

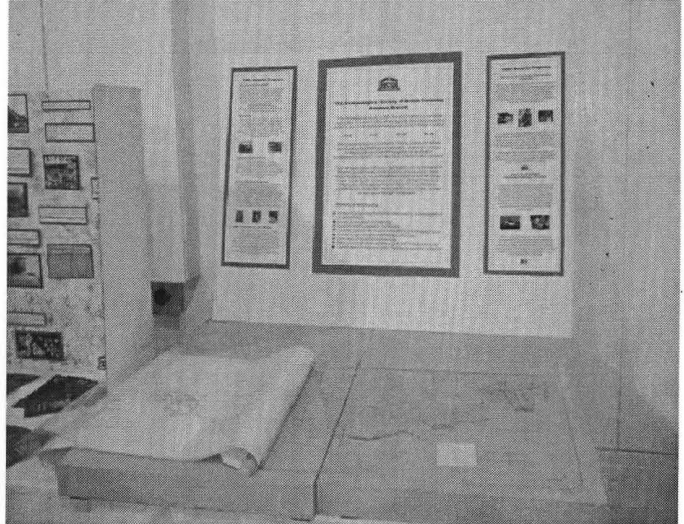
ASBC Nanaimo Branch celebrates BC's 150th at the VIEX

Julie Cowie

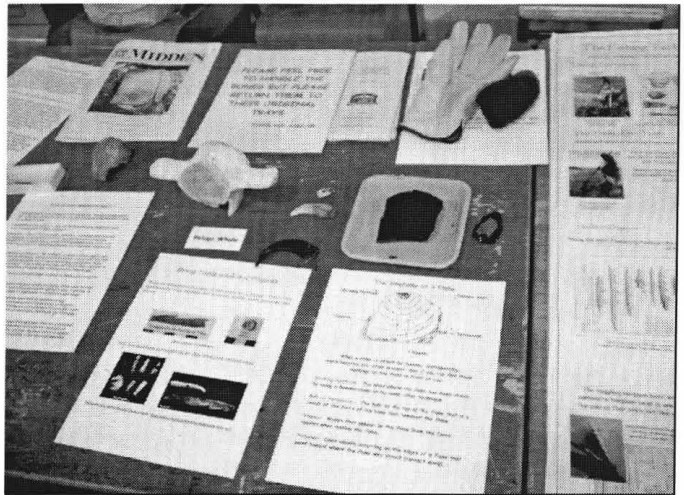
In conjunction with the 114th birthday of the Vancouver Island Exhibition (VIEX), the VIEX honoured British Columbia's 150th birthday by celebrating Agriculture, Farming, Heritage, and Diversity through its entertainment and programs. The Nanaimo Branch was invited to have an information booth at the VIEX on August 15 to the 17th, with the aim of educating the public about local heritage and conservation initiatives, as well providing information about the Society and programs offered by the Branch. This was a great opportunity for the Branch and the Society to increase its community outreach programs and public presence, as well as network with other heritage groups that were attending.

In keeping with our hands-on style of public programs, we decided to have a booth with various faunal specimens for discussion, as well as the full gamut of educational posters we had created for our "Discover Archaeology" program. Our booth was well attended in the three days we were at the VIEX, with a wide variety of visitors of all ages and interests. Many visitors had heard of the Society and one even came back with some additional faunal material for our public education programs. Overall, it was a very successful event, allowing us to generate interest about archaeology and conservation as well as meet people in the community that had information about local sites.

Many thanks to Chris Sholberg, Heritage Planner for the City of Nanaimo, for allowing us to use the plotter for our photos and providing brochures for us. A huge thank you to the ASBC-NB volunteers, without whom these outreach programs would not exist: Valerie Hannan, Anneliese Cooley, Alina Zutz, Pat Knowles, and Natalie Michaud. We are currently in discussions with the VIEX Board to have the heritage component of the Exhibition a permanent part of the VIEX, which will include the ASBC. We look forward to renewing our outreach programs within our area and making heritage awareness and conservation a priority.



Information on archaeology in the local area was provided to encourage awareness of cultural heritage and the ASBC. (Photo by Julie Cowie)



Examples of lithic artifacts and faunal specimens were available for hands-on learning. (Photo by Julie Cowie)

Julie Cowie is the current President of the Nanaimo Branch and has served as its President from 2003 to 2007. She holds a degree in archaeology from the University of Calgary, with a specialization in lithic and faunal analysis. She is proud owner of Heritage Matters Archaeological Consulting based in Ladysmith, BC.

Department of Corrections

In a past issue, a person in a photograph and mentioned in an article by Bill Angelbeck and Dave Hall about Chinese camp [*The Midden* 40 (1):17-21], should have been properly identified as Francis R. Garcia.