



The Historical Society of  
Medicine Hat & District

Volume 50 no. 5  
May 31, 2018  
Barbara Watson - editor

# SMOKE SIGNALS

*Historical Society of Medicine Hat and District*

## **General Meeting**

Thursday, May 31, 2018  
Cutbanks Room - 7:00 p.m.



Albertosaurus

**Historical Society of Medicine Hat and District**  
401 First St. S.E., Medicine Hat, AB T1A 8W2  
Membership is \$10 per person.  
This includes 5 editions of  
*SMOKE SIGNALS*

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

I am gratified to report that, at this time, we have the following very strong slate of members (our "Dream Team") for our Board of Directors:

### **Executive:**

President: Wayne Craven  
 Past President: Tom Hamp  
 First Vice President: Wes Krause  
 Second Vice President: Earl Morris  
 Secretary: Kris Samraj  
 Treasurer: Larry Godin

### **Directors (up to 6 allowed, no minimum stated in Bylaws):**

Judy Morris: Casino  
 Barbara Watson: Membership, Newsletter  
 Len Sharland: Director-At-Large  
 Allan Jensen: Programmes

The strength of the incoming Board portends well for the next many years of our Society and an indication of the success of our succession planning efforts.

Leaving the Board this year, but with our deepest thanks for having been with us, are Sabrina Prince and Carol Ann Ross. We wish them all the best in their other volunteer work and activities!

You will note that we thus have two available Director positions on the Board. We will be filling these positions, either from nominations from the floor at our upcoming AGM, or as we identify capable and interested individuals throughout the coming year. If you are interested in joining us, please do not hesitate to make it known to a Board member for our consideration!

It has been my great privilege and pleasure to serve as your President for the past three years, and something that has greatly enriched my life with new friendships and new knowledge of the great and varied history of our area of the Province. I do hope to remain on the Board in some supporting capacity for many years to come.

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We will be presenting \$2000 donation cheques to two local museums at our upcoming AGM – one for the Redcliff Museum, who will be using the funds to enhance their displays, and another for the Irvine Museum, who will be using our funds, along with other donations, to do badly needed exterior painting of the buildings on their site. I personally cannot think of a better use of our abundant Casino Funds – *made possible by the outstanding and steadfast work of Judy Morris* – than to support our sister museums in this area, many of whom are struggling to remain alive.

Members will also be asked to vote at the upcoming meeting on a \$5000 donation to the Esplanade Museum, as mentioned in our original budget for the year. While we had to delay the request for members' approval while we awaited clarification on indirectly related financial

matters, we trust that your approval will now allow us to provide these funds to the Esplanade in a timely manner.



The Living History Project is continuing apace, with a recent interview of Jan Barnes by Allan Jensen. The interview was produced by David Gee of Shaw Cable and should be available for viewing on their system in the coming months. We are always grateful to Shaw for their ongoing support of this project. Judy and Earl Morris coordinated and supported the interview. The Rural and Ranching Project continues under Laurel Schlaht, Pat Cook and Frank Webber as reported in a recent 'Smoke Signals'. There will be an updated report available in September. AGCL has requested that we complete the Living History Project by the end of 2018 to meet their administrative requirements. Undoubtedly the project will resurface after that, with further applications to AGLC to allow the use of Casino Funds in a new version of the project starting in 2019.



I very much look forward to seeing you at our upcoming General Meeting/Annual General Meeting at 7 pm on May 31 in the Cutbanks Room, Esplanade. I invite you to please attend and provide a warm welcome to our incoming board, as well as to celebrate our Allan Jensen's Lifetime Achievement Award for his 50<sup>th</sup> Year of Membership!

Warm Regards,

Tom

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**PROGRAMMES:** Our speaker for this AGM meeting is Adolf Seiler, past president of our local Rotary. His theme is "Moving Forward – 100 years of Rotary in Medicine Hat." Given that anniversary, Adolf is bound to have much of interest to relate.

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**BUS TRIP 2018 – RETURN TO THE VALLEY OF THE DINOSAURS - DRUMHELLER,**

On **Sunday, June 3** we are heading to **The Royal Tyrrell Museum of Paleontology** With Allan Jensen as our guide we will leave at **7:30 a.m.** from the Cultural Centre parking lot. We will make a stop at the Hoodoos near Drumheller, as well as at several sites on the Dinosaur Trail.

Full details will be available at the Annual General Meeting. Please contact Allan Jensen at **403-502-9006** for info. And reservations. Although I have made the journey several times, it is certain that I will make more discoveries on this trip.

Allan has arranged a tentative meeting with Darren Tanke while we visit the Tirrell museum. Darren has worked in the preparations department of the museum for over 30 years.

The cost for the trip will be **\$55.00 for members and \$65.00 for non-members**. Non-members will receive an automatic membership to take them to May 2019. Everyone will receive a receipt for a charitable donation of \$55.00. This goes for last year's participants as well. We now have a Federal Charitable Donation number which will be stamped on the trip receipts for your use as an income tax deduction.



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### **A SMALL WINDOW INTO THE HISTORY OF OUR SOCIETY**

May 1, 1985 to April 30 1986 was the year of our incorporation as a society. President that year, Allan Jensen, reports "a rewarding succession of exciting programs, field trips, projects, and celebrations initiated and supported by involved committees and enthusiastic members." Allan writes that he enjoyed being a president and thanked everyone for making that possible.

One of the most exotic events that year was a 'Champagne Brunch on the Prairie.' The people who attended the event, which also included an art exhibition and presentation of a bison skull to Izzette Mitchell.

There were two tours that year, one to Brooks, and one to Drumheller.

In January the Historical Society of Medicine Hat and District officially went on record supporting the Medalta Project. On December 14 there was a birthday party celebrating 30 years of the Society's incorporation.

In January there was a box social as well as a show and tell. In February the "Publicity Committee made plans to use the official Society logo on stationary and a commemorative coffee mug."

During that 1985 – 1986 fiscal year the society was able to contribute more than \$4500 to the Medicine Hat Museum for much-needed equipment and furnishings. The money was gained through Project Cooperation Grants.

As the title suggests, this is a glimpse into the year's activities. That glimpse is only a small portion of that amazing year.

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### ALLAN JENSEN – A MEMBER FOR 50 YEARS

That makes his membership truly vital to our society. During those fifty years he has been president, programme director, and tour planner and guide. His body of knowledge and enthusiasm are hard to match. True, his hair has changed colour as the images below show, but like the Energizer Bunny, he keeps drumming to bring many good things to our society. Back to his hair. Here is an image showing his presenting the cake celebrating the society's 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary. One thing we cannot claim for him is a baking talent. This is obviously a commercial creation, but nobody is perfect.



L. to R. Hope Michael, Juana Sanchez – logo designer, and Allan Jensen

Allan is not short of awards. Putting heart and soul and intelligence into everything he tackles has earned him recognition not only in our society, but in many Medicine Hat societies. He knows a lot, but no one can accuse him of being a “know it all”. We can depend on Allan to have information on many subjects and to pass it on to those needing a human Wikipedia - or perhaps a polymath. Here is a picture of his most recent award:



This is Charlie Wilson-Morella, representing the Medicine Hat Arts and Heritage Advisory Board, presenting Allan Jensen the “Stars of Alberta” Award. Since the image is too small for easy reading, here is the text:

*2017 Stars of Alberta – Volunteer Awards – Certificate of Recognition – Allan Jensen -In recognition of outstanding community service and contribution to Alberta’s non-profit Voluntary sector ---Ms. Kristin Lewis – Director Non-profit Voluntary sector – policy and strategy.*

At our AGM, as our President, Tom Hamp, has indicated in his message, Allan will receive the **Long-Term Membership Award**. You will notice that the time and work have changed his hair colour, but he certainly hasn’t lost it. We, the grateful beneficiaries of his dedication and energy, are happy to say, “Thank you, Allan!”

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**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**Summer Picnic – Monday, August 6, 2-4pm** at the **Strathcona Park**. This is the Heritage Day weekend and those of you who attended last year will know that Sheila, Judy, and committee put on a very enjoyable event.

On May 29 Wes Krause is hosting an informative meeting about the Flying Fortress.

**Christmas 2018** – Party at the Medicine Hat Golf Club on **December 13**. Cocktails at 5:30 and Dinner at 8:00. The event is always delightful.

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**MEMBERSHIP DUES**

A hearty thanks to those who updated their memberships to the end of May 2018. We have a few members who have guaranteed their memberships for two years.

Please do **not** hand your fee to a friend to give me. If you cannot give it to me or to someone working the desk with me, mail it in with the form. The address is on the form at the end of the newsletter. I have a lot of receipts to hand out. Stop by at the meeting to pick up yours. BW

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**FOIP**

More people have sent in their forms. Thank you very much! Larry Godin will explain how these will be used. BW

**A continued request to you:**

*In order to keep up with current regulations, we ask that you fill out the following form. It will ensure that we deal with your contact information in an appropriate manner.*

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION & PROTECTION OF PRIVACY ACT**

The personal information is collected under the authority of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act , Section 33c. I authorize that the following personal information may be used for membership purposes only and will not be made public.

|                                |            |            |           |            |
|--------------------------------|------------|------------|-----------|------------|
| <b>Name:</b>                   |            | <b>yes</b> | <b>no</b> |            |
| <b>Residence address:</b>      | <b>yes</b> | <b>no</b>  |           |            |
| <b>Residence phone number:</b> |            | <b>yes</b> | <b>no</b> | <b>n/a</b> |
| <b>Cell phone:</b>             |            | <b>yes</b> | <b>no</b> | <b>n/a</b> |
| <b>Business phone number:</b>  |            | <b>yes</b> | <b>no</b> | <b>n/a</b> |
| <b>E-mail address:</b>         |            | <b>yes</b> | <b>no</b> | <b>n/a</b> |
| <b>Date:</b>                   |            |            |           |            |
| <b>Signature:</b>              |            |            |           |            |



**The Historical Society of Medicine Hat & District** partners with the **Esplanade Archives** in *preserving* and *promoting* our rich *heritage*. The Archives are a valuable resource for family research and local historical information. To make an appointment, the Archives may be contacted at 403 502 8582 or at 401 First Street S.E. Medicine Hat, AB. T1A 8W2, also at kimunr@medicinehat.ca

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**The Historical Society of Medicine Hat and District website:** [www.histsocmedhat.ca](http://www.histsocmedhat.ca)

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**Membership form:**

*Please Print* (or use copperplate script. How I wish someone could!)

Name.....Tel. #.....

Address.....  
.....  
.....

Postal Code.....Email.....

Fees attached for.....person(s) at \$10 per person for a total of \$.....

Date..... Signature.....

*Please make cheques payable to:*

**Historical Society of Medicine Hat & District**  
401 First Street SE,  
Medicine Hat, AB, T1A 8W2

Any member wishing to receive the newsletter by email, kindly email Barbara - barbara.watson78@yahoo.com