

# WHYTE Museum

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2021–2022  
**COMMUNITY  
REPORT**

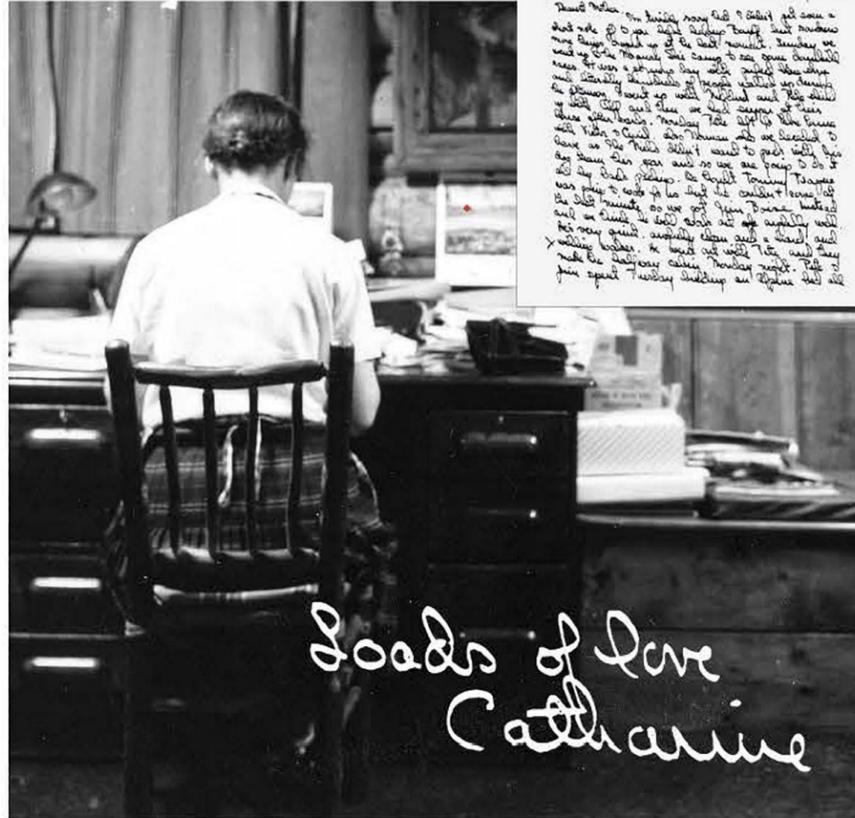
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## CATHARINE ROBB **WHYTE**

The cover image depicts one of our founders, Catharine Robb Whyte. This image is fitting for the past year as Catharine was celebrated and honoured by the museum and Banff community in many ways:

- Digitization of Catharine's letters to her mother.
- The exhibition *Mansions to Mountains: In Conversation with Catharine Robb Whyte*.
- *Mountain Legends* online art auction in celebration of Catharine's 115th birthday on June 13, 2021.
- The Peter and Catharine Whyte Home was designated as a Municipal Historic Resource.
- The building that is home to the Banff Senior Centre and Banff Public Library was renamed the Catharine Robb Whyte Building by the Town of Banff.



Cover Image: Frederick Andrew Bosley (1881 – 1942, American), *Untitled* (Portrait of Catharine Robb), 1925, oil on canvas, 114.3 x 99.5cm, Gift of Catharine Robb Whyte, 1979, BoF.02.01

Top Image: [Catharine Whyte seated at desk in home], [ca. 1950], Whyte Museum of the Canadian Rockies, Peter and Catharine Whyte fonds, (V683/III/A/1/PA-74)

Image on right: 101 Bear Street was renamed the Catharine Robb Whyte Building in honour of Catharine's contribution to the Banff community.

Back Cover Image: Thomas Mower Martin, R. C. A. (1838 – 1934, Canadian), *Mount Abbot at Marion Lake*, c. 1900, watercolour on paper, 38.0 x 25.0 cm. Gift of Robyn L. Fulton, 2022. MrT.05.06. Whyte Museum of the Canadian Rockies.

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### THE WHYTE MUSEUM COMMUNITY REPORT

The *Whyte Museum Community Report* is published annually by the Whyte Museum of the Canadian Rockies. We welcome your comments.

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## MESSAGE FROM CEO AND BOARD CHAIR

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DONNA LIVINGSTONE  
Chief Executive Officer



DONALD WATKINS  
Chair, Board of Directors

The title of our spring exhibition says it all: ***It's About Blooming Time!***

Time to reconnect. Time to show some fabulous art. Time to breathe a sigh of relief with gratitude that we made it through the past two years.

Over the past year, we have connected with our partners, our communities, and each other in ways that have touched and inspired us.

Meanwhile, the unexpected restrictions from the COVID-19 pandemic kept forcing us to change course.

We were set to celebrate the 115th birthday of our remarkable founder, Catharine Robb Whyte, in June 2021, but were unable to gather. However, we mounted a wonderful new exhibition, *Mansions to Mountains: In Conversation with Catharine Robb Whyte*, that we also made available digitally via our website.

**Time to reconnect. Time to show some fabulous art. Time to breathe a sigh of relief with gratitude that we made it through the past two years.**

With our volunteer board, we organized an online *Mountain Legends* art auction that was flooded with generous donations—wonderful works of art, books, and a washstand that Group of Seven artist Lauren Harris may have washed his hands in one time at Twin Falls.

Result: every single piece sold and we raised \$166,000 towards digitization and Indigenous programming.

During the last two years, we were gratefully assisted by the pandemic support from government and other agencies, receiving over \$1 million to support digitization and accessibility, Indigenous programming, exhibitions (including virtual), and maintenance of our operations.

Working closely with our commercial tenants, we helped them with wage subsidies and rent assistance programs. We are grateful for all they do for us and the community.

We got off to a good start in 2022. Our January opening—the first in two years—was attended by 350 people, masked, distanced, and very happy to be back at the Whyte.

**We are positioning the Whyte to connect people with nature through art, history, and stories. There is a healing power in nature; it's in our DNA. This is a time for regeneration.**

We achieved perpetual protection for Peter and Catharine's home through a successful municipal designation application. We repurposed our shop as a mountain bookstore and strengthened partnerships with the Banff Mountain Book Festival and Rocky Mountain Books. We initiated a lively online program of book launches and author discussions.

Chic Scott continues to impress with his research at the Whyte. His popular Fireside Chats were presented digitally, and a new series was launched, *Pushing the Limits*, featuring edited versions of rare interviews he conducted over twenty-five years ago.

We created an app for our popular walking tour of Banff, and have been developing Indigenous tours of our heritage homes and properties.

We worked closely with some remarkable young emerging Indigenous artists in creating colourful murals based on their research in our collections and with Elders and Knowledge Keepers, capturing the stories and insight they provide.

We are positioning the Whyte to connect people with nature through art, history, and stories. There is a healing power in nature; it's in our DNA. This is a time for regeneration.

We are building on a strong foundation that was laid during the past two years by a review of our unique location on the banks of the Bow River in the heart of an UNESCO World Heritage Site. We have the location, experience, energy, and the support of our many friends and community partners.

**We can't wait to see what grows!**

2021-2022

## MEMBERSHIPS AND DONATIONS

The level of support from our members, donors, partners, and supporters has continued to exceed our wildest expectations. **We literally couldn't do it without you!**

### 70 Donors

contributed to the annual appeal

### Over 100 Donations

came in for the art auction – and every piece sold!

### 283 Membership Purchases

(renewals and new members)

### 221 Donors

to the museum in total

### Over \$1 Million in Grants:

Department of Canadian Heritage, Government of Alberta, Calgary Foundation, Banff Canmore Community Foundation, Rosza Foundation, Town of Banff, Town of Canmore, Alberta Foundation for the Arts.

**Many new local and community partnerships were made and strengthened.** From our annual appeal, monthly donors, members, gift-in-kind donors, to everyone who contributed to the art auction, our partners, and the various government and foundation support we received over the past year, we are so touched, inspired, and, above all, grateful.

**Thank you.**

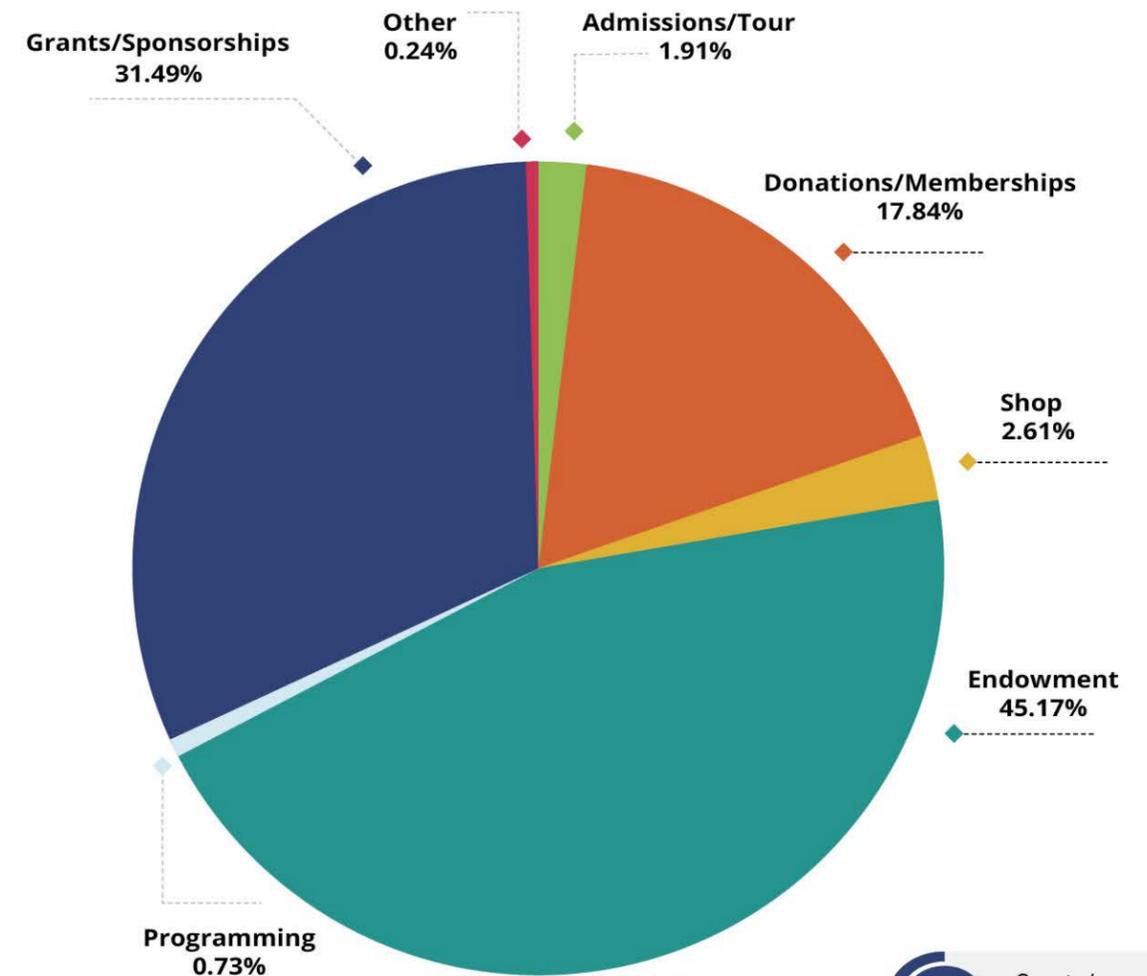
## WE OUT-BID OURSELVES!

When we decided to do an online auction, we expected (hoped for) about \$50,000.

We weren't expecting so many wonderful mountain experiences, works of art, photographs, books, and other memorable objects to be donated so quickly and so generously from our many friends.

Doug Levis, from Levis Fine Art auctions, supported the auction and even he was surprised that every single piece sold.

## WE RAISED \$166,000!



## WHYTE MUSEUM BREAKDOWN

*The COVID-19 pandemic and resulting restrictions greatly impacted our earned revenue, from admissions, programming, and tours.*



2021-2022

## IMPACT OF COVID-19

In 2020, a Health and Safety Committee was created to manage the safety of all staff and public coming into the Whyte Museum. The committee created a set of protocols that were updated regularly as they navigated the changing restrictions set by the Alberta Government. These protocols have so far been updated 17 times over the course of the past two years.

**100% of the staff are fully vaccinated.**

Staff are committed to the safety of the community and visitors to the museum.

**2020-2022 – approximately 200 programs were cancelled.**

This includes public programming, booked and drop-in tours, and school programs.

In 2022, the committee continues to monitor and update health and safety protocols for staff and the public.



**WELCOME**

The Whyte Museum is participating in the Restrictions Exemption Program and will meet or exceed the Alberta Government's program requirements at the discretion of the Whyte Foundation.

**Managing Our Space To Keep You Safe**

- Face masks are mandatory.
- Modified hours in place for routine sanitization.
- Limited capacity and controlled access in place to support physical distancing.

**Visitor Guidelines**

- Strollers, backpacks, food and beverage must be stored to minimize congestion and maintain cleanliness.
- While we love your pets, they do not mix with museum artifacts and must remain outside.

## PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

**14 virtual book talks, art talks, Y2Y+Whyte Speaker Series, Fireside Chat, and an online art class. These online programs brought 617 live viewers.**

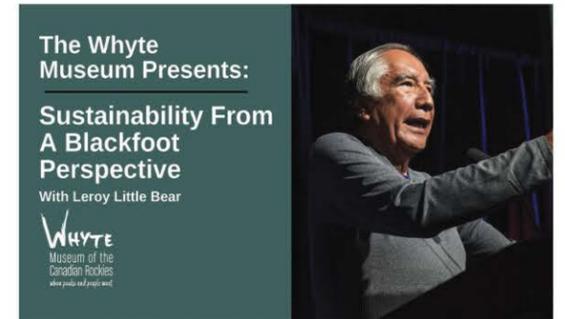
Author, Chic Scott, and filmmaker, Glen Crawford, produced two Fireside Chats, featuring Lloyd Gallagher and Glen Boles. These were made as films and posted on our website, **2486 people viewed these films on our YouTube Channel and 79 joined us online live for a discussion.**

Chic and Glen continued their collaboration by launching a series of monthly online enhanced interviews called *Pushing the Limits: The Legacy*. So far, **1642 people have viewed the interviews** with Tim Auger, Sharon Wood, and Hans Gmoser. To celebrate International Mountain Day, they also launched the film *Climbing Pioneers of Yamnuska* which attracted 2960 viewers.

To enjoy the outdoors, guides Lisa and Dave Christensen offered *Exploring the Art and Geology of Banff*, a guided walk to Bow Falls. The Whyte also offered their sidewalk for some drawing for *Chalk-ful of Pride* during Banff Pride. A total of **57 people attended these outdoor events.**

The Whyte is excited to step back into in-person programming! In January and again in April, artists and guests were excited to mingle at exhibition openings. In March, we offered a photography talk and book talk, the long-awaited Jon Whyte Spelling Bee, and the Bow Valley Naturalists offered a combined in-person and virtual talk at the Whyte. **The total in person attendance we saw at these events was 515.**

These presentations featured not only local authors and artists from the Bow Valley and Calgary, but also international presenters. Going digital, as well as collaborating with partners, allowed us to transcend geographical boundaries and transform the ways in which we offer programming.



## IN THE GALLERY EXHIBITIONS

Image left: Elise Findlay, *Under the Mountain's Shadow*, 2021. Mix medium, acrylic paint and Banff pathway and street garbage.

Image top left (page 9): Photo: John Marriott.

Image top right (page 9): Edward Burtynsky, OBE, RCA (1955, Canadian) *Container Ports #13*, 2001. Photograph on board. 99.06 X 124.46 cm. Gift of the artist, 2014.



### UNDER THE MOUNTAIN'S SHADOW

ELISE FINDLAY | January 21-June 12, 2022

The installation *Under the Mountain's Shadow* explored and brought awareness to the challenges that face residents and visitors in resort towns. The beauty of the place and the "Peter Pan" attitude towards life in a resort town has a shadow—a darker side that results in increased rates of sexualized violence, domestic and intimate partner violence, as well as challenges with addictions and mental health. These issues are even more challenging because along with the high turnover of people and the younger population, most businesses and employers in resort towns rely on the tourist industry and its accompanying image of pristine

natural beauty—leaving little space to acknowledge, discuss, or improve.

The triptych and installation, depicting a semi-abstract landscape of the town of Banff, is built up of trash collected from around the townsite, printed statistics, and comments from an informal survey and research conducted during the project. The trash reflects the less picturesque as well as the disappointing behaviour of visitors and locals alike in the National Park. While the statistics from the survey which address sexualized violence, domestic and intimate partner violence, addictions, and mental health are not perhaps

surprising given provincial statistics, they are hard to face as a community. Yet, there is hope to be found in the Bow Valley. With shifts in attitudes, new programs to educate and support the community, and an increasing willingness to talk, the shadow that hangs over this beautiful place many of us love is shifting into the light.

*Under the Mountain's Shadow* expressed both the darkness and the light and is part of a larger ongoing community-building project.

### ICONIC ROCKIES:

THE PHOTOGRAPHY OF  
JOHN E. MARRIOTT

January 21-March 28, 2022

The exhibition featured images that have defined the impressive career of one of Canada's most recognized professional wildlife photographers, Canmore resident John E. Marriott. Marriott is known globally for his spectacular imagery from across Canada. It is Marriott's iconic wildlife encounters close to home in the Canadian Rockies that have often resonated the most with his fans and followers. A magical run-in with Canada's most famous wolf, Delinda; a late-night brush with the legendary grizzly bear The Boss; a two-day meeting with a mother cougar and her kitten; and a blizzard-induced encounter with a fluffed-up raven.

### FROM THE COLLECTION:

THE PHOTOGRAPHY OF EDWARD BURTYNSKY

January 21-April 18, 2022

Edward Burtynsky was born of Ukrainian heritage in St. Catharines, Ontario. From the mid-1970s to early 1980s, Burtynsky formally studied graphic arts and photography obtaining a diploma in graphic arts from Niagara College in Welland, Ontario, in 1976, and later a BAA in Photographic Arts (Media Studies Program) from Ryerson Polytechnical Institute in Toronto, Ontario, in 1982.

Burtynsky's most famous photographs are sweeping views of landscapes altered by industry: mine tailings, quarries, scrap piles. The grand, awe-inspiring beauty of

his images is often in tension with the compromised environments they depict. Vast human-altered landscapes expose the astounding scale of infrastructure and destruction fuelled by enterprise and consumption. Burtynsky's photography is held in over 60 major museums around the world including the Whyte Museum, whose holding includes 36 works dating from 1983 to 2012. The exhibition featured an overview of the Burtynsky collection.



Above Image: Michael Corner, *Woman with Three Chains*, 2021. Oil on panel.

Top image: Exhibition of *Mansions to Mountains: in Conversation with Catharine Robb Whyte*.

### MICHAEL CORNER: WHAT I DID LAST SUMMER

Residency, Summer 2021

With COVID-19 imposing restrictions and interrupting routines, the Whyte Museum launched a trial artist-in-residency invitation to local artist Michael Corner to spend the summer working out of the Mather Cabin. Located on the Whyte Museum property, the cabin is noticeable for its whitewashed exterior. Corner's paintings of exterior views capture elements of both the Whyte home, Sinclair and Peyto cabins with pathways through the wooded lawn taking the viewer farther afield. The human figure features predominantly in his interior scenes, making the cabin space appear larger than its minimal dimensions. Finally, Corner's paintings of figures submerged in black represent a historic event when the river overflowed its banks and flooded the space.

### MANSIONS TO MOUNTAINS: IN CONVERSATION WITH CATHARINE ROBB WHYTE

July 15, 2021-January 16, 2022

*Mansions to Mountains* re-engaged visitors with the remarkable life of Catharine Robb Whyte from a fresh perspective.

Catharine's story was voiced through uninhibited diary entries to her fictitious friend Buz (1921–1928), duty-bound yet loving letters to her mother Edith Morse Robb (1929-1962), and from her ambitious annual Christmas messages (1963-1978).

Along with her words, Catharine's legacy was observed through her renderings and canvases, as well as archival photographs and personal artifacts.



### ROCKIES REPEAT: CHASING BEAUTY IN A DISAPPEARING LANDSCAPE

January 21-March 28, 2022

*Rockies Repeat: Chasing Beauty in a Disappearing Landscape* was an exhibition that grapples with the cultural impacts of climate change in the Canadian Rockies.

This diverse collection juxtaposes the landscapes of Catharine Robb Whyte with fresh interpretations by six contemporary artists. Familiar places are captured and exhibited alongside Catharine's earlier paintings. For two years, a team of Indigenous and settler artists trekked into the mountains to the exact places Catharine painted *en plein air* nearly a century ago. Like Robb Whyte, the artists were confronted by the whims of nature but unlike her experience, these present-day artists

experience, these present-day artists endured record-breaking temperatures, horizons obscured by wildfire smoke, and backdrops besieged by climate change. Catharine's scenes of majestic peaks, dense glaciers, and lush thriving forests seem incongruous aside the recent artistic content.

Part of the exhibition's experience was *Rockies Repeat*, a story captured in a short documentary that is a meditation about human connections to disappearing landscapes.

The film explored the enduring legacy of Catharine Robb Whyte, the importance of sustaining traditions on ancestral lands, and the impact of a changing climate on our sense of place.



Above Image: Catharine Robb Whyte's original painting juxtaposed with the current view of Athabasca Glacier. Photo by North Grove Creative.

Catharine Robb Whyte, *Snow Dome, Columbia Icefield*, 1940 – 1950, oil on canvas, 28.0 x 35.5 cm, WyC.01.303.

Top image: Participating artists at the opening of *Rockies Repeat: Chasing Beauty in a Disappearing Landscape*.



## ONGOING

The Heritage Gallery is a 1500-square foot exhibition space featuring important people, places, and themes pertaining to the history of Banff and the Bow Valley. Newly renovated in 2021, it contains five modules currently showcasing the history of the railway, tourism, mountaineering, significant women, and Indigenous Peoples. The large open space also contains historical and contemporary art exhibits, displays relating to artifact conservation, land management and an area dedicated to the contribution of Banffites during the world wars. Connecting the main hall with the Rummel Room and Archives, the Heritage Gallery is also an important space for events and programming surrounded.

The Founders' Gallery features rotating exhibitions that celebrate the vision and creativity of the Whyte Museum's founders, Peter Whyte and Catharine Robb Whyte. Currently, the curatorial team has installed an eclectic mix of acquisitions acquired over the past seven years. The collections are fundamental to our in-house and online engagement with members, researchers, and the general public – we are forever grateful to our donors for generously adding to our collection so that we can make accessible a wide range of materials.

## RECENT ACQUISITIONS

The Whyte Museum collects objects from the cultural roots of Banff and beyond to ensure relevance and future preservation. Each object is a story unto itself, bearing marks of the past and giving insights into the fundamentals of life in eras gone by. We preserve objects for future study by making history and culture accessible through exhibitions and interpretation, and to share knowledge and inspire future generations.

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Walter Joseph Phillips, R. C. A. (1884 – 1963, Canadian). *Mountain Road*. 1942. watercolour on paper. 35.0 x 49.5 cm. Gift of David Duffin, De Winton, 2019. PhW.05.19. Whyte Museum of the Canadian Rockies.



Images: Textile Conservator, Gail Niinimaa, conducting the intricate conservation of Catharine's dress for the exhibition, *Mansions to Mountains*.



## CONSERVATION AT THE WHYTE

In preparation for the exhibition, *Mansions to Mountains*, which honoured the 115th birthday of Catharine Robb Whyte, we conserved and restored several of her personal items. In particular, the dress 19-year-old Catharine wore for the portrait-sitting by famed painter Frederick Andrew Bosley (1881 – 1942, American), commissioned by her parents Russell and Edith (Morse) Robb to commemorate her societal debut in December 1924. The intricate conservation work on the dress was conducted by Textile Conservator, Gail Niinimaa, whose expansive career spans continents.

The conservation and display of Catharine's dress includes mending, then fitting onto a well-supported torso mount. The worn under-arm areas were reinforced with polyester netting that is secured with an anchor stitch using Gütermann Skala 360 polyester filament. Instead of silk thread, Gail explained that conservators have found it deteriorates after 30 years, thus the more durable plastic-based brand is now preferred. The mount is padded with acid-free and unbleached materials to support the fragile and fine silk qualities of the garment.



Eleanor Luxton in her backyard on Beaver Street, Banff - Eleanor Luxton early childhood and family album, [ca.1904], Whyte Museum of the Canadian Rockies, Luxton Family fonds, (LUX/II/C/PD-3)

overview of her life in the Bow Valley as well as national and international events throughout the mid-20th century.

The Alpine Club of Canada members' records were also focused upon, including the extensive records of Lillian Gest and Chic Scott, as well as A.O. Wheeler, Bob Hind, and Malcolm Geddes.

Lillian Gest's slides, diaries, films, and photograph albums were digitized for this project and document her hikes in the Canadian Rockies for over 60 years.

Additionally, the Archives and Special Collections has continued to process its acquisitions, including the Placido Monachello fonds, a conscientious objector who was sentenced to work at the Alternative Service Corps work camp near Sunshine Road/Brewster Creek during World War II.

We are pleased to announce that the Luxton Family fonds, of which the Whyte Museum is custodian, is now fully processed, with select digitization of materials.

The processing of the extensive professional records of naturalist/author Ben Gadd and photographer/naturalist Douglas Leighton is also nearing completion.

## ARCHIVES AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Archives and Special Collections was closed to the public from March 2020 to July 2020, and again from January 2021 to July 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. During this time, while we were unable to facilitate in-person researchers, we continued to offer long-distance reference service to over 680 researchers and provide 109 photograph reproduction orders by email.

Staff worked in combination from home and in the office, and used the closure as an opportunity to focus our efforts on increasing long-distance access to our collections through digitization. We were fortunate to obtain funding assistance through the federal Documentary Heritage Communities Program (DHCP) and Ski Lake Louise, which enabled us to focus on digitization and the updating of our databases for online accessibility.

**Between 2020 and 2021, 38,864 pages of diaries and letters, 2814 transparency slides, 156 scrapbooks, 37 photograph albums, 373 films, 127 videos, and 114 audio reels/cassettes, were digitized. Over 100 years of community life and world-events were uploaded through scrapbooks and photograph albums.**

Catharine Robb Whyte's, weekly letters to her mother from 1929-1962 were also digitized. These letters offer a broad



Hans Gmoser On Mt. Louis 1961, [Hans looking up, sitting on rock], 1961, photographer Clair Brown, Whyte Museum of the Canadian Rockies, Hans Gmoser fonds, (V68/V/PA-490)

## PROGRAMMING

Archives and Special Collections has worked in partnership with the Programming and Community Engagement department to provide the *Fireside Chat* program, hosted by Chic Scott.

In 2021, interviews with Kiwi Gallagher and Glen Boles were delivered through our online platforms. As the pandemic has eased, we have now re-introduced in-person interviews which began with Barb Renner in April of 2022.

*The Fireside Chat* series is available for online viewing, and is archived as part of the Whyte Museum's records. 2021 also saw the beginning of two additional initiatives: *Pushing the Limits: The Legacy*, is an online series featuring the digitized interviews of Chic Scott with Canada's mountaineering community. This project is funded through Dr. Bill Hanlon and Ski Lake Louise. *The Lillian Agnes Jones Fellowship Speaker Series*, which thus far has hosted Stephanie Laine Hamilton (2021), Daniel J. Meister (2022), and Mary Graham (2022) is also available for viewing through the Whyte Museum's YouTube channel.



Our Summertime Journey into the Little Yoho Valley, 1940, Whyte Museum of the Canadian Rockies, Jean Knox Petrie fonds, (V281/II/PD-7)

## PUBLICATIONS AND RESEARCH

Archives and Special Collections' staff have been eager to share what they have learned and have been working on via their digital exhibits. Their enthusiasm and knowledge is also projected in the articles which they have written for *The Cairn*, and show the breadth of their work: Indigenous Voices in the Archives, Ben Gadd, Walter Wilcox, Conscientious Objectors, Murray Hay, Trail Riders of the Canadian Rockies, 100 Years Since Tragedy on Mt Eon, Malcolm Geddes, and Scrapbook Secrets.

Crowd-sourcing is an effective tool that is being widely used in the Museum world for engagement and for utilizing the public's knowledge or expertise. Archives and Special Collections are piloting this approach with the Whyte Museum Transcription Project, which builds upon recently digitized materials such as Catharine Robb Whyte's Letters to Mother, and Lillian Gest's extensive collection of travel diaries. Written primarily in cursive, select letters and diaries have been selected for the public to assist in transcribing. By doing this we are able to create greater accessibility to our collections.

## LILLIAN AGNES JONES FELLOWSHIP

The Lillian Agnes Jones Fellowship was established "for study and research related to the history of Western Canada." Initially administered as a graduate student scholarship through the University of Calgary, it was realigned in 2019 to be administered through the Whyte Museum, with an open call for scholarly residency proposals across Canada. This call coincided with the beginning of COVID-19. Luckily the 2019/20 recipients, Daniel R. Meister and Stephanie Laine Hamilton, were finishing their in-person research weeks before the March 2020 closure. 2020/21 Fellows, Tyler J. Stewart and Felix Mayer worked closely with Whyte Museum staff via long distance, and were able to finally visit in-person to complete their research in July 2021. 2021/22 Fellow, Mary Graham, completed her in-person research in February 2022. All Fellows' reports are featured on the Lillian Agnes Jones Fellowship webpage which also provides links to their articles featured in *The Cairn* and book talks.

## RECOGNIZING RELATIONS



Owabi hrtijage thûgitaba nâgu owabi aî abitine tinen duwegas ogijikûch.

Wanîgas wîchastabi owa îhâwîchakiyabine duwegas ogijikâbich, duwebi yewîchagiyabi cha oyahnagabicyen. Nâgu oyade tokâbikâbi kowîchakabich. Oûwaziksi nâgu isnân owa îhâwîchakiyabi necha owath kabich. Zen ayadothowahâwîcha kiyabi pîchiyen en ewîchagiyabi chako hûkâch. Wanîgasadâhâ bahibicha nen owabi thûgitabi tinenodahûkâch.

### Odaguye Yewîchagiyabi

*Duwe Wîchayagikthiyabikta?*

For information on *Recognizing Relations* and to view images online visit our website <https://www.whyte.org/recognizing-relations>  
 111 Bear Street, Banff, AB  
 403 762 2291 ext.335  
[archives@whyte.org](mailto:archives@whyte.org)




Since 2014, Archives and Special Collections, under the lead of Dagny Dubois and Corleigh Powderface, has been working with Indigenous Peoples via its *Recognizing Relations* initiative which aims to update descriptions, restore names, and remove inappropriate language from archival records including photographs and audiovisuals. To date this program has been able to identify over 80 percent of the photographs selected and make accessible by digitization over 500 images.

During the height of COVID-19, in-person visits were not possible. In response the Archives used the time to research and digitize more Indigenous related photographs and films, and also to develop the groundwork for the next phase, which while still striving for identification of images, is to focus primarily on sharing our materials and information about our holdings with the communities.

Colleen Crawler from Morley, Alberta, was hired in Fall 2021 to facilitate this new direction and in 2022 has been actively meeting with Elders and members of the Stoney Nakoda community.

Young Canada Works Indigenous Research Intern, Jacinda Brisson described the visit to Big Horn in a recent article featured in *The Cairn*. Brisson has also completed an Indigenous Access Guide that will help Indigenous Peoples gain greater access to our Indigenous related holdings.

We give sincere thanks to the Banff Canmore Community Foundation and Calgary Foundation for their ongoing support of this project. With the help of Dawn Saunders Dahl, Manager of Indigenous Relationships and Programs, 2022 will also see more outreach with other Indigenous Peoples to share our holdings and build relationships.

## INDIGENOUS PROGRAMMING

2021-2022 HIGHLIGHTS:



Cultural Appropriation Basics for Diverse Futures Presentation (July 2021)



The Buffalo: A Treaty of Cooperation, Renewal, and Restoration (July 2021)

The Museum was working extensively with the late Buddy Wesley on the development of the programs that are mentioned below. We are fortunate to have been able to start a lot of good work with Buddy that we hope to complete in the upcoming years.

We have contracted Cheyenne Bearspaw to assist with the Cave and Basin Mural Project, Travis Rider and Daryl Kootenay for the Bow Valley History and Living with Nature programs, and Phillomene and Tracey Stevens to develop the seasonal education, walks with tea, and historic home programs.

The Whyte Museum partners with Indigenous advisors to establish and maintain a mutually respectful relationship related to showcasing the rich history of the Bow Valley (in partnership with the Banff Canmore Community Foundation, Town of Banff, and Town of Canmore). We are in the final stages of developing an internal Indigenous Collections Accessibility Policy.

Multi-year project funded by the Department of Canadian Heritage to research and explore the traditional Indigenous trade routes in consultation with Knowledge Keepers and Indigenous Elders who have lived, met, and travelled in this area. We have gathered oral history and songs and worked with the Nakoda AV Club to record the interviews. exhibition returning to the Whyte Museum

## IN PROGRESS REPORT

### EITHKA WOGNABI

Seasonal Education Programs, Historic Home Tours, Seasonal Walks and Tea working with Phillomene Stevens, Tracey Stevens, Nakoda youth, and outreaching to other Indigenous groups connected to the Bow Valley to deliver these programs

### BOW VALLEY HISTORY AND LIVING WITH NATURE PROGRAM

in partnership with Bow Valley Immigration Partnership and WildSmart / Biosphere Canmore

### CELEBRATE CANADA: TASTE OF CULTURES

in partnership with the Bow Valley Food Alliance, Town of Banff, and the Banff Public Library

### CAVE AND BASIN MURAL PROJECT

in partnership with Parks Canada

### MÉTIS PROGRAMS

in conjunction with the *Breathe* exhibition returning to the Whyte Museum

## MARKETING AT THE WHYTE

New marketing initiatives are making a big difference

The beautiful new billboard on the highway from Calgary is seen by an estimated 100,000 people a day and visitors are commenting that it inspired their visit.



Earned media	
Legend Tim Auger on Yosemite, Rescues and Epics in Unseen 1990s Interview	Gripped Magazine
Exhibition: Chasing Beauty in a Disappearing Landscape opens	Bow Valley Crag & Canyon   Marie Conboy
Banff Museum gives new life to video interviews with Canada's best climbers after decades in storage	CTV News   Kevin Fleming
Film: Climbing Pioneers of Yamnuska available online	High River Times The Bow Valley Crag & Canyon   Marie Conboy
Honouring the Early Climbers of Yamnuska	51 Degrees North Magazine   Nerissa McNaughton
If You Like History, Choss and the Rockies, Don't Miss This New Film	Gripped Magazine
Rockies Reframed: Artists explore climate, culture and our shifting landscape	Mountain Life Rocky Mountains   By Meghan J. Ward
Whyte Museum connecting with nature through new exhibitions	Rocky Mountain Outlook   Cathy Ellis
Chic Scott's interviews 'window on a bygone era'	Rocky Mountain Outlook   Cathy Ellis
Meet Our Member: Whyte Museum Book Shop - Interview with Janet Boger	Canadian Independent Booksellers Association
Film: Climbing Pioneers of Yamnuska available online	The Bow Valley Crag & Canyon   Marie Conboy
Film series brings 25-year-old interviews to life, showing how mountaineering has changed in Canada	CBC News
Banff's Whyte Residence Perpetually Protected	Rocky Mountain Outlook   Cathy Ellis

## GOOGLE REVIEWS

This museum is really good, considering its location in a small town. There are lots of galleries and exhibitions to see here. The Whyte family, Banff history, paintings and some contemporary art made by local artists. For a \$10 fee, I think it's worth it. The gallery have been well kept and most of the artifacts, paintings and rare items are nicely preserved. This is a good additional activity in Banff if you're not into Skiing or hiking. We went on Saturday noon and it was just me and my partner the whole time. - nomad\_paul

Friendly staff, free locker backpack/coat check and nice gift shop! They charged us half price since one of the rooms was closed. Downloaded the Whyte Museum Banff app (\$6ish) and did the 19 stop, 1.5 hour outdoor walking tour. Good for all us history buffs and it supports the museum! - Johnny Dulku

So much to see about Banff and so much more including Art displays. So interesting! - JariLynn Eckert

If you're into art, particularly paintings of landscapes and scenery you have to make sure you check this place out. It's also a great place to visit if you want to know some history about Banff and it's people. This particular museum focuses more on the family the museum namesake is named after but after leaving you can still feel it's historical value. - Chris Botterill

A treat for visitors to Banff that helps complete the picture of who was instrumental in developing the area. - Cynthia Olsen

Spectacular homage to two ambassadors of the Rockies, whose legacy has been to ensure recognition and dissemination of the lore and knowledge associated with the peoples and cultures of this exceptional landscape.- Scott Lawrence

Love the Whyte! The CMH Heli and tasteful displays of historic Banff and the national parks is so informative and interesting. Excellent gift shop with fabulous posters and creative items from local artists, great for Christmas and birthday gifts! - Jay Gould

## DIRECT MAIL

Hello,

I finally made it to the Whyte Museum (from Canmore) and just wanted to say I can't wait to come back!

I brought my 7 and 9 year old sons and after wandering around your exhibits, we went on the walking tour. Obviously they had to control the phone so I had a hard time hearing it. Today I listened again and browsed through many of the additional resources. You have done a wonderful job!!!

I am so inspired by Catherine Whyte and especially loved the Rockies Repeat exhibit. I am now looking into how I can become more involved and grabbed your donation sheet on my way out. Please feel free to have someone contact me.

Thank you for all you do for our community

Kristy Wolfe

## SOCIAL MEDIA FOLLOWERS:

2,651 FACEBOOK PAGE LIKES (4.4% INCREASE)

2945 TWITTER FOLLOWERS

2496 INSTAGRAM FOLLOWERS (28% INCREASE)

259 YOUTUBE SUBSCRIBERS (121% INCREASE)

## SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS:

169 FACEBOOK (8% INCREASE)

73 TWITTER

102 INSTAGRAM (32% INCREASE)

17 YOUTUBE SUBSCRIBERS (21% INCREASE)

## ENGAGEMENTS:

9,253 FACEBOOK

1,849 TWITTER

7,021 INSTAGRAM

16,431 YOUTUBE

## IMPRESSIONS:

156,616 FACEBOOK (2% INCREASE)

61,879 TWITTER

70,942 INSTAGRAM (6.5% INCREASE)

164,069 YOUTUBE (63% INCREASE)

## DIGITAL ENGAGEMENT



## COOKING WITH CATHARINE

Cooking with Catharine is a collaborative project between the Whyte Museum, Bow Valley Food Alliance, and Bow Valley Immigration Partnership. A blend of the original Cooking with Catharine series and the #BowValleyLocals Recipe Exchange, this project aims to connect old and new communities by putting a contemporary, multicultural spin on recipes from Catharine Robb Whyte's kitchen. Cooks from the Bow Valley community will be invited to put their own personal and cultural twist on one of Catharine's recipes and share their story of living in the Bow Valley. By exchanging stories of the local community's cultures, experiences, and knowledge around food, we hope to break down barriers between people and celebrate the many ways that we are a diverse, intergenerational, and vibrant community.

## EXPLORE.WHYTE.ORG

To elevate stories and experiences from the museum, Explore. Whyte.org was launched as another way for visitors to engage with the museum. This includes student research projects, on-line experiences of past exhibitions, and 3D tours of our heritage home tours and exhibitions. This storytelling platform serves as a resource to dig into the history of the Whyte Museum and the Canadian Rockies a little bit more.

*"We are in the process of reinventing the shop into a more comprehensive bookshop to better serve both locals and tourists. We came to the realization that we are the best local source for books on history, culture, and general information about the area."*

*Janet Boger, Museum Shop and Visitor Services Manager*

Last year, we expanded our book categories to better serve emerging customer needs. We now have a selection of Canadian award-winning fiction and poetry, and we introduced a broader range of content on social issues, grew our selection of early learning books for children, and began stocking more books on cooking and food. Plus, we expanded our travel guidebooks and map section to meet the needs of both beginners and experienced outdoor people.

## EDUCATION

Since the start of the pandemic, the Whyte Museum has had to transform its thinking. This was particularly true for the Education Department, as all programming is typically focused on in-person experiences, which were fully cancelled in 2020.

There was some interest in tours in the fall/winter of 2021. We delivered one walking tour and three heritage homes tours (including the return of a tour company!), and there was an increase in drop-in Heritage Homes Tours on weekends in August and September. The Peter and Catharine Whyte Scholarship ran in 2021 and is running again in 2022! Additionally, the Remembrance Day Tour was presented to 28 people and was delivered by Jon Rollins.

Perhaps the most rewarding project was the development and launch of a brand-new Walking Tour App! This app, supported by the Pauw Foundation, is designed to get people outside, while still connecting with the Whyte Museum and the stories we house in our extensive collections. The audio is supplemented with photographs from our archives and links to videos from our collection and partners.

We knew people preferred to be outdoors, so how could we create engaging, experiential activities? With visitor safety at the forefront, we shifted from in-person tours to self-guided, virtual options for visitors.

The Education Department is currently working with other museum departments on new and exciting programming for the upcoming year.

We introduced virtual programming to address tour companies and other clients in Canada and the U.S. have been reaching out for site visits for future programming, so we are looking forward to welcoming visitors back to the museum – it's going to be a busy year!

### 2020

In the early days with so many unknowns - the following number of experiences were cancelled:



### SCHOOL IMPACT

The following were cancelled:



### 2021

The following number of experiences were cancelled:

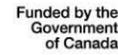


## WHYTE MUSEUM SHOP



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