



Touchstones Nelson
Museum of Art and History

2019 ANNUAL REPORT

CONTENTS

- 5 A YEAR IN REVIEW
- 6 MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR: SUSAN MACKINTOSH
- 7 MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: ASTRID HEYERDAHL
- 9 EXHIBITIONS
- 20 PUBLIC PROGRAMS & EVENTS
- 24 COLLECTIONS & SHAWN LAMB ARCHIVES
- 26 SPECIAL PROJECTS
- 29 GALA
- 31 THE SHOP
- 32 SCHOOL PROGRAMS
- 33 INDIGENOUS PROGRAMS
- 34 FINANCIAL REPORTS
- 39 VOLUNTEERS
- 40 STAFF
- 40 BOARD
- 40 THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS



Visitors delight in the entertainment by Dennis Leugner at the spring Museum Mash event.

Photo credit: Thomas Nowaczynski



Volunteer Anthony Sanna lends a hand to address some technical difficulties in the Permanent Museum Exhibit.

2019 IN REVIEW

15,000	Total Visitors
1,550	Students, children & youth
800	Museum Mash visitors
786	Members
91	New Members in 2019
150	Artists shown in the Galleries and represented in the Shop
4,411	Volunteer Hours

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

2019 was another wonderful year! Touchstones Nelson: Museum of Art and History continues to be a community hub and an essential cultural centre for our region. This past year we offered outstanding programming, exciting and thought provoking exhibitions, and continuing capital projects. The board, staff and volunteers continue to be inspired by the 2018/2020 Strategic Plan and have worked to realize the overarching vision for the organization.

This year, the Board of Directors has focused on sustainable growth, supporting the staff and volunteer team through a year of transition, and ensuring ongoing organizational capacity through the development and review of core documents and policy. The Board works tirelessly behind the scenes to support and improve Touchstones Nelson Museum.

We continue to invite the community in with many exhibitions and events: Thursday free date nights; book launches; tartan day; Museum Mash: bigger and better than ever; Indigenous speakers in the gallery; the Ward St. Performance Series; and more. We are working in partnership with many in our community: the Nelson Road Kings; KATI; the Nelson Public Library; the Capitol Theatre; WKTEP; and the Canadian Institute for the Blind. The Shawn Lamb Archives continues to be a treasure trove of history and grows with each year. The Little Library and Art Lab are complementary to our incredible exhibitions, providing hands-on experiences for visitors.

The Cold War Bunker project has made great progress this year. Unfortunately, our hope of a 2019 opening was not realized. Work to equip the space took longer than expected as is often the case when working with older and complex buildings.

On February 24, 2019, we held a wonderful Donor Appreciation Event, where new donor boards were unveiled for all to see. We were delighted to recognize so many who have supported us. Thank you to the Board of Directors—they are all hard working, thoughtful, focused, and committed. We also have many volunteers who make this place alive and exciting—we could not function without their time and energy! The Board would like to acknowledge the great job done by Anna Purcell, Interim Executive Director from April 2019 - April 2020. She has worked tirelessly and brought new and exciting energy to this role.

I would particularly like to express my appreciation to the staff of Touchstones Nelson Museum. They are an amazing, resourceful, and committed group. Throughout the year they have done amazing

work, often dealing with unexpected situations with grace and aplomb. We are so lucky. Together we all work to create the whole that is Touchstones Nelson: Museum of Art and History. As we move into 2020 we can celebrate our collective effort to create this wonderful Society. We are proud to be the historical and cultural centre of Nelson.



Susan Mackintosh, Chair of the Board
Nelson and District Museum Archives, Art Gallery
and Historical Society

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND INTERIM ED

Touchstones Nelson: Museum of Art and History began in 1955 and has endeavoured to do great work since its inception. We have an award-winning history, an incredible heritage site, and phenomenal Members, volunteers, staff and board.

The work to shift and re-invigorate the organization in 2017 began with new Vision and Mission statements, and thus a more contemporary, critical and inclusive direction forward. This shift has been building over the last few years, and in 2019, we saw the upsurge of this work with exceptional programming, critical exhibitions, major projects, and superb team development.

Throughout 2019, the Board, Staff and volunteers were guided by the 2018-2020 Strategic Plan, ensuring vision and mission alignment with everything that we do.

Vision: An inclusive society inspired by the convergence of art and history

Mission: To be a cultural hub that provides integrative art & regional history programs to encourage new perspectives and foster a collaborative community.

With the help of a generous Rural Dividend Grant (written in 2018, received in 2019 to support 2019-2021 work), we were able to further push our educational work by increasing staff hours for the Programming team, including Lesley Garlow, Indigenous Educator; Stephanie Myers, Program Coordinator; and Alison Talbot Kelly, School Program Coordinator. Working in true collaboration with the community, SD8, and the local and regional Indigenous Nations, we continue meaningful steps towards answering the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Actions specific to Archives, Museums, Art Galleries, and Educational organizations. There is still much work to be done and 2020 and beyond will see continued action.

The 2019 exhibition season, supported by Canada Council for the Arts and BC Arts Council grants, and other major funding, sparked important conversations about history and art in our region. Curator Arin Fay further aligned the exhibition season with the organization's vision and mission with exhibitions such as Gu Xiong's *The Unknown Remains*, and *Beyond Recognition: Aboriginal Abstraction* from the Indigenous Art Centre in Ottawa, Ontario.

In particular, *The Unknown Remains* unveiled hidden historical narratives, interwove everyday stories once set aside as inconsequential, and converged contemporary art and archival material into an incredible visual accomplishment. Congratulations to Arin Fay and the Exhibitions Committee on a wonderful 2019 season.

Jean-Philippe Stienne, Archivist and Collections Manager, endeavours to lead his team, and indeed the region, in archival digitization projects and increased access to

historical information found in the Shawn Lamb Archives. The Irving K. Barber grant has supported the digitization of the *Nelson Daily News* since 2018 and we will continue to see more years digitized and made accessible to the broader community in upcoming years.

The Shop continues to be an important source of earned revenue as well as support for local and regional artists, artisans and authors. Thank you to Cindy Fillion, Visitor Services Manager for her exceptional eye for detail and her excellent support of local and regional artists! Cindy Fillion also supports the work of the volunteers—without whom our organization would not function. Thank you to our volunteers and to our dedicated Board of Directors for the 1000s of hours of volunteer time!

The Touchstones Nelson Museum Members are vital to the work that we do—thank you for your ongoing support! We hope that you feel appreciated and involved in our work. Thank you to Linda Sawchyn, Membership Coordinator and Executive Administrator for her dedication to the Members!

In April 2019, Astrid Heyerdahl, Executive Director, went on Maternity Leave and Anna Purcell joined the team as the Interim Executive Director for a year. Touchstones Nelson Museum thanks Anna for her passion and dedication to the organization—specifically to its vision and mission, and to its important trajectory and forward momentum that has been building over the last number of years.

A personal message from Anna: What an extraordinary year of learning and growing 2019 was! As a new member of the team who parachuted into the organization for a year, I feel deeply grateful for the opportunity I have had to develop professionally in such a supportive environment. I am so impressed by the extraordinary Board of Directors, staff and volunteers, and by everything they make happen with the resources available to them. I am also grateful to the Members who recognize a good thing when they see it. Thank you for supporting the work with your presence and dollars. Dear Members, I trust that you realize that you have a great team working for you and for the City of Nelson and area, we also hope that you realize that the Museum team knows that they could not do their work without you!



THANK YOU, ANNA!





The Unknown Remains, installation view

EXHIBITIONS

In 2019 we were proud to showcase exhibitions and artists of local, national and international esteem. We provided a Nelson-centred context from which to view and think about the world we live in, and the importance of art and history in understanding contemporary life.

The year began with a parade of men and women in kilts loudly welcoming the public with the call of bagpipes to view 100 years of our own Kiltie Band history, while in Gallery A, the abstract and highly textured sculpture of Saskatchewan artist Douglas Bentham provided a rare opportunity for the visually impaired to put on gloves and experience touching a work of art.

Our commitment to representing Indigenous artists continued this year with an awe-inspiring collection borrowed from The Indigenous Art Centre Gallery at Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada. *Beyond Recognition* showcased the work of Indigenous artists from across Canada, produced over five decades. Running concurrently were new paintings from the Sobey-short-listed Indigenous artist Brenda Draney.

Internationally renowned artist and academic Gu Xiong undertook an intensive research residency in our community in the spring and summer of 2019. The year ended with the group exhibition *WORD*, which explored and expanded our appreciation of text-based artwork, and *Kootenay News: Read All About It* - an exhibition that was truly about the power of word in print and the people behind Nelson's newspaper history.



The Tablets, installation view

Loaned by The Art Gallery of Swift Current on behalf of Mr. John Mann, *The Tablets* presented a collection of metal assemblages of richly textured bronze and brass panels constructed from an array of salvaged materials; an homage to memory and monumentality, language and culture.



GALLERY A
Doris and Benthams: The Tablets
March 23 – May 26, 2019

Curator Arin Fay with a member of the CNIB; experiencing the textural significance of *The Tablets*.

Nothing evokes Scotland more than the sound of the bagpipes. In 1919 members of Clan Johnstone met in Nelson and founded the Kootenay Kiltie Pipe Band. The oldest pipe band in the BC Interior, it has been bringing a taste of Scotland to the Kootenays ever since. With around 15 per cent of people in Canada being of Scottish descent, this exhibition showcases how Scottish culture continues to play an important and colourful role in the wider community.

Curated by Museum Archivist and Collections Manager, Jean-Philippe Stienne, this exhibition featured photos and memorabilia from the museum's archival collection and offered visitors a fascinating look back at the rich history of Nelson's own Highland Games which were an annual fixture for 50 years.



1968 Highland Games, brothers Terry Walgren, David Walgren and Bruce Walgren.

From the Shawn Lamb Archives



GALLERY B

Kiltie Band 100 Year Celebration

March 2 – May 19, 2019

Curated by JP Stienne

Highland Games dancers, 1967

Photo credit: Art Stevens

GALLERY A

Beyond Recognition: Aboriginal Abstraction

June 8 – August 11, 2019

Curated by Michelle McGeough

This phenomenal exhibition brought together works from eleven different artists, spanning five decades.

Typically art history would have us believe that abstract expressionism began in the 20th century in New York. However, many contemporary Indigenous artists see their art as a continuation of a timeless artistic tradition that is inspired by their Indigenous cultures. The works in this exhibition and quotes by the artists embody artist Robert Houle's statement: "I am not an innovator. I have never seen my work as a break with tradition." Even for those artists in this exhibition who have a formal art education and acknowledge the influence of Western art practices on their creative development, their work still speaks to a vision inspired by their "indigenous roots." An homage that many Western art historians have failed to recognize and acknowledge, until recently.



KatiaKak'wa Kurtness, *Sweet Poetry* (2006)

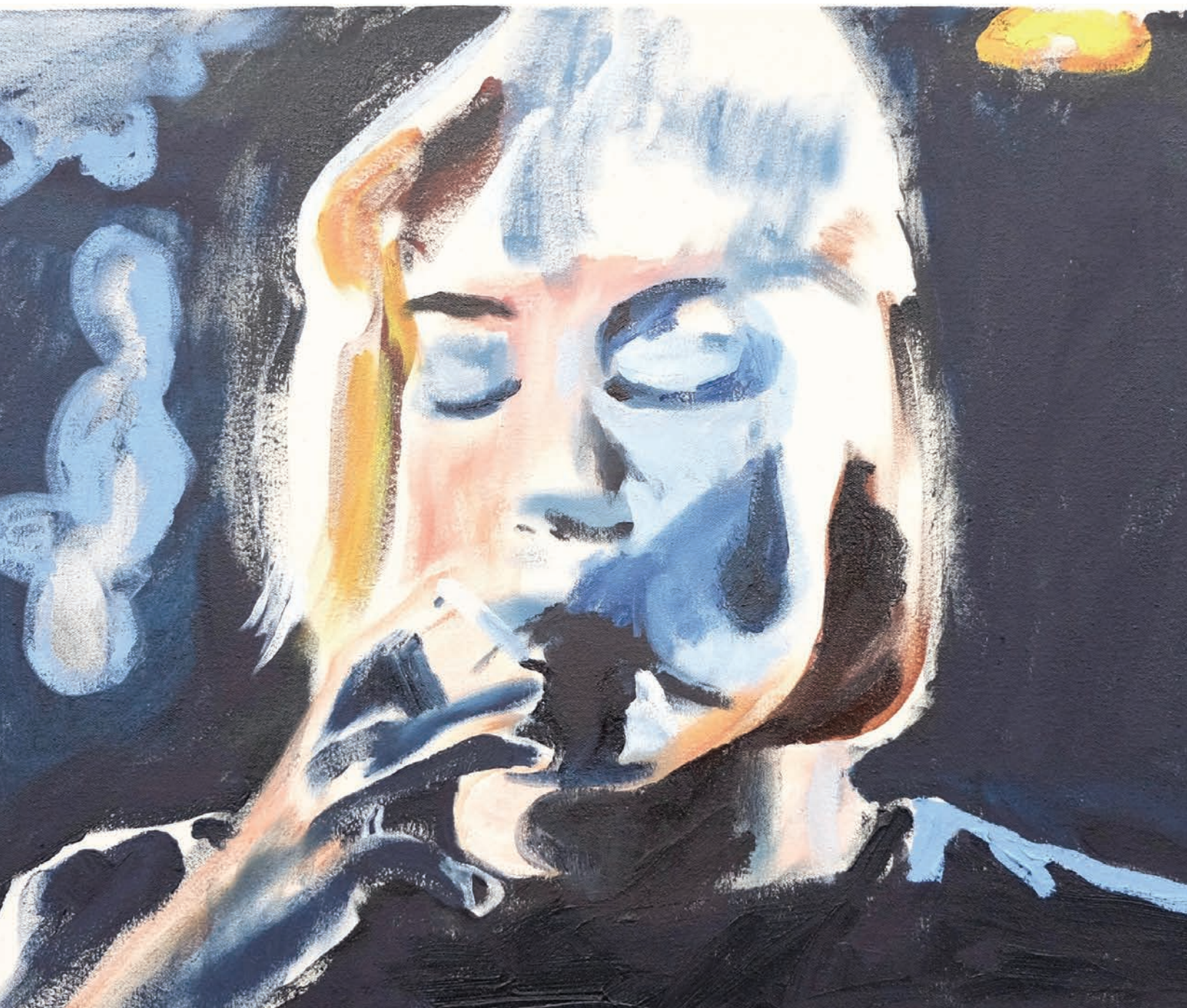
GALLERY B

Brenda Draney: *Medium of Exchange*

June 8 – August 4, 2019

The work of award-winning contemporary Cree artist Brenda Draney used haunting spaciousness to encourage the viewers of her paintings to confront the liminal space of dream and memory without succumbing to the impulse to dominate the unknown and unsure, the moment when vulnerability is exposed. Through the pieces in this exhibition Draney encouraged us to face the void head on, as an empath, and place our own narrative within her imaginary spaces.

Brenda Draney, *Teenager* (2019)



Our most extensive exhibition yet, and lushly funded by a grant from the Canada Council for the Arts, this multi-faceted show in both galleries contained a residency component that allowed the artist to explore the history of the Chinese-Canadian community in our area and situate it within his own experience as an immigrant and the complex and unfolding story of global human migration and labour.

Gu Xiong's practice centers on the creation of a hybrid identity arising from the integration of different cultural origins and migrations. His work in this exhibition encompassed sociology, literature, geography, economics and politics, as well as the dynamics of globalization, through which he constitutes a collection of multiple cultural histories and seeks to create an entirely new identity.



Fred Wah (left) and Gu Xiong (right) at the opening reception of Gu Xiong's *The Unknown Remains*

Photo credit: Jeremy Addington



The Unknown Remains, installation view

GALLERY A

The Unknown Remains

August 24 - November 3, 2019

GALLERY B

The Unknown Remains - archival focus

August 10 - October 27, 2019

Curator: Gu Xiong and Arin Fay



A 9ft x 9ft shimmering vinyl poem on the wall (background), by artist Joi Arcand titled *niya-nikāwiy-nōhkom-nicāniskocāpān*, was one of the pieces showcased in the WORD exhibition.

Photo credit: Thomas Nowaczynski

GALLERY A

WORD

November 16, 2019 – February 23, 2020

WORD investigates text as a vehicle for meaning and method while it explores, refutes and blows open the threads of commonality through the work of six artists. The pieces chosen for the exhibition show how art allows for limitless iterations of expression via myriad disciplines, aesthetics and artistic interpretations.

GALLERY B

Kootenay News: Read All About It

November 2, 2019 – February 17, 2020

Curated by Greg Nesteroff

“The Miner is printed on Saturdays provided the staff is sober.” — Masthead, 1893

Since the *Nelson Miner* published its first edition in June 1890, Nelson has always had a newspaper to chronicle its evolution. This exhibit presented the story of Nelson’s print media, from a weekly hand-cranked paper to a bustling daily to today’s online publications.

It celebrated pre-eminent figures in Nelson’s newspaper history, and examined the fascinating and changing role of newspapers in the community -- and changes in the industry itself, both technologically and journalistically. In the late 19th and early 20th century, a thriving community and an active press went hand-in-hand. Multiple papers were a sign of prosperity. If the lone newspaper went broke, it did not bode well for the town’s future.

Nelson Daily News business office, January 1913.

From the Shawn Lamb Archives



PUBLIC PROGRAMS & EVENTS

Our public programming remains a wonderful way to invite new audiences to the museum, celebrate diversity and expand our collective understanding and appreciation of art, history, heritage and how they mirror the complexity of our world today.

JANUARY

Museum Selfie Day

Indigenous Program Partnership: Blanket Exercise at Nelson Public Library

Yoga in the Museum

Shawn Lamb Archives: D Dan Day open house

Family Literacy Day: Little Library Launch

Sinixt Youth Singers

Regional Indigenous Speaker Series

Thursday Date Nights

FEBRUARY

Member Benefit Event: Archivist tour of Shawn Lamb Archives

Valentine's Day card making in ArtLab

Family Day Portraits in the Turret

Regional Indigenous Speaker Series: Duncan Grady

Heritage Week – Donor Appreciation Event & Book Launch for *The Nelson Museum: 402 Anderson Street, A History*

Valentine's Date Night



Special times at Museum Mash.

Photo credit: Thomas Nowaczynski

MARCH

Opening Reception: *Kiltie Band: 100 Year Celebration* with parade & performance

Opening Reception: Doug Bentham: *The Tablets*

Museum Mash

In the Community: Touchstones Nelson's Archivist & Public Programmer participate in New to Nelson Potluck

Member Benefit Event: A sit down chat with ED/IED

Annual General Meeting

Volunteer Appreciation Event

Indigenous Culture Camp

Family Date Nights

APRIL

Musical Performance: Lalin and Corazón Youth choirs

Off Ward Series Launch and Performances: Available Light

In the Community: Alec Garner paintings from the collection exhibited at Nelson City Hall

Artist Residency: Gu Xiong

Pinhole Camera Day

Family Date Nights

MAY

Asian Heritage Month: Heritage Display in Lobby

Off Ward Performances: Available Light

In the Community: *A Door to be Kicked* – a live reading of a radio play – in partnership with Kootenay Co-op Radio

Canadian National Institute for the Blind (CNIB) and Canadian Council of the Blind visited *The Tablets* exhibition

Family Date Nights

JUNE

Third Annual Touchstones Gala

Opening Reception: *Beyond Recognition Aboriginal Abstractions*

Opening Reception and Artist Talk: Brenda Draney: *Medium of Exchange*

Totem Talks: A Regional Wildlife Indigenous Presentation – The Bear

Shop Display: 70 years of wedding fashions

Member Benefit Event: Curator Tour

ArtWalk Opening Reception

Family Date Nights

JULY

In the Community: Touchstones at Lakeside Park – Happy Canada Day!

In the Community: Touchstones presents Kids Summer Series at Kokanee Park

Totem Talks: A Regional Wildlife Indigenous Presentation – The Wolf

Yoga in the Museum

Off Ward Performance Series: Aurelien Sudan

In the Community: Touchstones at Marketfest with community painting

ArtWalk Second Opening

Family Date Nights

AUGUST

In the Community: display of historical barber collection items at local barber shop

Columbia Basin Culture Tour Venue: artist demo by Caran Magaw

In the Community: Touchstones presents Redfish Tours at Kokanee Creek Park

Shawn Lamb Archives: 1920s house photos posted on Flickr and HistoryPin

Shawn Lamb Archives: Flickr album launch of Leith Family Album

AUGUST (CONTINUED)

Opening Reception & Artist Talk: Gu Xiong:
The Unknown Remains
Queer Date Night

SEPTEMBER

In the Community: Ladybird, Speed Queen of
Kootenay Lake, at Nelson Road Kings
Educators SD8 Pro D Day workshop
Culture Days at Touchstones: free tours
with Interim Executive Director and jewelry
weaving workshop with Teyana Neufeld
Family Date Night
Member Benefit Event: Bunker Tour with
Archivist and Collections Manager
Mural Project: upstairs/downstairs in the back
staircase
Culture Days
Art Deco Walking Tour
Community Collaboration: *Writing On Water* -
An Image/Text Workshop

OCTOBER

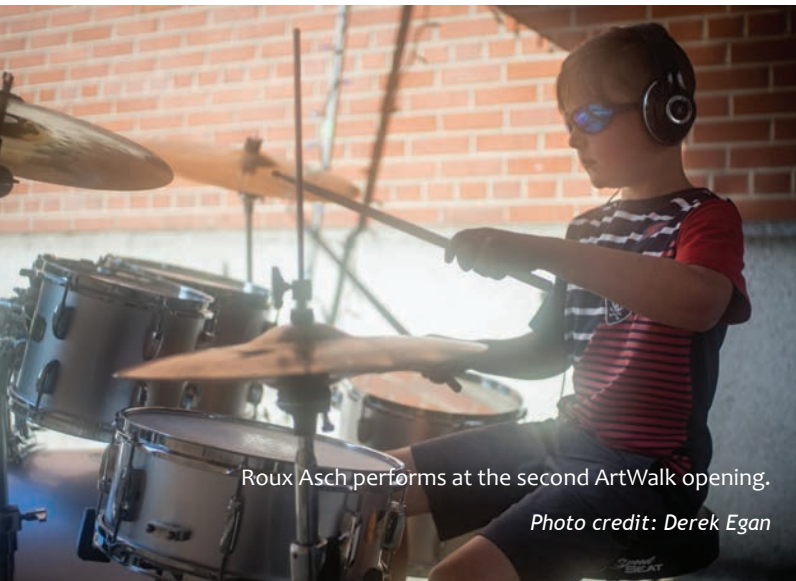
In the Community: Kootenay Seniors' Fair
Touchstones Nelson's 13th Anniversary
Celebration
Book Event: Dr. Shepherd Siegel's *Disruptive
Play: The Trickster in Politics and Culture*
Member Benefit Event: Curator Tour
In the Community: *People, Places and Politics: a
Look at Human Migration and Refugees* - A film
screening & discussion at the Capitol Theatre
inspired by the exhibition *The Unknown
Remains*
Sounds from the Unknown: A Tibetan Bowl
Sound Experience
In the Community: Memory Kit Visit
Halloween Date Night

NOVEMBER

Opening Reception & Panel Discussion:
Kootenay News: Read All About It
Opening Reception: WORD & Artist Talk with
Don Mabie
Educator Workshop: Medicine Wheel &
Curriculum
Museum Mash
Holiday Market in the Shop
Member Benefit Event: Archivist tour of
bunker collection storage
Going Away Tea Party & Line Dance for local
artist Kate Bridger
Cheap Thrills Date Night

DECEMBER

Day With(Out) Art
Educator Workshop: Medicine Wheel &
Curriculum
Archive Pop Up by West Kootenay Gay
Archive
Holiday Market in the Shop
Holiday Date Night



Roux Asch performs at the second ArtWalk opening.

Photo credit: Derek Egan



Nelson Literary Salon at Museum Mash.
Photo credit: Thomas Nowaczynski



Dancers waiting for their cue at ArtWalk.
Photo credit: Bobbi Barbarich Photography



ArtWalk performers arrive to set up.
Photo credit: Bobbi Barbarich Photography

THE COLLECTION AND SHAWN LAMB ARCHIVES

It has been another busy year in the Shawn Lamb Archives answering public enquiries, supporting and leading on exhibitions, displays, museum publications and other projects.

One of the highlights of this year has been the upload of 18 years of *Nelson Daily News* (1902-1920) newspaper pages to the UBC Open Collections website. Touchstones Nelson Museum was able to secure funding to partner with BC Archives and the UBC Digitization Centre to digitize this collection. Online visitors can now word search around 47,000 pages of Kootenay history to read about events such as the Chahko Mika celebrations, the launch of the SS Nasookin and the Doukhobors arrival in the Kootenays. This collection has proved to be very popular with researchers and genealogists in our area and around the world. The pages have already received over 50,000 views. We have applied for more grant funding to extend the project to digitize the years beyond 1920.

Seventy-five new entries were made to the Collection and Archive in 2019. Highlights include Nelson Chinese Masonic Society papers, Alexander Carrie Hume School building blueprints and the only known copy from *The Independent* newspaper, printed in Nelson in 1913. Touchstones Nelson Museum also took stewardship of important City of Nelson records including Nelson building permits and police records.

In 2019 the removal of objects from inside our former Anderson Street museum site was completed. Three pieces – a cutter sleigh, rowboat built by Walton Boatworks and a Greyhound Canada display were loaned to the Tramway Museum, where they will be on display in 2020. A 1940s Japanese-Canadian

rowboat was transferred to the Slocan Valley Historical Society.

Touchstones welcomed University of Victoria summer student Gillian Wiley to assist with a number of archival and exhibition research projects. Gillian worked to identify houses within a 1930s Nelson Residences collection. These were uploaded to our popular Flickr and HistoryPin websites. She also uploaded to Flickr a beautiful collection that documents the daily lives of the Leith Family in the 1910s. Gillian also provided valuable research assistance for the Gu Xiong exhibition.

Our Touchstones Nelson Museum Flickr website now contains over 2,000 images and has over 6 million views. #ThrowbackThursday on Facebook continues to be a popular weekly draw for many of you and we are delighted to see the comments and conversations that the archival photographs generate. Some of most popular offering this year were BOB, Halloween and the Kilties.

One hundred and seventy enquiries were answered by the Archivist and volunteers in 2019 – exactly the same number as last year! 60 per cent of these were from private individuals, 17.5 per cent were from writers and academics and 10 per cent were from businesses. Half of our enquiries were from the Kootenays and 14 per cent were international enquiries. The content of the enquiries vary greatly. Example topics in 2019 included floods, fires, Cottonwood Creek, L.V. Rogers and Chinook jargon. House histories continue to be a popular draw.

Thirty-three individual volunteers worked on Archival/Collection projects in 2019 contributing around 2,000 hours. Through the work of our volunteers dozen of research

enquiries were answered and many people were assisted in our public research room. Our knowledgeable and skilled group of volunteers also assisted with cataloguing and organising our extensive collections of maps and plans, library books, photographs and negatives. A project to capturing hundreds of contemporary images inside businesses across Nelson has the potential to be of great assistance with future enquiries and projects. Over 11,000 sleeves of negatives taken by *Nelson Daily News* photographers from 1960-1991 were indexed by volunteers. An ongoing project to create an online list of our local obituary records is reaching completion.

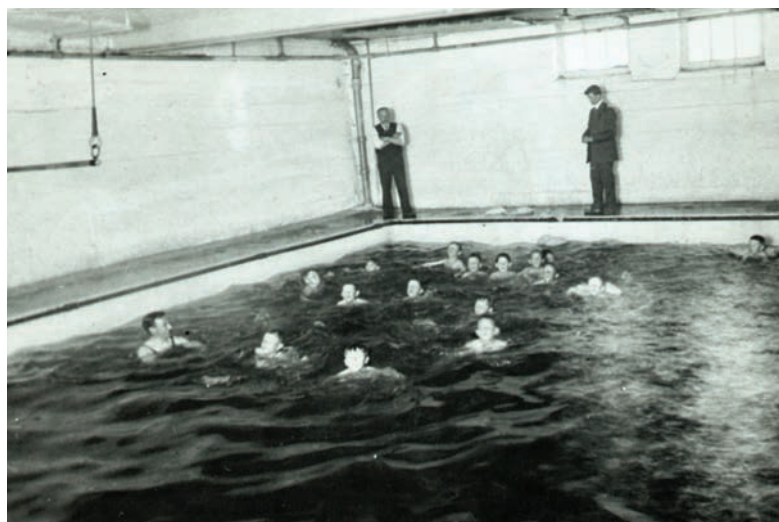
The Shawn Lamb Archives received updated InMagic software this year, which is proving to be a valuable asset to log the details of all our enquiries and catalogue our collection records. In 2019 Touchstones Nelson Museum partnered with Nelson Cycling Club to create interpretative signage on Morning Mountain bike trails.

In September the Ladybird and Jack Morris speedboat were on display in the Road Kings Event. Two Members-only Collection and Archives behind the scenes events were also carried out by the Archivist and Collections Manager.

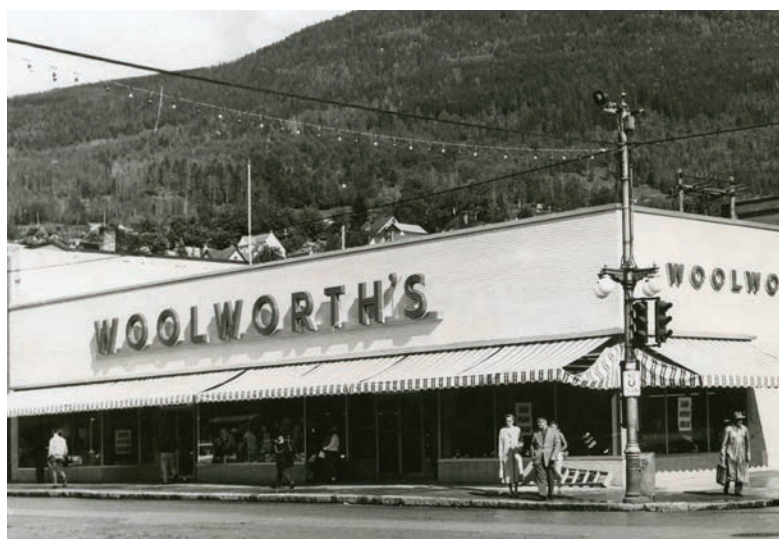
Over 11,000 sleeves of negatives taken by *Nelson Daily News* photographers from 1960-1991 were indexed by volunteers. An ongoing project to create an online list of our local obituary records is reaching completion. The photographs to the right are three examples from the *Nelson Daily News* photograph collection.



Volunteer Greg Stienkamp lends a hand with pumpkin carving at Nelson Daycare, 1970.



Nelson's first heated swimming pool was in the YMCA building now The Legion on Stanley Street built 1909.



Woolworth's, 502 Baker Street, 1961.

SPECIAL PROJECT: DONOR WALL




Thank you to our donors! The Touchstones Nelson Museum board and staff felt it vital to better recognize our incredible donors. In February of 2019 we were thrilled to recognize our current donors with a new digital donor board, as well as a revamped donor board recognizing the 2006 donors who made the Touchstones Nelson Museum project possible.

[illegible]

TOURING EXHIBITIONS

The Paul Seesequasis exhibition tour, residency and publication project, *Turning the Lens*, (funded by the BC Arts Council and Canada Council) has been touring across Canada since 2018 and will culminate at the Art Gallery of Ontario in the Spring of 2021. The tour is a means to bolster the important work of Paul Seesequasis and his writing, advocacy and social media projects, and also our own reach and relevancy as an organization participating on a National scale. It also provides an opportunity for us to contribute to the exciting and essential conversations that are happening across the country about responding to the TRC Calls to Action in meaningful ways. Art is at the forefront of this most vibrant, challenging and inspiring conversation in Canada and Touchstones Nelson Museum is proud to support this important work.

The *River Relations / Roll on Columbia* partnership tour (funded by Columbia Kootenay Cultural Alliance and Emily Carr University) toured to three regional arts and culture organizations, and several water conferences. The tour, facilitated by Eileen Delehanty Pearkes, was comprised of the *River Relations* exhibition that was shown in our gallery space in 2017, alongside the interpretive panels which were originally a part of our 2014 *Roll on Columbia* exhibition, which received a Canadian Museums Association award for Outstanding Achievement in Exhibitions. (The interpretive panels were re-built to allow for easy transportation and installation and will now be available to schools and other organizations as an exhibition loan.) This regional tour highlighted a number of important artists and supported a unique way to understand very important environmental issues which effect people directly.



Young girl and boy standing on grass, between a teepee and a dirt road, Ghost River, Alberta, ca. 1962
© Library and Archives Canada. Reproduced with the permission of Library and Archives Canada.
Source: Library and Archives Canada/Credit: Rosemary Gilliat Eaton/Rosemary Gilliat Eaton fonds/e010975108



A tour of the bunker in 1974, when it was still fully stocked with rations.

From the Shawn Lamb Archives

THE BUNKER

The Nelson Cold War Bunker project continues! The collection is now fully relocated from the 402 Anderson Street site to the Bunker, which now has a new museum-standard HVAC system, collections shelving, new lighting, and an exhibition space. The extensive research and development of the exhibition panels and curation of collection items for display was a collective effort by staff, local historians, and the Bunker Committee. The exhibition will contain didactic panels with archival photographs, collection items, a short documentary film created by the Museum in partnership with local filmmakers and historians, and more! A great deal of 2019 was also spent building programs, interactive educational tools, and procedures for the Bunker to ensure that the public has an immersive and educational experience when the space officially opens in 2020.

THIRD ANNUAL GALA

The 2019 Gala was our most successful fundraiser yet, thanks to the support of our amazing community. With delicious food from Hume Hotel, cold brews from Torchlight, 59 per cent more items in our silent auction, and fun activities to partake in, *Breaking Trail* was a delightful event full of art, history, indulgence and play.

Thanks to everyone who made it happen: our generous sponsors, auction item donors, and guests! We also thank our tireless, dedicated and cheerful volunteers, staff, gala committee members and board of directors.

A special thank you to our event sponsors: Oso Negro, Chuck and Karen Bennett, Spilker McNally and Tucker, Ron Boguz, Spearhead, Pacific West Builders, Mallards, Torchlight, Suzie Holmes, and Dey Stewart.

Thank you to the artists involved: Carol Reynolds, Lainey Benson, Sue Parr, John Richards, Maya Heringa, Boukje Elzinga, Henry Martyn, Shawn Morris, Gillian Schmitz, Glen McCallum, Sonaiya Cornish, Kate Enewold, Naomi Bourque, and Popov Leather.

The funds raised at this event are vital support for our many programs, exhibitions and special projects at the museum. Thank you!

Thank you to Thomas Nowaczynski, our gala photographer, for the amazing images.







THE SHOP

The Shop had another successful year in 2019. We get to work with so many talented artists who fill our Shop with their wares. We love seeing original and handmade work purchased and packed away to adorn people's lives around the world. The Shop could not thrive without the team of dedicated volunteers who ensure every guest is having a great experience.



The Shop added 15 local and regional artists to this year's Holiday Market with a continued focus on products that help reduce plastic and consumables. Some of the new favourites this year were Argenta made wax wraps, Sesame Mucho Salsa, and Trillium Candles. There was also a separate 'kid's section' behind the movable wall that helped shoppers find thoughtful gifts for the little ones in their life. Located in the children's section, but not limited to them, are Castlegar Métis Artist Jerilee Haller dream catchers. These are a beautiful blend of traditional process and contemporary style.



For ArtWalk 2019 Touchstones hosted Kate Bridger and emerging artist Nadine Bouliane. Both artists were quite successful and the event drew in art lovers throughout the summer.

SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Touchstones now has a School Program Coordinator, Alison Talbot Kelly, and the resulting increase in connections with educators and engagement with students and community organizations cannot be undervalued. We are increasingly known and experienced as a key partner in education. Having a school program has enabled a transfer of experience from generous volunteers/retired teachers to distill resources and offerings (Historical Connections Kits, Heritage Walking Tour), and offer more effective outreach, including biannual presentations at SD8 Professional Development days. Our educator pamphlet elaborates the diversity of ways to use the museum resources to enhance curriculum and has stimulated rich projects and brought a broader spectrum of school groups in to the museum, archives, and galleries – from Creston to Rossland, Homelinks groups to French programs, K-12.

We have hosted school exhibitions in Gallery A, celebrating student work inspired by museum engagement, Adult Ed students from Selkirk College, teacher candidates from West Kootenay Teacher Education Program (tours and 6-week practicum) and Kootenay Art Therapy students. Expanding these community connections is what strengthens the weave of understanding about the dynamic role museums, art and history play in educating both our youth and the larger community. And we are all enriched through a reciprocity of learning and expression.



Waldorf students making ropes in the PME as part of their class tour.

INDIGENOUS PROGRAMS

Toni Appleby joined the Touchstones Nelson Museum team as the Indigenous Educator in 2018. We appreciate and thank Toni for her great work with schools, the regional Indigenous Nations, and the community-at-large over the year.

Lesley Garlow joined the Touchstones Nelson Museum team as our Indigenous Educator in the fall 2019. Among many of the enrichments Lesley brings are ways to incorporate Indigenous worldviews into our practices and as an institution down to programming rhythms. Lesley orchestrated our first meal-sharing meeting with the Regional Métis society and educators, replete with gift giving and lineage acknowledgments. This was essential for launching what we hope will be rich programming that explores Métis culture and history in the West Kootenays over 2020.



Above: Marketing posters for the Totem Talks regional wildlife series, hosted by Toni Appleby and guests.

Below: Students from Denise Currie's class at South Nelson made a card thanking Indigenous Educator Lesley Garlow for her presentation to their class.



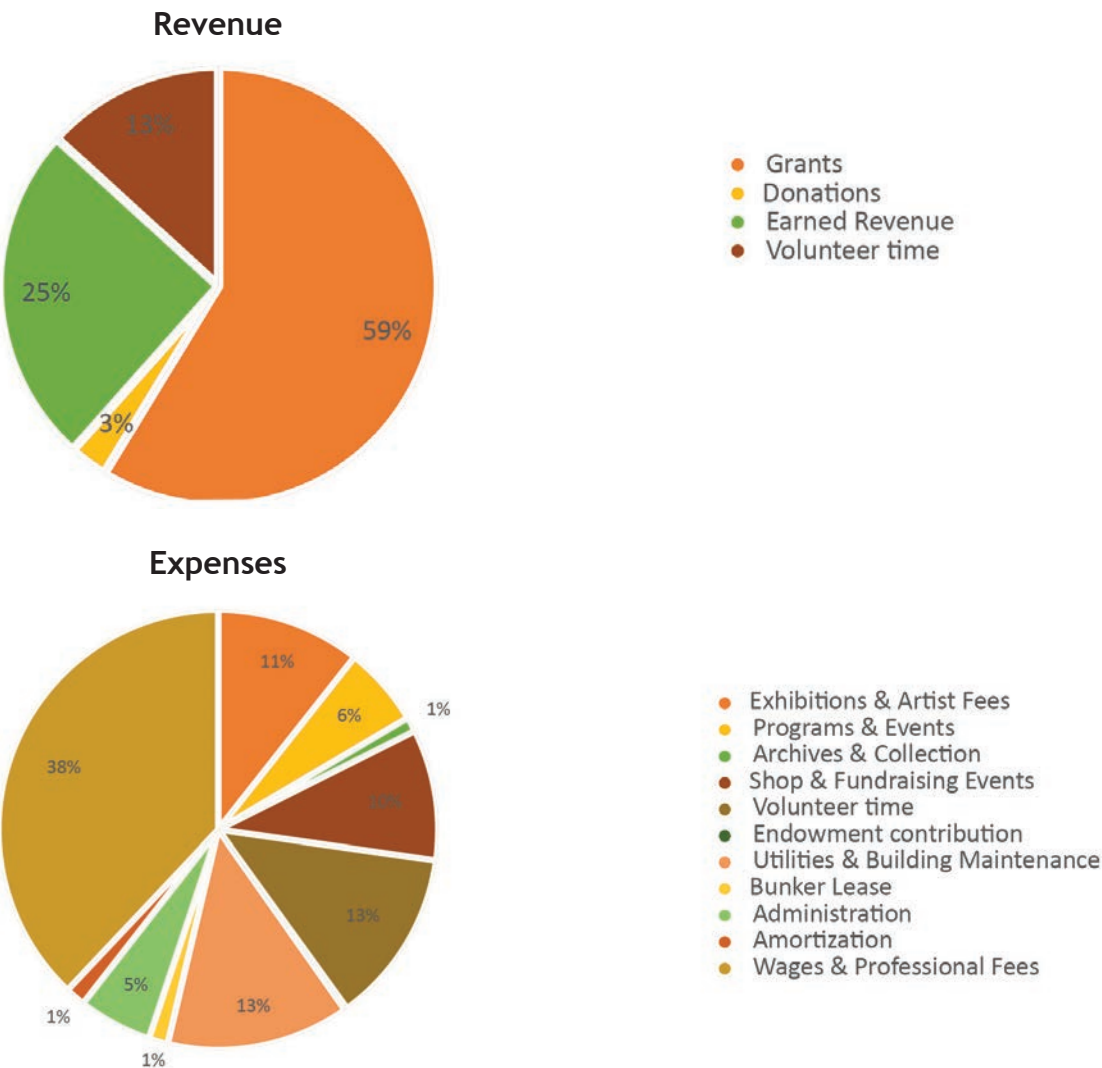
2019 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Nelson and District Museum, Archives, Art Gallery and Historical Society engaged Grant Thornton LLP to review the 2019 financial year. The review was made in accordance with Canadian generally accepted standards for review engagements and accordingly consisted primarily of enquiry, analytical procedures and discussion related to information supplied by the Society.

Based on the review, the Nelson and District Museum operates in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

We have included the following statements for your information. The full financial review is available upon request.

- Statement of Financial Position
- Statement of Operations
- Statement of Changes in Net Assets
- Statement of Cash Flow



**NELSON AND DISTRICT MUSEUM, ARCHIVES, ART GALLERY AND
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
As At December 31, 2019

ASSETS	2019	2018
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and short-term investments	\$ 493,662	\$ 335,507
Accounts receivable	9,386	26,168
Inventory	31,310	29,507
Prepaid expenses	8,300	8,375
	542,658	399,557
PREPAID LEASE (note 3)	231,184	241,613
COLLECTIONS (note 4)	100	100
CAPITAL ASSETS (note 5)	314,655	175,020
	\$ 1,088,597	\$ 816,290
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable	\$ 71,328	\$ 29,893
Government remittances payable	7,457	3,253
Deferred contributions (note 6)	200,309	83,792
	279,094	116,938
DEFERRED CAPITAL CONTRIBUTIONS (note 7)	275,897	143,382
NET ASSETS		
General fund - unrestricted	26,926	45,880
General fund - invested in capital assets	38,758	31,739
Building lease fund	231,184	241,613
Building, capital, and contingency reserve fund	118,470	118,470
Facility outfit reserve fund	8,268	8,268
Programming and exhibitions reserve fund	110,000	110,000
	533,606	555,970
	\$ 1,088,597	\$ 816,290
SUBSEQUENT EVENT (note 14)		

Approved by the Directors:

S. A. Hillier

Slater

**NELSON AND DISTRICT MUSEUM, ARCHIVES, ART GALLERY AND
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS
As At December 31, 2019

	2019	2018
REVENUE		
Grants		
City of Nelson	\$ 227,460	\$ 226,679
Columbia Basin Trust	3,750	19,000
Regional District of Central Kootenay	20,194	5,000
BC Arts Council	32,542	24,000
BC Gaming Commission	19,513	18,572
Canada Council for the Arts	44,427	6,000
Federal government employment grants	11,141	24,949
Other grants (note 8)	59,528	48,996
Donations		
Cash	16,394	16,321
Materials	3,884	2,510
Volunteer labour and board time	94,395	79,295
Earned Revenue		
Admissions	24,062	25,006
Memberships	10,238	11,760
Gift shop sales	100,385	104,511
Fundraising and facility rental	26,083	25,261
Interest and other income	18,700	17,992
	712,696	655,852
EXPENDITURES		
Advertising and promotion	6,921	13,748
Amortization	10,901	12,550
Archives and library	4,063	3,085
Cost of sales - gift shop (note 10)	62,606	67,401
Donated materials	3,884	2,510
Donated volunteer labour and board time	94,395	79,295
Events and programs	43,259	22,268
Exhibitions (including artist fees)	78,159	82,648
Fundraising	8,035	6,476
Insurance and dues	10,494	13,764
Lease expense on building space (note 3)	10,429	10,429
Office and printing	22,456	21,079
Professional fees	14,797	11,887
Repairs and maintenance	38,750	42,797
Salaries and professional development	264,330	233,700
Subcontractors	13,756	8,992
Transfer to endowment with Osprey Community Foundation	1,365	4,500
Utilities	46,460	44,302
	735,060	681,431
DEFICIENCY OF REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURES	\$(22,364)	\$(25,579)

NELSON AND DISTRICT MUSEUM, ARCHIVES, ART GALLERY AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS
For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

	General Fund	Prepaid Lease Fund	Building Capital & Contingency	Facility Outfit Reserve Fund	Programming & Exhibitions Reserve Fund	2019 Total	2018 Total
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$ 77,619	\$ 241,613	\$ 118,470	\$ 8,268	\$ 110,000	\$ 555,970	\$ 581,549
Deficiency of revenue over expenditures from operations	(11,935)	(10,429)	-	-	-	(22,364)	(25,579)
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	\$ 65,684	\$ 231,184	\$ 118,470	\$ 8,268	\$ 110,000	\$ 533,606	\$ 555,970

**NELSON AND DISTRICT MUSEUM, ARCHIVES, ART GALLERY AND
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

	2019	2018
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Deficiency of revenue over expenditures	\$(22,364)	\$(25,579)
Items not affecting cash flow		
- amortization of capital assets	10,901	12,550
- lease on building space	10,429	10,429
	(1,034)	(2,600)
Changes in non-cash working capital (note 12)	309,725	(3,517)
Cash Provided By (Used For) Operating Activities	308,691	(6,117)
INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Capital asset acquisitions	(150,536)	(68,870)
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH	158,155	(74,987)
CASH, BEGINNING OF YEAR	335,507	410,494
CASH, END OF YEAR	\$ 493,662	\$ 335,507

2019 VOLUNTEERS

TOUCHSTONES NELSON is grateful for the dedication of a strong team of volunteers in 2019. We couldn't open the doors without you. Thank you!

A CRAFTY IDEA
ACHILLES, SHEILA
ADAM, SUE
AITKEN, EILIAN
ALEXANDER, KATHY
AMES, NELSON
ATTRIDGE, MAUREEN
BACKUS, GRETCHEN
BATES, GREG
BERGMAN, CAROL
BEST, MARILYN
BOUCHARD, GEORGIA
BUKOWSKI, BRENT
BUKOWSKI, ELI & MORGAN
CARTWRIGHT, GERRY
CHANASYK, KIM
CHAPMAN, AMELIA BRESSY
CHAPMAN, MARIPOSA
COUCH, BARBARA
DONALDSON, LANA
ELIAS, CHRISTINE
FENKNER, DELLA
FISHER, CATHERINE
FORD, TRESSA
GILLENDER, JOY
GREGORY, JONATHAN
HOFFMANN, LINDA
HOLMES, BRIAN
HOLMES, SUZANNE
INKSTER, LORNA
KANTYMIR, DONNA
KELLY, ALISION TALBOT
KEMPIN, AUDREY
LATOUR-MOONEY, LUCI
LITTLEWOOD, GAIL
MACDONALD, ISA
MACKINTOSH, SUSAN

MANNINGS, ED
MCARTHUR, DONNA
MCGOWN, CAITLYN
MCLEOD, DELLA
MULLOY, JUDY
NESTEROFF, GREG
NICHOL, KATHLEEN
NICHOLSON, SHERRY
NOLAN, REBECCA
O'NEILL, LORI
RAMSDEN, ALLAN
RAY, DENNIS
REDFERN, KAREN
REIMER, SYLVIA
ROGERS, PAT
SANNA, ANTHONY
SCOTT, GREG
SINCLAIR, MICHELA
STANLEY, MATTHEW
STEED, WENDY
SUSSENGUTH, JERRY
SUTTON, PHOEBE
SWETLIKOE, LOLA
TANIGUCHI, KRISTEN
TREMBLAY, NICOLE
UNDERWOOD, KEVIN
VAN EYK, DIANA
VAN HOMBEECK, LINDA
VECCHIO, BOBBI
WALLACE, CHRISTINE
WELWOOD, FRANCES
WELWOOD, RON
WILLIAM, JADEN
WILLMOTT, DYLAN
WYSHYNSKI, JILL
YATES, MATTHEW

BOARD (as of December 2019)

SUSAN MACKINTOSH
CHAIR

SHEILA ACHILLES
VICE-CHAIR

GERRY CARTWRIGHT
CO-TREASURER

KRISTEN TANIGUCHI
CO-TREASURER

LANA DONALDSON
SECRETARY

SUE ADAM

NELSON AMES

GREG BATES

CHRIS ELIAS

MATTHEW STANLEY

MATTHEW YATES

STAFF (as of December 2019)

ASTRID HEYERDAHL (MATERNITY LEAVE)
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

ANNA PURCELL
INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

JEAN-PHILIPPE STIENNE
COLLECTIONS MANAGER AND ARCHIVIST

ARIN FAY
CURATOR

CINDY FILLION
VISITOR SERVICES MANAGER

LINDA SAWCHYN
**EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATOR & MEMBERSHIP
COORDINATOR**

STEPHANIE MYERS
PUBLIC PROGRAM COORDINATOR

ALISON TALBOT KELLY
SCHOOL PROGRAM COORDINATOR

LESLEY GARLOW
INDIGENOUS EDUCATOR

STEPHANIE DELNEA
MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS ASSISTANT

THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS

BC HISTORICAL FEDERATION
CAPITOL THEATRE
CORAZÓN
CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE,
CITY OF NELSON
HERITAGE WORKING GROUP, CITY OF NELSON
KOOTENAY GALLERY OF ART
KTUNAXA NATION COUNCIL
NELSON AND DISTRICT ARTS COUNCIL

NELSON CIVIC THEATRE SOCIETY
OXYGEN ART GALLERY
SCHOOL DISTRICT 8
SELKIRK COLLEGE
SINIXT NATION & THE CONFEDERATED TRIBES
OF THE COLVILLE RESERVATION
SYILX NATION, OKANAGAN NATION ALLIANCE
WEST KOOTENAY MÉTIS SOCIETY

THANK YOU TO OUR FUNDERS

BC ARTS COUNCIL
BC GAMING COMMISSION
BC HISTORY DIGITIZATION PROGRAM,
IRVING K. BARBER LEARNING CENTRE
BC RURAL DIVIDEND
CANADA COUNCIL FOR THE ARTS
CANADA SUMMER JOBS
CANADIAN HERITAGE
CANADIAN MUSEUMS ASSOCIATION
CITY OF NELSON
COLUMBIA KOOTENAY CULTURAL ALLIANCE
COLUMBIA BASIN TRUST
CIBC WOOD GUNDY

DHC COMMUNICATIONS
HALL PRINTING
HAMBER FOUNDATION
HERITAGE BC
IODE
KOOTENAY SAVINGS CREDIT UNION
MCLEAN FOUNDATION
NELSON AND DISTRICT CREDIT UNION
NELSON KOOTENAY LAKE TOURISM
NELSON STAR
OSPREY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
REGIONAL DISTRICT OF CENTRAL KOOTENAY
YOUNG CANADA WORKS

Local artist Maya Heringa live painting at the 2019 Gala.

