

#### MUSEUM MUSINGS FOR JUNE 2008

The twelfth of July is rapidly approaching and the tempo of preparations around the new museum in the old Elementary school in Van Anda is accelerating. With any sort of luck we will be ready on time so keep the date clear.

We have a museum naming problem now that we will have two museums or at least two branches of one museum. The name the "Texada Museum" no longer cuts it. Perhaps we should have a contest with a prize to be awarded on 12 July. Let us know what you think.

We have been offered a 12 gauge shotgun that once belonged to Bill Young. The current owner is Ida Helmerson who many of you will remember and we thank her for her generosity. Those of you who own firearms will understand

that there are a number of acquisition and storage requirements that must be met. Tom Reid has kindly taken on the task of clearing these hurdles for us and we hope in the near future to be able to accept this significant donation. Once we have established the correct storage and display facilities we hope that there will be more donations of this nature.

As many of you know we have been placing a series of displays in the Seniors Centre honouring our pioneers. The latest display features the McLeod family. George McLeod came to Texada in 1899. He married Ann Raper of another Texada pioneer family and they lived in the same house in Van Anda for the rest of their lives. The family is now represented on Texada by Donna Lechner McLeod and Gary McLeod, grandchildren of George and Ann. Our photo this week is from the early Van Anda mining days and shows the Marble Bay Mine, circa 1900, taken from the area of the church. The head frame site is just in front of what is now the Credit Union building. Note the large waste pile that was later bulldozed into the current ball field. Until next time take care of each other and remember to think and act green.

