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Royal
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1993
Annual Report

Ministry of Small Business, Tourism and Culture
Province of British Columbia

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MUSEUM

1993
Annual Report

Royal British Columbia Museum, 675 Belleville Street, Victoria, B.C., V8V 1X4

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Contents

| | |
|---|----|
| Summary | 4 |
| Introduction | 5 |
| The Futures Project | 5 |
| Organizational Structure | 6 |
| Curatorial Services Branch | 7 |
| Natural History Collections Management | 7 |
| Human History Collections Management—Anthropology | 7 |
| Human History Collections Management—Modern History | 8 |
| Natural History and Human History Collections Management | 9 |
| Natural History Research | 10 |
| Human History Research | |
| Modern History | 11 |
| Anthropology | 12 |
| Natural History and Human History | |
| Conferences and Training | 12 |
| Public Program Participation—Events, Exhibits, Publications | 13 |
| Public Programs Branch | 14 |
| Exhibit Services/Design Services | 14 |
| Program Production Services | 15 |
| Volunteer Services | 17 |
| Publishing and Visual Services | 17 |
| Royal Museum Productions | 18 |
| Operations Branch | 20 |
| Fannin Foundation | 22 |
| Friends of the Royal British Columbia Museum | 23 |
| Community Partnerships | 24 |

SUMMARY

This report on the activities of the Royal British Columbia Museum during 1993 is submitted to the Minister of Small Business, Tourism and Culture as required by the Museum Act.

Highlights

Open House

From April 23-25, every facet of the Museum was open to the public. There were special exhibits in the temporary galleries and throughout the institution. Special tours of the Fannin Building, where the bulk of the Museum's collections is stored, were available. Fourteen thousand visitors inspected their Museum.

Mungo Martin House Addition and Return of Potlatch Goods

A significant event was the completion of the addition to Mungo Martin House in Thunderbird Park, the celebration and ceremonies attending the re-opening of the house and the return of potlatch goods to the U'mista Cultural Centre from a museum in the United States.

Quick Response Team

QRTs were created to establish a temporary and immediate presence on topical issues in the community and the Museum. Examples include: Aboriginal Awareness Week, Spotted Owl/ Marbled Murrelet, Lyme Disease, Red Tide, Purple Loosestrife and Remembrance Day.

Partnerships

Partnerships with a number of organizations were established or continued in 1993. Partnerships established with a variety of groups continued to produce results for both partners. Other partnership opportunities are being explored with such institutions as the Excite Laboratory at Simon Fraser University and the Continuing Education Department of Camosun College.

Weekend Showcase

The Weekend Showcase public program was established to increase access to the collections and staff expertise at the Museum. It has met with tremendous public response, and many community organizations have participated in the 23 Showcases.

The Museum continues to be supported by the Friends of the Royal B.C. Museum, the Fannin Foundation, a strong volunteer program and numerous co-operating agencies.

INTRODUCTION

The Royal British Columbia Museum, along with the other branches of the Culture and Historic Resources Department, moved to the newly configured Ministry of Small Business, Tourism and Culture in September 1993.

The Museum continued to fulfil its mandate to collect, preserve, research and disseminate information about British Columbia and British Columbians. In July of 1993, Museum staff completed a five-year plan based on a thorough review of activities and in consultation with the community. The planning direction was approved by Cabinet in December 1993.

The Museum will be guided over the next five years by its Mission: "...to provide public programs and objective information about the cultural and natural environments of British Columbia, past and present, in a relevant, accessible, consultative and entrepreneurial style."

At the beginning of the 1993 fiscal year, Cabinet gave approval for the Museum to launch into the first year of the then-proposed Five-year Plan. Many of the successful initiatives have been widely acclaimed by the Museum's public.

THE FUTURES PROJECT

In July of 1993 the Futures Project ended as a separate activity. The activities and results of the project became part of the Museum's daily operations described in the planning documents.

The Futures Project resulted in a number of planning documents and a comprehensive report on consultation around the Province. The Five-year Plan, 1993-1998, and the 1993 Annual Plan were formally approved by government. The planning documents emphasize that during consultation the Royal British Columbia Museum found that the public supports what the Museum does—namely to collect, preserve, research and present information. However, the results of consultation suggest the Museum's public desires a change in how the Museum carries out its mandate.

The changes being implemented are embodied in the following words: relevant, accessible, consultative and entrepreneurial. The resulting changes in the Royal British Columbia Museum are subtle and yet profound. The basic functions of the Museum will remain and be supported as well as, or better than, they have been in the past. The change will be an increased emphasis on the Museum's relationship with its various communities. The result will be an institution that appears the same but presents a different attitude and image.

Fiscal year 1994 will be the completion of the first year of the Five-year Plan. The initiatives that have been undertaken have resulted in more interaction with the Museum's public, a more consultative approach in planning and decision-making and some increases in the sources of earned revenues.

Bill Barkley,
February 1 1994

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

For most of 1993, the Museum operated under four programs:

- Collections
- Research
- Public Programs
- Finance and Administration

On December 1 1993, a new management structure was implemented. To reflect this, the report is broken down under the new structural headings, with the proposed Business Development Branch included in Operations until funds can be identified to develop this branch separately. Royal Museum Productions, a re-interpretation of the Newcombe Program, will be a part of the Business Development Branch. Royal Museum Production staff are employees of the Friends who are under the line supervision of the Director of Public Programs.

The four new branches of the Museum are:

- Curatorial Services Branch
- Public Programs Branch
- Operations Branch
- Business Development Branch (Proposed)

The change in structure is necessitated by the new five-year planning direction and the lowering of staffing levels. The previous structure had accomplished one of its major tasks of ensuring that the collections received the necessary level of care and documentation. With this accomplished, it was appropriate to consolidate the strong collections activity with an equally strong research activity. Although both collections and research are in the same branch, they retain their individual identities.

The report concludes with submissions from the co-operative societies and a list of community partnerships.

CURATORIAL SERVICES BRANCH

OVERVIEW

This Branch comprises curators, collections managers, conservators and librarians who are responsible for research, development, care and management of the Natural History, Human History, Conservation and Library sections. The strategic objectives of improving the information about B.C.'s human history and natural history and providing access for educational purposes were addressed. Projects were developed in consultation with more than 58 collaborating institutions and organizations. Financial self-sufficiency was supported by direct pledges totalling over \$157,000 and staff time provided by other partnering agencies.

Natural History includes botany, invertebrate zoology, mammalogy, ornithology, vertebrate zoology and entomology. Human History includes archaeology, ethnology and modern history. Activities and/or section reports are listed under the Natural History and Human History headings.

Natural History Collections Management

Access

- 1993 saw the introduction of tours of the Biological Collections Section twice a day.
- More than a thousand visitors toured the collections over the three-day Open House.
- One of the Weekend Showcases had a tour of the biological collections: of the 1,643 people attending the Showcase, 208 toured the collections.

Acquisitions

Biological Collections issued tax receipts to four donors for the total value of \$8,644. Of note was the donation of 400 fossil pieces. New specimens numbering 7,732 were accessioned to bring the number of records on the Canadian Heritage Inventory Network (CHIN) to a total of 463,221. A total of 342,470 CHIN records were edited.

Specimen breakdown (new acquisitions): botany - 1,911; entomology - 5,323; invertebrate zoology - 38; mammalogy - 400; ornithology - 60.

Human History Collections Management—Anthropology

Repatriation

Staff assisted various ministries on issues of the repatriation of artifacts, territorial boundaries of both aboriginal nations and village groups, and traditional resource use. There were requests from First Nations groups for information about our holdings, policies and possible repatriation.

Access

- Three members of the Nisga'a Tribal Council videotaped a portion of the Nisga'a collection. Almost all 432 identified Nisga'a artifacts were transported to the Museum's classroom for viewing by the Nisga'a and the negotiating teams from the Government of Canada and the Province of British Columbia.
- Requests were received from various groups for listings of collections from their traditional territories: Upper Nicola Indian Band, Nisga'a Tribal Council, Meares Island, Sto:lo Tribal Council, Gitanyow, Dididaht Indian Band, Ktunaxa/Kinbasket Tribal Council, Musqueam Indian Band and Tsawwassen First Nation.

Acquisitions

There were 29 ethnographic, 32 archaeological, 164 audiovisual and 354 historical acquisitions. Highlights were:

- A rare type of Nuu-chah-nulth basketry bag that was not represented in the collection.
- A Coast Salish or Nuu-chah-nulth comb, apparently made for aboriginal use.
- A beaded Kootenay doll with baby carrier.
- A collection of Nuu-chah-nulth tourist basketry made by patients at the Nanaimo Indian Hospital.
- Purchase of two jewellery artifacts by the Haida artist Robert Davidson.
- Rediscovery of a large stone bowl in Thunderbird Park, originally from south of Kamloops.
- Seventy-two photographs from Port Simpson, circa 1910. They include people and houses. Only one of these 72 images was already in the collection.

Transfers

Anthropological collections transfers included:

- Six artifacts and seventy-five boxes of historical and archaeological material transferred to Barkerville Historic Park.
- From July through November, the Angermann collection of nine artifacts (repatriated from the National Museum of the American Indian in New York) was held here at the Museum until the transfer could be made to the U'mista Cultural Centre and to the Cape Mudge Museum.

Improved Storage

Downsizing of archaeological material continued with the processing of boxes, creating more compact storage and recording data on the Collections Information Entry and Reporting Application (CIERA). A total of 3,177 artifacts were relocated to reduce warehouse costs, 2,251 artifacts were brought in to the Museum and 926 were stored in the warehouse.

Human History Collections Management—Modern History

Acquisitions

- Sideboard made at Craigflower, circa 1853.
- Ten framed original watercolour paintings by Lyall Nanson.

Transfers

The closure of the BC Transportation Museum during fiscal year 1992/93 resulted in the loan or transfer of 65 historical vehicles to community museums throughout B.C.

The remaining 120 non-historic vehicles were sold at public auction with the proceeds accruing to the Consolidated Revenue Fund. Some examples of transfers to other museums included the following:

- 1904 Wolseley, first car on the Cariboo Road, to Kamloops Museum and Archives.
- 1968 Cadillac Limousine, formerly W.A.C. Bennett's car, to the Kelowna Museum.
- 1923 Dodge, early Peace River car, to North Peace Museum, Fort St. John.
- 1905 Oldsmobile from Stamps Sawmill to Vancouver Museum.

The number of other historical artifacts transferred to more appropriate museums totalled 226 and included:

- 1878 Montreal portable organ transferred to the McCord Museum.
- A canvas bag with stencilled name F.V. Langstaff, local Esquimalt historian, transferred to CFB Esquimalt Museum.
- Artifacts from the Man Yuck Tong herbalist shop collection transferred to Barkerville Historic Park.
- Large collections of documents from the Man Yuck Tong herbalist shop collection were signed-off for transfer to the Victoria City Archives.

Improved Storage

During the early part of the year intensive effort was directed to evaluating and moving significant parts of the off-site collection. We significantly reduced the number of artifacts held off-site by changing storage location, transfers and deaccessioning. The storage conditions of many artifacts was improved.

Natural and Human History Collections Management

Loans

Loans were also made for educational programming. A total of 259 anthropological, 17,901 biological and 919 historical artifacts were loaned. Some loans include:

- Robert Davidson artifacts to Vancouver Art Gallery.
- Education specimens to teachers, artists, natural history groups, environmentalists, photographers, universities, other museums and other ministries, with heavy use of the bird and mammal collections.
- Artifacts to smaller museums and galleries around the province for their summer programs, including the Kelowna Museum, Nanaimo Museum, Vancouver Art Gallery, Kamloops Art Gallery, Langley Centennial Museum and Kwantlan College.
- Out-of-province loans to places such as The Musee de la Civilization in Quebec, the Ketchikan Museum and the Seattle Art Museum.
- Five loan "batches" were renewed or extended.
- An extensive collection of archaeological material was loaned to Malaspina College in Nanaimo for teaching purposes.

Conservation Services

- Evaluated the condition of all artifacts used in the exhibits noted in this report.
- Prepared condition reports on totem poles at Simon Fraser University, the paint on John Lennon's Rolls Royce and the environmental control for Fort Steele.
- Consulted with UVic on conservation methods for pre-Columbian artifacts.

Library Services

- Organized and co-ordinated a three-day Open House for the Museum.
- The library computers were connected to the local area network and the library system implemented.
- The labels created by a previous batch cataloguing project were organized and a start was made in labelling books and editing the catalogue records. Previously uncatalogued titles, including Museum publications, were entered into the system, catalogued and labelled. There are now over 2,000 catalogued titles in the library.

- A substantial number of records have been moved to off-site storage or sent for destruction.
- An Operational Records Classification System (ORCS) was designed for the Museum, and a File Directory to comply with Freedom of Information requirements was completed.
- Historical records continued to be transferred to the library, providing for a Museum archives.
- Unrestricted public access was provided two afternoons per week, but the library was also made available to the public at other times.

Natural History Research

Research projects deal with the flora and fauna of B.C. and are based on new collections of specimens and the use of collections in general. This research makes the collections more accessible and meaningful to the people of B.C. Research focuses on a variety of geographical areas within B.C. and stresses issues of social and biological importance, such as threatened and endangered habitats and species, and global warming. Joint projects with other agencies are a Museum priority actively supported by research projects. Research is closely connected to public programming products such as publications, exhibits, lectures, workshops, natural history tours and video. Rob Cannings, a senior biology curator, completed two years of his educational leave towards a doctorate in biology.

South Okanagan Conservation Strategy Support

The RBCM continued its involvement in the South Okanagan Conservation Strategy. This program is a co-operative venture between The Nature Trust, the Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks, the Canadian Wildlife Service, other provincial and federal agencies, universities, local governments and public interest groups. It gathers data and establishes priorities for the preservation of critical and threatened habitats in the South Okanagan.

Climatic trends and vegetation changes

The long-term climatic trends and vegetation changes on southern Vancouver Island were examined in collaboration with staff of the University of Victoria, the Ministry of Forests, Forestry Canada, the Capital Regional District and Environment Canada. This research provides baseline data for an understanding of global climatic change on Vancouver Island.

Study and management of a critical and threatened habitat

A project on the flora of the southern grasslands of the province focused on the production of a book that will be a significant resource for the study and management of this critical and threatened habitat.

Threatened aquatic habitats in B.C.

Many of the plant species restricted to aquatic habitats in B.C. are threatened because of developmental and agricultural pressures. Research into rare species in these habitats, and collaboration with Ministry of Forests on the classification of the province's wetlands was a significant contribution to botanical research during the past year.

Inventory to identify rare and endemic species in mountain parks

The inventory of poorly sampled habitats and localities in the subalpine and alpine environments continued. This project is critical to our understanding of the origins of the provincial flora and to the management of rare and endemic species in mountain parks and other areas.

Identification keys to various groups of crustaceans

To improve knowledge and understanding of B.C.'s freshwater ecosystems, some of which are threatened, identification keys to various groups of crustaceans were developed for use by Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks and other agencies. In the same context, a draft of a report on the freshwater ostracodes was completed; ostracodes are a little-known but significant component of freshwater environments.

Research on marine invertebrates

The final touches were made to a manuscript of a popular handbook about the sea cucumbers of B.C. This is a part of a larger taxonomic study of the diversity of this important group of sea creatures along the province's coast. A co-op student from the University of British Columbia was hired to help with the research.

Research on the origins of the province's plants and animals

Research was undertaken to determine the evolutionary history and classification of a group of robber flies common in B.C. but also found all around the northern hemisphere. The project focuses on the elucidation of diversity and the historical geographical processes that resulted in the present distribution of these flies. The latter offers clues to the origins of the province's plants and animals.

Research on threatened fish species

Studies on the classification, population size and population structure of sculpin species in the Columbia River drainage continued. This research on threatened fish species supports the information needs of the Fisheries Branch (MELP), Conservation Data Centre and the Committee On the Status of Endangered Wildlife In Canada (COSEWIC).

Research on endangered small mammals of B.C.

Important research on endangered small mammals of B.C. continued. Studies of the Western Harvest Mouse, a rare species of the interior grasslands, neared completion. This is joint research with the Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks and the Faculty of Forestry, UBC. With the Canadian Museum of Nature, work on the Keen's Long-eared Myotis, a rare species of bat found in forest habitats, was completed.

Human History Research—Modern History**Emergency Services**

In co-operation with the B.C. Ambulance Service, a historian has been conducting an in-depth examination of emergency pre-hospital care. This study will break new ground in our understanding of how such services have met the needs of British Columbia's society during the past decades.

Industrial development

Research into B.C.'s industrial development and the dramatic changes that our economy is undergoing, is in progress. The focus of this research has been on aspects of the forest industry, the area of the most dramatic economic restructuring to occur in B.C.'s history. The work has been undertaken with the co-operation of several companies and the Ministry of Forests. We have also started a project with the Education Technology Centre to establish an on-line Forest History Database and network. Bob Griffin, a senior history curator doing this research, continues to be supported to complete his doctorate in History at the University of Victoria.

Education history

The emphasis has been on establishing a baseline for one of the most basic aspects of schooling—the textbook. Schools are rapidly being built or modernized and this increases the risk of losing our education heritage. This project has developed a significant collection of authorized textbooks and has worked with the UBC Co-operative Canadian Microfilm Project to ensure preservation of early records. Co-operation with a variety of education groups and with the Ministry of Education continued. Workshops around the province with local education heritage groups, and the assistance of the Open Learning Agency in producing a guide book to education heritage preservation, are key points in this project.

Human History Research—Anthropology

Potlatch collection

- Some field and archival research were conducted on Kwakwaka'wakw potlatch and material culture.
- A project was undertaken to research and catalogue the Potlatch collection at the U'mista Cultural Centre, Alert Bay.

Anthropology photo collection

Research on the context of the anthropology photo collection from the greater Victoria area has enhanced the value of this collection for public use.

Vancouver Island Marmot

Research on the archaeology of marmot hunting in high-elevation cave sites continues to shed new light on the distribution of the rare Vancouver Island Marmot and the nature of prehistoric hunting patterns.

Maple Bank Site

Identification of archaeological bird and mammal remains from the Maple Bank Site continued.

Human History and Natural History—Conferences and Training

Curatorial Services Branch staff were involved in improving the understanding of B.C. human and natural history through training and conferences, exhibits, publications and loans.

Conferences Attended

Staff attended the BCMA Conference, the Native American Arts Studies Association Conference in Santa Fe, New Mexico; the Northern Bounty Conference on Canadian Cuisine in Stratford, Ontario and the Columbia Fur Trade conference in Victoria.

Conferences Hosted

- In June, the Royal British Columbia Museum (RBCM) co-hosted the Annual Conference of the Costume Society of America, the major association for the study of clothing in North America. Participants spent a day in Victoria. More than 180 people came from Seattle to attend sessions, visit historic sites and tour our exhibit galleries, conservation lab and human history collections storage. As a result of this event's success, the 1994 conference will be held for the first time completely in Canada.
- The staff of the Biological Collection Section played a large part in the organization and hosting of the Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections international conference in 1993. More than 140 professional museum biologists and conservators from five nations met for six days at the RBCM to present papers and discuss issues of mutual concern. Biological Collection staff hosted an open house in the collections area and were able to demonstrate many of our innovative methods for resolving collections management problems.

Training

- Staff were involved with teaching the students who were enrolled in the first Aboriginal Museum Internship Program term.
- Three conservation posters were prepared for the International Council of Museums committee on conservation meeting in Washington, D.C.
- A co-operative pilot project has been initiated whereby the Museum provides computer-scanned images of ethno-historic photographs, transmitted electronically, to the Saanich Native Heritage Society and the Lau Welnew Tribal School to share and improve information about the Saanich Native heritage. We hope to expand this project to include other kinds of information and other First Nations groups.
- Courses taught by staff include *Art in Transit*, *Museology* for new staff, the *Preservation of Musical Instruments* and *Caring for Textiles*.
- Biological Collections has continued to host students eager to learn about the skills necessary to work as collections managers or biologists.
- Staff member trained the guides for Heritage Properties Branch, provincial historic sites in Victoria.
- We have hosted numerous one-day Discovery students, as well as placed three work experience students. Several of these students have returned as volunteers when their work terms ended.

Human History and Natural History—Public Program Participation

Events

Open House (See Introductory Highlights)

Exhibits

- The Sieburth exhibit celebrates the collecting activities of Mary McNeill Sieburth, her donation of a major portion of her collection to the Museum and the establishment of an endowment for the purchase of basketry and textiles artifacts.
- Victoria breweries, an exhibit at the Hillside Shopping Centre.
- Education history exhibit.
- Fishing industry exhibit.
- Air-raid precautions exhibit.

- Sporting goods shop in Old Town exhibit converted to stationery and toy shop.
- Ceramics exhibit at the University of Victoria, Maltwood Gallery.
- Kwantlan College exhibit.
- International Women's Day exhibit, at RBCM, Ministry office and Point Ellice House.
- Christmas exhibit in Modern History Gallery.

Publications

- *Clue to a Culture: Food Preparation of the O'Reilly Family and Responding to Fashion: the Clothing of the O'Reilly Family* by Virginia A.S. Careless were published in 1993. These books are the result of research done on a comprehensive collection that includes artifacts, documents, photographs and the O'Reilly historic family home and its site.
- *Our Living Legacy*, a ground-breaking book on the biological diversity of B.C. and its management, was published. The book documented the proceedings of a symposium on biological diversity held at the RBCM in 1991.
- The first in a series of popular handbooks on the mammals of B.C. was published: *Bats of British Columbia* by David W. Nagorsen and R. Mark Brigham. The book was co-published by the RBCM and UBC Press and was funded in part by the Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks.
- *Report on Excavations Around Totem Pole Bases at Anthony Island* by Donald N. Abbott and Sharon Keen was published as a Royal British Columbia Museum Heritage Record. A new school program, Crystal Palace Under a Totem Pole, based in part upon the information in that report, was developed and instituted.
- Several articles were contributed to the *Discovery* newsletter.
- Staff contributed reports to COSEWIC as part of the RBCM's ongoing commitment to study and disseminate information on rare and endangered organisms and ecosystems.

PUBLIC PROGRAMS BRANCH

OVERVIEW

Public Programs prepares and provides information about the history of British Columbia based on the work of the Curatorial Services Branch, and translates and transmits this information to audiences throughout the province. Sections include Exhibit Services/Design Services, Program Production Services, Volunteer Services, Publishing and Visual Services and Royal Museum Productions. This is done through exhibits, school programs, lectures, publications, television productions, travelling exhibits, speaker's tours and special events.

Exhibit Services/Design Services

- Participated in the Futures Group, the consultation process, QRTs, Open House, Maltwood Museum exhibit, Black Peoples history, Grease Trail exhibit and Weekend Showcase.
- Developed partnerships in exhibits like SPCA, EMPR lobby exhibit, Power Smart program.
- Developing fee schedules for photographs and filming in the galleries
- Worked on second floor warehouse exhibit, the IMAX theatre proposal, the Genghis Khan exhibit, the Sieburth exhibit, the In Conversation presentation, *Safari: The Barkley Sound Expedition* and the Case exhibit.

- Contributed to the Vancouver Airport exhibit, Weekend Showcase, SPNHC conference, the One-year Plan, the Five-year Plan, the Task Group reports and proposals for the new lobby.
- Also worked on the dome in the forest diorama and improved signs and lighting in the galleries.

Temporary Exhibits

- *British Columbia Canneries: Through the Eyes of West Coast Artist Lyle Nanson* consisted of watercolour paintings of north coast canneries along with artifacts and equipment. Attendance: 31,412.
- *Mary McNeill Sieburth: Benefactor of the Royal British Columbia Museum* exhibit displayed a wide selection of the collection of Native material culture that she donated to the Museum. Approximately 200 people attended the opening, including members of the Sieburth family. Attendance: 93,462.
- *In the Footsteps of Alexander Mackenzie on the Nuxalk-Carrier Grease Trail*. This exhibit of 50 contemporary paintings and 18 sketchbooks and diaries was produced in co-operation with the Milltown Artists, the Prince George Art Gallery and the Ministry of Government Services. The RBCM added showcases containing aboriginal artifacts from its collections. The opening was attended by 150 people. Attendance: 48,916.

Travelling Exhibits

- *Birds of Prey of Canada* travelled to the Saskatchewan Western Development Museum in Saskatoon, North Battleford Museum and the Yorkton Museum. This exhibit is being refitted before travelling in Alberta and B.C. Attendance in Saskatchewan was approximately 66,000.
- Four small interactive travelling exhibits were designed and a prototype produced. These units are intended for use in non-traditional venues, so that museums can take their message to schools, shopping centres, libraries, senior citizens' centres as well as to the traditional museums and art galleries. The first two tentative exhibit titles are *Rare and Endangered*, an examination of often overlooked, rare life-forms, and *Policing in B.C.*

Program Production Services

Special Events/Weekend Showcase

- *Butterfly Days* (May 22–23). This precursor to the Weekend Showcase series involved staff as well as outside agencies including Butterfly World, the Crystal Gardens, BC Parks, Capitol Regional District Parks, CASE, Vancouver Island Butterfly Count and the Swan Lake and Christmas Hill Nature Sanctuary. Points of interest included displays of the more than 170 species of butterflies native to B.C., lectures, guided tours and children's activities at various sites. Attendance: 10,824.
- *First People's Festival* (August 7–9). Co-produced with Victoria Native Friendship Centre. Highlights included the Canadian Premiere of the American Indian Dance Theatre and two specially produced cultural showcases about contemporary aboriginal art and contemporary aboriginal fashion design. Attendance: 17,182.
- *Stamp Fair* (October 16–17). Produced in co-operation with AAA Stamp Coin Bullion, a variety of stamp clubs and the Canada Post Corporation. This event emphasized the collections of private stamp enthusiasts. There were exhibits, children's activities and educational programs. Attendance: 3,811.

- *Mushroom Fair* (October 24). Staff and volunteers worked together with the Canadian Forest Service and the Pacific Forestry Centre to produce this event. Exhibits, RBCM collections, educational programs and identification workshops with recently collected mushrooms were featured. Attendance: 1,526.
- *Apple Fair* (October 31). This was the second Apple Fair event jointly produced by the Museum and the BC Orchard Industry Museum of Kelowna. The main attractions were exhibits, demonstrations and collections samples. Attendance: 1,206.
- *Aboriginal Women's Arts* (November 7). The Victoria Native Friendship Centre and the RBCM combined forces to present this production highlighting traditional arts such as basketry, weaving, blanket-making and beading. Demonstrations of technique, collections, story-telling and hands-on activities for children were featured. Attendance: 1,758.
- *Motorcycle Madness* (November 14). Motorcycle stores and clubs co-operated with the RBCM to create this event. Interaction with motorcycle mechanics, riders, builders and restorers along with films and videos in the Museum theatre added to the private collections on display. Attendance: 3,200.
- *Birds, Bees, Flowers, Trees* (November 21). Highlighting the natural history collections, this event was produced in co-operation with the Victoria Natural History Society. Close-up looks at unusual plant and animal specimens, conversations with experts and behind-the-scenes tours of the RBCM's collections were featured. Attendance: 1,664.
- *Focus on Fossils* (November 28). Fossils in the collections as well as those from other institutions were featured in this event. Visitors had an opportunity to see and touch an assortment of fossil specimens and participate in hands-on activities such as the cleaning and sorting of specimens. Paleontologists were on hand to discuss their work with visitors, answer questions and make the specimens physically accessible. A special feature included a first-time showing in Victoria of marine reptile fossils dating from the Jurassic period that have been recently found in the Courtenay region. This event was produced in co-operation with the Courtenay and District Museum, the Geological Survey of Canada and the Vancouver Island Paleontological Society. Attendance: 2,096.
- *Amazing World of Fish* (December 5). This event provided an opportunity to offer the public access to a wide spectrum of specimens from the Museum's collections. An assortment of live and preserved fish and related specimens were assembled. Curators and visiting scientists were present to provide interpretation and answer questions about fish biology and behaviour. This event was produced in association with the Ministry of Environment and the Pacific Biological Station. Attendance: 1,168.
- *Looking After Your Heirlooms* (December 12). RBCM conservation staff and Conservator Consultant Richard Beauchamp provided this hands-on heirloom-preservation experience. Conservation experts were available throughout the day to discuss conservation techniques of interest to visitors and to examine first-hand the family treasures that were brought in. Tips on the best methods for preserving important family collections of textiles, paper and photographs were provided. Attendance: 677.

Native Plant Garden Tours

There were 157 tours of the gardens attended by 595 people.

Guided Tours

There are 20 volunteers/docents trained to guide scheduled tours of VIPs and special interest groups through public galleries. Approximately 20 docents are used on a rotational basis to conduct tours, either of individual galleries or a highlight tour. Memorable visitors included the Ambassadors of Turkey, Costa Rica, Slovakia, Ireland, Morocco and the Czech Republic; representatives from the British House of Commons, NATO Defence Personnel, Rome, Deputy President of the Australian Senate, High Commissioners from New Zealand and Swaziland, the Mayor of Tokyo and several Fellowship Study groups from prominent universities such as Yale and Harvard. During the last year, 977 visitors took 62 tours.

School Programs

School Programs reach about 12,000 students each year, from kindergarten to grade seven inclusive. These curriculum-guided programs are hands-on, materials-based and docent-led. Programs are developed to utilize artifacts from all three galleries; ten programs were offered in 1993 to 12,279 students.

Volunteer Services

The Museum is supported by 480 volunteers and 11 research affiliates who contributed 38,000 hours during the past year. Volunteers are involved in collections management, research, public programs, visitor services, the RBCM's recycling program and the Friends of the Royal British Columbia Museum. During 1993, 124 new volunteers joined the Volunteer program.

Publishing and Visual Services

The Publishing Section embarked on a new direction in 1993: co-publishing with B.C. book publishers. This year books were published co-operatively with Beach Holme Publishers, Oolichan books and UBC Press. Future publications now in various stages will be co-published with UBC Press, Orca Books and Arsenal Pulp Press.

Books published:

- *Bats of British Columbia* by David W. Nagorsen and R. Mark Brigham—RBCM Handbook co-published with UBC Press, Vancouver (176 pp.);
- *Clue to a Culture: Food Preparation of the O'Reilly Family* by Virginia A.S. Careless—RBCM Heritage Record (118 pp.);
- *Coal Dust In My Blood: the Autobiography of a Coal Miner* by Bill Johnstone—RBCM Heritage Record co-published with Oolichan Books, Lantzville, a new-format reprint (196 pp.);
- *Our Living Legacy: Proceedings of a Symposium on Biological Diversity* edited by M.A. Fenger, E.H. Miller, J.F. Johnson and E.J.R. Williams (408 pp.);
- *Report on Excavations Around Totem Pole Bases at Anthony Island* by Donald N. Abbott and Sharon Keen—RBCM Heritage Record (74 pp.);
- *Responding to Fashion: the Clothing of the O'Reilly Family* by Virginia A.S. Careless—RBCM Heritage Record (96 pp.);
- *Some Common Mosses of B.C.* by W.B. Schofield—RBCM Handbook (400 pp.)

Other publications and products completed:

- *Discovery: the Friends of the RBCM Quarterly Review*—published winter, spring, summer and autumn, (8 pp.);
- *Exhibit Highlights*—a companion to the exhibits—co-published with Beach Holme Publishers, Victoria, in five languages: English, French, German, Japanese and Spanish (24 pp.);
- Mosses interactive display—an interactive computer display to promote *Some Common Mosses of B.C.* and give more information to visitors about mosses;
- RBCM Publications Catalogue 1993 (24 pp.);
- SPNHC Registration and Call for Papers—information mail-out for the 8th Annual Meeting of the Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections, hosted by the RBCM in June (20 pp.);
- SPNHC Program and Abstracts—information booklet for the 8th Annual Meeting of the Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections hosted by the RBCM in June (48 pp.);
- *James Scomiak* by Grant Keddie—Museum Notes (2 pp.);
- *ScreenSmarts*—a screen saver, co-published with The Alexandra Projects, Vancouver and Victoria;
- Tusks interactive exhibit enhancement - an interactive computer program complimenting the Tusks exhibit (Woolly Mammoth and ice-age fossils).

Royal Museum Productions (RMP)

Lectures

A total of forty-eight lectures were produced in the Newcombe Theatre and the UVIC Auditorium, drawing an audience of 12,455. Due to restructuring and the demand to become profitable, the number of events will gradually reduce; but revenue will increase. Speakers were local and national, coming from Australia, Ireland, England, the United States and throughout B.C.

The lectures included:

Kyuquot Sound Information Night—Rupert Wong

Women in the Gold Rush, Metis Wives of Early Victoria—Sylvia VanKirk

The Tale of Troy Re-told—Professor John Luce

Marine Geology and the Environmental Assessment of Halifax Harbour—by Gordon Fadar

A Viewpoint on Whales and the Environment—Jim Darling and Roger Frampton

Dinosaur Hunters—David Spalding and Roger Frampton

Greenland An Expedition—Wayne Haack and Cecelia Nunn

Weaving Fire—Cheryl Samuel

Crop Circles: A Scientific View—Dr Roger Taylor

Victoria: The Gossip and the Glory—Jim Hume, Terry Reksten and Chief Andy Thomas

Excavating the Wreck of the HMS *Pandora*—Ron Coleman

Victoria, the Last 17,000 Years—Grant Keddie

Nightwings: The Bats of B.C.—David Nagorsen

Plants of Coyote's World: Secwepemc Plant Knowledge—Nancy Turner

The Building of Fort Victoria—John D. Adams

Victoria the Capital: Colonial and Provincial—John A. Bovey

The Emerald Sea—Dale Sanders

Day of Two Sunsets—Michael Blades

Tatshenshini: A Priceless Legacy—Ric Careless

Costa Rica Coast to Coast—John Moelaert

Russian Life—David Trattles

Mountain Gorillas: Survival or Extinction, Elephants, Caves and Ivory—Ian Redmond

The Sea Serpent of B.C.—Ed Bousfield.

Television Productions—The Investigators

With the Knowledge Network, the RBCM is at work on a 17-part series of 30-minute broadcasts under the title of *The Investigators*, scheduled to air in the Fall, 1994 television season. Three topics will ultimately be produced into the three ten-minute segments composing the pilot broadcast. Investigations were conducted at the B.C. Archives and Records Service and at the Knowledge Network. Themes were determined and interviews were held with experts. Storyboard, scripting and location filming was started. In the pilot broadcast there will be segments on the whaling industry on the west coast, the history of float planes in British Columbia and octopus.

Television Productions—Safari '94: The Barkley Sound Expedition

The last year has seen the planning and fund-raising for Safari '94. This educational, interactive program will be broadcast live in April from in and around the waters of Barkley Sound on Vancouver Island's west coast. Students around the world will be able to experience the unique environment of British Columbia as well as new applications of science and technology.

Facility Rentals

- Investigated markets within the community, as well as across the country, with meeting and destination planners, hotels, conference facilities and conference groups coming to Victoria.
- Created a gallery rentals package and organized functions.
- Gave organizations the opportunity to rent all or specific areas of the Museum after hours.

There were 12 bookings this season with an attendance of 3,013. These bookings included:

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Western Judicial Educator—500 | Cantrav West/Northern Telecom—60 |
| Ocean Pointe Resort/Ladner Downs—170 | Aboriginal Affairs—40 |
| Partners in Professional Planning—150 | Cantrav/National Life of Vermont—70 |
| Commonwealth Games Society—400 | Venue West/Multiple Sclerosis—400 |
| Canadian/Centra Gas—200 | Intermec Corporation—73 |
| Astronomical Data/UVic—250 | Ocean's '93—700. |

Workshops

A new program was initiated in 1993 by converting "special topic lectures" to workshops. This allowed the small groups attending these lectures a more hands-on, closer contact with the curators/experts. Five workshops were presented in the classroom drawing 128 participants.

Environmental Expeditions

At the close of the season, RMP sponsored 11 expeditions, taking 227 participants for a variety of locations throughout British Columbia, Alberta and Alaska. Expeditions included:

On Safari

Northern Gulf Islands (sailing)

Kitlope River Valley (sailing)

Whale Watching/Hot Spring Cove

Queen Charlotte Islands—Haida History (sailing)

Southern Gulf Islands (sailing)

Barkley Sound On Board the *Lady Rose*

Queen Charlotte Islands—Natural Trip (sailing)

Alaska: Inside Passage (sailing)

Kyuquot Sound Excursion (camping)

Journey to Dinosaur Valley (bus tour).

Box Office

Services provided included: three-hour Whale Watching Tours, three-hour cruise of the Inner Harbour and Gorge Waterway and a two-hour walking tour of Chinatown.

Merchandise was also available for sale, including T-shirts, and video cassettes of the films, *Island of Whales* and *Beyond the Mind's Eye*.

The Box Office staff also handled ticket sales for RMP events, coat check service for those visiting the Museum and the distribution of audio tours to visitors. The staff were also helpful to tourists in suggesting other attractions they could visit in Victoria, accommodations, restaurants and travel routes.

OPERATIONS BRANCH

OVERVIEW

This Branch is responsible for all administration and central services at the Museum. Primary functions include Admissions, Facilities Management, Financial Services, Human Resource Management, Information Systems and Marketing Services.

Admissions

Attendance in 1993 was 786,000. This is 2% below the average for the previous five years. Revenue of \$1.74 million was down nearly 5% compared to the same period.

Facilities Services

- A major addition was made to the Mungo Martin house to improve the facilities and to expand its potential use.
- New paths were built in Thunderbird Park.
- Replacement of the courtyard tile continued.
- The Geology Pool was renovated.
- New courtyard planters and seats were painted red as part of a new colour scheme.
- The Museum assumed control of its security staff.
- The Museum reviewed its operating costs and made a significant reduction.
- All off-site storage was reviewed and considerably reduced.

Financial Services

\$909,335.25 (discretionary spending) was processed in 1,200 separate transactions.

Human Resource Management

- Two employees were seconded to the Commonwealth Games.
- Co-op students were hired in Systems, Natural History and Human History.
- The new management organization was announced.
- Six aboriginal students were hired to participate in the Aboriginal Training Program.
- Museum staff was reduced from 117 to 100 FTEs.

Information Systems

- Systems enhanced the Museum's collections data entry and reporting system (CIERA) and have entered into an agreement to market this software.
- A collections imaging application was developed to demonstrate the future direction of collections management.
- Staff continue to participate in the Dogwood Regional Network, which provides an electronic communications link among the museums of the province.
- Software was developed and introduced to track all correspondence within the institution.

Marketing Services

Marketing Services helped to increase exposure locally, provincially, nationally and internationally. The pending Commonwealth Games has given the Museum higher profile with international travel writers, Network 10 (Australia television covering the games) and travellers in general. Marketing Services was involved in province-wide focus group meetings. Weekend Showcase is a direct result of this research and is enjoying a favourable response. The promotion provided by Marketing Services has helped to increase attendance by 73% compared to the same Sundays of the previous year, and membership sales have also risen dramatically.

Attendance figures follow:

- School Programs: 12,279
- School Visits (self-guided): 43,442
- Pre-booked Visits (self-guided): 38,338
- VIP Guided Tours: 1,156
- Open House: 14,369
- First Peoples Festival: 17,182
- Butterfly Days: 10,824
- Sieburth Opening: 200
- Nuxalk-Carrier Grease Trail Opening: 150
- Birthday Celebration: 2,014
- Weekend Showcases: 17,106.

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES

FANNIN FOUNDATION

The Fannin Foundation is a non-profit public foundation with the purpose of soliciting, accepting and disbursing financial donations for the long-term growth and development of the Museum. The Foundation continued to work with the financial planning and legal communities to provide information on the opportunities for the public to support the Museum through the Foundation's Planned Giving Program. The Second Century Club for Annual Contributors entered its second year and by December, more than 150 individuals had contributed over \$30,000 to the Fannin Endowment Fund. This brought the total value of the Endowment Funds to more than \$250,000. By year end, the Florian Endowment Fund, created to honour the former Head of Conservation at the Museum, Mary-Lou Florian, stood at \$8,000. The Foundation also sponsored very successful Mystery Restaurant Festivals in both Vancouver and Victoria. Working with the British Columbia Wine Institute and the Victoria Restaurant Association as well as 53 restaurants that donated meals to the Festivals, the Foundation raised \$20,000. The enthusiastic diners are looking forward to future events. Changes to the Board this year included Joan Williams replacing Tino Di Bella as Chair. Jan Ross continued as Vice-Chair and Bill Camden as Treasurer. Other members of the Foundation Board were Lenore Davis, Gary Lunden and Friends representatives, Mary Richmond, Fred Carrothers and Joyce Clearihue.

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES

FRIENDS OF THE ROYAL BRITISH COLUMBIA MUSEUM

The Friends of the Royal British Columbia Museum (FORM) was established in 1968 to support the Museum's programs and activities. The FORM operates the Royal Museum Shop, which provides the majority of its earned revenue. In addition, Royal Museum Productions, formerly the Newcombe Program, (RMP) Super Series, Audio Tours and special Museum projects are supported by the FORM. In 1993, the Super Series Program of two speakers attracted an audience of 1,329 (Christine Roussel and John Luce). Forty-six lectures were attended by 11,126 visitors and thirteen field trips attracted 227 participants. A membership of 11,250 supports the Museum and receives information about Museum activities through the *Discovery* newsletter. Three per cent of FORM members are from outside Canada, some living as far away as New Zealand and Hong Kong. The Society is pleased to report that a large number of its members have chosen to contribute additional financial support to the Museum by making contributions to the Fannin Foundation through the Second Century Club. Over the past year, FORM members have contributed \$14,000 to the Fannin Foundation.

1993 Projects Funded by FORM are:

| | |
|--|----------------------------|
| Hospitality Fund: | \$2,000 |
| Fannin Foundation: | \$32,000 |
| Royal Museum Productions Program: | \$140,000 |
| Docent Outreach Program: | \$11,203 |
| Hosting the SPNHC 1993 Annual Meeting: | \$3,384.59 |
| Futures Project: | \$18,012.70 |
| Evaluation Project for Cranbrook Railway Museum: | \$843.56 |
| Open Storage Exhibit: | \$30,000 |
| Taxonomic Trainee: | \$8,000 |
| Vancouver Island Marmot Cave Bones: | \$9,000 |
| Investigators: | \$20,000 |
| Purchase of Robert Davidson Bracelet: | \$7,500 |
| Planning for Kids Club: | \$6,000 |
| TOTAL | <u>\$287,944.35</u> |

Projected Net Revenues for 1993:

| | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|
| Royal Museum Shop | \$308,000 |
| Audio Tours | \$9,000 |
| TOTAL | <u>\$317,000</u> |

A Board of Directors manages the operations of the Society. The Board members are: Dr Elizabeth Kennedy (president), Jim Nicholl (first vice-president), Dr John Oleson (second vice-president), Dr Joyce Clearihue (secretary), David Moore (treasurer), Dr Hamish Robertson (past president), Fred Carrothers, Katie Dawson, Shelagh Graham, Thor Henrich, Dr Mary Richmond, Anne Sanderson, Robert Woolstencroft, Christopher Causton, Joe Barber-Starkey, Richard Hunt, Jack Lee, Carolyn Sampson, Greg Evans and Joan Williams.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

The Museum functions as a partner with many individuals and agencies. This ensures that programs are relevant to a broad audience, costs are reduced and new ideas are developed through co-operative efforts. Some partners in 1993 were:

Provincial Government Agencies

Ministry of Advanced Education—Training and Technology
Ministry of Education and Ministry Responsible for Multiculturalism and Human Rights
Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources
Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks—Wildlife Branch—Fisheries Branch
Habitat Conservation Fund—Conservation Data Centre—Ecological Reserves
Ministry of Forests
Ministry of Tourism and Ministry Responsible for Culture—Heritage Properties Branch
Heritage Trust
South Okanagan Critical Areas Project (SOCAP)

Museums and Universities

American Museum of Natural History, New York
Bodega Bay Marine Lab, University of California
British Columbia Forest Museum
Canadian Museum of Nature
Cowan Vertebrate Museum, University of British Columbia
Lester B. Pearson College of the Pacific
Los Angeles County Museum
Milwaukee Museum
Museum of Anthropology, University of British Columbia
New England Science Centre
Ontario Science Centre
Queen Charlotte Islands Museum
Science Alberta Foundation
Simon Fraser University (various departments)
Spencer Entomological Museum, University of British Columbia
State University of New York (Geneva)
Texas A & M University
University of Alaska
University of Bergen (Norway)
University of British Columbia (various departments)
University of Calgary
University of California in Los Angeles
University of Guelph
University of Maryland
University of Michigan, Museum of Zoology
University of Victoria

Other Public Agencies and Organizations

British Columbia Ambulance Service
British Columbia Museums Association
British Columbia Nature Trust
Canada 125 Corporation
Canadian Forces Base Esquimalt
Canadian Heritage Information Network
Canadian Wildlife Service
Capital Regional District
Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC)
Fire Commissioners Office
Fire departments in several municipalities
Fisheries and Oceans
Institute of Ocean Sciences
Parks Canada
School Districts #61, #62 and #63 (Victoria, Sooke and Saanich)

Native Bands and Tribal Councils

Haida
Kwakwaka'wakw
Mowachaht Band

Companies and Individuals

The Alexander Projects
Arsenal Pulp Press
Beach Holme Publishers
B.C. Systems Corporation
B.C. Tel
Impact Canada
Orca Books
Orcatron Manufacturing Ltd
Rogers Cable
RSI Research
Shaw Cable
UBC Press
Victoria Real Estate Board
Mrs Helen Vieser

ROYAL
BRITISH
COLUMBIA
MUSEUM