

**Okanagan Historical Society
Annual General Meeting Minutes
April 25, 2021 via Zoom**

CALL TO ORDER: President Lois Marshall called the meeting to order. Eighteen members participated in the meeting.

NOTICE OF CALL: Diane Ambil read the Notice of Call as printed in Okanagan History # 84.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

Motion: That the minutes of the May 17, 2020 annual general meeting be adopted as printed in the 84th Annual Report and the society website.

B. Hayes / H. Thorburn. Carried.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES: None

CORRESPONDENCE:

A thank you note from the office of the Premier of BC for working on the Father Pandosy Site and for receiving the grant.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS:

a) President - Lois Marshall
See attached

b) Secretary – Joan Cowan
See attached

c) Treasurer – Bob Cowan
See attached

Motion: That the treasurer's report be adopted as presented.

B. Cowan / Mary Trainer. Carried.

Motion: That Cecil Schmidt be appointed auditor for the next year.

B. Cowan / D Amble. Carried.

d) Editor – Ken Mather
See attached

BRANCH REPORTS:

a) Oliver / Osoyoos – Larry Shannon
See attached. Sometime in the future the sign with the contentious wording will be updated.

b) Penticton – Karen Collins
See attached

- c) Summerland – George Downton (Mary Trainer)
See attached
- d) Kelowna – Bob Hayes
See attached.
Pioneer Cemetery Tours may have to be put on hold due to COVID protocols.
- e) Vernon – Herb Thorburn
See attached
- f) Armstrong / Enderby – Carmen Kirkland
See attached
- g) Salmon Arm – Linda Painchaud
See attached

DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE:

- a) Father Pandosy – Domenic Rampone
See attached
Donations are still coming in and the site is still being used despite the buildings being closed. Thank you to Domenic and Bob for all the hard work they have put into the site.
- b) Student Essay – Diane Ambil
See attached
Suggestion to send out information to all history teachers in the Okanagan, Similkameen Valley school districts.
- c) Website – Lois Marshall
See attached
The online donation “box” works.
- d) Index – Joan Cowan
See attached
Happy that the server has been moved to the new company Checkmate Consulting and also that Eric charges a third of the previous company’s cost.

Motion: That the reports of the Table Officers, Branch Presidents, and Directors-at-Large be adopted as received.

D. Ambil /L.Pinchaud. Carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Election of Officers – The following table officers are nominated:

- President – Lois Marshall
- Vice President – Larry Shannon
- Secretary – Joan Cowan

Treasurer – Bob Cowan

Editor – Ken Mather

Motion: That the officers be elected by acclamation.

L. Pinchaud / B.Hayes. Carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Thank you from Lois Marshall to all the directors in their support of history and staying involved through the challenges of Zoom.

Penticton branch member David Morgenstern has gone into dementia care. He was a very active member of the branch.

Bob Hayes thanked Ken Mather for all his work in editing the report which is reflected in the sales.

Mary thanked Ken Mather for all his work and for answering her questions.

Linda Pinchaud thanked Lois Marshall for showing her how to run a Zoom meeting.

Ken Mather reminded us the deadline for the 86th Report article submission is today April 25, 2021 and compliments to Penticton for the outstanding sales.

Larry Shannon thanked Lois Marshall and the Father Pandosy Mission committee for their very valuable contribution to the society.

Motion to adjourn by president Lois Marshall at 10:48 noon.

Next Executive Council Meeting: Sunday July 11, 2021 possible hybrid of Zoom and in person if COVID protocols allow.

Next OHS AGM: Sunday April 24, 2022 in Enderby

Respectfully submitted,

Margot Pridham (Joan Cowan)

Notice: All of the reports presented at the AGM may be found online on the Society's website: okanaganhistoricalsociety.org.

**Okanagan Historical Society
Annual General Meeting
Remote/ZOOM
Sunday, April 25, 2021**

President's Message

This last year continued online in order to follow Public Health Orders around the Covid-19 Pandemic.

We learned how to meet remotely using new technology (Zoom meetings). It created challenges and opportunities for our Executive Members and our Branches. I look forward to a vaccine, and a time when there is opportunity to return to a more “normal” meeting environment, or some form of hybrid model.

The 84th Report was released summer 2020. Articles included Fruit Processing and Canning in the South Okanagan, which brought back memories of canning with my family. Sales have now slowed as we prepare for this year's publication. I look forward to reading about family tributes, and new stories of heritage and local history.

The Society table officers met in November 2020 with Summerland Branch, to review the Sod Roof Cabin at the bottom of Summerland hill (4500 Landry Crescent). We discussed a draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) related to the preservation of the Sod Roof Cabin. OHS recognizes the historical significance of the building, but believe preserving it does not fall under the mandate of the Society. We will support others who are better equipped to take on this valuable task.

The Father Pandosy Mission Site governance continues on the agenda for the Executive. The site governance report was completed (on file with Secretary), and submitted to the relevant parties, who all agreed that we are moving in the right direction, transitioning the property away from the OHS, to the City of Kelowna. All recognize the historical significance of this site, to the City of Kelowna and the Okanagan. Domenic Rampone has been appointed “Facilitator” for the discussions between the City of Kelowna and the Diocese of Nelson. However, this process continues to take time. While the buildings have been closed this past year, other Father Pandosy Mission initiatives continue. The Father Pandosy Committee unsuccessfully applied for an Operating Grant with the City (\$6,000). However, they were successful with a Community Economic Recovery Infrastructure Program (CERIP) grant in the amount of \$78,158. Digby Heritage Services will do conservation and preservation work on eleven buildings over the next two years (application on file with Secretary). Please see the Father Pandosy Committee report for further details.

Many of our members are considered compromised, so numerous Branch activities have been curtailed or cancelled this past year. However, all is not quiet. Our members continue to support and promote the history of their specific area, as well as the Okanagan, Shuswap, and Similkameen as a whole, where and when they can. I am very thankful for everyone's work as we continue to tell the stories of our part of British Columbia.

There is a new look to the OHS website as the platform, and content has been updated. Please see the Website report for further details.

I believe succession planning for the OHS will be on the minds for many of our branches and the Executive in the coming years, as we continue to work to make Okanagan history, and the OHS relevant to the younger generation, and our communities.

Respectfully submitted,

K. Lois Marshall

Okanagan Historical Society
April 25, 2021
Secretary Report

This has been an extremely difficult year from the perspective of your secretary. Personally I found it difficult adjusting to this new virtual world.. I wish to thank Margot Pridham and Karen Collins for stepping in to take minutes of our zoom meetings. And I wish to thank all of our executive council members for their generous support and understanding.

I would like to remind everyone to send in the membership cards that they have collected during the year. The stack of cards is considerably less this year, probably because we have not been able to meet in person.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Cowan

Okanagan Historical Society
Annual General Meeting (Remote/ZOOM)
Sunday, April 25, 2021
Editor's Report

Last year's report was my first attempt at editing and presented challenges and learning experiences. The 84th Report of *Okanagan History* was completed in mid-August and distribution started on August 22. The report amounted to 243 pages, which I consider to be a little too long. This year, I will aim for about 220 pages.

There was a Branch Editors' Meeting via Zoom held on October 18, 2020 to review the new report and suggest changes for the 2021 report. There was a discussion concerning changing the format of the book to and 11 X 14 size but the consensus was that it should keep its traditional format. It was also suggested that we make an attempt to include more diversity in our report and more articles on the Indigenous, Chinese and Japanese contributions to our history.

On March 14, 2021, there was another branch editors' meeting via Zoom to discuss the upcoming report. It was agreed that the Style Guide be amended to have only the numbers from one to ten spelled out, the rest to be in numeral form. It was also agreed that editors should submit an extra photo for each article, so that white space at the end of the article can be filled if necessary.

Work on this year's report is proceeding rapidly. There are already 27 articles received and another four on the way. The deadline for submissions is April 25. Unfortunately, we have not received any submissions for the Student Essay contest.

Respectfully submitted,
Ken Mather

Oliver Osoyoos Branch Report to the Okanagan Historical Society April 24, 2021 Annual General Meeting

The Branch has not had any meetings recently but a significant accomplishment was having the restored Glenn Clark murals with new protective polycarbonate coverings installed on Sept. 3rd 2020, at the Fairview Kiosk site. They look good.

I have been representing the Oliver Osoyoos branch in a several capacities. I recently lead a group from the Oliver and District Heritage Society on a hike up to the old Fairview cemetery. We used the new trail developed last year because access via the traditional route was becoming a problem. I am happy to report that this trail is now becoming quite popular as an access to the cemetery and other areas in the hills just west of Oliver. I am also contributing to a book that acknowledges the 100th anniversary of Oliver.

The O.H.S. Fairview Kiosk site continues to be popular. The fact that the Fairview Townsite Society has developed a walking trail through the adjacent 80 acres they administer, certainly helps to attract visitors to the site. However the murals located at the O.H.S. Fairview Kiosk were briefly the centre of a controversy. One commenter on a local Oliver heritage Facebook group wrote that the Fairview Kiosk site did not adequately the fact that the First Nations people have been occupying the land for thousands of years. This in turn generated more comments. Most of these comments suggested that the sign was not offensive in its content. The O.H.S. was not mentioned. We understand the concern and do believe that if the comments accompanying the murals were composed today, there would be a greater acknowledgement of the First Nations presence in the area. However the Kiosk is about the changes made by the European immigrants. Other readers pointed out that in a way it is complementary to the First Nations in that they were able to occupy the land without having an impact on it.

Respectively Submitted,
Larry Shannon
Oliver Osoyoos Branch

Penticton Branch Report
Okanagan Historical Society
April 25, 2021

As with most organizations due to the COVID-19 virus in-person activities have come to a standstill for the Penticton branch. It has been the quietest year we have had for some time. The last group outing held by the Penticton branch was a tour led by Randy Manuel in October 2020 on a visit to the old section of Penticton's Lakeview Cemetery. Although the weather was crisp and a little wet, the tour was enjoyed by the group of fourteen that attended.

The 84th OHS book publication was well promoted, and book sales held. Jeanette allowed us to make greater use of her store and courtyard to hold book sales in the early fall and the parks group, hosted a sale organized by author Carolae Donoghue, at the Lakeside Hotel. The branch was unable to hold its regular book sales at Cherry Lane Shopping Centre in the fall however, the Book Store and Dragons Den continued to stock and sell our books.

We also had to cancel the regular Heritage Week display that our branch hosts each February. To recognize Heritage Week this year The Herald showcased a short article written by Randy Manuel on the building of the Kettle Valley Railway (KVR).

Randy Manuel and I were among a group of volunteers who assisted in providing information for the proposal to have a heritage conservation covenant registered on the title of the Riordon House property, to protect the house from any future redevelopment. It was unanimously authorized by council and the City Heritage Registry will reflect an updated Statement of Significance.

Jeanette Beavan and I are both members of the Heritage & Museum Advisory Committee for the city for the term ending in 2022. Randy Manuel participates upon request. At the suggestion of the committee the city is seeking a grant from Heritage BC to fund a public education campaign through the Penticton Museum aimed to raise awareness of the city's heritage. In part the museum is planning to hold an exhibit over five to six months. The Penticton branch will participate in supporting the museum.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Collins

Summerland Branch

April 25, 2021

With Covid, there has been a reduction in branch activities.

The branch continues to submit weekly historic topics in the local Summerland Review. Under the title the “Early Years”, it features an historic photograph and a brief description.



Holt

Since the last report, the branch hosted two historic tours. These tours used social distancing, separate vehicles, detailed travel guides and cellphones. The tours included the **Millionaires Row**. In the early days, some of Canada’s richest citizens owned orchards in Summerland (actually several were billionaires). This included Sir Herbert Holt, Canada’s richest citizen. Paramount films, Alberta Power and the Holt Renfrew Stores were just a few of Holt’s businesses. The second tour was the **Fur Brigade Trail**. The branch plans to host two more tours by June. These tours have been conducted for many years

During the second week of May, the branch will present First Nation plant use to one elementary school class. This class was introduced to native history and plant use last October. The school has increased content of local native history and altered the school logo to include a local First Nation legend.



Bitterroot

The museum will be expanding their digitization of the Summerland Review newspapers. Previously the years 1908-1929 were digitized. Now, the next years 1946-1965, will be available on the Net. These digitized records greatly assist historic research.

Respectfully submitted

George Downtown

Kelowna Branch President's Report April 25th, 2021

As President of the Kelowna Branch, it is my pleasure and privilege to give this report to the Okanagan Historical Society's 2021 Annual General Meeting. Despite the obvious challenges of COVID-19, the Kelowna Branch continues to be busy and productive, involved with a number of projects and initiatives:

- **Branch Executive Meetings:** The Kelowna Branch held three "Zoom" Executive / Director Meetings during this past year, allowing discussion and implementation of projects and initiatives.
- **Branch Social Events:** Because of COVID-19 restrictions, the Kelowna Branch was unable to host its Annual General Meeting and banquet, Pioneer Picnic, Fall Social, and December Rona calendar and book sale.
- **Branch Update:** In June 2020 a "Branch Update" was sent by email / Canada Post to Kelowna Branch members, informing them of branch activities and projects. Another update is planned for May 2021.
- **Newspaper Articles:** Since 1994, the Kelowna Branch has had its weekly newspaper column in the "Daily Courier". It has now passed 1,200 articles, covering a variety of topics and written by numerous local authors. A series of articles highlighting the lives of seven early pioneer women, living in the Central Okanagan from the 1860s and 1870s, was part of this year's series and was well-received.
- **OHS "Report":** Although unable to sell the "Report" book at its community events, the Kelowna Branch has sold more than 160 books, directly to its members or through Mosaic Books and the Kelowna and Lake Country museums. As in the past, the Kelowna Branch has submitted a number of Central Okanagan-based articles and obituaries for the upcoming "Report".
- **Community Outreach:** The Kelowna Branch is actively involved with community outreach, including online "Zoom" presentations to several groups, co-sponsoring (with Kelowna Museums and following COVID-19 safety protocols) tours of Kelowna Pioneer Cemetery, and through financial support of various local history / heritage-based initiatives.
- **Heritage Week 2021:** The Kelowna Branch participated in planning Heritage Week 2021. It had a representative at the online planning sessions, made a financial contribution towards advertising events, and devoted two weeks of its weekly "Courier" column to promoting Heritage Week 2021.
- **Annual General Meeting:** The April 6, 2021 "Zoom" meeting served as the Branch Annual General Meeting, including election of Branch Executive and Directors for 2021 – 2022.
- **2021 Calendar:** The 2021 calendar was very popular, all 300 calendars sold. The calendar is a very successful fundraiser for the Kelowna Branch. Plans are in place for the 2022 calendar.
- **Membership:** The Kelowna Branch has a very healthy membership base, more than 150 members. Because of curtailed Branch activities, membership fees were not collected this past year and will again be waived for 2021 – 2022.

- **Street Names Book:** Since its release in 2010, “Kelowna Street Names – Their Origins” has been a popular source of local history, most of its 1,500 copies now sold. A committee is editing and revising this book, the goal being to have the third edition printed by the summer of 2021.
- **Pandosy Mission:** The Kelowna Branch continues to carefully monitor the Mission site. It is in direct communication with the onsite resident caretaker, collects donated monies for deposit in the Father Pandosy Mission account, and promotes the careful and respectful use of this historic site. It did not receive a City of Kelowna grant this past year, but funding from other sources ensures that the site will be “up and running”, although buildings will continue to be locked because of COVID-19 restrictions.
- **Social Media / Website:** The Kelowna Branch has updated its website, making better use of social media, informing members and the public of Branch activities and allowing better direct communicate with the Kelowna Branch.

I extend my appreciation to the hard-working Kelowna Branch Executive and Directors for their hard work and dedication. Their ongoing energy and enthusiasm during this very challenging year is acknowledged and much-appreciated. We work well as a team and the upcoming year promises to be busy and productive.

Respectfully submitted

Robert M. “Bob” Hayes
President
Kelowna Branch

Vernon Branch Report - 25 April, 2021

Since the last Executive Council meeting in February via “Zoom” the Vernon Branch has remained inactive in terms of meetings and presentations.

With our usual sales opportunities at branch meetings not available and limited at the Museum, and the complete loss of sales by the defunct Bookland, our sales of OHS Report #84 have not increased and remain at 30 of the 40 we were issued.

At the same time, sales of Peter Tassie’s “Water from the Hills”, have been very active to the point where we have sold all available copies. This has prompted new activity in preparing for a third reprint with reviews and changes to improve the second printing. We are now ready for printing and have decided to produce another 100 copies.

Respectfully submitted,
Apr 2021

Herb Thorburn 25

Okanagan Historical Society AGM
Armstrong-Enderby Branch Report

25 April 2021

The continuing Covid-19 Pandemic has precluded our branch from holding any meetings since November 2019 and, once again, we were unable to host the Society's AGM today.

Just days ago the B.C. government once again strengthened province-wide restrictions even as its Immunization Plan has reached Phase 3. With any luck we will all have had our second doses by October, can hold a branch meeting in November and the Society's AGM in 2022; so looking forward to meeting with people in person once again!

Respectfully submitted,
Carmen Kirkland, Branch President

OHS Salmon Arm Branch President's Report
25 April 2021

The past year has been an interesting but difficult one for our members. Most members are not comfortable with Zoom, so I have been trying to keep in touch with them in other ways. For me, the downtime has been productive, as I have been able to read the minutes from the very first meeting of our branch up to present day, so I have a clearer view of the goals of our branch.

Throughout the past year we had a small display for Heritage Week, kept our bookstores supplied with our various publications, have been creating an inventory of all the various items stored in the basements of our member and held a small AGM last week. Diane and Dorothy have been working on the website and Diane has some terrific stories for the next report.

Respectfully submitted
Linda Painchaud

April 19, 2021

Update Father Pandosy Mission Site Transition

We are heading into an exciting time; The Bishop of the Nelson Diocese has agreed to appoint me to facilitate meetings with The City of Kelowna and his office to begin formal negotiations between the two parties. He was very pleased that we received the grant from Heritage BC in the amount of \$ 78,000.00 to begin restoration on the buildings on the Mission site. This work will start in June.

The City of Kelowna is also pleased that we received this grant.

I would like to thank the Executive Branch for their support in this initiative

I hope a further update for the Meeting in May

I will submit under separate cover a note that we received from the premier

Respectfully submitted

Domenic Rampone

Okanagan Historical Society Student Essay Contest
Report to A.G.M.
Apr. 25, 2021

As no entries had been received for the Student Essay Contest, we won't have one to include in the Report this year. We think this was due to a combination of factors:

- we discovered that the Essay section on the newly-redesigned OHS website had been "buried" under Annual Reports, and was hard to find.
- it was found that our usual ad in B.C. History magazine had been left out; this may have been because of Andrea Lister's retirement, as she usually handled our ad.
- the notice about the contest was inadvertently left out of the 84th Report.
- an internet search of "student essay contests" doesn't bring up ours; it only shows up in a search beginning with Okanagan Historical Society, so anyone not already aware of our contest wouldn't find it.

All these factors are being corrected, so we hope for better results next year.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Ambil, Student Essay Contest co-ordinator

**Okanagan Historical Society
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Remote/ZOOM
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Website Report

Eric Hudson, Checkmate Consulting, was contracted to assist OHS in refreshing and re-designing our site.

The website committee included David Gregory, Carmen Kirkland, Vickie Karogiannis, Joan Cowan and I.

The new OHS website has been launched on a new platform, with updated content. A template was used to maintain consistency, and a common look and feel. There are admin panels on branch pages so that events can be updated. Major changes to the site will be handled by Eric for the time being. Donations are being handled through Square.

Please review the website www.okanaganhistoricalsociety.org and let me know what you think.

My sincere thank you to the committee, especially David, Joan and Vickie.

The new website will disseminate OHS and branch activities, and is hoped to help bring in donations, assist Okanagan researchers and eventually assist with book sales.

Respectfully submitted,

K. Lois Marshall

Okanagan Historical Society
April 25, 2021
Index Report

We were able to complete the task of indexing the 84th report by the first of December. Following the launch of the new website in February, Faith was finally able to add these names and subject headings to the index online. The index is now up to date and functioning well.

I wish to thank Faith Hudson for her tireless work in ensuring that the entries online are entered and accurate. As she said in a recent email, "We do make a good team...What will they do when you and I are no longer able to do this??"

Respectfully submitted,
Joan Cowan