

ArchivesNews

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Outside the Box - The Richmond Archives Blog

John Campbell, Friends of the Richmond Archives Social Media Coordinator, has written two new blog posts since the last edition of *Archives News*. Brief excerpts are included here. To read the full articles, go to: www.richmondarchives.ca.

Carhops and Nineteen-Cent Burgers: Richmond Cruises the Drive-in



The second McDonald's on No. 3 Road, ca. 1975.
City of Richmond Archives photograph 1987 61 1.

An iconic symbol of youth and car culture during the '50s, '60s and '70s was the drive-in restaurant. Popularized during a thriving post-war economy, the baby boom and the rapid growth of car ownership, drive-ins typically featured large parking areas and little or no indoor seating. Menus, visible from your car, displayed inexpensive meals which included burgers, chicken and fries. In contrast to the modern "drive-thru" concept, many drive-ins were self serve, where you walked to a window, ordered and picked up your food and took it back to your car. Others provided car service, your order taken and food delivered to your car by staff known as "carhops" who would attach a tray to your window with your meal on it. "Lights On For Service!"

The first known drive-in, Kirby's Pig Stand, was built in Dallas, Texas in 1921 and was described by critics as for people who were "too lazy to get out of their car and enter the restaurant." In British Columbia, the first White Spot drive-in opened in Marpole in 1928, a brand which pioneered the use of carhops and window trays. Drive in architecture often featured round or polygonal buildings which allowed vehicles to park around the building giving easy access to cars. Some buildings would include eye-catching features or rooflines and large colourful signs to entice customers into their lots. Kitchens were usually laid out in an efficient manner allowing quick production of meals and were sometimes visible from inside or outside the restaurant. Drive-ins could be single small businesses or larger regional chains with multiple locations. Some evolved into huge national and international brands which are still around today ...

Keeping an Industry Afloat: Thomas Goulding's Cork Mill



A man hauls in a gillnet fitted with cedar corks in this image ca. 1960.
City of Richmond Archives, photograph 1985 4 134.

Anyone who has lived along the water in areas where the fishing industry operates is familiar with fish net floats. Picked up on beaches while beachcombing, strung on ropes to make ornamental fencing or to decorate the verandas of beach cabins, floats are an instantly recognizable symbol of life on the beach.

Plastic floats have taken over the market since the 1950s, but before then fishing floats were almost exclusively made of cork or wood. The wooden ones were known as "cedar corks" and the only commercial supplier of them on the West Coast was Thomas Goulding who produced them in his Cork Mill at the Acme Cannery on Sea Island.

The Acme Cannery was built in 1899, part of the boom in cannery construction during the late 19th and early 20th centuries to take advantage of the seemingly unlimited supply of salmon available in the Fraser River. In 1902 it was absorbed into the British Columbia Packers amalgamation. In 1918 it closed, but the buildings, net racks and moorage were maintained for the community of fishermen, mostly Japanese, who lived around it. In a small building on the west side of the cannery Mr. Goulding set up the cork mill. The building and all the equipment for the mill, the saws, the lathes, the reamer, the stringer and the tar vat were all hand-built by him with help from his Japanese neighbours ...

Featuring Archives Intern Lily Liu

The big news in 2023 was that the Friends of the Richmond Archives hired an Archives Intern. With thanks to some funding from the Dody Wray Special Projects fund and a federal Young Canada Works grant, Lily Liu was hired as the Intern in the fall. Lily worked from September 5, 2023 to January 29, 2024.

Lily did an outstanding job. We hired Lily through the University of British Columbia's Arts Co-op program, which connected us to applicants in the Master of Archival Studies program at the UBC School of Information. Since only a portion of the Dody Wray Special Project funds was used to fund the 2023 position, another Archives Intern will be hired in the fall of 2024. The Friends have received word that their application for another Young Canada Works in Building Careers in Heritage grant has been approved. An update on the second Archives Intern will be provided in the fall newsletter.

Reflecting on her experience working at the City of Richmond Archives, Lily has kindly written the following for our newsletter:

My name is Lily, and I am a Dual Master of Archival Studies and Master of Library and Information Studies student at the University of British Columbia. In Fall 2023, I was hired by the Friends of the Richmond Archives as an Archives Intern at the City of Richmond Archives.

Working at the Archives had been an amazing experience. I was tasked with four main projects during my time at the Archives: creating a short photograph exhibit on the history of education in Richmond; creating an inventory for local community TV records; describing government publications; and describing slides from the City's Planning and Development Department.

Throughout the course of these projects, I was able to continuously discover and develop my skills and values as an emerging archivist. I found working with community records extremely meaningful; these records allowed me glimpses into a telling of Richmond's history grounded in the lived realities of its residents, and being able to converse with volunteers, donors, and local associations and hear their stories were the highlights of my days. With City records, I had the opportunity to apply the theoretical knowledge on arrangement and description I learned in the classroom to real-life practice; learning how to describe government publications and slides according to the Canadian Rules for Archival Description (RAD) was a practically valuable experience.

Apart from my projects, I also had the luck to have some very unique experiences by being involved with FOTRA and the City of Richmond Archives. These included attending the FOTRA Annual Tea; an interview with the Richmond News; helping conduct a tour at the Archives with the Association of Canadian Archivists Student Chapter at the University of British Columbia (ACA@UBC); and meeting Terry Eastwood, the archival studies myth and legend himself.

As an emerging professional, I am very grateful for the support I have received from everyone at work. The Clerk's Office, larger City staff, and FOTRA members and volunteers have been so inclusive and considerate in helping me integrate into the workplace environment. A special thanks to the FOTRA Board, Dan Farrell, and of course my supervisor Dovelie Buie for making my Co-op a memorable experience that I will carry forward in my future career.

With respect (des fonds),

Lily Liu



Lily Liu standing beside the archives display case which features the material she worked on for the History of Education in Richmond Photograph Exhibit.

City of Richmond Archives photograph.



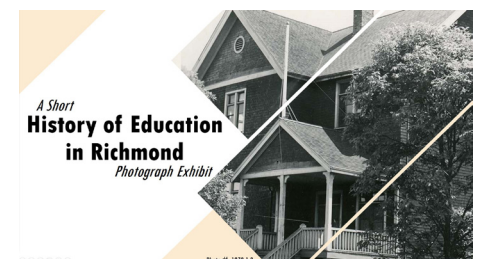
Richmond News
@TheRichmondNews

Post-It note results in \$25,000 donation to Richmond archives



Richmond News coverage of the donation from Dody Wray and family. Photographed left to right are: President Christine McGilvray, Secretary Jackie Brown (Dody Wray's daughter), and Archives Intern Lily Liu.

Screenshot from X (Twitter), October 25, 2023.



The History of Education in Richmond Photograph Exhibit can be accessed via YouTube here:

www.youtube.com/@RichmondArchives

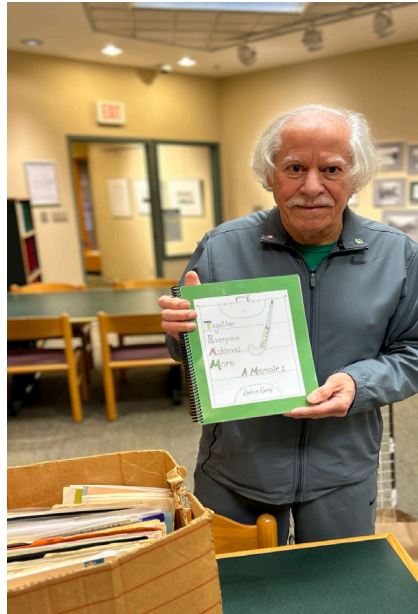
Acquisition Highlights

The Archives acquired 31 new acquisitions in 2023. This included 27 new donations of records from individual companies, community organizations and 4 transfers of records from City departments.

Lance Carey, new FOTRA Board member, was one of the people who donated records in 2023. A retired teacher, the accession consists of Lance's memoir (*Together Everyone Achieves More*) relating to his field hockey career as well as records relating to the Richmond Field Hockey Club, its teams and coaching. These records include teaching notes, game write-ups, and other documents. The donation also includes scrapbooks, diaries, correspondence with Nancy Carey and others, photographs and other documents relating to travel and tournaments in Mexico, Australia, Europe and the 1976 Olympics in Montreal.

Other donations in 2023 include:

- Gil Blair education and recruitment records
- Council meeting videos
- Minoru Park Seniors Activity Centre and Minoru Racehorse Statue photographs
- Sister City and City Hall photo album
- Richmond Gateway Theatre Society records
- Memorable Morsels recipe book
- Canadian Pacific Executives photograph
- Minoru Chapel marriage registers
- Save Richmond Farmland Society records
- Lackner family records
- Richmond Directory and Service Guide
- Harada family photo albums and fishing records
- Jeanne Harada photo album
- South Terminal photographs
- Richmond High 1947 graduating class photograph
- Nariwa family records
- Kishi family photo album
- Kishi Boatworks photographs
- Kozier family records
- History of the Steveston Fishermen's Benevolent Society
- Steveston history books
- Girl Guides of Canada - Trefoil Guild minutes
- Jim Lamond records
- Steveston Interurban Restoration Society videos



New Board member, Lance Carey, in the Reference Room with his memoir he donated in 2023.

City of Richmond Archives photograph.

- Deas Island Tunnel construction plans
- Richmond News newspapers
- Steveston Japanese Canadian phone directories
- Shellmont Lanes bowling photographs
- Parks photographs

In February, the Archives underwent a renovation. The art racks were converted to box storage, with the art being hung on wall space in the Archives. We are excited to see our storage space increase by 752 boxes and look forward to welcoming new accessions in the coming years.



New compact shelving at the Archives.

City of Richmond Archives photograph.

Who Uses the Archives?



Researcher and Artist Alison Kobayashi.

"The folks at Richmond archives are a group of magical detectives, able to pull together incredible resources that I didn't even know existed before visiting the archives. I'm so indebted to the team there for all of their help as I continue my journey sleuthing about my family history and roots in Richmond."



Monty Brisson, City Surveyor.

"A portion of my role involves establishing how the city acquired interests in land (tenure). Often these interests were created through bylaw or historical legislation. Many of the documents I seek, some over 140 years old, explain the rationale for decisions made and provide valid proof of city tenure. To understand how Richmond became the city it is, we need to know where we came from. Richmond Archives does an amazing job preserving and retrieving the timeline that describes Richmond's journey."



Lynne Ellingsen is photographed above listening to oral history recordings. Lynne has been working hours and hours at the Archives researching her family's business Stoltz Boatworks.

City of Richmond Archives photographs.

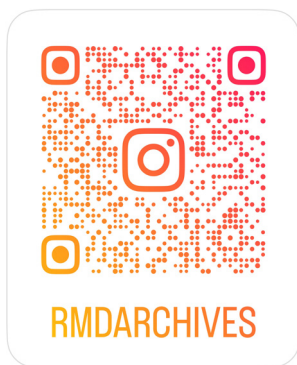


2023 Donations

In 2023, the Friends gratefully received \$1,355 in donations. Your generous donations help to support: the Social Media program; the Digitization Program; the Community Exhibit program; the annual Archives Tea; and more. The Friends of the Richmond Archives is a registered charity and welcomes donations to assist with its activities to support the City of Richmond Archives. A receipt for income tax purposes will be issued for donations over \$10.

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CITY OF RICHMOND
Archives

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 Records Analyst: Karen Ng
 Phone: 604-247-8305
 Email: archives@richmond.ca
 www.richmond.ca/archives

Public Reference Room Hours:
 Monday–Thursday: 9:00am–4:30pm
 Appointment recommended

UBC Friends of the Richmond Archives Mary Keen Memorial Prize in Archival Studies

Every year, the Friends of the Richmond Archives has awarded a prize to a student in the University of British Columbia’s Master of Archival Studies program. 20 awards, for a total of \$9,000, have been awarded since 2000.

Emma Metcalfe Hurst was the 2023 recipient. Emma graduated with two graduate degrees from UBC in 2023 from the dual Masters of Archival Studies and Library Information Studies program.

Emma is currently residing in New Haven, Connecticut. She is the Kress Fellow, which is a 12-month appointment in Art Librarianship at Yale University. In this distinguished position, Emma has been working at the Robert B. Haas Family Arts Library and the Yale Center for British Art Archives. Her work there continues to tie in with her passion for community archives with plans for her to facilitate a workshop in the spring on archiving artist studio archives and



Emma Metcalfe Hurst.
Photograph submitted.

working with the Reparative Archival Description (RAD) working group, where she brings her experience working with Indigenous archival materials. She is co-organizing a panel with RAD in the spring with a Canadian contributor to discuss reparative description practices outside of the US.

Volunteer and Staffing Updates

On March 27th, the Friends of the Richmond Archives held their Annual General Meeting. At this yearly business meeting, the Friends review the previous year, report on financial matters, and adopt a work plan and budget for the upcoming year. At the AGM, the following slate of officers were elected for 2024-2025: Christine McGilvray (President), Jon Henderson (Vice President and Treasurer), Jackie Brown (Secretary), John Campbell (Director), Lance Carey (Director) and Precilla Huang (Director).

We would like to thank outgoing Board member Ron Hyde. Ron put in many hours of volunteer time with FOTRA and we are so grateful for Ron’s work.

We are pleased to welcome Aida Sayson as a new volunteer in 2024. Aida worked for the City of Richmond for many years in numerous capacities and departments. Aida is providing some administrative support for FOTRA.

In terms of staffing updates, Records Analyst Dan Farrell retired in December 2023. Working for the City since 2007, Dan made many remarkable contributions in both the archives and records management programs. His dedication and hard work has been so instrumental in preserving Richmond’s past and in making it accessible to future generations. We thank Dan and wish him all the best.

Our new Records Analyst, Karen Ng, started with us on April 15th. Karen has a Master of both Archival Studies and Library and Information Studies. Prior to starting with the City, she was the Archivist and Librarian for the Squamish Nation. We are very excited for Karen to join us.



Karen Ng, Records Analyst.
City of Richmond Archives photograph.