



Presented At:

**Langham Cultural Society  
Annual General Meeting**

**May 7th, 2024**

☎ 250-353-2661

✉ [info@thelangham.ca](mailto:info@thelangham.ca)

🌐 [www.thelangham.ca](http://www.thelangham.ca)

# MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD



Here we are after a number of years of holding our AGM in September returning to our traditional schedule of holding it in the Spring. Reporting on 2023 only 4 months into the year rather than 9 months later makes way more sense. So, I'm glad we've been able to return to a Spring meeting.

2023! Wow, what an exciting year for the Langham. Half way through we said goodbye to Paul Grace-Campbell and welcomed Charissa into the Executive Director position. Charissa hit the ground running and when you hear from her, I know you'll be excited about all that is happening for the Langham. Charissa brought a range of skills and experience to the role and in late 2023 she presented to the Board a visionary plan called 2024 and Beyond Operational Priorities. With this document, she proposed a plan for a gradual series of steps that would improve how The Langham could fulfill its mandate to bring arts, culture and heritage to our community. These ideas really prompted great and meaningful discussions and we approved the plan as a guiding document. We aren't changing what we do, but we will be doing it better.

Also, once we got into the fall of 2023, Charissa got all the volunteers around the table that wanted to help plan the celebratory events for the Langham's 50th. It's been wonderful to be part of the energy that has gone into all the planning. I know many of you will have taken in 50th events here at the Langham and enjoyed and appreciated how Maggie Tchir and Elizabeth Scarlet pulled together the Langham story for us with the exhibition that just came down in the community gallery but will go up again in the Loki Room.

Great thanks to Charissa for all that she's already brought to the Langham.

And, of course, there are the very important tasks undertaken by our other staff members. Thanks so much to Seathra Bell, our Curator, for all the Gallery shows, to Jayse Waynest, our Custodian, who keeps the building clean and maintained and to Carol Brown, our Bookkeeper who keeps all the numbers organized.

We sincerely thank the various funding agencies who make grants available. How fortunate we are to live in a community that values arts, culture and heritage and delivers on that value with these grants.

We thank our local businesses who step up in a big way to support us through our Corporate Sponsorship program. How it strengthens a community when businesses and cultural organizations work together!

You're getting the picture that the Langham relies on a lot of people to do its work. A very important group of people who we rely on so much are our volunteers. These individuals step up to host in the galleries, man the kitchen, and host shows. With the 50th celebrations, there have been even more people stepping up to organize and run events. Thanks so much to each and every one of you.



# MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD



And, I thank you, our Langham members. Your membership is a testament to how you value the Langham. And, your name joins those who have been members for 50 years! When you renew your membership, you are helping to carry on the vision set out by Michael Guthrie and all those people who saved the building and gave us The Langham.

Because of the wonderful energy and vitality of the Langham, there is never a dull moment for the Board of directors! Please let me introduce these people who comprise the Board. There's Leah Honkanen, our Secretary, there's Harel Challmie, our Vice President, Colette Ens, our Treasurer and Russell Precious. There are Members at large: Gary Schneider and Angel Audrey. We have continued to do our job - that is, to plan for and look out for the Langham and to support our staff. We are an excellent team that works together, each of us committed and giving our time and energy to the Langham. As president, I can't tell you how much I appreciate each of you for all you contribute and for your support for me in this role.

Now, this will be the last time I get to say that. Officially, tonight, I will be stepping down from the Board, stepping down from the President's role. Some of you might have noticed that I introduced Russell but didn't say what his role was. Russell will be your President after this meeting.

Please allow me to say what a pleasure, an honour, it has been to serve these past 8 years. I have worked with wonderful board directors, 3 amazing executive directors as well as those staff members in the other roles. As we've planned the 50th celebrations, I've come to realize how so many in our community have given of themselves to the Langham over the years. There is a long lineage of service to the Langham in this community and I'm glad I've been part of it. But, of course, I'm not really going anywhere and I will continue to serve and enjoy being a 'volunteer'.

I hope when you leave the AGM tonight, you will be marveling at our community's good fortune to have this grand old lady and the grand role she plays in our community.

**Marianne Hobden**

President,  
Board of Directors

# MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



It is with great pleasure and gratitude that I address you today as the Executive Director of The Langham. Since joining The Langham almost a year ago, I have been continually inspired by the profound impact this organization has had on the community and the extensive list of supporters that have made this possible. 2024 marks the 50th anniversary of The Langham Cultural Society and as I reflect upon this past year and our achievements I am continuously humbled by the dedication of the people who have come before me and the incredible legacy that we are now stewards of today.

At the heart of our mission lies a steadfast commitment to the transformative power of the arts, and the importance of remembering the past. We believe in the ability of creativity to inspire, provoke thought, and foster empathy, transcending boundaries and connecting us all as human beings. Through our diverse programs and initiatives, The Langham strives to create spaces where individuals from all walks of life can explore, learn, and grow through artistic experiences.

This first year of my tenure here has been a time of reflection for me as I have taken stock of the past achievements of the organization and sought to understand the challenges facing us today. Our 50th anniversary is a testament to the enduring legacy of our founders, the dedication of our staff and volunteers, and the unwavering support of our donors and partners, thank you to you all for your commitment. 50 years of operations are also evidence of our ability to adapt to new times, staying relevant and strong over the course of 5 decades that have seen significant shifts in our culture.

Looking ahead, I am filled with excitement and optimism for the future of The Langham. Guided by our rich history and inspired by the limitless potential of creativity we will continue to evolve and innovate, remaining an integral resource and representative place of arts & culture for the Kaslo community.

I am deeply grateful for your continued support and partnership as we embark on this next chapter of our journey. Together, let us continue to inspire, educate, and uplift all those we serve, ensuring that the arts remain accessible to everyone, now and for generations to come.

Thank you for being a part of our 50-year legacy. Here's to the next 50!

Sincerely,

**Charissa Hoppenbrouwers**  
Executive Director

# WHO WE ARE

## OUR MISSION

The mission of The Langham Cultural Society is to support, advocate for and present arts, culture and heritage in Kaslo and the West Kootenay region, centered in The Langham building, Kaslo British Columbia.

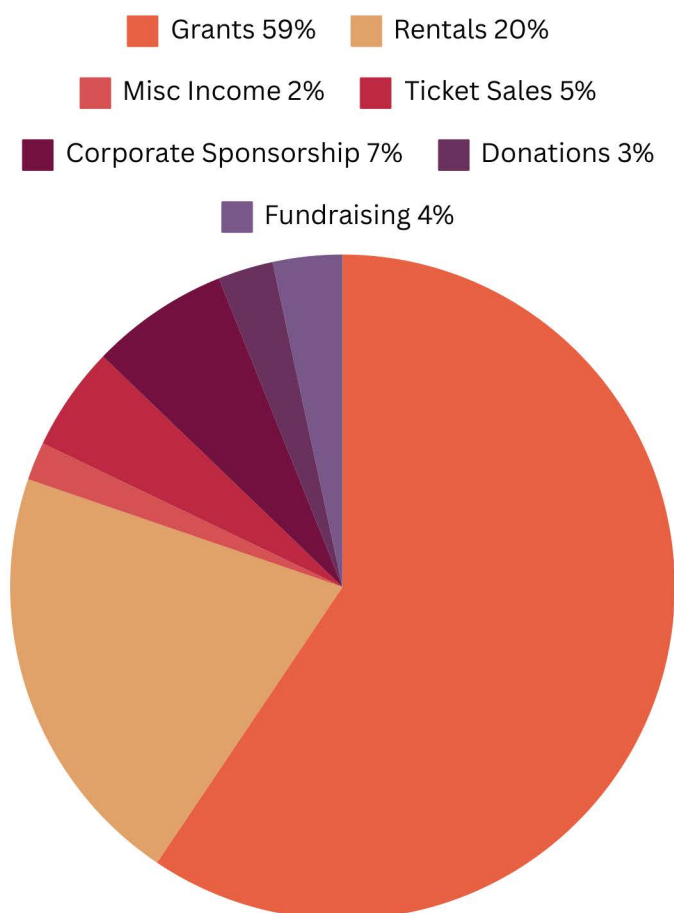
## OUR VALUES

- Participation in arts, culture, and heritage makes a considerable contribution to community well being;
- Excellence and diversity in programming fosters interest and pride in our contemporary and historic arts, culture, and heritage; and
- Collaboration with other arts, culture, and heritage organizations strengthens our work.

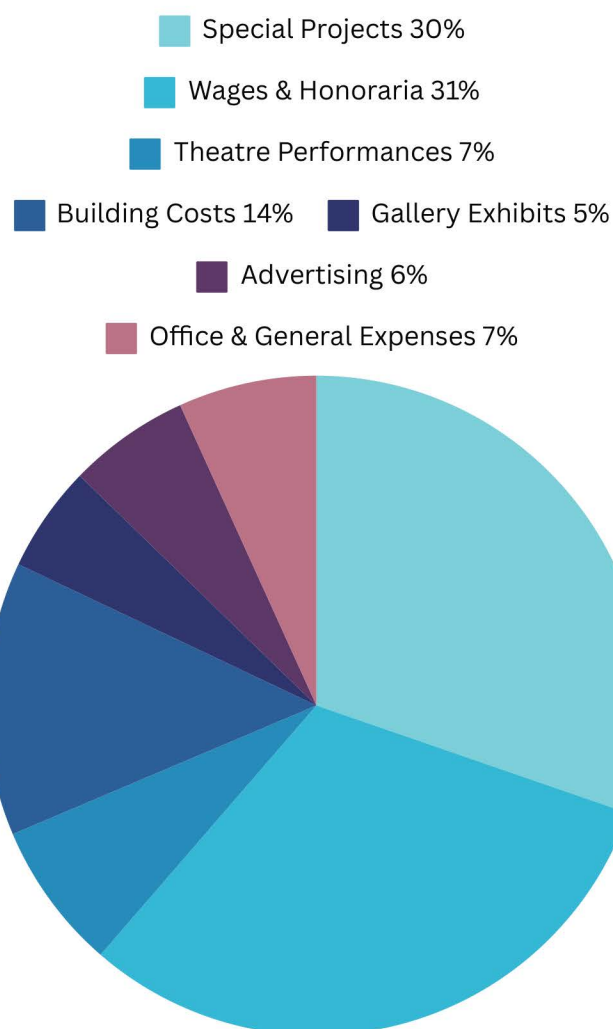


# FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

## 2023



**Revenues**  
\$206,975



**Expenses**  
\$213,428





# OUR ACHIEVEMENTS A REVIEW OF 2023

## Galleries

2023 was a strong year for artwork featuring a diverse array of mediums in the gallery line up including watercolour, textiles, ceramics, collage, poetry, photography, and acrylics.

Local artists represented 6 out of the 8 exhibiting artists in the 2023 gallery schedule, with artists ranging in age from Millennial to Octogenarian. Women artists were also highlighted in 2023 with 7 out of the 8 exhibitions featuring women artists / guest Curator. Opening nights were well attended with every artist/guest curator in attendance to present their work, give an artist talk, and answer questions from the viewers. Both our professional and emerging artists put forward excellent artwork and engaged the community with their content.



Guest Curator Elizabeth Scarlett from the Kootenay Lake Archives presented “SS Moyie: Sweetheart of the Lake”, an exhibition of the SS Moyie's history in celebration of the 125 year anniversary of the Sternwheeler. This exhibit was an excellent addition to our gallery line up showcasing an important and well-loved piece of local history for our viewers.

## Japanese Canadian Museum

In summer of 2023, we embarked upon Phase 2 of 3 planned phases for the development of a Japanese Canadian designed garden to expand upon our museum. Master Gardener Hiro Okusa designed the garden with the hardscape and initial plantings completed in 2023. Final completion of the garden is planned for 2024 including fencing, plantings and signage.







# OUR ACHIEVEMENTS A REVIEW OF 2023

## Theatre

After several years of disruption due to the Covid-19 pandemic, 2023 saw a full return to theatre programming with **38 shows** occurring. Over **3500** attendees enjoyed theatre programming ranging from concerts to literary talks throughout the year.

2023 also marked the 3rd and final season of the Summer Music series. The Summer Music Series was an incredibly well supported initiative brought together through the hard work of previous Executive Director Paul Grace-Campbell and his partners at KLIC. When indoor programming became impossible at the outset of the pandemic, Paul was determined to ensure that arts & culture would still be accessible to the Kaslo community and set out to create an ambitious free outdoor concert series. In 2021, 2022 & 2023 entirely free concerts were put on by The Langham in partnership with KLIC and funded by many federal, provincial and local entities, with the bulk of the funding coming through federal and provincial Covid relief measures. Over the course of these 3 summers, **39 free outdoor concerts** were presented to the community drawing in thousands of in person attendees and reaching tens of thousands more on video livestream. In 2023 alone, over **2100 people** attended in person and over **8400** joined the action on the livestream. This incredible initiative leaves a lasting legacy of Paul's and the community's commitment to ensuring access to the arts for all and offered an opportunity for community to come together during a difficult time in our history.

Years of hard work and responsible management allowed us to host the free summer music series for 3 full seasons. 2023 utilized the last of the Covid relief funding this program primarily relied on so in 2024 we are partnering with more organizations and evolving Summer Music to the Kootenay Resilience Festival which will see 4 mini festivals with live music and community speakers join together on Kaslo outdoor stages. We hope to see you there!





# 2023 GALLERY EXHIBITS

## UNTANGLING THE KNOT: THE ART OF HONORING ANCESTORS



CAROL LADAS GASKIN  
JULY 28 - OCTOBER 6 / 2023

With a desire to make sense of her own history, artist Carol Ladas Gaskin created a series of 37 collages. Each collage is inspired by the life of an ancestor, most of whom were almost entirely unknown to her when she embarked on this exploration. This body of work represents a personal journey of seeking connection, experiencing, and honoring one's ancestors.

**THE LANGHAM**  
The Langham Galleries  
447 A Avenue Kaslo, BC  
www.thelangham.ca  
@thelangham  
langham@netidea.com  
(250) 353-2661  
Gallery Hours:  
Thursday - Sunday 1 - 4 pm



## SS Moyie - Sweetheart of the Lake

March 10 - May 5 / 2023

Kootenay Lake Archives presents an exhibition of the SS Moyie's history both on the lake and in Kaslo in celebration of the 125 year anniversary of the sternwheeler.

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Embarking on a Moyie Excursion from Nelson in 1930's. Photo: Russ Fletcher; Robert D Turner collection.

## ROAD'S END



LOUIS BOCKNER

October 13 - December 15 / 2023

Opening + Artist talk  
Friday October 13  
7 - 9 pm

Argenta based photographer Louis Bockner's exhibit "Road's End" is an ongoing project telling the story of life at the end of the road. Black and white photos describe a place where the old ways are still present and how self-sufficiency and community may be the ultimate currency in a future shaped by economic uncertainty and climate change.

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## LAYERED: FUSING NATURE AND EXPERIENCE



Gathering Gemstones

HEATHER GOOD

MAY 12 - JULY 21 / 2023

Using a variety of mediums, Nelson based artist Heather Good creates paintings that reflect her natural surroundings and the moments she experiences therein. Her work embodies the shifts in colour, texture, and the quality of light as it changes throughout the day.

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# 2023 GALLERY EXHIBITS

## SMOKED



**SARAH LAWLESS**

JULY 28 - OCTOBER 6 / 2023

Kaslo based ceramic artist Sarah Lawless presents a series of earthenware ceramic vessels that explore humans' complex relationships and cultural associations with smoke. Her work draws connections and dichotomies between human bodies and the natural environment as well as traditional and contemporary practices involving smoke.

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## PRAIRIE PERSPECTIVES



Prairie Storm Coming

**SHELLEY ROSS**

MARCH 10 - MAY 5 / 2023

In her new body of work Kaslo based watercolour painter Shelley Ross portrays the drama of the Prairies and reconciles her intricate relationship to the landscape.

"... the plains are so dominant and simple, so geometrical a world, that you feel yourself noticeable even when you're small." Wallace Stegner

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## RACHAEL WARNOCK



## PILE

October 13 - December 15 / 2023

OPENING + ARTIST TALK  
FRIDAY OCTOBER 13  
7 - 9 PM

Rachael Warnock is a multi-disciplinary artist who landed in Calgary, AB via Massachusetts five years ago. Finding her discarded subjects in the street, Rachael documents single-use plastics before they are forever disposed of. In her new series PILE, Rachael uses large scale paintings to discuss our boundless culture of consumption and waste through a critical (and very pink) lens.

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## ALTERED PERCEPTIONS THROUGH DEATH AND MOURNING



**ROBIN WILTSE**

MAY 12 - JULY 21 / 2023

Kaslo fibre artist Robin Wiltse, explores the stories and narratives around grief and the loss of her daughter. In this new series of work she looks to the ways that historical botany, folklore, myth and legend have tried to explain the mysteries of life and death through healing and magic. Drawing inspiration from symbology, patterns and the human relationship to the natural world she creates a dialog with the viewer in her attempts to find meaning.

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**THE LANGHAM**





# THEATRE EVENTS

## 2023

# 11

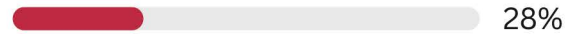
### Summer Music Concerts

**June 24** - Elizabeth Shepherd  
**July 1** - Chimp it & Jazzy Jo  
**July 8** - The Groovineers  
**July 15** - The Latin Lovers  
**July 21** - Diyet & the Love Soldiers  
**July 29** - Tenyson King  
**August 12** - Evergreen Afrodub EAO  
**August 19** - Never Come Down  
**August 26** - Spacefood & DJ Ginger  
**September 2** - Dave Ronald & Crew  
**September 9** - Stubbs & The

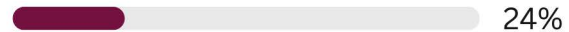
### WHAT'S ON

Type of programming presented

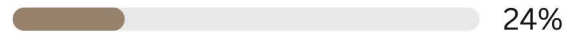
#### Summer Music



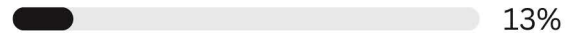
#### Guest Artist



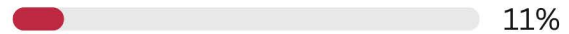
#### Independent Rentals



#### Cafe Langham & Adventure Travel



#### Langham Sponsored



# 16

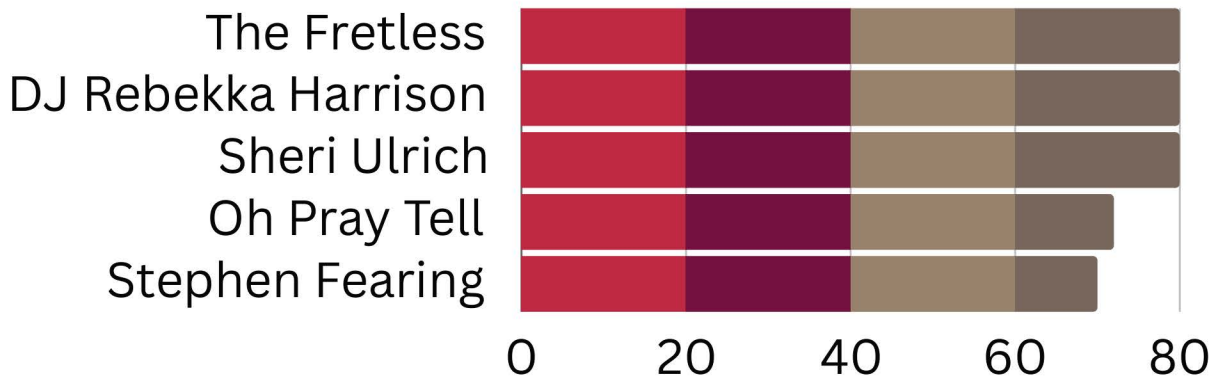
### Langham Presented Theatre Events

**January 17** - Guest Artist: The Fretless Concert  
**February 4** - Guest Artist: Oh Pray Tell, with Shayna Jones Concert  
**February 24** - Langham Sponsored: Heritage film night  
**March 18** - Langham Sponsored: North Valley Mountain Film Fest 2023  
**March 30** - Guest Artist: Pat Henman "Beyond the Legal Limit" show  
**April 29** - Adventure Travel: Louis Bockner "Postcards from Palestine"  
**May 13** - Guest Artist: Stephen Fearing Concert  
**May 30** - Guest Artist: Shari Ulrich Concert  
**June 23** - Langham Sponsored: Natasha Hall "Music and Chocolate" concert  
**September 1** - Adventure Travel: Tenise Marie "From Argenta to Atra"  
**September 15** - Café Langham: Sean Art Joyce "Blue Commission"  
**September 24** - Guest Artist: Bill Lynch Trio  
**October 6** - Guest Artist: Zaynab Mohammad "Are you Listening?"  
**October 27** - Guest Artist: James Brown & Dave Restivo Concert  
**November 3** - Café Langham: Dean, Liebich & Byers "Conversations with Poets"  
**December 9** - Guest Artist: Hall, Doval & Schachte "Music & Movement"

# ORGANIZATION 2023 DATA REPORT

## GREATEST HITS

2023 theatre shows highest ticket sales



### 56 Events

Were held including gallery exhibits, theatre shows and special events



### 3320 People

Viewed our Gallery Exhibits



### \$26,507 Dollars

Was raised through donations, fundraising events and corporate sponsorships





# CELEBRATING 50 YEARS



2024 marks the 50th anniversary of The Langham Cultural Society!

We are very excited to be celebrating 50 years at The Langham. Thank you to all the dedicated volunteers, supporters, and funders who have made this place a reality. Today The Langham stands as a testament to what a dedicated community can achieve when we work together!

## 50th Anniversary Events & Programs

### 50th Historical Exhibit

Guest Curators Maggie Tchir & Elizabeth Scarlett have created an incredible exhibit celebrating the past 50 years of the Langham Cultural Society. This exhibit was on display in the Gallery from March 8th to May 3rd and will be reopening in the Loki Room on May 16th until September 2nd.

### 50th Theatre Programming

Dedicated volunteers on the 50th Committee have planned a series of special 50th theatre events for the year including films, plays, live game shows and concerts hosted throughout 2024. Thank you to these amazing volunteers for your imagination and hard work! Check out our website and Facebook page for more 50th theatre events coming soon.

### 50th Gala Weekend

It wouldn't be an anniversary without a party! Join us June 7th & 8th for a celebration you won't forget! For more info and tickets see our website.

#### June 7th

Kaslo Player's Reunion - 7:00 pm, Langham Theatre \*Free

#### June 8th

Langham Street Festival - 12 - 3 pm, Outside Langham & Legion \*Free

#### June 8th

50th Anniversary Dance Party - 8pm - 1 am, Legion Hall \*Tickets \$25 on sale now

# A LOOK AHEAD

## PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

### NEW PROGRAM MANAGER

#### Welcome Brian Lye

In order to facilitate upcoming projects and ensure ongoing capacity to deliver our programs without disruption we have hired a new Program Manager. This role will oversee theatre & operational programming with a dedicated focus in maintaining day to day operations. Join us in welcoming Brian to the Langham team this May!

### NEW WEBSITE

#### New Tools for a New Age

As a part of updating our organizational processes and technological infrastructure, we are currently working on a new website to be launched in 2024! This new site will offer seamless engagement for users who in addition to finding information about the Langham, will be able to view events and purchase tickets online, inquire about rentals, and apply for volunteering & membership all in one place.

### KOOTENAY RESILIENCE FESTIVAL

#### Partnering for Future Success

The Kootenay Resilience Festival is the evolution of the Summer Music Series. By partnering with other community organizations, our goal is to create a format to sustainably be able to continue to offer free music in the summer to the Kaslo community. Learn more about this new initiative at <https://kootenaymountainculture.com/kootenay-resilience-festival/>



# RENOVATION & MUSEUM REFRESH

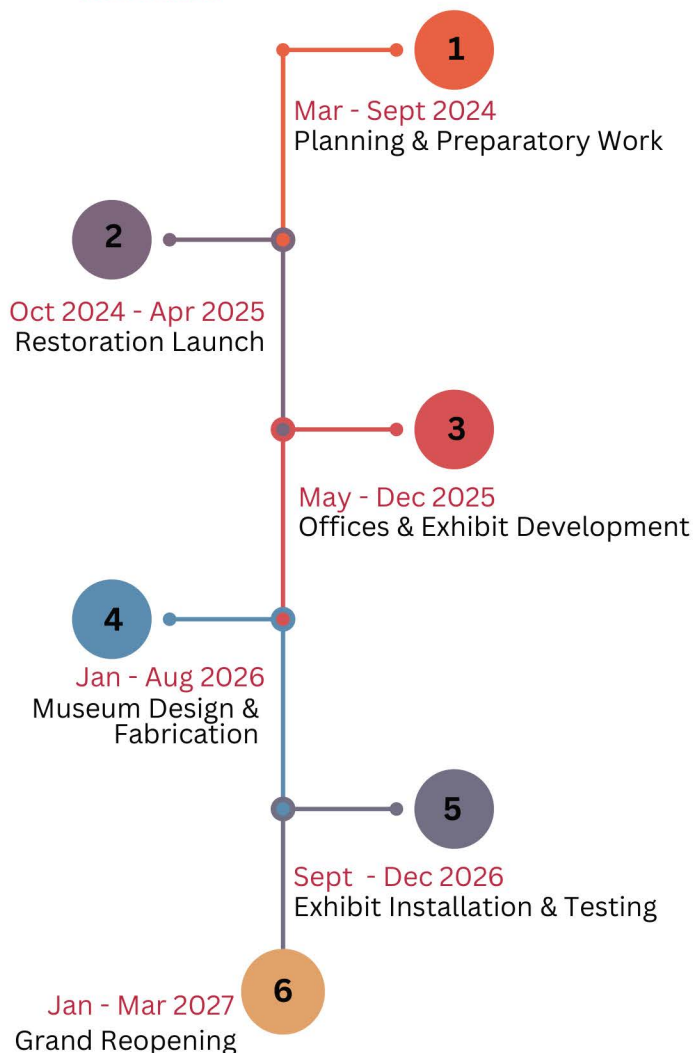
We are excited to announce that we have received \$400K in funding for a 3 year long renovation & museum update.



## Project Overview

The Langham Renovation project is a comprehensive initiative aimed at preserving and enhancing the historical significance of The Langham, a cherished heritage site with significant cultural importance to Japanese Canadian History. The project encompasses interior renovations, building updates, and a refresh of the museum exhibits.

## Timeline



## Exhibit Update

Building on the original exhibit's research and assets, we aim to re-envision and refresh the text, photographs, oral histories, and set design of the original exhibit to present a modern museum exhibit incorporating new technologies and reflecting 21st-century understanding of intercultural histories.

## Renovation Plans

- Remove carpets throughout and restore wood floors
- Renovate the 2nd & 3rd floor public washrooms
- Renovate Loki Room & Langham Office
- Restore missing trim work
- Electrical work & upgrading
- Upgrading front door locking system
- Painting throughout
- Completion of landscaping on final phase of garden



## MORE **ABOUT US**



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