



Faces & Facets of Delta

Delta's Three Solitudes

By Mark Sakai, DMAS Executive Director

In 1945, Hugh MacLennan's novel, "The Two Solitudes" was published. Since then, the term has come to represent the division between English and French Canada, though in her investiture speech, Governor-General Michaëlle Jean stated: "The time of two solitudes had finished".

Perhaps, the G-G was right, but I have often thought of Delta along the lines of MacLennan's novel, but with the difference being "three solitudes": Ladner, North Delta and Tsawwassen. One might argue that the Tsawwassen First Nation constitutes a "fourth solitude", but technically, the TFN is not part of Delta.

Delta's three main communities are separated by wide tracts of farmland, geographical features (Burns Bog and Boundary Bay), and are linked by slender vehicular corridors. In many ways, the separation makes both Tsawwassen and Ladner function as "islands", linked by Arthur Drive and Highway 17, while North Delta functions more like "a peninsula", being attached to North Surrey. This proximity results in North Delta relating much more closely, on a day-to-day basis, with Surrey, than with its South Delta relatives. In addition to the physical separation, the three communities have different histories, ethno-

"The Three Solitudes poses a unique challenge. How do we engage with all three communities?"



Photo courtesy of the South Delta Leader.

cultural populations, concerns and priorities. A subject which is a "fight-till-the-end" issue in one area may barely resonate in another.

For the Delta Museum and Archives Society (DMAS), or any Delta-wide organization, the Three Solitudes poses a unique challenge. How do we engage with all three communities? Is there a common message which connects with everyone? Do we need to tailor our messaging to each community?

Ladner is the "home base" of the DMAS – many of the founders of the society, its charter Board of Trustees, and many of its originating members, were and continue to be Ladner residents. As a result, many of the artifacts, photographs and documents in our collection are Ladner-centric. And, it follows that

a great many of our exhibits and programs, utilizing that collection, are based upon Ladner history.

For an organization that represents all of Delta, however, this is an unacceptable situation. It is incumbent upon us, as an organization, to identify the gaps in our collection, exhibitions and programming, and engage with communities in Tsawwassen and North Delta to fill those gaps.

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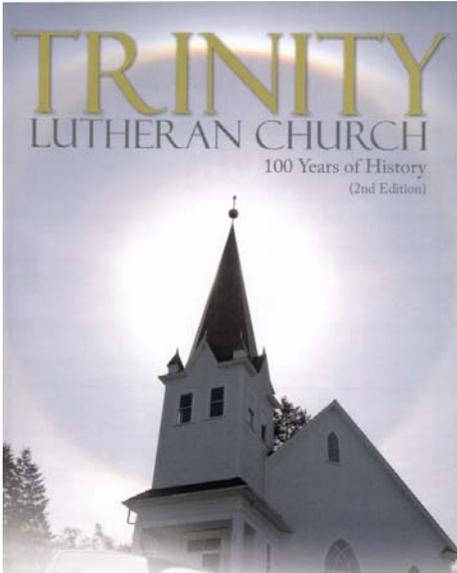
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Faces & Facets of Delta

Preserving the Legacy of the Trinity Lutheran Church

By Brenda Richmond, Archivist



The history of the Trinity Lutheran Church (TLC) in historic Annieville is the history of a people brought together by a common faith, a shared cultural and linguistic heritage, and impressive resolve to establish a new community on the banks of the Fraser River.

The recent acquisition of church records, dating back to the early 1880s, reflects that community that developed and expanded out of a shared religious faith and common ancestry. The records span the course of 120 years, documenting the historical evolution of the church, its congregation and the community it served.

The records of the Trinity Lutheran Church have been remarkably preserved by its membership. With

initial introductions facilitated by Gerry Parsons, and the assistance of many hands behind the scenes, two members, whose roots run deep within the community, have been orchestrating the transfer of these records to the Archives, where they will be safely preserved and made available to the public. Lori Anderson and Beatrice Starheim have worked diligently to ensure that the Church's records, and by extension the history of the Trinity Lutheran Church, its membership, and the wider community it serves, live on.

These records aren't limited to the history of the church alone, however; they document the intricate lives of the parishioners and the broader community in which they live; they're an expression of members' values and beliefs, their shifting social mores and cultural sensibilities, world views and community-based activities.

An accumulated volume totalling 263 centimeters of original material, these records document over a century of weekly services and lyrical hymns, education and instruction, outreach and advocacy, local and international aid efforts – and more. Under the auspices of the Trinity Lutheran Church, they tell the story of births and baptisms, confirmations and marriages, and document the passing of members whose lives they wanted to pay tribute to.

The Delta Museum and Archives Society is grateful to the Trinity Lutheran Church, its Council and membership for entrusting the Society



DMAS Photo # 2012-3-60

with its records. Their donation marks an invaluable contribution to the Archives' holdings and to our collective understanding of Annieville and the surrounding area, and the Church that united the residents of that community.

Many obstacles have been overcome over the course of its century-long existence, but we have *faith* that the Trinity Lutheran Church, and the community it serves, will successfully meet the new challenges of the 21st century and carry on to celebrate another centenary in 100 years!



DMAS Photo # 2012-3-65



Photo courtesy of Trinity Lutheran Church

Volunteer Spotlight

By Carol Ballard, Program Coordinator

With this volunteer spotlight, we want to highlight and say a special thanks to all of the volunteers who helped out with the Richmond Delta Regional Heritage Fair, Held at the Richmond Cultural Centre. The Fair would not have been possible without the 70 volunteers who contributed 550 volunteer hours both on the Fair days and in preparing for the event during the year.

Volunteers helped with the fair in so many different ways. Some sat on the planning committee while others spent hours throughout the year creating the decorations and banners. Other activities included visiting or calling



Volunteer Paulette Tattersall at the Fair

schools in the fall/winter of 2011 to help promote the Fair, picking up prizes from sponsors, setting up for the event, helping with the enormous job of leading groups of children around the fair on the Friday, adjudicating the children and their projects, handing out lunch and cleaning up after the Fair, and more.

Heritage Fair is an amazing opportunity for students from Richmond and Delta to showcase research projects they created at the school level on Canadian History. This



year approximately 300 Richmond and Delta students competed for 84 project spots at the Regional Fair. The students who were chosen to go to the Regionals participated in a full-day program of field trips, workshops, and interviews on May 5.



Events like Heritage Fair would not be possible without the support of our sponsors, the community, the teachers, and especially our volunteers. Thank you everyone for making this year's fair another memorable event.

For a list of this year's Heritage Fair award recipients, visit www.deltamuseum.ca or richmonddelta.heritagefair.ca



Delta's Three Solitudes

Continued from page 1...

Without input from, and content regarding, the 'other solitudes', we only partially represent a "Delta museum and archives". It is true that we have a significant number of items which are not related to Ladner. All you need to do is log into the searchable database on our web site, and enter any keyword related to North Delta (like "Annieville") or Tsawwassen (try "Beach Grove"), and you'll see all sorts of records unearthed in the search. It is also true that we are doing more to connect with communities outside of Ladner – but there is still work to be done.

Keep an eye on future editions of the Chronicle to learn more about these new projects.



Support Us!

Donations

The Delta Museum & Archives Society is a BC registered charitable society whose mission is to capture Delta's memories through research, stories, records and objects of Delta, and to facilitate access to these memories through education, exhibits and reference services for all present and future generations. Your donation can help us successfully accomplish this mission. Charitable registration no. 10701 2171 RR 0001

YES! I would like to contribute

\$ _____ (tax receipts will be issued for donations over \$25)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Postal Code: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Credit Card Number: _____

Exp: _____ (mm/yy)

Payment can be made by visa, MasterCard, or debit at the museum office, or make cheques payable to:

Delta Museum & Archives Society

4918 Delta Street, Delta, BC V4K 2V2

You can also donate online through Canada Helps. Visit www.canadahelps.org for details.



Another Way to Donate

Do you work for or are retired from a business or corporation that doubles charitable gifts made by their employees and retirees? If you do, and would like more information, call DMAS and speak to Gabrielle Martin, Associate Director, or ask your employer to call the Society to confirm its charitable status at 604 946-9315.

Discover Volunteering!

Help preserve Delta's History by volunteering for the Delta Museum and Archives Society! *Stop by the museum and pick up an application form today!*

Visit www.deltamuseum.ca to see a complete list of available opportunities.

Faces & Facets of Delta

Delta Museum and Archives Society Welcomes New Curator, Darryl Mackenzie

Darryl comes to the DMAS with a breadth of experiences gained in various capacities throughout his career. He enjoys biking, writing, carving and acting. He is prone to bursting out in song and hitting his head on low ceilings. He and his family are excited by the promise this position holds, and he is open to suggestions about growing the perfect tomato.



North Delta Community Mapping Project

By Darryl Mackenzie, Curator

What makes a community? What are the essential elements which residents value? What are the characteristics which draw new residents, keep them there, and encourage them to “set down roots”?

These are the questions that the Delta Museum and Archives Society (DMAS) will be asking five community-based groups in North Delta this spring. The result of this project will be five unique art pieces, each of which will represent community maps created by the groups. The art pieces will form the centrepiece of an exhibit, which will be displayed in various locations during the fall of 2012.

So far, we have met with three groups to discuss how they see their community. The sessions are opportunities to discuss, exchange ideas and challenge our views of community. North Delta was chosen because we need to understand the needs of North Delta as we try to be more representative of the complete history of Delta. It is a unique situation as the discussion will inform museum exhibits and development for some time.

What we are finding is people are marvellously open about their history, and how the preservation of that history is changing as new practices and new ways of relating to the landscape are adopted. There is a lot of pride in being able to say that you live in Delta, but a lot of fear that the creeping tide of urbanization is affecting the quality of life. Teens express the most fear in terms of traffic but celebrate the diversity of cultures. Adults cherish the view from their homes over the river, but still remember River Road as a country road. Children see their homes as central to their community.

This project is extremely important to the development of the museum. Museums today need to relate better to their target audience. Museum collections include artefacts, but those artefacts must be used to support stories that people today can relate with.

As this project is very much tied to the grassroots of the community, we are able to uncover important issues and subsequently use that information to inform new ideas for exhibits that discuss the historical underpinnings of present day issues.

The upcoming exhibit is scheduled to be installed in October, 2012. It would be wonderful to get your feedback about the success of the project!



Thanks to a Nameless Donor

By Darryl Mackenzie, Curator

All I could think upon opening the non-descript box on the shelf was: ‘Wow!’

There in my hand was a box of World War II German medals of honour, most of them sporting the characteristic eagle with a swastika in its talons. To obtain one, a German soldier had to participate in at least three campaigns in a given military division, and be wounded in at least one. There was also a medal for

survival of the campaign Nazi Germany fought on the Eastern Front with Russia. All told, I was looking at a record of the distinguished service of at least 4 men, probably 6, all of whom had contributed to the ideals of their government of the day.

After further investigation, I

found the medals had arrived at the museum through the Royal Canadian



Legion. They had been left there anonymously, with no way of tracking down more information about the donor, and how they came to possess such a remarkable collection. The donor of the marvelous pieces of history is a mystery. We don’t know who was awarded these medals, why, or how

Faces & Facets of Delta

Night for the Museum Fundraising Event

Our 4th Annual *Night for the Museum* Fashion Show and Silent Auction Fundraising event was held on Saturday, April 14, 2012.

We are happy to report that this year's fundraiser netted over \$3,800. These funds will go directly towards the development of our 2012 outreach exhibits and curatorial education programs.



Above: Mikayla Roddam wears a dress from Buttercups Children's Boutique

Below: Walt and Claudette Hayward pose in a 1957 Chevrolet Bel Air.



We thank our many volunteers, supporters, and local businesses for helping us in our endeavors to keep Delta's heritage alive for present and future generations!



Above: DMAS Volunteer Hailey Jenkins struts her stuff on the runway.

Right: Event MC Ian Tait introduces DMAS Curator Darryl Mackenzie.



Photos by Henri Tsai

Volunteer Thank You

April 15-21, 2012 was National volunteer week. The Delta Museum and Archives Society hosted its annual Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon in April to show just how much we appreciate the support and dedication of our volunteers. At the luncheon, it was announced that the DMAS, as a gift of thanks to our volunteers, would donate \$200 to a Delta not-for-profit organization of the volunteers' choice. Volunteers voted at the luncheon and we are pleased to announce that the Food Bank was voted as this year's recipient. Thank you once again to all of our volunteers for your generous support throughout the year.

they came to be in Delta. By themselves, the items are a valuable slice of history. Knowing the background would elevate these items from impressive to alive. Were these medals given to a person living in Delta? His or her family? Were they obtained some other way?

If the nameless donor of these artifacts is reading this – I give you a heartfelt and deep thank you. Your generosity is very much appreciated. We would love to be able to acknowledge your gift in a more

formal way.

"The combined stories of the countless objects give the museum a voice that is uniquely Deltan."

Generally, this story is not unusual in a museum. Many items within the collection can be found on the doorstep, left by an anonymous donor in the night as homes are downsized or disbursed. The accumulated generosity of Delta residents has given me the privilege of having a stewardship over a truly remarkable collection. My hope is that we can continue to develop and enhance the stories that accompany the objects, because it is

the stories that make the objects valuable.

Whenever you bring an object in for the collection, please allow some time for us to ask questions, receive input from you and learn from you. It is the combined stories of the countless objects that give the museum a voice that is uniquely Deltan.

Have a look at our new
Historypin Channel
www.historypin.com



historypin

Faces & Facets of Delta

Community Organizations Holdings in the Archives

By Catharine McPherson,
Assistant Archivist

Are you aware that the Archives holds records of a broad number of Delta community organizations? Many community organizations have yet to discover the service offered to them by the Archives to preserve their inactive records. Their donation will help us provide improved access to the community's rich documentary heritage. A significant number of organizations have come and gone over the years and without this valuable and original information stored and made accessible to the community, this documented memory can truly be lost.

Are you aware of some of the past community organizations that helped shape Delta and make it what it is today? Did you know that many of these valuable records have become part of the archives holdings?

One example in the Archives' holdings is the Delta Agricultural Society (DAS), which was founded in 1888 at a meeting of local farmers. The Society's new and amended objectives were 'to encourage the raising of improved livestock, assist with cheese and dairy production, use the best methods to cultivate soil and to foster household arts'. The Society petitioned the government to lease 24 acres on the school reserve, on what is now known as Paterson Park, and were able to purchase the property and obtain the title in 1902. Buildings were built, agricultural

exhibitions were held and both harness and flat racing were run for many years. There were lulls here and there, but slowly the interest for horse racing diminished and the last race was held in 1968. Times changed, and with it, so did the Delta Agricultural Society. During a particularly difficult financial year in 1955, the society's president, Murray Davie is quoted in the Ladner Optimist as saying: 'as our population increases, Paterson Park could become an important project in the life and development of this district in many ways'. And we all know it has! As the future of this



DMAS Photo # 2001-21-50

important piece of land and the success of the Society, held in the balance, discussions began about selling the property.

Many proposals were considered over the years, including reserving it as parkland, selling

it for profit and development or subdividing it. Proposals and offers came in from all directions. In the holdings, records show one development proposal for a "Theme Centre" to "portray turn of the century Ladner", with the potential to become a commercial mecca within the community! The gateway to Ladner was virtually held in the hands of the D.A.S. and they had many heated discussions on what was the right thing to do. Their minute book made for fascinating reading, pouring over the many discussions concerning the proposed sale of the property.

I guess you could say we have come full circle again as another group is advocating for the future of the park as green space or a cultural centre.

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Support Us!

Become a Member of the Delta Museum & Archives Society (DMAS)

DMAS members are the vital voice and link to the community that the Society relies upon to survive and guide its future directions. It's also an opportunity to meet other people who enjoy history and are looking to have some fun! *Join today!*

Membership Benefits:

- Free admission to the museum & archives
- Invitation to "members only" fun & free monthly activities
- Free admission to "admission by donation" programs and events
- 10% discount on program fees
- 10% discount on gift shop purchases
- Quarterly Newsletter
- Voting privileges at the Annual General Meeting

Membership Fees:

Individual	\$15
Family	\$20
Senior/ Student	\$10
Corporate	\$50

Apply today by filling out the information below. Application forms are also available on the DMAS website at www.deltamuseum.ca or can be picked up at the museum or archives sites.

YES! I am interested in membership.

New Membership Renewal

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Postal Code: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Membership Category:

Individual Family
 Student/Senior Corporate

In addition to the membership fee, I am enclosing a donation of \$ _____

Total Fee Enclosed \$ _____

Payment Method: Cheque Credit Card

Credit Card Number: _____

Exp: _____ (mm/yy)

Please mail form and payment to:

Delta Museum & Archives Society

4918 Delta Street

Delta, BC V4K 2V2

Delta History Hunters

Join the DHH for walks, talks and more as they explore local history hot spots.

The Hunters gather once monthly for a fun, friendly, history-oriented activity, ending each walk with the opportunity for coffee and a chat at a local cafe.



Delta History Hunters, May 3, 2012.

There is no charge and pre-registration is not required. All trips go rain or shine, so dress for the weather.

Membership in DMAS is encouraged but not essential.

Next Outing:

Ladner's Heritage Trees

Thursday, June 28,
9:30am - 11:30am

Join Susan Murray, author of *Our Sylvan Heritage: A Guide to Magnificent Trees of the South Fraser*, on this guided tour of Ladner's heritage trees.



For more information on the Delta History Hunters, call Anne at 604 943 0273 or email sanderling@uniserve.com.

Gift Store News

We're expanding! Look for our new product line at the Ladner Village Market this summer.

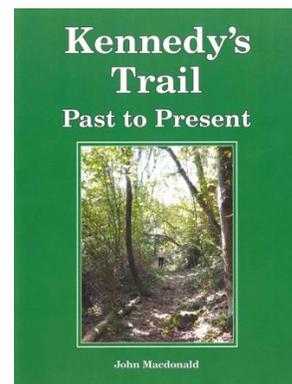
Are you a local artisan interested in selling your products in the DMAS gift store? We are currently looking for new products to expand our product line. Please call 604-946-9322 or email info@deltamuseum.ca for more information.

Featured Book

Kennedy's Trail: Past to Present

By John Macdonald

This is the story of how, in 1861, James Kennedy made the first settler-built trail in BC's Lower Mainland; how its route almost became lost to local history; and how local author John Macdonald uncovered remnants of the trail in North Delta and Surrey. This wonderful book combines information from historical maps, survey plans, modern maps, satellite images, and photographs to clearly illustrate the route of Kennedy's trail in relation to other early trails and roads and to present-day roads and landmarks.



John Macdonald has received Friend of Heritage awards from both Delta and Surrey, and is a member of the Surrey Historical Society.

Price: \$20.00

Community Organizations in the Archives

Continued from page 6

Perhaps you're familiar with another former advocacy group who had a similar mandate; 'Friends of Paterson Park', which was formed in 1998 and sold shares to purchase the property to halt any proposed development.

The Corporation of Delta came to the rescue just one year later and purchased the remaining 12 acre parcel (after the sale of 10 acres to Kwantlen); and so, the story continues.

This is just one example of the importance of community records and there are so many more that help shape us as a community. The legacy of your organization may not seem

that important, especially if you are seriously involved in ongoing projects and goals. However, what your group achieves will have an effect on society as a whole, no matter how small it may seem. What is preserved from your organization will affect how your organization is remembered once the members and issues have moved on.

Many social organizations are now on the verge of extinction but are often replaced with other new advocacy groups with different goals that help shape our history and future. Without the archives to hold this rich history, how will it be told to future generations? If you would like information on donating your records please contact the Delta Archives: 604-940-3832 or by email archives@deltamuseum.ca.



Like us on Facebook! Follow the DMAS on Facebook to get updates on upcoming exhibits, programs and events. Find us at www.facebook.com/DeltaMuseumAndArchivesSociety or visit www.deltamuseum.ca and click the Facebook icon.

Spotlight on New Board Trustees

The DMAS welcomes three new members to join the Board

Michael Carleton, now retired, has a great love of local history along with a passion for community involvement. He brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the DMAS Board from past board positions and his lengthy tenure with the Workers Compensation Appeal Division. In a leadership capacity with the BC Premier's Advisory Council for Persons with Disabilities, he was instrumental in helping to shape and prioritize recommendations presented to various ministries and Cabinet regarding policy and legislative changes



affecting persons with disabilities.

Heather King brings a wide range of community service experience, which will assist the Delta Museum and Archives Society with our future vision and profile of being a leading centre of rich history and diverse culture. During the past 3 years, she has been indirectly involved with the Society while serving on Delta Municipal Council and as Vice-Chair of the Delta Heritage Advisory Commission. She will share her wealth of experience from previous posts as past Delta City Councillor, Delta School Board Trustee and Delta School Board Chair. Some of her current community activities include being a member of the Ladner Business Association Strategic Planning Committee and a member of the Delta Community Seniors Planning Committee.



Ex Officio Member Sylvia Bishop is a dedicated volunteer with a strong community spirit. Currently a Delta Councillor and Vice Chair of the Delta Heritage Advisory Commission, Bishop has served on the Mayor's Youth Task Force, the South Delta Artists Guild and co-founded the Winskill Youth Drop-in Centre. In 1992, she was recognized as one of Delta's Outstanding Citizens for the hard work she performed as chair of the youth task force. Bishop's community service has been acknowledged several times with volunteer appreciation awards from Delta. She also served as a faculty associate at SFU and was an assistant director of the B.C. Teachers' Federation. Bishop has long roots in Delta, moving to the area in 1966. She has two grown children and lives in Tsawwassen with her husband Rob. Bishop is a graduate of Delta Secondary and was a teacher in the Delta school district for more than 20 years.



Volunteers Wanted

If you are interested in helping out with the annual Celebrate Canada Day pancake breakfast and street party, Contact our Program Department at 604-946-9322.

Delta Museum and Archives Society

Vision

We are Delta's memory and the leading centre of our rich history and diverse culture for future, present and past generations.

Mission

The Delta Museum and Archives Society captures, researches and preserves stories, records and objects of Delta; promotes community identity; and facilitates access to history through education, exhibits and reference services to all people and future generations.

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 Curator - Darryl Mackenzie
 Archivist - Brenda Richmond
 Assistant Archivist - Catharine McPherson
 Archival Attendant - Lea Edgar
 Programs Coordinator - Carol Ballard

Administration Mailing Address

4918 Delta Street, Delta, BC V4K 2V2
 Phone: 604-946-9315 Fax: 604-946-5791
 Email: info@deltamuseum.ca

Delta Museum

4858 Delta Street
 Tuesday - Friday
 10:00am - 4:30pm
 604-946-9322

Delta Archives

4450 Clarence Taylor Crescent
 Tuesday - Friday
 10:00am - 4:00pm
 604-940-3832

Major Funders

