Temporary Public Art Installations

During Public Art Week (May 14 to 18, 2018) eleven new pieces of temporary art were installed in City parks and public spaces! For more information, view the Public Art Inventory online @ www.nanaimo.ca/public-art-inventory.
What’s New in June

Student Winners of the 2018 High School Poetry Competition

The winners of the 2018 High School Poetry Competition will accompany the City of Nanaimo’s Youth Poet Laureate (Kailey DeFehr) to read their winning poems at the June 11 Council meeting:

1st Prize: Nicholas Brittain
2nd Prize: Isabella Cooper
3rd Prize: Rachel Ward

Congratulations to these student poets! And thank you to all participating teachers and librarians for encouraging their students to participate.

Nanaimo Poetry Map

The Nanaimo Poetry Map provides a creative perspective of the city. Generally speaking, a map imposes a system of knowledge upon a place. It denotes the official names of streets and buildings, displays property ownership, tells the reader where s/he can or can’t go — that kind of thing. This map is different, it asks the reader to explore the city through poetry, to understand the spaces within it differently because of the poems.

View the map (or submit your poem) at www.nanaimo.ca/goto/poetrymap

Poet Laureate Reading Series

June 16 @ 1:00 pm (Harbourfront Library)
What’s New in June

Pride Week 2018

June 5: Inclusive Pride Swim at Beban Pool
June 6: Pride Flag Raising at City Hall
June 7: Youth Dance (-16) at German Hall
June 8: 19+ Dance ft. Ange Hehr at Bowen Auditorium
June 9: Pride Parade & Festival
Official Pride After-Party at Evolve

City of Nanaimo
The Harbour City

Welcoming New Immigrants

You and your family are invited to a welcome reception to meet Nanaimo’s Mayor Bill McKay, members of Nanaimo City Council and elected officials from the Federal Government of Canada, the Provincial Government of British Columbia, the Regional District of Nanaimo, and the Nanaimo-Ladysmith School Board.

Please join us at this free social event!

Saturday, June 23rd, 2018
2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Vancouver Island Conference Centre
(101 Gordon Street)
Newcastle Island Lobby

Light refreshments and snacks will be served.

Date changed to June 23!

National Indigenous Peoples Day

5th Annual

Join us for
SALMON BBQ, LIVE PERFORMANCES, ARTIST BOOTHs AND CHILDREN’S ACTIVITIES
JUNE 21st, 2018 | 4PM–8PM
Maffeo Sutton Park

Harbour City Photography Club presents
PHOTO SALON 2018

Sponsors:
London Drugs, Nanaimo North
Yellow Bird Arts Gallery
Canvas Plus
Michaels
Royal LePage Nanaimo Realty
Saul Hickey, RBC Dominion Securities

www.hcpclub.ca

Free Admission
Free Parking

The View Gallery
Vancouver Island University
What's New in June

The Bastion Open / Cannon Firings

The Bastion is open 7 days a week from May long weekend through Labour Day. The cannon firing ceremony takes place daily at 12:00 noon when the Bastion is open. Group tours of the Bastion are available for booking during the off-season.
Full details @ www.nanaimomuseum.ca.

History of The Bastion

Information provided by the Nanaimo Museum (www.nanaimomuseum.ca)

Nanaimo's Bastion is the last remaining wooden Hudson's Bay Company bastion in North America. Today, as the city's oldest structure and recognized Municipal Heritage Site, and having survived multiple moves, renovations and changes in ownership, the Bastion proudly stands as one of the most enduring and iconic symbols of Nanaimo.

1852 | The first log cabins are built in Nanaimo and the first coal mining operation is established under the direction of the Hudson's Bay Company. To protect miners and their families, a Company ship was anchored in Nanaimo's harbour, however this expense soon led to construction of the Bastion.

1853 | Construction is started on the Bastion, which is completed the following year, in 1854.

1855 | A large flotilla of Kwakwaka'wakw paddling from the north appears in the harbour, sending residents to seek refuge in the third floor of the Bastion, one of the few recorded defensive uses of the Bastion.

1859 | The Hudson's Bay Company's licence for exclusive trade is not renewed, and three years later the governors of the Company sell the Nanaimo lands, buildings, machinery and mineral rights. 1863-1891: The Bastion is used intermittently by the colonial and later city governments, and, until 1871, is even used on occasion as a temporary jail.

1891 | The Bastion is saved from demolition by a contribution from the city of $175 which moves it across Front Street.

1900 | City of Nanaimo relinquishes its interest in the Bastion.

1906 | Management of the Bastion is taken over by the Native Sons of British Columbia, a fraternal organization dedicated to preserving BC history and pioneer values and traditions.

1974 | The Bastion is moved for a second time as Front Street is widened.

1985 | The Bastion Museum Society takes over management of the Bastion.

1986 | Renovation work is done on the Bastion and noon cannon firings begin.

1992 | Exhibits and meeting rooms from the Native Sons of British Columbia are removed as structural and fire safety upgrades are done.

1997 | Management of the Bastion is transferred to the City of Nanaimo, and the Nanaimo Museum recreates the Bastion's interior to represent how it may have looked in the 1850s.

2010 | The Bastion undergoes major restoration work, and for over six months is completely dismantled with several original and substituted timbers replaced.

2014 | The Bastion was one of the best 100 buildings in BC, according to BC’s Best Buildings Contest. The historic structure placed third in the Vancouver Island region. BC’s Best Buildings Contest was hosted by the Architectural Foundation of BC.
What’s New in June

Commercial Street Night Market

Every Thursday from 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm, June 21 to August 30

Commercial Street from Terminal Avenue to Church and Chapel Streets will be closed to vehicular traffic as artisan vendor booths, crafters, food producers and downtown merchants line the streets selling everything from food to crafts to curios. There will also be a Food Truck Circle on Diana Krall Plaza. Live entertainment will be staged at several points and a variety of family activities like bouncy castles and climbing walls will be offered to visitors. Over 100 vendors are projected to attend weekly. Booths and festivities run from 5:00 to 9:00 pm every Thursday. For more information, or to request a vendor application form, visit http://nanaimonight.market.

Nanaimo Museum presents:

Summer Feature Exhibit runs from May 12 to September 3 (10:00 am to 5:00 pm Daily)

22,000 Japanese Canadians were forced to leave their homes on BC’s coast during World War II. Many were transported to internment camps while the government sold their homes, businesses and belongings. Their struggle to gain an acknowledgement and compensation from Canada is celebrated in A Call for Justice: Fighting for Japanese Canadian Redress (1977-1988), a traveling exhibit from the Nikkei National Museum. A Call for Justice explores human rights and the determination of the Japanese Canadian community. The exhibit examines the ten-year fight for redress using historic photographs, artifacts, poetry, personal statements, art and video. 2018 is the 30th anniversary of the Canadian government’s official apology to Japanese Canadians. For more information, visit www.nanaimomuseum.ca.

Connect With Us

Our office is open Monday to Friday, from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm.

Phone: 250-755-4483
In Person: Service & Resource Centre
411 Dunsmuir Street, Nanaimo BC
Email: cultureandheritage@nanaimo.ca
By Mail: 455 Wallace Street, Nanaimo, BC V9R 5J6