



Steveston

Summer 2011

Steveston Community Society Newsletter

66th Annual Steveston Salmon Festival Friday, July 1st, 2011



A bit of history

The Steveston Salmon Festival originally began as a July 1st "Sports Day" themed event to celebrate Dominion Day and also to raise funds to build a playground in the Steveston Park in 1944. Today, it is one of the largest non-profit Canada Day celebrations in the country. Each year, the Steveston Community Society selects a project that the Salmon Festival will help fund. Projects in recent years include the Steveston Water Park, and the Steveston Legacy statue at the Gulf of Georgia Cannery. This year, the Salmon Festival will help fund an educational garden for the Steveston Community Centre.

From 1946 to today, there has been a myriad of changes, from the parade route and more notably the name change from Richmond Salmon Queen Carnival to Steveston Salmon Festival. There has not been a Salmon Queen since 1986, but there have been other components which have remained constant: the Festival is always a homage to Steveston's salmon empire, and the "Spirit of Steveston" still drives "Canada's biggest little birthday party" each year.



Sport for Life

The 2011 Salmon Festival theme is "Sport for Life". In November 2010, the City of Richmond endorsed a five year "Sport for Life Strategy". The strategy vision is: "all Richmond residents have access to a full range of opportunities to experience the passion and joy of participating in sport and

See page 5 for the Salmon Festival Event Schedule and page 7 for important information about road closures.



physical activity." The Salmon Festival will be highlighting a number of sports groups and activities available to residents as part of our commitment to the strategy.

Salmon Festival Parade

There are actually two parades each year: the first is the Children's Bike Parade which takes off at 9:30am from the Gulf & Fraser Credit Union parking lot at Third Avenue and Chatham Street, and the second is the big parade which starts at 10am from Garry Point Park, at 7th and Chatham.

Kids Bike Parade: children of all ages are encouraged to decorate their bicycles, tricycles, wagons, scooters, or other wheeled vehicles in Canada Day themes. The bike parade travels the main parade route along Third Avenue to Moncton Street, and ends in front of the Steveston Community Police office. Each participant must have at least one adult to accompany them either riding or walking alongside, and safety is mandatory – helmets must be worn by all cyclists or skaters. Meet at the Gulf & Fraser Credit Union parking lot at 8:30am.

Once the bike parade is finished, and the Kajaks Salmon Run is complete, the big parade begins at 10:00am. The parade is always led first by a colour party carrying the national and provincial flags, followed by a military marching band. The Salmon Festival parade is one of the largest parades in BC on July 1st,

boasting an average of 100 entries including marching groups, colourful floats, community groups, sports teams, and other charming and exciting entertainment during the two-hour parade.



Kajaks Salmon Run

The 2011 Salmon Festival marks the return of the Kajaks Track and Field Club one mile race, which was a long-standing tradition until the mid 1980s. Just prior to the start of the big parade, there will be a foot race along the parade route, beginning at 7th Avenue and Chatham Street, and ending just before Railway Avenue. This sanctioned race is expected to attract athletes of all ages, from elite athletes to novice runners. Further details can be found on the Kajaks website at www.kajaks.org/events/salmonrun.htm

Opening Ceremony

Immediately after Richmond Fire Rescue ends the parade with their polished red trucks

continued page 4...

Highlights of the inside...

President's Message	2
McNulty's Meanderings	3
Volunteer Corner	3
66th Annual Steveston Salmon Festival	4
Honorary Parade Marshal Ron Kemp	4
Japan Relief Fund for Onagawa	5
22nd Annual Bulhead Derby	5
Salmon Festival Event Schedule	5
Around the Community Centre	6-7
Fitness Programs at the Centre	6
Sports Swap Meet	6
3 on 3 Hockey Tournament	6
Salmon Festival Road Closures	7
Steveston Farmers & Artisans Market	7
Essential People of Steveston: Sandra Steier	8
The River Garage	9
What's New at the Salmon Festival	9
Starry Nights II	10
Steveston Sockeye Spin	10
Gulf of Georgia Cannery News	11
Artists in Steveston	11
Coming Events	12
Steveston Park Millennium Bricks	12
Steveston Pool	12
SCS Board of Directors	12



The Steveston Community Society

Newsletter is published quarterly. Our goal is to provide information about the people and activities at the community centre, and to share stories about common interests, history, local personalities and events in the broader Steveston community. This newsletter is created by and for the members of the community. Please contact us if you would like to join the volunteer newsletter team.

If you would like to submit an item for inclusion in the newsletter, or recommend a story idea for one of our writers, please forward your ideas, information or material to our editorial committee for consideration. Space is free but limited, and we reserve the right to edit content.

Editor-in-Chief

Christine Durgo

editor@stevestoncommunitysociety.com

Design and Layout Editor

Janice Froese

admin@stevestoncommunitysociety.com

Contributors

Marisa Achtymichuk

Donna Bishop

Bill McNulty

Steveston Community Society

4111 Moncton Street

Richmond, BC V7E 3A8

Ph: 604-238-8094 Fax: 604-718-8096

www.stevestoncommunitysociety.com

Your feedback is always welcome. Please give us a call, drop us a note, or email newsletter@stevestoncommunitysociety.com

Mission Statement

The Steveston Community Society is an association of volunteers dedicated to maintaining a positive, pioneer "Spirit of Steveston", by providing cultural, social, and recreational opportunities for all members of the community.

President's Message

Dear Neighbours,

2011 is well under way and there are many exciting events coming up this summer. The Steveston Farmers & Artisans Market opened for another season on May 22, and continues to grow in size and popularity. The Market will operate alternating Sundays each month until September 18.

On July 1st, the 66th edition of the Steveston Salmon Festival will celebrate "Sport for Life". Come visit the festival as we showcase many ways for people to stay active and healthy at any age.

I'm particularly pleased that Ron Kemp will serve this year as Honorary Parade Marshal. Ron was our president for ten years during the 1980s and played an important role in overseeing the community centre expansion during that time.

Don't forget the Bullhead Derby on June 26 at Garry Point Park!

The 2nd Annual Steveston Sockeye Spin bike race will be Sunday, July 31st, this year in the early evening.

August 1, 14 and 28 we will again host "Steveston Starry Nights - Movies in the Park" and bring back the inflatable movie screen to Fisherman's Park outside the Gulf of Georgia Cannery. Mark your calendars and plan to come out for a fun evening with your neighbours. Show starts at dusk.

Finally, I am very pleased to announce the release of our book "Steveston: A Community History", which was researched and written by Bill McNulty on our behalf. It is a detailed account of the birth and development of Steveston from the mid-1800s to present day. I encourage you to purchase a copy from the community centre for a suggested donation of \$20. We are donating 50% of our sales to the Japan Relief Fund for Onagawa.

Thank you to our volunteer team for their continued commitment and dedication to Steveston, in particular the Board of Directors of the Steveston Community Society, and thank you to you, our neighbours and friends, for supporting us and all that we do for the betterment of Steveston. Have a terrific and safe summer!

Jim Kojima, President
Steveston Community Society and
Richmond Agricultural and Industrial Society



Steveston Community Society commissioned local historian and long-time City Councillor Bill McNulty to research and write the book "Steveston: A Community History". Pictured above, Bill presents Jim Kojima with the first copy of the book at a launch party May 12, 2011. Photo: Christine Durgo



Happy Birthday Canada!



McNulty's Meanderings...by Bill McNulty

Schools in Steveston Part 2 - Japanese School/Lord Byng

In 1906 there were twenty families in the Steveston School with a total of 35 children. However, in 1907 there were a large number of Japanese families with school-aged children. The Japanese Canadian parents requested permission for their children to attend Steveston School. At that time the Richmond School Board of the day ruled that only known residents in Steveston could attend. This meant that if the parents owned their own home and paid taxes one could attend. Since most were here making a living from the fishing industry they lived in cannery homes. Thus most Japanese students were excluded from school. As a result, with the Japanese placing importance on education, they had to raise funds and hire their own teachers; in some cases from Japan. Then in 1909, they built the Steveston Japanese School on the grounds that they owned. This was beside the Japanese Hospital on the east side of No. 1 Road and Chatham Street. The building consisted of two classrooms joined by a roof and porch covering an open area between them.

The principal of the school was Nobutaro Takashima. Three teachers were with him. Mrs. Takashima, Mrs. Chilton, wife of the Royal Bank manager and her sister Miss Butcher. All the classes were in English, but Japanese language classes were held after school each day and on Saturday. The Japanese had to pay fees for each child to attend and often paid more than those attending Steveston School. From 1909 to 1922 the Japanese parents paid for their children's education.

In 1921 construction of a new four room school was started; however, only two rooms were built. The Japanese continued to want the same education for their children as the caucasian children received.

In 1923 the Richmond School Board agreed to take over the responsibility of teaching Japanese Canadian children and providing the teachers. In 1925 the Japanese Canadian community volunteered to raise money to finish the building, which would provide four classrooms and a basement. The school was renamed Lord Byng in 1922. By 1928 there was acute overcrowding at Lord Byng. Classes were held in the Japanese School and at St. Anne's Church. The Japanese appealed to the Richmond School Board but they refused. They appealed to the provincial government who came back with a promise to match whatever amount they could raise towards the cost of a new building. They actually raised and contributed \$20,000 towards the cost of the new school. The provincial government contributed \$20,000 and the local board \$7,000 toward furnishings. Once again the Japanese Canadian community came through and built a new school in 1930. The new school had 14 rooms.

Bill McNulty is a local historian and has published three books on sports and one on local history. He is a member of the International Society of Olympic Historians and has served on Richmond City Council since 1993. He is Past President of the Steveston Rotary Club and has been a member of Rotary since 1988. He recently completed the book "Steveston: A Community History", commissioned by the Steveston Community Society, which was released on May 12, 2011.

Volunteer Corner

VOLUNTEERS: IT'S SALMON FESTIVAL SEASON!

Once again, the Steveston Community Society will be hosts to thousands of people coming to celebrate Canada Day in Steveston.

We will need the help of hundreds of volunteers to make this event a success, like the previous years.

Lots of Volunteer Opportunities:

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Parade Marshals | Ticket Sales |
| Volunteer Sign-in Tent | Volunteer Rest Area |
| Green Ambassadors | Kids Bike Parade |
| Bike Parking Attendant | Tradeshow Greeter |
| Pre-festival Set-up | Post-festival Take-down |
| Tradeshow Traffic Control | Pre-festival Chow Mein Preparations |

...and many more!

To volunteer for a desired shift, please register at: <https://icanhelp.richmond.ca>. For more information please contact the Volunteer Coordinator, Marisa Achtymichuk at 604-238-8087 or machtymichuk@richmond.ca

Let's join forces and make this "Canada's biggest little birthday party" ever!



STEVESTON THANKS OUR VOLUNTEERS!



66th Annual Steveston Salmon Festival

...continued from page 1.

and wailing sirens, the dignitaries at the Grand Stand cross the street to the main stage for the opening ceremony. O Canada is sung, various greetings are delivered, then Mayor Brodie heartily declares the festival officially open! Various events including the craft fair, trade show, art show, Japanese cultural show and exhibit, children's and youth festivals, the carnival and much more all open for the afternoon.



Salmon Bake!

We can't call it the "Salmon Festival" without celebrating the staple that Steveston's fishing industry is so famous for! Each year, a dedicated team of volunteers from Sutton Group-Seafair Realty serve up over 2300 plates of wild sockeye salmon. Tickets are \$14 per plate and go on sale beginning at 11:00am until the last piece of fish is cooked and served.

Funtastic Inflatables!

Funtastic Inflatables, a Richmond based family-owned and operated company, will provide a variety of family-friendly attractions, including slides, bouncers, and adventure games suitable for all ages, plus a unique midway. Make sure to stop by for some Pucker Powder!



Going Green!

The Salmon Festival will continue to build on its successful environmental programs including an aggressive composting and recycling program, and a larger, secure bike and stroller parkade staffed by volunteers and

provided free of charge adjacent to the RCMP station.

There will be a dozen stations around the festival grounds for people to sort and discard their garbage for proper composting or recycling. Visitors are encouraged to bring their own re-usable containers to further reduce waste generated at the festival.

Steveston Village

Moncton Street will be closed from 9:00am until 5:00pm, from Third Avenue to Bayview just east of the RCMP Station. Many of the village stores, cafes and restaurants remain open all day and offer up great deals and tasty treats. If you're stuck in a food lineup at the Festival and you're too hungry to wait, check out what's being offered in the Village!



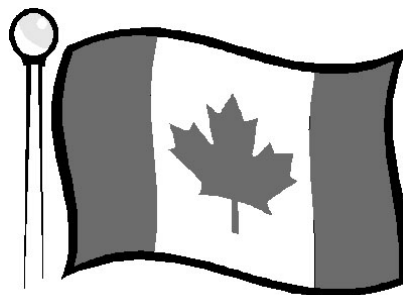
Salmon Festival is a "dry" event!

Please celebrate Canada Day responsibly. We encourage you to celebrate with us, but do enjoy your favourite alcoholic beverages at home or elsewhere. There are many places in the village open for business on July 1st who will happily welcome your patronage.

See you July 1st!

The day begins at 6:30am with a pancake breakfast hosted by the 12th Richmond Scouts. For a complete list of the day's events, see page 5. Our website will be updated regularly with the latest news and information leading up to the big day! We hope to see you there!

www.stevestonsalmonfest.ca



Honorary Parade Marshal Ron Kemp

The Steveston Salmon Festival is very pleased to welcome long-time volunteer Ron Kemp as our Honorary Parade Marshal for 2011. Ron began his tenure with the Steveston Community Society Board of Directors in 1977 as representative for the Judo Club. From that time, he served on and chaired many committees for the Board. He eventually became Vice President, then President for a ten year term during the 1980s. Ron's firm leadership played an important role in ensuring stability and continuity during the extensive renovations and major addition to the community centre during that time.

A personal highlight of his time as President was escorting Lieutenant Governor Robert Rogers and Mrs. Rogers on a tour of Steveston.

In addition to his work with the Steveston Community Society, Ron also served on the committees that formed the Gulf of Georgia Cannery Society, Britannia Heritage Shipyard Society, Fisherman's Memorial and the Community Centres Association.

Ron represented the Salmon Festival on the boards of the Northwest Festivals and BC Festival Associations. He served as Vice President then a term as President.

Although he was never really involved with the Salmon Festival, he did go out with the Festival float crew to many other parades in Metro Vancouver, across BC and some in Washington State.

Ron and his wife Gladys relocated to the BC Interior some years ago to be closer to their family. Sadly, Gladys passed away a few years ago. Ron still remains close friends with many of his Steveston neighbours.

Ron Kemp is thrilled to be serving as Honorary Parade Marshal this year, and says "I look forward to coming down for the parade, it's a great feeling knowing that you are remembered."

Thanks Ron! We can't forget you!

Japan Relief Fund for Onagawa

Michael Luzia, Tsunami Survivor says 'It is not over!'

Michael Luzia was at one of the schools where he teaches English on the east coast of Japan on Izushima Island March 11, 2011 at about 2:40 pm when a magnitude nine earthquake broke loose. The largest, most damaging earthquakes usually only last for about 30 seconds. This catastrophic event lasted around five minutes and caused a tsunami between 20 and 30 meters high. Out of 200 homes on the island, only three remained standing after the immense wall of water washed over the fishing port. Since the first monstrous earthquake, there have been numerous smaller quakes and aftershocks.

Michael's school is up on a hill approximately 100 to 150 meters high and surrounded by trees so he could not see the tsunami. He didn't even know a tsunami had happened until about 25 minutes after the quake, a bus full of people came to the school for shelter. They were all eventually airlifted from the school. Michael was appalled to see the entire village floating in the ocean -



Michael Luzia was teaching English at a school located on a hilltop near Onagawa, Japan, when the catastrophic earthquake and tsunami struck on March 11 earlier this year. He visited Steveston in April to discuss fundraising options with Jim Kojima, to help rebuild the town.

rooftops and debris scattered to the horizon as far as he could see.

Michael lost a couple of friends and some others he had not heard from yet. His girlfriend had to run from the wave with 20 other people. She and three others from that group were the only ones who survived. Michael learned that most important things in life are relationships with people. He lost everything and it doesn't matter to him - he's alive - that's all that matters. He won't worry about little things

anymore. He wants to help others and to appreciate the beauty of life.

On March 20th the Rotary Club of Steveston organized the Steveston Cares — Japan Tsunami Relief Walk. The fundraiser for Onagawa, a fishing village in the Sendai area of Japan, was supported by the City of Richmond, the Steveston Community Society, and the Gulf of Georgia Cannery. More than \$100,000 and counting have been raised for the cause; donations are still being accepted.

Michael came to Steveston to find out how to fundraise for the Japanese people. He called Jim Kojima because he had heard Jim was the person who could help because of the fund raising success in Steveston.

Michael needed to know how to properly handle any money raised to help the people in Japan. Michael was planning to encourage donations while speaking at different schools and gatherings in Canada. He has already spoken at Rick Hansen (his alma mater) and Walnut Grove Secondary Schools. Michael's message is that the disaster in Japan is not over and Michael wants to teach students and people everywhere that 'It is Not Over'.

Bullhead Derby

A Salmon Festival tradition for 22 years! Bring your rods, reels, barbless hooks and buckets and come out on Sunday, June 26 to Garry Point Park for the Bullhead Derby, hosted by the Richmond Golden Rods and Reels Society.

There are two categories: kids aged 12 and under, and seniors 65+. Who will catch the "big one"? We will soon find out!

Registration starts at 9:00am; the Derby opens at 10:00am until noon.

There are lots of prizes available to be won for numerous categories, and everyone gets a ribbon for participating!



Salmon Festival Event Schedule

Join us for a great day and a terrific community celebration at "Canada's biggest little birthday party!"

6:30am - 11:00am	Pancake Breakfast
9:30am - 10:00am	Kids Bicycle Parade
9:55 am	Kajaks Salmon Run
10:00am - 12:00pm	Canada Day Parade!
10:00am - 4:00pm	Japanese Cultural Show
10:00am - 5:00pm	Trade Show, Food Fair, Craft Fair, Community Info Tables, Art Show
11:00am until sold out	Salmon Barbecue
11:00am - 5:00pm	Children's Festival
11:00am - 6:00pm	Funtastic Inflatables
12:00pm - 5:00pm	Horticulture Show
12:00pm - 5:00pm	Youth RockFest/3x3 Hockey
12:30pm	Opening Ceremonies

For details, visit www.stevestonsalmonfest.ca



Around the Community Centre

Fitness Programs at the Centre!

Health and Fitness Information by Donna Bishop

There are some new, exciting courses coming to Steveston Community Centre Fitness this fall:

Half Marathon Clinic

Want to train for a half marathon? Ask a runner about their first 1/2 marathon event. You will likely discover that those who trained in a group were more successful and stuck with it than those who did the training on their own. This program will guide you through a sensible training schedule, teach you how to stretch properly, cross train, and provide speakers on nutrition and motivation.

If you are comfortable running 10km and want to challenge yourself to 21kms, this will be the course for you. Train with a buddy. Don't miss out!

Yoga For Athletes

We are pleased to offer a new Yoga class this fall. Yoga for athletes will teach you specific stretches that can help restore areas of the body that are typically overused from sport activities. This completely balanced workout session also includes body awareness and body/mind connection through breathing and relaxation techniques.

Look for these courses in the Fall 2011 Leisure Guide. Registration date is August 10, 2011.

Summer fit tip:

Swim Faster

To build speed in swimming, develop your ankle flexibility. Flexible feet will act like flippers and propel you faster through the water. To increase your flipper flex, do this: Sit on the floor with your shoes off. heels on the floor. Point your toes straight out as far as possible, then flex them toward your shins as far as you can. Repeat for 1 minute.

Sports Swap Meet

A first for the Steveston Community Centre! Just in time for the fall sports season, we're offering a great opportunity for you to sell your gently used sports clothing and gear.

Saturday, September 10 from 9:00am to noon in the gymnasium. Register a table today for only \$13. 604-238-8080.



3 on 3 Hockey Tournament!

Hockey Hockey Hockey

Hey Youth! Steveston Salmon Festival is having a 3 on 3 hockey tournament this year! Come out with a group of friends and register yourself for a good old fashion game of street ball. \$5 per team. A chance to win all sorts of prizes. Must be 12-18yrs. Register July 1st at the Youth ROCKFEST located in the lacrosse box from 12pm to 5pm.




The Steveston Rotary Club is hosting a free

BBQ FOR SENIORS

Saturday, July 9, 2011 1:00 PM

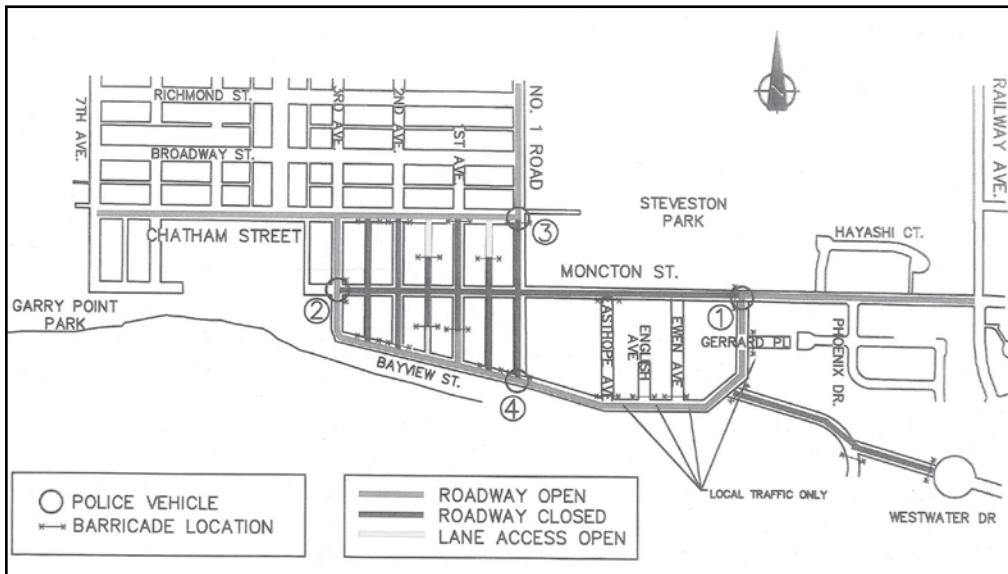
Steveston Community Centre
4111 Moncton Street, Steveston

Join us for a BBQ lunch with other Richmond Seniors 65+

Register By Calling
Peter Mitchell
604 277-8882

(Transportation Available)

Salmon Festival Road Closures



Starting at 9:00am on July 1st, road closures will be in effect for the Salmon Festival Parade. Chatham Street from Garry Point Park to 3rd, 3rd Avenue between Chatham and Moncton, and Moncton Street from 3rd to Railway will be closed in preparation for the parade. Roads will re-open once the parade ends at approximately 12:15pm except for Moncton Street which will remain closed between 3rd Avenue and Bayview (across from the community police office) until 5:00pm to ensure the safety of everyone attending the festival.



During the parade, access in and out of Bayview Street and Hayashi Court will be blocked to all traffic, so residents are advised to make prior arrangements if you plan to leave the area during this time. Access for *emergencies only*

will be available on the east side of Bayview Street while the road closures remain in effect.

Visit the merchants of Steveston as they celebrate Canada Day in style with sidewalk sales, entertainers, food, fun, and lots of other exciting activities as an extension of the Steveston Salmon Festival!

STEVESTON & Farmers Artisans MARKET

A project of the Steveston Community Society and Richmond Agricultural and Industrial Society

Summer has arrived!

The 2011 Steveston Farmers & Artisans Market opened for another great season on May 22nd. Most of your favourite vendors have returned this year, and there are a few new and exciting additions to the market as well! Join us the first and third Sundays of the month until September 18th outside the Gulf of Georgia Cannery. We will continue to offer all your favourites including artisan breads, cheeses, fresh seasonal produce, home canning and baking, and of course the delightful artistry of our talented community! We hope to see you there!

Applications are being accepted for the 2011 summer market and are available at the Steveston Community Centre or on-line at www.sfam.ca. If you are interested in becoming a vendor at the SFAM, please contact:

Paula Morimoto, Market Manager
Tel: 604-729-7326 or
marketmanager@shaw.ca

Visit our website www.sfam.ca

Mark your calendar ~ 2011 SFAM remaining dates are

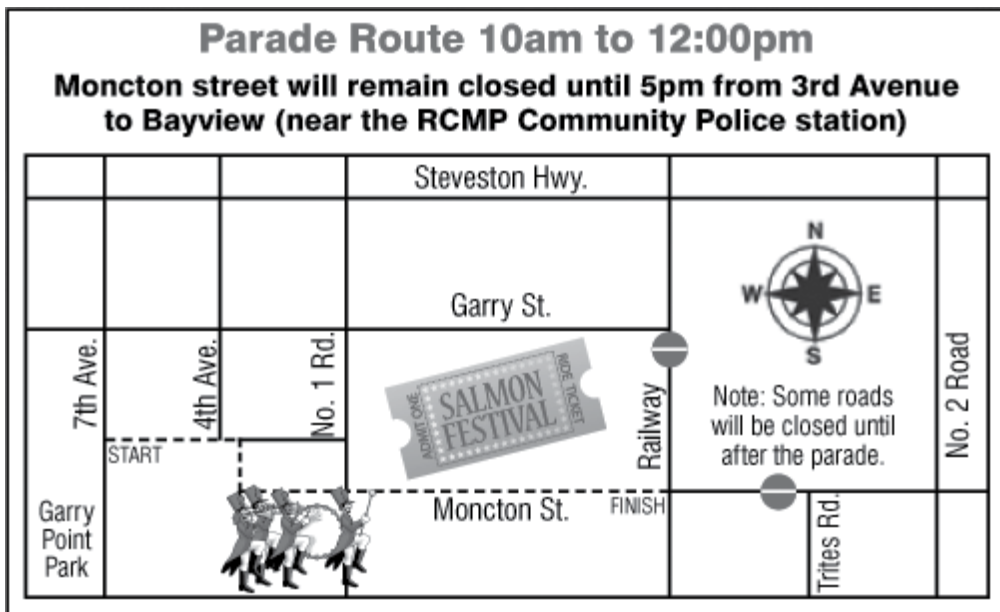
June 19

July 3, 17

August 7, 21

September 4, 18

RAIN OR SHINE!



Sandra Steier - Steveston's Essential Photographer

Sandra Steier has been living and working in Steveston for five years. She loves the community feeling and being near the water. Sandra started her photography career in 1997 and opened her own business, Sandra Steier Photography www.sandrasteier.com, when she moved to Steveston; a magnificent place for photo shoots, with all of the rustic historical buildings and unrivalled natural lighting for extraordinary photo images. Steveston has it all: dramatic darkness before pastel sunrises over the river, magic hour preceding stunning sunsets over Georgia Strait at Garry Point, finishing with indigo blue skies just after sunset.

Sandra worked in Tokyo, Japan as a fashion model for 7 years. She also worked as an actor, coached other actors for auditions, set up props and designed sets. When deciding to change careers she searched for a professional avenue that would allow her to express herself creatively. Married to Ross Burden, firefighter and web designer www.designbyfire.ca, Sandra has settled into Steveston's family life.

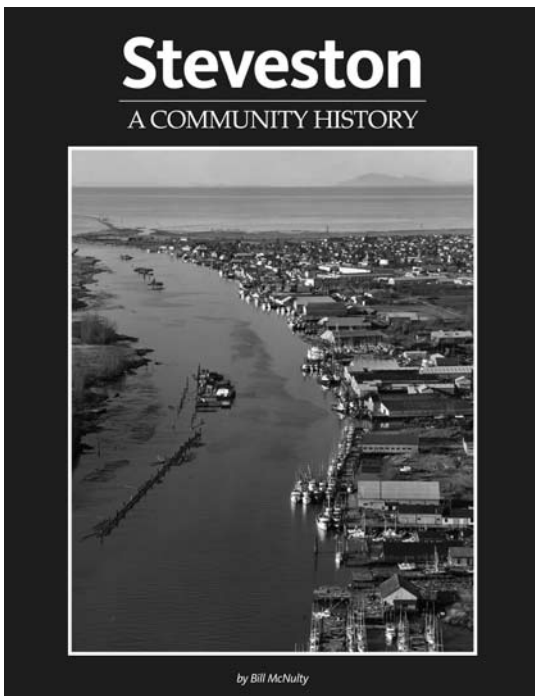
Sandra's good-hearted, relaxed, down-to-earth presence and her experience in front of the camera are foundations for her expressive and original custom photography. Authentic expressions and candid moments are what Sandra aims for. Wedding projects are especially suited to Sandra's fashioner eye for presentation. Sandra does not limit herself to weddings though. Corporate projects and family portraits are also high priority. She is especially gifted in her sensitive representation of children.

Steveston has helped Sandra's career immensely and she has contributed to Steveston's community spirit; generously lending her phenomenal talent and skill to the Steveston Community Society. For the last two years, she has been the official photographer for the Steveston Salmon Festival and was also the official photographer for the Steveston celebration during the Olympic Torch Relay.

People who have worked with Sandra have only brilliant things to say about her. She is a generous and lovely person - inside and out. A quote from Carolynne Palla, owner and publisher of Steveston Insider and Dunbar Life magazines says it all. "I hired Sandra in 2008 to be the official photographer for my magazines and other projects and she quickly became one of my best friends. She is fun, incredibly talented and I can't imagine publishing magazines without her."

Sandra Steier, an 'Essential Person of Steveston' is a breath of fresh air.

observations by Christine Durgo



Steveston: A Community History by Bill McNulty

**Pick up your copy today at the
Steveston Community Centre!**

\$20 suggested donation.

**Part proceeds in support of the
Japan Relief Fund for Onagawa.**

**Learn many fascinating details about
Steveston from the early settlers and
pioneers right through to today!**

The River Garage

Written by Theodore T. Hirota*

My father, Hayao Hirota, was born on January 25, 1910 in the small fishing village of Ladner, located on the south bank of the Fraser River just a few miles from where the river empties into the Gulf of Georgia. On the north bank of the Fraser, right at the mouth of the river, another fishing village, Steveston, was home to 14 salmon canneries in 1900.

At the time of my father's birth, a hardware store in Steveston, *Walker Emporium*, was catering to the fishing industry. The building was located at the corner of Moncton Street and Second Avenue on lots 17 and 18 on the north-east corner of the intersection. Across the street was a building called the *Hepworth Block* (circa 1913), an imposing brick structure housing the post office. The bricks used in the construction of the *Hepworth Block* reputedly were ballast from the sailing ships and were replaced by canned salmon on the return trips to Britain.

A fire broke out at the Star Cannery on May 14, 1918 at the foot of Third Avenue that spread eastward from the Canadian Fishing Company's Gulf of Georgia Cannery. The walls of the *Hepworth Block* remained the only structure left standing on the entire south side of Moncton Street. All that was left along the waterfront were rows upon rows of blackened pilings. Moncton Street provided a fire-break. The volunteer firemen and their equipment kept the buildings on the north side intact including the *Walker Emporium*.

Following the stock market crash of 1929, the *Walker Emporium* experienced financial troubles and the property was taken over by the Corporation of the Township of Richmond for unpaid taxes. Hayao purchased the *Walker Emporium* in September 1936 for the \$999 in taxes that were owing.

He leased the property to Home Oil Distributors Ltd. for ten years with an option to renew for a further ten years. He arranged a loan of \$1500 from Home Oil and converted the corner of the hardware store into a gas station and garage. The loan was repaid within three years. He renamed the establishment *River Garage*.

Hayao went into partnership with Taro Shimizu, a brother-in-law. Taro worked for 15 years repairing automobiles in Vancouver before setting up shop at *River Garage*. The purchase and conversion of the property was carried out by Hayao at age 26 with a 19 year old wife and a new-born son, Jackson (Yoshiaki).

Hayao, his wife and son along with his parents had been living on a float home in Ladner. He arranged for the float home to be moved and docked at the foot of Trites Road. Hayao then partitioned the western half of the *Walker Emporium* so that his family could live behind the garage during the winter months. His partner's family also lived in separate quarters behind the garage. The eastern half of the original *Walker Emporium* structure was partitioned into two separate units with living quarters behind each unit. A general store and a pool hall faced Steveston's main street. By the time the family was evacuated the two units were earning \$10 a month each in rent.

With the evacuation of April 1, 1942 imminent, Hayao boarded up the windows of the buildings and locked up the facilities. His family was evacuated to Lethbridge, Alberta on May 15, 1942. Hayao eventually received \$1200 for the sale of the property on October 13, 1950.

Following the family's return to Steveston in 1952, *River Garage* had been replaced by a structure named *Marine Garage* that operated as a gas station and garage with two bays facing Second Avenue. Today Lots 17 and 18 are occupied by an Art Deco structure with one bay facing Moncton Street and an East Indian restaurant to the right. The original wood structures have all been replaced and the garage section has been set back in an attractive layout. Across the street the *Hepworth Block* still stands as it did before the fire of 1918.

**Abridged version*



What's New at the Salmon Festival This Year!

The Steveston Salmon Festival is very pleased to welcome the Richmond Olympic Oval to the family of exhibitors this year!



The Richmond Olympic Oval area, just east of the food court, will be the must-see stop at this year's Salmon Festival.

Practice your shot at the Scotiabank Street Hockey Zone where you might just bump into an NHL player! Try-out Oval Summer Sport Camp activities like soccer, fencing and more. Test your vertical on the Vertex.

There will even be a special Preschool

play area where your little pre-schooler can learn physical literacy skills from the Oval's role model sport leaders.

Get out and get active at the Richmond Olympic Oval area at Salmon Festival!

Telus On-Site!

Visit the Telus display in the outdoor Trade Show area near the tennis building to find out what's new. Thanks to their sponsorship, the Steveston Salmon Festival will have free wi-fi and increased cellular service thanks to their COW: Cellular On Wheels!

Urban Impact

Thanks to the on-going efforts of our environmental committee, the Salmon

Festival is partnering with Urban Impact this year to provide highly visible recycling, garbage and composting stations throughout the festival grounds. Please help our volunteers properly sort and dispose of your garbage this year, and help reduce our impact on the environment!

Bicycle and Stroller Parkade

We will provide a safe and secure place to leave your bicycles and strollers while you enjoy the festival. Located next to the Steveston Community Police Station, our volunteers will look after your transportation during your visit.

HAPPY CANADA DAY!

Around the Village

2nd Annual Steveston Sockeye Spin

Thanks to the overwhelming success of last year's Sockeye Spin, this exciting and fast-paced bicycle race will return to Steveston for another run this year!

A number of changes are in the works, most notably the change in start/finish times. Last year, the race was an early morning start; this year the race will begin in the late afternoon on Sunday, July 31st.

The Steveston Sockeye Spin, a Cycling BC sanctioned road race, has put Steveston front and centre in the eyes of the cycling community and athletic enthusiasts everywhere. There is already a buzz amongst racers about our event, and we anticipate participation to double this year to about 150 cyclists from novice to elite class athletes.

The races start at 4:00pm, with road closures beginning at approximately 2:00pm around the core village. The start/finish line will be on Moncton Street at 2nd Avenue, and the race will circle Moncton, Third Avenue, Bayview and No. 1 Road. There will be full pedestrian access to the entire village during the race, with minor delays of not more than a few minutes at a time during each circuit to ensure everyone's safety as the racers fly by.

There are to be five races in total starting with novice men. A children's bike parade is



scheduled in between, then the event will finish up with the excitement and speed of top level racers.

Steveston Sockeye Spin organizers are planning for two spectator bleacher seating/viewing areas — one in the Fisheries Department parking

lot on the southwest corner of No. 1 Road and Bayview, and the other near the start/finish line on Moncton Street.

If you are interested in participating, early registration is recommended and is now open on-line.

The Richmond Review will be providing up to the minute news about the event as race day nears.

Sponsorship opportunities are still available and wholly appreciated. Please call 604-238-8094 or email sockeyespin@stevestoncommunitysociety.com

We will also need many volunteers in various positions. If you would like to get up close and personal with the racers and be part of the excitement, register on-line at <http://icanhelp.richmond.ca> and choose Steveston as your preferred location.

For links to race registration, Cycling BC licencing, and updated information about the Sockeye Spin, please visit our website stevestoncommunitysociety.com

Starry Nights II

Steveston Community Society will once again host "Steveston Starry Nights" movies in the park August 1, 14 and 28 at Fisherman's Park in front of the Gulf of Georgia Cannery. Join your neighbours for a unique experience and see a feature film on an inflatable movie screen in the park.

Bring your own snacks and picnic blanket, lawn chairs, bug repellent and a sweater and stake your place on the grass; we'll provide the movie and popcorn.

The movie titles will be kept secret until just before showing; titles selected will be family-friendly rated G or PG. In the event of inclement weather or high winds, the show will be postponed or cancelled. Please contact the Steveston Community Centre for more information 604-238-8080.

We hope to see you there!

SFAM Opening Day!



Steveston Farmers & Artisans Market, pictured above, opened for another exciting season with plenty of crowds to welcome back the vendors despite the cloudy weather! The SFAM will open the first and third Sundays each month, all summer long until September 18, rain, shine or cloud!

Visit www.sfam.ca for the full schedule.

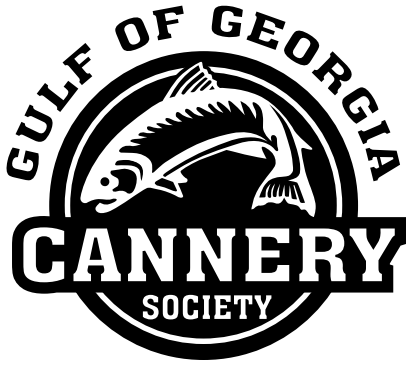
STEVESTON STARRY NIGHTS MOVIES IN THE PARK

MONDAY, AUGUST 1
SUNDAY, AUGUST 14
SUNDAY, AUGUST 28

Fisherman's Park, Corner of 3rd Avenue & Moncton Street
Movie begins at dusk ~ Approximately 8:45pm
Bring your blankets, bug repellent, folding chairs, and a flashlight!

In the event of rain, the show will be postponed to a later date.

Around the Village



We've got a busy schedule at the Cannery this Summer!

July 1: **Canada Day** - Free admission to the Cannery.

July 16: **Parks Day** - Come celebrate the 100th anniversary of Parks Canada with cake and fun activities, as well as free admission.

August 14: **Salmon Stomp** - Our popular community festival returns with musical acts ranging from Brazilian to Celtic to Country. There will also be street entertainers and kids' crafts.

August 27: **Fishing the West Coast** - Our annual photo contest focusing on the fishing industry opens, and runs to October 31.

Phone 604-664-9009 or visit www.gulfofgeorgiacannery.com for more details.

Gulf of Georgia Cannery Music Series

Last summer was a great success so get ready for some great fun for the summer of 2011!
Fridays - June 24th to August 26th
6:30pm start

June 24th: Sangre Morena

July 1st: Little Mountain Brass Band

July 8: Joe Charron

July 15: Gerry Layton

July 22: Folk Thief

July 29: Steve Palmer

August 5: Hangman Surf Band

August 12: Live Rust

August 19: Sarah Kennedy

August 26: Willy Blizzard

Presented in partnership with the Gulf of Georgia Cannery, Steveston Folk Guild, and Beatmerchant Records, at the Gulf of Georgia Cannery

Artists in Steveston

Esther McIlveen is an Artist in Steveston who has been living in the area for more than 20 years. She is a grandmother, creative writer and teacher. Mrs. McIlveen has written five books and is a columnist in both of the Richmond newspapers. She is currently working on her memoir and has recently published *Opaque Glass - Musings by Esther McIlveen*

You will see Esther riding her grown-up tricycle, named Lola-May, around Steveston Village. Her appearance is distinctive and stylish and most of the time she wears her signature Chatelaine hat.

We hope you enjoy "Nature's Icons", an excerpt from *Opaque Glass*.

"When we left the mountains in West Vancouver many years ago, we wondered what could replace these plateaus. Living near and walking the dyke has done it. The trail along the dyke, Scotch Pond and Garry Point have become a geography of my spirit.

I have discovered many icons there that bring layers of harmony and calm in a world that seems increasingly angry and discordant. One feels akin to dyke strollers, dog walkers and cyclists. Some enjoy greetings and others are content to remain in their private world.

The snow geese flitting playfully on a sky canvas with a mountain backdrop remind me that as a child I wanted to fly and the closest thing to it was swinging as high as possible and getting dizzy looking down. When stress and worries hold me earthbound, the birds and kites speak of letting go and surrendering to the wind.

The Search and Rescue on the Fraser and the boats - Mythmaker, Dream Weaver, Gala Babe 11 and the Golden Star, suggest that we are all on an expedition. We may pass like ships in the night, or we can pause to befriend, act kindly and cheer each other on.

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts, heaven and earth are full of thy glory."



"Seagulls" by Michael Duncan

**If you are an artist, or know of one who lives and/or works in the Steveston area who would like to be featured here, please send information to: editor@stevestoncommunitysociety.com or call 604-377-6926*

Coming Events

- June 26** Steveston Salmon Festival
Bullhead Derby 9am-noon
Garry Point Park
- July 1** Steveston Salmon Festival
ALL DAY!
- July 28** Edmond Wong, Musician
Steveston Park 1:30-2:30pm
- July 31** Steveston Sockeye Spin
Village streets 4pm-8pm
- August 1, 14, 28** Steveston Starry Nights
Fisherman's Park at dusk
- August 18** The Purple Pirate!
Children's Entertainer
Steveston Park 6:30-7:15pm
- August 21** Car Boot Sale
Parking lot; a.m.
- Sept. 10** Sports Only Swap Meet
Community Centre Gym
9:00am to noon

Call 604-238-8080 for further information.

****STUDENTS: GET YOUR VOLUNTEER HOURS**** Come out and support your community by joining in the festivities. Your presence and support is immensely valued. For details, call Marisa at 604-238-8087. To join the Steveston Volunteer Team, register at: <https://icanhelp.richmond.ca> and choose Steveston as your preferred location.

Steveston Community Society Board of Directors 2011-12

Jim Kojima, President

Beth Ovenden, President-Elect, VP Programs

Denise Kostash, Secretary

Karen Schiefner, VP Finance

Keith Whittle, VP Operations

Barb Nimchuk, VP Salmon Festival

Tracy Stillwell, VP Salmon Festival

Johanna Stewart, VP Special Events

Ben Branscombe, Past President

Directors

Alan Clark, Alan Sakai, Barbara Whittle,

Brenda Yttri, Cheryl Grattan, DeAnn McBride,

Elise Kobylanski, Frances Lorenz, Jimmy Yau,

Joan Haws, Lingly Wilson, Maureen Duns,

Neil McEachern, Susan Epp, Susie Chan

Trustees

Hap Hirata, Kelvin Higo, Ted Lorenz Sr.

City Council Liaison

Bill McNulty

Steveston Park Millennium Brick

Make your mark in Steveston Park with a permanent tribute etched in stone.

Celebrate someone special or a special occasion: birth, birthday, anniversary, wedding; remember a loved one or beloved pet; honour a volunteer, graduate or graduating class; or "just because".

About the Brick Program

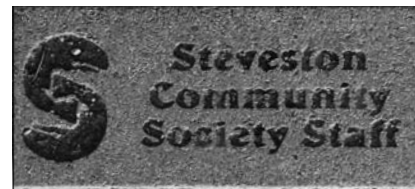
The Steveston Park Brick Program was initiated in 1999 as a millennium project. In addition to creating a permanent legacy which celebrates the people of Steveston on a personal level, it also served as a fundraiser to upgrade the playground adjacent to the walkway.

Although the original purpose for establishing this program has already been fulfilled, public interest in purchasing a brick is still strong, so the Steveston Community Society will continue to offer this opportunity for you to leave a lasting legacy in Steveston Park as long as there is demand.

Proceeds from the sale of Steveston Park Bricks will continue to support the on-going projects and programs of the Steveston Community Centre. Each brick is \$75.00 plus HST. The order form is available on-line at www.stevestoncommunitysociety.com or at the front counter in the community centre.

We're Expanding!

The original brick path is now full, so we're expanding the space to accommodate more bricks! Thank you for your continued support of this program; we will keep growing for as long as there is demand.



Steveston Pool

Enjoy outdoor swimming at Steveston Pool this Summer!

The Steveston Outdoor Pool is located right next to the Steveston Community Centre. This 25 metre pool, with its shallow tot pool along side of it, is a popular place for both young and old alike. Choose to enjoy an afternoon playing with the kids in the water, or swim some lengths for fitness. Even on a rainy summer day, the heated pool is a great choice for a little outdoor fun. The pool also serves as the main training site for Richmond's Summer Swim Club, the Kigoos. The club will host their annual Ice Breaker Swim Meet on June 11 & 12 (please note: public swimming is cancelled on this weekend).

Swim Schedule

"Weekends only" public swimming is currently scheduled through until the end of June. Swim sessions are 12:00pm to 5:00pm

"Daily" public swimming begins July 2 and continues through until Labour Day on September 5. Swim sessions are as follows:

Length Swim - Monday to Friday 12:00pm to 1:00pm

Public Swim - Monday & Wednesday 1:00pm to 4:30pm

Tuesday & Thursday 1:00pm to 6:00pm

Friday 1:00pm to 5:00pm

Saturday, Sunday & Statutory Holiday 12:00pm to 6:00pm

For more information visit www.richmond.ca/aquatics or call 604-718-8030.

