

## THE OCTAGON

Greetings Friends,

As the days grow longer and the flowers begin to bloom, we are excited to welcome you to a fresh season of discovery at the Fintry Manor House. On Saturday, May 3rd our army of volunteers will be polishing, sweeping, and dusting inside and outside of the Manor House. If you would like to help out, just show up at 11.00 a.m. and we will give you a job! Spring is here, and so are new opportunities to explore our local history, engage in tours, and on Sunday, May 11th, our Mother's Day Fair. Whether you're a long-time visitor or a first-timer, we invite you to take the scenic drive to Fintry and experience our local history in a whole new light this spring.

We were delighted to hear that we have been successful in our Canada Summer Jobs application and we will be hiring two students to assist our volunteers with tours this summer. If you know of a student who loves history (must be returning to school in September) please ask them to get in touch with us at business@fintry.ca.

The Manor House will be open for tours weekends only beginning on Saturday, May 10th and once our summer students come onboard on July 2nd, we will be open five days a week (Wednesday-Sunday) showcasing the Octagonal barn in the mornings and the Manor House in the afternoons. Whether you



come to be inspired, learn something new, or simply enjoy the beauty of Fintry, there's something for everyone.

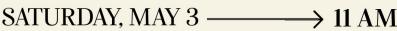
Join us as we celebrate the vibrant energy of spring, with all the creativity, culture, and history that our little museum has to offer. We look forward to seeing you soon!

Kathy Drew Friends of Fintry











# THE CURATOR'S CORNER with DAN BRUCE FRIENDS OF FINTRY MANOR HOUSE CURATOR



After a long period of neglect, the flower beds on the east side of the Manor House, facing the main lawn area are under restoration, in the capable hands of Cadi Middleton. It has been difficult to keep abreast of the weeds, insects, deer and other life forms that have caused the plantings to deteriorate, but we are not giving up the effort.

As this is being written, there are nine roses on their way to Fintry from Corn Hill Nursery in New Brunswick. Why all that way? Because they supply roses on their own roots, as opposed to grafted plants. This avoids the problem of the rootstock suckering and eventually taking over from the grafted variety. The staff at Corn Hill well understand the business of packing and shipping bare-root plants, that are then dispatched through Canada Post.

Three varieties have been ordered, one of which is "Emily Carr". This is a new variety that has been bred in Canada, and made available through the Department of Agriculture in 2007. A tall growing dark red rose, named in honour of B C's famous artist, and one of a series of roses named after Canadian artists all of which are hardy in all parts of the country. Emily Carr, (1871 - 1945) should need no further introduction here. When you are next in Victoria, if you have not already done so, visit her home on Government Street, now a Canadian National Historic Site and museum.

Another rose on its way is "Dr. Frank L. Skinner". Frank Skinner, (1882 - 1967) is less well-known than Emily Carr. He was born in Scotland (like so many!) and moved to Canada with his family, arriving in Dropmore, Manitoba in 1895. As a youngster he lost a lung to pneumonia which limited his activity levels to the point where he took up gardening instead of ranching with the rest of the family. His successes led to respectful recognition by the University of Manitoba, who awarded him an honorary doctorate in 1947. The University still houses the Skinner Memorial Library and among his many plant legacies is the very hardy "Dropmore Scarlet" honeysuckle. It is very fitting that a rose be named in his honour.

The third rose that we are expecting would, if able to express opinion, quietly smile at the newcomers. Rosa Mundi, sometimes called Rosamonde, or the Rose of Provins has been known in cultivation since at least 1583. There is a possibility that Rosa Mundi was brought to France from a garden in Damascus some time around 1170. It is one of the striped roses, light and dark pink, a type that became very popular in the early 19th century largely due to the Empress Josephine's liking for them.

Our newly arrived roses will be placed in groups of three along the east border bed where we know that James Dun-Waters did have roses planted originally.













## **Featuring Special Guests:**

Evan the Juggler



North Westside Fire Rescue



### On the Main Stage:

Don Goddard

Easy Listening

10 - 10:45 am

Ralph & Christine Turner

Golden Oldies

11 - 11:45 am

Kalamalka Highlanders Pipe Band

Bagpipes and Drumming 12:30-1:15 pm

Fritz Van Hullenaar

Classic Rock
1:15 - 2:00 pm

Marv Machura

Easy Listening
2 - 2:45 pm

Jacqui Rose

Guitar Songwriter
3 - 3:45 pm

### **Vendors and Food Trucks:**

- 1 Westbank Harvest
- 2 Fawn's Florals
- 3 Fintry Store
- 4 Carols Quilts and Bags
- 5 North Westside Quilters
- 6 Beverly Lundgren Charity
- 7 Helena Margareta
- 8 Kotan Candles
- 9 FOOD4U
- 10 JNS Unique Creations
- 11 Norwex
- 11 Pampered Chef
- 12 Sunset Gourmet
- 13 Fifth Avenue Collection
- 14 Kewlchic Stylz
- 15 Curves'n Confidence
- 16 Man + Woman

- 17 Art by D'Elvac
- 18 T's Terrific Treats
- 19 Village Tumblers
- 20 Ann's Creations
- 21 JACKO MACKO
- 22 Playful Kritters
- 23 Floof Pet Products
- 24 Photogdog Pet Photography
- 25 LeafFilter Gutter
- 26 Hello Rainforest
- 27 Ok Valley Freeze Dried
- 28 Edge of the Earth Vineyards
- 29 Shuswap Cider Company
- 30 Okanagan Kettle Korn
- 31 Si Si Pizza Okanagan

Regional District of Central Okanagan

**BCParks** 

- 32 VOS Kids Lemonade Stand
- 33 On the Way

### Fun In the KidZone:

All ages, all inclusive, all day activities for the kids to win prizes: Parachute Games - Face Painting - Bubbles - Crafts - Races



MANOR HOUSE GROUNDS - 7655 FINTRY DELTA ROAD



### We're Hiring 2 Students! Join the Friends of Fintry team!

The Friends of Fintry Provincial Park Society is hiring two Museum Interpretive Guides for the summer season! Do you know of any students that are passionate about history, education, and the great outdoors?

- Location: The Fintry Manor House in Fintry Provincial Park, half-way between Kelowna and Vernon on Westside Road.
- Duration: 8 weeks, 35 hours/week starting July 2nd
- Eligibility: Students aged 18–30 and returning to school in the fall (Canada Summer Jobs Program)

As an Interpretive Guide, you'll lead museum tours, assist with events, and develop engaging programs that bring Fintry's rich history to life.

Email resume to business@fintry.ca or visit www.fintry.ca/employment for more details and to apply.















Check out the history reel of Facebook April posts above and follow 'fintryestate' for more history that matters!

### **Bat Facts**

Participate in the BC Annual Bat Count. Join the Okanagan Community Bat Program on the evenings of:

- June 3, 2025
- June 13, 2025
- July 11, 2025
- July 19, 2025 Fintry Bat Festival

If you are interested in participating in the bat count, please email okanagan@bcbats.catosign.up.

Got Bats? 1-855-922-2287 www.bcbats.ca



