



THE ASBC PAGE

Letter from ASBC President

Dear Readers,

It has been a busy four months for the ASBC, with the B.C. Archaeology Forum, the second running of the Hilary Stewart Art and Archaeology Competition, and the great progress we've had with the proposed Heritage Watch Alliance, mentioned in my last letter.

Under the initiative of our Past-President, Patricia Ormerod, several members of our Executive are currently working with the Union of BC Indian Chiefs to develop a program similar to the volunteer archaeological warden program the ASBC first ran in partnership with the Archaeology Branch from 1976 to 1987. After several meetings, we began to put together a presentation for the Archaeology Forum and Patricia secured us a Panel at the Forum in Merritt on November 14th.

I am excited to say that the Heritage Watch Alliance was well received at the Forum, with good words from First Nations, Archaeological Consultants and from several of the academic representatives present from UBC and SFU. More meetings will be taking place in the next few months and any who are interested in joining the team, want to provide us with some input, or are just interested in learning more can contact me at president@asbc.bc.ca.

On the "home front," I am pleased to announce we have a great set of speakers lined up for the 2005 spring series of lectures; let me tantalize you with Dr. Knut Fladmark in January and Dr. Dana Lepofsky in February. For the second year now, we will be hosting an Artifact ID night in April in place of a regular lecture. Keep your eyes peeled for information about this coming soon!

I encourage all of you to visit the ASBC web site www.asbc.bc.ca as we have posted the 1st and 2nd prize winning artwork from the Hilary Stewart Art and Archaeology Competition, as well as the 8 runner up entries.

My thanks go out to two of our volunteers who have recently left us to pursue greater things. We are looking to fill the spot of Recording Secretary on our Executive; Emily, I wish you the best with your studies and hope you will look us up again once you have completed your MA. Our Publicity person has also departed to begin her post-graduate career search; thank you Monet Taylor for your enthusiasm and efficiency.

I look forward to seeing the rest of you at our public meetings and hope you all are rested and relaxed after the Holiday Season.

**Sarah Ladd
President**

Nanaimo ASBC President's Letter

Welcome to a brand new season of the ASBC Nanaimo Branch. The ASBCNB has already hit the ground running this year after two very successful programs last summer.

We hosted the 3rd Annual Discover Archaeology Interactive Bones Display at the Nanaimo District Museum (NDM) in August, seeing over 170 people visit the display in five hours. It was truly amazing. Please see our website at www.asbcnanaimo.nisa.com for details from this and past events at the NDM. Thanks again to all the volunteers who participated. We hope to offer this event in 2005.

Much of the success of our NDM event was due to the high community profile that the ASBCNB has been receiving through our "Hands On Heritage! Public Archaeology Project" located at 55 Haliburton Street in Nanaimo. This project focuses on the early history of Nanaimo through work at one of Nanaimo's earliest homes. Much credit must be given to our project archaeologist Colleen Parsley whose tireless effort on this project assured its success. Through her work, archaeology and conservation of Nanaimo's heritage resources was the talk of the town all summer. Hats off to her and all the volunteers who endured the heat of summer to bring knowledge and a sense of community pride to Nanaimo. Much thanks goes to the Petersons who hosted us at their home and to the numerous businesses and private donors who gave generously to this project. A "Thank You" evening took place in November to recognize those businesses and individuals who donated funds, in-kind donations, and their time to make this project such a success. Analysis is well underway and takes place every other Sunday starting January 9, 2005 from 1 to 3pm. No experience is necessary, just enthusiasm! Please visit the HOH website (www.asbcnanaimo.nisa.com/handsonheritage.html) for more detailed scheduling information, as well as updates about the project and our partners.

One aspect of conservation that HOH has brought forth is the idea that historic sites in and around Nanaimo do not seem to have value to some individuals who live in the area. Pot hunting, such as bottle collecting and surface collecting from middens and beaches, seems to be a more than common occurrence. This is disheartening as heritage, regardless of its time period, is still a piece of our collective past and not to be treated lightly. The ASBC's role as advocates and watchdogs for local and provincial heritage is paramount in an age where heritage conservation is

becoming increasingly difficult. We encourage you all to speak out and be advocates for heritage in your community.

The Nanaimo Branch has a new website this year: www.asbcnanaimo.nisa.com. If you need information or have comments, please contact us through these e-mail below.

All agendas and minutes from the Executive meetings will be posted on the website for members to access. Executive meetings are on the first Friday of every month and all members of the ASBCNB are encouraged to attend. We have an open door policy as this is your society and you have a right to know what transpires outside the lectures.

We hope to see you all at our lectures and other public events planned for 2005!

**Julie Cowie
ASBC Nanaimo**

New Website and e-mails for Nanaimo

New Website: www.asbcnanaimo.nisa.com

Main Branch e-mail: mail@asbcnanaimo.nisa.com

Membership e-mail: membership@asbcnanaimo.nisa.com

Education Taskforce e-mail:
taskforce@asbcnanaimo.nisa.com

Hands On Heritage! e-mail:
handsonheritage@asbcnanaimo.nisa.com

Northern Branch of the ASBC

There has been some interest in forming a Northern Branch of the ASBC. To be incorporated as a new branch, you need 10 members plus a full branch executive (President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer). If you live in Northern BC and are interested in forming a Northern Branch of the ASBC please contact: Rachael Sydenham (xerxes72@telus.net) or Sarah Ladd (president@asbc.bc.ca).

TIME ON YOUR HANDS? WANT TO BE MORE INVOLVED?

The ASBC in Vancouver needs additional volunteers to keep things running smoothly.

Currently available is the prestigious position of **Recording Secretary for the ASBC**. This position on the executive has become available with the resignation of Emily Wilkerson. Attendance at the monthly executive meetings is essential – because the recording Secretary prepare the minutes for each meeting. Meetings are held in the fourth week of the month. Working closely with the President, the Secretary has one of the most important positions in the ASBC. If you would like to make this kind of contribution – contact Sarah Ladd by email at president@asbc.bc.ca or by mail at our address on the inside cover.

The **Publicity** position is also available. Although this is not an executive position, the publicity *person's* task will be made easier if he/she can attend the monthly Executive meeting. Duties include making sure notices of our lectures get to all the media in a timely manner each month and working on the annual Hilary Stewart Art and Archaeology Competition. For more information, contact Sarah Ladd by email at president@asbc.bc.ca or by mail at our address on the inside cover.

Tea and crumpets, anyone? Or will it be tea and brownies, tea and cookies, tea and cake, or tea and ... That's up to the **Social Co-ordinator!** If such decision-making appeals to you – and you can boil water – you will make a perfect Social Co-ordinator for the monthly meetings of the ASBC at the Vancouver Museum/H.R. Macmillan Planetarium! This position could be just the assist you need if your new year's resolution was to learn more about archaeology because you will be on the scene for all of this season's talks. For more information, contact Sarah Ladd by email at president@asbc.bc.ca or by mail at our address on the inside cover.