



Museum & Archives

CORTES ISLAND BRITISH COLUMBIA

Autumn Newsletter 2017

957 Beasley Road, Box 422 Mansons Landing BC V0P 1K0 cimas@twincomm.ca 250-935-6340 cortesmuseum.ca

MUSEUM WINTER HOURS
FRIDAY & SATURDAY 12-4 P.M.
SEPTEMBER-MAY

.....
COMING UP!
.....

LITERARY AFTERNOONS

Come and listen to Cortes authors
Monica Nawrocki, Norm Gibbons, Oriane
Lee Johnston, Joan Bevington and Gail
Millbank reading from their work in the
Museum on **Sunday, November 12 from
2.00 to 3.30 p.m.** Tea, coffee and goodies
afterwards.

Mark your calendar for the next ones, all
on Sundays: Jan. 21, Feb. 18, and one in
March (date to be decided).

.....
CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17 AT 9 A.M.

Laurel Bohart will lead Christmas Bird
Count this year!

Each year CIMAS co-sponsors the Cortes
Island Christmas Bird Count with Bird
Studies Canada. In similar bird counts
throughout North America, volunteers
brave winter weather to add a new layer
to over a century of data. These annual
Christmas Bird Counts are the longest-
running Citizen Science surveys in the
world and all the observations are entered
into the Audubon database.

On Cortes Island, participants will be
divided into small groups led by an
experienced birder, so no prior experience
is necessary. A hot lunch (meat or

vegetarian chilli, salad,
bread & cookies) catered by
Suzanne, may be reserved –
\$13/person.

A small donation to cover
expenses is appreciated.



Participants are asked to pre-register by
email or by phone:

cimas@twincomm.ca | 250-935-6340

CANADA 150 PROJECT UPDATE

hɛkʷ čɛ θ tuwa? // Where do you come from?

We have had a lot to reflect on and to be grateful for as we celebrate this harvest season. Over at the Museum, our harvest consists of a beautiful exhibit on Refuge Cove; the beginnings of Wild Cortes, a new permanent natural history exhibition at Linnaea Farm; and a fascinating exploration into our personal and collective histories with the “hɛkʷ čɛ θ tuwa? // Where do you come from?” project.

The “hɛkʷ čɛ θ tuwa? // Where do you come from?” project was born out of conversations between Klahoose Elder and Museum Board Member Rose Hanson, her daughter, singer Brenda Hanson, and Brittany Baxter, our programmer. As the rest of the country marked the passing of 150 years since the founding of the nation of Canada, we wanted to take this important opportunity to explore our past and present through the lens of reconciliation in our community.

Over the summer we launched our Community Quilt Project, inviting island residents and visitors to think about our “Where do you come from?” theme and to decorate 7.5” x 7.5” quilt squares in response. Although our official “hand-in deadline” has now passed, we still have a few weeks of measuring, pinning, and putting the quilt together. We will still be collecting squares until November 20th, and invite you to pick one up at the Co-op Cafe or at the Museum and to contribute to this work of art in progress. You can decorate your square at home or come to the Museum during our open hours (**Friday&Saturday 12-4 p.m.**) and make use of our art supplies and cozy work space.

In addition to the quilt, we’ve been hosting walks, youth and elder filmmaking workshops, and creative writing sessions, all of which have yielded powerful conversations and important relationship building. We are excited to continue these workshops into the fall. Coming up quickly on **November 19th will be our rescheduled Blanket Exercise & Songwriting Workshop**, a very special event taking place at the Klahoose Multipurpose Building. We will work together to learn about and reflect on the effects of colonization, residential schools, and work together to create songs based on the Klahoose language. We are so fortunate to be working with amazing facilitators from Klahoose and Tla’amin. Registration for this event is limited, so email cimas@twincomm.ca as soon as you can to secure your spot.

Throughout the winter, our Programmer Brittany Baxter, will be writing a series of blog posts for our website (www.cortesmuseum.ca) and Facebook page (www.facebook.com/CimasCortes) to share photos and stories from the project. Look for these in the coming months!

Please take a moment to renew your membership.

Strong membership numbers encourage funding agencies! A membership purchased before December 21 will include 2017 and 2018.

2017/2018 MEMBERSHIP WITH CORTES ISLAND MUSEUM & ARCHIVES SOCIETY BY DONATION OF TIME OR MONEY

Name: _____

Date: _____

Address: _____

I/we have enclosed a cheque/donation of \$ _____

PO Box: _____

I/we wish to donate _____ hours of time working in the area of _____

Town: _____

Yes, I would like to receive an income tax receipt for my charitable donation of \$25 or more.

Email: _____

Yes, I would like to receive periodic e-news.

Phone: _____

Please send this form (and if applicable, a cheque payable to Cortes Island Museum) to:

Cortes Island Museum
957 Beasley Road, Box 422
Mansons Landing BC V0P 1K0

Reach us at:
cimas@twincomm.ca
250-935-6340

reflect imagine celebrate www.cortesmuseum.ca

JOB OPPORTUNITY WITH CIMAS

The CIMAS Board anticipates hiring a part-time permanent Director Curator in February 2018. The Director Curator position will assist CIMAS in the following key operational areas: oversight of the organization's daily operations, financial and statistical record keeping, fundraising, and working with and providing guidance to the CIMAS Exhibit, Archives, and Artifact Committees. A call for expressions of interest and details about this position will be announced in the near future on cortesmuseum.ca and Tideline.

LOOKING BACK AT THE SUMMER

Did you notice there were more tourists on Cortes last summer? Our guest book shows many were first time visitors to Cortes, coming from Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands. Maybe the interior forest fires encouraged them to choose coastal destinations. Locals and visitors filled most of the Museum's summer programs including Manson's Lagoon and Cortes Island tours, Canada 150 "hɛkʷ čɛ θ tuwa? // Where do you come from?" project events, the Chap Book Launch, a 3-day kayaking trip based out of Twin Islands Lodge, and new interpreted cruises on *Misty Isles* with overnight stays at Twin Islands and Blind Channel Lodges. The *Misty Isles* cruises often became whale watching trips with so many humpbacks and orcas feeding in our local waters this summer.

Refuge Cove: Moving with the Tide drew many visitors in to enjoy the colourful art works of the exhibit curator Judith Williams, who lived for many years in Refuge Cove. Collections of photographs and artifacts from Judith and other "covies" also added to the history of the storied cove that is still popular today with boaters in Desolation Sound. There are also 90 minutes of historical interviews with interesting resident *characters* from Refuge Cove.

Come spend some time this winter enjoying this beautiful exhibit, Friday and Saturday afternoons 12-4 p.m.

WILD CORTES EXHIBIT COMING SOON



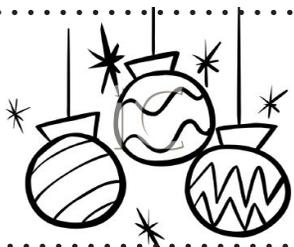
This exciting new project has been made possible with funding from the BC Museum Association through a BC | Canada 150 grant. The Museum's popular **Wild Cortes** Exhibit is being permanently relocated to Linnaea Education Centre with partnerships including Linnaea Farm, FOCI, The Children's Forest, Rex Weyler's students, the Klahoose First Nation, and local biologists Christian Gronau and Sabina Leader-Mense. **Wild Cortes** will create a hub and focal point for all ecological projects pertaining to ecosystems and species at risk on Cortes Island.

This unique new Cortes Island Museum satellite exhibit will highlight Laurel Bohart's amazing taxidermy of wildlife on Cortes Island in dioramas stretching 40 feet along one wall. Another wall will include changing exhibits from participating organizations about ecological systems at risk, bats, endangered species, and the importance of streams, wetlands, lakes and ocean eel grass beds, as well as geology, forests and forest fires.

Wild Cortes exhibits will educate and create awareness about how literally everything on Cortes Island is linked together—down to the tiniest snail living on maple trees, without whose poop mycelium (mushrooms) will not grow under maple trees! Descriptive labeling for animal specimens will include the common names, Latin names and Klahoose language designations. Information related to the exhibits will make connections to First Nation uses of animals and plants sacred to this area. Participating organizations will highlight their own concerns and projects with changing exhibits. We look forward to islanders using this new gallery as a teaching tool for education and discovery, and for displaying student projects pertaining to ecology. The large room next door to the exhibit will be available for events, meetings, and presentations with links to wild Cortes.

Wild Cortes will encourage the youth of today to become stewards of the future. The exhibit will give locals and visitors alike an indoor place to visit, interact and learn about this incredible island we live on.

Look for an official opening date to be announced in the New Year.



CHRISTMAS TABLE MANSONS HALL

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25

Check out our table with wonderful gifts at Manson's Hall Christmas Craft Fair, November 25.

Books, cards, and other gift items are also available at the Museum, Friday & Saturday, 12-4.

SPECIAL **THANK YOU** TO OUR FUNDING PARTNERS



Supported by the Province of British Columbia



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