



What's happening in...

DEEP COVE HERITAGE SOCIETY

Spring 2021



DCHS #0821 - Deep Cove Stage bus drivers, Phil Bradley, Edmond Brown, 1946. Courtesy Earl Matheson.
Below, DCHS #0299 - Second Narrows Bridge collapse June 17, 1958. Courtesy Mr. Arthur George

Transportation — Part Two

by Wendy Bullen Stephenson

During the Depression era and World War II years, Deep Cove developed as a unique, unified community mainly because it was isolated with no regular public transportation to Vancouver until the mid-1940s and no regular bus service to North Vancouver until October 1973.

There had been no reasonably priced accommodation in Vancouver during the Depression, and at the onset of the war there was none available at all when servicemen "called up" were scrambling to get their families settled before going overseas. So those originally searching for housing in the city finally looked to the less expensive Deep Cove area.

The Cove may have been inexpensive partly because the original Second Narrows Bridge (built 1925) was unreliable as trains using it had the right of way. And when a freighter

collided with the abutments, it collapsed. For four years (till at least 1934) it was out of service, as there was no money to fix it.



Cont'd page 2...

We wish to acknowledge that the land of Seymour communities is the unceded territory of the Coast Salish Peoples, including the territories of the Səlilwətaʔ/Selilwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh) Nation.

Calendar

- No events scheduled at this time

Current lobby display case features photos of flooding of Second Street/Gallant Avenue over the years.

Office Hours

Open Thursdays 10am to 4pm

Deep Cove Heritage Society will be looking for volunteers to help keep our office open once we are past Covid-19 restrictions for visitors to the area. If you are interested in helping, please call 604-929-5744.

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We have books and a canvas book bag for sale on Page 8 too.

Website News

Check out our website for more information.

The archived newsletters are under the Resources tab at the top of the page.

Email your photos and stories to us: info@deepcoveheritage.com

Please check for office hours before dropping by. We depend on the generosity of our volunteers who can not always offer structured hours. Our co-ordinator is in the office on Thursdays from 10am to 4pm.

www.deepcoveheritage.com

Contact us

- 4360 Gallant Avenue, North Vancouver, BC V7G 1L2
- Telephone 604-929-5744
- Or send us an e-mail to: DeepCoveHeritage@gmail.com
- Website: www.DeepCoveHeritage.com
- Follow us on Facebook and Instagram

President's Message



At the time I sit down to write this message, the sun is shining! Spring seems to have arrived and my hostas are poking tentative shoots through the garden soil. Spring always

brings a time of renewal and new growth. This year, positive thoughts are important. At Deep Cove Heritage Society, we are also looking forward to

new projects and challenges. Our new photo archive program is moving forward and we are excited to see the results soon. We have plans to make some newsletter changes and working on a website refresh. It will take effort but we are welcoming some very knowledgeable new volunteers who will help us accomplish our goals.

Spring is bringing Deep Cove Heritage Society renewal and new energy! Look forward to our exciting changes throughout this year!

Transportation

...from page 1

Also going to North Vancouver by bus was impossible because to go there by bus required going into the city first and then transferring to one or more North Van buses. Hazel Best, who has lived in the Cove since 1942, in talking about North Van in the 1940s and 50s, said, "No one went there because it took ALL day."

Development of dependable transportation had been hampered also because the connecting road to the Cove from the corner of Keith Road (Mt Seymour Parkway) and Dollarton Highway had only been put through in 1934. Prior to that time cars weren't able to drive directly to the Cove's main street.



Burrard Drydock was the largest single employer on the North Shore, building ships for the war. Deep Cove families whose father or (less often) mother worked there almost of necessity needed to have a car to get there because it was located on the North Van waterfront at the foot of Lonsdale. It employed thousands working over three shifts of their 24-hour day.

As a result of limited accessibility, residents in the Cove had to be self-reliant and therefore developed their own social, entertainment, sport activities and commercial businesses. The churches, community groups, and largely stay-at-home mothers banded together to provide various programs that didn't require public buses or private cars.

After the war ended, the families who had settled there "temporarily" decided they were staying. The permanence of the Cove was documented through a citizen poll in 1943. Organized by Ethel Allardice and the Parent Teacher Association, this poll determined that an elementary school could be fully utilized by the population. So that gave the green light to build Burrard View Elementary School.



Executive 2021

President	Liz Jenkins Bollmann
Vice President	Eileen Smith
Treasurer/Secretary	Louise Hart
Directors	Marilyn Myers, Tom Kirk, Vickie Boughen, Janet Pavlik

Project Teams

Co-ordinator	Jim Slight
Office Volunteers	Cathy Robinson Hichem Rehouma
Photo Wrangler	Eileen Smith
Archival Project	Liz Bollmann, Keith Dunn, Eileen Smith
Grants	Vickie Boughen
Writers	Wendy Bullen Stephenson Eileen Smith

Trying to get it right!

We try to verify all our information, but if you think we have something wrong, please e-mail or call the office at 604-929-5744. Thank you.

Having raised four children in the Cove, Mrs. Best, remembers the summers when parents arranged for a bus to take Cove kids to the circus and a water taxi to transport boys to a week-long scouting camp near Ioco. I remember day-long excursions for kids touring a dairy farm in the Fraser Valley, a bread manufacturing plant in the city, and a botanical garden, and watching a performance at UBC, etc.

Many traditions developed over the years. Through the churches, Brownies, Girl Guides, Cubs, Scouts and Explorer troupes also provided opportunities for enjoyable educational and service activities. When other transportation was needed, organizers would commission a ferry or a school bus to take children on a day-long picnic at Sunshine Beach (just beyond Woodlands), Belcarra or Bowen Island. But activities took place mostly in the Cove itself.

Summer schools sponsored by the Anglican and United Churches provided summer activities for the kids, as did Friday hobby nights at the Gospel Hall from the early 1950s. Annual sports days, kept pupils busy for weeks before the

Cont'd page 3...

actual day. Preparations for May Day preoccupied students and parents for even longer. Kinsmen and their wives (Don and Eileen Elliott central among them) planned May Day entertainment to be held on a hand-decorated stage in Panorama Park. Also, the main street was transformed into an amusement fairground with concession stands, games, and space for after-supper dancing. Throughout the year other special community events were held to celebrate Halloween and Christmas, etc. During the 1950s, Pro-Rec (gymnastics for all ages) and dance classes were offered at the Community Hall.

By necessity, residents supported local businesses and services in the Cove. In the mid-50s, there were three grocery stores on Gallant, the main street—Mollard's, the log building currently being renovated; Huxam's, in the middle of the street on the north side; and Naughton's Purity on the south side.

An exception to buying from local merchants was ordering clothes and household goods from the Eaton's catalogue which were delivered by truck from downtown. There were also local deliveries by Mr. Stirrit or Mr. Cummins who took meat orders and then did door-to-door delivery. This service added to what was provided by Mr Elliott (not related to Don and Eileen), who was the resident butcher in Mollard's store.

Also several local services provided home

delivery in addition to daily milk and bread. Pat Elliott and Linda Turner White remember Mr. Lum driving his vegetable truck door-to-door. Of course, ice was delivered too (until residents owned refrigerators), as was sawdust (used in kitchen stoves), oil for heating delivered (by Mr. Rosen) as well as coal.

After fathers returned from the war, Deep Cove families generally acquired a car. But that vehicle was used primarily as the source of transportation for the father to get to and from work—not for chauffeuring kids around. In the 50s on the weekend, families might sometimes “go for a drive.”

Cove kids grade eight and above had to commute by school bus to their designated (but often changeable) North Vancouver secondary school (either Hamilton, Sutherland, Argyle, Delbrook, or North Van High).

Even after Windsor opened in September of 1961, specifically for Deep Cove students, we still had to rely on the one school bus in morning and one in the afternoon. It wasn't until the late 1980s that the opening of Seycove Secondary School, just off Strathcona Road, enabled some Cove kids to walk to school.

Ten years after the frugality of rationing through the war was just a distant memory. The growing prosperity of many Deep Cove families enabled them to afford a second vehicle—usually for the mother and perhaps an older teenager.

These second cars were generally “junkers,” remembers Eileen Smith.

Having a second car enabled mothers to drive to activities further afield or to take on employment in the city. Because of this available transportation, parents began to depend less on programs in the Cove.



The development of transportation created additional opportunities for all people living in the Cove—such as access to a department store on east Hastings (Forsts—offering more choices than Deep Cove's variety store), bigger grocery stores (on Cassiar Street and on Lonsdale and a more well-stocked North Van library, etc.) This increased access also harmed some of the Cove's businesses and eroded favoured traditional activities.

The lack of direct bus service from the Cove to North Vancouver had had a positive effect in developing the Cove's commercial development and distinctive Cove culture. The opening of the Dollar Shopping Centre in January 1963 had the opposite effect. That shopping centre was in competition with Cove shops and services and made it difficult for some of the earlier businesses to carry on. As a result of this, eventually many Cove establishments had to close down.

Therefore in the history of Cove, both the lack of transportation and the growth of transportation helped to define the kind of place that Cove was and is today—not a small factor in the creation of Deep Cove!



Photos Page 2 — DCHS #0263 - Moore store and gas station, road extension, c1930s. Courtesy Mr. John Moore.

DCHS #2485 - Fradena Eaton with Ethel Allardice. Courtesy Suzanne Allardice.

Photos Page 3 DCHS #2107 - Kids in front of school bus, c1950s. Courtesy of Bev Graves-Champion.

DCHS #5291 - Greg Bullen by car, c1950s. Courtesy Claude Bullen

Transportation wasn't always a smooth ride!

Circulation Department, Phone 732-2371
Classified Advertising, Phone 732-2033

VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA, WEDNESDAY, JAN. 21, 1970



WILD RIDE ENDS SAFELY . . . bus comes to rest through side of building

— Ralph Bower Photo

Runaway Bus Causes Havoc

Sun Staff Reporter
NORTH VANCOUVER — It'll be a long time before bus driver William F. Fatkin forgets the wild ride he took Tuesday.

Or stops shuddering over what might have happened to the 50 school children aboard his bus in the incident. The wild ride started when the bus brakes apparently failed as Fatkin, 60, of 7067 Burford, Burnaby, drove the youngsters home along Mount Seymour Parkway to Deep Cove.

It ended in about half a minute. But not before the crowded bus, with Fatkin fighting to keep control:

Roared across the intersection of the Dollarton Highway toward Indian Arm.

Hit a parked car and ripped out a gas pump at Central Motors Service, 1012 Deep Cove.

Smashed through an equipment rental agency.

Crashed to a halt in a pool hall, knocking out three pool tables.

No one was injured in the accident.

Fatkin, who has 18 years driving experience, said he realized the brakes had failed while coming down a steep hill on the parkway towards the Dollarton Highway.

RCMP said later if Fatkin hadn't taken quick action, the bus would have crossed the highway and plunged down the hill into a ravine.

"This could very easily have been a 40 to 50 person fatal," one police officer said.

Service station operator

Tony Matthews said he heard a crash and ran outside to find a wrecked car and a downed gas pump.

The bus careened on and demolished Bob Connachie's equipment rental shop at 1018 Deep Cove.

The vehicle finally ploughed 12 feet into Mat Fesser's Deep Cove Recreation pool hall at 1022 Deep Cove.

Fesser said the pool hall would normally have been packed with teenagers.

But, he said he had been delayed in Vancouver and didn't open the hall at its regular time.

Eyewitnesses credited Fatkin's fast action for averting a tragedy.

Fatkin had his own opinion. "I can't help feeling there was a power greater than myself looking after me," he said simply.

"Saved By Miracle"

AROUND DEEP COVE

By BRENDA YOUNG

Those of us who saw the near disaster or its immediate aftermath will always be convinced that there was something of a miracle in the air on Tuesday afternoon, January 20.

A school bus from Windsor Secondary School lost its brakes on the Mt. Seymour Parkway hill somewhere between Friar Crescent and the stop sign at Dollarton Highway, charged across the highway, demolished a small car whose oblivious owners are in Hawaii, knocked a gas pump into the air at Central Motor Service (Texaco) and partially collapsed the canopy, ploughed through B&B Rentals and stopped inside the pool hall damaging some tables as well as the wall.

No one was hurt. The bus, the second to leave Windsor that afternoon, was loaded with over fifty students all bound for Deep Cove. There were no cars in the intersection at the time that the bus made its sudden descent, or at the gas station pumps when the pump took flight hitting the ground several feet away from where operator Tony Matthews and his small son Steven were safely working in the shop. The demolished car was empty as was B&B Rentals when the bus

burst through the wall. The pool hall was due to open only fifteen minutes later.

Tony, hearing the bus hit the car, looked up to see the bus' load of kids passing into the building a few feet away which so shook him that he couldn't dial the police, had to settle for 0.

The students on the bus hardly realized what was happening until the bus hit the car. Grade 12-er David Rawlings gets credit for calming down any excited students and opening the emergency door. He warned them of the danger of fire and helped the driver hurry them out.

Student Sandy Blackstock remarks that they weren't really worried until gas and the possibility of fire was mentioned. Sandy, like many others received only scratches and bruises.

Driver William F. Fatkin gets nothing but praise from his passengers, several of whom they have given him little gifts in appreciation of his efforts that day — they could have landed in Indian Arm at the end of the Parkway.

Mr. Fatkin went to Windsor to thank his passengers for their calm behaviour during the crisis.

Meanwhile Tony Matthews and his service station are back

in business, a new gas pump replacing the flying one was finally installed on Saturday.

The school buses are now taking the back route along Fairway Drive and down Dollar Road to avoid the hazardous Parkway hill.

Here's hoping that such a thing never happens again, and apparently this isn't the first time. Next time, we might not be so lucky.

Thankfully there were no injuries when the Windsor Secondary School bus lost its brakes coming down Mount Seymour Parkway in January, 1970. The bus driver, William F. Fatkin, managed to make the turn onto Deep Cove Road, miss the gas pumps that were at Central Auto at that time and plowed well into the building. DCHS President, Liz Jenkins (Bollmann) was on the bus and remembers the eerie silence when the bus stopped.

After student David Rawlings opened the emergency door and warned them of possibility of fire, Liz recalls just getting off and walking home.

Newspaper clippings from the Vancouver Sun (photo and story at left) and, we think, North Shore Shopper.

Tsleil-Waututh Nation — Our Path to Community Immunity

by Councillor Vanessa Gonzalez

A milestone for Tsleil-Waututh and Canada has been the arrival and distribution of COVID-19 vaccinations amongst our communities. Tsleil-Waututh Nation vaccinated over 650 community members in three clinics, with our beloved elders leading the way in early March. The next week leadership and community members of all ages followed suit. Our first “gathering” in a year almost to the day, provided us with a 15-minute glimpse at the loved ones we have kept safe while keeping our distance

and a reassurance that our efforts will lead us back to one another.

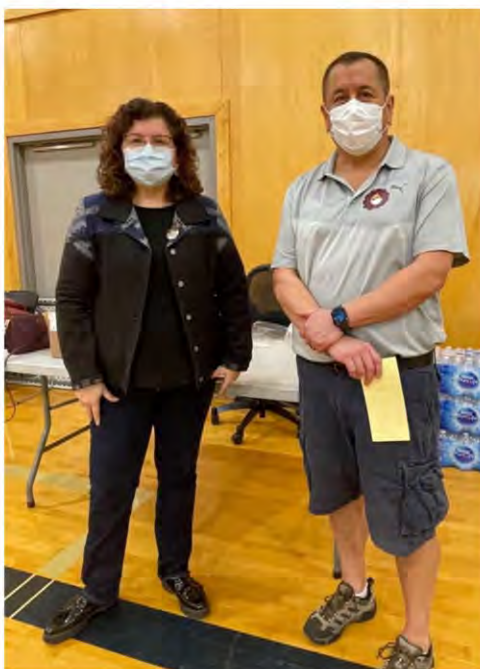
COVID-19 continues to pose a great risk to our world and an even greater risk to Tsleil-Waututh people. Our strongest pillars- our family ties and interconnectedness - also face the greatest threat. For the foreseeable future, vaccinations are our only protection. While we now have an added layer of protection for our people there is still so much uncertainty on when we can

return to Tsleil-Waututh way of life. Until that time we continue to stay the course in keeping our people safe, following the direction and guidance from Health professionals.

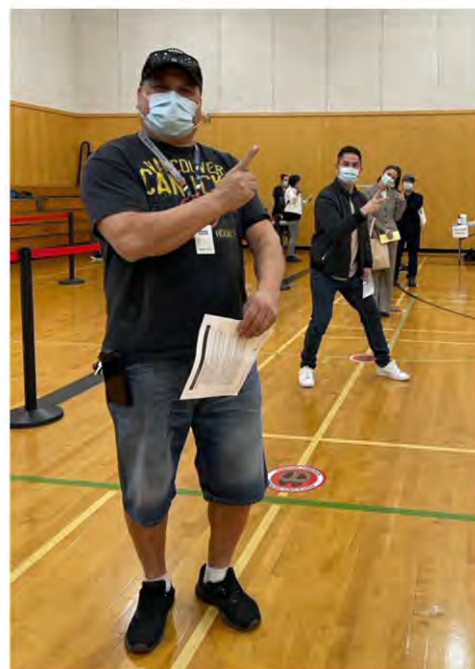
Our people have proven that they are willing to put the greater good of our community ahead of any individual needs. They continue to keep us on a trajectory towards returning to Tsleil-Waututh way of life. We cautiously await community immunity.



Tsleil-Waututh Elder Joey George and Community Health Nurse Heather Gagnon



Tsleil-Waututh Chief Leah George-Wilson and CAO Ernie George



1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th community members eagerly waiting to receive vaccinations during the second Clinic

Photos courtesy Tsleil-Waututh Nation

DCHS — we are keeping busy in spite of Covid 19 restrictions

Working from home and zoom meetings are keeping members busy, many projects are currently underway.

At present we are moving our photo archive system to a new platform and increasing the listings from about 1,400 items to over 5,000. We thank our new

volunteer, Keith Dunn, for taking on the brunt of that task.

Our second project is a complete revision of our current website to reflect our society and bring it into better focus for the community and to provide easier access to our community. We also want to

include digitized interviews from previous interviews. For that project we thank another new volunteer, Courtney Apps.

We also welcome including regular news updates from the Tsleil-Waututh Nation in future newsletters.

Bruce Coney bids farewell to the Deep Cove Crier

by Eileen Smith



Here is his story in a nutshell. The Coney family — Bruce, Gail, their nine-year-old daughter Janine and dog, Fluffy, left Cape Town, South Africa to move to Canada in 1982.

Bruce had worked for the District Mail newspaper in Somerset West, a town near Cape Town. Later he became part owner of the Hottentots Holland Advertiser, in the same town. He said "moving to Canada was one of the best things I ever did; it is so peaceful here; I have never regretted it."

Once in Vancouver he was offered a job selling advertising for the Ubysey Newspaper at the height of BC's first recession in February 1982. Shortly after he left, he was offered the job of Sales Representative at the West Ender. That paper was sold to Eric Cardwell (who had been with the North Shore News) and Bruce was promoted to Sales Manager of Advertising. In 1989 the West Ender and its new sister paper, the East Ender, were sold to Liverpool Post and Echo. Not liking the new direction the paper was being steered to, he left.

Bruce had launched the monthly Deep Cove Crier in 1987. It was originally conceived as a fund-raiser for the Seycove Band of which his daughter was a member. His idea was for the band members to sell fliers and if it worked he would start a monthly paper in March. Wilf Fawcett of Fawcett insurance was on board immediately and has continued through Jeff to be a loyal advertiser since the first paper came out. The fund-raiser was an enormous success.

In 1990 Bruce launched, the weekly West End Times, which ran for nearly a decade before Peter Speck of the North Shore News approached Bruce and offered to buy it as well as the Deep Cove Crier. Bruce continued to work for them as Publisher until this past December Deep Cove Crier was published.

Bruce and I talked about how much the newspaper business has changed. When he started in Cape Town they were still using hot type and litho letter printing. Technology changed rapidly and by the time I started working for Bruce in 1991, creating the ads, we had personal computers and fax machines, but no reliable Internet yet. He would fax ad layouts to Marion Taggart who lived in Windsor Park and to me in Deep Cove. We would prepare the ads and print them onto single sheets of paper; Bruce would drive by our homes in the morning and rush them downtown where they were cut out and pasted up onto full page flats and rushed to the printer. They had one day to create the camera ready flats. Thursdays were always a madhouse! But things were changing fast.

"Every time something changed in the industry, a whole group of newspaper

production people lost their jobs," he said, noting that the paste-up folk and photographers were no longer needed with the layouts being completed on computers. He is concerned about the impact social media will have in the long term on the newspaper business.

An active member of the community, Bruce was a founding member of the Deep Cove Tennis Club in 1997, that same year the Mount Seymour Lions presented him with a Certificate of Appreciation for his community service. He left Deep Cove and moved to Salt Spring Island in February, 2002 and has been commuting monthly to work on the Crier ever since.



Bruce has always been grateful for all the people who worked for the Deep Cove Crier, including Pat Johnston, Shelley Harrison Rae, Julia Chalifoux (nee Ronmark) and, of course, his daughter Janine. Oh, and he thanked me, too. He is also very appreciative for all the advertisers and all the readers for their loyal support over the years. He thanks the great bunch of community people who regularly submitted stories, including Rev. Ed Hird, Mayor Richard Walton, MLA Jane Thornthwaite and Megan Crowe from the library. More thanks were given to all those people over the years who opened their houses to him over the past ten years that he has been commuting, especially Janet, John, Val and Jack.

So while Bruce enjoys his life on Salt Spring, with his sailing, crabbing, travelling, working in the studio he established, cooking and his little dog, Coco, we will miss him. Thank you, Bruce.



Elder College — Connection, Creativity and Community

by Janet Pavlik

I had the opportunity to make a presentation to my Elder College Group this week on the above. It seemed a fitting heading for this column, as this is really what Deep Cove Heritage and Elder College have in common.

The Elder College operated programs for seniors at Capilano College for many years. When the college became Capilano University it was time to move on. So with an enthusiastic group of facilitators, led by Ed Kry, they toiled at forming their own independent Society, and Elder College Society was born. Needless to say they have truly achieved connections, creativity and their own community of keen seniors eager to “learn more.” It is a not-for-profit society founded by volunteers with a shared love of lifelong learning. From archaeology to zoology and more.

They offer a range of interesting topics with learned presenters (some from our

own group) and they are always looking for new ideas. I belong to the News Group and look forward to a spirited discussion on local, provincial, national and international news each week, with a very informed group of seniors. Not all of us have grey hair! as anyone over 55 can join... to many of us it has given us a new lease on life as we eagerly watch for spring, summer and fall programs. They run just about every weekday and you have a choice of signing up for a 4 or 5 week sessions, and some are offered as a one-off.

To give you an idea of courses offered here are a few: Ancient Rome; Champions of the Environment; Canada World War One; books unlimited; Crime and Justice; the list goes on.

Yes, you guessed it, I did a series on History of the North Shore Unplugged for two sessions, using my connections with Deep Cove Heritage made it all happen.

Coming up in April check in with local Crawford Killian with his series on B.C. Early Pioneers, this is a great course for our Heritage members. At the end of the month Dr Arthur Reber will address “Do Bacteria have Brains” and there is still space on the World War One series.

In life before Covid, courses were held in multiple locations across the North Shore from Deep Cove to West Vancouver, but Ed and his executive assistant, Kate Weiss, quickly set to work fixing us up with Zoom courses which have proved a great success and kept the society in business. Cost of courses range from \$9.00 a session. Yearly membership is only \$10.

You are invited to check out and register online at www.nseldercollege.org, or call 778-246-6737.

Remembering the Deep Cove Heritage Seymour Bus Tour 2019



Before we had to concern ourselves with masks and social distancing, Deep Cove Heritage Society offered heritage tours of the Seymour area. Tour guide, Janet Pavlik (pictured at centre back of table) shares her knowledge of the area.

It is a most interesting afternoon that included a lunch stop at Stongs in Maplewood. We hope once we are able to gather again, you will be able to join us on the next one!

*DCHS #5286 — Seymour Bus Tour 2019.
Photo by Eileen Smith*

*Photos Page 5: DCHS 4623, Janine and Bruce Coney in Deep Cove. DCHS # 3958, Tennis Club, 1998.
DCHS #2303 Bruce Coney receives certificate from John Pavlik of Mount Seymour Lions, 1997.*

PLEASE SEND YOUR STORIES AND MEMORIES TO
info@DEEPCOVEHERITAGE.com



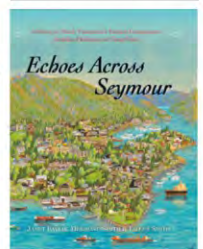
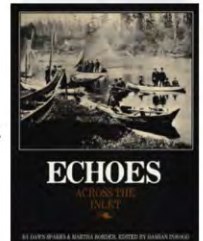
Book bags

Our roomy, sturdy canvas tote bags with 1950s Cove photo **only \$10** from the office.



Local books

Deep Cove Heritage's *Echoes Across Seymour*, as well as Ralph Drew's books, including *Forest & Fjord*, *Ferries & Fjord*, *Townsite of Ioco* and *Coquitlam Chronicals*, all are loaded with pictures. Great reading and for gifts. All available from our office.



Be involved in your community

Once we get the go-ahead, we will be looking for more volunteers to mingle with visitors to our office or help with our events. If you can help out with any of the following, even occasionally, please get in touch with us.

- Welcome visitors to our office (three-hour shift, morning or afternoon)
 - Accompany other volunteers when they attend community events by handing out brochures or selling our books. This would include events like Blueridge Good Neighbour Day, Deep Cove Daze or Parkgate Community Days, etc. Any one of them or all of them would be very helpful.
 - Help set up and take down chairs for any Special Meeting Events when needed, usually a weekday morning.
 - Accompany other volunteers for occasional history talks for one or two hours.
 - Help out at fund-raisers to either sell tickets or help set up event and silent auction.
 - Grades 10, 11 and 12 students are welcome to volunteer.
- If you can help, call our office administrator, at 604-929-5744 Thursdays from 10am to 4pm or send email to:

deepcoveheritage@gmail.com

FROM OUR ARCHIVES



DCHS #0033 – Cadets in Kinsmen, July 1st Parade, cars parked along Second Street (now Gallant Avenue), 1952 or 1953.

CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION
WWW.DEEPCOVEHERITAGE.COM

We gratefully acknowledge the financial support of: The Province of British Columbia, The District of North Vancouver, The City of North Vancouver, North Vancouver Recreation & Culture, First Impressions Theatre, The Royal Bank of Canada, We appreciate the ongoing support of our Deep Cove Cultural Centre partner groups: Deep Cove Stage, First Impressions Theatre and Seymour Art Gallery.