

The Basin Record

Name That Teacher

The Columbia Basin Institute of Regional History (CBIRH), in collaboration with School District #5 (SD#5), has embarked on a new project through our Legacy of Learning collaboration.

We have collected a wealth of photos of district staff from various schools over the past two decades. These individuals have played a pivotal role in shaping the education of the East Kootenay region. However, most of these photos lack the names of the staff members, and we believe the community's involvement is crucial to fill this gap.

Thanks to the efforts of Carol and Chris Johns, the CBIRH has secured significant financial support from the British Columbia Retired Teachers Association (BCRTA) and the Cranbrook Retired Teachers Association (CRTA) for this project. "These teachers have given so much to our region. They deserve to be recognized - this project is one way to honour their contribution," said Johns, who is also a Trustee for SD#5 and a retired educator.

Our goal is to coordinate a group of volunteers who will review the staff photos and identify the individuals in them. We will then post the images on our website for public viewing, research, and nostalgia, creating a platform for former students to reconnect with their most memorable teachers while recalling essential milestones. Your contribution will help make this public resource available to all.

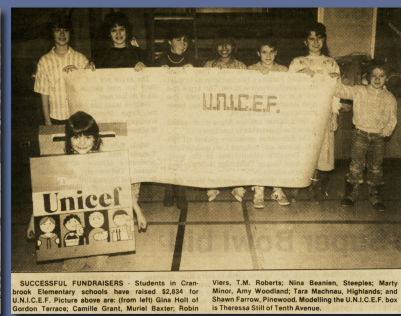


Thank You CRTA & BCRTA

"History is a gathering. The CBIRH is pleased to help enrich this large collection of staff photos. The 'Name that Teacher' project helps rescue documents destined for the Dumpster - preserving a collective history of students from this area," said CBIRH Historian Derryll White



"SOMEWHERE THE RUNNING MUST STOP" - Terry Fox's dream of finding a cure for cancer still lives on long after the one-legged run. Each year, thousands of Canadians run to raise funds and awareness. The grade four students in Gail Archibald's class at Amy Woodland Elementary recently practice their run with the Terry Fox flag they earned the right to keep for the past two years. Their students and many others from their school will be joining families, individuals, businesses, organizations and other schools in order to raise money for cancer research that stands at the University of British Columbia. The challenge is to run the Terry Fox Run, Pledge forms and buttons are available at most schools and at K. Mart. Photo by ADRIAN PHOTODISC



SUCCESSFUL FUNDRAISERS - Students in Cranbrook Elementary schools have raised \$2,834 for UNICEF. Picture above are: (from left) Gina Hall of Gordon Terrace, Camille Grant, Muriel Baxter, Robin Viers, T.M. Roberts, Nina Baanen, Steeples, Mary Minor, Amy Woodland, Tara Macnean, Highlands and Shawn Farrow, Pineswood. Modelling the UNICEF box is Theresa Gill of Tenth Avenue.



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BC Ghost Towns

The CBIRH consistently receives a steady stream of both large and small photo and archival collections, often daily. These collections range from family and work-related albums to more specialized and extensive collections.

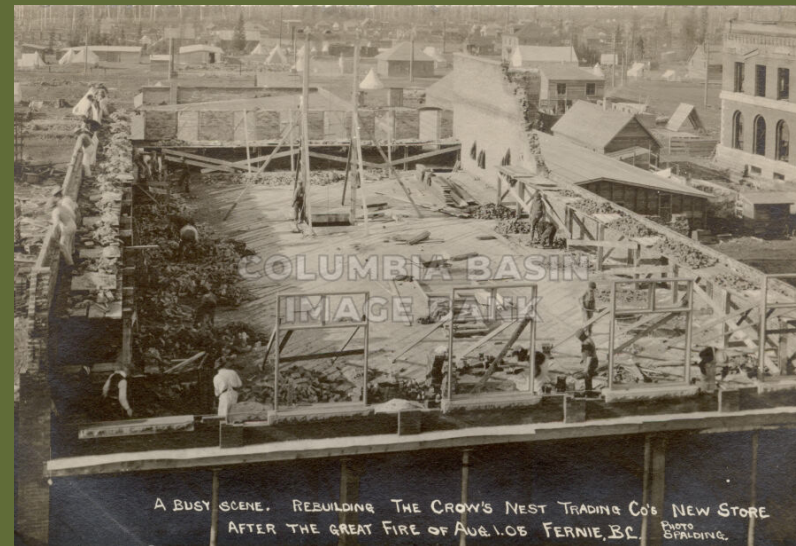
Recently, we have digitized three albums of B.C. ghost town photographs and six albums featuring specific images of particular towns and paddle-wheelers. Additionally, we have processed three albums from retired teachers that document their lifetime of work in public schools.

At the same time, we have acquired scientific research papers, numerous historical documents, and a wide variety of printed memorabilia that focus on businesses and institutions throughout the Canadian Columbia Basin. We are dedicated to making these items accessible to the public through our website at www.basininstitute.org. We appreciate your continued contributions!

The Firestorm of a Century

On August 1, 1908, the growing community of Fernie, British Columbia, faced the Great Fire. The blaze swept through the town in under two hours, leaving a wide path of destruction in its wake.

The fire remains etched in the consciousness of the people, forever embedded in the town's landscape—a reminder of a community that banded together with its neighbours to rebuild an entire city.



Rebuilding Fernie in 1908— The Great Fire

"Fernie was a frontier town that had already experienced many gains and losses, similar to its counterparts of the day. In 1904, the townspeople fought another fire that obliterated most of the downtown core, leading to the emergence of a fire department and the official founding of the town," said an August 13, 1908, Cranbrook Herald article: *Fernie Will Rise Again – The Aftermath of the Terrible Disaster*.

Still recovering from the initial fire, Fernie was hit by the 1908 inferno that almost levelled it. Despite the intensity of the damage, the number of human casualties was low. Hailed as a "firestorm" by the Cranbrook Herald, which wrote, "It roared through the town yet claimed no lives – an astonishing feat considering the circumstances. Fernie will rebuild. Fernie is populated by people who possess an indomitable Western spirit that knows no failure."

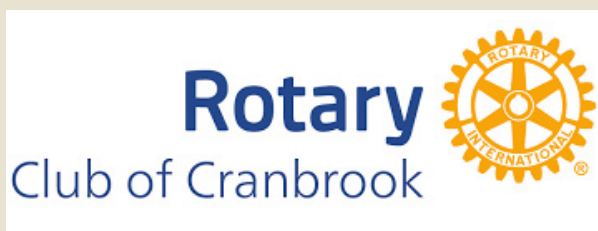
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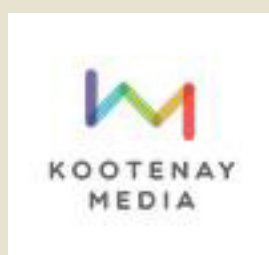
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