

MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release

Sidney Museum wins Provincial Grant to Refurbish Floors in Heritage Building

Sidney, British Columbia, March 31, 2021 - The Sidney Museum has been approved for a \$57,000 grant from Heritage BC, part of the CERIP Unique Heritage Infrastructure stream to refurbish the Museum's floors.

The Sidney Museum is currently located in the basement and lower basement floors of the Old Post Office Building in Sidney BC, a municipally-designated Heritage Building. Over the years the Museum has expanded in size, turning what was once several separate units into a larger shared space. Two decades of use, construction and previous rehabilitation efforts have created some unexpected dips and rises in the floor. With the funds from this grant the Museum will be able to even out any irregularities creating a safer, more consistent surface, improving accessibility to the Museum for people of all ages and abilities.

This project will also serve to protect the heritage value of the floor. Sections of the Museum's concrete floor are original to the Old Post Office Building, dating from 1936. With the funds from the grant the Museum will be able to stabilize the original concrete and prevent deterioration, preserving this piece of Sidney history.

To accommodate this project, the Museum will be closed to the public for three months, beginning in June 2021. This will provide Museum staff the time required to dismantle semi-permanent displays, relocate display objects and finally, install new displays as the work on the floor is completed. The Sidney Archives will still be operating via e-mail, telephone or by appointment. Everyone at the Museum is excited to move forward with this project that will help serve the Sidney and North Saanich community and greatly improve visitor experience.

The Sidney Museum will re-open in September 2021 with the *Icelandic Connections to Canada* Exhibit from Articulation Textile Group.

The Sidney Museum is currently open Tuesday-Sunday, 10 to 5, with extended hours on the weekend. The Museum is open with timed admission by donation. Please see the Museum's website for hours and details on the current exhibit.

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