



Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services  
Burnaby Village Museum

Home of the CW Parker Carousel

## INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: COMMUNITY HERITAGE COMMISSION DATE: 2020 November 12

FROM: DEBORAH TUYTTENS

**SUBJECT: BURNABY VILLAGE MUSEUM UPDATES**

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The Burnaby Village Museum is preparing to open for Heritage Christmas, in a reduced capacity, November 21, 2020 – January 1, 2021. Hours of operation:

November 21- December 18

W-F, 1-5:30pm & Sa-Su, 1-9pm (closed Mon & Tue)

December 19- January 1, 2021

Daily, 1-9pm (closed Dec 24 & 25)

### Herbalist

The Burnaby Village Museum is happy to announce the re-opening of its newly renovated Way Sang Yuen Wat Kee & Co. Herbalist exhibit. Originally built as an exhibit in 1975, the exhibit was renovated utilizing research on Chinese Canadian history in Burnaby and community connections that began as part of a project of the City of Burnaby Community Heritage Commission to commemorate the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Burnaby in 2017. The crowd-favorite counter display of raw *materia medica* remains as well as the tools needed to create the various forms of medicine. New to the exhibit is a space that Herbalist shops used for visitors to socialize while waiting for their prescriptions to be filled. The exhibit highlights the context of the Chinese Canadian community and Burnaby's Chinese Canadian community more specifically. Visitors can hear stories from Burnaby's early Chinese Canadian families, play Maj Jong and learn about the importance of remittances to Transpacific trade. *[note: interactives are currently not available due to the Covid-19 pandemic].*

### Indigenous Learning House

Also new this winter season is the renovation of Burnaby Village Museum's Indigenous Learning House. The space has received a much needed upgrade to its interpretation as well as its HVAC and electrical. The space received more robust signage and graphics to better accommodate groups and children. Our team of Indigenous Educators will continue to use the space throughout the year to share Indigenous ways of knowing.

### **Neighbourhood History Series**

Burnaby Village Museum again hosted its annual Neighbourhood History Series in partnership with Burnaby Public Libraries. This year the Series was hosted online using Zoom and Facebook Live and featured topics such as research using HeritageBurnaby.com, Decolonizing Heritage, The Chinese Community in Deer Lake, Prison history at Oakalla Penitentiary, Streetcars and Interurbans, and Food history of Burnaby's Chinese Canadians as well as a session hosted in partnership with UBC's Initiative for Student Teaching and Research in Chinese Canadian Studies. The Series' seven talks had 433 in person attendance and have been viewed over 4,800 times on the Museum's Facebook page and continue to be utilized.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Tuytens  
Cultural Heritage Manager