



Van-Fraser News

VAN - FRASER HERITAGE CLUB

ANNUAL BANQUET-BIGGEST EVER!

On September 20th, it was a delight to see 260 members and their family seated at the Continental Seafood Restaurant for our Annual Banquet. This year marked a special occasion as Van Fraser marked our 30th anniversary.

The doors were opened earlier this year and people arrived at 4:30 pm to enjoy an hour of conversation, catching up with old friends and browsing the various displays. It proved to be a bit of task to get everybody to leave their conversations and seated in time for dinner.

Special guests again this year included Michael Costales from Johnson Insurance who was able to answer members questions about travel and home insurance; Al Miller, our colleague who does so much work with the orphans in Africa and Bobby Singh, BC Lions alumni who displayed the three championship football rings and raised some funds with photo ops.

A highlight of the evening was the presentation of scholarship cheques and flowers to Evan Sarkozi, grandson of Van Fraser member Thomas "Bill" Pike and Mikayla Totten, granddaughter of Tony Todosychuk. There is a full write up on the scholarships of Page 6.

During the evening everyone enjoyed the delicious 10 course meal served so efficiently and elegantly by the huge team of waiters. Dinner was followed by the 3 foot by 3 foot 30th Anniversary Cake. Over \$2000 was raised with our 50-50 draw, raffle and silent auction and wine sales. Congratulations to all the winners and thanks to those who sold tickets and who donated prizes for the raffle and auction. Special thanks to Bobby Singh, SBS Facility services for donating the wine, Susanna Hoy, G&F Financial Group for donating the 25 gift bags, and Johnson Insurance for donating prizes.

As the evening came to a close and members said fond farewells they passed on many accolades in appreciation of the memorable Van Fraser for a great evening. (Continued on Pages 2 and 3).



Ken Cornish, assisted by Carol Burchett and Alice Pang, calling up lucky draw winners.

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BANQUET ACCOLADES AND THANK YOU

As the evening came to a close and members said fond farewells they passed on many accolades in appreciation of the memorable banquet

"Congratulations once again on celebrating the 30th Birthday of our tremendous Vancouver Fraser Heritage Club, Fred and your Dynamic Team of Excellence. It has become a long tradition of "Family" gathering to see and greet former colleagues now friends in such electrifying atmosphere."

"Great party Friday night and a great turnout. Thanks for a great evening"

"I enjoyed the festivities you organized yesterday . Thank you so much"

"The food was amazing, I loved every course"

" the crab claws and jumbo prawns were my favorite"

" the shrimp wrapped with rice was great as well as the beef, they gave us copious portions.

" It was a nice evening, met some old friends, had a good time chatting, liked the food and company "

"Thanks for organizing such an amazing evening"

Van Fraser events such as this require a group of willing volunteers. There are a number of events that could always use a little more help. This is an opportunity for Van Fraser members to support the club and their fellow members. If you have time to volunteer to help out call the office at 604 482-4311,

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ANNUAL BANQUET PHOTO GALLERY



TRAVEL SHOW ATTRACTS MEMBERS

On Sunday, September 15th an enthusiastic group of Van Fraser members attended a Travel Show at the Pacific Processing Centre.

The show highlighted the number of excellent travel opportunities for our members.

The featured presentation was made by Ron Lonsdale, Vice President, Collette Tours, who travelled from Toronto to attend the show. His multi media presentation, supplemented by his personal experience showed tours available for Ireland, Portugal and Italy. All of these tours are available to Van Fraser member sin 2020.

Club President Fred Danells offered an overview of other available trips including the Tulalip and Spring Bus Trips. He also provided information on an Antarctica Cruise, a Repositioning Cruise around South America to Vancouver and cruises to Alaska.

For further on future travel opportunities check out Travel Opportunities on Page 12 or contact the Van Fraser Office at 694 482-4311.



Jo and Cindy Wong check out travel opportunities.

VAN FRASER HERITAGE CLUB ON DISPLAY

To mark the 30th Anniversary of the Heritage Club, promote awareness of our activities and solicit membership, a display was wet up in the lobby of the Pacific Processing Centre from September 23 to 27.

The display featured photo boards displaying our activities over the years including our banquets, luncheons, Santa Letters, Railway Mail Car, charities, Thomas Letter Writing, and Honouring Our Own.

The display was very well received by PPC employees who had a number of comments and questions regarding our activities.



A PPC employee checking out the Van Fraser Exhibit.

YAKIMA TRAVELLERS ENJOY THE TRIP

Early in September twenty four Van Fraser members set out on the Annual U Drive Road Trip to Yakima WA. Some took the freeway through Leavenworth to Yakima while other drove the scenic route through the Yakima River Canyon arriving at Howard Johnson's to enjoy a restful four day stay. Once again Howard Johnson's gave the travelers an inexpensive rate of \$55 a night along with breakfast.



Relaxing poolside at the end of the day.

There was a wide variety of activities for the travelers with some playing golf on the local courses while others took advantage of local shopping opportunities. Some members took scenic drives to the local sites, including the murals at Topponish WA, some visited local orchards and museums and a few visited the casino. Congratulations to the team of Brant, Gord and Leslie for winning the golf tournament.

At 4 pm each day the travelers would gather poolside for appetizers and drinks while relating stories of their adventures that day. This was followed by a fabulous barbeque dinner prepared by Ken Cornish, Carol Burchett and Leslie Wilson- always finger lickin' good!

If this trip sounds like something you would enjoy in 2020 watch the newsletter for information.



Ann, Gord and Henry on the 18th Hole at the Apple Tree Golf Course.



Enjoying the evening barbecue was one of the trip highlights.

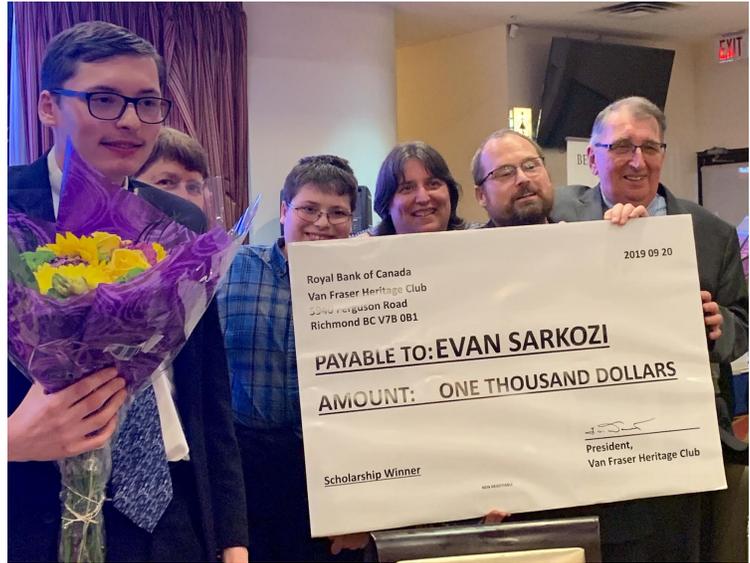
SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS RECEIVE AWARDS

A highlight of the evening at the 30th Annual Banquet was the presentation to two Scholarship Winners, Evan Sarkozi and Mikayla Totten.

Evan, the grandson of Van Fraser member Thomas "Bill" Pike, was awarded the National Heritage Club Scholarship in recognition of his scholastic excellence with a 90+ academic standing. His interests include computer programming, robotics, creative writing, physical fitness and peer mentoring. He tutors several students in Pre Calculus as well as several others in physical fitness. Evan is beginning his courses in Computer Science at Simon Fraser University.

Mikayla, the granddaughter of member Tony Todosyckuk, was the first winner of the Van Fraser Scholarship. In addition to scholastic achievement at an Honour Role level she is active as a school and community volunteer and a top level hockey player. One of her goals is to play hockey at the Olympics.

The children and grandchildren of the Van Fraser Heritage Club members are eligible to apply for the National Heritage Club, Van Fraser Heritage Club and Johnson Insurance Scholarships. For information contact Alan Sung at 604 482-4311



National Scholarship Winner Evan Sarkozi (left) with proud family including grandfather Bill Pike (right).



Members of the Van Fraser Heritage Club Scholarship Committee (left to right) Jean Wong, Pat Medforth and Stan Wong prepare to present flowers to scholarship winners.



Van Fraser Scholarship winner Mikayla Totten (2nd from left) with family, including grandfather Tony Todosyckuk (standing rear), Van Fraser President Fred Danells (left) and Scholarship Chairman Alan Sung.

The Van Fraser Heritage Club is pleased to support these scholarships to help the children and grandchildren of our members achieve their academic and personal goals.

WARM WEATHER FAVOURS EAST COAST CRUISE

For 13 days in October Van Fraser members and family were found aboard the Norwegian Dawn cruising from Quebec City to New York. There were a few surprises during the voyage with a blustery day in Sydney, NS, an unscheduled visit to Boston, followed by a day of taking shelter behind Gloucester, MA, as a forceful cyclone passed by. The remainder of the voyage was filled with great weather.

After settling into the ship, there was a day and a half to explore the historic and quaint Quebec City. People walked many miles through the old town, having coffee in the European style cafes, walking up to Fort and the Plains of Abraham and enjoying the scenery and Autumn colours. Another Quebec town on the tour was Saguenay, a small, typical Quebec township with beautiful churches, museums, beautifully framed with fall colours.



The group enjoying dinner aboard ship in the Aqua Dining Room.

In Cornerbrook, NF, many walked to the Captain Cook Memorial Park and shopped in the huge Emporium store visiting the resident Newfoundland dog. About ten of the group meandered into the local legion where they joined the screeching ceremony to become honorary citizens, after learning some local slang, dancing a jig, "kissing the cod" and drinking some of the world famous Screech!



It was a fun time. All were overwhelmed with the hospitality of the Newfoundland people, many stopping and offering help or rides up the steep hill to the Captain Cook Monument.

Linda Hinkleman "Kisses the Cod" in Cornerbrook.

EAST COAST CRUISE— CONTINUED FOR PAGE 7

In Nova Scotia, many took local transport to the famous Peggy's Cove, Lunenburg and Mahone Bay Area, while others enjoyed the Historic properties, public gardens and the Pier 21 Centre where they were able to find extensive records on their family genealogy. More history in Saint John and a huge lobster feast in Charlottetown.

In Portland, Maine, many enjoyed the Trolley Tours while others took a shuttle to the factory outlets in Freeport. Of course, more lobster was consumed in Portland.

Boston proved to be a sunny day and most of the group followed Fred along the walking tour of the Freedom Trail while others took a Hop on Hop off bus. Following the tour 16 of the group enjoyed a lovely Italian meal in the historic North end.



The group attacks a "lobster lunch"



Susan and Conan hoy relishing the lobster

Once docked in New York some returned straight home while other stayed a few days to enjoy all the many sights of the "Big Apple".

If you believe that travel opportunities such as this are something you or family might enjoy, check the Travel Opportunities on Page 12 or contact the Van Fraser Office at 604-482-4311,

DATES TO REMEMBER

November 8/19

Honouring Our Own Ceremony, PPC Richmond

November 13/19

Santa Elf Orientation, PPC Richmond

November 17-20/19

3 night Tulalip Trip

November 25/19

Santa Letter writing begins

November 27/19

Christmas Luncheon, Green Acres

December 1-31/19

Santa letter writing daily

Jan 3-10/19

Santa letter writing

May 3/20

13 day Spring Bus trip to South Dakota and Yellowstone

September 6-11/20

Yakima U Drive



OLD EQUIPMENT-NEW USES

A recent visit to Mandeville Gardens in Burnaby revealed the presence of two C23's, more commonly known as "coffins".

They had been painted over in yellow but the distinctive shape clearly defines what they are and the card holder and the Equipment ID Plate are still attached.

The staff at Mandeville knew they came from the Post Office but didn't know what they were used for or the nickname. They noted that they were easy to handle and move made great displays. Unfortunately the C-23's had been exposed to inclement weather and some of the wooden panels have warped.

If you come across old equipment such as this, being used in a different way, we'd like to know.



VAN FRASER ARCHIVES– FINDING THINGS

As we sort and catalogue the more than 30 years of records, documents, and items we have on hand at the Pacific Postal Archives and Museum some interesting items are being uncovered.

Things like a 1959 Order Book from the New Westminster Post Office and the Pay Records from Victoria from 1912 to 1915. As part of the cataloguing process we try and attach dates or information to the items we uncover.

On item, found in a box of pins, is a pin for the Letter Carriers Union of Canada Cross Canada Bike-A-Thon. We are looking for any information on the Bike-A-Thon including when it was held and what activity or group did it support. If you participated we'd like to hear your personal experience. If you any photos or documentation please send it on to us. Any assistance greatly appreciated.

Recently located were issues of *The Post Script*, a publication of the New Westminster Postal Club and *The Action Land* a newsletter issued by the BC District from 1969 to 1974.

The information we have on the New Westminster Postal Club and this publication is limited. If you have any information you can share regarding the club and this publication please let us know. The photo below is from the June 1949 edition of *The Post Script*.

Our collection of publications has several gaps and we are attempting to locate missing issues. If you have copies of old Canada Post publications and are willing to donate them to the Van Fraser Archive please contact the club office.



Does anyone have any information regarding the L.C.U.C. Cross Country Bike-a-thon?

"The Big One Got Away!!"

Boy-oh-boy, this is the life, and our picture shows none other than our good friend Sid Jennings, No. 1 fisherman of the Post Office staff.

The picture was taken by "Duke" Wellington at Saginaw Lake during their holidays, and the fish is a cut-throat, about 4½ lbs., taken with a troll.

Sid hopes to retire soon, and then he can fish all day just like this, without a worry in the world.



Cleaning out your place and finding old Canada Post publications and "stuff"? Not sure what to do with them? Let us know what you have, we are always looking to expand and complete our collection of items.

Photo left comes from the *Post Script* edition of June 1949.

TIME FOR SANTA'S ELVES TO VOLUNTEER

It's getting close to that time of year when Christmas will start to appear in retail stores, on line, and in the media.

It's time to get ready for the thousands of Letters to Santa that will start to arrive from children all over the world.

It's time for Santa's Elves to volunteer their time and energy to help Santa respond to all the children. For those who have volunteered in the past we will be glad to see you once again. For those who haven't it is a truly rewarding experience.



An Orientation/Training Session will held Sunday, November 13 at the Pacific Processing Centre in Richmond. If you will participating once again or are interested in being a Brand New Elf, please contact the Heritage Club Office at 604 482-4311.

HELPING FELLOW MEMBERS

Many of our older members no longer drive and find it difficult to attend Van Fraser Functions. We often hear, "I'd love to come if I can get a ride".



This situation has resulted in a number of members attending these events and missing an opportunity to meet with former colleagues and friends.

If you are able to offer a ride to a fellow member please take the opportunity to do so. If you want further information call the office at 604 482-4311.

Van-Fraser News

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The editor reserves the right
to edit
any/all submissions
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2019/20 TRAVEL OPPORTUNITIES CANADA POST HERITAGE CLUB MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

November 17-20/19 4 day Tulalip Bus . Call for availability.

January 9-31/20 and Jan 31- February 21/20. Cruise South America and through Antarctica for 22 or 44 days on the Zaandam, cruising from San Antonio, Chile to Buenos Aires for 22 days with 4 days exploring the beauty of Antarctica and the culture, culinary delights and scenery of a South America. you can fly home from Buenos Aires or stay on the ship and cruise back to San Antonio. Visit Puerto Mont San Antonio (Santiago), Chile, Puerto Montt, Castro, Isla Chiloe, Puerto Chacabuco, Chile, Cruising Chilean Fjords, Scenic cruising Amalia or Brujo Gla ,Scenic cruising Sarmiento Channel ,Strait of Magellan ,Punta Arenas, Chile, Cockburn Channel ,Beagle Channel ,Daylight cruising Glacier Alley Ushuaia, Argentina, Cape Horn and Drake Passage ,Antarctic Experience 4 days, Stanley/Falkland Is/Islands Malvinas ,Puerto Madryn, Argentina, Montevideo, Uruguay, Buenos Aires, Argentina. **Call for latest Reduced prices.**

March 15/20 48 day cruise , Repositioning from Fort Lauderdale to Vancouver, all around South America on the Koningsdam. Visit Barbados; French Guiana; 3 ports in Brazil; Uruguay; Buenos Aires, Argentina (overnight); 3 ports in Chile plus cruising the Chilean fjords; cruising through the Straight of Magellan; Peru; Costa Rica; Nicaragua; Guatemala; Puerto Vallarta; San Diego; Victoria and disembark in Vancouver! Inside cabins from \$5784.00 plus taxes. Call for a brochure **and current promotional prices.**

May 3/19 13 day Spring Bus visiting Rapid City ,South Dakota for five days seeing all the parks in the area,including amount Rushmore, Custer, Badlands, Deadwood and 2 days in Yellowstone National Park. Call for availability.

NEW!! Partnership with Collette Tours.

October 17,2020 SHADES OF Ireland, Highlights are Dublin, Irish Evening, Choices on Tour, Kilkenny, Waterford, Blarney Castle, Killarney, Ring of Kerry, Farm Visit, Jaunting Car Ride, Limerick, Cliffs of Moher, Galway, Castle Stay.

February 17-28,2020 Sunny Portugal, Visit Portuguese Riviera, Lisbon, Sintra, Obidos, Fatima, Evora, Alentejo, S agres, Lagos and more. \$4179.00 pp includes air, hotels and some meals.

April 14-20 ,2020 Reflections of Italy, visit Rome, Assisi, Florence and Venice. \$5664.00 pp includes air, hotels and some meals. Call for information brochures.

June 22,2020, 10day Cruise on the Queen Elizabeth, Vancouver Return. Visit Ketchikan, Juneau, Sitka, Icy Straight, Victoria and both Hubbard and Glacier Bay. Inside cabins from \$1659.00 plus taxes. Call for current price as prices fluctuate regularly.

July 13,2020 14 day cruise on the Maasdam, "a classroom at sea". Visit Juneau, Ketchikan, Skagway, Anchorage, Homer, Haines, Inian Islands, Valdez, Misty Fjords, Tracy Arm, Hubbard Glacier on this Vancouver Return Trip. A unique opportunity to explore the coast in depth with special lecturers, photography expert, local culinary experiences. Opportunities for fishing. Call the Heritage Club for detailed information sheets. Call for current price.

REMINDER: Be sure you have out of country travel insurance for any trip you book and that it is active before any cancellation penalty fees are in effect for your trip. For those with MEDOC, ensure you have renewed your Heritage Club Membership for 2019 and paid your dues to be covered. Contact the Heritage Club office for info on MEDOC and for more information on any trips. Van Fraser Heritage Club: 604 482-4311 or email: vanfrasernews@gmail.com

