

ASBC-Nanaimo Branch:

The end of an era

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This past May, the Nanaimo branch of the ASBC ceased operations after more than 22 years. Founded in 1992, following “The Dig” at Stl’ilep (Departure Bay, DhRx 16), the Nanaimo branch was -at one time and for many years- the most active among the four chapters. Unfortunately, the group succumbed to the steady and rapid decline in volunteerism, most notably at the executive level. After struggling for several years to keep the chapter alive and active, the decision was made to fold when only three individuals volunteered to sit on the executive board during the 2014 Annual General Meeting. The writing was on the wall, and the remaining four active members took the reluctant initiative to dissolve the Nanaimo branch.

A social event was held to thank the mem-

bership for its continued patronage and loyalty. The branch’s library, reusable commemorative shopping bags, pins, newsletters, Middens, etc., were offered free to members. Leftover library books were donated to the local rotary club. The remaining funds were used to create three \$500 financial awards for Archaeology students at Vancouver Island University in memory of Dorothy Young, a long-time member and active volunteer who passed away in March 2015. As well, a \$100 donation was made to the Nanaimo Community Archives in appreciation for housing ASBC-Nanaimo Branch materials through the years, and for posterity. Several members have agreed to remain vigilant and watchful of Nanaimo and area archaeological resources. This is truly the end of an era.



<http://nanaimohomes4sale.com/blog/brief-history-nanaimo>