



# Heritage News

**CENTRAL OKANAGAN HERITAGE SOCIETY  
SPRING 2015**

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View of Bernard Avenue, 1909  
Courtesy: KPA #4024

## Main Street – The intersection of past & future



**Main Street.** It may exist as much in our imagination as in physical reality. Perhaps that is why Disneyland's Main Street is strangely compelling for so many people. And compelling it is: a neuroimmunologist quoted in the wonderful new book, Happy City says that the designers of Disney's main street, somehow figured out - 50 years ago - long before we understood neuroscience - exactly how to use design to get people from a place of anxiety and fear, to a place of hope and happiness. Researchers have measured actual neurological and hormonal responses. Main Street USA in Disneyland in case you have not been - is a 5/8 scale replica of an idealized early 20th century small town main drag - shops, offices, a town hall ... the library. So even a fake main street that strikes all the right notes makes our stress hormones subside, turns on positive emotions and makes us feel hopeful and happy.

Did the imaginary main street come first or the actual main street? Does it matter? And where does heritage come into this?

***It seems to me the evidence shows that main street offers absolute real-time proof that heritage and heritage preservation are not elite ideas. Not pleasant add-ons to the real business of towns, cities, neighbourhoods. That heritage is not a project for preserving the past in amber. Not an exercise in nostalgia, but rather dynamic, vital and forward moving. When towns do the work of preserving the built environment of their main street and then use that as a springboard-magic can happen.***

***That is such an important take-away for those of us involved in any way in heritage.***

I would like to look at main street in three ways - its past, its present and its future. Because I am a writer and not an urban planner, these are observations and thoughts gleaned from research and reading; and from writing about how we live together in public space. The public /private realm of main street.

Do main streets matter? Can a town or a city have only one - or is there room for several or many? What makes a good one? Does main street need to be saved? What is the future of main street?

We can probably trace the idea of main street a long way back. Maybe to when we first dropped out of the trees and began to walk upright. Anthropologists can no doubt show us the pathways that people walked to the centre of early settlements. There in the middle, would be a main street.

What about now? Perhaps you and I do not spend much time on Bernard Avenue. That being the case, does it matter whether it is a vital place? Whether venerable or charming historical buildings are maintained? Whether there are sidewalk cafes and public art? Whether signs are at pedestrian height and designed for human delight as well as for information? In short, does it matter if we have main streets? And what do you and I as regular citizens - and probably as heritage advocates - need to think about as regards the fate of main street?

Not too long ago, main streets didn't need thinking about. In Kelowna, for instance, Bernard Avenue was very much one of those streets on which people did their main shopping and socializing.

My great grandparents farmed in Ellison. My mother remembers summers at the farm and part of the week involved Saturdays in town: on Bernard Avenue. She can remember people gathered on the curb, on the sidewalks, in the shops - gossiping, exchanging the news, shopping and going to the movies. That was main street. People in commerce ... but also just hanging out.

And to go further back, we've all seen those wonderful historical photographs documenting early Kelowna ... Pigs being herded down the centre of Bernard ... or shopkeepers posed in front of a well-kept tobacco shop, the news agent's or the butcher shop.

So, main street had a traditional purpose - many purposes - it was the centre of things both physically and emotionally. Where else to have a parade? Where else would the best shops be located?

In bigger cities like Vancouver, Toronto and Calgary there were the main streets of downtown proper ... But there were also subsidiary main streets - the centres of the so-called *streetcar suburbs* developed in much the same way as the central main street, and served as physical and emotional anchors for neighbourhoods that grew up as satellites with the advent of the streetcar.

Even the early arrival of the automobile didn't truly change things on main street, whether here in Kelowna, or in other North American towns and cities. Until it did.

Main streets, which had been not just streets, but a significant part of the public space of towns, lost their way. What had been the very heart of the matter ... the main thing ... became secondary. We had dispersed to the wide open spaces of suburbia and to the shopping mall. And to plazas. And, later on to big box super centres. Builders liked the cheaper land out there and we liked to drive there. It felt modern. And fast.

You will find it difficult to believe - I know I did - that **The Main Street Program** launched by **The Heritage Canada Foundation**, began in 1979! 35 years ago! Time flies. For those of you who might not know about The Main Street Program, it was a comprehensive plan to help towns stop what was seen as the decay and destruction of traditional main streets across the country. Heritage Foundations in Britain and the U.S. had pioneered such programs with great success. Fittingly, the program was called simply - *Main Street*. Pierre Berton who was chair of The Heritage Canada Foundation's board in the early 1980's said the Main Street Program was "*the most important and effective work of the foundation.*" You might remember how the City Of Nelson was able to preserve its heritage downtown and then capitalize on it in quite remarkable ways. That was part of the Main Street Program. It rolled out in various towns and cities across the country. Seventy communities would eventually be part of the program. Amazing!

Perhaps what is more amazing though, is how we turned our backs on traditional main streets, beginning in the 50s and 60s. And how buildings were allowed to turn their backs on main street. And so we had buildings like the Eaton's building on Granville Street in Vancouver. A block long wall of faux marble. Nothing for pedestrians to look at. Nothing at sidewalk level at all. This is a kind of theft of the public realm - as we have belatedly come to realize.

Tors Norrestrand, a Danish science writer says that humans need lots of visual information at street level. By that he does not mean signage and so on, although that can be part of it. By information he means things like doors, windows, shop fronts, benches, and signs designed to be read by the walker rather than the motorist ... sidewalk cafes ... depth and texture that conveys information to the brain, delights the eye and draws the pedestrian down the street.

Of course what we really need and want on a main street is people. The presence of others going about their lives. That longing is to be among other people as we go about our business ... to see and be seen. To sit, stroll, hang out and just be with others. In the public realm. On main street. Charles Montgomery, the Vancouver-based author of Happy City, notes that rejuvenated, pedestrian-friendly main streets in cities like Copenhagen, carry what he calls "*an increasingly urgent message about the role of public life in cities.*"

Main street, the idea and main street the actual thoroughfare, requires us to think about the paradox of public space and private space. Our urge to disperse - to be alone, and our urge to congregate - to be among our fellows. We like our main street heritage buildings and storefronts - things that harken back to a simpler time in Canadian life, perhaps. But we also love sidewalk cafes and cappuccino bars and other delights that would have seemed terribly exotic not very long ago.

The buzz of south Padosy's new life as a main street for the *other side of town* attests to that. And we can see the virtuous circle at work there. Bernard Avenue has new life ...sidewalk cafes, rejuvenated sidewalks and storefronts, street art... We even have pretty outdoor furniture in the summertime.

We are entering a renaissance in our appreciation of - and desire for - vibrant public space. We appreciate anew, that thing we felt, but didn't have a name for until recently.... **A sense of place.** Main street - both the idea and the reality - is in fact, our common heritage.



*Julie Cosgrave's talk at the Heritage Week Breakfast at the First United Church in Kelowna on Monday February 16, 2015*



## Old Saint Aidan's Church



View of old St Aidan's Church and Lych Gate  
Source: L. Dauncey, 2013

After decades of being locked up to keep out thieves and vandals, old Saint Aidan's Church on Rutland Road has a new lease on life. On November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014 Minh Chau, President and Hao Van Nguyen, Secretary of the Okanagan Buddhist Cultural Society along with then Mayor Walter Gray and Karen Needham, Deputy Clerk for the City of Kelowna, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (M.O.U.) establishing the future conservation of Old Saint Aidan's Church.

*"Old Saint Aidan's Church on Rutland Road has a new lease on life."*

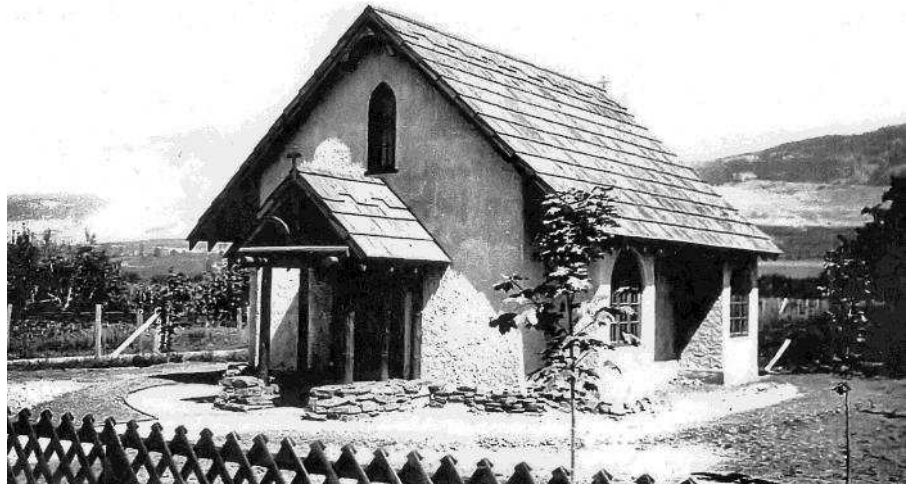
The goal of the M.O.U. is the adaptive re-use (rehabilitation) of the building and site, to celebrate a community heritage asset on a prominent and well used Rutland corridor.

The building, constructed in 1933, will be restored to the 1938 time period both inside and out. It will be relocated centrally on a new consolidated lot which in turn will be sold to the Buddhist Cultural Society. A compatible new addition will be built for washrooms and a rentable meeting room. The site will provide parking and a newly built, traditional style Vietnamese Friendship Garden on the south-east corner of Mugford and Rutland Roads.

The project will apply the *Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada*, in addition to the heritage-related policies identified in *Kelowna's Official Community Plan*. The public will have access to the Friendship Garden through a Statutory Right-of-Way and have access to the building on an as-available rental basis and within stated operating hours. The project still requires a zone amendment for the adjacent residential lot; and a Heritage Alteration Permit. Heritage Designation of Old Saint Aidan's will be required to be passed by City Council. In addition a building permit issued before construction starts possibly by the fall of 2015.

On behalf of the heritage community in Kelowna and specifically the residents of Rutland "thank you" to the Okanagan Buddhist Cultural Society for rescuing our little gem of a church which for so many decades has refused to die!

*Update by Peter Chataway*



View of St Aidan's Church, June 1933  
Source: E. Vielvoye



Shirley and Dave Clarke  
Source: Shirley Clarke, 2014

## The Clarke Family's Passion for Heritage

Any parent, I am sure, would be pleased if one of their children carried on a deep interest of their parents. Something they watched their parents pursue during their growing up years. I certainly am. Three of our children are keenly interested in heritage conservation, as well as parks and habitat conservation.

Our passion found its home in our membership with the Central Okanagan Heritage Society. When my husband Dave retired from a career in health care, he became involved with a fledgling group wanting to restore the Benvoulin Church. My interest was piqued with the work planned for Guisachan House and the beginning plans for the Brent's Grist Mill restoration. We put many happy hours of volunteer work into these sites and enjoyed every minute of it, especially getting to work with all the other members and volunteers. They were a special group of people, who worked tirelessly in pursuit of their goals.

And with the passage of time, our children have now stepped up with interest in projects in the places they call home.

Our oldest son Bruce was a director of the Cowichan Regional District Parks Commission for eight years. Their primary focus was building parks and the planning and building of 40 kilometres of bike paths with plantings of wild flowers along the way. This commission was also instrumental in new waste water by-laws for float houses in the valuable water ways and bays, protecting shell fish habitat.

Marilyn, our second child, and her husband are retired teachers from the Cariboo who bought a five acre organic orchard in Causton near Keremeos. Marilyn is a very active board member on the foundation for the Keremeos Grist Mill. Every time I drive down to Marilyn's I always include a visit to the Grist Mill. This working mill established for pioneering farmers and ranchers by Barrington Price in 1877 has an operating waterwheel which has been reconstructed and today it drives the original machinery. I am delighted to see this provincially owned heritage site in full operation once again as many of us older members of COHS would remember it back in its heyday in the 1980s.

Due to a lack of provincial funds to support the mill's operations, it had fallen victim to poor management and disrepair. Today, Chef Natasha operates the tea room, serving delicious lunches, afternoon tea and arranged gourmet dinners. The operator manager Chris Mathieson keeps the Grist Mill running smoothly arranging festivals, weddings and receptions, concerts, and celebrations at both Thanksgiving and a wonderful Christmas party. All the workers are dressed in heritage costumes. It's a step back in time.

Nancy our second daughter lives in Dundas, Ontario and she has spent the past five years as member/secretary with the Dundas Valley Historical Society. Their main concern is the protection of natural habitats and park conservation. Dundas is a passionate valley town and the society holds monthly lectures on the history of the Giant's Rib Conservancy, the old Indian trails and the geological formation of the valley and also deals with old smaller dams needing restoration as well as mills on area waterways. Nancy looks after all the flora and fauna displays found in their area which visitors to the park find helpful in their hikes throughout the area. She enjoys her daily walks through this area, close to her two-storey stone home built for a Canadian Army officer in 1873. The house is on the local heritage register.

This is a little glimpse of the volunteer work some of our children are involved with. I am so proud of the interest they have and the contributions they have made in the regions where they live. They have found a lot of satisfaction, just as their father and I did, with the contributions we made with the saving of and conservation of our precious heritage sites.

*Submitted by Shirley Clarke*



Clarke Family at Keremeos Grist Mill Entrance  
L-R: Cathy, Marilyn, Shirley & Chris Mathieson.  
Source: Shirley Clarke, 2014



## 2015 Heritage Award Winners

**Distinguished Community Service.** *Given to a person or persons in recognition of their service to the community in the heritage field.*

**Peter Chataway:**

Peter is a Vancouverite and UBC grad (B.Sc.- Math '70 and B. Arch '76) who travelled the world then relocated to work in Kelowna in 1977. As an environmentalist, Peter protected Okanagan Lake from 2,4-D a chemical herbicide; helped stop high elevation logging in the Greystokes Wilderness Plateau, Kelowna's primary watershed; and helped create the current ban on uranium exploration and mining in B.C. As a community volunteer for recycling and neighbourhood associations and advocate for traffic calming, heritage conservation and better urban design, Peter has helped make Kelowna a more livable city. As a building designer, he has integrated environmental, social and energy conservation policies into more than 300 building projects over the past 30 years, a number of which have heritage value. Currently living and working from the A.I. Dawson House (on the city heritage register) in the Abbott Street Heritage Conservation Area, Peter continues doing what he knows best, working & living locally for the betterment of the community.



**Conservation project on a building currently in residential use.** *Awarded to a residential building that has recently undergone an exterior restoration and/or rehabilitation. The high standards, innovation and commitment to heritage conservation are recognized.*



**McLean House, 1869 Maple Street, Kelowna:**

The house, built in 1942, has heritage value for having been the long-time home of Roy P. MacLean, the publisher and editor of the Kelowna Courier newspaper for thirty-eight years, from 1938 to 1976, and an extremely influential opinion-maker in the community. It also has value as an example of the Georgian Revival Style, acknowledging modernist design in a conservative way during a period of architectural change. This substantial house was built by A.L. Patterson, a well-known local builder who seemed to have built most of the houses in the Maple Street subdivision, established circa 1935 in the filled-in oxbow of Mill Creek. This late example of the Georgian Revival Style illustrates the transition from period revivals to modernist design, as Canadian and American architects reacted to European

modernism. This represents a simplification of building-forms without eliminating references to the past. Period-inspired elements in the MacLean House are rendered with a simplicity of form and detail, an acknowledgement of modernism. The house now owned by Michael and Leslie O'Flynn received a CoKHP grant towards a new roof in 2012. Recent work to the house included a new front covered entry, repairs to the dormers, extending the roof overhangs and new paint.

**Continued conservation of a building.** *Given to a building to recognize the high quality of its exterior preservation and maintenance over the years, in keeping with its original design and structure.*

**Leopold Hayes House 329 Cadder Avenue, Kelowna:**

This Arts and Crafts style house was built in 1913. It is a handsome house set back from the road in line with others on the block. It has many features that give it its heritage value. A large hip roof with hip dormers on the side, a large veranda with square columns and plain balusters, wood frame construction with cedar shake siding, attractive double hung windows with square bays on the sides, a transom light over the front door and scroll cut window aprons. The original owner, Leopold Hayes was a senior manager of the Occidental Fruit Company. Christine and Alan Surtees purchased the home ten years ago as their retirement home. They proceeded to do a number of projects starting with having the house levelled and the roof redone. Then, in Christine's words, "We basically gutted the inside and saved what we could to be reinstalled. My husband took out and refinished every window as we loved them and didn't want to install new windows, even in a historical style. The outside of the home has been left intact as we loved the look and feel of the history and quaint family feeling. The inside has been redone but in keeping with the era and still has all the "old" elements from that time."



**Conservation of a Neighbourhood or Area.** *Awarded to a neighbourhood or area that has largely remained unchanged over time or has been revitalized through the restoration and/or rehabilitation of its buildings and streetscape.*



**Kelowna’s North End: Kelowna Downtown Knox Mountain Neighbourhood Association**

The neighbourhood has seen many changes since its inception and is currently in a renewal phase with many younger families choosing to live in the area and restore their homes and gardens. For a historical context: by the early 1940s, the population of Kelowna was growing and housing, as in so many Canadian urban centres, was in desperately short supply. There had been little building during the Great Depression of the 1930s, and in the 1940s building materials for private construction were unavailable because they had been requisitioned for war purposes.

To solve this shortage the federal government created a Crown corporation, Wartime Housing Ltd., which built 19,000 homes across the country between 1941 and 1945, and another 13,000 in 1946 and 1947. At first provided as rental housing, they were later sold, many to returning veterans. Two basic models were available: a two-bedroom, one-storey bungalow, which was sold for \$1,982; and a four-bedroom, 1.5-storey house, for \$2,680. A third model was added later. Many of the homes in this area of the north end are prototype dwellings built by a federal agency, Wartime Housing Ltd.

**Special Heritage Project** *To recognize and honour special projects and accomplishments in the Central Okanagan. This may include advocacy, awareness and planning heritage and historical projects (Two Awards Given)*



**Gellatly CNR Wharf: District of West Kelowna**

The reconstruction of this historic ferry and barge dock speaks to the important transportation link between people, fruit crops and Kelowna. It was originally built in 1927 and was open to barge traffic in 1930. 1973 was the last year that this wharf was used for ferrying fruit by barge as the tugs became larger and the water depth could no longer accommodate the ferries.

The reconstruction of the dock has been completed in a way that reflects its original mass and materials. Large wooden posts and a boardwalk were used in the design of the wharf. As well, two lift structures on the sides with pulleys reflect the original use of the wharf for loading cargo onto the barges. The side rails and under-structure are steel to improve safety and durability but they do not overwhelm the wood features.

The wharf area is of great value to local citizens today as a popular swimming spot with an additional detached swimming platform. There are benches on the wharf for seating and an attractive steel cut-out with an etching of the S.S. Okanagan steam ship to pay homage to West Kelowna’s past. The wharf connects to a waterfront trail system which enhances its overall appearance and use. Signage about the wharf, the farming community and First Nations historical connection to the area is informative and commendable.

Congratulations to the Planners of West Kelowna who with collaboration of the community, the Westbank Heritage Society and the Westbank First Nations, undertook this worthy project.

**Old Kelowna Facebook Page Shona Harrison (creator)**

This unusual choice for a heritage award combines Kelowna’s history with the modern world of social media. This mix makes our local history accessible to a wider variety of people than previously possible.

The page was started with a single photo of Shona’s mother in front of the train station located on Clement Avenue in Kelowna. This struck a chord with others in several ways:

- ~Photos of old Kelowna started to be forwarded to Shona
- ~The number of “likes” steadily rose to over 8,000

The face book page states its purpose as “...a page dedicated to documenting and celebrating the collective history of the Kelowna area.” It does this in a wonderful way by posting photos and often includes a “fun history fact” with each posting.



## Calendar of Events

~**Kelowna Museums** exhibit *Voices from the Engraver* opens June 6 at 11-5pm. There will be various activities for attendees, including the opportunity to create your own stamp or replica money! This new large and colourful traveling exhibit created by the Bank of Canada Museum in Ottawa in partnership with the Canadian Museum of History will make its first appearance in BC at the Okanagan Heritage Museum from June to October. For more information call: (250) 763-2417, ext 28.

~**Okanagan Antique Power Club's "Antique Tractor and Machinery Fair"** will be held on June 6th and 7th at the Father Pandosy Mission Park on Benvoulin Road. This event is one of the largest antique power exhibitions in B.C. and is a very popular family-oriented weekend.

~**Artists for Creative Alliance's Coffeehouse** is on the second and last Wednesday of each month at 7pm in Reid Hall (June 10, 24; July 15, 29 and August 12, 26). For more information email Lynda Norman at [ArtistsforCreativeAlliance@shaw.ca](mailto:ArtistsforCreativeAlliance@shaw.ca).

~**Mackie Lake House** in Vernon will be serving a three-course Tea on the verandah overlooking Kal Lake and the gardens of this wonderful heritage building starting on Thursday June 18. Tea will be served each Thursday at 10am and 2:00pm through September 17. Tickets are \$22.50 per person, with part of the proceeds going to local non-profits. Tickets can be purchased through [www.ticket seller.ca](http://www.ticket seller.ca) or by calling 250-549-7469.

~**Kelowna Garden Club's Juried Flower Show** will be held on Saturday June 27 at Guisachan Heritage Park. This annual event draws many entries in a number of categories of flowers and arrangements. This year there will be a heritage theme for the arrangements made by the floral art design group, and a Salute to Elaine Cameron and her diary through a flower show class. COHS will be participating through the sale of refreshments and interpretive walks through the park.



~ **OHS Family Picnic** will be held on July 12 at Parkinson Recreation Centre from 10am to 1pm. This year OHS is recognizing Westbank pioneering families. For more info please email Lois Marshall: [klmarshall@shaw.ca](mailto:klmarshall@shaw.ca).

~ **Fintry Summer Fair** celebrating BC Parks Day on Sunday July 12 will be held on the scenic lawns of the Manor House from 10am to 4pm. Tours of Manor House and Barns will be by donation. For more info email: [info@fintry.ca](mailto:info@fintry.ca) or call (250)-542-4031.

~**OHS Old Fashioned Family Social** will be held on Saturday, August 22 from 11am to 3pm at the Father Pandosy Mission Park on Benvoulin Road. For more info please email Lois Marshall: [klmarshall@shaw.ca](mailto:klmarshall@shaw.ca).

~**Lake Country Museum and Archives** presents a First Nations theme for CentrePiece 2015. This fun-filled day will take place on August 23 at Okanagan Centre Park in Lake Country. Events run from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information call: (250) 766-0111.

~**Fintry Fall Fair** will be held on Sunday September 13 from 10:30am–3:30pm. For more information email: [info@fintry.ca](mailto:info@fintry.ca) or call (250)-542-4031.



~**Culture Days** is taking place September 25–27. Watch for a series of events happening in the Central Okanagan as part of the National Culture Days activities. Culture Days is a collaborative Canada-wide volunteer program to raise awareness, accessibility, participation and engagement of Canadians in the arts and culture in their communities. Check the website: [www.culturedays.ca](http://www.culturedays.ca)



## Heritage Review Advisory Committee (HRAC)

The City of Kelowna has pulled together a group of interested parties to take a fairly comprehensive look at the environment in which heritage work is undertaken. The committee consists of representatives from the:

- Central Okanagan Heritage Society
- Okanagan Historical Society
- Kelowna Museums
- Community Heritage Committee ( member who has served)
- Tourism Kelowna
- Westbank First Nations
- A member at large that works in the field of:
  - Accounting or finance
  - Law
  - Property Development

The committee also currently has five staff from the City of Kelowna representing various departments. Janice Henry, COHS executive director, is representing the interests of COHS at the table.

An external facilitator, Hugh Culver, is leading the group through the process. Three meetings are planned for a total time of nine hours. When the process wraps up at the end of June, it is hoped that a clearer, more efficient way of dealing with heritage matters/issues in the City of Kelowna will be found.

## Kelowna Heritage Grants Program



COHS is well into its eighth year of managing the City of Kelowna Heritage Grants Program (CoKHGP). The program was created to recognize the value of heritage in the community by providing financial support to owners of heritage properties. The program promotes the conservation of residential, commercial, industrial and agricultural

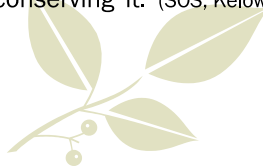
heritage. Grants assist with a portion of the costs incurred in maintaining the building's exterior including the foundation. Only buildings listed on the Kelowna Heritage Register are eligible to apply for grants from the program. The Kelowna Heritage Register currently has 210 properties listed, including 21 that are protected by a Heritage Designation Bylaw. All granting decisions are made by a committee of community volunteers with heritage expertise. The Kelowna Heritage Register can be accessed at <http://www.kelowna.ca/iHeritage/Scripts/>. For more information on the program contact ~ Lorri Dauncey at [ldauncey.cohs@telus.net](mailto:ldauncey.cohs@telus.net)

*The Pettigrew House, 732 DeHart Avenue, was built in 1908. The house was recently awarded a heritage grant for the prep and painting of the exterior of the building using the researched Benjamin Moore True Colour palette in a heritage colour scheme. Watch for the face lift of this important municipal designated heritage building.*

This house has value for its important connections, through the Pettigrew family, with local jewelry businesses, the Kelowna Fire Department, and municipal service; for being a representative middle-class single-family house of the early twentieth-century; for its recent connections with the Kelowna School Board and neighbourhood residents' association; and for the value the community placed on it by conserving it. (SOS, Kelowna Heritage Register)



View of the Pettigrew House, 2015



## COHS News in Brief



**New COHS board member – Carol Millar:** Carol is a retired teacher with an interest in both the built and natural environments. While living in Lindsay, Ontario, she became interested and involved in heritage architecture. Her interests extended to teaching heritage design and the science of architecture in drafting and design courses. Carol was also a member of the local heritage advisory committee for Lindsay. During her time in Ontario she attended an excellent conference on heritage in Cambridge, Ontario and attended a conference in Cambridge, England on architecture in education. She has learned a great deal about heritage architecture from visiting many homes in Southern Ontario and in trips around the world.

Since moving to Kelowna in 1997 Carol has enjoyed becoming familiar with many of the heritage buildings of Kelowna. She hopes to contribute her knowledge and passion for heritage preservation with the board and to learn more about heritage architecture. *“The pride of a city is revealed in its natural and architectural landscapes and its historical roots. My feeling is that by preserving Kelowna’s built environment, we share a collective memory of our past and embrace its unique culture.”*

**Heritage Week 2015:** The communities of the Central Okanagan had the best Heritage Week ever! With increased participation of groups in West Kelowna, and a wonderful spirit of cooperation and collaboration with businesses and associations, we celebrated the theme of *Main Street – at the Heart of the Community*. Work on the 2016 Heritage Week committee will begin in the fall. If you know of a group or business who would like to get involved please get in touch with the office at [cohs@telus.net](mailto:cohs@telus.net).

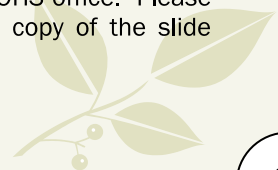


L-R: Christina Neale, Don Knox & Janice Henry at the kick-off breakfast



**New office space:** After having our offices in the Milkshed at Guisachan Heritage Park for the last dozen years - we have moved to a new space at BrainTrust Canada. While we miss our beautiful park – the new space provides two comfortable offices, indoor washrooms and kitchen as well as being air-conditioned and heated in the winter! Many thanks to BrainTrust Canada for welcoming us in – with very modest rent and to a wonderful benefactor who is helping to make up the difference in costs.

**Webinars with Heritage BC:** COHS has taken advantage of hosting the viewing of two webinars at the new office. Staff and volunteers participated in a webinar on the *Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada* on April 20 and on *Heritage Legislation in BC* on June 1 at the COHS office. Please email ([cohs@telus.net](mailto:cohs@telus.net)) or call (250-861-7188) the COHS office if you would like a PDF copy of the slide presentation.



## COHS News in Brief

**McDougall House windows:** Work is now complete on the replacement of two upper-floor windows on McDougall House. The newly installed windows are double-hung wood windows - similar in style to the original windows. The wood windows that were installed in the 80s were in need of replacing and we are really pleased with how the re-claimed traditional windows look.



**25 years in Guisachan's Cameron Gardens:** COHS has had a Park Landscape Maintenance contract with the City of Kelowna for the past 25 years! Quite an achievement for a small non-profit group. In celebration of our work in the park - the Kelowna Garden Club is saluting COHS work through a couple of events during their annual Juried Flower show on Saturday June 27th. A heritage theme for the arrangements made by the floral art design group, and a Salute to Elaine Cameron and her diary through a flower show class. COHS will be participating through the sale of refreshments and interpretive walks through the park.



**Guisachan Heritage Park Signage:** The signage at the park had become old and tired and was in need of replacement for a number of years. COHS helped the city develop the appropriate language and photos for the signs which were installed this spring. When you are out and about-stop by the park and check out the new signs.

**Gardening at Guisachan:** Under the direction of Alison Mooney the Cameron Gardens are undergoing a transformation. With the support of the Kelowna Master Gardeners and the City of Kelowna, beds are being renewed, plant material rearranged, and some plant types have found their way back into the garden. Alison has purchased over 1300 annuals which will bring another dimension to the garden this year. Check out the old *herb bed* - which should be a real show-stopper.



**Benvoulin south window:** Conservation work is now underway way on the original wood windows at Benvoulin Heritage Church. Through an extensive process, each of the six window panels is being taken out, the old putty removed and new linseed oil-based putty applied in addition to the sanding prep and painting of the window sashes and mullions. The sash colour will change from white to black, reflecting the 1950s heritage paint scheme, which is similar to the new Reid Hall colours. While the work is being done on the panels - custom-made inserts are in place making for a seamless transition for these most important heritage elements.

**Benvoulin Heritage Park:** Benvoulin Heritage Church, Reid Hall and the beautiful park grounds are available for rentals for events such as weddings, receptions, birthdays, anniversaries, musical and theatrical performances and art shows to name a few. The gardens are looking especially beautiful this year with the installation of the new irrigation system and the hard work of the site gardeners and volunteers. For more information please contact the COHS office at (250) 861-7188.





## HERITAGE NEWS

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COHS thanks the **City of Kelowna** for their support through an Arts, Culture and Heritage Operating Grant for 2015

COHS thanks the **BC Government for a 2014 BC Gaming Grant**

Welcome New COHS Corporate Member  
**HERITAGE FINISHERS,**  
Jack Carbrey!

### HERITAGE NEWS

**Chinese Recognition Project:** From Vancouver's Chinatown, to sites like the ghost town of Quesnel Forks and historic Barkerville, there are places throughout British Columbia that tell the stories of the province's Chinese Canadian community. The public was invited to nominate historic places associated with the history of the Chinese community and the development of British Columbia. 138 nominations were received with 77 nominations making it on the map including three sites in the Central Okanagan. The sites are: The landing site of Dr. Sun Yat-Sen at Commando Bay on Lake Okanagan; Kelowna's Chinatown; and the Kelowna Cemetery that contains the graves of many Chinese Canadians. Check out the Heritage BC interactive map at <http://www.heritagebc.ca/chinese-historic-map>

**Heritage BC Conference:** On October 2nd and 3rd, heritage volunteers and professionals will be gathering to learn and share in the City of Rossland. The conference planning committee has some very interesting and dynamic events planned including a plenary by Jim Mountain with Heritage Canada, and opening night remarks from Mark Forsythe, the popular CBC radio host of Almanac which Mark hosted for eighteen years. For more information about the conference check out the Heritage BC website at [www.heritagebc.ca](http://www.heritagebc.ca)

**Kelowna Heritage Register:** This year the register has had one building removed and one building added. In March, 343 Christleton Avenue (Binger Residence) was removed from the register after council approval at the request of the homeowner and the recommendation of the planning department. The Joyce Hostel, 455 Park Avenue, was added to the register also at the request of the homeowner and recommendation of the planning department. Heritage Registers are meant to be updated through a community process, such as the Community Heritage Committee (CHC). The objective of the Committee is to advise Council on any matter related to the heritage significance of any building, structure or landscape feature located within City limits. However the CHC is currently inactive until the Heritage Review Advisory Committee completes its review of heritage management in Kelowna. As Heritage Registers provide recognition and not protection, changes must be reviewed through a community process and not at the request of a current homeowner.

**Gellatly Nut Farm Regional Park:** B.C. Parks and Recreation Association has awarded West Kelowna's Gellatly Nut Farm with the Association's 2015 Parks and Open Spaces award. The award recognizes the park's successful focus in delivering cultural and recreational benefits to residents across the Central Okanagan. The waterfront park hosted 14 interpretive tours, 29 weddings and a dozen individual park programs.

Newsletter: Lorri Dauncey & Janice Henry (editor)