



# **FRIENDS OF BARKERVILLE CARIBOO GOLDFIELDS HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER**

**VOL. 20 ISSUE 1**

**"CARIBOO WAGON ROAD AT STANLEY"**

**Spring/Fall 2020**



**"PRESERVE, PROTECT, PROMOTE"**

**"THESE OLD BUILDINGS DO NOT BELONG TO US ONLY; THAT  
THEY HAVE BELONGED TO OUR FOREFATHERS, AND THEY  
WILL BELONG TO OUR DESCENDANTS,"**

**William Morris**



## FRIENDS OF BARKERVILLE-CARIBOO GOLDFIELDS



### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:**

**PRESIDENT:** Hildur Sinclair

**VICE PRESIDENT:** Grant Johannesen

**SECRETARY:** Doug Perdue

**TREASURER:** Tony McDonald

### **OTHER DIRECTORS:**

Robin Grady

Lana Fox

Richard Wright

Cameron Graham

### **DIRECTORS MEETINGS:**

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Directors meetings are dinner meetings and usually held the first Wednesday of each month at 5:30 pm at Savalas Restaurant. We do hold two of the meetings about June and September in the town of Barkerville in the new school building. Members and or the Public can attend these meetings if they like but, cannot vote unless it is at the AGM meeting itself. You can however express your input of suggestions or ideas.

### **NEWSLETTER CREDITS:**

The contributor is the editor unless otherwise noted. All persons with submission of articles and photos will be given full credit. Please feel free to send in your items of interest which further helps the newsletter to continue.

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

The Friends of Barkerville – Cariboo Goldfields Historical Society mailing address is P.O. Box 4152, Quesnel, BC, V2J 3J2. Our email address is: [friendsofbarkerville@barkerville.ca](mailto:friendsofbarkerville@barkerville.ca) and website is [www.friendsofbarkerville.ca](http://www.friendsofbarkerville.ca)

Watch for notifications posted for newsletters, and upcoming announcements of hikes and work bees or special events happening at Barkerville. They can always use extra hands during these times. We are always in need of volunteers. Any help is very much appreciated.

**POSITIONS:** are good for a one-year term at which time there will be another election of officers at the AGM meeting in October.

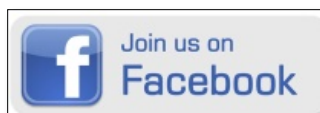
**COMMITTEE POSITIONS:** membership, special projects, trails, cemetery projects, newsletter, website.

**MEMBERSHIP** is from May 1<sup>st</sup> and ends April 30<sup>th</sup> of the following year. You are entitled to a 20% discount upon arriving at the entrance to Barkerville.

**WHO WE ARE:** We are a registered non-profit organization comprised of dedicated volunteers. Our main focus is to enhance the preservation, protection and promotion as it applies to Barkerville and the Historic Cariboo Goldfields area.

**\*MEMBERSHIP Contact:** Lana Fox

**\*NEWSLETTER Contact:** Direct submission of articles to Lana Fox (FOB email address)



## BHT REPORT FOR NOV.17,2020 FOB – CGHS AGM



*This past year has been one of changes and challenges that we have never seen before.*

This is not necessarily a bad thing. It made everyone pause and take a hard look at things. Many staff changes occurred. Ed Coleman, CEO, retired from his position in June. He continued to oversee the Forest Fuel Management project and financial negotiations until the end of September. He met and communicated with the Heritage Branch, in consultation with MNP and the local municipal task force, involving Quesnel Mayor, Bob Simpson & Prince George Mayor, Lynn Hall. Dawn Leroy, General Manager, resigned at the end of March to take a private consulting position. Dianne Nysven from the financial section & Anne Laing of the curatorial section left their positions.

Long time BHT Directors John Massier and Walt Cobb stepped down from the BHT Board of Directors as Past Chair & Vice Chair, respectively. Chris Hyde stepped down from the BHT Board of Directors, leaving the Treasurer's position. Kate Cox was hired as the new CEO in April, in the midst of the Corona Virus pandemic and was faced with potential flooding at Barkerville and Cottonwood House. Carrie Chard is the Operations & Protection Services Manager. Jillian Merrick is the Preservation & Protection Manager. Ksenya Dowart was hired as the Commerce Manager in January 2020. Ryan Adams was hired in August as the Finance, Projects, & H.R. Manager. Rocky Nenka is the Commerce Lead. James Douglas is the Public Programming & Global Media Development Lead. Mandy Kilsby is the Curator. Lynette Candy is running Cottonwood House site. Iona Campagnolo is stepping down as the Honorary Patron this fall.

### *The BHT Board of Directors consists of:*

Kirstin Clausen – Chair  
Roger Solly – Treasurer  
Les Waldie – Director  
Richard Liu – Director  
Kirk Gable – Director  
Gabe Fourchalk – Director



Miriam Schilling – Vice Chair  
Grant Johannesen - Secretary  
Rob Rummel – Director  
Chris Lodder – Director  
Craig Smith – Director  
Glen Thielmann - Director

Al Richmond – Director (newest Director replacing John Massier).

Iona Campagnolo and Chris Hyde's positions will need to be filled.

The BHT Directors met in Burnaby in February for their quarterly meeting. This was the first time they met outside of the Cariboo. We have been holding quarterly meetings via "Zoom" and Executive biweekly meetings are held via conference call.

The AGM meeting was postponed from June to November or December.

Large expenses incurred this past season along with low attendance due to COVID19 resulted in Barkerville being in a deficit situation.

Some of the major expenses were for: Dykes built this past spring in Barkerville & Cottonwood House to prevent flooding from record snowfall.



Cleaning supplies, plexiglass, cleaning staff, & cleaning processes/protocols. (A Corona Virus plan was approved by BC/Northern Health & WorkSafe BC allowing Barkerville & Cottonwood House to open and operate. No more than 200 persons allowed on site at any one time). Rodent control measures taken as a result of Merchant's stored food supplies being damaged. The Tin Shop had to be reset on its foundation after snow from an adjacent building, knocked it off its foundation. Appliances were purchased for Cottonwood House. Electrical surges in winter caused disruption & downtime resulting in time loss and repairs. The forecast is for record snowfall in Barkerville and Cariboo Mtn Watershed again this winter. Snow removal is going from in house to contract.

Virtual interpretation presentations were very successful in the spring with the school programming. This is continuing in the fall and next spring. Street Interpreters studied and rehearsed, presenting one on one historic vignettes to individuals or small, same family groups. This received positive feedback as a unique experience and interesting history about Barkerville and area that people were unaware of.

The public also missed the wagon rides, Theatre Royal, Water Wheel show, & a couple shops/stores that did not open. The sale of FOB-CGHS memberships was suspended due to the public purchasing memberships at a lesser rate, avoiding paying higher individual rates for day passes into Barkerville town site.



***Friends of Barkerville – Cariboo Goldfields Historical Society*** (FOB-CGHS) is presently restructuring how it will sell memberships. We are going to continue selling memberships for the upcoming year at a rate of \$20.00 for individuals and \$30.00 for couples or families. Rather than the purchase of a membership entitling them to a season pass to Barkerville, they will get 20% off their Barkerville admission ticket price, 10% off at Troll Resort and possibly some more perks.

B&B's, Cottages, & the town site had reduced attendance/occupancy numbers forced upon them by COVID rule restrictions. It was also a rainy, wet year with fewer people travelling and borders being closed.

The shoulder season is opening for activities such as a spooky Halloween, followed by Victorian Christmas. The cafe in the Visitor Reception Centre & the tube run may open for Activities season. Hopefully it will be a good winter and people will want to get outside & participate in outdoor recreation at Barkerville, Troll Ski Resort, Wells, or Bowron Lake. Enjoying skiing, snowshoeing, snowmobiling, photography, or just walking the streets of Barkerville or Wells. The Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS) was applied for and received this year for staff and helped with wage costs. This may not be available next year.

The campsites were utilized and were a success story this year with campers/visitors. It is my pleasure and privilege to represent FOB-CGHS on the BHT Board of Directors. I am looking forward to my 3-year term with enthusiasm. I hope for brighter, healthier days ahead, so the public can come and take a look back in time, to days when things were just as difficult or more difficult in many ways, than now.

***-Respectfully submitted, Grant Johannesen***



***The Friends of Barkerville*** held their annual general meeting at Troll Ski Hill on November 17<sup>th</sup>, following Covid-19 regulations. Lots of space and a lovely setting for a meeting. A big thank you goes out to Hildur Sinclair owner/operator for allowing this to happen. Our existing Board has stayed the same and will be continuing by acclamation.

Executive and Directors are: Hildur Sinclair,

President; Grant Johannesen Vice President; Doug Perdue, Secretary; Tony MacDonald, Treasurer; Directors are: Robin Grady; Lana Fox; Cam Graham; Richard Wright.

Katie MacDonald, Kelsey Schmode and two others went for a three-day hike on the *1861 Gold Rush Pack Trail* this past summer. They made a presentation to the FOB-CGHS on Nov. 17<sup>th</sup>, sharing photos and information on the condition of the trail where potential improvements are needed. Some concerns they identified and mentioned were a lack of signage in a few places that made it difficult to stay on track and lots of blowdown trees between 16 and 24km. There is a new mining road at 12km which then seemed to cause confusion to follow the trail. A better GPS track would also be helpful. We are grateful for them letting us know the condition and we can now assess and make plans for improvements in the near future.



Some work was started on the historic Cariboo Wagon Road from Stanley to Summit Rock over the summer. The old road is in very poor condition and it would be a shame for it to totally fall to ruin and never be used again. Much work is yet to be done and money will be needed to restore it to a condition that will be enjoyable for everyone, hikers and bikers etc. This would benefit all in the area, Wells/Barkerville and something for tourists to walk or ride in the foot steps of the early goldrush mining days.

FOB recently donated \$20,000 to Barkerville Historic Town that is being used towards headboard replacement for the Barkerville Cemetery. Many are very weather worn and un-readable. We are also working on a "Not for Profit Charitable status application" and hope to have sometime in the New Year. We plan on fundraising for trails and/or Barkerville projects that come up etc. Anyone making donations to the Friends would be issued a tax receipt. There is a need for developing a brochure about FOB. So, you see we have a number of projects on the go or about to be. If any of you are willing to volunteer your help on trail work, that would help us out tremendously, can be fun and rewarding. With people being shut in over the winter I am sure by spring time everyone would appreciate getting back to the great outdoors!



Lana Fox

***This year's winners of the Friends of Barkerville  
Scholarship Awards "In Memory of Jerry MacDonald"***

were won by Kira Wright and Christopher Henderson. Each will receive \$500. The following is ***Kira Wright*** submission.



August 17, 1862

My dear Lijuan,

Today, a man claimed he found two kilograms of gold in the mines. Not only that my dear, he found it within only a few hours! My love, this is what we have been praying for! I shall soon be able to return home to you and the children. I will have found enough that they will have an abundance after you and I have long left this earth!

It will not be long now. If this Mr. Barker can haul that amount, well I don't think we have any less luck. I have given my resignation to Li and only have to finish the week at the store. Do not worry my love, I have already sent in my application to the mines this morning. To put it gently should you read this to the children, a man could no longer make it to work, so they were excited to bring in a new recruit.

In other news, I have included my earnings from last month for your living. Please forgive the thin envelope, Li has gotten greedy lately. And I know you would like me to stand up and fight but I cannot help but remember his dear children back home, his wife has only just passed. I cannot find the heart to get defensive to a man doing as I am. Regardless, the next envelope will be larger, I promise.

Alright my love, please give the kids a hug for me. Be sure to tell them the good news. It shall reassure them that their father will be home soon. Please don't let yourself be worried for me; all will be better soon.

All my love,

Liu Wei



December 21, 1862

Loveliest Lijuan,

I hope all is well there. Your recent letters were so full of worry, and I must ask you to relax. It is not good for a woman to push herself the way you have been. I am grateful for your concern but it is truly not necessary. Please do not let the thin envelope add to your worries. I have not been doing as well as I had hoped, though I am not giving up on our luck my dear! It took Mr. Barker months to find that spot. It has been little less than a singular month and I have already found some of that incredible substance. It will not be long.

As I am sure you have heard, Mr. Barker has been honoured by making this town his namesake: Barkerville. I think it really is a testament to what can happen with only a bit of luck. I understand this is a gamble, but my dear, it is only a gamble if you don't play the right

cards! I and more than certain there is another jackpot down there my love, and I promise you, the kids and God that I will be the one to find it! I know it's there! I know it is!

Please just give me a little more time! Give my love to the kids, tell them I'll see them soon.  
Liu Wei

November 12, 1862  
Beautiful Lijuan,



My dear I have found it! This afternoon myself and three kinder white gentlemen came across what we have been waiting for! Oh, how it gleamed! It gleamed just like your hair in the moonlight my love! It was home! Trust me my dear, this is the find of a lifetime. I realize the amount I have sent home is small but, oh my dear, the next will be more that you can imagine, and I will deliver it myself! Oh, it will not be long now. There is only the matter of blowing around the gold to get a better angle of entrance. The other gentlemen and I have come to an agreement on how to divide this true treasure. Oh, my love, they are being so generous, all they ask is that I am the one to blow the hole. After this is done, they will give us 35%, while they will receive only 21.6%. Oh, my love, I really will see you and the kids soon!

Eternally yours,  
Liu Wei



November 13, 1882  
Dear Mrs. Lijuan Chen

It is with our deepest regrets that we inform you of your husbands, Liu Wei Chen's death. As of 11:16 this morning, Mr. Chen died in an explosion. Himself and three other gentlemen were attempting to free what they believed to be "the find of a lifetime", in fact this turned out only to be a miscalculation. The other gentlemen also wish to send their condolences.

Enclosed, you will find 20% of your husband's findings.

Our deepest condolences to you and yours,

Barker Company

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***Christopher Henderson*** – 360 or Bust!

Firelight flickered across the walls of Alice Mara's living room, illuminating the faces of her two young children as they sat down on the floor to listen to another one of her father's many tales.

John, though only three, was the bolder of the two, and had a habit of interrupting his grandfather's stories to eagerly ask another question. Ellen, at eight years of age, was quieter than her brother. She was still a very active young girl, but she seemed to find solace reading and playing on her own as well – things her brother never did.



It had been several months since their grandfather had last visited, and the children were eager to hear more of his Gold Rush adventures.

"What story shall you tell us tonight Grandpa?" asked Ellen of old Mr. Barnard. "Well let's see," her grandfather mused. "I've told you how I started my Express, an' I've told you how old Billy Barker struck gold south o' the canyon where everyone said there was none. And of course, of the fire of '68 that reduced nearly all of Barkerville to ash..."

"Yes yes, you've told us all of those before! Tell us something new," pleaded Ellen's younger brother, as their father, John Mara Sr., raised an eyebrow from across the room. "All right, all right, hold your horses," chuckled Mr. Barnard. "Now, have I told you about Dutch Bill Dietz, who discovered William's Creek, and after whom it was named?" "Yes."

"How about the time back when the Hudson's Bay Company tried to claim all the gold for themselves and Britain?" "You told us that one." "What of Scotch Jenny, who was said to have dressed like a man, drank like a man, and died like a man?" "She's the one you said everyone liked 'cause she was nice to sick people."

"And Twelve Foot Davis? Did I tell you where his name comes from?" "Because he only had a 12-foot claim and he still got rich!" "Hmph! You're not making this easy on me. Let's see...the hurdy-gurdy girls?" "Father!" Exclaimed Alice. Oh ehem.... well never mind that one.

Aha, I know! How about I.P. Diller and his dog?" "Oo, what's that one about Grandpa?" Asked Ellen. "Yes, please Grandpa! That one! Tell us...please?" young John added, with a glance at this father. "All right then," Mr. Barnard cleared his throat loudly and leaned towards his grandchildren before continuing.

"It all started back around the end of 1860, start of '61, somewhere in there. When news got out of gold on Williams creek, old hands at prosectin' like I.P. Diller started selling claims farther south to Chinamen, so as to come up north here. "Now, Diller and his boys came pretty early, compared to most folks. They got up her sometime in September o' 61, almost a year before Barker's famous claim yielded anything. See, despite this bein' six foot six – and his partner William Jourdan had already hit pay dirt. They were the first ones to dig down through the clay that covered up the real gold. 'Cause o' this, Diller and his pals, James Loring and Hardy Curry, were hungry for gold.

"For almost a year and a half however, they hardly found anything. From September o' 61 right through to February o' 63, they could barely clear expenses! "But Diller was a determined one, he was. He vowed he wouldn't leave Williams Creek until he dug up his own weight in gold. And let me tell you, that's no easy task for a man as large as he. Two hundred 'n' forty pounds Diller was, and we all figured it more likely he'd simply keep getting' skinnier 'till he matched what he'd got already!"

As Mr. Barnard paused to chuckle, little John's excitement got the best of him. "What happened next Grandpa, what happened?" "Well, he did it. Found the gold I mean, not wasted away. Actually, he more than did it..." You see, Diller had a dog to match his own size, 120 pounds it was, and once he pulled up his own weight in gold, he kept going, and pulled up his



dog's weight too! Diller quickly became a very rich man, and was able to afford many things that he hadn't prior. And, if it weren't for your mother...that would lead very nicely into a story about the hurdy-gurdy girls. But for right now.... it's off to bed with you." The children, though disappointed, did as they were told, giving a kiss goodnight to their father, their mother, and finally their grandfather, old Francis Barnard.

"Why don't we get the next story?" Asked John. "Ah, it's not as good as my others," his grandfather replied, shooting a sidelong glance at his daughter's reproachful stare. Then he whispered with a wink, in an undertone so only John could hear, "Maybe in a year or two"



*Sources used for "360 or Bust" by Christopher Henderson*

All characters and stories told are true, with the exception of the fireside telling by Mr. Barnard. I have no idea if he was much of a story teller, but all information he relays is historically accurate. In addition to the book "Hiking the Cariboo Gold Fields", by Edwards, Funk and Stoker; the following online sources were used. I am willing to lend out the book upon request if verification of information is required, as I don't think much of the information in it is readily available elsewhere.

<https://www.wikitree.com/wiki/Mara-61>

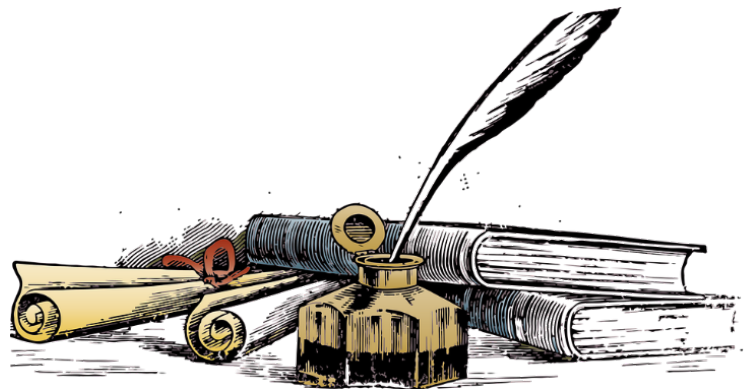
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grancis\\_Jones\\_Barnard](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grancis_Jones_Barnard)

[https://wikipedia.org/wiki/John\\_Andrew\\_Mara](https://wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Andrew_Mara)

[http://central.bac-lac.gc.ca/.item/?app=Census1891&op=img&id=30953\\_148094-00415](http://central.bac-lac.gc.ca/.item/?app=Census1891&op=img&id=30953_148094-00415)

[http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/barnard\\_francis\\_jones\\_11E.html](http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/barnard_francis_jones_11E.html)

<http://www.cariboogoldrush.com/wagonroa/barnard.htm>



## CARIBOO WAGON ROAD BEING CLEARED AND RESTORED



**Amy Newman crossing Houseman Creek on the old Cariboo Wagon Road, photo courtesy of Richard Wright.**

An important section of the original Cariboo Wagon Road between Stanley and Barkerville will be re-open to hikers and bikers this Labour Day Weekend.

Richard Wright, Project Manager of New Pathways to Gold Cariboo Wagon Road Restoration Project, said it had become virtually impassable over the last several years.

With fallen trees every few meters in some places, potholes the size of lakes, and washouts which left great gashes full of rocks, the road was almost obliterated along much of its length. Wright added this particular area was one of the last long intact sections of the Cariboo Wagon Road that has quite a history. “It was used from 1865 until 1886 when that section was bypassed and we started taking the road down through Devil’s Canyon through Wells and then Barkerville.” The Cariboo Wagon Road between Stanley and Barkerville has been cleared and restored by the Ministry of Forest, Lands, and Natural Resources crew along with Ian MacDonald.

Wright says at the beginning it was going to take 3 years to complete this 20-kilometer section but he believes it will be more like 5 years. The Cariboo Wagon Road between Stanley and Barkerville had completely disappeared until the 1980’s when Friends of Barkerville put two crews on it for two summers and opened it up again.

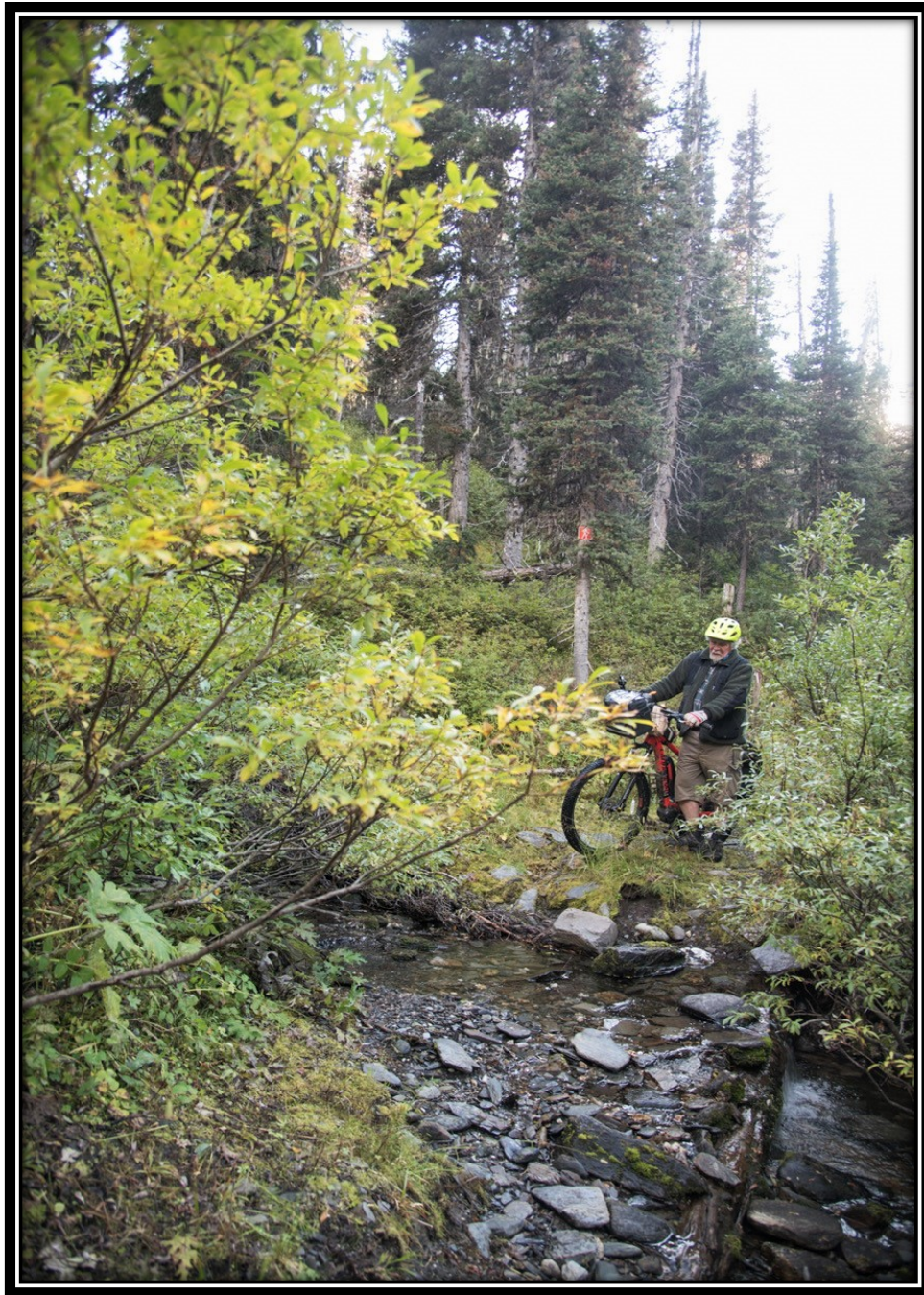
Funding for the Cariboo Wagon Restoration Project came from The Friends of Barkerville – Cariboo Goldfields Historical Society and Ministry of Forests, Lands Natural Resource Operations



and Rural Development who donated ten thousand dollars each and five thousand from New Pathways to Gold Society. The Cariboo Wagon Road was used for a while for the Dog Sled Run and cross-country skiers have also used it.

Wright is hoping that they can generate some of that interest again and come with a plan for keeping it open.  
-submitted by Don Hauka

**Richard Wright at Jack of Clubs Creek before clearing was done.**







**Dan Cox at the “big pond at the pass,” or Lightning Creek meadow pond.  
Now drained.**



**Amy Newman and Dan Cox at Summit Rock. Photos courtesy Richard Wright.**





**Amy Newman on the road above Milk Ranch Pass. Photo courtesy Richard Wright.**



**Amy Newman & Dan Cox  
Richard Wright Photos**



## ***The Cariboo Waggon Road Restoration Project***

***-Richard Wright***



“This is the most important road in Canada”. That’s what we have been told. The most important road in Canada. The road that brought BC into Canada and confederation.

In September 2020 the Friends of Barkerville and Cariboo Goldfields Society moved to work with the New Pathways to Gold Society to move the Cariboo Waggon Road Restoration Project forward. FOB knew that one section, from Stanley to Barkerville had once again become impassable to all but the most determined hikers or cyclists. A September survey by Dan Cox of Wells indicated there were 94 trees across the 20 km section and many drainage issues.

Working with a FLNRORD trail crew and with a grant from NPTGS we hired Ian McDonald to clear the trail and once again made it passable. By October the route was again being hiked and cycled. While more work remains to be done, and ATVs are once again damaging part of the trail we are on our way to restoring this important protected section of road.

It is a road that can, once again, be the catalyst, an important catalyst, in building trust, reconciliation and community through the heart of our province.

In the last year NPTGS have spent thousands of dollars on this restoration project. They have found and built maps that have located, definitively, over 100 Miles of original road bed from Lillooet to 127 Mile. We are now studying crown grants and proving that British Columbians still have the legal right to access. We have found this road is not a goat trail but a road – 12 feet wide, ditched with berms.

Further, this project will assist in economic development as the Great Divide Bike Trail has been to the small town of Ovada, Montana.

### ***And the stories are growing.***

Theatre Royal alumni Ross Douglas, for instance has just written a song about Tom Clegg’s grave at 140 Mile and the Cariboo Road.

We now have two films about Chinese merchant Nam Sing

We have several short films focusing on features of the road

Access issues are being solved by working with MOTI.

We have a great start on a route Guide Book by Amy Newman and fantastic Geo Referencing mapping is being done.

There is lots left to do: remediation, restoration and interpretation, lots of door-knocking and research and ground-truthing on next sections and likely another three years of work – but - with sufficient funding we will get there.

***As we were told by a MOTI director that, "No one has tried to do what you are doing."***

Wendell Berry, a Kentucky farmer and one of America's finest essayists, Berry writes about the loss of communities. As a hillside farmer he likens the loss of local economies, local populations, and local community to the loss of group memory. Local culture, says Berry, has been ignored or written off as one of the cheaper prices of progress. Local knowledge, memory, culture, can be expressed in one word --story-- our communities' story is being lost.

What Berry is referring to, are the stories, the memories that make the community what it is. Berry says, "when a community loses its memory, its members no longer know one another. How can they know one another if they have forgotten or have never learned one another's stories? If they do not know one another's stories, how can they know whether or not to trust one another? People who do not trust one another do not help one another, and moreover they fear one another."

What I have learned in the few months I have worked on this Cariboo Waggon Road Restoration Project is that the CWR is far more than a route. It is a lineal collection of stories. It is a roadbed of stories, stories that will connect, stories that will help us understand *our* collective story. This road connects us all. We walk in their footsteps.

People are sharing their stories about the CWR and how important it is to them – how proud they are to live on a tiny piece of history, and in sharing their story they are building community. With community comes understanding and reconciliation.

Those stories are really what this project is about. As we tear down barbwire and No Trespassing signs, as we build a bridge at 83 Mile, a trail through 100 Mile, and as we restore the Stanley to Barkerville Road so we are building those connections so important to building our communities. That, I believe, is what this project is really about.

The Facebook page for the restoration project may be found at:  
Friends of the Cariboo Waggon Road Society.

**Films on the project, and the Stanley section, are on Vimeo.**

CWR cycling 70-83 Mile (Nov 16, 2020)

<https://vimeo.com/479970367>

Cycling the Cariboo Waggon Road - Chasm to 70 Mile House.

<https://vimeo.com/463253258>

CWR cycling: Barkerville to Milk Ranch Pass

<https://vimeo.com/461584586>

The Grave of Tom Clegg

<https://vimeo.com/424575638>

Whoa Back Buck

<https://vimeo.com/421284292>

Nam Sing 13 min version

<https://vimeo.com/378387634>



## New Pathways to Gold Society

# The Cariboo Waggon Road Restoration Project

### The Cariboo Waggon Road: A Multicultural Megaproject

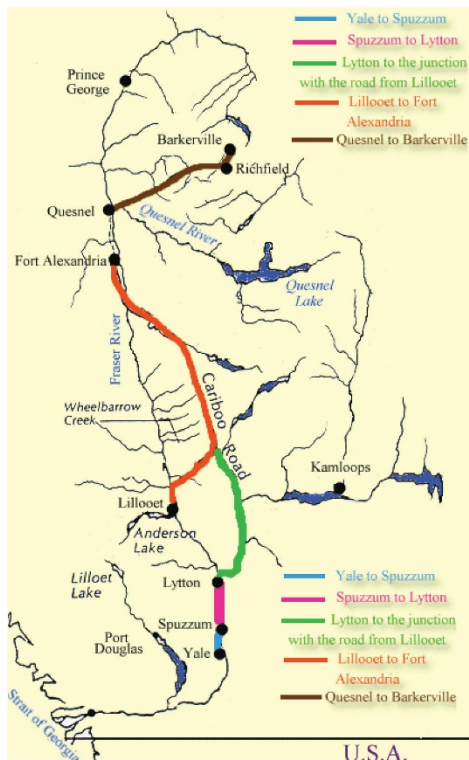
The Cariboo Waggon Road was a marvel of 19th Century engineering and a multicultural megaproject that defined modern British Columbia. It stretched from Yale in the south to Barkerville in the north, traversing 650 kilometers. Royal Engineers laboured side by side with First Nations and Chinese workers and gold seekers from around the globe to build it. To walk on it is to connect with the excitement of the Cariboo Gold Rush, fur trade era and millennia of First Nations trade and travel.

#### The Cariboo Waggon Road Restoration Project

The Cariboo Waggon Road Restoration Project will restore intact, accessible sections of the road in communities

from Yale to Barkerville. The project is being coordinated by the New Pathways to Gold Society (NPTGS), which has in partnership with First Nations, communities and other organizations restored or built 230 km of heritage trails since 2009.

The project has the support of many partners, including the Cariboo Regional District, District of 100 Mile House, BC Parks and the Outdoor Recreation Council of BC. By working together, we can create new heritage tourism assets that will benefit communities along the road for years to come.







View of the Fraser River near Yale  
from the Cariboo Waggon Road

## Building a world-class destination trails network

### The Restoration Process

The Cariboo Waggon Road Restoration Project will be completed in a number of phases to ensure historic accuracy and public access while minimizing environmental impact. Initial phases will see sections of the road GPS/mapped in consultation with First Nations, communities and businesses. Next, a "restoration prescription" will be developed for each identified section. Work will then begin to restore the trail and install interpretive signage, amenities like picnic tables, outhouses and other facilities.

### Join Our Journey Down the Road

Working together, we can make the Cariboo Waggon Road Restoration Project a lasting legacy of the BC150 celebrations in 2021. In the process, we can build a world-class destination trails network that will attract visitors from all over the world. We would love to work with you to restore this irreplaceable B.C. heritage treasure and make a difference in the lives of people living in Hope-Barkerville corridor communities.

### Talk To Us!

Please let us know if you want to be part of our project!  
For further information, contact:

#### Don Hauka

Communications/Creative Director  
New Pathways to Gold Society  
604-524-1884 | ddclauka@shaw.ca  
newpathwaystogold.ca



New Pathways to Gold



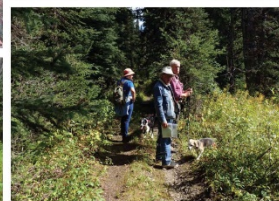
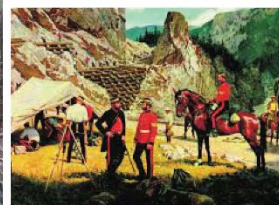
Downton's survey party breaking camp  
on Cariboo Waggon Road, near Clinton



Hikers on an intact section  
of the Cariboo Waggon Road



Intact road sections like this need  
a "restoration prescription"



Celebrating the 150th anniversary of road construction, 2013



**Amy Newman on old abandoned  
Yale Road near Mount Begbie.**



**Steven  
Langell  
riding  
Cariboo  
Wagon  
Road**

**Amy & Steven  
taking a break at  
Pavillion Mountain.**



**Richard Wright  
Photos**



## From Mule Train to Tube Run



Travelling along paths & trails through steep, treacherous canyons

Following routes established by people of our First Nations.

Explorers & gold seekers came to the Cariboo

Looking for things that are shiny, exciting, & new.

Walking, using mules, camels, & riding stage coaches & horses

Enduring weather, terrain, long days, & Mother Nature's forces.

Friendships & partnerships were strategically established

Buildings & businesses were quickly built & finished.

Hard labour had the trees being felled & sawed

Earth being dug & upturned beneath the sod.

Some poor souls toiled for endless hours, days, even years, all in vain

Others struck it rich, finding the ever-elusive gold vein.

Royal engineers blasted rock, reinforced cliffs with wood & gravel

Allowing foreigners & locals to use easier means of travel.

The Cariboo Waggon Road literally laid the foundation

For a new & modern paved route for all to use on vacation.

Along the way you can see old roadhouses constructed of wood

Worth a stop & visit is the historic site at Cottonwood.

To sense & feel the lives & work of those pioneers of the 1860's

Take a walk through Barkerville, Blessings, Stanley, Richfield & Chinese cemeteries.

Highway 97 & 26 provide easy access to Barkerville, town of our past

To experience unique wild animals, twists & turns, snow & ice, travel slow, don't go too fast.

Halloween, Victorian Christmas, & Easter, if you will-

Are far more haunting, festive, & Eggciting in Barkerville.

Snow magically transitions the whole area for outdoor activities & sport

Dog sledders & skiers gravitate to Wells, Bowron, Barkerville, & Troll Resort.

Winter in Barkerville truly is a wonder with marvelous postcard images

Enjoy a view of snow-covered buildings, trees, & mountains from B&B's or cottages.

For young and old there are activities that are strenuous or easy & fun

Snowmobiling, snowshoeing, skiing, & the tube run for the child in everyone!

Be safe, stay healthy, & have some outdoor fun!

-Grant Johannesen





## ***Presidents report for FOB Nov. 17<sup>th</sup> 2020.***

*It's been a very different year with the Covid-19 pandemic dominating our lives.*

FOB has managed to continue on with meetings, first with telephone conference and then physically distancing, and dinner meetings at Troll.

FOB this year is continuing to work towards getting our charitable status to allow us to access more funds to allow us to continue our mandate to preserve and protect our heritage areas around Barkerville. To continue to get work done to maintain trails and help with preserving the Barkerville cemetery.

FOB has donated \$20,000.00 to date for work on the Barkerville cemetery headboards. Working with Richard Wright through 'New Pathways to Gold', we have made good progress on the Stanley to Barkerville CWR, and will continue with more work next year. Working with Emcon we are cleaning up some road site historic pullouts, updated signage, and outhouse replacements will be completed in 2021. Working with Barkerville, we are creating our own stand-alone membership for FOB, separating us from Barkerville's season pass sales. FOB's roll in helping fund projects that enhance Barkerville is vital to Barkerville and our community.

FOB has a great set of dedicated directors that are great to work with. Thank you.

Hildur Sinclair



*Merry Christmas!*

*Happy New Year!*

*Happy Holidays!*