



The Museum Post

Web Page www.kitimatmuseum.ca E-Mail: info@kitimatmuseum.ca

Kitimat Museum & Archives

**293 City Centre
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**Monday to Friday, 10 am to 4 p.m.
Saturday, 12 noon to 4 p.m.
Closed Sundays and Holidays**

Fall 2017

Exhibition Update

The redesign of the Haisla heritage collection space is moving forward. A photo mural installation is planned for early November 2017 featuring two photographic images of the forest in the Coho Flats trail area, and a culturally modified tree. Allan Colton photographed the images earlier this year.

The main wall mural (11 by 12 feet) will be the backdrop for the contemporary Haisla arts case featuring masks, poles, and basketry. The smaller mural—a forest canopy—will extend over the food harvest area.

Text and images for the cultural information panels are planned for the display area. The Museum has recently welcomed Cultural Community Coordinator Teresa Windsor, Haisla Nation Council to the Museum Board. Teresa has agreed to work with Museum staff to provide guidance on the panels. A focus group of Haisla community members will also review the panel information.

An external lift to the second floor is also planned. In September, given District of Kitimat financial support at 50%, a matching grant application was submitted to the Community Gaming Grants Branch for this capital project. Yes, the Museum may have a lift to the second floor, construction to begin in the summer of 2018.

Archaeologist Michele Spracklin has volunteered to create a display of stone and bone artifacts from the area, arranged to



simulate what could be campsite debris, from the Museum's archaeological holdings. The Museum is one of 56 official repositories in BC for archaeological materials. Included in the display is human modified stone and bone—an etched deer antler, a stone working kit, reproductions, arrowheads, fragments, and flakes.

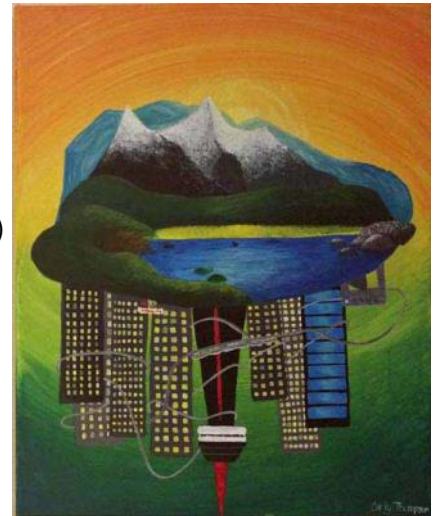
For Canada 150, the Museum partnered with the Kitimat Public Library, calling on all visual artists and writers (adult and youth) to create Canada 150 artwork, short stories, poetry, and verse, to be shared in an exhibition at the Museum (June 16 – August 5) and on-line. The show was one of the events for Canada Day celebrations in Kitimat and received Canada 150 funding through the District of Kitimat Leisure Services' grant application. The exhibition involved arts and writer's workshops, elementary school grades and classes, the Art Club of Kitimat, and the high school fine arts department. It celebrated "What it Means to be Canadian" (written works from the Kitimat Library), and 'Coming Together in Kitimat: Canada 150 Impressions' (visual arts from the Kitimat Museum) in a series of landscapes—a combined exhibition to honour Canada.

Mount Elizabeth Middle Secondary School arts students, the Art Club of Kitimat, and other Kitimat artists created their own Kitimat "landscapes" to

express feelings for their country, Canada and community. Most were traditional landscapes with mountains, rivers, ocean, and sky, but one featured a dreamscape urban environment by Carley Thompson. Writers of all ages participated in a writing contest and prizes were awarded by the Library. This artistic journey by the Library and Museum was its first joint venture. We wish to acknowledge and thank all local artists and writers in our community for their participation. We acknowledge the financial support of the Government of Canada.

These works of art are now featured at

<http://www.kitimatmuseum.ca/canada150/>



Recent Acquisitions

Angela Eastman, Assistant Curator

We have received some wonderful acquisitions in a rather slow season.



Left to right: Mac Hanford (Manager, PR Alcan), Leo Bravo (Bravo's Welding), Bob Whiting (Bob Whiting & Sons) and Stu Mackenzie (Alcan Plant Manager).
Fred Taylor Collection. KMA No. 2017.52.1

- Fred Taylor brought in a photograph of Mac Hanford, Leo Bravo, Bob Whiting and Stu Mackenzie golfing on the Terrace Golf Course in the snow. The photo was given by Trev Whiting.
- Michael Jefferies from Mill Valley, California sent booklets - Kitimat-Kemano, 5 Years of Operation 1954-1959; Kitimat, Progress Report on the Alcan Project and New Horizons in Aluminum as well as mortgage documents for 36 Plover St. owned by his parents William and Cynthia Jefferies. Mr. Jeffries wrote

"My family used to live in Kitimat in the early 1950's and left in 1958. My father went to Kitimat without us so that he could work on building the Kemano power plant before working at the smelter for Alcan. Eventually my mother, younger brother and older sister traveled by ship from Vancouver and arrived in Kitimat before there was housing. We lived on the Delta King before moving into our new home in 1954. Kitimat was a wild place in those

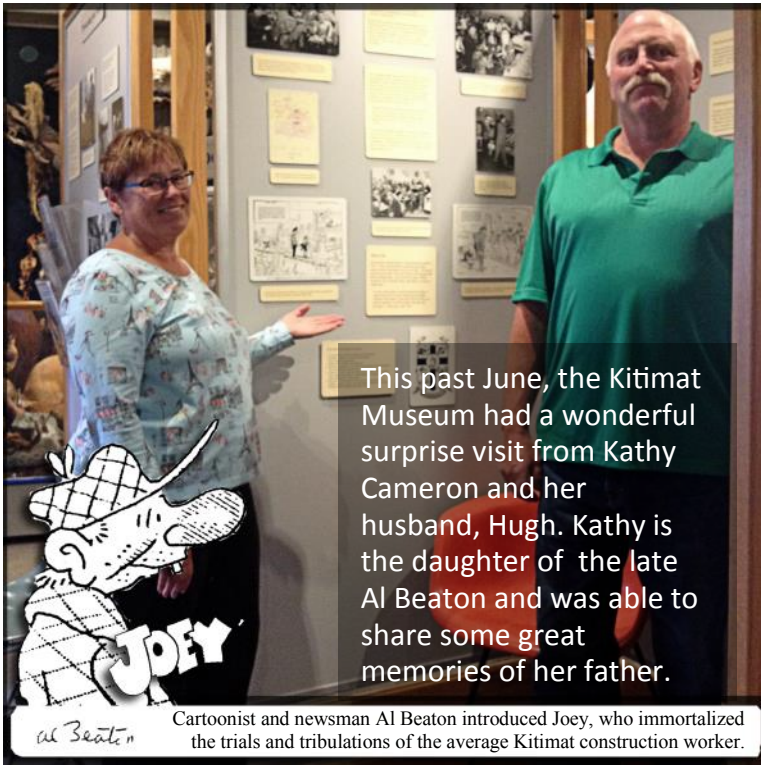
days with lots of bears and a huge number of salmon in the Kitimat River. There were no paved roads and my dad drove us around in an old silver coloured Alcan Jeep pick up which we loved."

- Kat Derksen donated an original Tales of Kitamaat, signed by author Gordon Robinson.
- The Goncalves family donated five photographs that belonged to Joe and Pat Goncalves. All were photographs of the wharf and smelter area.
- Julie Ourom of Whitehorse, Yukon donated a colour photograph of Mount Elizabeth at dusk, by Joanne Monaghan, and a framed watercolour by Jane Cross, 1985, of Dr. Kuntz' houseboat and pier, Minette Bay.
- Sophie Skitko recently bought a new refrigerator and kindly donated her old one to the Museum. It is a wonderful Westinghouse Electric Refrigerator purchased by Mrs. Skitko in 1954 from Woodward's. She even found the original booklet that came with the appliance, "Care, Use and Recipes for your new Westinghouse Electric Refrigerator." The fridge is in immaculate condition and a great example of an appliance that travelled by barge to Kitimat to grace a mid-1950's kitchen.



1954 Westinghouse Electric Refrigerator, donated by Sophie Skitko. KMA No. 2017.58

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING



This past June, the Kitimat Museum had a wonderful surprise visit from Kathy Cameron and her husband, Hugh. Kathy is the daughter of the late Al Beaton and was able to share some great memories of her father.

Cartoonist and newsman Al Beaton introduced Joey, who immortalized the trials and tribulations of the average Kitimat construction worker.

SEEKING LOCAL AND REGIONAL CRAFTERS AND ARTISTS

Are you interested in being part of the Kitimat Museum Christmas Gift Store? Talk to us today about registering, or see our website for more details!

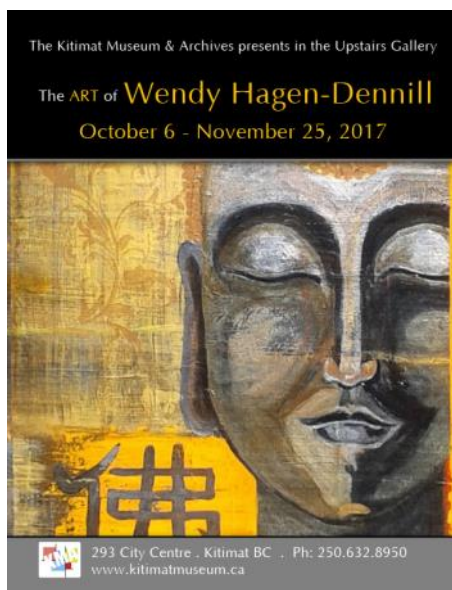
A great opportunity for artisans to share their handcrafts, and promote their work!



Volunteers are needed at the Kitimat Museum & Archives!

A great way to get to know community members and Museum activities

The Art of Wendy Hagen-Dennill



If you have not had a chance to come see the show, schedule a day and don't miss out!

Wendy's artwork moves towards the abstract – it is the way she sees life. Her pieces are intuitive, and eclectic.

Showing in the Museum Upstairs Gallery from October 6 to November 25, 2017



LOVE
KITIMAT

For more information please call (250) 632-8950 or email aeastman@kitimatmuseum.ca

November 24th, 2017

The Love Kitimat Trade Show is happening on 'Plaid Friday' at the City Centre Mall and the Kitimat Museum will be there!

Stop by and say hello!



Website & Digital Image Collections

The Kitimat Museum & Archives first went online in 2004 when Curator Louise Avery and Assistant Curator Angela Eastman hand selected scanned images of the Alcan Project history to post with descriptive text. This online collection was of value not only to people with personal memories, but an important aid for contractors, surveyors and businesses. Over the years, the website grew into a more complete online profile representative of what the Kitimat Museum & Archives had to offer: research resources, workshops, educational programs on natural history and culture, and more. Recently, to address the increased audience usage of smart devices and social media habits, the Museum updated the site once more, to improve functionality of promotion, sharing, and audience navigation.

While the visual aspects of the website look different, the biggest change is how the Kitimat Museum showcases the digitized images of the Alcan Project History. Instead of sharing the photos as an image with titles on the website we chose to catalogue the collection through the Omeka system. Omeka is an open-source web application that runs side by side with our main website (www.kitimat.ca), and is used around the world in libraries, archives, museums and other cultural organizations. Omeka allows for browsing and searching items individually or in collections or virtual exhibits; and it views well on mobile devices as well as desktop.

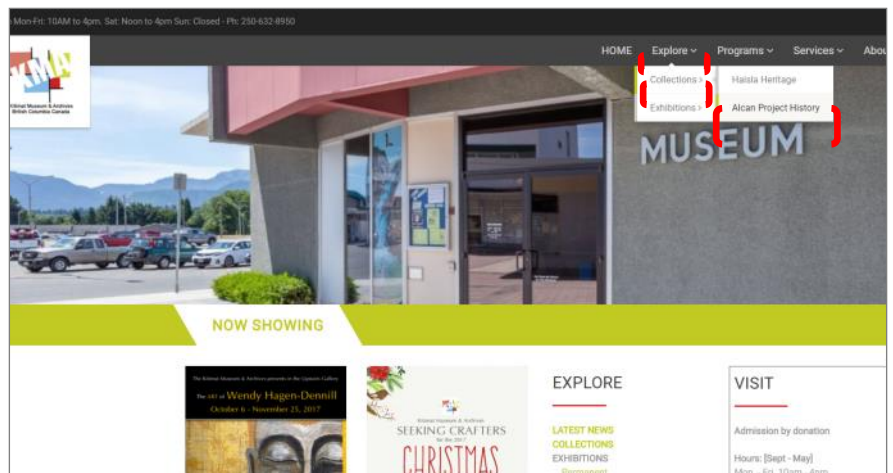
In addition to the Alcan Project History collection, the Museum plans to add further virtual collections/exhibits in the future.

The Kitimat Museum & Archives collections can be found at:

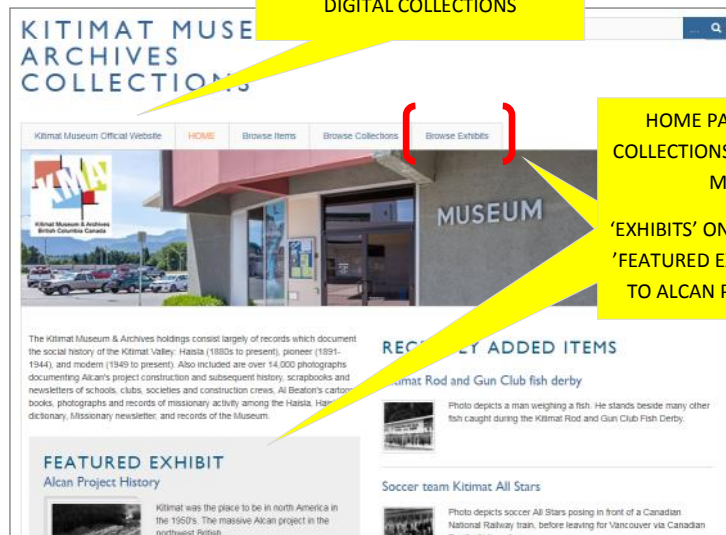
www.collections.kitimatmuseum.ca

OR you can go to the official Museum website at: www.kitimatmuseum.ca and on the top menu bar go to: - Explore - Alcan Project History

NAVIGATING TO THE DIGITAL COLLECTIONS FROM THE MAIN WEBSITE

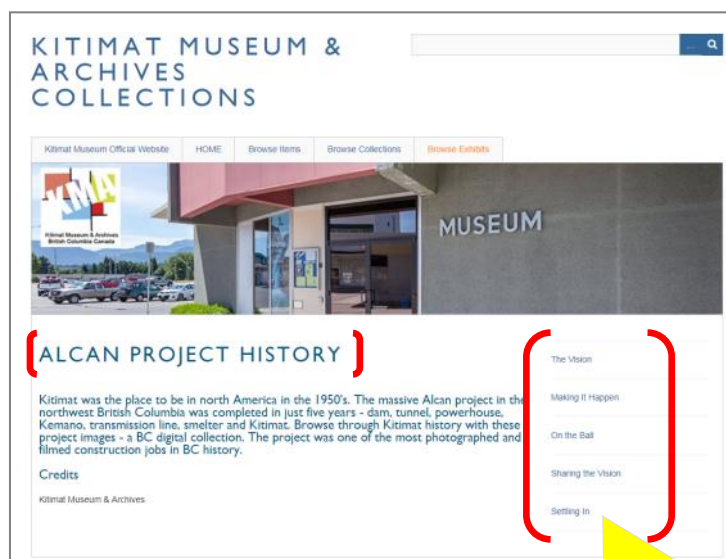


TAKES YOU BACK TO THE MAIN MUSEUM PAGE AND OUT OF DIGITAL COLLECTIONS



HOME PAGE OF DIGITAL COLLECTIONS FOR THE KITIMAT MUSEUM

'EXHIBITS' ON THE TOOL BAR OR 'FEATURED EXHIBITS' TAKE YOU TO ALCAN PROJECT HISTORY



BROWSE THROUGH KITIMAT HISTORY WITH THESE PROJECT IMAGES