



SOUTHERN ALBERTA PIONEERS

FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER

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[Foundation's Website](#)

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May 2022



Shawn Hendry
President, Southern Alberta Pioneers & their Descendants, 2021-2022

Spring has arrived, and with it, so has the time for spring cleaning. On April 30th, we had a successful spring cleaning at the Memorial Building with over 15 people in attendance honored by the Pioneer Lady, Pamela Hilton, and many of your current Board and Executive in attendance. There were many tasks to be completed and everyone in attendance worked diligently sprucing up the Building and the grounds. Thank you to all volunteers who were able to attend and lend a hand. The end of the day was celebrated with a

President's Message

table-top BBQ of hot dogs expertly cooked by Jeff Hill with chips and refreshments provided by John and Rhonda Hutchings. Thank you also to Rhonda, John and Jeff for organizing and providing us with the list of tasks to be completed.

As noted in the SAPD President's Report, we have a number of events coming up and look forward to each of you seeing the Building. Due to the pandemic, many of you may not have seen some of the renovations that have been completed in 2020. Feel free to see what has been done.

We are currently up to date with requirements on our life-cycle report (based on a Building Condition Assessment [BCA] Report completed by the City of Calgary); however, we have some significant projects coming up in the next few years, including log refurbishment and windows that we will be evaluating and applying for grants for over the coming months.

We have purchased a defibrillator for the building and hope to receive it and have installed in the very near term.

We are seeing our rentals increase post pandemic, with a significant increase in June, July and August. We thank Gabrielle for her efforts in renting our fabulous facility. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you are interested in renting. Members do receive a 10% discount!

Finally – thank you to all of the Building Committee for your efforts in maintaining our Memorial Building.



Committee Members are John Hutchings (Chair), Dan Shaw, Carl Ringdahl, Jeff Hill, Dylan Viste, and Alan Love.

Take care and stay well!

Memorial Building Committee Report

by John Hutchings, Building Committee Chair

As always, volunteers to help out with odd jobs at the Memorial Building are welcome. Please contact John Hutchings or anyone else on the Committee if interested.

Major Pending Projects

As mentioned in prior newsletters, consultants to the City of Calgary (who we lease our building from) conducted a Building Condition Assessment (BCA) that assesses the physical condition of our building and property. From this BCA, a “Life Cycle Report” was issued that identified 106 items that require action over the next twenty-five years, including 23 items that require attention in the next five years. Most of these items are minor and can be accomplished with minimal costs. The BCA process is done every five years.

The following is a list of the major projects identified in the Life Cycle Report that need to be completed in the next few years with a budget estimated cost in the range of \$220,000 to \$260,000.

- Repair and refinish timber log walls on the building perimeter based on findings and recommendations
- Repair stone mortar on the chimney structure on the building’s west elevation
- Replace gutters and downspouts
- Seal longitudinal cracks in the parking lot asphalt pavement
- Replace windows on the original building: North, South & East Elevations
- Replace spalled/missing stones and re-point cracked mortar joints on the flagpole stone base, and the stone pillars at the site east entry gate
- Refinish hardwood flooring surfaces located in the southwest basement storage room
- Scoping study to replace sanitary sewer system.

Funding

Canada Community Revitalization Fund (CCRF)

An application for the Federal Government CCRF Grant to cover 75% of the costs for the major items identified on the Life Cycle Report was submitted on July 23, 2021. Approval of this funding is still pending but not hopeful.

Community Facility Enhancement Program (CFEP)

The deadline to submit the CFEP application was May 15. Jason Moroz of Three Peaks assisted us in the preparation, but we did the actual submission. An updated Letter of Approval in Principle was required from the City as well as an updated budget quote from Chalmer’s Restoration. The new budget quote is 15% higher than the 2021 quote, which is not a surprise.

Historical Resources Conservation Grant

Upon discovering that the 2021 CFEP application failed, we made an application through the Heritage Preservation Partnership Program (HPPP) on January 31 for a grant of up to \$50,000. This is a Provincial Government agency.

Upon follow-up discussions with HPPP, it became apparent that we cannot meet all their requirements, mainly having the project completed this year. Therefore, we rescinded our application and will re-apply at the end of this year (before Christmas) to be ready to commence work in 2023.

Community Conservation Grant (CCG)

Depending on the success of the CCRF and CFEP Grants, the City of Calgary CCG program can cover up to a maximum of 75% of the project costs. The application process for this begins when we receive the decisions from the HPPP and CFEP.

There are no guarantees of the funding amount we will receive from these Grant applications. If it is significantly less than what we requested, we must find alternate funding sources.

The members of the Building Committee for 2022 are:

| | | |
|------------------------|--------------|--|
| John Hutchings (Chair) | 403-613-9798 | sap.office@pioneersalberta.org |
| Dan Shaw | 403-861-3000 | danshaw1959@gmail.com |
| Carl Ringdahl | 403-246-6180 | carl.ringdahl@shaw.ca |
| Jeff Hill | 403-225-2397 | jeff.hill@shaw.ca |
| Dylan Viste | 403-854-8978 | DCViste2202@gmail.com |
| Alan Love | 403-797-4540 | alanlove950@gmail.com |



Handicap Lift

The lift always seems to have issues; most recently, the switch over needed replacing. The quote from Venture Elevators was \$500; however, when we obtained a lower price from Lionheart Electric, we had them install the new cover.

We have received the 2022 permit from AEDARSA (Alberta Elevating Devices Amusement Rides Safety Association), which expires on Mar 31, 2023. They will be doing an inspection of the lift in the near future.

Rentals

The Government of Alberta lifted all the COVID restrictions on March 1, 2022 and, since then, there have been a flood of rental enquiries and visitations. January to March are traditionally slow rental periods but we have several rentals booked this coming summer/fall season, especially weddings. Also, renters are starting to book for 2023.

For rental enquiries please call **Gabrielle Leah** at **403-807-0550**. Remember that members get a 10% discount on the rental rates.

Also, if you are going to visit the Building other than on Historic Monday, please contact Gabrielle to be sure that the building is not occupied with renters that day.

Defibrillator

Requests have been made to have a defibrillator available in the building. A good idea considering the age groups that use our facility. Dylan Viste ordered the machine after Board approval in March. As of this writing, the machine has been received by the supplier and will be delivered soon.

Spring Clean-up

Saturday, April 30 was our annual Spring clean-up day and we had 17 volunteers who worked hard in getting our facility in pristine shape, both inside and out, for the upcoming year activities. The weather was perfect for the occasion.

Many thanks go out to these hard working volunteers (in alphabetical order):



- Al Lynas
- Betty Wake
- Brian Rogers
- Carl Ringdahl
- Dan Shaw
- Dave Wake
- Elaine McDonald
- Jeff Hill
- John Hutchings

- Kathleen Rogers
- Lynn Hoosier
- Mike Kobluk
- Nicole Hendry
- Pamela Hilton
- Rhonda Hutchings
- Russel Moore
- Shawn Hendry



Afterwards, we all enjoyed BBQ hot dogs, chips and refreshments on the deck. Thank-you Jeff Hill for cooking the dogs.

Lighting

We have installed lights over the front desk and on each end of the staircase in the main hall, making the Lady Oldtimers picture more easily readable as well as the Past- President scrolls.

Lionheart Electric installed these lights, which we had on hand from the Upgrade Project, although we had to buy new track.

Landscaping and Snow Removal

We have engaged Affordable Lawn and Snow Service for a two-year term commencing April 2022. They did a spring cleanup on May 4, which is usually done in April but the snowy days put them behind schedule.

Irrigation and Fire/Sprinkler Inspections

The annual inspections of the fire panels and backflow valves were completed, as was the firing up of the yard irrigation lines. However, the irrigation system could not be turned on until the backflow valves were inspected by Johnson Controls who also issued the documentation (March 31, 2022). Raintech inspected and started

up the irrigation system on April 27, in time for the spring cleanup day on April 30th.

Restored Benches



Carl Ringdahl did a magnificent job in refurbishing the three portable yard benches and the three deck benches. Thank-you Carl.



Before



After

The Memorial Building: A Brief History

The full article is on the Southern Alberta Pioneers' Foundation website at <http://pioneerbuilding.ca/memorial-building.html>

June 28, 1923

The Old Timer's completed the construction of an authentic Pioneer Shack on the Calgary Exhibition and Stampede grounds. Over a period of 20 years improvements were continually made to the Shack and the grounds surrounding it.

In 1937, the Women's Association caused to be erected a pioneer kitchen as an addition to the Shack.

In 1939, a further building adjacent to the Shack was constructed to be used as a Tea Room.

In 1955, the Pioneer Shack was replaced with a modern log building (Rotary House), with the financial assistance of the [Rotary Club of South Calgary](#).

June 8, 1955

To commemorate the pioneers of S. Alberta and as part of Alberta's Golden Jubilee, the SAPD constructed The Southern Alberta Memorial Building at its present location in Rideau Park.

In the late 1800s, bull trains and Red River carts and stagecoaches ... passed by this site on their way to Calgary.

The Memorial Building was dedicated on June 8, 1955 with the City of Calgary erecting a field stone cairn with an attached flag pole in front of the building. The City affixed a brass plaque to the cairn that reads "Presented to the Southern Alberta's Old Timers by the City of Calgary in

the Province's Golden Anniversary Year 1955."

July 9, 1967

To celebrate Canada's 100th birthday, SAPD erected the Centennial Gate at the site and the brass plaques bearing the names of pioneers of Southern Alberta.

In 1988, further names were added to the gate bringing the total number to approximately 2000.

In 1998, SAPD constructed a new entrance sign at street level in front of the Centennial Gate.

June 22, 2009

The Memorial Building was designated as a [City of Calgary Municipal Historic Resource](#).