



COLD LAKE MUSEUMS

ANNUAL PRESENTATION

TO THE

CITY OF COLD LAKE

2019

INTRODUCTION


The Cold Lake Museums has been in operation for over 2 decades. We have operated out of the current location for a solid 20 years. It is in the past decade or so that we have been able to consistently improve the Quality of Exhibits, the Safety and Historical Aesthetic of the buildings and the Visitor Experience. We have continued to make improvements large and small in the site. We have presented to council for approximately 14 years, continually reporting to and engaging the City Council in acquiring the support we have needed. We have always found Council amenable to our presentation and our needs. City Council has proven it is supportive of the Museum and Culture in our City with its continued support of the museum.

Some of our highlights are not obvious or even exciting, except to us, most being behind the scenes activities such as pest control or cataloguing our collections.

We are grateful for what we have accomplished and the help we have received while we still continue to ask for more. It is a well-known understanding that culture and other leisure activities are not self-sufficient and require continued support from local governments.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Dome opening
 - The most obvious and even “sexy” highlight is the Dome Project.
 - This was the culmination of years of dreaming, plotting, planning.
 - This project ups the ante on all future projects.
 - We have become noticeable, no longer hiding on our hilltop.
 - Hard to top something like that, but we’re not done yet.
- Doors
 - Without doors, what do you have?
 - Either a building you can’t access or open to the elements.
 - Doors are not exciting but they are necessary for pest control, environment control as well as human egress.

- Pest control 
 - This is the least exciting project. To you maybe. It is so vital to a museum there are whole books on the subject. We have been working on this for years and now our doors will help.
- Grounds clean-up
 - Again, ho hum? However, the aesthetics and safety of clean grounds, as well as pest control (see what I did there?) make the grounds projects a priority. We are working hard on this project.
- Visitor numbers
 - After a slight dip in the past couple of years, the visitor numbers are on the rise again with almost 4000 visitors this year.
 - Attributable to the Dome project as well as a good word of mouth.
 - Unofficial Visitor Experience Survey concludes that word of mouth is our largest contributor to knowledge of our existence, despite online presence.
 - Increased large tours. (Free to schools)
- Staff insights
 - Staff are comfortable, happy and passionate about our work.
 - Summer staff gain real world experiences in dealing with visitors and co-workers and many transferrable skills.
 - Full-time staff make the museum world go round.
- Volunteers
 - An increase in Volunteers esp for the CLAFM side.
 - Working with FCSS.
- Collections
 - One of the last large hurdles, we have developed a solid plan for managing our collections, based on Alberta Museums Association Guidelines in which all our full-time staff are trained.
 - Implementation this winter.

THANK YOU



- Water
 - Water has been a hurdle this past year.
 - Water main breaks, etc. Thank you to City Workers for filling our tank so we could continue to work up here.
 - Thank you to City Workers for trenching in a line to the Oil & Gas museum for our staff washroom to operate year round.
 - This allows implementation of our Collections Project.
- Road
 - Beautiful! ‘Nuff said.
- Operational funds
 - Thank you for your continued support of the Museum.

NEEDS

- Continued operational funds
- Continued “in-kind” support.

ASK

- Operational funding
- Capital and/or in-kind assistance

CONCLUSION

The Cold Lake Museums continue to provide a cultural, educational and entertaining experience to residents and visitors alike. We continue to grow our collection of relevant, experiential, historical artifacts from our local population. We are able to care for our collection in compliance with provincial and federal standards. Our buildings and site continue to improve in safety and usefulness as a community resource. Museum Staff and Volunteers are able to function year round.

JUST FOR FUN...

HOW TO BUILD DOME-

GEOMETRY 101

1. BUILD A BOWL



2. BUILD A LID



3. PUT LID ON BOWL



4. VOILA



5. Oh and build a fancy door into it so we can look inside.

