

Peace Country Historical Society
Lower Level, Centre 2000
11330 106 Street
Grande Prairie, AB, T8V 7X9



March, 2024
The Spring Issue
Volume 15, Issue 1

Promoting, Preserving, Publishing Our Heritage



The TseKwa Cave at Charlie Lake, a National Historic Site with 12,500 years of archaeological history.

Upcoming Spring/Summer Events – see details on [PCHS Forum](#) | [Facebook](#)

Additional podcasts have been added for your enjoyment! Our first six video podcasts with reviews of the historic major fires from our region, the organizing of area Royal Canadian Legions, an appreciation of the Grande Prairie Museum, the 2024 Heritage Fair, Mounties as community builders, and local hockey greats are now uploaded. Bookmark our YouTube channel and enjoy at [The Peace Country Historical Society Podcast - YouTube](#)

2025 Events will be emailed to members and posted on [the PCHS Forum](#) | [Facebook](#) page.

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| April 27 th | PCHS Annual General Meeting April 27, 2 PM, GP Museum |
| May 1 st | 2025 Northern Alberta Heritage Fair, Grande Prairie Library |
| May 17 | Information table at the International Museum Day event, GP Museum. |
| May 24 | Bus Tour: with David Leonard, to Fort St. John area, and the TseKwa Cave Site |
| August 2 nd | Information table at Heritage Day event at Grande Prairie Museum? |
| August | PCHS Forbes Tea event |
| September | Short bus trip with David Leonard. Lower Beaverlodge Fall Colours Tour |
| November | Remembrance Event |
| December | Christmas Event, with Generations Readers Theatre. |

More event dates may be added as planning and participants are confirmed.

Peace Country Historical Society

Vision: To encourage the appreciation of the history of the Peace Country

Mandate: The mandated area of the Peace Country Historical Society is the Northwest region of Alberta

Board of Directors

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Doug Spry—Director

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Linda Schofield—Generations Readers Theatre

Grande Prairie

Janet Peterson—Event Greeter/Sign-in

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What We Can Offer

- A chance to help set the direction for our Peace Country Chapter at membership meetings or other communication means.
- A chance to learn about Peace Country history during presentations and tours, through Facebook, the Newsletter, the Website, and at membership meetings.
- A chance to meet other people who enjoy history.
- A chance to contribute as a volunteer in various projects that we carry out.
- A chance to advocate for the preservation of the history of our area.
- Qualify to submit applications for HSA grants to fund special projects.
- We hope you choose to continue with us, or join our Society.

Editor's Message

My Personal Views on Keeping Canada Canadian

With regrets, history has overtaken my plan for a nostalgic look backward to the arrival of my father's family at the end-of-rail in Grande Prairie in 1916. They entered Canada at Emerson, Manitoba. When I brought a book home from a dusty family collection about a year ago, I expected some historical material that could guarantee an early night's sleep. How could I miss with a scholarly study that covered the period of 1821 to 1870? An often-forgotten era of reciprocity, tariffs, and political scheming. Who would expect it to be anything but a historical curiosity, recalling such long-forgotten negotiations?

My interest was aroused by the title: *"Minnesota and the Manifest Destiny of the Canadian Northwest, A Study in Canadian-American Relations,"* authored by Minnesota-born historian Alvin C. Gluek in 1965. The study years predated my grandfather's migration from Minnesota to Alberta in 1916, but by coincidence, his birth there in 1870 matched the study's endpoint.

In the later chapters of Gluek's book, under President Andrew Johnson (with an expansionist Secretary of State William Seward, who purchased Alaska in 1867), and then, in 1869, under the "interested but cautious" President Ulysses S. Grant, the decades-long plan played out. The United States expected to see the Canadian Northwest easily swallowed when caught between the "jaws of Alaska and the southern states". The West and British Columbia would be annexed and fall like ripe fruit, fulfilling America's Manifest Destiny.

Despite the expectations of those working to lure Louis Riel into common cause with Americans seeking to annex the Canadian Northwest, the people of the Red River settlement were more closely aligned with the British crown, but expected a significant level of local control. When surveyors arrived even before the Hudson's Bay Company was transferred, it was soon evident that Riel and the Red River Métis Settlers were prepared to assert their position to the Dominion of Canada on governance, property, and their generations-long connection to it.

After Riel seized control of Fort Garry on December 10, 1869, more American efforts were made to secure Rupert's Land for the United States. President Ulysses S. Grant's "short-of-war" policy failed to win that prize. Reacting to the blunders of Canadian politicians, Louis Riel organized a rebellion to safeguard the rights of his people and all Red River settlers, ultimately resulting in Manitoba as an equal province within the Dominion.

Through applied political skills and force, Prime Minister John A. MacDonald eventually reinforced a definitive 49th parallel that lasted over 155 years. All this was despite several attempts by Minnesota merchants to enlist federal government action. Even after the transfer of Rupert's Land to the Dominion of Canada in 1869, an editorial in the St. Paul Press titled "Our Commercial Empire" stated, "If politically it belongs to Canada, geographically and commercially it belongs not to Canada but to Minnesota."

We haven't seen a major invading force on Canada's current land border since the War of 1812, and then the Fenian Raids of 1866 to 1871, when our interests and political stability were threatened. The last of the Fenian raids was in 1871 at Emerson, Manitoba, where the Fenians, who had hoped to enlist Riel in their cause, were instead taken into custody and removed by Grant's US Army before the Canadian forces could arrive from Winnipeg to oust them.

But history can sometimes be predictive, and here we are again. Canadians will have to assess friend or foe, and if that extreme threat arises from formerly rational allies, we will need to employ a full range of options to defend our land.

In 2025, the threat now arises from a United States President who wants to annex not just the Northwest but all of Canada. Not content to have a traditionally open door to purchase Canadian resources and production, we face extortion from an administration using the threat of economic warfare, or even military occupation, to attack a peaceful sovereign neighbour. Using insults to achieve that end is a dangerous negotiation strategy that can only heighten tensions and poses a very real threat.

Instead of a rational state actor, we face a twice-impeached former real estate promoter with multiple felony fraud indictments. Now, as the President, he recognizes no limits on his power. With such a belligerent America, our nation is under a drastic, unprovoked economic attack. Sadly, we are just one of the world's nations threatened with such chaos today.

My Norwegian-born great-grandfather volunteered for the Union forces in the Civil War, which means my age for normal military service to my country is long past a "best before" date. But studying history has also brought into focus another danger to our country, of potential home-grown collaborators as a critical national threat.

The world knows the term Quisling, recalling the infamy of the politician (Vidkun Quisling) still detested by Norwegians. He collaborated with fascist invaders against his own country and even organized the execution of his fellow citizens who resisted. Tried for his treason, he faced a firing squad at the end of the war in 1945.

There may be a way to serve if Canada needs to form a wartime Home Guard. "They also serve who only stand and wait." John Milton wrote the line in the mid-1600s, which was later repurposed by Winston Churchill, to recognize the valued support to the country from all English citizenry not actively serving in the enlisted ranks.

With our eyes fully open, we should all be prepared to stand on guard for Canada.

Historic Coal Mines Update

Pat Wearmouth

For several years, PCHS members Stan and Reita Sparks have been looking for four historic coal mines in the Bad Heart district north of Teepee Creek. Others have been helping, including members of the Moosehill Trail Rides draft horse club and interested locals. As they look, they have also been building a wagon trail on which to travel to the general vicinity of the mines.

All of the mines are located along an unnamed creek that flows from the southwest into the Bad Heart River. They are roughly a mile west of the junction of Highway 733 and Township Road 752. Mining permits for the mines were issued by the provincial government between 1923 and 1941.

There were three underground mines in the banks of the creek, and one surface strip mine. The names associated with the mines included Len Beard, John and Emil Arac, Russell and Williams, and Anton Anderson and his sons Henry and George. The elder Anderson had mining experience in Sweden before settling in the Peace Country.

Coal was produced with picks and shovels, an arduous job in confined spaces. Once mined the coal was loaded in wagons and eventually trucks, for transport to local farms, and the communities of Teepee Creek, Webster, and Sexsmith. It was hauled on trails that led south to the Webster Road (Township Road 744) and onward from there.

A more complete story of these mines and others in the South Peace is found in the PCHS newsletter archives on our website. The article is contained in the Winter 2020 edition and titled "Christmas Coal".



Left: Stan, Reita and a friend on the pile of excavated shale. Right: Stan in the hole at the entrance cave in.

The group now believes they have found the approximate location of all the mines. They are working to find the mine entrances. So far one has been located. A pile of shale rock was the clue needed. Shale rock had to be removed before the coal could be mined. A careful look is required because of the brush and trees that have grown in intervening years.

In order to do this kind of exploring, the group received an approval to do so from Regulatory Approvals Coordinator, Alberta Arts, Culture, and Status of Women. The approval comes under authority of the Historic Resources Act, with the stipulation that any findings be reported.

As mentioned, the other part of the project is the creation of a trail to access the sites. The draft horse club received permission to use an old wellsite access road to the north of the mine locations as a start of a wagon trail. From there, they have been slowly clearing the way to the mine.



The photos above show Stan Sparks with a wagon and his good looking team of Norwegian Fjord horses on the trail as built to date.

Membership Renewal: A Gentle Reminder...

Most previous members' yearly renewal dates happen on April 1st. While the HSA website for online renewal has some glitches, it should be up and working properly soon. The Calgary office can assist with a phone call on a Tuesday or Wednesday, weekly, between 9 and 3. Leave a message for a call-back if you don't connect when calling for assistance to Sue at 1 (403) 261-3662.

Joe's Corner Coffee Shop

During the 1940's, Grande Prairie was experiencing a building boom as a result of the construction of the Alaska Highway. *Bill's Real Good Food Café* was located on the NE corner of 100th street and 100 ave. with the front door being part of a "tower" that extended beyond the roofline. In 1948, Joe Mark a Chinese restaurateur, purchased the building and renamed it *Joe's Corner Coffee Shop*. He then set out to promote his café as the premier Chinese food café



Joe's Corner Coffee Shop decorated with Union Jack flags & war posters



where many clubs such as the Women's Institute and the Kinsmen met regularly. As it always seems, all good things come to an end and that is what happened to *Joe's Corner Coffee Shop*. It had been a landmark in GP for 20 years with its "corner main doorway". The building was demolished to make

in Grande Prairie. In 1955, business had increased to where the coffee shop had to be expanded and renovated. The "tower" was removed and another level was added. The restaurant area was expanded and included what was called the Pagoda Room



Joe's Corner Coffee Shop Exhibit now open for viewing



way for a branch of the Toronto-Dominion Bank which was the writer's very first job out of College in 1969.

As time went on, the T-D Bank building was eventually demolished in 1997 to accommodate the widening of 100th street.

In 2019, the Grande Prairie Museum decided to feature an exhibit depicting the well-known landmark in GP – *Joe's Corner Coffee Shop*. It was a wonderful display that truly transported you back in time. A time in your youth when life was slower, less complicated, worry free with the biggest decision to make was whether or not to have a "Coke" or "orange Fanta" at Joe's Corner Coffee Shop.

Joe's Corner Coffee Shop

Recollections:

Wanda Zenner recalls the times that she would accompany her mom and dad to town from the farm that was located in the Bezanson area. It seems the café was a local meeting place where you would often find neighbors enjoying a meal or simply enjoying conversation and coffee. On one occasion, it was just Wanda and her dad who went to the coffee shop while her mom did some shopping. The stools always fascinated her as to how fast you could get going and I'm sure that is the reason why her parents tried to ensure she was sitting at a table with them. While there, her dad met one of the neighbors and when they were deep in conversation, she went over to the stools and had a flying good time. Her dad's form of discipline was to raise his hand and say "*do you see this hand*". However on this occasion, she raised her hand and before her dad could speak she said "*do you see this hand*"? Needless to say everyone in close proximity broke into laughter so that was the end of the reprimanding!!

Reference:

Memory Lane Project

A History of Downtown GP from 1914 – 2014

GP Museum

Submitted by Wanda Zenner, March 2025

Would you like some cake with that coffee?

Well, you'll have to make it yourself, and you'll need to find a recipe for the icing of your choice as well! This recipe is from **1936**, but that was in the tough days of the Dirty Thirties, so the sugar and vanilla were probably hard to find as well.

Unlike modern versions of this patriotic cake with simple maple leaf decorations, just imagine how difficult it would be to create a passable Union Jack to top the Canada Cake!

Recipe courtesy of Whitelaw and District Centennial Committee, with our thanks.

SELECTED RECIPES

CANADA CAKE

1 cup white sugar
2 eggs
½ cup milk
½ cup butter
1½ cups Purity Flour
1½ teaspoon baking powder
¼ teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon vanilla

Method—1. Cream butter. 2. Add sugar gradually. 3. Beat in unbeaten eggs. 4. Add milk and vanilla. 5. Sift flour with baking powder and salt and add to mixture No. 4. 6. Bake in layer or loaf cake tins in moderate oven of 375 degrees for 20 minutes.

VETERANS MEMORIAL GARDENS & INTERPRETIVE CENTRE

HONORS SERVICEWOMEN WITH AN IMPRESSIVE WOMEN OF WAR (WOW) MONUMENT

The monument, crafted by Sunset Memorial & Stone out of Calgary, is two-sided depicting the women who served on one side and the women who contributed at home on the reverse side.



WOMEN OF WAR HONORING THE UNBREAKABLE

From battlefields to the home front, from past to present, women have shaped history with courage, sacrifice and resilience.

They answered the call, stepped into the unknown and carried nations forward in times of war and peace.

Women of War is more than a tribute; it is a declaration.

A reminder that their legacy endures, their voices matter and their stories demand to be told.

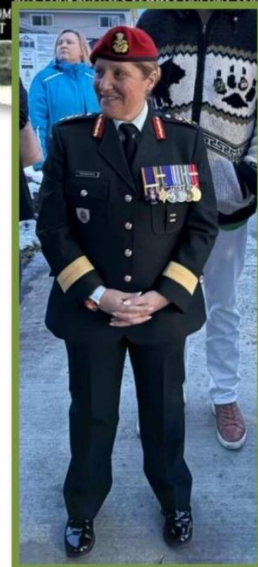
**This is their history
This is their honor
This is Women of War**

*Renee Charbonneau
Veterans Memorial Gardens*



The unveiling occurred on March 7, 2025 in front of a large crowd that included several dignitaries. The venue itself showcased various local servicewomen's biographies by means of posters that lined one wall. In attendance was Private Doris (Oe) Guerette, originally from Bezanson, who had served during a period of time after WWII known as the "cold war era". Veteran Randi Gage who founded Veterans Ingenious Day, Veteran Anna-Lisa Rovak and Sgt Shirley Jew with PTSD trained puppy were also in attendance.

Brigadier General Vanessa Hanrahan (rt) flew in from Ottawa to attend and spoke of the challenges that women have had to overcome not only in the military but in life in general. On December 10, 2024, Brigadier-General Vanessa Hanrahan was officially recognized as the new Canadian Forces Provost Marshal (CF PM) and assumed command of the Canadian Forces Military Police Group (CF MP Gp). The ceremony, held at His Majesty's Canadian Ship (HMCS) *Carleton* in Ottawa, was presided over by the Chief of the Defence Staff (CDS), General Jennie Carignan.



WOMEN OF WAR TIMELINE

1899 - 1902: The South African War (or Boer War)

Four nursing sisters sailed with the first contingent of soldiers to South Africa in October 1899. The Canadian Army Nursing Service was created in 1901- more nurses were subsequently dispatched for a total of 12.

First World War 1914 - 1918

Nursing Sisters in the First World War

More than 2,800 women served with the Canadian Army Medical Corps. and roughly 2,500 went overseas where they served close to the front lines in hospitals, on board hospital ships and in combat zones with field ambulance units.

Nurses who served in the First World War were called Nursing Sisters but were nicknamed the “bluebirds” because of their blue dresses and white veils.

Life for Canada's Nursing Sisters was dangerous. Over 40 lost their lives while in service and of this number between 20 and 30 were killed by enemy action in the First World War.

On June 27, 1918, Canadian hospital ship *Llandovery Castle* was torpedoed by a German submarine. 234 people lost their lives, including all 14 Nursing Sisters.



Women On the Home Front in the First World War

Women's roles changed on the home front in the First World War. Women provided crucial support at home as the wives, mothers and sweethearts of the men who had gone to fight. Thousands of women on the home front also supported the war effort by volunteering their time to make and package things like pillows, sheets, socks and scarves to send to soldiers overseas.

The First World War also changed the role of women in the labour market. Over 30,000 women worked outside of the home in ammunition factories, offices and also on their family farms due to the shortage of male workers.

• 1917

December 17, 1917, Canadian women whose husbands, sons and brothers served in the war **voted** for the first time. Women were also allowed to vote if they met an exception for military personnel. Bluebirds were the first women to vote legally in a Canadian federal election. The federal right to vote was extended to all Canadian women by 1918.

Aboriginal Canadian Edith Anderson, left her job as an elementary school nurse to join (along with 14 other Canadian Nurses), the United States Medical Corps in 1917. Overseas, she tended sick and wounded soldiers in an American military hospital in France.

Second World War (1939 - 1945)

Canadian women were not allowed to serve in combat during the Second World War but they were still greatly involved in the war effort.

Nursing Sisters in the Second World War

In the Second World War, a total of 4,480 Nursing Sisters served.



1941 - 1942: Creation of Women's Divisions

All three branches of the military were forever changed with the creation of Women's Divisions. Some 50,000 women served with the Canadian Armed Forces.

On July 2, 1941, the Canadian Army created the Canadian Women's Army Corps and some 21,000 women served as CWAC's;

On August 13, 1941, the Royal Canadian Air Force established a Women's Division (WD) and some 17,000 Women served in the RCAF(WD);

Women volunteered in these Women's Divisions for full time military service, including working as clerks, mechanics, parachute riggers, wireless operators and photographers.



Ronnie, the Bren Gun Girl

Veronica Foster, known as "The Bren Gun Girl," poses with a finished Bren gun at the John Inglis Co. Ltd. plant, May 1941.

(courtesy National Film Board of Canada/Photothèque/Library and Archives Canada/MIKAN 3195801)

Women on the Home Front in the Second World War

The war changed lives for women on the home front. The demands of a war economy and the labour shortage that resulted from men serving in the war meant that women were encouraged to enter the work force. Hundreds of thousands stepped into jobs in wartime industry in jobs typically held by men: cafeteria workers, lumberjacks, ship builders, ammunition workers, scientists and more.

Canada's Own "Rosie the Riveter"

America may have made the fictional "Rosie the Riveter" famous during the Second World War but Canada found its own female role model in a real person. **Elsie MacGill** was the first woman to receive an electrical engineering degree in Canada and the first female aircraft designer in the world. The 35-year-old aeronautical engineer supervised the production of Hawker Hurricane fighter planes at the Canadian Car and Foundry Company, which employed 200 women and produced more than 1,450 aircraft during the war. MacGill became a symbol of Canada's miraculous economic wartime transformation and earned the nickname "Queen of the Hurricanes".



- **1942** Mary Greyeyes - first aboriginal woman to enlist in Canadian
- **1943** Jean Flatt Davey - first Canadian woman doctor to enter the Canadian Armed Forces

In 1943, the initial pay rate for servicewomen was set at 2/3 of that for men

July 1943, it was raised to 80% of the pay of men

- **1944** July 1944, Canadian Wives Bureau is set up by the Department of National Defence for the purpose of preparing war brides for their journey to Canada.

- **1946** Women's Divisions of all three services were disbanded & women were expected to relinquish their roles to the men who were returning from war.

February 1946: "Operation Daddy" begins, with the sailing of Mauretania from Liverpool to Halifax carrying 943 servicemen's dependents (war brides and children), marking the first official war bride transport to Canada.

The Korean War (1950-1953)

Women were again recruited for military service and more than 5,000 served. Canadian nurses were faced with the challenge of providing medical services in combat zone battle-inflicted injuries and infectious diseases. They also flew air evacuation with casualties back to Canada. There were no female casualties.



- **1965** The government allowed women to be employed in the Canadian military with a fixed ceiling of 1,500
- **1970** The Royal Commission on the Status of Women recommended changes to the military to create equal conditions for all.
- **1972** The Honourable Flora MacDonald - first woman to graduate from the National Defence College.
- **1973** Colonel Joan Fitzgerald - first military woman to graduate from the National Defence College.
- **1974** Major Wendy Clay, a doctor, qualified for pilot's wings six years before pilot classification was opened to all women.
- **1978** Corporal Gail Toupin - first female member of SkyHawks, the Army's parachute demonstration team.
- **1988** First female gunners in Regular Force graduate from qualification training.
- **1989** The Canadian Human Rights Commission ruled that all obstacles to women's access to any military job must be removed with two exceptions: service aboard submarines and Catholic chaplains.



Majors Dee Brasseur and Jane Foster - first two woman fighter pilots of a CF-18 Hornet.






1990's

- **1991** The Gulf War was the first conflict in which Canadian women take part in combat. The first female officer in combat arms graduates from artillery training.
- **1992** Corporal Marlene Shillingford - first woman to join Snowbirds team; takes part in 1993-94 season as a technician; and Sergeant Shillingford became the first female Canadian Forces Snowbirds Crew Chief in 2006.
- **1994** Wendy Clay - first woman promoted to Major General.
- **1995** Chief Warrant Officer Linda Smith - first woman named Wing Chief Warrant Office.
- **1997** Colonel Marcia Quinn assumes command of 41 Canadian Brigade Group. Colonel Patricia Samson appointed Canadian Forces Provost Marshall.



- **1998** Lieutenant Colonel Karen McCrimmon appointed Commander of 429 Transport Squadron in Trenton, Ontario.
Chief Petty Officer 2nd Class Holly Kisbee - first woman Combat Chief of a major warship.

2000's

- **2000** Women can serve in submarines for the first time.
Major Micky Colton - first female Hercules pilot to complete 10,000 flying hours. 
Lieutenant Ruth Ann Shamuhn becomes the first female combat diver.
- **2003** Major Anne Reiffenstein - first female to command combat arms sub unit.
Major Jennie Carignan - first female Deputy Commanding Officer of a combat arms unit.
Leading Seaman Hayley John & Marketa Semik - first female non-commissioned clearance divers.
Master Seaman Colleen Beattie - the first woman qualified as a submariner.
First (and only) all female Canadian Armed Forces team completed the Nijmegen March in Holland carrying same weight as male teams.
Lieutenant Commander Marta Mulkins - first woman to serve as a Captain of a Canadian Warship
- **2004** Chief Petty Officer 1st Class Jan Davis - first woman Coxswain of major warship.
- **2006** Brigadier General Christine Whitecross - first female Joint Task Force Commander
Captain Nichola Goddard, 1st Regiment Royal Canadian Horse Artillery, was killed in Afghanistan on May 17, 2006. Goddard was the first female Canadian Armed Forces member killed during combat duty. 
- **2007** Commodore Jennifer Bennett - first woman appointed Commander of the Naval Reserve; first female to command a Formation. 
- **2009** Commander Josée Kurtz becomes the first woman to command a major warship, the HMCS *Halifax*.
- **2010** Lieutenant Colonel Maryse Carmichael - first female Commanding Officer of the Snowbirds in its 40 year history.
Major Eleanor Taylor, first female to lead an infantry company in a combat zone, is deployed to Afghanistan.
- **2011** Brigadier General Chris Whitecross is one of two most senior ranked women in the Canadian Armed Forces. She was deployed to Afghanistan until end of June 2011. 
- **2012** Captain Ashley Collette received the Medal of Military Valour for her actions in Afghanistan. She is the first female Canadian soldier to receive this honour. 

- **2013** Colonel Jennie Carignan - first female Commandant of the Royal Military College Saint- Jean in Quebec.
- **2015** Brigadier-General Lise Bourgon is commander of a Joint Task Force overseas mission (Operation Impact in Iraq). She was the first woman to hold this position. →
- **2017** The Government of Canada announced the “Elsie Initiative for Women” in Peace Operations during a UN conference in Vancouver. Its goal is to help increase the participation of women in UN peace operations.
- **2020** Lieutenant-Colonel Riel Erickson assumes command of No. 2 Canadian Forces Flying Training School in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan. →
- **2021** Rear Admiral Josee Kurtz - first woman Commandant of the Royal Military College in Kingston, ON Ontario.
- **2022** Rear-Admiral (Retd) Rebecca Patterson - first woman Veteran appointed to the Senate of Canada. →
- **2023** **12 WOMEN HOLD THE RANK OF GENERAL OR ADMIRAL WITHIN THE CANADIAN ARMED FORCES.**



Legacy

During the First and Second World Wars, many women felt they had an once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to enlist and help their country in any way that was needed. Their changing roles during these turbulent years helped lead to great changes in the way society looked at women. The efforts of these pioneering women helped open the door for the women who now serve in a broad array of roles in the Canadian Forces today.

Reference:

Canada Remembers Women in the Canadian Military
Wikipedia
The Canadian Encyclopedia
Excerpt from Women in Canadian History – Timeline
Women in the Canadian Armed Forces
Veterans Affairs

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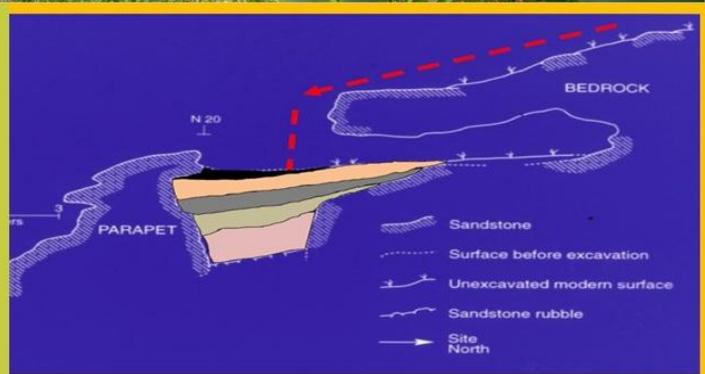
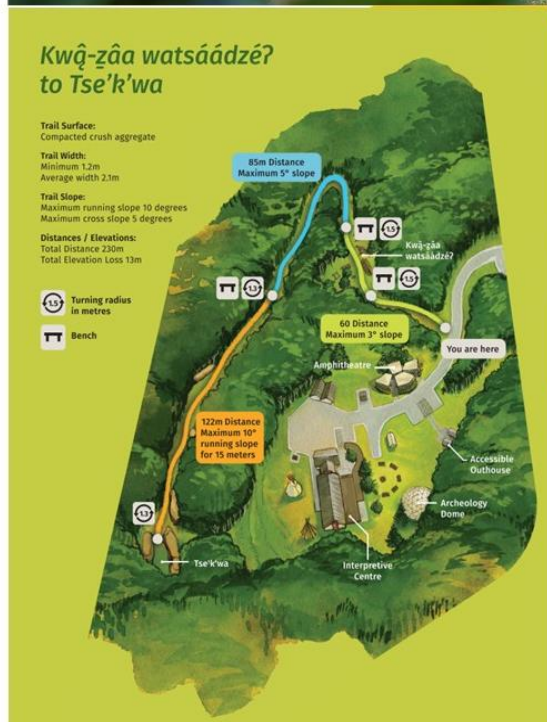


VETERANS MEMORIAL GARDENS & INTERPRETIVE CENTRE

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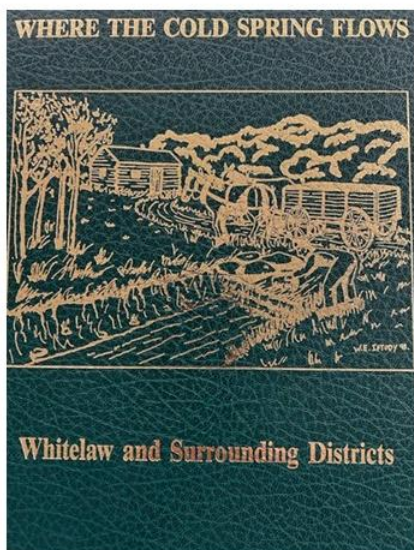
The Tse'k'wa Cave, at Charlie Lake, BC

A National Historic Site, the furthest reach of our May 24th Bus Tour



The fluted point is evidence of large animal hunting methods from ancient times. The fluted point at Tse'k'wa was found with butchered bison bones in a soil layer that was radiocarbon dated to 12,500 years old.

Whitelaw Centennial Celebration 1925-2025

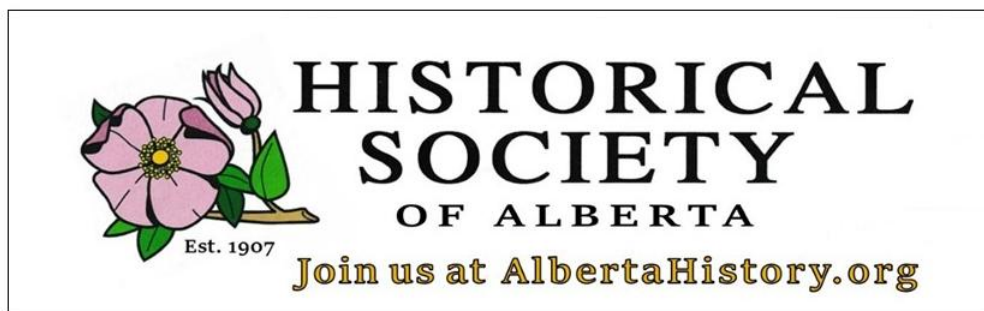
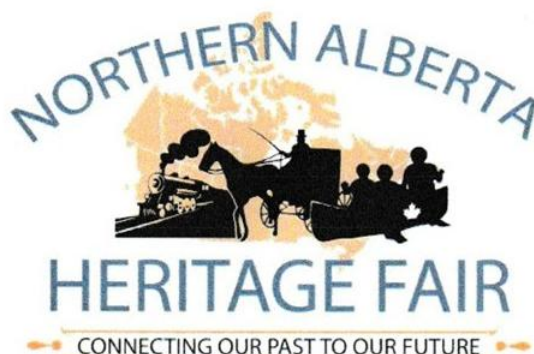
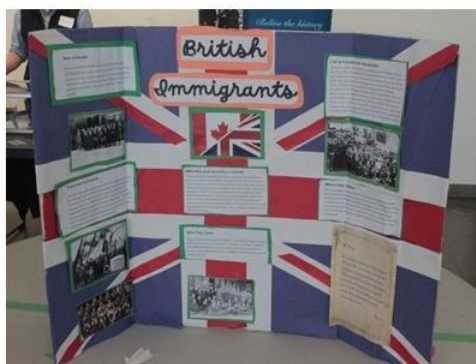


A Centennial Edition Printing is Underway!

The Whitelaw and District Centennial Committee are organizing a Centennial Edition reprinting of their community's history. With minor additions, it is a treasury of regional families and events. Originally published in 1993, it will again spur pride in local families and returning former residents. The community will welcome folks at events throughout August 15, 16, and 17 of 2025. You are invited to join a celebration of agricultural roots and shared history of Whitelaw and Surrounding Districts.

The Northern Alberta Regional Heritage Fair is on for May 1, 2025!

The Grande Prairie Library's Teresa Sargent Hall



Coming soon from HSA, these white vinyl glossy finish full colour bumper stickers are 3 inches high and 9 inches wide. They will make a very attractive way for our members, and other history-lovers to support us with a public message.