



Heritage News

**CENTRAL OKANAGAN HERITAGE SOCIETY
FALL 2016**

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Advocacy: The Raymer Cabin
- Remembering Marietta Lightbody
- The Thompson House
- Mountain Avenue House
- HAC Update
- Heritage Grants Program
- Funders, Donors and Sponsors
- Culture of Giving
- Day of Difference
- Meet COHS Staff
- Goodbye after 11 Years
- COHS News in Brief
- Heritage News



The Raymer Cabin located in Woodhaven Nature Conservancy Regional Park

Remembering Marietta Lightbody



The Central Okanagan Heritage Society and Kelowna has lost a great person with a deep interest and knowledge of local history and love for her community.

Marietta (nee Anderson) Lightbody was born in Vancouver in 1937 to Catherine and Walter Anderson and grew up in Kelowna. During high school she taught swimming, competed in ornamental swimming, played piano and oboe, and loved Scottish dancing with her friends. She made her own clothes and numerous dresses for sisters and friends. Over her life Marietta produced hundreds of exquisitely knitted or crocheted sweaters, blankets, pillows, and lace trims. Marietta graduated in Home-Economics at UBC, where she met Walley, a law student, whom she married in 1960, and their love grew deeply. She enjoyed a teaching career, which she gave up to raise her children. For 28 years Marietta and Walley lived on the waterfront of West Vancouver, cultivating long-lasting friendships and hosting parties and Sunday dinners featuring unforgettable gravy and blackberry pie. In 1994 Marietta convinced Walley to move to her lakeside childhood home in Kelowna. For 15 years Marietta and Walley hosted a Canada Day garden party. They organized an annual tennis and bocce tournament which raised over a half million dollars for the Kelowna Hospital Foundation to which she

served as a director from 2000 to 2006.

In her work with the Central Okanagan Heritage Society Marietta was an outspoken activist, and gave tours of the Abbott Street Heritage and Conservation area that she helped establish. For her community work she received in 2010 the Distinguished Service Award from Central Okanagan Heritage Society and in 2013 the Okanagan Community Builder Award from UBC Okanagan Alumni. (Source: Lightbody family)

Marietta also served on the City of Kelowna Heritage Grants Program (CoKHGP) committee since 2010. Her love and knowledge of Kelowna's built history has been invaluable to the committee. Marietta's memory of the people and the events in Kelowna, especially in the Abbott Street area was truly amazing. Marietta's help with the COHS Benvoulin Heritage Church Community Memories project was instrumental. This included sharing information on her father's work in creating COHS and saving two of Kelowna's most valuable buildings, Benvoulin Church and Guisachan House.

Marietta will be remembered for her quick sense of humour, tremendous personal style, active interest in current issues, and her kindness.



The Thompson House Conservation Project

by Shona Harrison



I am pleased, and very relieved, to write that the conservation of the Thompson House at 1875 Richter Street is now complete. We started this process in July 2015 — what a journey it has been!

As I wanted to complete the conservation work as quickly as possible, who doesn't, I had multiple trades working on numerous projects simultaneously — it was not unusual to have upwards of 8 trades working at the same time. Some of the more arduous tasks were: removing all the popcorn ceiling and patterned plaster on the walls back to smooth plaster; removing the 1970 sliding door in the foyer and opening it back to the original wide entry; removing two inch thick cement stucco, false front, and hearth that encased the original brick fireplace; repairing and rebuilding the fireplace and chimney with reclaimed heritage bricks; removing the two large 1950s slider glass windows and replacing with custom wood sash, double hung windows (using reclaimed glass, hardware, and mechanisms); installing a lovely new custom kitchen with 4/4 glass lites and wood

mullions for that old world feel; removing the pink 1950s bath fixtures, installing period appropriate hexagon white tile with black hexagon 3" border on the floor, installing a reclaimed clawfoot tub and antique sideboard for vanity with vessel sinks; all missing 6" baseboards and window/door mouldings were specially milled to match the original; in that same spirit, any unsightly modern modifications were corrected to be in keeping with the period and style of the house. The exterior was also subject to major conservation work, everything from replacing rotten porch steps and newel posts, to tongue and groove fascia and soffit boards, and rotten porch boards. Any missing architectural element i.e. window trims and porch skirting were replicated to match existing. I also had installed a new 'emergency' 30-year single roof in a heritage appropriate colour, complete with character eavestroughs and downspouts. Lastly, extensive preparation for new paint using the Benjamin Moore True Colours palette. Phew! With thanks to the City of Kelowna Heritage Grants Program for \$5000 in grants to support this conservation project.

Did I mention this all happened in under 18 months... Stay tuned for future write-ups where we look more closely at a few of the more significant conservation projects on 1875 Richter Street.

Heritage Advisory Committee (HAC) Update

by Lorri Dauncey

The Community Heritage Committee was dissolved in early 2015 (formerly the Community Heritage Commission until the name changed in 2012) while a Heritage Review was undertaken by the City of Kelowna,

The purpose of the Heritage Review was to ensure heritage management efforts were efficient, effective and coordinated between all heritage groups and organizations to improve and strengthen Kelowna's heritage sector. In Phases 1 and 2, staff worked with stakeholders to identify existing challenges, consider options for a new governance model, and to better understand the current roles of groups and organizations involved in heritage matters. A Heritage Council was proposed as a not-for-profit organization that may provide coordination, strategic planning support and oversee funding for the independent heritage organizations operating within it. Phase 3 of the Heritage Review (now being undertaken) will establish the governance model for the proposed Heritage Council. The Steering Committee will guide the strategic planning process to establish the Heritage Council.

The new Heritage Advisory Committee, created in early 2016, advises Council and the Divisional Director of Community Planning & Real Estate on matters related to heritage protection and conservation. The primary objective of the Committee is to advise Council on heritage-related development applications. The Committee may also advise on other matters related to the heritage significance of any building, structure or landscape feature located within City limits. The Committee consists of five members including three technical experts with professional expertise in the areas of design, planning or construction, and two heritage experts with expertise in the areas of historical information or conservation. Two alternates were appointed to replace regular members unable to attend Committee meetings. The new HAC committee includes; Stoke Tonne (technical expertise - design); Abigail Riley (technical expertise - planning); Brian Anderson (technical expertise - construction); Amanda Snyder (heritage expertise - historical information); Lorri Dauncey (heritage expertise - heritage conservation) with 2 alternates: Ryan Esbjerg (technical expertise - design) and Bob Hayes (heritage expertise - historical information). Once the committee was chosen and an orientation meeting completed in the spring, the committee meets once a month (if there is new business) to consider proposed development applications that are related to heritage. The proposals are either supported or not supported by the committee. The committee's decisions (and any comments relating to this decision) are passed on to city council when the proposed project comes up for consideration.

Kelowna Heritage Grants Program



COHS is finishing its ninth year of managing the City of Kelowna Heritage Grants Program (CoKHGP). The program was created to recognize the value of heritage in the community by providing financial support to owners of heritage properties. The program promotes the conservation of residential, commercial, industrial and agricultural heritage. Grants assist with a

portion of the costs incurred in maintaining the building's exterior including the foundation. Only buildings listed on the Kelowna Heritage Register are eligible to apply for grants from the program. The Kelowna Heritage Register currently has 209 properties listed, including 21 that are protected by a Heritage Designation Bylaw. All granting decisions are made by a committee of community volunteers with heritage expertise. The Kelowna Heritage Register can be accessed at www.kelowna.ca/iHeritage/Scripts/. For more information on the program contact ~ Lorri Dauncey at ldauncey.cohs@telus.net

The Treadgold House (1931 Abbott Street) received a heritage grant this year towards a new asphalt shingle roof.

The historic place was continuously occupied by three generations of a single family, several members of which contributed to community development. Thomas and Donalda Treadgold arrived in Kelowna in 1906, just as the City was emerging as a regional centre. The house was built for them a year later. Thomas was a painter and decorator, and Treadgold's Paint Store was for many years a Kelowna fixture, its wares supplying many buildings as the City grew. Thomas and Donalda's son, Arthur T. Treadgold, and his wife, Sarah D. Treadwell, followed them as prominent residents. Sarah served on the School Board for 21 years, while Arthur continued the paint business. Their daughter, Frances M. Treadgold, was a teacher, continuing the family's service in the community's education system. Frances was the owner of the house by 1967, and was still living there in 1984. (SOS)

