



The Historical Society of
Medicine Hat & District

Volume 51 no. 3
January 31, 2019
Barbara Watson - editor

SMOKE SIGNALS

Historical Society of Medicine Hat and District

General Meeting
January 31, 7:00 p.m.
Esplanade Studio Theatre



Show and Tell
Whatever is this?

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 MESSAGE

The year 2018 has now gone into the history books! On behalf of your Board of Directors, please accept our wish that this New Year be a good one for you and yours!

Also, congratulations to our Past President Tom Hamp on his retirement! He has been a great supporter of the Historical Society of Medicine Hat and District. His dedication, enthusiasm and positivity will continue to be a valuable asset to our organization and particularly his ongoing commitment to the Living History Project.

In my short time as President of the HSMH&D I am impressed by the continued commitment by all members of your executive team and look forward to a lot of good things happening in 2019.

Board service succession is always an ongoing concern. We need more hands-on involvement from our membership. We are not looking for people to commit to a major time-consuming job. What we need, are members who would serve as a committee member on executive board committees or the occasional special issue committee. It is also important to expand our membership base. The next time you come to a general meeting, make a point of bringing a friend. Our ANNUAL membership fee of \$10.00 has got to be one of the best bargains around!

Speaking of general meetings, don't forget to be part of our upcoming "Show & Tell" evening. These are always a lot of fun and certainly informative. See you there!

Medicine Hat and District Historical Society Executive

Programmes: Allan Jensen

Past President: Tom Hamp

President: Wayne Craven

First Vice President: Wes Krause

Second Vice President: Earl Morris

Secretary: Kris Samraj

Treasurer, Finance and Budget: Larry Godin

Bookkeeper: Brenda Bryce

Casino: Judy Morris

Director at Large: Len Sharland

Historian: Lorine Marshall

Newsletter Publisher and Membership:
Barbara Watson

PROGRAMMES: Here again are Allan's programmes for the remainder of our Historical Society year.

1. January 31, 2019

Show and Tell

*Studio Theatre 7:00 p.m.

Fond memories of that dusty old heirloom that sits on the mantle? A yellowed lace collar created by your great-aunt and now tucked into the corner of a dresser drawer? Faint but nostalgic images to your grandfather's photo album? The pipe carved in Ireland from your first overseas duty? That strange little cedar cherub carved in a remote Assisi shop spotted on your last trip to Italy? A broken chalcedony spear point you spied while summer fallowing last fall?

Yes, memories are made of these and much more. The January 31 meeting of the Historical Society will give you a first-person opportunity to reminisce about that treasured object. Bring it along for our Show and Tell program!

Also, you are encouraged to dress up in a bit of bygone days' finery if you can find some – and it still fits.

Allan Jensen – Programme Chairman

One of our members, Larry Godin, has plans to show one particularly interesting piece of memorabilia. The teddy bear from his childhood has a long history, not only as a child's toy but as the product of a factory that designed and produced these toys. The little guy you see here is not Larry's bear. He will bring along pictures of his own teddy bear and perhaps the teddy bear, too.

These beloved toys became popular in several countries at the same time. They were inspired by one of Theodore Roosevelt's hunting trips. Theodore just could not shoot a little bear. That was Teddy's bear, but maybe you knew all that. Larry's bear probably came from England and was made by the Chad Valley firm. They were one of the leading toy manufacturers of the world, and in 1938 earned the Royal Warrant as 'Toymakers to Her Majesty the Queen.' (later the Queen Mother).



His bear has the original wood wool stuffing in the head plus some polyester stuffing. There used to be an oral squeaker in his toy, but it does not work anymore. Barbara Rogers, who restored the 'wonderful bear', could not repair the little noise maker, but she suggested that it should be replaced for authenticity.

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

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Membership form:

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

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

Address.....
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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 Watson:
barbara.watson78@yahoo.com