

The Donalda & District Museum

Creamery Conservation Project 2019 Update

We are continuing to make progress in raising funds for the Donalda Creamery Conservation Project. Currently we have raised close to \$27,000.00 and are always accepting donations towards this historic project. New this summer is our debit-credit machine, so now we are able to accept donations online or over the phone for those who want to contribute but live far away.

We would also like to take time to thank all of our volunteers and those who have continued to support us by attending our Museum Suppers, volunteering for our fundraising events. Every little bit makes a difference.

The Game Plan: As per the Donalda Creamery Conservation Plan Report

Phase 1: \$136,109.00

~ Preparation for hazmat contractor, hazardous material abatement, restoration of the exterior wall, restoration of the eaves and trims, reconstruction of the windows, and restoration of the exterior doors.

Phase 2: \$36,400.00

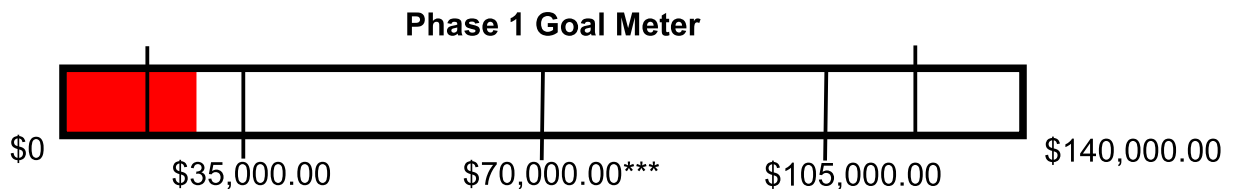
~ Restoration of the masonry chimney (exterior), restoration of roofing, reinforce the roof joists, and the restoration of the roof-top ventilators.

Phase 3: \$85,700.00

~ Replacement of the interior concrete floor slab, restoration of the interior wall structure, restoration of the interior walls and ceiling finishes, clean up the machine / electrical room, electrical work, new photovoltaic, and additional mechanical work.

Phase 4: \$145,600.00

With additional expenses and management fees the ***TOTAL ESTIMATED COST IS \$403,809.00***



can start applying to matching fund grants for Phase 1

How will we get there?

While the total amount is high there are ways in which we can lower the cost to the Museum. There are a number of grants available to help at each phase level and will significantly cut the expense by almost 50%. However, as grants are becoming over subscribed and funding, even on a national level, we must look for new ways of acquiring funds to secure this project. Grants that we will be applying for include the Alberta Historical Resource Foundation Grant, Community Facility Enhancement Program, Peavey Mart Community Grant, and the Canadian Experiences Fund.

Currently the Museum has been applying to a number of different grants, as well as working towards developing partnerships with the County and other Corporate sponsors. Also, we are continually holding monthly museum suppers, and promoting our other annual fundraising events, such as the Toy & Antique Show 'n Sale.

Phase 1 of the Conservation Plan is the biggest hurdle as it requires the hiring of specialized workers to remove the hazardous materials, after this step much of the labour can be undertaken by volunteers and local skilled workers so long as we follow the guidelines for historical buildings.

What is so special about the Creamery?

Everything began in 1924 when a creamery was opened in a bustling Donalda by Woodland Dairy. From its humble beginnings the creamery began to serve an important role within the community. It provided power to local residents, was award winning for its 'Donalda Maid Butter' and became a Co-operative Creamery which provided an organized and effective outlet for the cream production in the area. Many remember the creamery very fondly, and still talk about how it was a vital part of their lives and well-being. In 1987 the Donalda Creamery was one of ten butter making plants in Alberta and only one of five independent creameries. The Donalda Creamery not only has a rich, local, history, but of Central Alberta, and the province as a whole. The Donalda Creamery served a very large area and was a cash flow for over 300 farmers. It was designated as a Provincial Historic Resource in 2010.

How can you help?

Besides monetary donation there are a number of other ways you can help with this project. Sharing is caring, by following and supporting us on Facebook you are helping more and more people become aware of this project.

Attending our fundraising events is a fun way to support the project while enjoying a wonderful meal or great entertainment. Making it a family get together helps even more people become aware. If you are interested in donating funds towards the project a tax receipt can also be made upon request.

Upcoming Fundraisers & Events:

~ **September 26th, 2019:** Museum Turkey Supper at the Donalda Drop In Centre

~ **November 22, 2019:** Jimmy the Janitor ~ A comedic evening with good clean humour. At the Donalda Community Hall with the show starting at 7:30. Tickets are \$35 each and are available for purchase at the Donalda Museum or from a Board member.

~**2020:** Toy & Antique Show 'N Sale at the Donalda Community Hall.

Looking towards the future

As with any large project one has to wonder, 'What will happen after all is said and done?'. One huge benefit to completing this project will be that there will be another venue for tourists to come and see within the village, hopefully bringing more and more people to the community every year to enjoy a unique experience that only Donalda can offer. Along with our other Museum programs, we hope to also develop unique educational programs for youth, as well as engaging tours for large groups.

Thank you to our large donors: Donalda Coulee Friendship Club, Superfluity Stettler, Wayne & Holly Komishcke, and John & Jeanne Pearson.

Questions? Fundraising Ideas? Contact us!

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