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From the Executive Director

A Look Back at 2019

2019 was a great year for the Society as we celebrated our 125th Canniversary full of highlights for both our visitors and staff. Our events saw a record numbers of attendees, with both Pull of the Net: A Multicultural Celebration and Welcoming the Sun celebrated by thousands of visitors. The new exhibition The Label Unwrapped has garnered great feedback from our audiences and continues to inspire, educate and delight.

Our celebratory exhibition The Cannery Cat’s Collection, created in cooperation with our 2018-19 Youth Leadership Volunteers won an Honourable Mention Award for Sustainability in Exhibitions at the British Columbia Museums Association Conference.

The summer Cannery Experience public offer of tours, machines demos, salmon tasting, and costumed interpreters continued to drive visitor satisfaction to new levels.

Our Visitor Services team continues to bring the Cannery story to life every day; their excellent effort, teamwork, and dedication is what carried us to victory in 2019. I would like to personally thank them for all their hard work and for persisting through infrastructure improvements and challenges to provide a stunning experience for all our audiences.

Another of this year’s memorable achievements was the long awaited completion of the online Virtual Museum of Canada project From Tides to Tins, now accessible by schools and the public at tidestotins.ca.

The Society team said goodbye to two of our members this year, with both Trish and Wilf moving on to new opportunities. Their transformative hard work and team spirit will be missed, and we wish them all the best for their futures! Though we were sad to lose the talents of Wilf and Trish, their departure allowed an opportunity to re-examine coordinator-level staffing and responsibilities. As a result, the coordinator responsibilities were re-organized and a new permanent position on our Visitor Services team was created.

(cont’d on Page 2)
2019 Collections Volunteer Projects

I have always been fortunate to work with a great team of volunteers here in the Collections Department. From compiling research, to cataloguing charts, to scanning and describing photographs and salmon can labels – these volunteers have put hours of their valuable time into projects that could not have been done without them.

Since the start of 2019, volunteers have contributed over 200 hours of their time to transcribe 32 interviews from our Oral History Collection. These transcripts make it easier to search and access this collection for both staff and public.

More recently, a group of new volunteers have joined the team and are now working to digitize all copies of the Western Fisheries magazine held in our library. These magazines provide an interesting snapshot of the fishing industry from the 1950s to the 1970s. Having digital copies of them will make it much easier to search and find information about the industry from this period.

Thank you to all my volunteers! Without you, so much of this would not be possible!

HEIDI RAMPFL

From the Executive Director

A Look Back at 2019

(continuation from Page 1)  Julia Sargeant was hired as the Events Coordinator, and comes to the Cannery with a background in heritage and events, having worked at our sister site at Fort Langley. Johanna Trapier is our new Education Programs Coordinator; Johanna has a background in history and education, formerly working as a French teacher. We are also happy to announce that Tara Miller has taken a new role as Visitor Services Coordinator. This position will oversee volunteer management as well as visitor services, and will allow the team to focus on special interest groups, a growing revenue source. We thank our Cannery community for embracing our new team members and continuing to support the efforts of staff.

As we say goodbye to 2019, we would like to thank all of our volunteers and members. We truly could not have had such a great year without your support and dedication. As 2019 ends and the Society finishes with our strategic planning process, we are excited to bring the results to the community in the new year. Our event calendar for 2020 is shaping up to be even more engaging and exciting than ever and of course our Visitor Services team is gearing up for an inspiring 2020 summer season. Keep an eye out on our social media platforms for all the exciting things to come!

I wish you all the best for the holiday season, with many treasured moments with family and friends. Be sure to come to our December Cannery Farmers’ Markets (there will be 3 in a row!), see Santa at the Cannery on December 1st, and vote for your favourite holiday tree in our annual Festival of Trees from December 1 to 31.

Thank you all for helping our Society have such an excellent year and I hope you celebrate the end of 2019 with joy.

Happy Holidays!

STEPHANIE HALAPIJA
Salmon Champions at the Cannery

Questions leap to the heart of learning because they encourage participation and inspire curiosity. Questions also allow people to find out more about what interests them and when learning is personal, it becomes more meaningful. This was our motivation in hosting the second Salmon Science Expo on November 9th.

Visitors to the Salmon Science Expo were encouraged to be curious and ask lots of questions. Representatives from nine organizations focused on studying and protecting wild salmon were here to answer those questions.

Wilfred Wilson and Ralph Turner shared their knowledge about salmon migration routes, tides, and winds to answer the question “How do fishermen know where to catch salmon?”

The big questions of “why should I care?” and “what can I do to help protect wild salmon?” were also answered passionately and eloquently by the exhibitors. The GOGCS is grateful for the support of the participating organizations who shared their expertise with visitors at the Expo.

SHANNON KING

CANNERY STORE

Find a Perfect Holiday Gift at the Cannery Store

Looking for something West Coast or quintessentially Canadian this holiday season? You will find a wide range of gifts at the Cannery Store. Local author Daniel Camp has created a beautifully illustrated Christmas book “The Twelve Days of Christmas Under the Sea” which will be perfect for any kid on your list. All kinds of weird and wonderful marine life come to life in the book.

A tasty treat can be found on our line up of canned fish from The Fishery and St. Jeans Cannery. This year we have some great gift baskets and gift tins from St. Jeans featuring a wide array of their BC product. Single tins make great stocking stuffers! And speaking of stockings - check out the fun, nautically-themed socks from Sock-It-To-Me and Yo-Sox. Practical and colourful. And as always, members receive a 20% discount on Cannery Store purchases.

ROB HART
Thank you for your support
all new & renewing members

(AS OF NOVEMBER 15, 2019)
Please note your name appears here only when you renew or join.
It does not appear in every issue.

Honorary & Lifetime Members

Jim Barlow  Bud Sakamoto  Robbie Johnson

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BECOME A MEMBER OR RENEW TODAY!

Name

Address

Postal Code  Phone

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Cheques payable to: Gulf of Georgia Cannery Society
12138 Fourth Avenue, Richmond, B.C. V7E 3J1  Telephone: 604-664-9009

Kudos

Thanks to Kwantlen Polytechnic University Arts practicum students Tyson Dunn and Michael Kennedy (left to right) for all of their hard work and contributions to events, marketing and public programs at the Cannery this term.

UPCOMING EVENTS

December 1: Santa at the Cannery
Take photos with Santa in the Boiler Room Theatre from 2 to 4pm (free with ticketed times). Bring your own camera!

December 1 to 31: Festival of Trees
See the festive trees decorated by local Richmond merchants and community groups and vote for your favourite!

Cannery Farmers’ Market:
December 1, 8 & 15
February 9 & 23
10am to 3pm. Sundays, free admission.

Holiday hours:
10am to 2pm on December 24 & 31
Closed on December 25, 26 & January 1

☐ Corporate $60  ☐ Family $35  ☐ Individual $20  ☐ Senior (55+) $18
☐ Renewal  ☐ Change of Address  ☐ DONATION (amount) $ ___________

☐ Please check here if you do NOT wish to have your name published as a new or renewing member.

☐ I do NOT wish to receive email updates from the Society