

**Okanagan Historical Society**  
**Annual General Meeting**  
**April 23, 2023**

Royal Canadian Legion, Branch #62, Salmon Arm, BC

**CALL TO ORDER:** President Lois Marshall called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.  
Eighteen members were present.

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES:**

Motion: That the minutes of the April 24, 2022 annual general meeting be adopted as printed in the 86th Report and on the society website.

Bob Hayes / Margot Pridham. Carried.

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:** None

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None.

**REPORTS OF OFFICERS:**

- a) President - Lois Marshall
- b) Secretary – Maggie Ricciardi
- c) Treasurer – Amrita Jawanda

Motion: That the unaudited treasurer's report for 2022 be adopted as presented.  
Larry Shannon / Barbara Raynor. Carried.

- d) Editor – Ken Mather

Motion: that the Table Officer's Reports be adopted as received.  
Gayle Cornish / Len Gamble. Carried.

**BRANCH REPORTS:**

- a) Oliver / Osoyoos – Larry Shannon
- b) Penticton – Karen Collins
- c) Summerland – David Gregory
- d) Kelowna – Margot Pridham
- e) Vernon – Ken Mather (oral report)

Devon Muhlert spoke briefly on the changes to the Vernon Branch following the passing of long-time president Herb Thorburn. The branch held two book sales during the past year which were quite successful. Four articles were submitted for publication in this years Report including a poem by an indigenous author.

- f) Armstrong / Enderby – Carmen Kirkland
- g) Salmon Arm – Linda Painchaud

Motion: That the reports of the Branch Presidents be adopted as received.  
Diane Ambil / Jessie Ann Gamble. Carried.

**DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE:**

- a) Father Pandosy – Domenic Rampone  
Report was given by Bob Hayes, member of the Father Pandosy Mission Committee
- b) Student Essay – Diane Ambil
- c) Website – Lois Marshall (oral report)  
Lois reminded everyone that changes are made to the website as requested.
- d) Index – Joan Cowan

Motion: That the reports of the Directors-at-Large be adopted as received.  
Lance Ewan / Maggie Ricciardi. Carried.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- a) Election of Officers – Larry Shannon conducted the election of officers. The following table officers were elected by acclamation:

President – Lois Marshall  
Vice President – Larry Shannon  
Secretary – Karen Collins; Maggie Ricciardi  
Treasurer – vacant  
Editor – Ken Mather

The position of treasurer will be brought forward at the next executive meeting.

**COMPLIMENTARY RESOLUTIONS:**

- a) That we thank the Salmon Arm Branch for organizing the space, luncheon and guest speakers. – Joan Cowan
- b) That we thank the local newspapers for publishing about and promoting the local branches. - Jessie Ann Gamble
- c) That we thank the Executive Council for organizing our meetings and for all the time they give. - Gayle Cornish

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- a) The next annual general meeting will be held in April 21, 2024. The next executive meeting will be held July 16, 10 a.m.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting was adjourned by president Lois Marshall at 11:02 a.m.

Notice: All of the reports presented at the AGM may be found online on the society's website: [okanaganhistoricalsociety.org](http://okanaganhistoricalsociety.org).

Once the meeting was adjourned, Harley Belt, president of the Salmon Arm Legion, location of the AGM, gave an excellent presentation on the history of the Royal Canadian Legion, the importance of why it was formed, and what it continues to do, not just for veterans, but communities today.

Following the business meeting a luncheon was served with Barbara Raynor serving as emcee. Greetings were given by the mayor of Salmon Arm. During the luncheon program two Life Members were introduced. Bob Cowan formally presented Carmen Kirkland of the Armstrong-Enderby her Life Membership, which had been delayed since 2020, due to covid and the cancellation of in-person AGMs. Linda Pinchaud, president of the Salmon Arm Branch presented branch member Diane Ambil with a much deserved Life Membership.

Guest Speakers Janet Bradley Worthington, granddaughter of Mah Yick and Deborah Chapman, R.J. Haney Heritage Village Museum and Archives gave a very touching presentation on Mah Yick: A Man of Mystery: Unanswered Questions, Answered! Janet had traveled from Ontario to share stories and memories of her grandfather and her mother, his eldest daughter. Deborah presented the story of Janet's aunt on behalf of her daughter who was not present.

Respectfully submitted,  
Karen Collins

## REPORTS

Okanagan Historical Society  
Annual General Meeting  
Royal Canadian Legion, Branch #62, Salmon Arm, BC  
Sunday, April 23, 2023, 10 am

## **President's Message**

Welcome back to our in-person annual general meetings.

We've had some challenging times; Covid-19 put a strain on many not-for-profit groups, and individuals. Our organization adapted, and our membership understood the changes. Thank you all for your support and continued contributions to the Okanagan Historical Society and to your communities.

This year we transitioned from Zoom meetings to a hybrid meeting model as health restrictions lifted. There are benefits to both in-person and to Zoom meetings, but I am happy we have chosen an in-person format for this meeting.

The 86th Report was released summer 2022, and sales were good. Articles included Battle Drill Comes to Vernon, Italian Immigration to Kelowna, and the Hedley Rockfall of 1935 to name just a few. We are now preparing for the 87th publication. I look forward to reading about new stories of heritage and local history. Please see the Editor's report for further information.

A Heritage Reconciliation Pledge was brought forward in 2021 for discussion. A working committee was formed to review and modify a pledge that reflects the OHS mandate. We are working on this and I look forward to a finalized pledge for our next AGM.

The Father Pandosy Mission site governance continues to be important for the Executive. Domenic Rampone, as OHS representative, is facilitating the transition of the site to the City of Kelowna. Progression was slow in 2022 as a result of the municipal election, but we anticipate movement as the new mayor and council become familiar with the plan. Digby Heritage Services continued conservation work on some of the heritage buildings, funded by the Community Economic Recovery Infrastructure Program (CERIP) grant: \$78,158. While this federal grant is important for the preservation of the site, funding general operations continues to be a great concern. We all hope the site will transition soon and OHS can step back from this heritage property. Please see the Father Pandosy Committee report for further details.

OHS activities slowly resumed in 2022, as branches and communities became comfortable with in-person events. I am very thankful for everyone's work as we continue to record our history and information from our part of British Columbia. Please see Branch reports for details.

Succession planning is a top priority, as we continue to work to make Okanagan history,

and the OHS relevant to younger generations, and our communities. 2025 will mark the Centennial Anniversary for the Okanagan Historical Society. A committee was formed with representatives from all the branches. This committee's mandate is to plan projects and activities that celebrate this momentous achievement. If you are interested in becoming involved in centennial planning, please speak with me, or your branch representative. With grant support and marketing initiatives, we're planning to bring local history to the forefront of our communities.

Respectfully submitted,

K. Lois Marshall

**Secretary's Report  
Okanagan Historical Society  
April 23, 2022**

It has been a very different year for the Okanagan Historical Society, one change being that there are now two people carrying out the duties of Secretary.

Karen Collins has carried out all of the duties of the recording secretary - preparing and distributing agendas, recording and distributing minutes, collecting reports and lists for the annual report. I have carried out the duties of the correspondence secretary- answering all correspondence.

I would like to thank Carmen Kirkland for handling the requests relating to subscriptions and book sales and to Bob Hayes for his input on many information requests that came to me. Their assistance was greatly appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,  
Maggie Ricciardi

**Treasurer's Report**  
Okanagan Historical Society  
2022 Financial Reporting Package  
*By: Amrita Jawanda*



**Okanagan Historical Society**  
**Balance Sheet**  
As of December 31, 2022

	<b>Total</b>
<b>Assets</b>	
<b>Current Assets</b>	
Cash and Cash Equivalent - OHS	
BMO Business Premium Rate Savings	13,097.23
Business Current Account	4,815.42
<b>Total Cash and Cash Equivalent - OHS</b>	<b>\$ 17,912.65</b>
Cash and Cash Equivalent - Father Pandosy	
BUS Chequing - Father Pandosy	56,757.68
Commercial High Interest Savings - Father Pandosy	7,980.01
<b>Total Cash and Cash Equivalent - Father Pandosy</b>	<b>\$ 64,737.69</b>
Accounts Receivable (A/R)	
Accounts Receivable (A/R) - OHS	4,585.70
<b>Total Accounts Receivable (A/R)</b>	<b>\$ 4,585.70</b>
BMO GIC - #1	11,024.53
BMO GIC - #2	11,603.57
Loans To Officers	20.72
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$ 109,884.86</b>
<b>Non-current Assets</b>	
Property, plant and equipment	
Land	1.00
<b>Total Property, plant and equipment</b>	<b>\$ 1.00</b>
<b>Total Non Current Assets</b>	<b>\$ 1.00</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 109,885.86</b>
<b>Liabilities and Equity</b>	
<b>Liabilities</b>	
<b>Current Liabilities</b>	
Deferred Revenue - Father Pandosy	50,421.61
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 50,421.61</b>
<b>Non-current Liabilities</b>	
Invested in Property	1.00
<b>Total Non-current Liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 1.00</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 50,422.61</b>
<b>Equity</b>	
Opening Balance Equity	51,876.50
Retained Earnings	0.00
Profit for the year	7,586.75
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>\$ 59,463.25</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Equity</b>	<b>\$ 109,885.86</b>

**Okanagan Historical Society**  
**Profit and Loss**  
January - December 2022

	<b>Total</b>
<b>INCOME</b>	
Donations	1,655.00
Index	40.00
Insurance Recovery	500.00
Interest - Central OK Foundation	1,351.88
OHS Reports	4,191.00
Armstrong/Enderby	1,710.00
Kelowna	2,880.00
Oliver/Osoyoos	360.00
Penticton	1,080.00
Salmon Arm	720.00
Summerland	720.00
Vernon	1,404.00
Shipping Income	1,502.00
U.S. Exchange	82.19
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 18,196.07</b>
<b>GROSS PROFIT</b>	<b>\$ 18,196.07</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
Bank charges	31.79
Donation - Father Pandosy	500.00
Dues and Subscriptions	115.00
Editing & Layout	4,400.00
Insurance	1,740.00
Internet & Website	661.50
Office expenses	61.48
Post Office Box Rental	185.85
Printing	4,444.65
Professional Fees	1,303.77
Rentals - For Meeting	189.00
Shipping and delivery expense	793.43
Student Essay - Honorarium	2,000.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 16,426.47</b>
<b>OTHER INCOME</b>	
Interest earned	175.09
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>\$ 175.09</b>
<b>PROFIT</b>	<b>\$ 1,944.69</b>

**Father Pandosy Mission**  
**Profit and Loss**  
January - December 2022

		<u>Total</u>
<b>INCOME</b>		
Donations - FP		8,738.92
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>8,738.92</b>
<b>GROSS PROFIT</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>8,738.92</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Advertising - FP		399.00
Insurance - FP		1,378.00
Rental - FP		1,732.50
Repair and maintenance - FP		-3,851.82 <b>Note 1</b>
Supplies - FP		151.44
Utilities - FP		3,335.40
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>3,144.52</b>
<b>OTHER INCOME</b>		
Interest earned		47.66
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>47.66</b>
<b>PROFIT</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>5,642.06</b>
To adjust for 2021 grant revenue		-6,076.72
<b>2022 adjusted net loss</b>	<b>-\$</b>	<b>434.66</b>

**Note 1:**

In a credit balance due to claiming 2021 grant revenue that was not picked up last year.

**Okanagan Historical Society**  
**Deferred Revenue Schedule - Father Pandosy**  
 January - December 2022

**Purpose:** To calculate eligible grant expenses.

	Date	Transaction Type	#	Name	Split	Debit	Balance
<b>Advertising - FP</b>							
	24/05/2022	Cheque Expense	252	Fast Signs	BUS Chequing - Father Pandosy	111.61	111.61
	26/06/2022	Cheque Expense	256	Tourism Kelowna	BUS Chequing - Father Pandosy	399.00	510.61
<b>Total for Advertising - FP</b>						<b>\$ 510.61</b>	
<b>Repair and maintenance - FP</b>							
	01/01/2022	Cheque Expense	124	Digby Heritage Services	BUS Chequing - Father Pandosy	6,076.72	6,076.72
	09/01/2022	Cheque Expense	247	Lesage Smart Homes	BUS Chequing - Father Pandosy	415.67	6,492.39
	09/02/2022	Cheque Expense	249	Digby Heritage Services	BUS Chequing - Father Pandosy	4,604.26	11,096.65
	21/03/2022	Cheque Expense	127	Abro Water Tech	BUS Chequing - Father Pandosy	578.34	11,674.99
	22/04/2022	Cheque Expense	131	Digby Heritage Services	BUS Chequing - Father Pandosy	1,984.50	13,659.49
	13/06/2022	Cheque Expense	253	Digby Heritage Services	BUS Chequing - Father Pandosy	3,832.50	17,491.99
	07/07/2022	Cheque Expense	258	Abro Water Tech	BUS Chequing - Father Pandosy	527.39	18,019.38
	09/08/2022	Cheque Expense	259	Humane Solutions	BUS Chequing - Father Pandosy	204.75	18,224.13
	11/10/2022	Cheque Expense		Digby Heritage Services	BUS Chequing - Father Pandosy	5,050.08	23,274.21
	18/12/2022	Expense	Inv. 12066	D&L Environmental Ltd.	BUS Chequing - Father Pandosy	498.75	23,772.96
<b>Total for Repair and maintenance - FP</b>						<b>\$ 23,772.96</b>	

Fast Signs	111.61
Digby Heritage Services	21,548.06
<b>Total eligible grant expenses for 2022</b>	<b>\$ 21,659.67</b>

**Note 1:**  
 PDW Domenic on November 11, 2022, the only eligible grant expenses are from Fast Signs and Digby Heritage Services.

**Note 2:**  
 Consists of Invoice 21-12 from Digby Heritage Services dated Nov 15, 2021 that was not adjusted for in the prior year.

Total Grant received in May 2021	78,158.00
2021 Eligible expenses claimed in 2022	(6,076.72) <b>Note 2</b>
Eligible expenses in 2022	(21,659.67)
<b>Adjusted Grant Total</b>	<b>\$ 50,421.61</b>

**Balance Sheet**

# Okanagan Historical Society

## A/R Aging Summary

As of December 31, 2022

	CURRENT	1 - 30	31 - 60	61 - 90	91 AND OVER	TOTAL
No. 86 Reports - USD	216.70	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$216.70
No. 86 Reports Outstanding	805.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$805.00
Oliver-Osooyos	0.00	0.00	0.00	360.00	0.00	\$360.00
Penticton	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,080.00	\$1,080.00
Summerland	0.00	0.00	0.00	720.00	0.00	\$720.00
Vernon Branch	0.00	0.00	0.00	684.00	720.00	\$1,404.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,021.70</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$1,764.00</b>	<b>\$1,800.00</b>	<b>\$4,585.70</b>

## Okanagan Historical Society Annual Budget

	<u>2022 Actuals</u>	<u>2022 Budget</u>	<u>2023 Budget</u>	Notes
<b>INCOME</b>				
Donations	1,655.00	500.00	500.00	
Donations - Kiosk Project	0.00		6,000.00	
Advertising Book Revenue			5,000.00	
Index	40.00	-	-	
Insurance Recovery	500.00	700.00	-	
Interest - Central OK Foundation	1,351.88	650.00	700.00	
OHS Reports	4,191.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	
Armstrong/Enderby	1,710.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	
Kelowna	2,880.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	
Oliver/Osoyoos	360.00	300.00	360.00	Invoice for 20 books = \$360
Penticton	1,080.00	1,200.00	1,200.00	Invoice for additional \$720
Salmon Arm	720.00	400.00	400.00	
Summerland	720.00	700.00	720.00	Invoice for 40 books \$720
Vernon	1,404.00	700.00	700.00	
Shipping Income	1,502.00	1,300.00	1,400.00	
U.S. Exchange	82.19	100.00	80.00	
<b>Total Income</b>	<u>\$ 18,196.07</u>	<u>\$ 14,550.00</u>	<u>\$ 25,060.00</u>	
<b>GROSS PROFIT</b>	<u>\$ 18,196.07</u>	<u>\$ 14,550.00</u>	<u>\$ 25,060.00</u>	
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
Bank charges	31.79			
Donation - Father Pandosy	500.00	200.00	200.00	
Kiosk Project Expenses	0.00	-	6,000.00	To nil Kiosk project revenue
Dues and Subscriptions	115.00	40.00	40.00	Added B.C. Historical Magazine
Editing & Layout	4,400.00	100.00	4,400.00	
Insurance	1,740.00	1,800.00	1,800.00	
Internet & Website	661.50	500.00	600.00	
Office expenses	61.48	185.00	200.00	
Printing	4,444.65	9,000.00	5,000.00	
Professional Fees	1,303.77	900.00	500.00	
Rentals - For Meeting	189.00	190.00	190.00	
Post Office Box Rental	185.85		186.00	Separated PO Box Rental
Shipping and delivery expense	793.43	1,300.00	1,500.00	
Student Essay - Honorarium	2,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<u>\$ 16,426.47</u>	<u>\$ 17,215.00</u>	<u>\$ 23,616.00</u>	
<b>OTHER INCOME</b>				
Interest earned	175.09		150.00	
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<u>\$ 175.09</u>	<u>\$ 0.00</u>	<u>\$ 150.00</u>	
<b>PROFIT</b>	<u>\$ 1,944.69</u>	<u>-\$ 2,665.00</u>	<u>\$ 1,594.00</u>	

**Okanagan Historical Society**  
Annual Financial Statement

<b>Income</b>		<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022 Budget</b>
OHS Reports	Armstrong/Enderby	1,602.00	2,574.00	2,106.00	2,000.00
	Kelowna	2,520.00	2,376.00	3,240.00	3,000.00
	Oliver/Osoyoos	450.00	378.00	360.00	300.00
	Penticton	720.00	3,780.00	1,440.00	1,200.00
	Salmon Arm	720.00	720.00	396.00	400.00
	Summerland	670.00	820.00	720.00	700.00
	Vernon	900.00	820.00	720.00	700.00
	Treasurer	3,735.00	3,575.00	3,345.00	3,000.00
<b>Total OHS Reports</b>		<b>11,317.00</b>	<b>15,043.00</b>	<b>12,327.00</b>	<b>11,300.00</b>
Index sales		210.00		35.00	0
Postage & handling		1,409.68	1,302.00	1,327.00	1,300.00
U.S. Exchange		43.87	17.80	22.23	100.00
GST Rebate		178.32	699.62		400.00
Interest	Okanagan Foundation	630.88	630.88		650.00
Insurance recovery		640.00	1,138.07		700.00
Donations	Parent Body	1,460.00	1,470.00	1,115.00	500.00
	Summerland	1,000.00			
	Salmon Arm	389.00	492.00		
	Kelowna			100.00	
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>17,278.75</b>	<b>20,793.37</b>	<b>14,926.23</b>	<b>14,950.00</b>

<b>Expenses</b>		<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022 Budget</b>
Publishing Report	Printing -Report & cards	8,529.83	9,136.94	9,069.34	9,000.00
	Postage & Handling	1,244.10	1,248.91	1,396.01	1,300.00
	Editor's honorarium	2,000.00	3,000.00	3,000	3,000.00
Executive	Secretary stipend	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00
	Treasurer	300.00		600.00	300.00
	President	134.39			
	Editor (photos)		125.58	72.98	100.00
Rentals	Room Rental	189.00	189.00	189.00	190.00
	Post Office Box	181.65	181.65	185.85	185.00
Office supplies	Cheques		153.98		0
Square service chg				12.54	15.00
Insurance		1,695.00	1,708.00	1,715.00	1,800.00
Auditor		860.00	870.00	890.00	900.00
B.C. Registrar		40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00
Website		439.40	1,888.40	11.16	500.00
Student Essay		1,000.00	1,000.00		1,000.00
Advertising		80.00			0
Memberships	BC Historical Federation			150.00	150.00
Father Pandosy	GST	104.10	699.33		200.00
Father Pandosy	Legal fees	200.00			0
Donations/grants	Branches	1,389.00	492.00	100.00	200.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>18,712.15</b>	<b>21,333.79</b>	<b>17,731.88</b>	<b>19,180.00</b>
<b>Net Income/loss</b>		<b>(1,433.40)</b>	<b>540.42</b>	<b>(2,805.65)</b>	<b>(4,230.00)</b>



**Editor's Report**  
**Okanagan Historical Society**  
**April 23, 2023**

First of all, my apologies for not making the OHS Annual General Meeting. I am walking the Via de la Plata in Spain with my brother. I will be back on May 1st and will begin the editing process for this year's Report. All indications are that we will have a full slate of articles, representing all of the branches and geographic area covered by the OHS. The completed report will be ready for distribution in August.

I have received reports from all the branch editors, and we tentatively have thirty articles, not to mention the student essay and other later submissions. There is excellent representation up and down the valley and in the Similkameen. Jenna Bower from the Nk'Mip Desert Cultural Centre is still committing to write an article on the Inkameep Day School including an interview with an elder who attended the school. She has agreed to let us use a piece of art from the Day School for our cover image.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ken Mather

**Oliver Osoyoos Branch Report to the Okanagan Historical Society,  
April 23, 2023 Annual General Meeting**

The Branch has a small but active membership. We continue to have a presence in our communities and promote awareness of local history.

The Branch acts as guardians for the O.H.S. Fairview Townsite property and the Fairview Kiosk. We also distribute the O.H.S Annual Report in Oliver and Osoyoos. As a representative of the Oliver Osoyoos Branch, I have given presentations on "Fairview, The Town That Was" at the Oliver and District Heritage Society A.G.M. and at the Penticton Museum as part of their "Brown Bag", speaker series.

One project that we expect to complete this spring is the completion of necessary maintenance to the Fairview Kiosk. The estimated cost is \$6,000 and we are well on our way to reaching this goal.

**Penticton Branch Report  
Okanagan Historical Society  
April 23, 2023**

The Penticton Branch continues to focus on bringing local heritage to our community. Over the past year we have had successful sales of the 86th Report at Cherry Lane Shopping Centre, the Book Shop and the Dragon's Den. We have also made donations of select back issues to some of the local care facilities.

At each of our three yearly book sales at Cherry Lane we also offer a selection of back issues of the "OHS Report" and books on local history. Donations from families of past branch members and the public keep our inventory interesting. All of our events included displays related to specific heritage topics which opened up a lot of conversations with those who visited our tables.

In February we hosted our annual Heritage Week event at Cherry Lane Shopping Centre over three days. Joining us were the S.S. Sicamous Marine Heritage Society and Kettle Valley Model Train Club, the South Okanagan Genealogical Society and the Penticton & District Stamp Club supported by Randy Manuel's display of sketches and watercolours depicting several of the early post offices. Branch member, Herb Allen had a popular display of interesting and unusual items relating to early homelife and local dairies, supplemented with photos and histories of the local dairies.

We continue to work closely with the Penticton Museum & Archives. The branch recently made a donation to the Museum for two racks to help alleviate map and plan storage in the archives.

Members continue to support local heritage initiatives through participation on committees and providing walking tours. We have a new branch committee focusing on the preservation of local heritage buildings and sites. We look forward to growing our membership and holding more public events!

Respectfully submitted,  
Karen Collins

## Summerland Branch Report

It has been a busy year for the Summerland Branch. The branch has increased tours and lectures in partnership with the local museum. As of last weekend, we have added geology tours. As of April 17th 2023, the Branch Facebook site, has 4,199 interested historians.

Many of our branches are struggling to preserve some of our important heritage buildings. This should be a topic for future meetings.

In Summerland, we have an addition concern: loss of indigenous sites. The latest is Illahie in Trout Creek. The Penticton Indian Band conducted the mandatory

archaeological assessment: there was apparently no concern regarding development. The name Illahie is a Chinook word. The word originates from the Okanagan language: il̓xai. This site contains the highest number of indigenous artifacts in the Okanagan Valley. It has at least one burial site that overlooks the site and is adjacent to the most frequently used trail from the lake to the upper bench. Its history included fisheries, battles and boating. A unique boating technique was the use of il̓xaiut at this site.

This indigenous site is now lost but that was Summerland history too.

Respectfully submitted,  
David Gregory  
OHS Summerland Treasurer

## **KELOWNA BRANCH PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

### **April 2023 OHS AGM**

The Kelowna Branch of the Okanagan Historical Society (OHS) wishes to acknowledge that we are on the traditional and unceded territory of the Syilx people whose proud history in this area dates back more than 11,500 years. It is our wish that the Kelowna Branch forges a stronger relationship with the local Indigenous people as we together strive to record and promote the history – pre and post-contact – of this beautiful part of British Columbia.

The Kelowna Branch has restarted in person activities that we put on hold in 2022. We also continue to work on projects that did not require attendance by the public but that could be enjoyed by them at in person events. These include:

- participation on opening day of Heritage Week on Saturday, February 19th, 2023 at the Kelowna Community Theatre with a display of books and brochures. It was encouraging to see many families with young children attend this event.
- Our biyearly newsletter spring edition was sent out to our membership in March describing our branch activities for 2023.
- The “Kelowna Street Names” book, Third Edition (no books are left of the Second Edition), has been completed and sent to the printer. This edition has more information on the spouses and families of the original street name articles. We anticipate it being available for purchase by late spring 2023.
  
- The Kelowna Branch AGM was held in person for the first time since 2019 at Benvoulin Heritage Church and Reid Hall on April 1st with Don Burnett, local horticulturalist speaking. A light tea was served. Tickets were \$25 which included the \$20 membership for 2023/2024. We had a good turn out. Members comments were positive especially on the time of the event as the majority of members are older and prefer activities during the day.
  
- The Tractor Show is slated for May 27th and 28th at Father Pandosy Mission site. Entrance to the park is by donation.
- We are again offering to two School District 23 secondary school students to assist them in further studies at college or university a \$1000 bursary.
- The Kelowna Pioneer Cemetery Signage Project continues with the installation of more signs this year recognizing “Dr. Reba Willits” (a member of the Bailey family and the first female doctor in Kelowna) and “Early Health Issues (Spanish Influenza and Polio epidemics). Both have their locations chosen but not yet installed. Text for signs about “Japanese Heritage”, “Italian Heritage”, “Edith Gay” and “Agriculture” are nearing completion. Completed signs and installed: “Ranching”, “Cemetery History”, “Chinese Heritage” and “Francophones”. Each sign with installation cost is \$1,200. The Kelowna branch goal is for 20 signs for this project. We received a grant in 2022 for \$5000 from the Central Okanagan Foundation to help with the project and will apply for further grant

funding to continue with the project until completion.

- The "Daily Courier" newspaper column has continued to run weekly. Copies of the articles from 2022 were given to local museums and other heritage based organizations and societies.

- Our annual Heritage Picnic will be held for the first time in three years on July 23rd at Benvoulin Heritage Church gardens in conjunction with the Central Okanagan Heritage Society. Guests are invited to bring a picnic lunch and enjoy the replanted gardens. Cake will be served.

Kelowna branch directors and members are eagerly anticipating participating in these activities once again. One member mentioned how lonely it had been not seeing and talking with other members in person during the pandemic, now they can!

Respectfully submitted,

Margot Pridham  
Kelowna Branch President

**Okanagan Historical Society AGM**  
**23 April 2023**  
**Armstrong-Enderby Branch Report**

Our branch held two meetings over the past year. The first one after Covid restrictions were eased was our general meeting held in the Armstrong Museum on October 30, 2022 with about 20 people in attendance. We were finally able to enjoy the presentation that Len Gamble had created for the society's AGMs which were ultimately cancelled in 2020, 2021 and 2022.

Len's presentation was entitled 'Fortune School: Birth and Rebirth'. He covered each major stage of the A.L. Fortune School's development including its construction in 1913, the formation of School District No. 78, the loss and regaining of the school's name, the devastating fire of 1975, how space was found for students in Enderby following the fire, construction of the new building and the great move-in day of 1978. All of this was accompanied by photos and personal details as Len was the principal of the school at the time of the fire and during the post construction period.

Our AGM was held in the Enderby Museum on April 16, 2023 with approximately 14 people in attendance. Bob Cowan spoke about the scope and differences among the Enderby Heritage Commission, the Armstrong-Enderby branch of the OHS and the Enderby Museum Society.

Bob is a historian who wears many hats. He has been the Enderby branch editor of the OHS for over 30 years, chair of the Enderby and District Heritage Commission for 25 years and is past-president and current secretary of the Enderby and District Museum Society. Bob explained how these three groups came to be created and gave examples of the work that has been done, and is still being done, by them. He emphasized that all three groups have exhibited cooperation in supporting awareness and care of Enderby's heritage.

Our branch has undertaken two projects involving the historic Lansdowne Cemetery. The first is in conjunction with a volunteer with the Last Post Fund. One of this organization's initiatives is the 'Unmarked Grave Program', the objective of which is to provide a permanent military marker for Veterans who lie in unmarked graves. There are two such WWI Veterans buried at Lansdowne; Robert Woodhouse who died 100 years ago in 1923 and Henry James Austin who died in 1975.

Our second project coincides with the commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the Okanagan Historical Society in 2025. We are focusing on the village of Lansdowne which was situated between our two communities. It once boasted a post office, church, hotel and several businesses but fell into almost immediate decline when bypassed by the Shuswap and Okanagan Railway in 1892. There are now private homes where the village used to be so the Lansdowne Cemetery is the only tangible reminder that it ever

existed. This makes the cemetery an ideal location for signage, preferably a plaque, depicting a map and legend of the original town site.

Congratulations to the Enderby and District Museum Society who is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year and a special 'Happy Birthday' to Marion Hope of Armstrong who celebrated her 99th birthday in February. Marion sells the OHS Reports at our fall meetings.

Respectfully submitted  
Carmen Kirkland, president.



## **OHS Salmon Arm Branch Report April 2023**

This year has been a successful year of in person meetings for our branch. It seems Zoom meetings are a thing of the past!

During this past year, we held a luncheon in June at the Sprig of Heather, with a presentation by, Blane Ready, on the Ready Family, including an interesting account of the Montebello Fire. We were also pleased to present, Dorothy Rolin, with a Branch Life Membership for her dedicated support of our branch.

September brought the Fall Fair and our displays in Heritage Lane. As always, visitors to the booth were fascinated with the aerial photographs.

We held a book sale at Piccadilly Mall in November; our publications on local history continue to have slow but steady sales.

Barbara Raynor's long-term project to honour World War 1 Veterans is continuing. During Remembrance Day week, Barbara created a display at Piccadilly Mall honouring our soldiers. The short list of local veterans has grown to be astonishingly long and highlights the fact many of our veterans are being forgotten as time marches on.

Our Christmas social with, Estelle Noakes, giving a presentation on the Carlin House was well attended. The Carlin House is slated to be demolished for highway expansion, so the presentation was very timely. We were fortunate to have two members of the family join us.

Members continue to interview local 'Old Timers', to preserve their memories of the past. This is very time-consuming project, but well worth their efforts. In January, the focus shifted to preparations for the Valley AGM to be held here in April. The presentation will be about the Mah Yick family.

As always, we continue to search for ways to keep our branch thriving as our numbers continue to decline.

Respectfully submitted,  
Linda Painchaud  
Okanagan Historical Society AGM

## **Father Pandosy Mission Committee Report April 23rd, 2023**

There is much to report about the historic Father Pandosy Mission during this past year 2022 – 2023:

- The site received many visitors from all over the world, including a number of hosted tours for school children and various local groups and societies. The first tour of 2023 was held on the morning of April 18th, when 25 grade eight photography students and their teacher spent an hour at the Mission site, learning about its history and exploring and photographing the grounds and historic buildings.
- The Mission site is now open to the public, with buildings unlocked, providing limited access to the buildings. The grounds and buildings are in need of a post-winter clean-up but nothing has yet been scheduled to achieve this.
- Restoration work by Digby Heritage Services, funded by a heritage grant, has continued, with work done on the buildings, including windows and window frames, foundations, etc. This work has come to a temporary halt but it is anticipated that restoration work will soon start up again, provided by a yet-to-be determined heritage consultant. The heritage grant has been extended, allowing the project to be completed as planned,
- Negotiations with the City of Kelowna about the future of the Mission site are ongoing. It is hoped that 2023 will see more progress made, as to who will take over the ownership and management of the Mission building and grounds. In the meantime, the Father Pandosy Mission Committee, a committee of the Okanagan Historical Society Executive Council, will continue to operate and manage the site, working closely with the Mission's resident caretaker, Chris Fabbi.
- Donations for use of the site are now starting to pour in. The onsite donation box is regularly checked and emptied by a member of the Father Pandosy Mission Committee. Donations – cash or cheques – are collected and forwarded to Amrita Jawanda, Father Pandosy Mission Committee Treasurer, for deposit into its account, allowing any and all outstanding bills and financial commitments to be met. These donations were further supplemented by generous funding provided by the Kelowna Branch (OHS) and the OHS Executive Council.
- Recently, City of Kelowna staff members visited the Mission site and inspected onsite trees, reporting back to the Father Pandosy Mission Committee chair on the condition and possible requirements of the large number of trees on the Mission property.
- The annual antique tractor show and display is scheduled to take place at the Father Pandosy Mission on the week-end of May 27 and 28. This popular event always draws lots of people – including young families – to the Mission site and is an excellent opportunity to promote the significance of the Mission buildings and grounds. It is also an excellent source of revenue, with a substantial donation provided by the members of the local antique tractor club. Members of the Kelowna Branch of the Okanagan Historical Society offer their assistance by “manning” one of the entrances to the site,

collecting entrance fees and donations by visitors.

Members of the Father Pandosy Mission Committee anticipate that the year ahead will be another important one for the Mission site and thank everyone who has been actively involved in maintaining and managing this important part of our history.

Respectfully submitted,  
Father Pandosy Mission Committee

**Okanagan Historical Society AGM**  
**Student Essay Report**  
**Apr. 23, 2023**

As previously reported, this year there have been several unusual problems with the entries in the Student Essay Contest.

Many of the entries received were not in compliance with the guidelines as listed on the website, and several had to be modified to comply before being submitted for judging. As a result, I will be revising the criteria listed online to make the requirement for compliance clearer.

After assessment of the entries by three judges, the winner of the 2023 contest is Tasia Valencia of Coquitlam, for her essay about an early incident of racism in the Okanagan. Tasia is a high school student at Dr. Charles Best Secondary School, and has been working at the Mackin House Museum in Coquitlam. She will be using the prize money to help with her post-secondary education. Because of a previous commitment she was unable to join us today to receive her award in person.

Respectfully submitted,  
Diane Ambil

**Index Committee Report  
Okanagan Historical Society  
April 23, 2023**

We are still working on the index of the last report, #85. We hope to have it completed and uploaded by the fall.

My partner Faith Hudson has run out of steam. Faith worked with the original committee back in 2003 when we decided to design and create a new database for the index to sit on our website. At that time Dorothy Zoellner was our chairman, and five of us - all life members - went systematically through Dave MacDonald's original index to revise and update it. Faith helped to design the database and proceeded to enter all of our listings. Since that time she has indexed every report, given me a paper copy to add or change entries, then she has uploaded the information line by line to the database.

Faith has submitted her resignation. I would like to ask our president and corresponding secretary to write Faith a letter thanking her for her generous contributions of time, thought and energy to this important OHS project.

I am unable to do this project alone. I can stay on as your Index Director-at-Large, but I will need a lot of help to index the next report. I leave it in your hands.

Joan Cowan, Director at Large

**Okanagan Historical Society**  
**April 23, 2023**  
**Annual General Meeting**  
**Membership Committee**

This is a new committee. It was born out of the need to take on several of the duties that were being performed by Joan and Bob Cowan which they had taken on over and above their respective roles as secretary and treasurer. Amrita Jawanda (treasurer), David Gregory (Summerland branch), Ken Mather (editor) and I met in June 2022 to discuss strategy.

The most immediate task was to address the distribution of new Reports to the branches. A written procedure for the delivery and billing system was established with David being responsible for the branches in Summerland, Penticton and Oliver-Osoyoos and Ken for those in Kelowna, Vernon, Armstrong-Enderby and Salmon Arm.

The second task was to address the mailing of new Reports to those on the society's subscription list, as well as those requesting one off copies. I offered to take on this responsibility along with the associated bookkeeping and banking duties.

The third task was to address the storage of the society's collection of inventoried Reports and other publications. I offered to take this on, as well as to maintain the 'wish' list for those looking for specific years of the Report to fill in their collections.

The fourth task was to address the issue of whether to keep the society's post office box in Vernon. Although the treasurer is now in Kelowna and the secretary's position is being done by two people in Penticton, payments for the mailed-out reports would come through the post. As I live in Coldstream, it seems logical to keep the post office box in Vernon and for me to pick up the mail and forward any correspondence as required.

The fifth task was to address the maintenance of the society's membership list, hence the name of this committee. I offered to take this on as this responsibility goes hand in hand with sales of our Report.

These recommendations were presented to the Executive Council in July 2022, given the green light and duly circulated to the branches.

As it sometimes goes when new procedures are implemented, there were a couple of hiccups with regard to the new billing system for the branches this past year.

With regard to the subscription list, Joan and Bob Cowan, my husband, Bill, and I invoiced, labelled and stuffed 134 copies of the No. 86 Report into envelopes and carted them off to the post office this past September. It is of interest to note that 24 of these Reports went to museums, libraries and universities. Six of these are located in

the United States and include the Family Search Library in Salt Lake City, Utah and Harvard University Library in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

At least 27 names will be dropped from the subscription list for the No. 87 Report and at least 19 new names will be added. Canada Post has changed its classification for mailing books to the US so they no longer qualify for the surface mail postage rate that we were paying. Books are now deemed to be parcels no matter what the weight/size which increases the cost of mailing our Report stateside by almost 40%. Each of these books must now also be accompanied by a customs declaration before being dropped off at the post office.

When the society's book inventory arrived at my home last year it contained over 700 Reports, 6 Indexes and 245 copies of the Okanagan Brigade Trail in the South Okanagan. I then acquired several early Reports through two estates that we did not have. Nineteen Reports and 1 index have since been sold and 64 Reports have been donated to organizations. Two hundred of the Okanagan Brigade Trail books were given to David Gregory for use in the south Okanagan.

The Executive Council also agreed in July 2022 to the recommendation that the number of inventoried Reports be reduced to a maximum of 10 copies per Report year up to and including the 79th Report (2015). This would reduce the inventory by about 250 books. A maximum of 50 issues for each of the years after the 79th Report will be kept for the time being.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carmen Kirkland