



POSTVIEW

The Newsletter of the
Vancouver Postcard Club

www.vancouverpostcardclub.ca

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What's New?

The Vancouver Postcard Club is now on Twitter as

@vanpostcard

If you are on Twitter, please follow us (and we will follow you).

We hope to attract new members to the Club and to postcard collecting by promoting our activities on social media.

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NEWS FROM THE ANNUAL POSTCARD SHOW

The 29th Annual Vancouver Postcard Club Show & Sale was Sunday May 28th at the Hastings Community Centre. 10 dealers and 15 tables offered postcards, philatelic material, historical photographs and other paper collectibles.

The winner with the Oldest BC Postcard—1899—was John Keenlyside. An Honourable Mention was awarded to Michael Sagar for his Fraser Canon House, North Bend, BC card.

Winners of the "People's Choice" for best postcard displays were Lance Arnett – The First Residents – Early B.C. Native Indians, Ron Souch – A Few First Nations Leaders on Canadian Cards c.1905-1920, and Per Jensen – Bowen Island. The Union Steamship Co.

Thank you to Jill Charkow for donating \$50 for the Abe Charkow Memorial Trophy for the most popular People's Choice display. Special thanks too to the VPCC members who made the show a success – Ron Souch (show convenor and publicity), Lance Arnett (master of ceremonies), Tim Mustart (refreshments), Tim Woodland's daughter Amanda (manning the concession stand), Diane Rogers and Margaret Waddington (accepting donations and tallying the People's Choice ballots).

Sad news after the show—In attendance at the Vancouver Postcard Club Show in June were erstwhile VPCC Treasurer Christine Ellison and her father KENNETH VERNON ELLISON. Ken died at his home in Vernon on June 21, 2016. He was born in Vernon to Vernon and Mabel Ellison and was the last surviving grandchild of Vernon pioneers Price and Sophie Ellison. He grew up in Oyama where he attended school up to Grade 12. During WW2 he served with the NCNVP as a seaman. In 1949 he received a B.Sc. in Agriculture from the University of B.C. He returned to Oyama in 1954 where he operated the family ranch. Ken was very interested in the postal history of Canada and the history of the North Okanagan and was a life member of the Okanagan Historical Society and volunteered tirelessly at the Vernon Museum.

Club Meetings and News

CLUB NEWS

April 10, 2016: They Weren't All Railway Hotels: Canadian Resorts, Hotels, and Lodges Unaffiliated With The Railways—JOHN DAVIES presented cards from across Canada with many historical details. Examples included were:

The **Georgia Hotel**, Vancouver, (now Rosewood Hotel Georgia) opened in 1927. Notable guests were the Beatles, John Wayne, Nat King Cole and Louis Armstrong.

The **Driard Hotel** was Victoria's grandest hotel before the Empress. Opened in 1862, David Spencer purchased the partially damaged building for his department store after the great fire of 1910. In 1948 it became part of Eaton's store complex. Today the Driard's facade is part of the Bay Centre (originally Eaton's Centre) exterior and is a mere mock reconstruction of the original.

Bigwin Inn, Lake of Bays, Ontario. When it was opened in 1820 it was billed as "Canada's Largest and Finest Summer Resort".

King Edward Hotel, (now known as the Omni King Edward Hotel), is a luxury hotel in the downtown business district of Toronto. Designed for developer George Gooderham's Toronto Hotel Company it opened in 1903. Notable guests included Mark Twain, the Beatles, Rudolf Valentino, Louis Armstrong and Ernest Hemingway.

General Brock Hotel, the first high rise luxury hotel built in Niagara Falls, opened July 1st 1929. Known over the years as the Sheraton Brock Hotel, the Skyline Brock Hotel, the Brock Plaza Hotel and finally the Crowne Plaza Fallsview Hotel, its guests have included Walt Disney, Shirley Temple, Jimmy Stewart, Queen Elizabeth, Sylvester Stallone, Bruce Willis and Jackie Chan.

The **Windsor Hotel**, Montreal's pre-eminent hotel was constructed between 1875 and 1878 by a consortium of Montreal businessmen including William Notman. At the centre of Montreal's social and business worlds, it attracted not only railway visitors but also business leaders, politicians, socialites, artists and even royalty. Executives of the CPR and Grand Trunk Railway kept permanent residences here. Sarah Bernhardt, Mark Twain, Rudyard Kipling and Lily Langtry were among the Windsor's famous guests in its earlier years.

In 1906 fire destroyed almost 100 guestrooms. An additional wing, opened in 1908 and known as the Windsor Annex, increased the number of available rooms to 750. In 1957 another fire destroyed a third of the hotel and the original structure had to be demolished. The Windsor Hotel operated out of the North Annex for nearly 25 years, closing in 1981. In 1987 it reopened as an office building called Le Windsor.

Financed by the Prussian-born Alvo Von Alvensleben, the **Wigwam Inn** opened up at the north end of Indian Arm as a luxury German Biergarten resort and fishing lodge in 1909. John D. Rockefeller and John Jacob Astor were guests there. Purchased by the Royal Vancouver Yacht Club in 1985, it is currently owned and operated by the Club as an outstation for its members.

May 8, 2016: B.C Stereo Views—Retired VPL librarian **ANDREW MARTIN** showed some of his 325 stereographs, (commonly known as Stereo Views) which he keeps in binders. Sir Charles Wheatstone invented the earliest type of stereoscope process in 1838. Since it appeared a year before the first practical photographic process was available drawings were used. The first B.C. cards appeared in the 1860s and the last appeared in 1960. In order to get the shots to create the stereo effect the camera first photographed a view then moved 2 ½ inches to one side. Among the B.C. views were *Over Vancouver Harbour, B.C., Empress of India, Empress of China, Cordova St.,* a Timms card *Morning, Hastings St.,* and Edwards Bros' *Man in Hol-low Tree.*

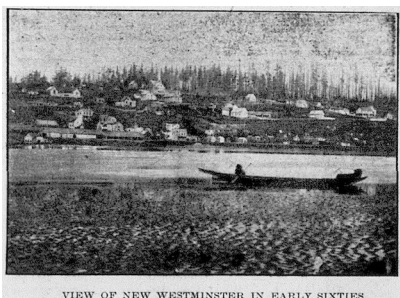
June 12, 2016: Digital Colourization of Historical Black and White Photographs: Bringing New Life to Old Photos—MARK TRUELOVE, known online as CANADIAN COLOUR, enjoys learning bits of Canadian history, fostering discussion and sharing knowledge. Colourization brings out details in small photographs. The process is done in Photoshop. The challenge is to locate photos to work with, finding out the original colours of contemporary clothes and dwellings (there is a lot of guesswork involved) and fixing imperfections. Examples of cards and photographs used, all from the Vancouver City Archives, included *Amputation Club of B.C. – Nov., 1918,* and *Almonds' Ice Cream Store, Vancouver, ca. 1920.*

OTHER NEWS

In a May 15th lecture at the Royal B.C. Museum called *An Artist of Rare Ability: The Life and Photographs of C.S. Bailey*, DAVID MATTISON presented his most recent work on one of the photographers listed in his *Camera workers, British Columbia, Alaska & Yukon, 1868-1950.* C. S. Bailey (1869-1896) was the first Vancouver photographer to specialize exclusively in landscape and marine photography. David showed many of Bailey's panoramas and roof top views of a very early Vancouver. Bailey travelled to the interior to photograph the activity in that area and along the CPR tracks. He also travelled to Hawaii and images from his photographic portfolio can be found in the state archives there. Bailey's life ended in Kamloops where he died of TB at the age of 27.

At the Awards Banquet of the B.C. Historical Federation held May 18, 2016 at Revelstoke, RON GREENE was awarded the Lieutenant Governor's Medal for Historical Writing for his book *Carlo Gentile, Gold Rush Photographer 1863-1866.*

Earliest images of New Westminster resurface, over a century later, by Jason Vanderhill.



VIEW OF NEW WESTMINSTER IN EARLY SIXTIES.

Oldest View of New Westminster, The Daily Columbian, February 22, 1908.

The recent show "Nanitch: Early Photographs of British Columbia from the Langmann Collection" at the Presentation House Gallery in North Vancouver proved just how popular an exhibition can be when it features some of the oldest surviving photographic images of a time and place. Uno Langmann's collection is quite possibly unrivalled today by any single collector when it comes to early photography of Vancouver, having immersed himself in the history of the region ever since he arrived in Vancouver in 1955. Uno's large scale donations to UBC's Special Collections have made us all richer and better equipped to study the dawn of photography in this region of the world.

But before Uno, there were other collectors who kept their eye out for aging imagery of our region. One such example is none other than Sir Richard McBride, former BC Premier and leader of the Conservative Party. I stumbled onto a few images from Sir Richard's collection while reading the *Daily Columbian* newspaper at the New Westminster Library recently. While attempting to source some articles from 1907-1908, I came upon a very early photograph of New Westminster on the front page of the paper. In fact, the caption claimed it was the "Oldest View of New Westminster". I hastily scanned the entire page, and continued to browse the paper for more. Then I found another photo, with accompanying story, reminiscing about the early days in New Westminster, back when Sapperton was the House of Government, and when a large sandbar spanned the Fraser river from Lulu Island (Richmond) all the way to Brownsville (N Surrey) before river currents swept it away.

These images were published in the *Daily Columbian* newspaper after Richard McBride returned from a trip to England, taking with him some of the earliest photographic images taken in New West. Where he found them is not explicitly stated, but based on the time period and subject matter, these are images that were in all likelihood taken by the Royal Engineers, and were likely sent back to England as souvenir and testament to their work in the new colony. They were reprinted in early 1908 with an air of commemoration for the centennial of Simon Fraser's discoveries in the region.

In spite of the low resolution of the newsprint reproduction, the photographs are described in great detail with rich articles to accompany each picture. The "Oldest View of New Westminster" seems to be taken from the edge of the Fraser River at Brownsville, looking towards the New West waterfront at a smattering of buildings. There are no more than 20 buildings in total, and the article dates the image as early summer, 1860. The photographer is not mentioned, but it was Col. Moody who set up the first detachment of the Royal Engineers in December, 1858. In the article that ran a week prior, J. Davis is mentioned as the photographer of another image from a similar vantage point, dated early 1860s; Joseph Davis was the attache of the corps of Royal Engineers at Sapperton.

While I can't presume Mr. Davis took the earliest photograph of New West, it is certainly a viable deduction. We don't know too much about Joseph Davis. Frances M. Woodward in *BC Studies* tells us "from 1863-64, he operated the *Franklin House, a boarding house and restaurant in New Westminster along with John Musselwhite. He may have also become a photographer in New Westminster from 1876-1880.*" I asked the New Westminster Archives if they had this image or a similar view in their collection, and they did not. Frederick Dally is often championed as one of the greatest early photographers in British Columbia, but it is exciting to think of the men who came before him. Dally immigrated to Canada in 1862, but he really began his photographic travels in earnest in 1866-1868. Another possibility is Francis George Claudet, who arrived in British Columbia on February 10, 1860. David Mattison writes that his camera kit arrived late summer, 1860.

When it comes to our early photographic history, there are many more discoveries waiting to be made, and much new ground to cover. If you'd like to delve into a few of these pages yourself, you can see some of these selected images in an online album titled *The Daily Columbian*. <http://flic.kr/s/aHskE3SAq2>



New Westminster in the early sixties... 1860s!

Biographies of B. C. Publishers

KAKUJIRO (K.) SHIBATA, born 1886

Compiled by M. Waddington

Kakujiro Shibata was born on November 17, 1886 in Japan. According to the biographical sketch which appeared in the *Kanada Zairyu Doho Soan* in 1921, he and his wife Tatsuko arrived in Vancouver on June 28, 1898. He subsequently worked for various businesses in Steveston and Union Bay, Vancouver Island.

In her book *Cumberland heritage: a selected history of people, buildings, institutions & sites, 1888-1950*, Jennifer Barr writes that Shibata was a 'dealer in oriental fine art and novelty goods, watches and jewelry since 1898.'

Before Shibata came to Canada he had a precious metal factory in Tokyo. According to Canadian census records he was a jeweler working on his own account in Union Village in 1901, moved to Cumberland where he was still working as a jeweller in 1911 and was a watch repairer in 1921.

He purchased a watch business from a Caucasian merchant in 1902, the same year that he was naturalized, and in subsequent B.C. directories his business is referred to as 'oriental goods' (1909), 'general store' (1910—1913), 'jeweller' (1914) and 'jewelry, dry goods, chinaware and stationery (1918-1920).

His biographer, writing in 1921, added that his business was then known as a 'fine art and novelty goods shop', that his place of registry in Japan was 81, Zaimoku-town, Utsunomiya-city, Tochigi-prefecture and that his current address was Box 11, Cumberland.

He also wrote that Shibata advocated integration with the mainstream culture, that he and his wife celebrated their silver wedding anniversary in 1921 and that he had farms in a place referred to in the Japanese language as 'Setsunay'.

Nothing much is known about his later life and career. He may have eventually returned to Japan. The 1926 *Directory of Japanese Canadians in Canada* gives his address as

P.O. Box 11, Cumberland while the 1929 Directory lists only

the Zaimoku-town, Utsunomiya-city, Tochigi-prefecture address.

Shibata's name appears on a few coloured litho cards of Cumberland issued by Valentine & Sons Co.

Two Cumberland Valentines are known: #601, 671: "Cumberland, B.C." postally used June 22, 1913, and #602, 674: "Station, Cumberland, B.C." postally used July 7, 1913.

On the back of each is printed: "Published by K. Shibata, watchmaker and jeweler, Cumberland, B.C."

Both fronts and backs of these cards have been digitized and can be seen on-line in the Philip Francis Postcard Collection, Simon Fraser University MSC130-17150-01 (-02) and MSC130-17151-01 (-02).

The assistance of Linda Kawamoto Reid, research archivist, Nikkei National Museum & Cultural Centre, is gratefully acknowledged. The Museum provided a copy of the original biography which included a photo of Shibata and his wife. We are also indebted to Eiji Okawa who provided an English translation of the original Japanese text.

Sent The Empire's First Postcards

From the *Nottingham Evening Post*, Nottingham, Nottinghamshire, England, 7 May 1937, page 1.

"The man who claims to have sent the first cards to be used anywhere in the British Empire is now 91. He is Mr. S. N. Muir, who lives at Invercargill, South Island, New Zealand.—Reuter"

References:

Ancestry.com. Canadian census 1901. British Columbia, district 3: Vancouver, sub-district B: Cumberland, Nanaimo South, Comox, polling district 3: Union Village '(Jap town / all shacks)', p. 12, lines 16 & 17.

Ancestry.com. Canadian census 1911. British Columbia, district 8: Comox-Atlin, sub-district 11: Cumberland City, p. 20, lines 46 & 47.

Ancestry.com. 1921 Census of Canada. Orig. data: Library and Archives Canada. Sixth census of Canada, 1921. Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, 2013. Series RG 31 Statistics Canada Fonds. At head of sheet: British Columbia district 15: Comox, sub-district 6: Royston Road, Union Village, Comox Lake, including Cumberland, (city), town: Cumberland City, street: Dunsmuir Avenue/ municipality: Cumberland, page 38, lines 30 & 31.

BC city directories: (Cumberland): 1909-1914, 1918-1920.

British Columbia Historical Picture Postcards A Guide to the Publishers / Compiled by Ron Souch.

Directory of Japanese Canadians in Canada (1926), p. 76.

Directory of Japanese Canadians in Canada (1929), p. 110.

Okawa, Eiji. Translation of Kakujiro Shibata's biography in the *Kanada Zairyu Doho Soran (1921)*.



Thank you to Philip Francis for providing scans of Shibata's Cumberland postcards. Philip included the originals in the postcards given to Simon Fraser University which has now digitized them and put them on-line. The postcard images are credited as:

Station, Cumberland, B.C. Valentine & Sons Co. 601, 674. Postally used July 7, 1913. Credit: Simon Fraser University, Philip Francis Postcard Collection / MSC130-17151-01 [& -02].

Cumberland, B.C. Valentine & Sons Co. 601, 671. Postally used June 22, 1913. Credit: Simon Fraser University, Philip Francis Postcard Collection / MSC130-17150-01 [& -02].

“Her Legacy Is A Postcard” by Fred Hume



She is our grandmother and she died just before my sixth birthday but for me at least, her legacy is a postcard. Fannie Rumble was my dad's mother yet over the years there remains virtually no memorabilia nor little in the way of stories or recollections concerning her. Somehow only this real photo postcard filtered down to our generation and we learned it was Fannie. Unconsciously or consciously there seems to have been created a vacuum regarding her life as neither my dad nor grandfather was inclined to talk much about her . . . Fannie therefore posing as a bit of a mystery. Perhaps it is unique fortune that this postcard remains for our family,

her only tangible remembrance.

What little information my younger sisters and I had was concerning her struggles with health issues. So, prompted by this postcard (and my sister) I took on the quest to find more information to compliment the woman pictured on this card. I reached out to my cousin, who was quite helpful and found that Fannie was born in England and came to Canada at age seven in 1901, settling in Burnaby where her dad was a City Councillor – Rumble Street in Burnaby is named for him. This card shows Fannie in her nurse's uniform approximately 1913-15 as she trained at Royal Columbian Hospital in New Westminster. Did she ever become a practicing nurse? We don't know. This would be about the time she married the young New Westminster entrepreneur, Fred Hume. Not much is known of Fannie during these particular years except shortly after, she gave birth to two children, my dad and aunt, in 1916 and 1920. It was during the decade of the 1930s however, she served as New Westminster's "First Lady."

One local article written upon Fannie's passing in 1949, mentions that during Hume's nine year term as mayor of New Westminster she ". . . was his helpmate in every sense, even to the entertainment of notables who visited New Westminster, playing the role of "First Lady."

Fred Hume had become a successful businessman and politician all after very humble beginnings. He had to leave school at age thirteen to support his mother and four younger siblings after his father had been hit and killed by a train not far from the old BC Penitentiary . . . another bit of a mystery. Fred accomplished a lot in his life and he did it all from "scratch" and a grade eight education. Fannie meanwhile, despite her declining health, hosted, during her husband's years as mayor, visits to her home by dignitaries such as Lord Tweedsmuir and Herbert Hoover. One of her "First Lady" highlights was when their Majesties the King and Queen of England visited New Westminster in 1939. During the downtown reception, ". . . unable to walk, Mrs. Hume sat in a car on Front Street . . . their Majesties apprised of the situation, walked across the street and talked with her expressing their sympathy with her. Indeed, the Queen was moved to tears." This quote from an article respectfully titled, "Tale of Courage, Endurance Ends with Mrs. Hume's Death."

Even though I was very young, I do have faint memories of my grandmother, visiting her at her bedside at home in New Westminster. She had been an invalid for some time and as the article reveals, "Throughout those sixteen years every conceivable effort was made to cure her affliction . . . it was to no avail." And in addition to these distant memories and being the only one alive who remembers her, we have . . . this postcard.

All Together Now: a review of the MoV's tour de force by Jason Vanderhill



Melanie Talkington, Maurice Guibord, and other guests at the collector's preview night of the Museum of Vancouver show All Together Now. Photographs by Jason Vanderhill.

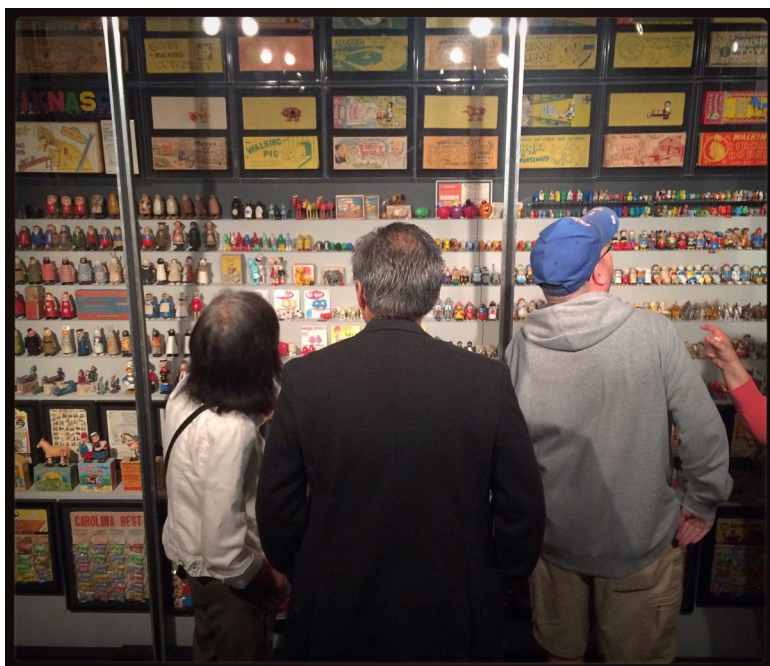
Earlier this year, when the City of Vancouver Archives hosted an art exhibit of paintings by Robert Sandilands called "Postcard Views: Classic Vancouver Postcards in Drawings and Paintings" (<http://www.vancouverarchives.ca/2016/03/10/postcard-views/>), I thought it was the best show Vancouver had seen this century! All those classic hand-coloured postcard images of the city, rendered in great detail at a scale 6 to 10 times larger than the originals, this time using oil pastel, acrylic ink, or conte crayon instead of the hand-tinted photography of the originals. Magnificent!

But in just a few short months, Vancouver has managed to produce the next big thing; dare I say, the greatest show the city has seen this millennium! This summer, the Museum of Vancouver launched perhaps their most ambitious exhibition to date. Certainly the largest collection of artifacts ever shown in a single exhibit, "All Together Now: Vancouver Collectors and Their Worlds" features the collections of 20 locals to the city, two of whom also happen to be Vancouver Postcard Club members! Neil Whaley features some of his finest artifacts of Vancouver history, and Maurice Guibord showcases his immense collection of Expo 67 ephemera. I attended the collector's preview night, and the event was met with wild enthusiasm.

This show is guaranteed to send any true collector at heart into a tizzy, and all others will be left in awe. The curated subjects are as unique as the collectors themselves. You can feast your eyes on an incredible array of pocket watches to pinball machines, corsets to prosthetics, toys, taxidermy, and so much more. Each collector is also featured in a beautiful backlit photographic light box, displayed on the walls amidst their artifacts, almost becoming one themselves. The exhibit seeks to answer the question, "Why do people collect, and how do private collections touch public consciousness?"

As postcard collectors, we largely already know the answers. We collect, because we can. Because we value the sight of an unseen view of a celebrated landmark, or a familiar perspective from our old hometown. Or we do so to fill the gaps of history, adding up details missing in textbooks in order to provide a better understanding of who we are, and where we are heading. But ultimately, we do it because we love it. And that is as good a reason as any.

All Together Now: Vancouver Collectors and Their Worlds" is on exhibit at the Museum of Vancouver from Thursday, June 23, 2016 to Sunday, January 8, 2017.



Upcoming and New Events and Activities

Dec. 11, 2016: VANCOUVER POSTCARD CLUB: AGM, AUCTION, CLUB PHOTO & XMAS PARTY.

Jan. 14, 2017: Cloverdale Antique and Collectable Show, Fairgrounds Agriplex, 9 am to 3 pm.

Jan. 22, 2017: 21st Century Flea Market, Croatian Cultural Centre, Vancouver, 10 am to 3 pm.

Jan. 28, 2017: Coins, Stamps & Collectibles Show, Nikkei Centre, 6688 Southoaks Cres., Burnaby, 9 am to 3 pm.

POSTCARDS ON THE WEB

Edwardian Postcard Project - Lancaster University

I recently recommended this website to another group—over 1,000 cards have now been scanned front and back and transcribed as well. All are browseable and searchable, although not by topic. The originators have about 3,000 postcards but are hoping more will be contributed.

Where they can, researchers have added information from the 1901 and 1911 UK censuses.

They are interested in images of postcards dating from 1901 to 1914. These will be shared online with no restrictions.

The site includes a list of publications and presentations that have come out of the Project. And a 'Select Bibliography'.

<http://www.lancaster.ac.uk/fass/projects/EV11pc/index.php>

BC SCHOOL CLASS PHOTOS

The BC Genealogical Society has a new project - to collect and display on its website and in its journal images of historical BC school classes.

The Society hopes that many unknown individuals in these postcards and photos will be recognized before all who knew them pass away. Some have already been identified.

If you would like to contribute an image to the project, please e-mail the Editor, M. Diane Rogers at editor@bcgs.ca

BCGS website: www.bcgs.ca



Kaslo BC High School class, postcard 1914. Regal Postal.

Postview

Postview is the newsletter of the Vancouver Postcard Club. Published four times a year in February, May, September and December, it is mailed free of charge to members who wish to receive a printed copy. Past copies are posted to the Club Website at www.vancouverpostcardclub.ca

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Views expressed by the Editor and contributors do not necessarily reflect the views of the Vancouver Postcard Club.