



MUSEUM REOPENS JULY 1 WELCOME MAËVE, OUR 2020 SUMMER HOST!

With a COVID-19 Safety Plan in place (available on our website), we will be pleased to welcome visitors during our usual summer hours: Tuesday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., (closed Mondays) starting on Wednesday, July 1.

The use of the Archives is by appointment.

Come see how we've refreshed our exhibit **That Was Then/This Is Now** and the new additions to the **Heritage Garden**, while satisfying your curiosity in **Curiouser & Curiouser!**

We are planning to re-open **Wild Cortes**, our natural history exhibit at the Linnaea Education Centre – stay tuned for details and hours.

Joining us this summer as Host Interpreter is **Maëve Leduc**, who grew up in Victoria spending summers on Cortes visiting family. Maëve is a graduate of the University of Victoria where she earned a BA in Anthropology and Gender Studies. Most recently, she's been working remotely as a research transcriptionist for Kwusun Research & Media deepening her understanding of the rich pre-colonial histories across Turtle Island.

Maëve is excited to have the opportunity to work over the summer for the Cortes Island Museum & Archives, which is situated on the traditional territories of the Klahoose, Tla'amin, and Homalco Nations.



NOW OR NEVER!



Now or Never is a collecting initiative to gather materials relating to the pandemic, documenting this time of change and disruption. We invite the Cortes community to submit what has supported, challenged or inspired you. We want your stories, drawings, poems, journal entries, blog and social media posts, letters, music, photos, or videos.

At the onset of this pandemic we combed our Cortes Island Museum files and archives for documents and records created during the Spanish flu of 1918 and found very little information. Let's not repeat the past. Our stories and experiences are important, and we can ensure they are preserved and available for future Islanders facing similar circumstances. Documentation about working from home while home schooling, being a teenager isolated from friends, the anxiety experienced shopping, the awkwardness of social distancing, as well as the practical things you did in your life like expanding your garden to ensure food security, could be fascinating and helpful information.

Submissions will be processed as all donations to the museum collection. Please include information about your submission and how it relates to the COVID-19 pandemic experience. Digital content can be submitted by email to cimas@twincomm.ca using **Now or Never** as the email subject. Original copies of photographs, written accounts and artwork, can be submitted at the museum during opening hours.

Strong membership numbers encourage funding agencies. Please take a moment to renew your membership.

**MEMBERSHIP WITH CORTES ISLAND MUSEUM & ARCHIVES SOCIETY
BY DONATION OF TIME OR MONEY**

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 PO Box: _____
 Town: _____
 Email: _____
 Phone: _____

Date (YYYY/MM/DD): _____

- I/we have sent e-transfer of \$ _____ to cimas@twincomm.ca.
- I/we have enclosed a cheque/donation of \$ _____
- I/we wish to donate my time working in the area of _____
- Yes, I would like to receive an income tax receipt for my charitable donation of \$25 or more.
- Yes, I would like to receive periodic e-news

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
www.cortesmuseum.com



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Cortes Island Museum Annual General Meeting (AGM), normally held in late March, was postponed. We anticipate scheduling a fall date for the meeting if COVID-19 guidelines allow. Our AGM usually provides an important opportunity for membership renewals that help to fund all programs and activities. If you haven't yet renewed your 2020 membership, please do so using the form on the front page of this newsletter or through our website.

BUTTERFLIES

We've had a few sightings on Cortes Island! Keep your observations coming!

If you see and can identify a butterfly, please record the date, time, location and any pertinent information you observed, i.e. the plants it was nectaring or laying eggs on. A photograph or two for identification confirmation is very helpful. It is also necessary for rare species.

Our most recent butterfly sightings:

Cabbage White Butterfly (*Pieris rapae*), on blackberry thicket, spotted June 17, Southpoint area, by Christian Gronau.

Western Brown Elfin (*Callophrys augustinus*) from Wiley lake on May 19. It is feeding on Labrador Tea which is apparently one of its many host plants. Spotted by Barry Saxifrage.

Mourning Cloak (*Nymphalis antiopa*), spotted by Ayane, on Tan Road, on May 19, and by Tamias and Dera Nettle in their yard, on May 18.

Cedar Hairstreak (*Callophrys gryneus ssp. plicataria*) spotted by Tanya Rankin, May 19, 2020, on Bayview Road in Whaletown. Cedar Hairstreak is similar to Johnson's Hairstreak but smaller.

Painted Lady (*Vanessa cardui*), spotted by Barry Saxifrage on the top of Cliff Peak on May 18.

Western Spring Azure (*Celastrina echo*), reported by Gary Fast, in Peter Police Homestead, Carrington Bay Lagoon, May 7. 1:00 p.m.

Milbert's Tortoiseshell (*Aglais milberti*), spotted by 7-year-old Daleia, Jodi Peters's daughter.

If you photograph a butterfly but cannot positively identify it, Lunabelle Loiseau-Tremblay from Quadra Island, a butterfly enthusiast and specialist, will help confirm the species. Document your sighting using the form available on our website page <https://cortesmuseum.com/museum/butterfly-sightings/>, or send an email to cimas@twincomm.ca with your pictures and observations.

Keep up the good work and check the above website for the most recent sightings!



MUSEUM SPONSORED MISTY ISLES ADVENTURES 2020

We are excited to announce our cruises with Misty Isles Adventures will continue this summer. With fewer trips and passengers, Amy and Jonas have solid plans to ensure guests' health and safety. We are hoping the Cortes Community will support our partnership by booking a cruise for yourself or your "bubble" of family and friends.



The first trip to Mitlenatch Island is happening soon! Saturday, July 25, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Weather permitting, Misty Isles often anchors close to the shore and the participants board the zodiac for a tour around the island to get a close-up view of the cormorant nests and other wildlife. Once on land, you will enjoy a walk through the flower meadows to the bird blind for a sneak peek into the nesting activities of the glaucous-winged gull.

To register, call Misty Isles Adventures at 250-935-6756 or visit their website mistyislesadventures.com.

More cruises this summer:

Mitlenatch – July 25, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., \$145

Desolation Sound – August 8 and September 5, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., \$145

Sutil Channel – August 23, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., \$130

A LONG WAY FROM HOME!

The Museum recently received a donation from Aaron Ellingsen of a stunning antique display cabinet with bevelled glass and curved doors. But there is much more to this story!

Aaron was gifted the cabinet from Ray and Lynn Marttila, when they were leaving Cortes for their new home in Courtenay. The Martillas purchased the cabinet in 1992 with the help of a friend who guided them to an antique store in a small back alley in Alexandria, Egypt. Lynn said "We would never have found the shop without his knowledge. Some would say we were in the bowels of the Khan el Khalili Bazaar."

At the time, the Martillas were living and working in Cairo and were looking for a cabinet to hold their collection of travel memorabilia. The tall cabinet was loaded into the back of their friend's pick-up truck, where a man stood holding it upright all the way back to Maadi, Cairo, with no damage! They were told at the time of purchase the cabinet had originated in France, but its true origin has not been confirmed. When the Martillas left Egypt, the piece was shipped with the rest of their belongings back to Canada, eventually finding its way to Cortes Island.

A big thank you to Aaron for the donation, and to Lynn and Ray for their part too!



WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE SUPPORT OF OUR FUNDING PARTNERS

