



**Touchstones Nelson**  
Museum of Art and History



## 2021 ANNUAL REPORT

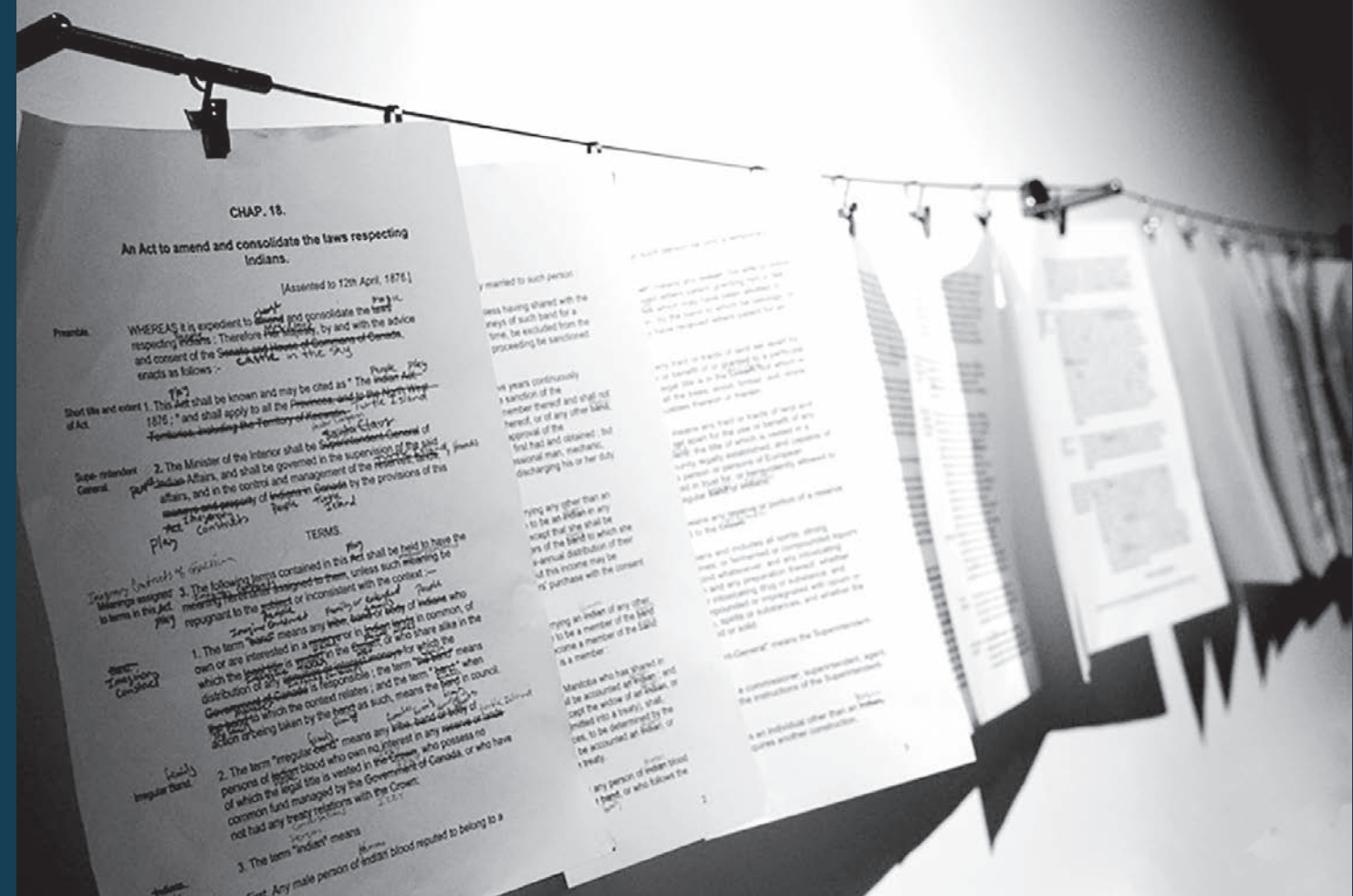
CONTENTS

- 5 A YEAR IN REVIEW
- 6 MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR: SHEILA ACHILLES
- 7 MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: ASTRID HEYERDAHL
- 8 THANK YOU
- 9 IN MEMORIAM
- 10 EXHIBITIONS
- 22 PUBLIC PROGRAMS & EVENTS
- 26 COLLECTIONS & SHAWN LAMB ARCHIVES
- 27 EDUCATION
- 28 THE SHOP
- 29 FINANCIAL REPORTS
- 33 VOLUNTEERS
- 34 STAFF
- 34 BOARD
- 34 THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS





A crowd at the screening of *Velvet* during *The Grow Show*.



Edited pages of the Indian Act on display as part of *Red Ribbon Round It*, an interventionist exhibition created by Museum Educator Lesley Garlow.

## 2021 IN REVIEW

6695	Total Visitors
458	Students, children & youth
546	Members
190	New Members in 2021
134	Artists shown in the Galleries and represented in the Shop
2919	Volunteer Hours



# MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

2021—what a year it has been, again! Along with every organization, business, family, and individual in Nelson, we faced continued challenges due to the pandemic. However, with professional staff, dedicated volunteers, and an active Board, we have grown and flourished despite the restrictions within which we functioned.

Along with many organizations and businesses, we have been undergoing a digital transformation and throughout 2021, the team continued to interact with our community through exceptional programming and exhibitions brought to you online, and in limited capacity within the Museum itself.

The Board of Directors was exceptionally impressed with the resilience of the staff team who had to re-organize and re-develop all exhibitions and programs, re-apply for grants, and search for new funding streams to ensure our viability into the future. The financial sustainability of the organization continued to be a consuming focus during this year. Regional, provincial, and federal emergency funding kept our doors open and for this we are grateful.

And I would be remiss if I did not salute the many volunteers that donate hours of time to the running of the Nelson Museum. From the Shop to the Archives to the installation of new exhibits, volunteers remain the mainstay of the organization. Dedicated members and generous

donors are crucial to the ongoing stability of the Nelson Museum.

The Board of Directors of the Nelson Museum, Archives and Gallery remained committed to the Vision and Mission alignment with the Strategic Plan. We continue to advocate for the four priorities of the 2021-2022 Strategic Plan which include: Continuity – Carrying Forward; Social Justice; Organizational Resilience; and Communication.

The 2021-2022 Strategic Plan will not only carry the organization forward through the unknowns in funding, covid-restrictions and shifting paradigms, but will also help to create long-lasting systemic change within the Museum.

I would like to thank our Members for their ongoing support, and once again, I wish to thank the incredible team that keeps us afloat, lead by Astrid Heyerdahl, Executive Director. And to all the past, present, (and future!) Board Members, thank you!



Sheila Achilles  
Chair of the Board

# MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Nelson Museum continued to showcase its resilience in the face of demanding times. 2021 brought further challenges that our dedicated staff and board team faced with bravery and a solid grounding in decolonized best practices in museology and art theory.

As with the first year of the pandemic, vision and mission alignment remained constant throughout 2021.

*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.*

Throughout 2021, the Board, Staff and volunteers were guided by the 2021-2022 Strategic Plan which prioritized social justice. I thank the staff team for bringing the organizational vision to life. Lesley Garlow, Museum Educator and Stephanie Myers, Public Program Coordinator created excellent programming—virtual and in-person—to continue meaningful steps towards answering the Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s Calls to Actions, to bring art and history to life, and to create important conversations in Nelson and beyond.

The 2021 exhibition season, curated by Arin Fay, brought outstanding exhibitions, that received national and international press such as Jamie Black’s *The REDress Project* and *The Grow Show*. The 2021 exhibition year beautifully balanced the local and national and, in each exhibition, brought the need for critical conversations leading to a shift in hegemonic culture to the fore.

In 2021, the Nelson Sports Museum was brought into the Nelson Museum fold. This was an exciting endeavour taken on by the Museum team. We thank Bill and Ann McDonnell for their years of dedication and for bringing such an important community collection to life. We are honoured to be the caretaker of the Nelson Sports Collection for the next leg of its journey.

October 2021 marked one year of operations of Nelson’s Cold War Bunker! The archivist team, led by Jean-Philippe Stienne, Archivist and Collections Manager, continued to offer tours of the Bunker and Archives while rigorously upholding health and safety protocols! Jean-Philippe and his team also further expanded our capacity for audio-visual digitization and with each day, brought the archives to life, ensuring the ongoing free and democratic access to these important community resources.

The Shop continues to be an important source of

earned revenue as well as support for local and regional artists, artisans, and authors. Cindy Fillion, in her role as Visitor Services Manager, not only supports local and regional artists through the Shop, but also supports the wonderful work of the volunteers.

Stephanie Delnea joined our team full time in mid-2021 as the Communications and Development Coordinator. Far beyond design, press releases, and software management, Stephanie helps to further coalesce the team and ensure the membership continues to be cared for deeply.

We would like to thank Linda Sawchyn, Executive Administrator and Membership Coordinator who chose to step down from her role with the museum after 13 years.

Thank you, Linda for your service to the museum and its community.

I would like to thank our volunteers and dedicated Board of Directors for the 1000s of volunteer hours. Touchstones Nelson Museum Members are also vital to the work that we do. To all our volunteers, donors, and members—thank you for your ongoing support! We could not do this without you.

In 2021, we lost several exceptionally important people—to us here at the Nelson Museum, and indeed to the full community—Shawn Lamb, Ron Welwood and Alan Ramsden. Their contributions to the community and to the inception and evolution of the Museum are unparalleled. They will be dearly missed.

Despite the many unknowns due to the continuation of the pandemic and current global state, we must remain positive about 2022 projects and planned major changes. 2022 will showcase a few manifestations of the years of hard work in policy change, communication, social justice, and decolonization work undertaken by the Nelson Museum.



We will always be your local and regional museum, archives and public art gallery and we look forward to connecting with you throughout 2022. Thank you!

Astrid Heyerdahl, M.A., M.Ed.  
Executive Director





Linda at the 2019 Annual Gala, representing the theme 'Breaking Trail' in a vintage Boy Scouts uniform.  
Photo by Thomas Nowaczynski

## THANK YOU!

Over the course of many dedicated years, Linda Sawchyn held the role of Executive Administrator and Membership Coordinator, among other important positions, committee involvement, and project coordination. After 13 years, Linda departed the Museum team in 2021. Throughout the years she brought her keen eye, and project coordination. After 13 years, Linda departed the Museum team in 2021. Throughout the years she brought her keen eye, attention to detail, love of nomenclature, and deep institutional knowledge to the table to support the ongoing viability and growth of the Museum and the volunteer and staff team. Linda is missed by the volunteers, staff and the members, for whom she cared so deeply. We wish her the best in her new adventures!

## IN MEMORIAM

In the waning months of 2021 we lost three important figures who gave so much to Touchstones Nelson Museum – Shawn Lamb, Alan Ramsden and Ron Welwood. All contributed an immense amount to the preservation and understanding of our community's history.

Our former archivist, dear friend, and heart of the Museum Shawn Lamb worked at the museum for over 30 years and was held in high esteem by peers across the region. Her legacy will live on in the Shawn Lamb Archives.

Alan Ramsden was a museum member every year since its inception in 1955. From his role as president, board member, advisor and committee member, his influence here is hard to miss. His long memory and outstanding knowledge of local history will be greatly missed by all those researching Nelson's past.

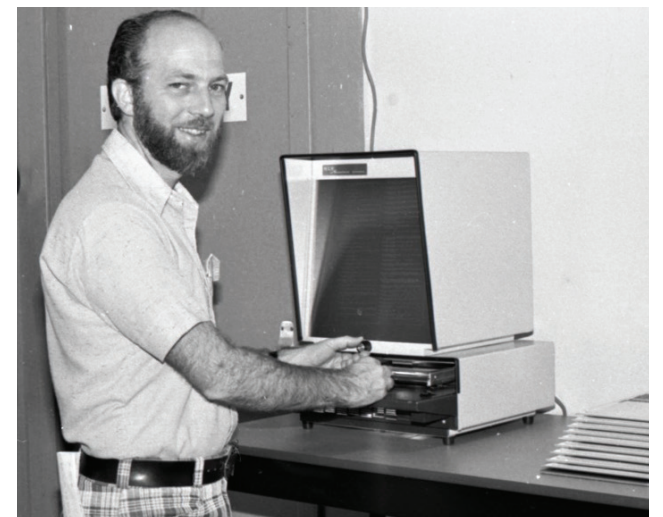
Ron Welwood contributed so much to the understanding of our local history through his articles, leaflets, presentations, lectures and guided tours. Ron worked to oversee the transfer of many historical artifacts and archives to the museum including records from, or that relate to, our education establishments such as Notre Dame University, David Thompson University Centre and the Kootenay School of the Arts. Ron's guidance and continued support to staff and volunteers will be greatly missed.



Shawn Lamb working on restoration of the Ladybird speedboat.  
From the Shawn Lamb Archives



Alan Ramsden at the Anderson Street location, 1980.  
'Nelson Daily News' Collection



Ron Welwood at Notre Dame University Library, June 22, 1978.  
From the Shawn Lamb Archives





JJ Levine, *Alone Time*, image courtesy of the artist

## EXHIBITIONS

We welcomed 2021 with two incredible exhibitions in our gallery spaces that had carried over from 2020: Meryl McMaster's *As Immense as the Sky* and the Métis Art and History – *Otipemisiwak: The People who own Themselves*. Those who saw the McMaster exhibition continue to comment on the power and beauty of these works, and the unexpected privilege of seeing an internationally award-winning artist in our gallery. Big art happens in small places! *Otipemisiwak* was created through a two-year partnership with the West Kootenay Métis Society, knowledge keepers, historians, artists and youth and funded generously by the British Columbia Youth Engagement Program (YEP) project. The relationship-building and community connections that were forged through this project are being felt to this day and will carry forward into ever-evolving possibilities.

Jaime Black's *The REDress Project* followed *Otipemisiwak* and was likewise a part of the YEP project and Métis Society and community partnerships. The work was installed as a formal installation in the gallery space but also as a public installation on the greenspace in front of Nelson City Hall. This was a meaningful collaboration with the City of Nelson, and also the first public installation of any kind undertaken by the organization. The challenging and sensitive subject matter of *The REDress project* made support, communication and cultural safety the highest priority. We undertook training as staff and forged partnerships of support with community agencies, with the guidance of Lesley Garlow, to hold up and protect this emotional exhibition project.

*THROWN* opened March 12, and included artists Samantha Dickie, John Kuroc, Shary Boyle, Jody Greenman-Barber, Sergio Raffo, and Robin Dupont. *THROWN* is the third in an ongoing series of medium-centric exhibitions which explore medium from diverse perspectives and by artists from across the country. *THROWN* follows after the *WORD* exhibition in 2019 and *LOST THREAD* in 2018, but was the first to be awarded a major Canada Council funding and produce an impressive catalog.

The summer months saw the launch of Nelson's own John McKinnon's *Time Warp* and Edmonton artist Cynthia Fuhrer's *All Things Considered*. Both exhibitions were well received given the Covid constraints of the times.

At the end of August *Kootenay Pride: We Love a Parade!* opened and the rainbow progress flag flew for the first time on the turret flagpole. This exhibition was again an adventure in community curation and involved over a year of connections and communication with people whom we connected with via Michael Wicks and his passionate research and contribution of content to the archives. In a symbiotic piece of exhibition programming, we were proud to present Montreal artist JJ Levine's *Alone Time / Queer Portraits* in tandem with *Kootenay Pride* and as a celebration of Pride culture here and across Canada.

In November of 2021 we opened two diverse exhibitions – the community curated *The Grow Show* and *20 Objects*, curated by JP Stienne. The importance of inviting our members to interact with the collection and share their thoughts and memories through *20 Objects* was poignantly brought to bear with the passing of two of the contributors to the exhibition, Shawn Lamb and Ron Welwood, both founding members and lovers of history, community and service in many ways.

*The Grow Show* also celebrated community and history, past and present, but in a much more idiosyncratic and aesthetically chaotic way – the exhibition presented Kootenay cannabis culture from the voices of peoples' lived experience, pre- and post-legalization, through stories, published text, video, artwork, and artifacts. The exhibition was a celebration of the subculture and underground economy that has been a part of the Kootenay ethos for generations. There are plans to expand on the community conversation that was started via this exhibition and create a legacy publication project that would include an even bigger cross-section of voices and experiences, images and artwork. Stay tuned!

"Art enables us to find ourselves and lose ourselves at the same time." — Thomas Merton





GALLERY B / CITY HALL PLAZA

Jaime Black

*The REDress Project*

February 27 to June 14, 2021

Jaime Black, *The REDress Project*, installation view (City Plaza location). Photo by Jeremy Addington

Indigenous women face higher rates of violence than any other cultural group in Canada and the United States. Indigenous families and communities have been advocating for generations to make changes to the colonial system that often treats the perpetrators of the violence with impunity.

*The REDress Project*, a public art installation created by Canadian artist Jaime Black, works to create space for families of MMIWG (missing or murdered Indigenous women and girls) to tell their stories and to lend support in the struggle to protect their loved ones.

**Artist Statement from Jaime Black:**

“Indigenous communities across Turtle Island; for thousands of years women were at the centre of the circle, creating balance and harmony in our communities. Since the onset of colonization women and girls have been especially targeted as a way of breaking apart communities and erasing culture in an effort to assimilate Indigenous ways of being. *The REDress Project* calls in the

spiritual power and presence of our ancestors, as well as the spirits of those who have gone missing or been murdered. The REDresses stand with us as we reclaim our circles, reclaim our voices and re-imagine what it means to move forward in a good way.”

The work involved in safeguarding and presenting *The REDress Project* carried a lot of emotional weight for all involved and brought us together as people who care deeply about issues that we are learning to understand and articulate, which would have been impossible without Lesley Garlow, Museum Educator, at the heart of this project. We learned a lot during the tenure of this installation – about ourselves, our team, and the community in which we live. The project brought to bear a lot of ugliness and intolerance in the vandalism and disrespect that the installation experienced, but also how beautifully the community embraced and understood the work, intuitively and with empathy.

Through the public art component, virtual discussion panels, and high school engagement, *The REDress Project* engaged the community in a visceral way.



## GALLERY A

Jody Greenman-Barber, John Kurok, Robin Dupont, Samantha Dickie, Sergio Raffo, Shary Boyle

### THROWN

March 13 to May 29, 2021

*THROWN* was a group exhibition featuring a diverse cross-section of artists from across the country, all of which offer a distinct and exemplary approach to ceramics. These types of medium-centric group exhibitions create an opportunity for a rare form of dialogue amongst the participating artists, even in times when active mentorship and collaboration are not possible, as the respective works speak so strongly of perspective and means and method.

*THROWN* is the third iteration of an ongoing series of medium-centric exhibitions which was inspired by *Lost Thread*, a well-received group textile show mounted in 2018 which highlighted six textile artists from across the nation, but with a very specific focus on regional Kootenay artists. This formula of curating exhibitions gives us the opportunity to include ‘our’ artists in wide-ranging cultural and creative conversations, within a Canadian context.



Samantha Dickie, *Drop*, installation view. Photo by Jeremy Addington

## GALLERY B

Cynthia Fuhrer

*All Things Considered*

June 12 to August 27, 2021

A child sits for a portrait. The setting is a barren, rocky landscape. Next to the child is an elk. The child's hair is tangled in the elk's antlers. They have matching tattoos.

This progression from the mundane to the fantastic is the exploration of magical realism, a genre that Edmonton-born painter Cynthia Fuhrer is in full command of. Her exhibition, *All Things Considered*, featured larger than life works, each more intriguing and surprising than the last.

*All Things Considered* is the whimsical icebreaker to the oft-maligned conversation about conservation efforts, climate change and land use. It's an enchanting reminder that while we may have lost sight of our connection to the natural world, that the connection exists nonetheless, and needs to be nurtured if there is to be anything left for the future generations depicted in the paintings.



Cynthia Fuhrer, *Embroidered Emboldened Hearts*. Photo courtesy of the artist.





John McKinnon, *Time Warp* installation view.

## GALLERY A

**John McKinnon**

***Time Warp: A 50-Year Retrospective***

**June 19 to August 21, 2021**

John McKinnon's prolific career has spanned half a century, and taken him all over the world. That he has retained so much of his work through the decades is what allowed *Time Warp: a 50-Year Retrospective of John McKinnon*, to represent his life and work so thoroughly.

"If I had sold any of these pieces, or a lot of these pieces, then the show wouldn't have happened," McKinnon said. "It would take another lifetime to get enough work to have a chance at this show."

McKinnon has worked in many mediums throughout his career, including screen printing, painting, sand, and ice, and he has amassed a long list of public art commissions. In Nelson alone, there are nine pieces throughout the city, including two at Lakeside Park, one at Kootenay Lake Hospital, and the infamous sculpture on Vernon Street.

The Museum created a virtual walking tour to accompany the exhibition, available for free on the Muzeus app, which maps out each location and provides background information with text and video, and remains as a legacy piece to *Time Warp*.

Download the Touchstones Nelson  
tour app for iPhone and Android



## GALLERY B

***Kootenay Pride: We Love a Parade!***

**August 28 to November 14, 2021**

There are few things in this world that evoke the sense of love, happiness and solidarity as a well-executed Pride parade. The rainbow flags, the glitter, the costumes, the dancing - an unstoppable force, topping off a whirlwind weekend of events during Nelson's Pride Weekend, which has been organized by the Kootenay queer community for over 20 years.

*Queer Kootenays: We Love a Parade!* explores the history of the LGBTQ+2S movement in the Kootenays since the late 1960s. The exhibition was community curated, featuring stories, photographs, videos, costumes, and other information from the community, supported with archival photographs from the Shawn Lamb Archives. Together, the items tell a familiar tale; one where organizers and supporters have been met with fear and anger as often as they were welcomed with open arms.

The exhibition was bolstered by the research work of Adrian Dunkerson and content provided by Milo, Smokii Sumac, Fred Rosenberg, Erin Thompson and others.



Pride parade costume belonging to David Hernandez. Photo by Bobbi Barbarich



## GALLERY A

JJ Levine

*Alone Time / Queer Portraits*

**September 4 to November 14, 2021**

Showing alongside *Kootenay Pride: We Love a Parade!* was Montreal-based photographer JJ Levine's exhibition *Alone Time/Queer Portraits*. Levine uses portraiture to explore the relationship between photographer and subject, and to highlight the fluidity of gender.

"Through these projects, I hope to provoke thought, while maintaining my commitment to formal photographic techniques," Levine says in their artist statement. "The underlying goal of my work is to celebrate the resistance and resilience in my queer community through the confrontational gaze of my subjects and our collective cultural aesthetic."



A visitor admires the work in *Alone Time / Queer Portraits*. Photo by Bobbi Barbarich

## GALLERY B

Curated by Jean-Philippe Stienne

*20 Objects*

**November 27, 2021 to February 20, 2022**

In 2015, the Museum exhibited *60 Years/60 Objects*, which highlighted some interesting, whimsical, and culturally significant objects from the Museum Collection. Six years later, we revisited the idea of opening up the Collection and exploring more unknown gems. From antique dolls to a Central School desk, *20 Objects* featured something to delight all visitors.

*20 Objects* not only offered a sneak peak into the Museum Collection, which houses almost 7,000 items and half a million photographs and newspaper pages — it also created space to discuss the omission of missing and misrepresented voices throughout the colonial history of this museum, and museums and galleries around the world.



*20 Objects*, installation view. Photo by Bobbi Barbarich





The Grow Show, installation view. Photo by Bobbi Barbarich

Shakespeare (may have) smoked it. Bill Clinton definitely smoked it, but didn't inhale. The Kootenays grew it - a lot of it. Canada legalized it. And we did a show about it.

The Grow Show explored cannabis culture in the Kootenays through many different lenses, including agriculture, economy, culture, politics and community perspectives via photography, video, art, artifacts and the written word.

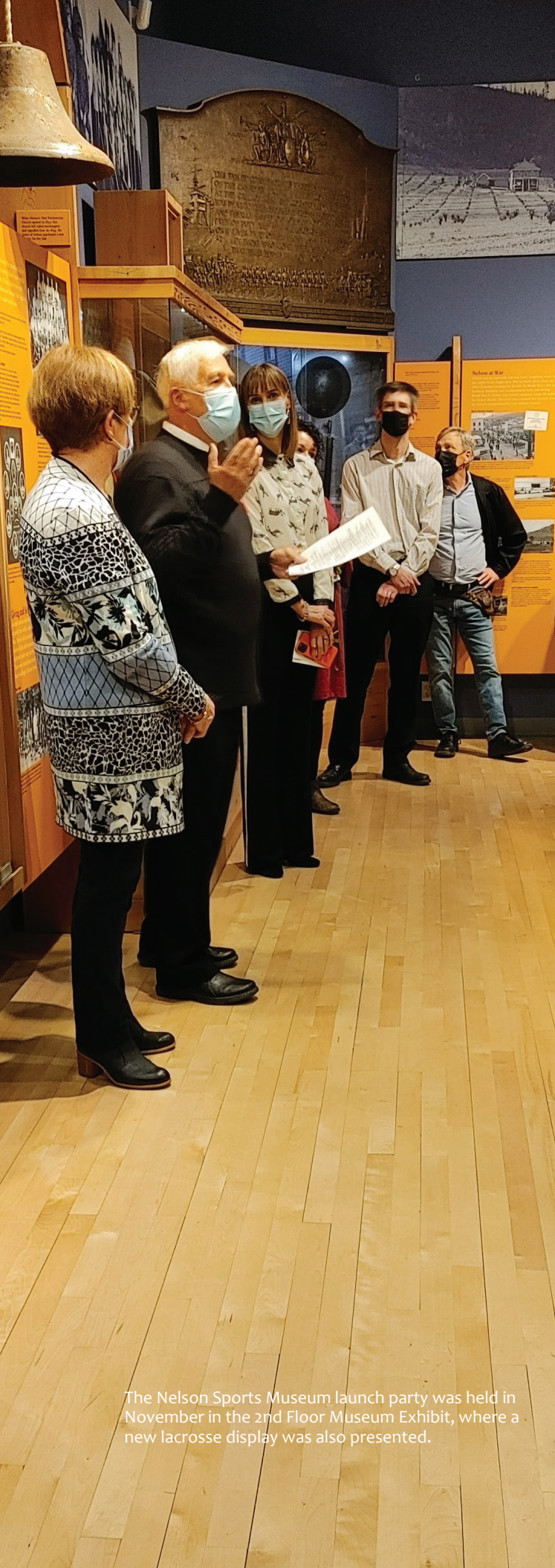
There is both enthusiasm and reticence to talk about cannabis culture in the Kootenays. There was a mixed bag of responses: nostalgia, bitterness, cautionary tales, collateral damage, gold-rush-fever and rose-coloured reminiscence, to name a few. These tales, combined with

**GALLERY A**  
**The Grow Show**  
**November 27, 2021 to February 27, 2022**

paraphernalia, recreated scenes, and placebo plants, convey a small part of its vast, complicated history.

Idealized and pragmatic perspectives are featured on both sides of the legal divide, and Curator Arin Fay, with support from the community, considered carefully the material that would be included, to ensure the narrative being presented is as even-handed as possible. There is no unabridged telling of this story - no leather-bound book that we can go to for the facts - history is about perspective and the proof that was left behind, which is challenging when so much is underground, goes unsaid, and has reason to hide.





The Nelson Sports Museum launch party was held in November in the 2nd Floor Museum Exhibit, where a new lacrosse display was also presented.

## PUBLIC PROGRAMS & EVENTS

Once again, the Programming team worked through pandemic protocols, a smoky summer, and a shrink-wrapped building to provide a lineup of educational, impactful, and entertaining events and programs featured around exhibitions, current events, and more.

### JANUARY

Aprés FREE Thursday Night

Nelson's Cold War Bunker awarded the 2020 Nelson Heritage Award

### FEBRUARY

Chinese New Year

Meryl McMaster's *As Immense as the Sky* closes in Gallery A

*Métis Art and History – Otipemisiwak: The People Who Own Themselves* closes in Gallery B

Jaime Black's *The REDress Project* opens in Gallery B and at City Hall Plaza

Family Day Pandemic Portraits with Bobbi Barbarich

Pointal Painting with Nicole Courson

Pink Shirt Day

*The REDress Project* video launch

### MARCH

Spring Fling Thursday Nights

*The REDress Project* community discussion

*Beneath the Surface* film launch and panel discussion

World Water Day

Community Cabinet install: mugs from around the world with Jane Merks and Peter Bartyl

*THROWN* - a group ceramic exhibition w/ artists: Robin DuPont, Shary Boyle, Samantha Dickie, Jody Greenman-Barber, John Kuroc & Sergio Raffo opens in Gallery A

### APRIL

'Good News for Earth Day' panel discussion  
'New Echoes in the Staircase' video launch and panel discussion

Spring Fling Thursday Nights

National Volunteer Week

### MAY

Red Dress Day pop-up exhibition

*The REDress Project* community forum

*The REDress Project* jingle dance video is released

'Paint the Town Red' awareness campaign

Polymer clay workshop

Christi Belcourt art draw

Spring Fling Thursday Nights

International Museums Day

*The REDress Project* round table discussion with Jaime Black

Nelson's Cold War Bunker earned the Honour award in the Education, Communications, and Awareness category at the Annual Heritage BC Awards

### JUNE

Annual General Meeting

*Time Warp: a 50-Year Retrospective of John McKinnon* opens in Gallery A

*Cree Code Talker* film presentation

*Red Ribbon Round It* mounted in the Museum

National Indigenous Peoples Day

Cynthia Fuhrer's *All Things Considered* opens in Gallery B

Memorial and Ceremony for the 215 Kamloops residential school children

Book launch: *Min Hayati* by Rayya Liebich

### JULY

Closed for Canada Day respecting the wishes of Indigenous Peoples

Book launch: *The Hunted* by Roz Nay

Summer Lovin' Thursday Nights

CNIB tour with John McKinnon

John McKinnon public art walking tour launched on Muzeus

Community Cabinet install: John McKinnon

### AUGUST

*Time Warp* publication launch and closing party

Cynthia Fuhrer's *All Things Considered* closes

*Kootenay Pride: We Love a Parade!* opens in Gallery B

Summer Lovin' Thursday Nights

New Video on Vimeo: *THROWN: A Group Ceramics Exhibition*

### SEPTEMBER

Smokii Sumac reads from his book *You Are Enough: Love Poems for the End of the World* in Gallery A

JJ Levine's *Alone Time / Queer Portraits* opens in Gallery A

Book Launch: *Anecdotal Evidence* by Fred Rosenberg

'LOVE in the time of COVID' virtual program (featuring Smokii Sumac, Leesa Dean, Rayya Liebich)

Culture Days weekend

Closed Thursday, September 30 to observe the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

Community Cabinet install: Dragons



## OCTOBER

Book launch: *Lost Kootenays* by Greg Nesteroff and Eric Brighton

'As the World Turned – Changes in Kootenay Queer Culture' with Michael Wicks

Queer Date Night Thursday Nights

'New Echoes in the Staircase' artist call out

Panel discussion with JJ Levine

'Liberating Queer Culture' with Michael Wicks

Nelson Sports Collection launch

New Video on Vimeo: *Time Warp: A 50-Year Retrospective of John McKinnon*. Adam O. Thomas, Producer/Filmmaker

New Video on Vimeo: *Queering the Interior* trailer. Amy Bohigian, Director with Watershed Productions

New Video on Vimeo: *Red Ribbon Round It* trailer. Curated by Lesley Garlow. Carlo Alcos, Videographer/Filmmaker

Community Cabinets install: Hot Wheels



The Hot Wheels™ display in Community Cabinets.



The sculptures in *Time Warp* provided a wonderful opportunity to host a CNIB tour and experience art through touch.

## NOVEMBER

Nelson Sports Collection Launch

'I Like the Wine and Not the Label' Wine Tasting

Queer Date Night Thursday Nights

*The Grow Show* opens in Gallery A

*20 Objects* opens in Gallery B

Community Cabinets install: Holiday cards

New Video on Vimeo: *Five Things Five Kids Say*  
Remembrance Day

## DECEMBER

Velvet film screening with filmmaker Spencer Legebokoff

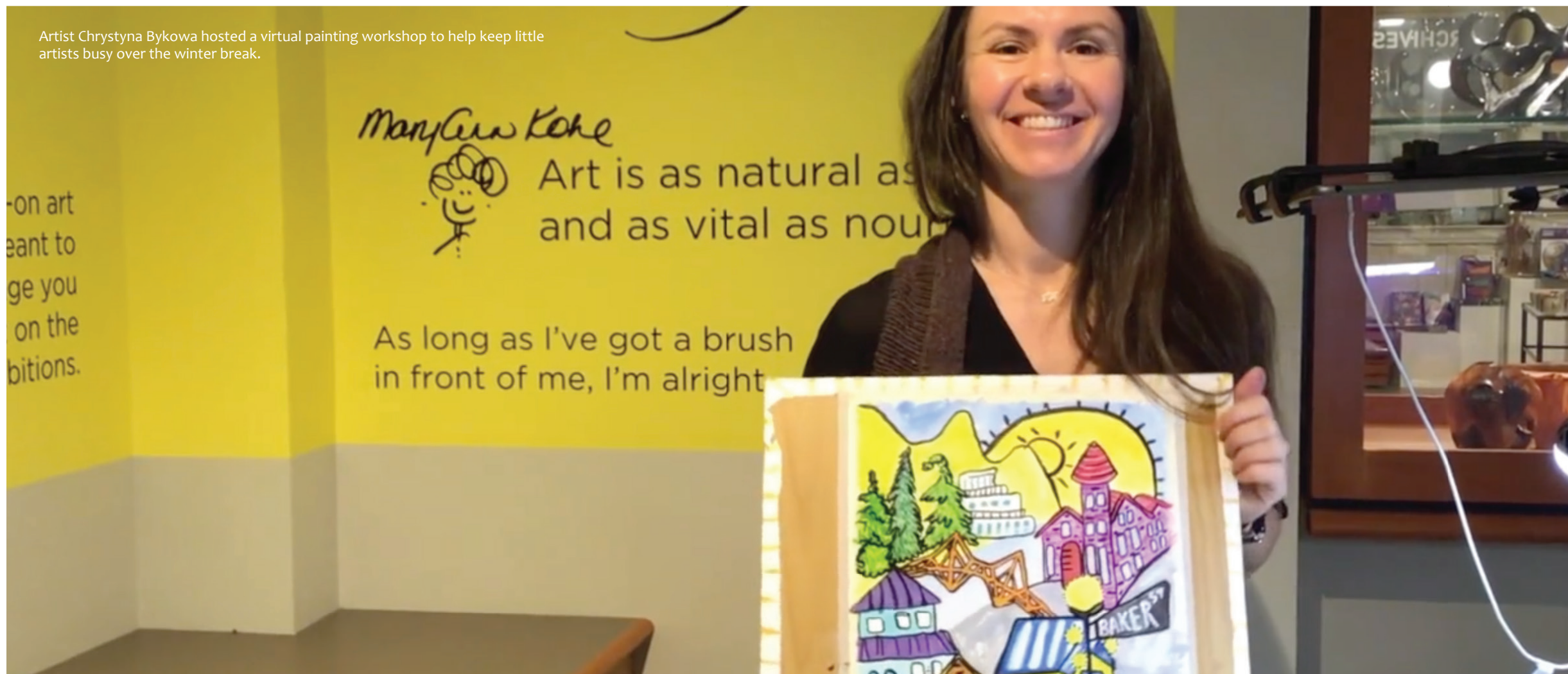
NDCU Annual Members Sale

Winter Workshop with Damian John

Winter Workshop with Chrystyna Bykowa

Aprés FREE Thursday Nights

24



Artist Chrystyna Bykowa hosted a virtual painting workshop to help keep little artists busy over the winter break.



## THE COLLECTION AND SHAWN LAMB ARCHIVES

2021 was a year of tremendous growth for the Archives and Collections with 71 new entries from individuals and organizations. The year saw acquisitions of School District 8 records, thousands of building plans from Fairbank Architects, and articles from Mount St. Francis Hospital. Also donated to the collection was a painting by D.Dan Morslander, various local family albums, and an original edition of *The Miner* from September 6, 1890 – the oldest newspaper in our collection published in Nelson.

We also welcomed the transfer of the Nelson Sports Museum Collection from custodians Bill and Ann McDonnell. Sports Museum Collection Assistants Tristan Shears and Judy Mulloy assisted with the cataloguing of this new collection, and helped curate a new lacrosse display in our Museum Exhibition on the second floor.

One hundred and twenty-three enquiries were answered by the Archives team this year. 70 per cent were from private individuals, with 10 enquiries from local businesses. More of half of all the enquiries were from the Kootenays, although we also welcomed seven international enquiries. Topics included the Nelson Cricket Team, local Doukhobor history, and Kootenay Pride.

Nineteen volunteers donated nearly 1600 hours to assist with the operations and resources in the Archives this year. Through their work, five more Nelson heritage homes had their history unlocked in our popular house

history packages. More photographs were added to our online Touchstones Nelson Flickr website, and our obituaries and history files are continually updated.

Various catalogue projects help to make the resources of the Shawn Lamb Archives more accessible to all. The *Nelson Daily News* digitization program continued to progress with the years 1902-1936 now available to view online. We reached a total of over half a million views since the pages started being uploaded in 2020 -so we know you're using it! We hope to add the years up to the late 1950s by the end of 2022.

#ThrowbackThursday on Facebook continues to be a popular weekly draw for many and we are delighted to see the comments and conversations that the archival photographs generate. Our Archives Assistant and audio-visual specialist Riley Stewart assisted the Archivist with many archival and collections access projects, and began work to digitize our extensive A/V collections. Tressa Ford rejoined our team and brought her enthusiasm for history to Saturday tours of our Cold War Bunker and to Bunker school programs.

## EDUCATION

This past year, we hosted over 200 students on school tours to explore the Bunker, Archives, exhibitions, and the second floor Museum Exhibition. These tours provide an invaluable connection to youth in our community, and we are continually impressed with the level of creativity, understanding, and curiosity that the students and teachers bring to the tours. They also give us opportunities for further critical discussion about the changes in museology, our need for alignment with UNDRIP and the TRC Calls to Action, and the re-development of the museum exhibition in the near future.

*The Missing Voices project, Five Things Five Kids Say*, and the updated turret display help to address the void in our storytelling, and

are pieces that will help inform the design of the new second floor Museum Exhibition. We continue to strengthen our relationships with the Sinixt Confederacy, the Ktunaxa Nation, and the West Kootenay Metis Association, and will continue our path towards truth and reconciliation. While the journey is not always easy, by following Indigenous Law and Protocol, and the First Peoples Principles of OCAP, The TRC Calls to Action and other guiding social justice and decolonization protocols, we understand that it is a necessary and vital journey to take in partnership with the Indigenous Nations and full community. Together, we can be a decolonized space and one that truly represents the rich history of this beautiful place we all call home.



Lesley Garlow and Astrid Heyerdahl lead the Wildflower Seedlings class tour in an exercise at City Hall Plaza.



# THE SHOP

Like many in the retail sector, the Shop has faced its fair share of challenges during the course of 2021. With low tourism numbers due to shutdowns, fires and floods, we also had the added disadvantage of being wrapped in plastic for five months! While the numbers coming through the Shop were lower over the first 10 months, we ended the year strongly with our best ever holiday season sales. We added just six new artists to the Shop last year, mostly focussing on featuring our existing makers and bringing customers their favourite items.

We hosted ArtWalk for the 15th year in a row in 2021. This year we showcased the work of six local artists, displaying a piece from each for the duration of the event. We also hosted four book events, with Rayya Liebich, (*Min Hayati*), Roz Nay, (*The Hunted*), Fred Rosenberg (*Anecdotal Evidence*), and Greg Nesteroff and Eric Brighton (*Lost Kootenays*) all releasing titles this year. These were all in-person events, which we welcomed with great excitement

and a little trepidation after such a long time without hosting such gatherings.

The Shop embarked on a necessary POS upgrade in 2021. The old system was no longer supported and full of bugs and glitches. Consignment software is not actually that common, but eventually we made a great choice based on a few factors: solid references from local shops, great tech support, and ease of use, which is important for our many volunteers. We based our choice on a few factors: some solid local references, great tech support, and ease of use, which is important for our many volunteers. At the beginning of the holiday season we labeled every product in the shop with new barcode stickers – over 3500 items! It was a big job, but our team of volunteers did fantastic work, and in early November we opened our doors with a brand new system and a shop packed full of quality gift ideas for the forthcoming holidays.



# LETTER FROM THE TREASURERS

A review of the financial statements of the Nelson and District Museum, Archives, Art Gallery and Historical Society has been completed by Pinnacle Accountants and Advisors. The review comprised the Societies' financial position as of December 31, 2021, the statements of operation, all changes in net assets and cash flow for the year – end and a summary of significant accounting policies and other information.

As in previous years, 2021 was no different in keeping with the Societies' mandate and fulfillment of goals by continuing to provide excellent and expanding programs, community engagement, outreach programs and top-quality exhibitions for the City and Kootenays. We continued to manage our financial position concerning the operations and surplus vs. deficit (operational expenses and income).

2021 saw a continuation of the uncertainty of COVID and even though we were able to open to the public in a limited capacity at times, we still had to navigate a restrictive environment causing continued instability in our sales, admissions and exhibitions. In addition to these hurdles, there was the uncertainty of our funding from all levels of Government and funding bodies Covid continued to cause many funding bodies to re-evaluate their commitment to “not for profit” organizations and the arts. However overall, Touchstones had a good year, and we continue to remain in a good financial situation and have excellent cash flow. In order to maintain our cash flow into the coming fiscal year we have deferred several grants into the 2022 fiscal year. We continued to take advantage of COVID grants and programs (Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy, CEBA Loan). The CEBA loan (Canadian Emergency Business Account) loan is unsecured and interest – free. 25% of the loan is forgivable if it is repaid on or before December 31, 2023. If not repaid by that date, it is converted to a three-year term loan at an interest rate of 5%. Given our cash flow during the 2021 fiscal year, the Board voted to repay the loan in 2022, and therefore strengthening our cash flow moving forward. Regarding revenue and

expenses, we had a similar increase as in previous years (11.6%) in our revenue, our expenses however saw an increase over previous years - 2021 saw an increase of 19% over the previous year. This increase is reflected in 3 areas, Human Resources (\$58,736 over LY), Events and Programs (\$83,137 over LY), and the cost of goods in the retail shop (\$18,040 over LY).

The overall operating activities of the Society will have a deficit of \$20, 643 for the 2021 fiscal year. As in previous years, much of the expenses contributing to the deficit is made up of items that do not directly affect cash flow. These items include items such as the amortization of capital assets in the amount of \$48, 296 and the lease on building space of \$10, 429 per year.

In the past we have relied heavily on traditional grants and funding models and in the last year we were able to explore and apply for grants and funding that we wouldn't normally have accessed. As a not for profit, we need to be conscious of the fact that we need to look at alternative sources of funding as much of our funding goes to support programs and exhibits and only a small portion contributing to operational activities and funding. Alternative sources of funding, such as membership drives, corporate sponsorship and a long-term service agreement with the City, are needed to continue to keep the Gallery accessible to everyone and provided continued stability as we move forward.

Respectfully Submitted by

Gerry Cartwright

Kristen Taniguchi

Co-Treasurers, Nelson and District Museum, Archives, Art Gallery and Historical Society



Nelson and District Museum, Archives, Art Gallery and Historical Society

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION				
As at December 31				
	Note	2021	2020	2019
<b>Assets</b>				
Current Assets				
Cash and cash equivalents		\$ 675,959	\$ 657,639	\$ 493,662
Accounts receivable		16,896	14,780	1,500
Inventory		25,480	29,478	31,310
Prepaid insurance		15,735	8,657	8,300
		734,070	710,554	534,772
Prepaid Lease	3	210,325	220,754	231,183
Collections	4	100	100	100
Capital Assets	5	308,412	323,877	314,655
		\$ 1,252,907	\$ 1,255,285	\$ 1,080,710
<b>Liabilities and Net Assets</b>				
Current Liabilities				
Accounts payable		\$ 79,657	\$ 48,664	\$ 70,899
Government remittances payable		14,108	-	-
Deferred revenue	6	253,719	270,122	200,309
		347,484	318,786	271,208
CEBA Loan Payable	7	40,000	40,000	-
		387,484	358,786	271,208
Deferred Capital Contributions	8	279,770	290,203	275,897
Net Assets				
Building lease fund	3	210,325	220,754	231,183
Invested in capital assets		28,642	33,674	38,758
Internally restricted net assets	9	336,738	336,738	236,738
Unrestricted net assets		9,948	15,130	26,926
		585,653	606,296	533,605
		\$ 1,252,907	\$ 1,255,285	\$ 1,080,710

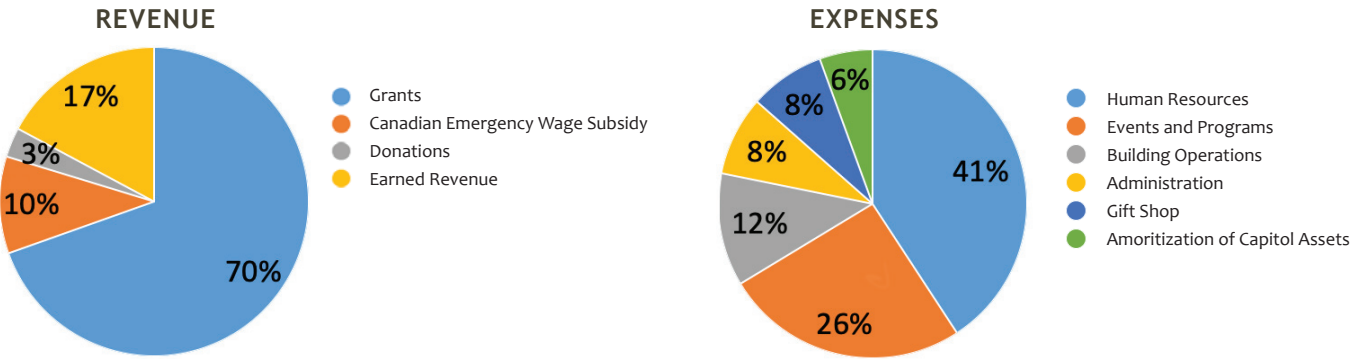
Approved by the Directors:

*S. Achilles*

*[Signature]*

Nelson and District Museum, Archives, Art Gallery and Historical Society

STATEMENT OF REVENUE, EXPENDITURES AND NET ASSETS				
For the year ended December 31				
		2021	2020	2019
<b>Revenue</b>				
Grants revenue	10	\$ 590,134	\$ 539,843	\$ 418,555
Earned revenue	11	145,684	125,417	179,468
Donations		26,348	17,536	16,394
		762,166	682,796	614,417
<b>Expenditures</b>				
Human resources		354,386	295,650	278,088
Events and programs		222,047	138,910	142,479
Building operations		102,909	106,183	95,206
Administration		72,548	70,890	47,577
Gift shop cost of sales		68,774	50,734	62,531
Amortization of capital assets		48,296	41,782	10,901
		868,960	704,149	636,782
Operating surplus (deficit)		(106,794)	(21,353)	(22,365)
Canada Emergency Wage Subsisy		86,151	94,044	-
Excess of revenues over expenditures (deficit)		(20,643)	72,691	(22,365)
Net assets, beginning of year		606,296	533,605	555,970
Net assets, end of year		\$ 585,653	\$ 606,296	\$ 533,605





Nelson and District Museum, Archives, Art Gallery and Historical Society

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS				
For the year ended December 31				
	2021	2020	2019	
Operating Activities				
Excess of revenues over expenditures (deficit)	\$ (20,643)	\$ 72,691	\$ (22,365)	
Non-cash items				
Amortization of prepaid lease	10,429	10,429	10,429	
Amortization of capital assets	48,296	41,782	10,901	
Amortization of deferred capital contributions	(43,264)	(36,698)	(5,504)	
Changes in non-cash working capital				
Accounts receivable	(2,116)	(13,280)	25,601	
Inventory	3,998	1,832	(1,803)	
Prepaid insurance	(7,078)	(357)	75	
Accounts payable	30,993	(22,235)	51,333	
Government remittances payable	14,108	-	-	
Deferred revenue	(16,403)	69,813	116,517	
Deferred capital contributions	32,831	51,004	138,019	
	51,151	174,981	323,203	
Financing Activities				
Proceeds from CEBA loan	-	40,000	-	
Investing Activities				
Acquisition of capital assets	(32,831)	(51,004)	(150,535)	
Change in cash and cash equivalents	18,320	163,977	172,668	
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year	657,639	493,662	320,994	
Cash and cash equivalents, end of year	\$ 675,959	\$ 657,639	\$ 493,662	

The Nelson and District Museum, Archives, Art Gallery and Historical Society engaged Pinnacle Accounting to review the 2021 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.

The full financial review is available upon request.

2021 VOLUNTEERS

TOUCHSTONES NELSON is grateful for the dedication of a strong team of volunteers in 2021. We couldn’t open the doors without you. Thank you!

A CRAFTY IDEA	MANNINGS, ED
ACHILLES, SHEILA	MCLEOD, DELLA
ADAM, SUE	MORRISON, IAN
AMES, NELSON	MULLOY, JUDY
ATTRIDGE, MAUREEN	NESTEROFF, GREG
BACKUS, GRETCHEN	NEVILLE, SHARON
BAKER, BONNIE	NICHOLSON, SHERRY
BATES, GREG	O’NEILL, LORI
BECKER, NELSON	PIGNATARO, JESSICA
BUKOWSKI, BRENT	RAMSDEN, ALLAN
BUKOWSKI, ELI & MORGAN	RAY, DENNIS
CARSON, BEN	RODRIGUES, LILY
CARTWRIGHT, GERRY	ROGULA, OLA
COUCH, BARBARA	SCHMIDT, STEVE
CREIGHTON, RUBY	STANLEY, MATTHEW
DEON, JUDY	STEED, WENDY
DUNKERSON, JENNIFER	STIENNE, JOSIE
ELIAS, CHRISTINE	SWETLAND, LILITH
GILLENDER, JOY	TANIGUCHI, KRISTEN
HENDERSON, LINDA	TREMBLAY, NICOLE
HOLMES, SUZANNE	VAN HOMBEECK, LINDA
INKSTER, LORNA	WALLACE, CHRISTINE
JONKER, BERDINE	WICKS, MICHAEL
LITTLEWOOD, GAIL	YATES, MATTHEW
MACDONALD, ISA	
MACKINTOSH, SUSAN	



<b>BOARD</b> (as of December 2021)	<b>STAFF</b> (as of December 2021)
SHEILA ACHILLES <b>CHAIR</b>	ASTRID HEYERDAHL <b>EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR</b>
SUE ADAM <b>VICE CHAIR</b>	JEAN-PHILIPPE STIENNE <b>COLLECTIONS MANAGER AND ARCHIVIST</b>
GERRY CARTWRIGHT <b>CO-TREASURER</b>	ARIN FAY <b>CURATOR</b>
KRISTEN TANIGUCHI <b>CO-TREASURER</b>	CINDY FILLION <b>VISITOR SERVICES MANAGER</b>
NELSON AMES <b>SECRETARY</b>	STEPHANIE MYERS <b>PUBLIC PROGRAM COORDINATOR</b>
	LESLEY GARLOW <b>MUSEUM EDUCATOR</b>
	STEPHANIE DELNEA <b>DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR</b>
GREG BATES	
CHRIS ELIAS	
MATTHEW STANLEY	
MATTHEW YATES	
JENNIFER DUNKERSON	

THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS

BC HISTORICAL FEDERATION	NELSON CIVIC THEATRE SOCIETY
CAPITOL THEATRE	OXYGEN ART GALLERY
CORAZÓN	SCHOOL DISTRICT 8
CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE,	SELKIRK COLLEGE
CITY OF NELSON	SINIXT NATION & THE CONFEDERATED TRIBES
HERITAGE WORKING GROUP, CITY OF NELSON	OF THE COLVILLE RESERVATION
KOOTENAY GALLERY OF ART	WEST KOOTENAY MÉTIS SOCIETY
KTUNAXA NATION COUNCIL	
NELSON AND DISTRICT ARTS COUNCIL	

THANK YOU TO OUR FUNDERS

BC ARTS COUNCIL	CIBC WOOD GUNDY
BC GAMING COMMISSION	DHC COMMUNICATIONS
BC HISTORY DIGITIZATION PROGRAM,	HALL PRINTING
IRVING K. BARBER LEARNING CENTRE	HAMBER FOUNDATION
BC RURAL DIVIDEND	HERITAGE BC
CANADA COUNCIL FOR THE ARTS	MCLEAN FOUNDATION
CANADA SUMMER JOBS	NELSON AND DISTRICT CREDIT UNION
CANADIAN MUSEUMS ASSOCIATION	NELSON KOOTENAY LAKE TOURISM
CITY OF NELSON	NELSON STAR
COLUMBIA KOOTENAY CULTURAL ALLIANCE	OSPREY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
COLUMBIA BASIN TRUST	REGIONAL DISTRICT OF CENTRAL KOOTENAY
	YOUNG CANADA WORKS





Guests admire the photography at the book launch for Fred Rosenberg's *Anecdotal Evidence*.