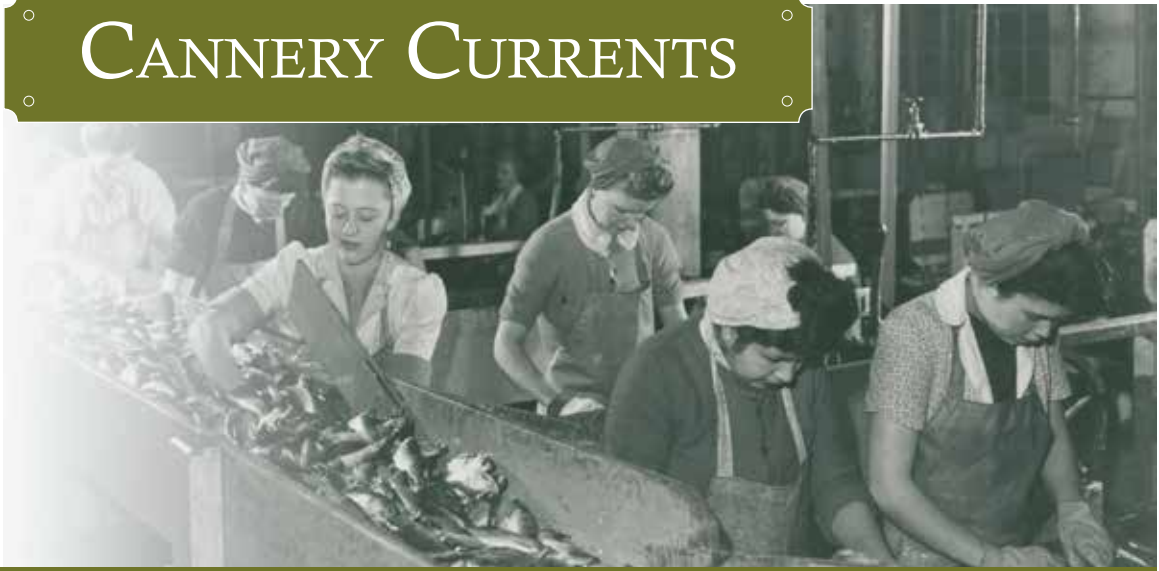


# CANNERY CURRENTS



INSIDE

*“Signs and Signals”*

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*Tides to Tins Display*

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*Farewells and Welcome*

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FALL ISSUE | VOLUME 25, NO. 2 SEPTEMBER 2020

## From the Executive Director

### Weathering the Storm

After a four-month closure since March, the Cannery re-opened its doors on July 13th. I would like to sincerely thank all our members, volunteers, partners, and community for all the support you have shown the Society during these unprecedented times.

Due to the extended closure, our Annual General Meeting was conducted virtually via Zoom this past June. We presented our 2019 Annual Report, elected the board, and unveiled our new five-year Strategic Plan. This year we are happy to welcome Whitney Enns as a new Director and thank outgoing Director Bruce Okabe for his dedication and support as he finished his two-year term.

Board Chair Kit Grauer presented our new Strategic Plan (also available on our website) including our strategic vision, goals, and objectives which will guide the work of the Society over the next five years. The plan’s Vision Statement is our collective, inspired big dream where: *We envision a world in which generations are inspired to be better global citizens by experiencing the stories of fishing communities on*

*Canada’s West Coast.* As outlined in the plan, the three chief goals to support this vision are: *Expand our partnership with Parks Canada; be fiscally strong; and be a leader in reconciliation* (where reconciliation is defined as reconciliation with land, people, place – including the reclaiming of space, the establishment of many voices in our practices and fostering of a meaningful connects to the Indigenous cultural legacy of fishing on the West Coast). This plan represents an exciting new chapter in the story of the Society and will inform, guide and support the direction of interpretation, programs, exhibitions, revenue generation and all of the hard work of the staff and Board going forward. In particular, our goal to increase and represent the diversity of both our fishing history and present, represents new challenges and opportunities to bring even more stories, perspectives, and voices into our site.

As we move into the latter half of 2020, so much is still uncertain and the full scope of our offer going into 2021 is still unknown. We will all work together to keep our communities, staff and loved ones safe. We are confident

the Society and Steveston will weather the storm. Fishing history past and present is full of storms, bad weather, and continuous highs and lows. As a Society, we look forward for what is to come with the implementation of our new Strategic Plan and all the exciting opportunities these unusual circumstances have provided us. Keep an eye out for our online event *Pull of the Net* in September, and other virtual offers – including school programs, blog posts and other community engagement pieces.

We look forward to celebrating the rest of this year under our rafters and finding joy in new ways of connection, storytelling, and online celebrations. We wish for the health and safety of all our members and cannot wait until we can all meet again!

STEPHANIE HALAPIJA

### Thinking “Outside the Case”

If you have visited the Cannery at all in the past few years, you may recall seeing a small exhibit case in our front lobby featuring a variety of artifacts from our collection. Traditionally, displays in this case are curated by our summer Collections students each year. This year, unfortunately, we have had to remove the case from our lobby to ensure there is enough space for visitors to maintain proper physical distance. We are not letting this prevent us from showcasing a new selection of artifacts, however. In fact, we have come up with a solution that allows even more of our fantastic collection to be shared with our visitors both here at the site and from the comfort of their own homes! That’s right – we are thinking “outside of the case” and combining a virtual video experience with an onsite installation.

This new display is being curated by our current summer Museum Assistant, Michael Jaworski, and is titled *Signs and Signals*. Here’s Michael’s description of this new exhibit:

*Signs and Signals* looks at the theme of communication through a wide range of artifacts from the Gulf of Georgia Cannery’s collections. I chose this theme because signs and signals are an essential part of everyday life in the West Coast fishing industry. Despite this, not all the artifacts in the exhibit are commonly thought of as signs or signals. By looking at how each artifact is used to communicate, the exhibit will explore how information can be transferred in many ways, some familiar and others more unexpected!

### From Tides to Tins Onsite Display



Last year the Gulf of Georgia Cannery Society proudly launched our online exhibit *From Tides to Tins: Salmon Canning in BC*. This online exhibit, which was created with support from the Virtual Museum of Canada, provides an introduction to the industry

by documenting each of BC’s salmon canneries and exploring the historical context of the industry. It includes an interactive map, a timeline of the industry, an overview of the canning process, and an interactive game.



*The Signs and Signals virtual exhibit will be displayed on this TV, with several artifacts featured in this case near the Reform Line inside the Cannery.*

To help interpret the theme, the artifacts have been grouped into the following sub-categories: Measurements; Marks, Markings, Markers; Beacons; Sounds; and Telecommunications. Ultimately, the goal of the exhibit is for people to gain a greater appreciation and understanding of how these artifacts are used to communicate important information at sea and on land.

This exhibit will be installed and ready for viewing at the site and online by the end of August – we hope you will check it out and enjoy this new look at artifacts from our collection!

HEIDI RAMPFL AND MICHAEL JAWORSKI

This year, the Society will be opening an onsite extension of this exhibit. This new display will give visitors to the Cannery a taste of what can be experienced on the website, as well as provide access to the site itself through an onsite kiosk.

Installation of this new display will take place at the end of August, with an opening date set for just after Labour Day. We hope you will be able to come and check out this new and exciting space! Until then, *From Tides to Tins* can be viewed from the comfort of your own home at [tidestotins.ca](http://tidestotins.ca).

HEIDI RAMPFL

## PUBLIC PROGRAMS

### Farewells and Welcome

In May we said farewell to our passionate, hardworking, and dedicated Audience Engagement Manager, Shannon King. After five years with our Cannery Crew, Shannon has moved to her new home in Victoria - we will miss her enthusiasm for the Cannery, salmon, and the Fraser River, and thank her for helping to build up our school programs to where they are today. The staff and Board thank her deeply for all her work, her commitment, and lasting legacy. We hope to (when it is safe to do so) bring Shannon back to the Cannery for a proper send off!

We would also like to give our best wishes for a bright future to Julia Sergeant our Events Coordinator, who is leaving at the end of August. Since last September, Julia spent a whirlwind first few months making the Cannery Farmers' Market her own, celebrating and updating The Haunted Sea, and pulling off one of our most successful Santa Days. Julia has been crafting, editing, and imagining our first ever virtual event, *Pull of the Net* (see more below). As she moves on to an opportunity more in line with her education, we thank her for all her hard work, her excellent events, and for her warm, positive presence.

While we have had to say goodbye to two team members, we are happy to announce that Krystal Newcombe has joined the Cannery Crew as the new Audience Engagement Manager. Krystal, an Ontario native, is new to BC, with a background



*Our new Audience Engagement Manager Krystal Newcombe (top right) helping UBC Coop students Kayley (left) and Tali (centre) with cleaning and re-painting model fish before the Cannery's re-opening in July.*

in Cultural Heritage Management. She has worked with various heritage foundations, NPOs and Indigenous communities. Most importantly, she is passionate about heritage sites and museums, and helping visitors find new connections with their heritage while providing a platform for diverse voices to flourish. We are excited for her future contributions to the mission of the Society and to further our potential to inspire, educate and preserve.

### STEPHANIE HALAPIJA

### Pull of the Net: A Virtual Celebration

Events are looking a little different at the Cannery this year, but we are working hard to adapt them to keep visitors and staff safe and healthy. After having to cancel the live *Pull of the Net* that was scheduled for May, we are excited to bring you the online version from September 21-27. Videos and activities by performers, artists, and local community groups will be shared on our website for everyone to enjoy. We have returning groups that you may recognize from the event in the past, as well as some new additions joining us for the first time. Along with these videos, the Society will be sharing clips from our Oral History collection that describe what life was like at canneries from firsthand accounts.

Although the future is very unknown during these times, we are beginning to plan for our Halloween event The Haunted Sea, scheduled for the end of October. If it goes ahead, the installation will likely look a little different from



*A still shot from the video featuring a Japanese calligraphy demonstration by local artist Fusako.*

years past, but we will still focus on sustainability and ocean pollution while creating a spooky environment. We are hopeful that we will be able to welcome visitors to see the transformed space; however, please watch for future updates regarding The Haunted Sea.

### JULIA SARGEANT

## Thank you for your support all new & renewing members

(AS OF AUGUST 15, 2020)

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

### Corporate Members

Steveston Buddhist Temple

## Leadership Volunteers 2019-2020



Thank you to our Youth Leadership Volunteers of 2019-20 (from left to right: Tiffany Guo, Celine Chan, Gloria Sun, Grace Yip), who assisted with our Salmonids program and Cannery events, before completing their program online during our closure.

### Individual & Family Members

Joann Alblas & family  
Shaun Burton & family  
Eileen Carefoot  
Urey Chan & Carol Eng  
Ray Chin  
Gayle & Gerry Cowper  
Whitney Enns & family  
Dickson Fung  
Sarah Glen & family  
Celine & Henry Grant  
Kit Grauer  
Lynn Greene  
Carina Harris & family  
Phillip Howard  
Ron Hyde  
Joan Kellinghusen  
James B. Kempster

Rick Kim  
Simon Leong  
Jeffrey Liu  
Peter Liu  
Christy & Gordon Maxwell  
Dawn McKinney & family  
Donald McLeod  
Noriko Nasu-Tidball  
Judy Nishi  
Andrea Park & family  
Colin Pawson  
Helena Petkau  
Kim Rampfl & family  
Jordan Reid  
Butch & Marilyn Sakiyama  
Schaap family  
Peter Scurr

Tyrone Shephard & family  
Christine Sidworth & family  
Carol Sopel  
Ronald Stunden  
Susan Stiene  
Roy Thaller  
Aaron & Shannon Turner & family  
Ralph & Edith Turner  
Andrew Wilson & family  
Nadja Wojna & Edwin Lockfeer

### BECOME A MEMBER OR RENEW TODAY !



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

Corporate \$100     Family \$45     Individual \$25     Senior (65+) \$20     New

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.

As a member of the Society, we will be sending you updates on events and information about the Cannery. Please check below if you do NOT wish to receive these emails.

I do NOT wish to receive email updates from the Society