



MEDIA CONTACT:

Belinda Crowson, Museum Educator
and Guest Curator
tel 403.320-4248 |
belinda.crowson@galtmuseum.com

EARLY YEARS OF LETHBRIDGE FEATURED IN NEW EXHIBIT

***THE GREATEST YEARS YOU NEVER KNEW* OPENS SAT APR 30 | 10-3:30 | MUSEUM COMMUNITY DAY**

Come experience the boom and bust, joy and despair of the lives of Lethbridge residents in the Galt Museum & Archives newest special exhibit, *The Greatest Years You Never Knew*, officially opening at 11:00 am Saturday, April 30 during the free admission Museum Community Day from 10-3:30 pm.

Lethbridge changed forever between 1906 and 1913. These were years of incredible population growth when many new businesses and industries made Lethbridge home. It was also a time of wild optimism as fortunes were made and, in many ways, these were the greatest years in local history and vital in shaping the Lethbridge of today.

"I jumped at the chance to be involved in an exhibit on the years 1906-1913," says Belinda Crowson, Museum Educator and guest curator for this exhibit. "These are years that changed Canada, Alberta and Lethbridge forever. I hope guests to the exhibit will have a sense of this "grand" picture of how Lethbridge changed from a coal town to a modern, cosmopolitan city."

But not everyone shared in the good times. For many people these greatest years never happened.

"Equally, though, this is a story of individuals and families, many of whom came to a new country and a new community," explains Crowson. "I hope visitors will experience how lives were changed and how these personal stories weave together to make our shared community history."

So much occurred in Lethbridge between 1906 and 1913, that to tell a full and complete story would take more space allowed by the dimensions of the Galt's special exhibit area. Only a portion of the story can be told. In the exhibit development stage public opinion was engaged through a series of surveys polling people on topics of interest and how they envisioned the exhibit to look.

Themes were then chosen based on the feedback: **Immigration, Great Successes, Great Failures and Heritage Buildings**. In-depth research revealed there were two parallel stories of Lethbridge during this time period - of **grand successes and grand failures**, of the **working class** and the elite, the experience of "preferred" immigrants and other immigrant groups and of the poor and the rich.

All of these lives inter-mixed in Lethbridge, and in some cases there were hierarchies within hierarchies based on wealth, class, nationality and status. To give visitors a sense of these "parallel" experiences there are two entrances into *The Greatest Years You Never Knew* - visitors choose the one their ancestors would have entered or the one they wish to enter themselves.

“Better yet, come visit the exhibit throughout the summer and enter through a different entrance on your next visit!” says Crowson.

Programs reflecting the theme will be offered throughout the run of the exhibit, including twice monthly family activities during **Family Summer Fun** running May through August; presentations on the first and third Wednesday monthly as part of **Wednesdays at the Galt** for seniors; **The Curator Presents...** in May; special guest speakers for **Café Galt** in June and July; and special topics for the new **Hands-On Heritage Arts Series** offered May through August. In addition, activities on Canada Day and during the Coulees & Culture summer camps will also focus on the themes of the exhibit. *The Greatest Years You Never Knew* closes September 11, 2011.

RELATED EXHIBIT

Archives Exposed... Coal Town to Boom City

How far back in time could you travel in Lethbridge and still recognize it as Lethbridge? In the 1890s Lethbridge was a company town where the buildings were wood, roads dusty and trees non-existent. By 1913, Lethbridge was a fully functioning city with a public transit system, a grand post office, several schools and citizens from around the world; many of the iconic landmarks and buildings that make Lethbridge recognizable were built.

SCHOOL PROGRAM

The Greatest Years You Never Knew exhibit-related school programs are available for the duration of the exhibit. Contact Belinda: 403.320-4248 | belinda.crowson@galtmuseum.com

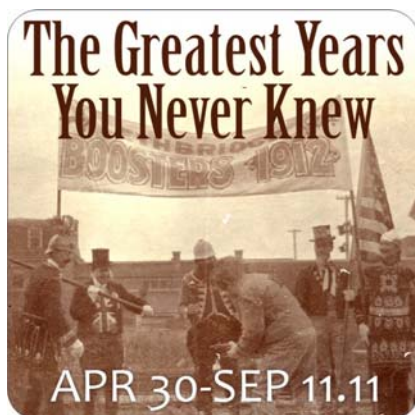
For details visit www.galtmuseum.com, call 403.320-3954, or email info@galtmuseum.com.

- 30 -

Galt Museum & Archives is located at the west end of 5 Avenue South, off Scenic Drive, Lethbridge, Alberta
Parking lot located at the north end of the building | enter through the sliding north doors
tel 403.320-3898 | info: 320-GALT | fax: 403.329-4958 | www.galtmuseum.com
MAIL 910 - 4 Avenue South, Lethbridge, Alberta T1J 0P6
HOURS TO MAY 14: *mon-sat* 10:00 am - 4:30 pm | *sun + hol* 1:00 - 4:30 pm | CLOSED Easter Sunday
MAY 14 - AUG 31: *mon-sat* 10:00 am - 5:00 pm | *sun + hol* 1:00 - 5:00 pm

EXHIBIT BACKGROUNDER

The Greatest Years You Never Knew: Lethbridge from 1906-1913



Sat APR 30 to Sun SEP 11, 2011

Lethbridge changed forever between 1906 and 1913. These were years of incredible population growth and many new businesses and industries made Lethbridge home. It was a time of wild optimism as fortunes were made. In many ways, these were the greatest years in local history and were vital in shaping the Lethbridge we know today.

But not everyone shared in the good times. For many people these greatest years never happened. Come experience the boom and bust, joy and despair of the lives of Lethbridge residents in *The Greatest Years You Never Knew*.

Guest curated by Belinda Crowson.

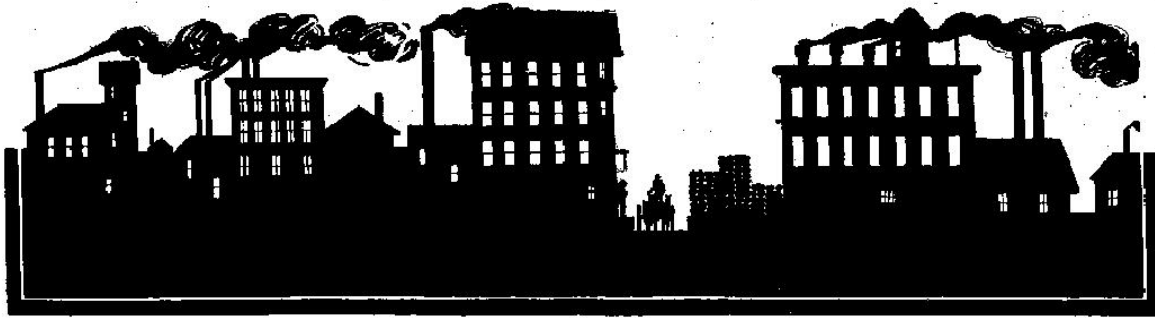
Exhibit website: www.galtmuseum.com/exhibits-greatestyears.htm

SPECIAL TOUCHES:

- Lethbridge had a zoo at Henderson Lake between 1912 and 1915. At its largest, the zoo featured three animals - two bears and an eagle. A part of the **BEAR PIT** will be recreated in the exhibit.
- A re-created **DUG-OUT** in the exhibit is based on written descriptions and designer imagination. When coal miners arrived in the 1880s some made a dug-out for a home - literally a cave-like structure dug into the side of the coulees and lined with whatever wood was available. Some were still in use in 1906-1913, but various organizations were working to remove them. Many miners were living in cottages or boarding houses by then. Dug-outs did have the advantage of being rent and tax free. No photographs of Lethbridge dug-outs are known to exist.
- Many homes of the time were built with a "parlour" or formal living room. The exhibit includes an **INTERACTIVE PARLOUR** where visitors can sit on the furniture, read a newspaper of 100 years ago, see what is for sale in the Sears & Roebuck catalogue, flip through a school reader of the time and more.
- One respondent of an exhibit development survey wanted to know about the daily life of individuals of the time. In order to provide a sense of what life was like, a series of **IDENTIFICATION CARDS** based on historical documents such as passports and naturalization certificates will be available in the exhibit. Visitors can find out how and when a person came to southern Alberta and what happened to them during this time period.
- As the Lethbridge population quadrupled during this time, many new buildings were constructed. A **CITYSCAPE** with magnetized building blocks will allow children (and the young at heart) to reconstruct downtown Lethbridge.
- Although the exhibit may be too small to tell everything, visitors to the exhibit will find **BROCHURES** throughout that provide detail about the 1906-1913 time period, such as:
 - "A Guide to Fitting in If Time Travel Was Possible" aka "A Dictionary of Terms"
 - "If There Was a Test, Date You Might Want to Know" aka "Timeline of 1906-1913"
 - "Was It Then? Or Is It Now?" - a quiz of memorable quotes
 - "The Greatest Week in Lethbridge History: The International Dry Farming Congress"
- **MUSIC** was a large part of the recreational and cultural life of Lethbridge. A partnership with the **Lethbridge Community Band Society** has select members of the band playing music from the 1906-1913 time period. This will be taped at the end of May and available in the exhibit from June through September 11.
- **COLOURING PAGES** of 12 historic buildings in Lethbridge were designed and drawn by local artists and Galt volunteer **Shanell Papp**, and are downloadable from the exhibit page at www.galtmuseum.com.

ARTIFACT LIST:

- **Black bear** - on loan from Lethbridge College - we are re-creating part of the 1912 Lethbridge Zoo
- **Bird's Eye View Painting of the City of Lethbridge**, ca. 1912 on loan from the University of Lethbridge. This 3.5' x 9' horizontal painting used to hang behind the bar at the Arlington Hotel.
- **Nelson Shield**
- **King and Queen Mother tin**
- **Coronation Medal**
- **Moustache Curler** - Gentlemen often pampered their mustaches by trimming, brushing, dyeing and even curling their mustaches up at the ends.
- **Tea caddy** - tea was so precious it was kept under lock and key
- **Viewfinder** or Claude Mirror
- **Mantel Clock**
- **Bow on Tong stamp**
- **Traditional Chinese wedding outfit**
- **Miniature Hungarian club flag**
- **Russian rug** - this hand woven rug once covered the bed shelves in "soddies" or sod houses
- **Ukrainian fife**
- **Ukrainian child's sash**
- **Dry Farming Congress Day Ticket**
- Dry Farming Congress **Pin**
- Dry Farming Congress **Pennant**
- **Embroidered City of Lethbridge Crest**
- **Lethbridge Municipal Railway Fare Box** cost for a ride in 1912 was 5 cents
- **Mayor's Chair** (Mayor Hatch, 1912)
- **Lethbridge Municipal Railway Steam Whistle**
- **Ellison Mill Flour Barrel**
- **Geophone**
- **Alberta's Pride Sign**
- **Painting:** "Visitors Day July 1909 Lethbridge Dominion Experimental Station" by Irene McCaugherty
- **Cleaver**
- **Ball-peen hammer**
- **R.N.W.M.P. Collar Badge**
- **Handcuffs** or "Persuaders"
- **Wicker laundry basket**
- **Laundry agitator**
- **Souvenir teaspoon**
- **Political pin**
- **The Three Little Kittens Book**
- **Doily**
- **Glove Stretcher**
- **Globe**
- **Fruit Bowl**
- **Flower vase**
- **Candlestick**
- **Phonograph**
- **Bonbon dish**
- **Deck of playing cards**
- **Woman's handkerchief**
- **Dominoes**
- **Needlework pattern**
- **Stereoscope and stereoview**
- **Cane** (once owned by Dr. Peter Campbell)
- **Alexandra Readers**
- **Christmas and New Years' Cards** (replicas)
- **Sears & Roebuck Catalogue** (replica sheets)
- **Tea cart**
- **Hall table**
- **Touchable objects** in the Parlour



The Industrial Development of
LETHBRIDGE
 Is Absolutely Certain

If this applied to the resources of the great adjoining wheat belt only, it would make Lethbridge a city of 50,000 people.
 But there is coal in almost unlimited quantities here—there is a sugar beet country to the south and there is a coal and mineral district to the west, all of which is really only scratched as yet.

Lethbridge is the practical distributing point for all this district rich in almost everything that Nature has provided for the human race.

This city has a future undisputed—it cannot help but grow and real estate increase in value correspondingly.

The opportunity to buy lots in **ROSEDALE**—the close addition adjoining the new big city park won't last long at the present rate of selling and when once gone will never come again.

Act therefore now—get your Rosedale lot tonight or else tomorrow before it is too late.

Prices \$115.00 upwards; terms of \$10.00 per month—no interest and no taxes.

LONNQUIST-SHARP CO.

ROOMS 11 AND 12 SOUTHARD BLOCK

REDPAIR STREET

OPEN EVERY EVENING

Lethbridge Herald ad, 25 Feb 1910

IMMIGRATION

PREFERRED IMMIGRANTS - WHITE, ANGLO-SAXON AND PROTESTANT The Canadian government needed immigrants to help the country grow - to work on farms and in factories and build the economy. But they preferred immigrants who were white, Anglo-Saxon and Protestant and shared British/Canadian values. The government ranked immigrants based on how well it was thought they could become Canadian.

British immigrants were considered perfect immigrants who understood the culture and language and reinforced the link to the Empire. Americans were also encouraged as they shared similar values and many already knew how to survive as homesteaders. Western Europeans were also preferred immigrants as they shared a similar history and culture with Britain.

The government considered Eastern and Southern Europeans "acceptable" as long as they knew their place and were willing to become farmers or labourers, as necessary. Visible minorities were considered "not acceptable" or "not preferred" and were discouraged or barred from immigrating. These groups faced racism and discrimination in Canada.

In Lethbridge, British and American immigrants, along with Eastern Canadians who moved west, formed the elite of early Lethbridge society. There were hierarchies within hierarchies (based on wealth, class, nationality and status) even within these groups but generally white, Anglo-Saxon Protestants dominated the educational, legal and medical fields and owned many of the early businesses.

UNSUITABLE FOR CANADA This section of the exhibit looks at how the 1910 Immigration Act, allowing the Federal Government to prohibit immigrants “belonging to any race deemed unsuitable to the climate and requirements of Canada,” impacted Lethbridge.

Chinese, Japanese, East Indian and African American immigrants were considered “unsuitable” and faced racism and occasional violence. Despite the challenges, these groups came to southern Alberta, some looking for a better life, some hoping to make it rich so they could go home to their villages as wealthy men.

The Chinese arrived in the 1890s to work on the Crowsnest Railway and stayed to work in laundries, restaurants and market gardens.

The first Japanese came to the area to work in the sugar beet fields and coal mines in the early 1900s. The sugar beet industry required a lot of labour and the Japanese were one of many groups brought to southern Alberta specifically for that industry.

African American immigrants started to arrive in southern Alberta in the late 1800s.

Lethbridge’s coal industry and the need for miners meant that immigrants from coal areas around the world moved to Lethbridge. Eastern and Southern Europeans were officially permitted by the federal government who considered them acceptable as labourers and farmers. They often found work in the coal mines in Lethbridge and area and were blamed for the labour and social unrest in the industry.

These groups were often disliked by Anglo-Canadians who considered them a threat to the Canadian way of life and believed it would be many years (if ever) before these groups would assimilate and adopt true British values. People calling for tolerance were rare and usually ignored. Despite the hardships and prejudice, many families survived and thrived in southern Alberta. Many of their descendants still call southern Alberta home.

GRAND SUCCESSES

Many residents believed Lethbridge had a great future as the Pittsburgh of Canada. Lethbridge would be an industrial metropolis surrounded by farms and farmers all looking to Lethbridge to buy their supplies and materials, especially coal. To create this bright future, businesses were encouraged, grand boulevards designed, and many new buildings constructed. Boosters (promoters) sold the benefits and successes of Lethbridge near and far.

Dry Farming Congress Lethbridge shone on an international stage during the 1912 Dry Farming Congress. From October 19-26, Lethbridge hosted the world as the city of 8,000 housed and entertained 5,000 visitors from 15 countries. Newly constructed buildings at the Lethbridge Exhibition showcased pavilions and displays for the “World’s Greatest Gathering of Agricultural Experts and Farmers”. Locals and visitors were entertained and educated through lectures, tours, exhibits and contests.

Becoming A City In May 1906 Lethbridge became a city. A January 1906 *Lethbridge Herald* editorial sang the benefits of becoming a city - it would add prestige to Lethbridge and convince outsiders that Lethbridge was growing. Lethbridge, the editorial continued, presently outshone every other town in Alberta but had outgrown its town clothes. Lethbridge “is big enough and is sufficiently certain of its future growth to don the garb of a city and strut about in the company of Calgary and Edmonton.”

Henderson Lake Lethbridge needed a park worthy of the growing community and to impress visitors to the Dry Farming Congress. Slaughterhouse Slough, a natural depression east of Lethbridge, was transformed into Henderson Lake. The slough was dammed and enlarged and shorelines leveled. Trees were planted over the next several years and a pavilion, boathouse and bridge built. A zoo was constructed housing only three animals (two bears and an eagle) and closed in 1915. Slaughterhouse Slough had gained its name from its location near the P. Burns & Company

meat packing plant. Henderson Lake was named after Mayor William Henderson who passed away in 1909, the only Lethbridge mayor to die while in office.

Streetcar System The Lethbridge Municipal Railway was started when Mayor George Hatch opened the first 17 km (11 miles) of track on 16 August 1912. The city purchased five double track streetcars and five smaller single track cars, each amber and cream in colour. The official opening coincided with the annual fair at the Exhibition Grounds near Henderson Lake Park. On an early trip - with streetcars half way to the fairgrounds - a generator burned out and brought the entire system to a halt. Fortunately, CPR trains were able to take over and transport revelers to and from the fair every half hour. Streetcars remained part of the landscape of Lethbridge until 1947.

Growth of the Community After becoming a city in 1906, Lethbridge entered a period of rapid growth. In 1910 Lethbridge's population growth - 342% in 3 years - was highest in Western Canada. Immigration, land rushes and rapid settlement led to a real estate boom. Subdivisions were formed, parks built, sewers dug, streets paved and many more projects undertaken. Many people were convinced that continued large-scale growth was guaranteed far into the future and that Lethbridge would out-compete all other prairie cities. The City of Lethbridge encouraged industries to come to Lethbridge and many new businesses started in the community.

Research Station Lethbridge today is home to Canada's largest federal research facility which employs 400 staff including 80 research scientists. This grand enterprise had its beginning in 1906 when the Government of Canada started the Dominion Experimental Farm with William Fairfield as the First Director. One purpose of the Experimental farm was to show new farmers techniques to succeed in the area and to showcase what could be accomplished.

GRAND FAILURES

Not everyone benefitted equally during these years. Open discrimination and prejudice kept many groups from the opportunities of the time. Union organizers struggled to ensure that workers had safe working conditions and that economic growth benefitted all. Voting and civic involvement were limited by property owning clauses. And expensive building projects and expansion caused debt and financial problems. Some of the issues were apparent at the time and some people raised the occasional objection but were mostly ignored. Some of the failures were only obvious with hindsight.

1911-1916 Bylaw In 1910 the City of Lethbridge passed By-Law 83: "A By-law Respecting the Erection and Removal of Buildings, Fire Limits and Prevention of Fires...". It was best remembered for forcing all laundries to be located within a specific area. The true nature of the by-law became clear when all laundries, except the one owned by white residents, was forced to move into the area. The By-Law was repealed in 1916 but by this time Chinese businesses and residents had moved to the area that became known as Chinatown. Chinatown developed a strong sense of community which remained until the 1930s.

Christmas Day Riot Lethbridge's Christmas Day Riot of 1907 provided considerable information about ethnic relations in Lethbridge. The details were clouded as there were two distinct written versions and many legends and rumours. The *Lethbridge Herald* reported that Jim Lee and John Lee committed assault and bodily harm to Harry Smith during a disagreement in a restaurant, were both charged and found guilty. An anonymous account written by an "Old Timer" told a different story. In this version, Smoky Lee and Irish made a nuisance of themselves in Mah Wong's Restaurant, made apologies and reparations.

Debt Between 1906 and 1913 the City undertook many expensive building initiatives - the streetcar system, sewers, sidewalks, Henderson Park, the Exhibition and more. The City government went into debt to pay for all of these new initiatives. To encourage business and industry to move to Lethbridge, the City provided tax exemptions and other incentives. So many exemptions were provided that by 1913, 1/3 of assessed city property was tax exempt. This eroded tax base and debt put Lethbridge into a very difficult financial position when the real estate boom burst in 1913 and the economy suffered setbacks.

White Only Hiring | Racism People complained that immigrants were taking jobs away from Canadians. Discriminatory hiring practices were used by many businesses and industries. In January 1909 Lethbridge City Council ordered its engineers to employ English-speaking workers in preference to "foreigners." Some businesses, often hotels, restaurants and cafes, promoted that they only hired "white help." One restaurant, White Man's Café, expressed its hiring policy in the name of the business.

HERITAGE BUILDINGS - THOSE WE'VE LOST

During Lethbridge's 1906-1913 building boom many grand new buildings were constructed. Some remain. Many have been lost - torn down, lost to fire or otherwise destroyed. These include:



YMCA In five days in March 1910, \$57,000 was raised towards the YMCA building constructed at 10 Street and 4 Avenue South. It was torn down in the 1960s.



Central School The second Central School opened in 1909. It was turned over to the City in 1971 and used briefly as a youth hostel until torn down in 1972 and the downtown Lethbridge Public Library was built on the location.



Fleetwood School Thanksgiving Day 1911 in Lethbridge focused on the opening of Fleetwood School at 1200 9 Avenue South. Fleetwood School was closed in 1971 and torn down that year.



Canadian Bank of Commerce In 1910 the Canadian Bank of Commerce opened an impressive building with Corinthian columns at 216 5 Street South. The building was later used by Alberta Treasury Branch until it was torn down.



Lethbridge Exhibition Grounds Pavilion

The pavilion was built for the 1912 Dry Farming Congress and lost to fire in 1925.



Westminster School opened in the “North Ward” in 1906 and underwent additions in 1909 and 1928. When the building was demolished in 1968/69, a portion of the school was moved and included in renovation to Immanuel Christian High School.



Fire Hall No. 2 In 1909 the “North Ward” received a fire station when Fire Hall No 2 was built at 128 13 Street North. The building was demolished in the early 1970s.



Sherlock Building In 1909 the Sherlock Building was constructed to grace the corner of 3rd Avenue and 7th Street South. Later additions made the building 5 storeys tall, the tallest building in Lethbridge at the time. The building was torn down in 1982.

HERITAGE BUILDINGS - A LEGACY

During exhibit preparation, people were invited to share stories and memories of Lethbridge’s iconic structures built between 1906 and 1913 - including the Post Office, Galt Hospital, High Level Bridge and many others. These are the most tangible legacy of this boom period, remaining as a testimony to the people who built the community.

They are equally important to today’s residents, providing a tangible link to our past, providing us with a sense of time and place that creates our identity as citizens. They evoke memories and a sense of pride in the people who live here, and are an irreplaceable part of our collective history and community identity. Four buildings are featured:



Wesley Church | Southminster United



Manual Training School | Bowman School |
Bowman Arts Centre

Also described:

Conservatory of Music | Spudnut Shop | Crazy
Cakes and St. Augustine's Anglican Church

For additional information, to arrange for interviews or to receive high resolution images
please contact **Anine Vonkeman**, Marketing/Communications Officer
403.320-4009 | 1.866-320-3898 ext 7 | anine.vonkeman@galtmuseum.com

www.galtmuseum.com

EXHIBIT RELATED PROGRAMS

MEDIA CONTACT: Leslie Hall,
Community Programs Coordinator
tel 403.320-4700 | leslie.hall@galtmuseum.com

Museum Community Day

Sat APR 30 | 10:00 am to 3:30 pm

You are cordially invited to the Grand Opening Ceremony, and to enjoy activities throughout the day for all ages including school yard games, food, and period music. Dress in period costume to be eligible to win prizes! Free admission and activities throughout the day:

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

10:00 - 4:00 pm

Hey kids! Try your hand at school yard games from 100 years ago such as hot potato, marbles, and more. Experiment with old-fashioned pens and ink and make your own Edwardian paper doll.

11:00 am

EXHIBIT GRAND OPENING

PRESENTATIONS: BRIEF HISTORIES OF LETHBRIDGE

12:30 | 2:00 pm **Lethbridge Correctional Institute History** with Shane Hoiland (20 min)

1:00 | 2:30 pm **Lethbridge Fire Department History** with Dana Terry (20 min)

1:30 | 3:00 pm **History of Lethbridge Exhibition Park** with Rudy Friesen (20 min)

FILM SCREENINGS

11:30 pm **Meet Me in St. Louis**, 1944 (113 min) Vincente Minnelli's first color film is a captivating evocation of family life in St. Louis at the time of the 1903 World's Fair. Judy sings "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas," "The Trolley Song," and the title tune in this crowd favourite.

1:30 pm **The Birth of A Nation**, 1915 (185 min) Two brothers, Phil and Ted Stoneman, visit their friends in Piedmont, South Carolina: the family Cameron. This friendship is affected by the Civil War, as the Stonemans and the Camerons must join up opposite armies. The consequences of the War in their lives are shown in connection to major historical events, like the development of the Civil War itself, Lincoln's assassination, and the birth of the Ku Klux Klan.

ADULT PROGRAMS

Café Galt

doors open for exhibit viewing 1 hour prior to program / *admission rates apply* / *free for annual pass holders* | *registration not required* / *refreshments*

Explore and discuss current exhibits and ideas through film screenings, lectures and other unique experiences.

Sun JUNE 05 | 2:00 pm **Once Upon a Wedding** Author Nancy Millar shares stories from her book *Once Upon a Wedding*. Learn about wedding dresses, the west's first society weddings, mail order brides, horrible honeymoon trips, picture brides and grooms, and some special stories from weddings in Lethbridge during the 1906-1913 period featured in our special exhibit.

Thu AUG 25 | 7:00 pm **Pattern as Powerful Imagery** Award winning textile design artist Lee Bale uncovers the nature of pattern as power in a contemporary context using mathematical, scientific, visual and material culture models, such as the Pattern Painting movement, the Art Quilt movement, Andy Warhol and the Philadelphia Fabric Workshop.

Curator Presents... *An Exhibit By Any Other Name*

Wed MAY 18 | 7:00 pm | 6:00 pm doors open for exhibit viewing | *admission rates apply | free for annual pass holders | refreshments*

So much happened in Lethbridge and southern Alberta between 1906 and 1913, how do you contain it all within one exhibit? What choices and decisions had to be made? What historic events and people were ignored? Which staff almost cried when their favourites hit the cutting room floor? Guest Curator **Belinda Crowson** guides you through a humorous exploration of the process of developing this exhibition. And find out why it was almost called either "A City of Potentialities" or "A Pennsylvania Under Prairie Farms".

NEW Heritage Arts Workshops

9:00 am - 4:00 pm *cost includes supplies unless otherwise noted | must pre-register | MIN. registration required to run program | please bring a bag lunch | no experience required unless otherwise noted*

Hands-on day and weekend long workshops for adults exploring arts with cultural and historical significance.

Sat-Sun MAY 28-29 **Blackfoot Style Moccasins** Make your own pair of authentic brain-tanned elk or deer hide Blackfoot-style moccasins. Experience Blackfoot culture and history with **Winston Wadsworth Jr.** as you learn to bead your moccasins and sew them together. *Cost: \$150 for non-members, \$125 for members. Max. 25 participants.*

Sat JUN 04 **Leather Tooling** Saddlery expert **Vickie Keam** from REM Saddlery will teach you all about leather tooling. Make a belt, and choose a second project: iPhone case, cell phone case, dog-collar & leash, take-out cup, guitar strap. *Cost: \$65 non-members, \$50 members. Max. 30 participants.*

Sat-Sun JUL 30-31 **Felting with Marjolein Dallinga** Go on an adventure to sense the specific qualities and wonders of felt in this discovery workshop with international felting expert **Marjolein Dallinga** [bloomfelt.com]. Some felting experience is required. *Cost: \$250 for non-members, \$225 members. Max 12 participants.*

Sat-Sun AUG 13-14 **Spinning and Dyeing** Self-professed "fibreholics" **Connie and Dave Carlson** will teach techniques including thigh spinning, how to use a hand-made drop spindle, and dyeing wool using old-fashioned and modern techniques. You'll take home enough *roving* (unspun wool) or spun wool to make a scarf, toque or pair of mitts. *Cost: \$125 for non-members, \$100 for members. Max 40 participants.*

PLUS! Heritage Arts for All Ages

all ages welcome | parents required to attend with children

Sat JUN 25 | 1:00-4:00 pm **Blackfoot Style Hand-Drum** Learn about Blackfoot history and culture from **Travis Plaited Hair** from the Sik-Ooh-Kotoki Friendship Centre as you make, and learn to play, a 9" hand-drum. *Cost per drum: \$65 non-members, \$50 members. Price is per drum; please indicate at registration how many people will attend and how many drums you will need. Max. 30 participants.*

FAMILY PROGRAMS

Summer Family Fun

MAY 07 - AUG 28 | 1:00 - 2:00 pm | *weekly family program [adults required to attend with children] | admission rates apply | free for annual pass holders | registration not required*

Saturdays at 1:00 takes a summer break for this in-depth interactive program for families with children of all ages.

Sat MAY 07 | 1:00-3:00 pm **Weaving Fun** Explore the basics of woven materials and learn about different weaving methods brought to you by the Lethbridge Handicraft Guild of Weavers.

- Sat MAY 21 | 1:00-3:00 pm **Kites and Crashes** Play **Fly or Flop** - the aviation-themed game show where you decide if the weird, wacky, wonderful flying machines were fantastic flops or flyers. Learn about Alexander Graham Bell and his experiments with kites then make your own to take home. *Video-conference program from the Reynolds Alberta Museum*
- Fri JUN 17 | 1:00-3:00 pm **Tipi Program** Learn about the Blackfoot-style tipi with Travis Plaited Hair from the Sik-Ooh-Kotoki Friendship Centre and help set one up.
- Fri JUN 24 | 2:00-4:00 pm **The Flower Beadwork People** Roy Pogorzelski from Aboriginal Council of Lethbridge will talk about Métis people as the Flower Beadwork People, the join Tara Johnson for a Métis craft.
- Thu JUL 14 | 1:00-3:00 pm **Saskatoon Berry Pies** Put on your chef hats! Using a historic pie-crust recipe, you will make a delicious pie to bake and share at home.
- Sat JUL 16 | 1:00-3:00 pm **Highland Dancing** Jessica Robinson from the Highwood Highland Dancers will teach basic movements and steps including the Highland Fling, and sword dance, and the history behind the dances.
- Wed AUG 10 | 1:00-3:00 pm **Felted Snakes & Bracelets** Learn the historic art of felting as you make a bendy snake, or other beautiful object. *Supplies provided by anonymous donor.*
- Sun AUG 28 | 2:00-4:00 pm **Black and Blue** Dip into the indigo dye, design a square, catch the breeze and send a pinwheel spinning. All ages are invited to join artist Lee Bale and the Textile Surface Design Guild.

Fri July 01 | 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Canada Day

Celebrate Canada Day with old-fashioned crafts, games, and a special exhibit treasure hunt. *Programs run to 4:00 pm, museum open to 5:00 pm.*

JUL 25-29 | AUG 08-12 | daily 8:30-4:30 | ages 6-9

Summer Coulees & Cultures

\$125 per child/week | min. 10, max. 15 participants | Register at SAAG: 403.327-8770 ext. 21 or email dfarstad@saag.ca

Discover Lethbridge's cultural, historical and natural treasures as you explore a new site each day, including: Southern Alberta Art Gallery, Helen Schuler Nature Centre, Galt Museum & Archives, New West Theatre and a new partner [tba].

SENIORS PROGRAMS

Wednesdays at the Galt

MAY 04-AUG 17: first & third Wednesdays monthly | 2:00 - 3:00 pm | *admission rates apply | free for annual pass holders | registration not required | includes refreshments, exhibit access*

From hands-on learning to lectures by special guests, behind-the-scenes tours and tutorials, historical anecdotes to contemporary conundrums for ages 55+

MAY 04 **Hand Painted Photographs: Where Art Embraces Photography** A hands-on presentation of a unique art form: black and white photos painted with photographic oils. Terry Dartnell specializes in portraits, old family photos, and scenery.

MAY 18 **Learn Digital Photography** Local photographer and teacher Mike Paterson explains the basics of camera types, ISO, white balance and more so you can take better photos.

JUN 01 **1912 Titanic Films** Larry Robinson presents two short original films from 1912 about the RMS Titanic and her sister ship RMS Olympic, including Titanic survivors footage.

JUN 15 **Getting Started on Your Family History** Learn how to get started researching your family history from experts from the Family History Center in Lethbridge.

- JUL 06 **Gossiping About THOSE Women** In a world wracked by reports of syphilis and attempts to legalize prostitution, discover the true history of the local Red Light District from Lethbridge Historical Society author, **Belinda Crowson**, on her book *We Don't Talk About Those Women: Lethbridge's Red Light District 1880s to 1944*.
- JUL 20 **Alexander Galt: The Stubborn Idealist** This 1962 National Film Board film gives a sense of the personal clashes, and the interplay of political ambitions, that left their mark on history.
- AUG 03 **Downtown Lethbridge Tour** A walking tour to learn about historic buildings, works of art and murals, hear stories of people who lived and worked in the area, and discover ghost signs that give a presence to companies long gone. *Please wear sturdy shoes and dress for the weather.*
- AUG 17 **Learn Crochet Basics** Barbara Merkler will teach techniques for making squares for afghans, doilies as seen in our special exhibit, and more. Use the yarn and hooks provided or bring along your own.

CURRENT AND UPCOMING EXHIBITS

MEDIA CONTACT: Wendy Aitkens, Curator
tel 403.320-3907 | wendy.aitkens@galtmuseum.com

through NOV 2011

Spirit and Passion

Lethbridge hosts the nation for the 1975 Canada Winter Games.

MAY 04 - OCT 30, 2011

Picturing Childhood

Lower Level Gallery

For generations, Blackfoot families were torn apart when children were sent to live in Residential Schools. This photo project with OpoKaa'sin Early Intervention Society explores how this history affects Blackfoot families today.

MAY - OCT 2011

Saving Lives: at work, home and play

Main Level Special Case

A history of St. John Ambulance St. John Ambulance volunteers provide valuable services as first aid responders at major events and medical and emergency care teachers.

JUN 13 - SEP 30, 2011

Greg Ellis

Archives Reference Room

By mid-year Archivist Greg Ellis will permanently depart Lethbridge to pursue his future with his family in Peru. His passion, vision and critical action over 30 years impact not just our community's understanding of the past, but will shape and guide its understanding of Lethbridge and region well into the future.

JUN 15 - SEP 15, 2011

Alberta in a Box: Wide Open

Main Level Special Case

50 miniature pottery pieces, created by emerging and established Alberta Potters Association (APA) members, are included in this juried exhibit. Each fits into a 6 in³ box. *The APA, founded in 1968, provides exhibition opportunities for its members and workshops for new and experienced artists who create with clay.*

Fri SEP 30 - Sat OCT 01 | 10:00 am - 4:30 pm; Sun OCT 02 | 1:00 - 4:30 pm

3 Dimensions ArtWalk Sculpture Show

In conjunction with the Lethbridge wide Arts Days and ArtWalk

Artists from Southwestern Alberta will be invited to submit their proposals by SEP 02 for this 4th annual exhibit of three-dimensional artwork. Artist demonstrations will run concurrently with the exhibit.

OCT 01 - JAN 08, 2012

Toys & Games



Toys and games have always motivated us to play. Monopoly was introduced in the 1930s and, in its many versions, is still popular. The jump rope has been around even longer and now appears as a computer activity. What is it about these toys and games that has helped to maintain their popularity over generations?

We play for fun but as we play we also acquire skills - in Monopoly we are entertained as we learn about business and financial strategies; our physical coordination and mental dexterity is improved when we skip and sing jumping rhymes. What did our grandparents learn with their play that is similar and different from what we learn now?

With toys and games from our Collections and from the community, we will explore what was and is special and why. Visitors will have a chance to tell us which is their favourite toy as they investigate the exhibit.

Developed by the Galt Museum & Archives

JAN 21 - APR 22, 2012

Earth's Climate in the Balance



Climate through Geologic Time, 4.6 Billion Years of Change... What's Next?

- What makes climate on Earth
- The tools used in studying past climates and climate change
- How climate has changed over 4 billion years of Earth history
- The influence of life on Earth's atmosphere and climate
- How climate has changed over recorded human history
- The scientific basis of global warming over the past several decades
- The current extinction crises, perhaps the "sixth" greatest extinction in the history of life
- Interactive displays on how each one of us can affect the future of the Earth

A travelling exhibit developed and circulated by Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre