



# H e r i t a g e H e r e

FALL 2012

## In this issue:

Hammond Neighbourhood Day	2
A Love of Port Hammond	3
Port Hammond Junction	4

## FROM THE CHAIR

The Commission continues to be busy as we head into the fall business planning season. Our priority is to begin preparing a Heritage Strategic Plan to guide the future work of the Maple Ridge Community Heritage Commission. Creating a Strategic Plan will allow us to distil all the good work that has gone before into an action plan that will be easy to reference and work with as we go forward. It will be a robust planning process that will engage many stakeholders and the broad community.

We will continue with our ongoing work that includes the popular plaque program. Our work for 2013 will be the Strategic Plan, exploring an Archives Digitizing Program, and helping to celebrate Hammond's 130<sup>th</sup> birthday. Of course, we also take on any heritage work referred to us by Council and any found milestones that crop up during the year. The ongoing feedback provided by our liaisons from Council continues to be invaluable and much appreciated.

This community has a rich history that needs to be preserved and celebrated. Unfortunately we don't have the infrastructure to do a good job of either. Its time to turn our heads to the task of building a modern Archive designed for preservation and easy access for those interested in researching our history and a new museum so we can proudly tell our story to the world. The Commission will continue to support the Historical Society in its quest to plan, fundraise and build a new Museum and Archive.

To move the process along the Commission and Society will be meeting in December to discuss common goals that include the full range of heritage issues in Maple Ridge. Of course our focus will be a Museum/Archive action plan and the search for a champion to carry the cause forward. Please give us your feedback around who this champion might be so we can move this issue forward.

I closing I want to remind everybody that our meetings are open to the public and everybody is welcome.

Cheers

*Craig Speirs*



## Heritage Contributors

### COMMUNITY HERITAGE COMMISSION

Wayne Beck  
Mandeep Buller  
Michael Cook  
Voislav Cubaleski  
Faye Isaac  
Cyndy Johnson-McCormick  
Brenda Smith  
Craig Speirs, Chair  
Michael Morden, Council Liaison  
Bob Masse, Alternate Council Liaison  
Lisa Zosiak, Staff Liaison  
Tracy Camire, Committee Clerk

### Published by

Maple Ridge  
Community Heritage Commission

11995 Haney Place  
Maple Ridge, BC  
V2X 6A9

604.467.7341 tel  
604.467.7329 fax  
plan\_enq@mapleridge.org  
www.mapleridge.org



## HAMMOND NEIGHBOURHOOD DAY



*Hammond Neighbour Day Welcome Table manned by Jennifer Zickerman, bystanders Mr. Koehn and James Rowley (back to the camera)*



*Display including historical maps supplied by Lisa Zosiak of Port Hammond and one of Val Patenaude's pannels to the right.*



*Zoe Koehn-Rowley at the Kidzone*



From left: Zoe Koehn-Rowley, Cyndy Johnson-McCormick, Leanne Koehn, Charlotte Mitchell (all founders of Hammond Neighbours) with cake donated by Thrifty Foods

## A LOVE OF PORT HAMMOND

### A NEWCOMER'S STORY

I have a love of all things Port Hammond. It started more than 21 years ago when I first moved here and became completely immersed in that “neighbourhood” feeling. I had spent 26 years in Coquitlam but Port Hammond was home. Maybe it was the neat rows of pre-war bungalows with their large, neatly kept lots peppered with the occasional Craftsman, Edwardian, Saltbox, or Colonial Revival style homes with their rich and colourful histories. Maybe it was because within two weeks of moving into and renovating a small old 800 square foot 1940s house, pretty much every person on the block had come over and welcomed me to the neighbourhood. Maybe it was that train whistle that annoyed me so much in the beginning but in that later years reassured me that I was home. Maybe it was that this small community felt unique, separate and distinct from the rest of Maple Ridge—there is that special feeling here.

In May of this year I was lucky enough to attend Jim Diers’ Neighbourhood Champions workshop. Jim is an amazingly inspirational, motivational speaker that I believe should be speaking in our schools. After spending time with him you walk away believing there is nothing you cannot do. While attending this workshop I had the privilege of sitting with several other Hammondites and, while conducting exercises Jim had instructed us to do, we discovered that we all had common feelings, goals, wants and needs for Port Hammond. After the workshop we kept in contact and that was the start of the “Hammond Neighbours.”

In a short time we organized our first “Hammond Neighbour Day” in July of this year. It is amazing what a handful of people can do in a short amount of time. Many organizations and agencies showed their wares, and I, being the group’s amateur historian, set up a display of pictures and information about Port Hammond’s heritage homes, buildings and sites.

Val Patenaude of the Maple Ridge Museum loaned me several large panels showing Port Hammond’s rich and diverse culture from the Hammond Cedar Mill’s coveted baseball team to the Dinosaur theme Park at 203<sup>rd</sup> over the last 129 years. Lisa Zosiak, Planner for Maple Ridge, was able to obtain for me copies of several large historical maps of Port Hammond including the plan for “Port Hammond Junction” submitted for incorporation in 1883. Props, furniture, and advertisements etc. augmented the display that proved to be successful. We had over 200 people in attendance at the Hammond Neighbour Day. I met dozens of people that day but the real highlight was talking with two ladies who had worked at the Hammond Cedar Mill during the war. One of the two started at the age of 16 on the “green chain”, when her father went to war and there was no one left to pay the bills. Self-sacrifice, that is so foreign to us now. We have so much to listen to, so much to think about, so much to learn, and so much to do.

If you would like to get involved or see what the Hammond Neighbours are up to go to “Hammond Neighbours” on Facebook or visit the “hammondneighbours.ca” Web site.

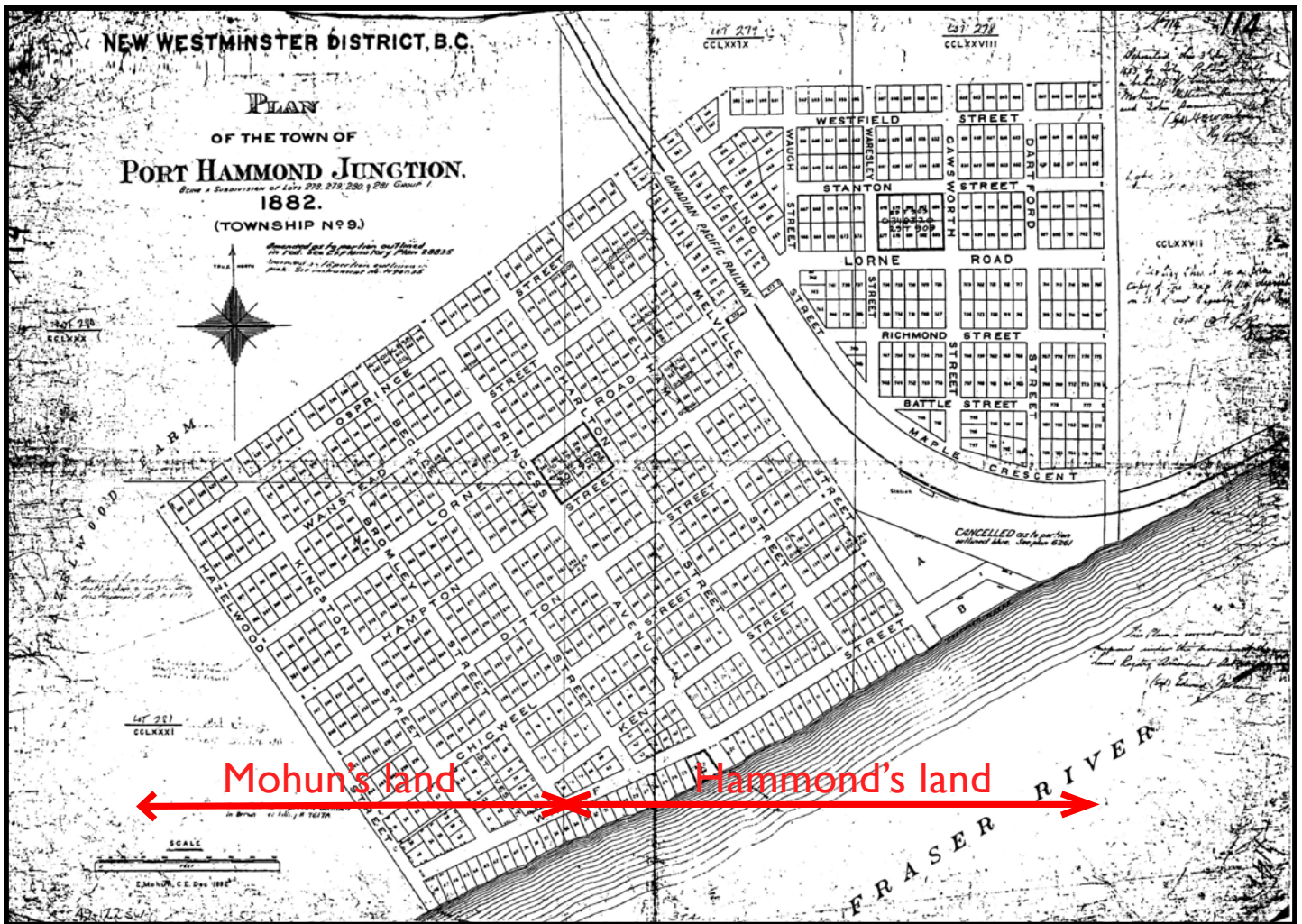
*Cyndy Johnson-McCormick*



Studying the old maps. Here is where I live!



An unidentified student of Port Hammond’s history.



The "Plan of the Town of Port Hammond Junction" drafted by Edward Mohun and registered in Victoria on behalf of Emmeline Mohun (Edward's wife) and William and John Hammond. They were the founders of Hammond, a terminus for CPR freight and passengers on ships to and from Victoria and New Westminster and the main commercial area of Maple Ridge for many years.



## Events + Projects

The Maple Ridge Community Heritage Commission is preparing a Heritage Strategic Plan that will establish the actions of the commission for the for the next five to seven years. It is anticipated that the project will be completed in the fall of 2013.