



NANAIMO MUSEUM

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Media Release – Exhibits Open - Nov. 9, 2009
For Immediate Release

The weather may be a bit frightful in November, but Nanaimo Museum invites you to warm up with a good dose of culture this month.

With the opening of the newest addition to the permanent exhibit, a new feature exhibit, two book signings and a photography exhibit, the next two weeks offers plenty of cultural stimulation for both residents and visitors to Nanaimo.

The Closet Collector, the Nanaimo Museum's newest feature exhibit, officially opens on Saturday, November 14 at 1 pm. This exhibit shares a sample of nine personal collections from the large community of collectors in Nanaimo.

"The challenge faced by each of the feature collectors was selecting only a dozen or so objects from their sometimes large and diverse collections," says museum curator David Hill-Turner.

Featured collectors include:

Robin Lee Gibson:

Memorabilia from Rick Hansen's Man in Motion World Tour. As Rick's cousin, Robin was part of the entire tour and continues planning and organizing events that support the Rick Hansen Foundation.

Tom Teer:

Tom is an avid collector of anything to do with coal mining in Nanaimo. His collection includes tools, signage and archival material.

Steve Young:

A variety of objects from Steve's diverse collection have been selected to form a dining room setting. This 1920s era setting will include table, chairs, cutlery, glassware, and a barley twist chandelier.

Mike Herold:

Mike has selected a few Chandler pastels from his large collection as well as some of beverage bottles and soda siphons from Nanaimo's various bottling works.

José Hope:

Has selected a variety of embroidered objects that representing various stitching techniques throughout the years.

Matt James:

Will present a selection of plugs, spoons and flashers from his extensive collection of fishing gear.

Bill Bokstrom:

Bill has selected a variety of samples from his Nanaimo pharmacy bottles from his bottle collection.

Rick Morgan:

Rick will feature a collection of crests, badges and other Vancouver Island Car Club memorabilia that date back to the 1950s.

Heather Grant-Powell:

Heather will feature her unique collection of snowflakes including hand-made and ceramic creations.

"To help celebrate the opening of *The Closet Collector*, we are thrilled to have author Doug Steel present his book, *Early Recollections: Nanaimo ~ The Forties and Fifties ~ a Memoir*," says Debbie Trueman, General Manager of the museum. "Doug's book tells his stories with a generous dose of humour reflecting on the good,

the bad and the sad events that shaped his youth. Doug will also be available to sign copies of his book purchased at the Nanaimo Museum Gift Shop."

On Saturday, November 21, the Museum will officially unveil its' newest permanent exhibit called *Timber!* This exciting new addition to the Main Gallery explores the history of logging and sawmills in the region and the how Harmac and Madill helped shape the local industry. It also looks at the equipment used in logging and how the timber was transported with trucks, boom boats and tugs. An intricate model of Harmac is the focal point of the exhibit.

To celebrate the opening of *Timber!*, author Richard Mackie will be presenting his new book, *Mountain Timber*, at 1pm on Saturday, November 21. Mackie will show slides and speak about logging on Vancouver Island and will be available to sign copies of his book, which can also be purchased in the Museum Gift Shop.

Also on the roster until Dec. 23 is a unique photo exhibit called *Rust in Peace* by Comox Valley historian Rick James . This black and white photographic retrospective explores Gorosh and other island junkyards from the 1970's.

The Nanaimo Museum is operating on winter hours and is open Tuesday to Saturday from 10 am to 5 pm. For more information call 250-753-1821 or visit www.nanaimomuseum.ca.

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For more information, contact David Hill-Turner at 250-753-1821.



This undated photo courtesy of Nanaimo Museum depicts logging in the early days and is part of the newest addition to the permanent gallery called *Timber!*.