## Sidney Museum Staff Take On New Challenges

<u>Sidney, B.C, March 29, 2022</u> - As tourism begins to reopen, so too does the job market in the fields tied to it, and the heritage field is seeing a large number of postings across the province of late. This month two members of the Sidney Museum staff will be moving on to exciting new chapters in their careers. Adrian Bogdan, Assistant Director/Archivist and Sydney Fuhrman, Education and Outreach Coordinator, have both accepted new positions at the BC and Ontario governments. Both staff credit the experience gained during their time at the Museum as a key element in enabling them to take this next step.

Adrian Bogdan has been with the Sidney Museum for just over a year. In that time he has taken part in several major projects, including: the summer renovations, the digitization of a portion of the Museum's map and painting collections, making available the Peninsula schools' class photographs, and of course, working in the Museum's archives collection. "My first month on the job, I remember the Director telling me about the Museum's tapestry on display, and how it had been on loan from the school district since the 90's" said Adrian, remembering back to starting this position. "I spent weeks communicating with the district to get the tapestry officially signed over to the Museum. It was a lot of fun to dig into the history of the Museum's collection".

Being both the Assistant Director and Archivist of the Sidney Museum, it allowed Adrian to always be working on something new and different. "I learned a lot during my tenure here, and got to work with some pretty amazing staff and volunteers. I especially appreciate our Director (Alyssa) sitting down with me and guiding me through the grant writing process." Adrian wrote a successful grant application for the Terry Reksten Memorial Fund, which helped the museum purchase an archival quality film negative scanner, and applied for two more federal grants that have yet to be awarded.

When asked what he would miss most about the museum, Adrian replied: "The people, no question. I got to meet and work with so many people from all over the Saanich Peninsula and Gulf Islands, it will be tough to say goodbye to them. The Museum staff especially, it is an amazing team of people". He added after "Oh, I'll also miss the LEGO exhibit. That is such a fun time at the Museum."

Sydney Fuhrman has been working with the Sidney Museum on and off since 2018 when she was hired as a Summer Student. Since then she has worked in many different capacities at the Museum, until October of 2020 when she joined the Sidney Museum team as a full time staff member. When asked what she was feeling upon her departure from the Sidney Museum, Sydney said "I've been working at the Sidney Museum in different roles for almost four years now. It's been a fantastic experience and I couldn't have asked for a better group of people to work with. But it's time for me to move on to the next challenge."

During her time here Sydney has overseen the creation of a great deal of virtual content for the Sidney Museum, including the Edible Artefacts virtual exhibit which was launched in the summer of 2021. She has been instrumental in the implementation of many exhibits, has managed the

Museum's marketing and social media, and has run the many programs, events and activities that have been offered at the Museum.

"I had no idea how much there was to learn when I took on my first Summer Student contract at the Sidney Museum, and I will always be grateful to Alyssa, Peter and everyone else at the Museum for everything they've taught me."

Everyone at the Sidney Museum is sad to see them go, but are also grateful for everything they have done, and wish them the best of luck as they move forward with their careers. In the meantime, the Museum will be closed on Tuesdays and Wednesdays for the month of April. The Museum is in the process of seeking qualified replacement staff - please see the website for more information.

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## For more information contact:

HR Committee - Sidney Museum jobs@sidneymuseum.ca