



YUKON HISTORICAL & MUSEUMS ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER

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Yukon Mourns The Passing of an Icon

Born and raised in the Yukon, author Pierre Berton brought life to the history of the Klondike.



Pierre Berton, the prolific author and popular television personality, died November 30, 2004 of heart failure in Toronto. He was 84.

Berton was born in Whitehorse, July 12, 1920 to Frank and Laura Beatrice Berton. Berton spent the first two years of his life living in Whitehorse before his father, a mining recorder and former gold seeker, was transferred back to Dawson. Evidenced by his writing and films, Dawson held a special place in Berton's heart. His first important books were *The Mysterious North* (1956) and *Klondike* (1958), a narrative of the Klondike Gold Rush. He won the governor general's award for creative non-fiction for both books. He would later receive a third Governor General's award for *The Last Spike* (1972).

Klondike came only four years after his mother published her charming story of life in the Yukon. *I Married the Klondike* is a fascinating piece of social history that depicts life in the Klondike during the early decades of the Twentieth

Century. The family left the Yukon in 1932, but Pierre continued to return. While attending university he returned to work in Klondike Mining Camps and during the summer of 1971 he brought one of his daughters and one son to follow in his father's footsteps over the Chilkoot trail. His childhood home in Dawson is now a writers' retreat where one writer is allowed to live and, outside one public lecture, is allowed to do whatever they want. Berton house has produced many new writers over the years.

After leaving the Yukon, Pierre worked on the *Vancouver News-Herald* (beginning in 1942), the *Vancouver Sun* (1945-47), *Maclean's* (beginning in 1947) and on the *Toronto Star* (1958-62). From the late 1950s to the early 90s, he was a staple of Canadian TV as host of his own shows or as a panelist. Pierre also served as Chancellor of Yukon College.

In addition to the Governor Generals Awards he also received numerous honorary degrees, over 30 literary awards and was a named Companion to the Order of Canada (1986). He is a member of Canada's Walk of Fame, having been inducted in 1998. In *The Greatest Canadian*, he was voted #31 in the list of great Canadians. His most recent publication, *Prisoners of the North* (2004) was his fiftieth book.

Pierre's success in popularizing Canadian history may never be matched. He will be sadly missed.

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The Yukon Heritage Resources (YHRB) welcomes the opportunity to provide YHMA members with an update of our recent activities. At the Board's September '04 meeting, the Board reviewed the revised **Yukon Museum Strategy** and "Museums Strategy Implementation" report and recommended adoption of the strategy.

Minister Taylor responded that based on the recommendations that the Board has brought forward; she will be presenting the strategy to Cabinet for her colleagues' consideration. It was the wish of the Museum advisory committee that the document be a government-wide policy. Minister Taylor thanked the Board for the efforts and hard work over the last two years towards the development of a comprehensive museums strategy that will benefit all Yukoners for many years to come.

At the Board's three-day meeting held in late November, the Board had a full agenda, which included the review and evaluation of eight applications to the Yukon Historic Resources Fund (YHRF) and two nominations for territorial historic site designation – the Yukon Sawmill Co. Office and the Dawson Telegraph Office - and a day of strategic planning.

The Yukon Historic Resources Fund was established to help support the objectives of the Yukon *Historic Resources Act* related to historic resources. The fund provides financial support for projects in archaeology, paleontology, community museums and heritage/cultural centres, historic sites, native language preservation and place names.

The fund is intended to support specific projects, not core programs or O&M requirements for long-term projects or programs. The YHRF may fund a maximum of 50% of project costs up to a maximum of \$10,000. This program is administered by Cultural Services, Heritage Resources Unit, and applications are forwarded to YHRB for review, evaluation and recommendation to the minister on what projects and how much to fund, based on the guidelines. In turn, the minister's department notifies applicants accordingly and draws up a contribution agreement with successful applicants.

YHRF is funded by interest from an initial \$1,000,000 investment by the Government of Yukon. Interest is made available at the end of each fiscal year – 50% is put back into the fund and 50% is made available for projects. The interest available for projects from the 2003/2004 fiscal year (for November 2004 deadline) was approximately \$36,000. The amount of interest available from fiscal year 2004/05 will be available in April 2005 for the fall 2005 deadline. Forms and guidelines on this program are available through the Yukon government website.

The Board's review, evaluation and recommendation of nominations for territorial historic site designation is specified under the *Historic Resources Act*. Following from the definition under the *Act*, a historic site is a location at which is found a work or assembly of works of human endeavour or of nature that is of value for its archaeological, palaeontological, prehistoric, historic, scientific or aesthetic features. Designation under the *Act* is meant for sites that are important to the history of the Yukon as a whole. The two buildings reviewed by the Board in November were evaluated on the "Built Site" criteria. Sites can also be evaluated under Archaeological, Palaeontological and Landscapes or Cultural Landscapes criteria. The Board sent its recommendations on the two sites to the minister who makes the final decision on designation.

Board member Susan Twist resigned in October 2004. New board member replacements, effective December 22nd are Andre Bourcier of Whitehorse and Joyce Armstrong of Watson Lake. YHRB would like to take this opportunity to welcome the two new board members. Their term is until April 17, 2007. Replacement board members fill out the remaining term of those board members they replace.

Now that YHRB is operating at its full complement of members, a new chair will be selected at the next board meeting scheduled for January 28 and 29. At the January meeting, members will also review the draft budget for 2005/06, language issues, revision of the procedures manual for the nomination process and continue with strategic planning. As well, we look forward to regular updates from the Cultural Services Branch and YHMA.

Our office is located in the historic Taylor House located at 412 Main Street. For those of you who may not have received a copy of our 2003/04 annual report, please stop by the office for a copy. Happy New Year to everyone in the heritage community and we look forward to a prosperous year for heritage.

MILES CANYON HISTORIC RAILWAY SOCIETY



We had a good year this year - a year of transition for us. We are changing from a building society into a full-fledged tourist attraction, open more hours and days than ever before.

The Copperbelt mining museum and rail exhibit was open five days a week this year, completing quite a bit of clean-up and landscaping improvements around the station area and throughout our developing picnic area. The number of visitors to the facility increased this year and our picnic area was used for many birthday parties

group meetings, tour bus stops and general lunch breaks by individuals and families. We plan on being open seven days/week next summer and have expansion plans of our displays and picnic area being formulated for this coming season - we intend to develop an attractive, multi-use outdoor facility and improve our indoor static displays over the coming years.

The Waterfront Trolley operation started off with reduced ridership early in the year, likely due to the same reduced tourist traffic experienced by other facilities around Whitehorse, but rebounded as the season progressed. The expansion of the Waterfront Trolley operation north to Spook Creek was approved this year and construction on the rail line began this fall - hopefully being put into operation this coming summer. We operated the Trolley, in support of the downtown businesses, to bring Santa Claus to Main Street prior to Christmas. This experience, along with the expansion north to Spook Creek and the development of the 'Roundhouse' opens lots of opportunities for us to pursue in the coming years.





MacBride Museum

MacBride Museum



MacBride Museum

Adult Programs

MacBride Museum Annual Murder Mystery

"Till Death Do Us Part", a 1978 wedding, runs January 21, 22, 28, 29 & February 4 & 5. The cost is \$20.00 for members and \$22.00 for non-members. Come join us for this groovy interactive whodunit dessert theatre.

Travel Talks- February

In partnership with Yukon Travel, MacBride Museum will be offering an exciting look into the world. Join us each Tuesday in February to learn more about new travel destinations.

Children Programs

Surveyors of the North

February 25, 2005, 1:00-4:30pm for children 6-10 years. Cost \$20.00

Explore the history of surveying the north through hands on activities and games.

Spring Break Archeology Camp

March 21-24th 2004, 1:00-4:30pm for children 6-10 years. Cost \$20.00 per day.

This program is filled with crafts, games, and activities. Explore and unearth the treasures of the past.

For more information call Tracey at 667-2709 ext. 6

You are cordially invited to
TILL DEATH DO US PART

A Murder Mystery Dessert Theatre

**Jan. 21, 22, 28, 29
Feb. 4, 5**

**7:45
pre-show**

**8:00
Ceremony
begins**



MacBride Museum

www.macbridemuseum.com call for information - 667-2709

TICKETS -Hougen's Box Office

members - \$20 non-members - \$22



MacBride Museum

www.MacbrideMuseum.com

NEWS FROM THE HERITAGE CANADA FOUNDATION

Heritage places of religious and spiritual meaning are the soul of Canada's cultural landscape. They connect us to ideas about religion, kinship and place that have shaped communities from pre-contact times to the present. This year, the Heritage Canada Foundation is proud to celebrate the Heritage of Faith: Spiritual and Sacred Places, with its Heritage 2005 poster and guidebook. Grouped into four sections Traditional Spiritual Sites, Missions Sacred Places and Early Settlement, and the Architecture of Sacred Places, the 15 spiritual places identified in the guidebook reflect Canada's rich ethnic and religious diversity.

The Heritage 2005 poster will be unveiled at a special ceremony in Ottawa on Heritage Day, Monday, February 21, 2005. At this time, the Foundation will also announce Canada's Top 10 endangered buildings and sites and its five worst losses for 2004. The Foundation looks forward to hearing how your community celebrated Heritage Day!

After completing its own strategic planning exercise in the fall of 2004, the Foundation developed Sharing Insights From Our Recent

Strategic Planning Experience: Where to Start and What to Keep in Mind, a brief case study that identifies and answers the essential elements and questions associated with a strategic planning process. The Foundation has recognized that strategic planning is one of the most important – and often overlooked – responsibilities of not-for-profit organizations, and hopes that this document will assist heritage and cultural institutions in their strategic planning exercise. *Sharing Insights From Our Recent Strategic Planning Experience* is available in hard copy and CD format.

The fall of 2004 also marked the launch of Heritage Canada's Advocacy Action Web site www.advocacyaction which was designed to provide facts and current information on issues relating to the conservation of heritage properties and historic places. The site has been widely accepted by heritage organizations and preservationists across the country. An *Advocacy Action Handbook* will be available in spring 2005.

For more information about any of the above please visit the Heritage Canada Web site at www.heritagecanada.org

YHMA Annual Heritage Awards February 21, 2005

Call for nominations-

Please submit a biography of an individual, organization, or business making a significant contribution to the preservation of Yukon Heritage.

Send nominations to: YHMA, 3126-3rd Ave, Whitehorse, YT Y1A 1E7

Fax: 667-4506 or email: yhma@yknet.yk.ca or call 667-4704.

Deadline, February 4th, 4pm.

This year's theme is *Heritage of Faith: Spiritual and Sacred Places*, if you would like to recommend someone who would be a good speaker for this years theme please contact Rebecca Jansen at the information listed above.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Young Canada Works

The CMA is pleased to again be working with the Department of Canadian Heritage to support the creation of summer jobs in museums across Canada. Last year with \$1.6 million in financial support provided by the Department of Canadian Heritage, the CMA funded over 500 jobs under the Young Canada Works in Heritage Organizations program.

If you would like to submit a proposal for funding consideration, please read carefully the 2005 Employer Guide first to verify that your organization is eligible for the program. Download, print, and complete the 2005 Application Form, ensuring that you provide all project information detailed in the checklist on pages 13 and 14 of your application.

For more information and please visit:

http://www.pch.gc.ca/special/ycw-jct/html/welcome_e.htm

Application Deadline: February 15, 2005.

Summer Career Placement (SCP)

Not-for-profit, private and public sector employers are eligible for funding and must be a legal entity, registered with the Canada Revenue Agency. Preference will be given to small and medium size employers (less than 500 employees).

SCP Wage Contributions:

Private Sector: Up to 50% of the minimum wage per hour. Public Sector: Up to 50% of the minimum wage per hour. Not-for-profit Sector: Up to 100% of the minimum wage per hour.

For more information and to download an application please visit:

http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca/en/epb/yi/yep/programs/scpp_bc.shtml

Application Deadline: April 1, 2005

Bring your stories to the world



The *Community Memories Program* offers smaller museums the tools, financial investment and support to digitize their stories and showcase their local history on the World Wide Web.

The *VMC Investment Program* provides member institutions with a financial investment that supports the creation of innovative virtual exhibits that explore Canada's heritage.

Stay tuned for the calls for proposals.

Visit www.chin.gc.ca. Your visitors are waiting.



VMC Investment Program Call: January 19 to February 23, 2005

Community Memories Program Call: March 9 to April 20, 2005



Canada

TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT

9TH ANNUAL
WESTERN CANADA REGIONAL
MUSEUM SHOP
SYMPOSIUM

CANADIAN
MUSEUMS
ASSOCIATION
ASSOCIATION
DES MUSÉES
CANADIENS

FAIRMONT EMPRESS
VICTORIA
BRITISH COLUMBIA
MARCH 10-12
2005
CONNECTING
THE PIECES
EARLY-BIRD DISCOUNT ENDS MONDAY, JANUARY 31, 2005!

TO REGISTER CONTACT SUE-ANN RAMSDEN
sramsd@museums.ca or (416) 231-1251

CULTURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM DIVISION OF CONTINUING STUDIES, UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA

The Cultural Resource Management Program at the University of Victoria is pleased to offer the following 6-day immersion opportunity for professionals and volunteers working in archives, museums, heritage sites, cultural centres and galleries and supporting arts or cultural groups.

Managing Cultural Organizations HA 488N (1.5 units)

This on-campus immersion course provides an intensive study of the application of management theory and practice in cultural organizations, with particular emphasis on: characteristics of non-profit cultural organizations; governance and leadership; establishing the mission, goals, and objectives; roles of executive and artistic directors; policy development and implementation; personnel management and team building; financial management; strategic and operational planning; information management; public relations; marketing; volunteer development; and ethical and legal issues.

Dates: February 21 to 26, 2005 with a preparatory assignment

Please register by: January 28, 2005

Fee: \$550 (Canadian funds, credit and non-credit); subject to change.

CCI WORKSHOP APPLICATION

The Museums Unit recently sent out a request for votes on the next Canadian Conservation Institute workshop to be held in the Yukon. The winning workshops are:

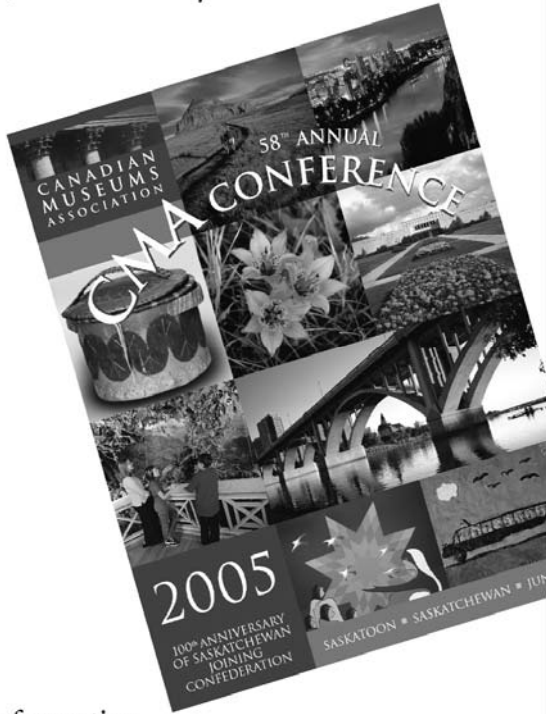
First Choice: CONSTRUCTION OF MANNEQUINS FOR HISTORIC COSTUMES

Second Choice: PRESERVATION MANAGEMENT FOR SEASONAL MUSEUMS

The application has been submitted with a request to have the workshop in October 2006. The Canadian Conservation Institute will let us know at the end of February, if the application has been accepted. Thank you to all of you who took the time to vote.

For more information contact Valery Monahan, Conservator, Tourism and Culture at 667-3431 or email Valery.Monahan@gov.yk.ca

Plan to attend the
58TH ANNUAL CMA CONFERENCE
 June 8 – 11, 2005 in sunny Saskatoon.



For more information,
 please contact the Canadian Museums Association
 at (613) 567-0099 ext. 227 or visit www.museums.ca



YHMA MEMBERSHIP

Name _____

Address _____

Postal Code _____

Phone H) _____

W) _____

Email _____

Fax _____

Membership Dues + GST

Senior \$10.70 _____

Student \$10.70 _____

Individual \$21.40 _____

Organization \$26.75 _____

Family \$32.10 _____

Corporate \$107.00 _____

Making a donation?

A charitable tax receipt will be provided.

Thank you for your support!

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A VOLUNTEER?

YHMA is always seeking volunteers willing to provide their skills and knowledge to our organization. If you are interested in any of the following committees please call Rebecca Jansen at 667-4704

Email: yhma@yknet.yk.ca.

- **Conference Planning**
- **Heritage Buildings**
- **Newsletter**
- **Museums**
- **Fundraising or**
- **Training**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR
 MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS,
 SPONSORSHIP AND
 DONATIONS!**