

MUSEUM MUSINGS FOR MAY 08

We are pleased to report that we have reached an agreement with the Powell River School Board for the use of part of the Van Anda Elementary School. Our grateful thanks to the School Board for this community minded decision. We plan on having at least part of this new site open for our Van Anda Days celebration on 12 July. Start thinking about a suitable costume and come out and enjoy what promises to be a gala event.

Our thanks to Gordon Coupland for the donation of four solid brass fire nozzles that were once part of the Blubber Bay fire fighting equipment. Gordon remembers the two wheeled cart/pump that held reels of hose and the nozzles. Anyone else have any memories of this equipment or any idea what may have happened to it?

Recently we found a report prepared by the Institute of Earth Sciences at UBC concerning the sighting of a meteor over Texada on February 5, 1964. From four sightings it was determined that the meteor could have fallen in an area behind Davie Bay called Snoose Valley. An aerial search failed to find any trace. It is not known if a ground search was ever conducted. Two of the four sightings were by Texada residents Ted Fox and Leo Staff. Does anyone have any other knowledge of this event?

Take some time to visit the Holtenwood Gallery in Blubber Bay which is currently showing paintings and prints by Doby Dobrostanski. At the opening of the display some copies of his prints were presented to the museum on his behalf by Marika Varro and Andrew Biermat and we thank Doby for these.

Our photo this month is of a fairly large ship tied to a smallish dock in Van Anda Bay. The smelter can be seen in the top right hand corner. It was established in 1899 and functioned until 1902 and again; from 1910 until 1919. In later years it served as a limestone processing plant until it was demolished in 1975.

Until next time take care of each other and continue to think green.

Norm MacLean

