Askew stated that she had been shot. I found this in the *Daily News Advertiser* of July 13, 1897, with stacked headlines:

### **Double Tragedy W.J. Immel Shoots Kitty Askew and Himself**

### **At the corner of Pender and Richards Streets on Monday Night – Love and Jealousy Prompted the Awful Deed.**

"They were lovers but he became jealous that a waiter was paying her too much attention. He quit his job as a blacksmith and went to Seattle. He returned to Vancouver and called on Miss



Askew. He wanted to go for a walk with her but she refused. She said that she was tired and had been on her feet all day. A *World* reporter was passing along Pender Street and noticed a man and woman standing on the opposite corner. Several shots were fired. The woman ran northward across the street. After yelling, 'Oh My God' or 'Oh my arm' she collapsed. The man committed suicide. The girl was about 18 years old and worked as a waitress. All who knew her spoke highly of her as an obliging agreeable gentle young woman."



# Curious Minds: Inspiring Future Historians

By Jess Quan

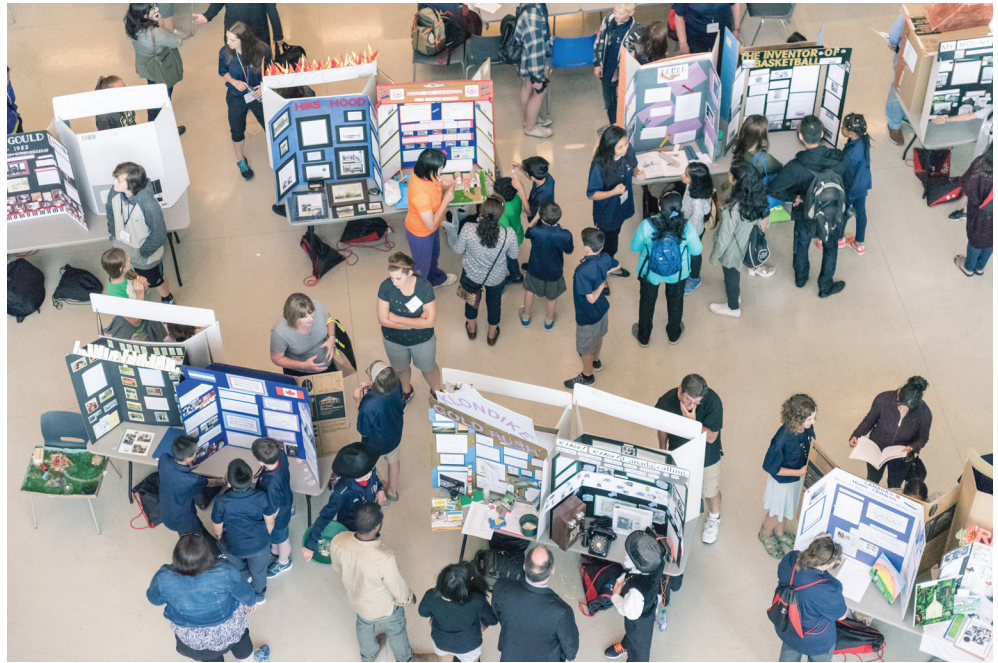
As the Vancouver Heritage Fairs wraps up another year of inspiring, supporting and facilitating heritage fair inquiry-based projects in Vancouver elementary schools across the city, I had a chat with Leona Lam, Grade 9 student, alumni and Vancouver Regional Coordinator of the BC Heritage Fairs Society. At the time of our conversation, the May 22nd regionals hadn't taken place yet, and it was a juggling feat of online schedules, TEAMS links, adjudications and nervous students.

**JQ:** Leona, it's so good to see you via zoom. The last time we met was at Heritage Hall for one of the last in-person events of 2020, when you spoke on behalf of your experiences with heritage fairs and shared the stage with your alumni student team. Why did you decide to take the Heritage Fairs online during this pandemic?

**LL:** I'd never coordinated one before but I decided to do it because of the amazing experiences I had in the heritage fairs program. Each elementary student has the freedom to research a project of their interest and present it to an adult adjudicator. Having an adult listen to a student was such a valuable experience, and the feeling of being valued, and listened to.

**JQ:** How has it been to manage and support this year's classes, teachers, students, adjudicators and alumni?

**LL:** We had 25 schools participate this year. I meet biweekly with alumni and we do website, IG and blog posts, coordinate zoom and Teams meeting, support the very stressed out teachers who are supporting students with vastly different skill levels, with resources and alumni mentors. Students are very nervous so I often call into classes to reassure them. I have teachers in the family - I love helping others, sharing knowledge and creating community.



A recent Heritage Fair in Vancouver.

PHOTO COURTESY OF HERITAGE FAIRS SOCIETY

**JQ:** If I had had the opportunity to do a heritage fairs project (and not just a science fair), I feel I would have been more aware of my interest in history. What do you think makes HF so special?

**LL:** Science fairs get all the support, but with heritage fairs there is so much mutual benefit, uplifting and it's a win-win for all involved. It's the people who make it special. All of the adults involved are so passionate and volunteer their time to support each student's opportunity to express themselves through the projects. Students get to interact with adults who listen to them- it's empowering.

**JQ:** You've done such an amazing job of coordinating the fairs this year, what are your favourite aspects of being a regional and alumni coordinator?

**LL:** Thanks- I'm proud of myself but it's because I love working with kids, I'm passionate and I love public speaking. I love all the attention on me. [laughing]. I love the past and listening to stories of others. I get to talk to so many different

people, and learn from their past. I've gotten lots of work experience and have been able to develop leadership skills. I love helping others.

**JQ:** I've had such a great time listening to students' projects as an adjudicator this year. I look forward to the regionals. I think we've all earned a summer break.

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[In the past the Vancouver Historical Society supported the Heritage Fairs program with volunteers for judging and other work and we recently rejoined the Heritage Fairs Society as an institutional member. If you're interested in volunteering, please get in touch through our Infoline email address on page 2.

We have also provided some book prizes for one of the fairs. If you have books in your collection that you would be willing to part with and think would be useful for highschool-age historians, please let us know and we'll arrange a pickup.]