

britannia beach

community visioning charrette

BC Museum of Mining

project summary

Project Summary for Work to be Completed by Britannia Beach Historical Society

The BC Museum of Mining is already known as an important historic place of interest in the Sea-to-Sky corridor. The Museum provides service to residents and tourists alike and over 6000 students and an additional 30,000 visitors annually benefit from our underground experience, exhibits, activities and programmes that explore mining in BC, past, present and future.

The Society, along with the newly formed Britannia Bay Development Ltd. are currently the two land owners in Britannia Beach. It is very much part of the Museum's vision and responsibility to be an active partner in determining the future of Britannia Beach and its ability to become a fully sustainable community. In fact, the Museum values its ability to provide leadership on this front.

As a not for profit organization the challenges encountered by the Museum are many. The gravity-fed Concentrator Building or Mill is not only the greatest historic asset and icon, but also the greatest worry. The site has National Historic Site designation which is in reference to not only the Mill but to the assemblage of the many existing heritage buildings that once supported the largest copper producing mine in the British Commonwealth.

The Society is proud of the fact that it is able to earn the required revenues to operate the Museum and employ 9 full time staff and several seasonal staff. Less than 28% of the operating revenue comes from government grants or industry. The Museum is meeting its needs but is anxious to move into the next chapter of its future. In order to achieve this, the Museum must continue to focus on its strong partnerships with others.