

## Important New Books by Local Authors

Nancy Kirkpatrick, Director

NVMA is pleased to announce the publication of two important new books by award-winning North Vancouver authors. Both will be available for sale at the Archives book counter.

### ***Where Mountains Meet the Sea: An Illustrated History of the District of North Vancouver***

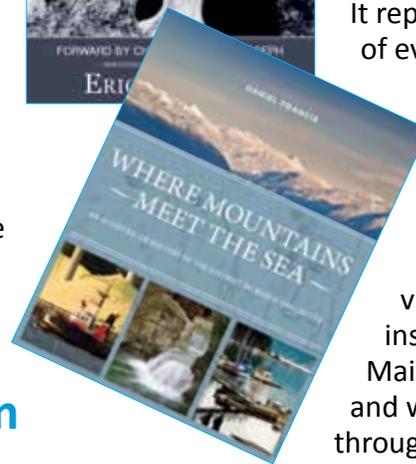
(Harbour Publishing) by Daniel Francis commemorates the 125th anniversary of the District of North Vancouver. Produced in association with the NVMA, the book is richly illustrated in full colour with biographies, eyewitness memories, historic photographs, maps and artifacts from the collection of the Museum & Archives. It traces the development of North Vancouver from a rough-hewn settlement on the edge of the wilderness into one of Canada's most unique and liveable communities. Hardback \$39.95.



***The Native Voice: The Story of How Maisie Hurley and Canada's First Aboriginal Newspaper Changed a Nation*** (Caitlin Press) by Eric Jamieson tells the story of Welsh-born Maisie Hurley's advocacy for the rights and recognition of First Nations people. The newspaper she started, *The Native Voice*, became a powerful catalyst for change. It reported relevant news and stories of everyday life to Aboriginal people

throughout the province, including hard-won rights such as the right to vote provincially (1940) and federally (1960).

The *Voice* chronicled both the realities of Aboriginal life and a vision for the future, enabling and inspiring overdue change in Canada. Maisie Hurley received many objects and works of art from First Nations throughout the province. Her collection now resides at the North Vancouver Museum. Paperback \$24.95.



## The Dream of a New Museum is Still Alive

The NVMA Commission is delighted to announce it is working with the City of North Vancouver and Polygon Homes on a project to include a new museum in a proposed new retail/residential development in Lower Lonsdale (on "Site 8"). In exchange for an additional residential floor, the museum would be provided with approximately 15,000 sq feet of space, expanded ceiling height, space for Streetcar 153 and a main entrance on Esplanade.

A Public Hearing is set for late June. To offer your support, please contact us at [nvmac@dnv.org](mailto:nvmac@dnv.org).



## Mark your Calendars!

JOIN US FOR THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE FRIENDS OF THE NVMA SOCIETY



Tuesday, June 14, 2016

Community History Centre  
3203 Institute Road, North Vancouver

Special Guest Speaker: Eric Jamieson will present an illustrated talk on Maisie Hurley and *The Native Voice*

Registration starts at 7:00 pm  
Meeting starts at 7:30 pm

# The Cedar V Theatre

by Sharon Proctor

It was like a “Quonset Hut,” with arched steel walls. Opened in 1953, the Cedar V Theatre (1260 Lynn Valley Road) was built and operated by Stephen and Jean Chizen. Steve was manager and projectionist; Jean worked the box office and snack bar. They lived in an apartment upstairs.

The Cedar showed second-run movies Monday through Saturday, mostly double features. “There were long line-ups of children for the Saturday matinees,” recalls Martin Fromme. “Those were the days of the Lone Ranger, Tarzan, Three Stooges, and Esther Williams movies – accompanied by newsreels, coming attractions, and cartoons.”

The ticket window was beside the entrance. You got your ticket, then entered the building and were in

the lobby. Wash-rooms were on the left, snack bar on the right. The latter sold goodies like butter-soaked popcorn, licorice, Coca-Cola, Twizzlers, even hot dogs. From the lobby you entered the auditorium via one of two doors, each opening to an aisle running down to the stage. Parents with young children could sit in a glass-fronted “crying room.” There were two of these at the rear of the auditorium (one in each corner), accessed from the lobby. The lobby, crying rooms, and aisles had carpeted floors.

Bev Irvine remembers the Cedar: “Stairs ran up each side of the stage, where floor-length red curtains covered the screen. When the movie began, the curtains ‘magically opened.’



The “Cedar Theatre” in 1971, after it closed. It was demolished October 31, 1971. At some point the “V” (short for “View”) was dropped from the name. NVMA 106-6-16

On each side of the stage was an emergency-exit door and a speaker overhead. “During a movie, ushers with flashlights would patrol up and down the aisles to ensure all was okay, and to show latecomers to seats.” In the 1960s the Cedar showed several Elvis Presley

movies. “If the crying rooms weren’t occupied, my friends and I used to sneak into one. Then we could yak and swoon over Elvis!”

“Those were the days of the Lone Ranger, Tarzan, Three Stooges, and Esther Williams movies...”

The Chizens treated staff like family, even hosted a staff party once a year. Elaine Fromme’s aunt worked there: “If she came to work after missing supper, they’d feed her.” As for the upstairs apartment, the front door was at the far left of the Theatre entrance. It opened to a staircase that led upward. The bedroom, living room, kitchen and bathroom formed a row along the front of the building. Behind was another row of rooms – the electrical, rewind, projection, and storage rooms, accessed from the theatre.

The Cedar operated for some 17 years, until declining audiences led the Chizens to close it.

*Thank you, Bev Irvine and Martin & Elaine Fromme, for sharing your memories with the author.*

*Other sources: original Theatre floorplans; City Directories; 1965 Fire Insurance Map.*

**Cedar 'V' Theatre**  
 York 8108  
 At Lynn Valley Rd.  
 and Mountain H'w'y

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Fri., Sat., Mon. and Tues.  
 Jan. 7th, 8th, 10th & 11th  
 (Cinemascope, Technicolor &  
 Stereophonic Sound)

**DEMETRIUS AND THE  
 GLADIATORS**  
 Susan Haywood  
 Victor Mature  
 It starts where the "Robe"  
 left off.

Plus Leon Erroll in  
**LET'S GO STEPPING**  
 CARTOON NEWS

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Jan. 8 Sat. Mat Only  
 Hopalong Cassidy  
**SILENT CONFLICT**

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Wed. & Thurs. Jan. 12, 13  
**DEVILS CANYON**  
 (TECH.)  
 Dale Robertson  
 Virginia Mayo

**MARRY ME AGAIN**  
 Marie Wilson  
 Robert Cummings  
 CARTOON NEWS

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Fri. & Sat. Jan. 14, 15  
**MONEY FROM HOME**  
 (TECH.)  
 Dean Martin, Jerry Lewis

**THREE MUSKATEERS**  
 John Hubbard, Marjorie Lord  
 CARTOON

A Cedar V ad, printed in the North Vancouver District News, January 7, 1955.

# Horticultural Hall

by Sharon Proctor

Before North Vancouver's Harry Jerome Community Recreation Centre (123 East 23rd Street) was built in the mid-1960s, an earlier building on the site had to be demolished. It was called "Lonsdale Hall." But for much of its life, it was "Horticultural Hall."

Even ordinary families often had gardens, fruit trees, and a few cows, goats and/or chickens.

In the early 1900s North Vancouverites had a strong interest in agriculture (producing crops, livestock, & poultry) and horticulture (growing flowers, fruits, vegetables, & ornamental plants). When local forests disappeared due to logging activity, farms, dairies, ranches, and orchards sprang up all around. Even ordinary families

often had gardens, fruit trees, and a few cows, goats and/or chickens. This trend led to the formation of two local organizations: the North Vancouver Horticultural Association and the Farmers' Institute. In 1904 they joined together as the North Vancouver Horticultural Association and Farmers' Institute.

The organization soon purchased five acres from the City on the east side of Lonsdale between 21st and 23rd, and began developing the property for outdoor horticultural and agricultural activities. The Hall was built in 1908, as a venue for indoor meetings and exhibitions.

For decades the Hall hosted shows where prizes were awarded for best fruits, vegetables, potted plants, cut flowers, butter, poultry, livestock, horses, goats, chickens, plus knitting, preserves, and other home crafts. Other groups used the Hall as well — for concerts, church services, dances, operas, operettas, plays, recitals, meetings, conventions, parties, high-school physical-



*Horticultural Hall, 1908. Built of wood, it had a verandah on three sides, and a "bonnet" roof. One entered it from Lonsdale via a driveway. NVMA 35*

training classes and graduation ceremonies. Even City Council used it for special meetings and as an election polling-station.

Unfortunately, the Horticultural Association and Farmers' Institute had financial problems. The City lent it money several times, but it couldn't pay back the loans. It tried creating revenue by building tennis courts, a croquet lawn and a bowling green on its property — which didn't help much. The situation got so bad that by 1916 the City decided to initiate a Tax Sale of the Association's property. The dispute went to Court and the City lost. Finally around 1918 the City took over society's assets and liabilities. The Association underwent restructuring, and from then-on leased the Hall from the City. In the mid-1940s, Horticultural Hall was renamed "Lonsdale Hall," and it continued to be a popular venue.

Sources: Dick Lazenby newspaper notes; 1930 Fire Insurance Map; Horticultural Association & Farmers' Institute prize lists; City Council Minutes; City Directories; North Shore Press, September 8, 1922; CNV "Certificate of the Returning Officer," 1933.



*Lonsdale Hall, seen here in 1953, was demolished in 1965. At some point the veranda was filled in to add more indoor-space. NVMA 13715*



*Gladiolus Society exhibit in Horticultural Hall, 1947. NVMA 9366*

North Vancouver's Museum & Archives exists to engage, strengthen and inspire our community and its visitors by exploring history, connecting people and sharing ideas.

Our website:  
[nvma.ca](http://nvma.ca)

Walter Draycott's Great War Chronicles  
[GreatWarChronicle.ca](http://GreatWarChronicle.ca)

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Contributing writers:  
Sharon Proctor  
Lisa Wilson  
Nancy Kirkpatrick

Design and Layout:  
Bonnie Miller

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**North Vancouver  
Museum & Archives**  
3202 Institute Road  
North Vancouver BC V7K 3E5  
604.990.3700  
[nvmac@dnv.org](mailto:nvmac@dnv.org)



## CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS!

Do you have some time to give to the Friends Society?



We need two people to assist with stuffing and mailing of the Express newsletter every three months.

We're also looking for people to join us at community events (like Canada Day) to spread the word about the NVMA and the Friends.

If you'd like to get involved with the Friends, please contact:  
**Roxanne McGregor**  
(604.990.3700 x8016)  
or email us at [nvmac@dnv.org](mailto:nvmac@dnv.org).

## Connections

Nancy Kirkpatrick, Director



We recently said goodbye to Community Engagement Curator Lisa Wilson whose grant-funded position ended in April. Her final project was to launch *Voices and Views*, a series of thematic slideshows that introduces people living, working, and making meaningful lives for themselves in North Vancouver.

During her time with NVMA, Lisa interviewed locals about who they are and how they see the world around them. She wanted to get an understanding of North Van directly from those who call this place home. She asked: What did your youth look like? How has this community changed? What do you value most? Their answers were often thoughtful and interesting. Newcomers, long-time residents, elders and teenagers all shared their photos, stories, and thoughts on nature, community, growth and change. The result is a celebratory site that allows you to hear some valuable voices, and see North Vancouver from a variety of perspectives.



photos courtesy of Bruce Flanagan



Please dive in! [nvma.ca/voices\\_and\\_views/](http://nvma.ca/voices_and_views/)