What’s New in November

Remembrance Day Ceremony

Sunday, November 11 at 11:00 am

Gather together as a community on this Remembrance Day to honour those who helped make Canada such a lovely place to live. Ceremonies commence at 11:00 am at the Nanaimo Cenotaph (85 Front Street).

After the ceremonies, everyone is invited to visit the Military Museum, then off to Royal Canadian Legion Branch #10 (129 Harewood Road) for chowder, sandwiches and beef dip from 2:00 to 6:00 pm. Music by Frank Hanna at 7:00 pm. Everyone is welcome. For details, visit www.harbourliving.ca/event/downtown-nanaimo-remembrance-day/2018-11-11/.

Come see, learn and experience history at the Vancouver Island Military Museum

Browse through the more than 25 exhibits and displays showcasing Canada’s proud military history and traditions. Examine life on the home front and the important work of the Red Cross, St. John’s Ambulance, the Salvation Army, RCMP and the critical role played by the Merchant Navy in war time. Follow the evolution of Women in the Armed Forces, from Nursing Sisters during the Boer War to present day operations in all branches of our Armed Forces. The Vancouver Island Military Museum is located downtown at 100 Cameron Road. For details, visit www.vimms.ca.

Did you know? The Nanaimo Centennial Museum (now Military Museum) is the youngest heritage building listed on the City’s Community Heritage Register and was constructed in 1967 as a legacy project for Canada’s 100th Anniversary.

Vancouver Island Military Museum is Seeking Volunteers

Volunteers are needed to cover regular, morning and afternoon shifts, or as spare to cover vacations. Volunteers conduct tours, interpret displays and exhibits, and discuss military history with museum visitors.

For details, call 250-753-3814 or drop in at 100 Cameron Road.
Vancouver Island University presents | Nanaimo Remembers

For 11 days leading up to Remembrance Day, nearly 200 names of Nanaimo soldiers who died during the First and Second World Wars will be displayed in prominent locations across the city.

Nanaimo Remembers is a unique video memorial project that displays details about the fallen soldiers listed on the Dallas Square Cenotaph downtown. Spearheaded by Vancouver Island University’s (VIU’s) Marketing, Analytics, Recruitment & Communications department, in collaboration with the University’s Canadian Letters and Images Project (CLIP) and Nanaimo Community Archives, the project outlines each soldier’s name, rank and battalion (information from the Cenotaph) as well as — when available — their pre-war profession, when they died and at what age, where they are buried and their specific connection to Nanaimo.

“This display and the research that it is built upon does not exist anywhere else and is the first comprehensive research into First and Second World War soldiers from Nanaimo as a group that we know of,” says Dr. Stephen Davies, Director of CLIP. “In recent years, we have participated in The World Remembers, a display tribute to soldiers across the world who lost their lives in the Great War. This year, we wanted to localize our Remembrance Day project.”

The video presentation will run continuously from November 1-11, 2018, on the large screen in the Welcome Centre (Building 300) at VIU’s Nanaimo Campus. It will also be showcased at several locations in the community during this time:

- through Nanaimo-Ladysmith Public Schools’ website, social media accounts and at any schools that wish to participate;
- and at several City of Nanaimo facilities including Beban Park, the Nanaimo Aquatic Centre and Oliver Woods Community Centre.

For details, visit news.viu.ca/viu-launches-nanaimo-focused-remembrance-day-project.
More What’s New...

Poet Laureate Reading Series

Saturday, November 17, 2018
(Vancouver Island Regional Library - Harbourfront Branch)

Mark your calendars for the November 17 Poet Laureate Reading with poets Pat Smekal and Cornelia Hoogland!

Join Nanaimo’s Poet Laureate, Tina Biello every 3rd Saturday, every 2nd month at 1:00 pm at the Harbourfront Library. Enjoy readings by local poets. See poster for details. Everyone is welcome to attend this free event. Questions? Contact us at cultureandheritage@nanaimo.ca or 250-755-4483.

Thank You Poets!

The City of Nanaimo would like to thank all those poets who have submitted to the Poetry in Transit call. We have now completed Round 1, and selected poems will be ready for viewing on Regional District Buses by early December. If you missed this intake, not to worry; will be putting out a new “Call for Poetry” in the new year. Stay tuned for details about an unveiling event that will be held in early December (to be advertised via City News Release and in the December eNewsletter).

Vancouver Island University presents | Renowned BC Poet Lorna Crozier comes to VIU for Gustafson Lecture & Reading

Sometimes it can be a risk to speak your mind, but Lorna Crozier learned early that writing poetry that matters means taking that risk again and again. The internationally renowned, Victoria-based poet forged a career by writing about women’s desires, experiences of violence and ambition at a time when most poetry textbooks overlooked women’s literary genius. Now Crozier is one of Canada’s literary giants: she won a Governor-General’s Award for Poetry, has written 18 collections of poems, earned five honorary doctorates, and is an Officer of the Order of Canada.

Crozier will be coming to Nanaimo as Vancouver Island University’s (VIU’s) Ralph Gustafson Distinguished Poet for 2018. She will talk to generations old and young about what it means for writers to take risks and speak up in today’s world. As the Gustafson poet, she will participate in three events, including a free reading and a lecture that are both open to the public on November 7 and 8.

As the 2018 Gustafson Distinguished Poet, Crozier will participate in a free public reading on Wednesday, November 7 from 7:30-8:30 pm at White Sails Brewing with VIU Creative Writing student Aislinn Cottell. On Thursday, November 8, the community is invited to come to VIU’s Nanaimo Campus to hear her lecture, titled “Writing and Risk.” The lecture starts at 7 pm in Building 355, Room 203. Courtesy parking is available in Lot N below Building 355. A selection of Crozier’s books, as well as chapbooks of previous Gustafson lectures, will be available at the catered reception following the lecture. For more information, contact the Chair of the Gustafson Committee, at sonnet.labbe@viu.ca.
More What’s New...

20th Annual Nanaimo Artwalk

Celebrating 20 years of local art and artistson December 1 & 2

The Nanaimo Artwalk is celebrating 20 years of local art and artists. This year, there are 30 locations with over 44 artists exhibiting their artwork in studios and businesses in Downtown Nanaimo and the Old City Quarter. The Artwalk is a great way for the artists to promote their work and visitors will find all kinds of different artwork. It will be a great opportunity to purchase original art as a Christmas gift. You can find the Artwalk brochure in several places Downtown and the Old City Quarter. For details on the Nanaimo Artwalk and featured artists, visit www.nanaimoartwalk.com. When you support local artists, your community comes alive!

Nanaimo Historical Society presents | Yorke Island Remembered

Thursday, November 8 at 7:30 pm (Bowen Park Complex)

The Nanaimo Historical Society meets monthly and presents a free feature presentation. Everyone is welcome to attend. November’s featured speaker is Catherine Gilbert. She will be discussing Yorke Island, a coastal defence fort located at the south end of Johnstone Strait. This is a little known aspect of Canada’s World War II Pacific defence. For more information, please view the Nanaimo Historical Society’s Facebook page at www.facebook.com/NanaimoHistory.

Nanaimo Museum presents | Kids Celebrate!

September 12 to November 24 (Nanaimo Museum)

Everyone loves a special occasion — be it India’s Diwali, the New Year in China, the Jewish celebration Hanukkah, Toonik Tyme in Iqaluit or Canada Day. Kids Celebrate! is a travelling exhibition from the Canadian Museum of History.

Kids Celebrate! invites children ages 5 to 12 to learn about the many celebrations that are practiced in their own communities. The exhibition is divided into four zones, each evoking a different season, family and community setting. Children can learn more about the many celebrations that Canadians enjoy throughout the year — from food, music, decorations and games, to the values of giving, sharing and hope for the future. For details, visit www.nanaimomuseum.ca/featured-exhibit/kids-celebrate.

Welcome to New Council!

The 2018 local election in Nanaimo was record breaking. More than 27,000 electors cast their votes on October 20, and the City’s new mayor and Council was welcomed and sworn-in during an inaugural ceremony on November 5.

Welcome to our 2018-2020 Mayor and Council!

- Mr. Leonard Krog, Mayor
- Ms. Sheryl Dawn Armstrong
- Mr. Don Bonner
- Mr. Tyler Brown
- Mr. Ben Geselbracht
- Ms. Erin Hemmens
- Ms. Zeni Maartman
- Mr. Ian Thorpe
- Mr. Jim Turley

The inaugural ceremony was recorded and can be viewed online here: watch video

Contact information for Mayor and Council can be found on the City’s website at www.nanaimo.ca/your-government/city-council/contact-mayor-and-council.
Thank you attendees of the Living History Speaker Series!

The October 2018 Living History series concluded October 30 with three Nanaimo residents telling their stories to a live audience at the Hornets Rugby Club on Dover Road. Throughout the October series, the audience averaged 90+ each evening, filling the venue to capacity and providing an enthusiastic and welcoming crowd for the speakers. This marks the 20th Living History event, with more than 75 speakers and over 1400 seats filled. Popular demand suggests another series, perhaps Spring 2019, will be forthcoming from the Social Planning department. **Would you like to be notified of future series?** If so, please contact us at socialplanning@nanaimo.ca and request to be added to the notification list.

Vancouver Island Symphony presents | Blink Acro Cirque Spectacular

Saturday, November 17 at 3:00 pm and 7:30 pm

Vancouver Island Symphony is excited to present Blink Acro, a modern cirque entertainment company, who has created a tailor-made, world premiere show for the VI Symphony, called LOVE! Imagine the amazing cirque artists performing above the orchestra – it will be dazzling.

Blink Acro and the Vancouver Island Symphony perform a beautifully choreographed cirque show, set to classical music, making every piece the perfect marriage of movement and music. Some highlights from the program include Purcell’s Dido and Aeneas, Debussy’s Clair de Lune, Prokofiev’s Dance of the Knights from Romeo and Juliet, Brahms’ Serenade No.1 and Mendelssohn’s Symphony no. 4.

Poised between classic and contemporary LOVE!, with the Vancouver Island Symphony is the perfect blend of romantic musical gems from the orchestral repertoire and contemporary acts exuding sensual grace from one of the world’s leading cirque troupe. **For details** and ticket info, visit [www.vancouverislandsymphony.com](http://www.vancouverislandsymphony.com).

Learn more about the Living History Speaker Series at [www.cultureandheritage@nanaimo.ca](http://www.cultureandheritage@nanaimo.ca).