



2025

ANNUAL REPORT

City of Vancouver **Archives**

History | Evidence | Preservation | Access



01	MESSAGE	City Clerk
02	2025 HIGHLIGHTS	City Archivist Message Satellite Site Renovation
05	NUMBERS	Financial Report Statistics Social Media Performance
08	HOLDINGS	Statistics Acquisitions
09	PRESERVATION	Update Statistics
10	DIGITIZATION	Update Statistics
11	COMMUNITY	Partnerships Tours Exhibitions & Displays Loans Special Events/ Outreach Highlights Staff Development
13	PROJECTS	Major Projects
14	DONORS	Thank You
15	PEOPLE & SUPPORT	Friends of the Vancouver City Archives Archives Advisory Committee Grants & Donations Organization & Staff
16	CAPTIONS	Image Captions & Reference Codes

As **City Clerk**, it is my pleasure to present the 48th annual published report of the City of Vancouver Archives. Established in 1933, the Archives is dedicated to the preservation of the corporate memory of the City of Vancouver and the documentary heritage of the local community.

This past year has been defined by collaboration and meaningful progress across our Archives team. Under the City Archivist's leadership, the department has continued to advance key initiatives while navigating ongoing resourcing challenges with determination and professionalism. The team's commitment to excellence has been evident in every project undertaken, from day to day operations to major strategic efforts.

One of the standout achievements this year has been the work on the satellite site renovation project. The level of care, precision, and thoughtful planning invested in this initiative reflects the team's expertise and dedication to delivering high quality outcomes. Operationalizing the satellite site marks a major achievement for our organization, and I congratulate the entire team on this accomplishment.

Katrina Leckovic
City Clerk



Here at the Archives, 2025 was a repeat of 2024 with a couple of surprises along the way. We continued to renovate our satellite site in East Vancouver, to transcribe Council minutes indexes and digitize Council meeting minutes, to transcribe *Vancouver Sun* and *Province* photo negatives metadata, and chip away at our holdings backlog, all while keeping the Reading Room humming.

Renovations at the satellite site moved along at a good pace until the spring. Then HVAC equipment procurement issues delayed our mid-May completion, and water ingress problems delayed HVAC commissioning until well into the fall. Like most renovations, the things outside your control always conspire to disappoint, and much more energy was devoted to this project late in the year than any of us anticipated.

For those of you new to the drama, this secure staff-only facility houses approximately 25% of the Archives' holdings and, once renovated, will have capacity for another 10 to 15 years of growth. The renovation includes installation of a new HVAC system to replace end-of-life heating fans and provide dehumidification, a complete shelving replacement to increase capacity from 14,500 standard 1.2 cubic foot banker box spaces to 28,500, a lighting upgrade, installation of a new frozen storage vault and a long-awaited paint job. Most of that was accomplished in 2025, and we hope to reach substantial completion early in 2026.

One very pleasant surprise mid-year was news of funding approval for improvements to our digital preservation system, Archivematica. Over the past dozen or so years, we have developed our digital preservation capacity, and a key responsibility of our Digital Archives program is preserving records from City electronic business systems, in particular, the City's electronic recordkeeping system, VanDocs. For many years we have been seeking capital funding from the City's Technology Services budget to automate some of the system's workflows to efficiently process records transfers from VanDocs.

What we can do now is run all the actions on this content that confirms that what has been exported and given to the Archives is what Corporate Records staff say they sent, as well as some metadata extraction and other actions that start the process of preserving and making these records accessible to the public. The challenge is that each export may contain potentially thousands of folders from VanDocs, and the actions we need to run are carried out at the folder level (think of banker boxes of analogue files that departments box up and ultimately send to the Archives). Right now, monitoring and approving those actions on those thousands of folders of digital objects is an extremely labour-intensive manual process and needs to be automated to do this work efficiently.

This new funding makes development of these automation tools possible. Work started in September with our long-time open-source software collaborators, Artefactual Systems, and we anticipate completion in March. If all goes well, we hope to process the backlog of electronic records transfers by mid-2026.

Another project unexpectedly moved up the calendar when logistical challenges made it impossible to ship 200 video recordings to our long-time AV digitization contractor in Kentucky. We had planned to set up our own in-house video digitization station later in the year but found ourselves pivoting to this work in April to meet our obligations under our 2025-2026 BC History Digitization Program grant. The station was operational by late summer, and we're looking forward to now having to send only film and audio recordings off-site for digitization; everything else we can do in-house, a goal we've wanted to achieve for quite some time.

As always, my thanks to all the Archives staff for their dedication to their day-to-day work and ongoing projects, and for their enthusiasm and good humour when the unexpected happens. I look forward to what 2026 will bring.

Heather M. Gordon
City Archivist



Satellite Site Renovation

The first year of renovation of our satellite site in East Vancouver was documented in our 2024 annual report; here's what happened this year.

Demolition

In January, we started demolition all over again, with removal of the remaining original shelving. In just a few days, the area was clear and ready for the old insulation remnants to be scraped off the ceiling.



Construction progress

In late February, crates of static unit shelving arrived and jammed the space, and the trades worked around them for several weeks, installing remaining ductwork and lighting, grinding and sealing the concrete floor, and eventually giving everything a fresh coat of paint.

A new wall

A new wall was built to section off the loading bay from the storage area.





• More shelving

In April, the space was ready for installation of the sections of standard-depth static shelving and, by late May, the oversize static shelving and map cabinets.

• HVAC trouble

By this point we learned there was a delay in delivering the HVAC system's air handling unit. Originally expected in April to complete the project in mid-May, we were now looking at early July for delivery. In preparation, large perforations were made in the roof slab for ductwork and electrical and plumbing conduit, and the curbs for the air handling unit, the fan coil and the freezer compressor were laid out on the roof.



• Crane lift!

The air handling unit arrived in July and was lifted into place on a gloriously sunny day. The rest of the month and into August saw the final mechanical and electrical hook ups for the HVAC system and the freezer, installation of new office carpet and a small kitchen renovation. Unfortunately, it was discovered that the air handling unit leaked and allowed rainwater to flow into the loading bay. The issue took weeks to resolve, delaying commissioning of the unit until well into October.



Stay tuned, the rest of the year was spent compiling a deficiency list and addressing deficiencies, with substantial completion hoped for very early in 2026.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Operating revenue		
Sale of digital reproductions, photocopies and tax searches		\$9,936
Grants		23,800
TOTAL		\$33,736
Operating expenditures		
Salaries		\$1,336,897
Supplies and services - Vanier site		48,336
Supplies and services - satellite site		333,277
TOTAL		\$1,718,510
Endowment funds		
Fund	Expenditures	Revenues
Major Matthews Memorial Fund		
Donations		\$0
Interest		2,974
Schwesinger Legacy		
Publication sales		0
Interest		6,865
TOTAL		\$9,839

CITY RECORDS PROCESSED

Records scheduled for archival retention through the City of Vancouver Records and Information Management program arrive on a regular basis. The following is a list of public records processed this year.

Department	Retained & described
City Clerk's Office	11m
Engineering	18m
Vancouver Fire Rescue Services	21m

DATABASE DESCRIPTIONS

At December 31, 2025, the number of descriptive records in the Archives' database stood as follows:

Level	Total
Fonds/collection	968
Sous-fonds	15
Series	1,952
Sub-series	436
File	280,266
Item	245,999
Part	11,177
TOTAL	540,813

DIGITAL OBJECTS ONLINE

At December 31, 2025, the number of digital objects in the Archives' database stood as follows:

Type	Total
Image	225,596
Text	1,056
Video	1,822
Audio	2,376
Other	2,208
TOTAL	233,058

PROFILE OF USERS

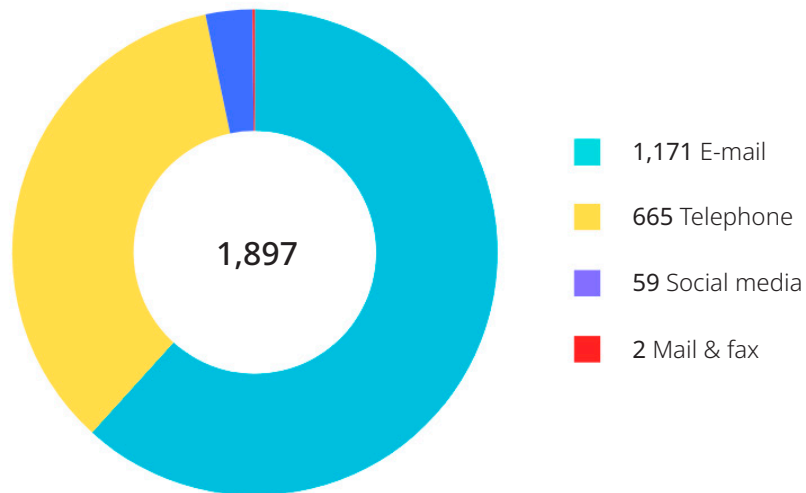
Users who do research on site at the Archives are as many and varied as their topics. We serve a wide variety of citizens, institutions and organizations. In 2025, on-site users represented 34% of our researchers; off-site users (those who rely on our services by telephone, e-mail, mail, and social media) represented 66%.

*Federal, Provincial, Regional, Other Municipal, First Nations

Researchers on site at the Archives	
Artist	1%
Business	2%
City of Vancouver Staff	2%
General Public	52%
Government*	0%
Media	2%
Religious/Cultural Institution	2%
School	1%
Society or Association	1%
University/College	36%
Other	0%

Research Subject	
Biography	1%
Building	14%
Business/Industry	2%
City of Vancouver Government	5%
Genealogy	10%
Maritime	2%
Military	0%
Neighbourhood	17%
Social/Cultural	37%
Site Assessment	5%
Other	8%

SERVICE ENQUIRIES



SERVING THE COMMUNITY

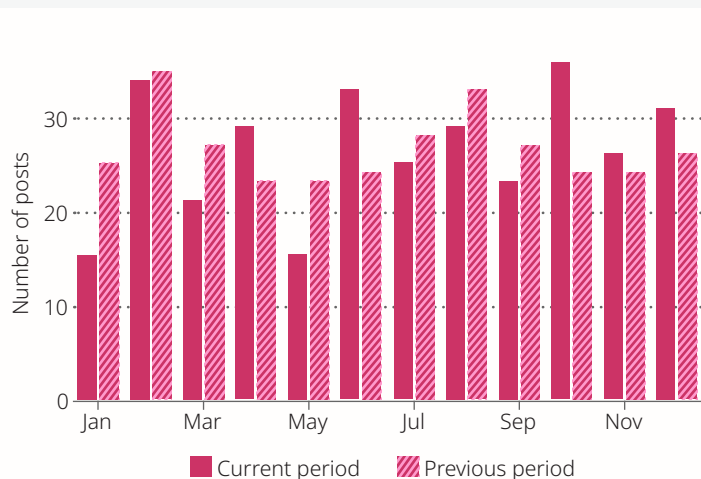
Services to citizens are a top priority for the Archives. We serve the community by acquiring records from donors, preserving them, and making them available to a wide variety of users and researchers. The community accesses our services by website, e-mail, phone, regular mail, personal visits, and tours.

*Massive increase likely due to nation-wide bot attacks on GLAM-sector databases in 2025.

Service	2025	2024	2023	2022
New researcher registrations	444	406	460	330
Researcher visits	982	942	1,017	814
Document retrievals	5,652	5,207	6,285	6,274
Enquiries	1,897	1,927	1,824	2,040
Websites	2025	2024	2023	2022
searcharchives.vancouver.ca*:				
Website visits	2,538,646	248,919	185,201	230,410
AuthentiCity Blog:				
Sessions	15,637	10,449	15,610	9,407
Users	13,650	9,485	12,721	7,847
Pageviews	26,745	26,674	21,411	14,300
Social media	2025	2024	2023	2022
Facebook, Instagram & Twitter:				
Posts	714	1,003	1,164	788
Impressions	1.07M	1.17M	1.8M	1.1M
Engagement rate	7.48%	5.11%	5.91%	6.89%
YouTube (total views-78 videos):	3,682	3,637	5,026	4,896

INSTAGRAM

CONTENT TREND



STATISTICS

Views
146,219

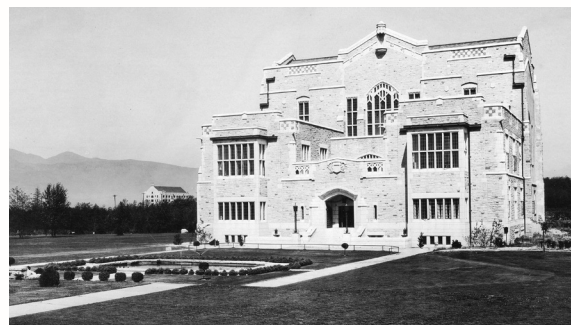
Posts
329

Comments
955

Followers
2,542

Likes
2,994

MOST POPULAR POST

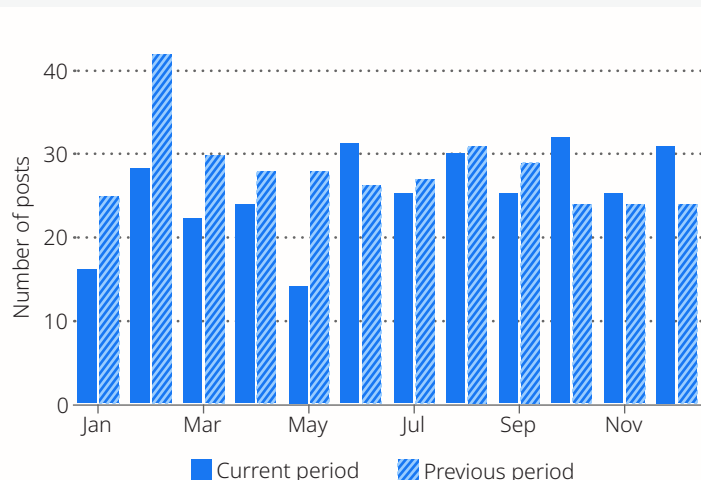


Title: Exterior of the Main Library at U.B.C. ca. 1925

Reference code: AM54-S4:- Sch P12

FACEBOOK

CONTENT TREND



STATISTICS

Views
954,980

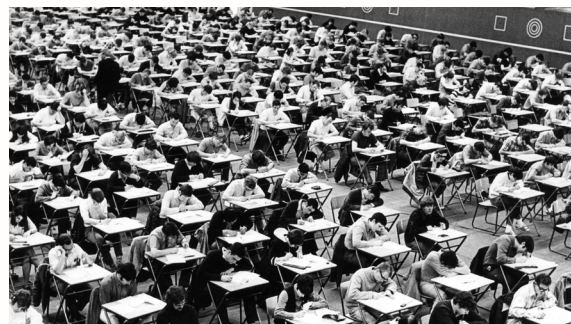
Posts
315

Comments
918

Followers
7,368

Likes
1,202

MOST POPULAR POST

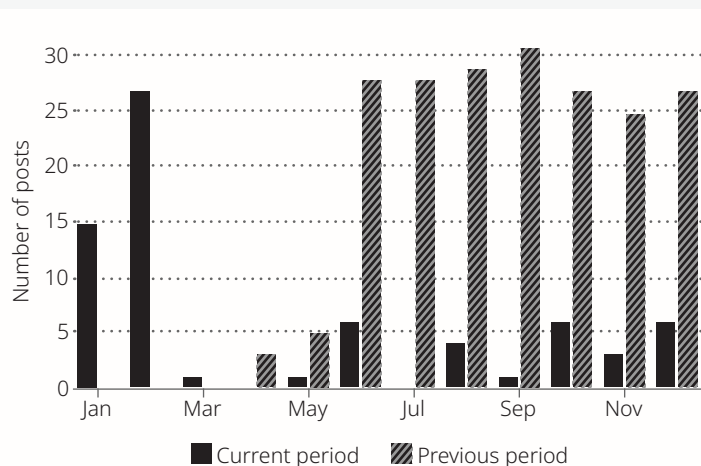


Title: University of British Columbia students writing exams, April 18, 1970.

Reference code: AM1667:- CVA 134-092

X

CONTENT TREND



STATISTICS

Views
24,972

Posts
70

Comments
7

Followers
14,159

Shares
9

MOST POPULAR POST

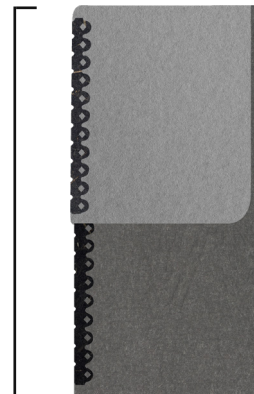


Title: John Elkins standing on road nearby Vancouver Automobile directional signage

Reference code: AM730-S5:- CVA 470-191

The Archives is the largest repository for the documentary heritage of Vancouver and its holdings include:

- 3,500 metres of textual City records
- 2,290 metres of private-sector textual records
- 7.2 million photographs
- 76K architectural drawings
- 6,800 maps
- 6,000 City publications
- 5,600 film and video recordings
- 2,800 audio recordings
- 1,400 works of documentary art
- 136 TB of born-digital and digitized records



PRIVATE-SECTOR ACQUISITIONS

In 2025, 42 private-sector accessions were completed. These included textual records, photographs, architectural drawings, maps, audio recordings, film, and video. Acquisitions of note include:

- Records of businessman and sports promoter Con Jones, ca. 1900-1940, which largely consist of photographs of teams, sporting events, and the Jones family in Vancouver. Also includes scrapbooks and a small amount of textual records such as correspondence and programs.
- Records of the Vancouver Youth Theatre, ca. 1983-2003, including photographs, programs, and scripts of this all-youth cast group that performed locally as well as traveled for international tours.
- Henry Ewert collection. Donation consists of railway historian Henry Ewert's collection of photographs, ephemera, maps and drawings documenting the history of the BC Electric Railway Company, ca. 1900-2003. Includes ~3,000 captioned photographs in albums, ~1,000 slides, 1.3 metres of textual records, bus tickets and timetables, 1 roll of maps and drawings, 1 super 8 film reel, and copies of Ewert's 5 published books.
- Fred Deeley Ltd. photo album documenting the car dealership at 901 West Broadway, ca. 1951.
- Quarterly newsletters of the Vancouver Estonian Society, 1954-2012.
- 74 watercolours by Michael Kluckner, depicting houses, apartment buildings and small businesses, almost all now demolished. The paintings were published in Kluckner's *Vanishing Vancouver* and *Vancouver Remembered*.
- Records related to Jack Zemel's career as a magician and participation in the local Vancouver club, Magic Circle. Donation consists of Magic Circle constitution and by-laws, membership cards and other ephemera, photographs, and handwritten notes and sketches related to Zemel's magic tricks.
- Accrual to the Yucho Chow community archive collection. Donation consists of 37 digitized photographs depicting members of the Chinese community in Vancouver and Yucho Chow's family.
- Malkin family accrual. Donation consists of photograph albums, correspondence, diaries, and other papers from members of the Malkin and Ewing families organized into a series of albums, binders and folios, 1800-1980. Also includes digital surrogates of the items and accompanying metadata.

The year 2025 was all about picking up momentum and making progress on a few multi-year projects. A batch treatment workflow was set up to humidify and flatten over a thousand oversize architectural renderings, plans and drawings from the Bruno Freschi fonds. Hundreds more oversize records will be rehoused in custom archival rolled storage boxes in the coming months as the conservation work wraps up and the Freschi materials will be made available for access, likely in the first or early second quarter of 2026.

We have again made progress in the transcription and rehousing of the *Vancouver Sun* and *Province* photographs, as another 12,483 job descriptions were added to our database. This collection of photographs has proven to be consistently popular with researchers, with over 220 unique job envelopes requested and retrieved from the freezer throughout the year. With the *Vancouver Sun* and *Province* photographs specifically in mind, the digital archivists also piloted a new strategy to package and upload multiple digitized photographs as a ZIP file, which streamlined the laborious process of describing every photograph at the item-level. As part of this pilot, and as time permitted, we digitized 1,879 images in 49 photo envelopes, many of which had been requested multiple times for scan-on-demand orders. From a preservation perspective, this reduced the amount of handling needed for negatives with popular subject matter and minimized the duration the negatives are outside of their optimal storage environment of -18°C.

The curious discovery of the "*Frondes superbae Zealandia: Our garden ferns*" in our holdings led to the unusual stabilization treatment of plant specimens in a bound volume. This also lent itself to an opportunity to test the capabilities of our new book scanner. The collaborative effort between archivist, conservator and digitization technician is truly exemplified in this project and will be presented at an upcoming Heritage Hour hosted by the Vancouver Heritage Foundation, so stay tuned for more information!

PRESERVATION STATISTICS

Maps and plans treated	1,166
Photographs treated	934
Graphic materials treated	120
Text treated	74
Objects treated	0
E-mail enquiries	8
Telephone enquiries	2
Interviews	1



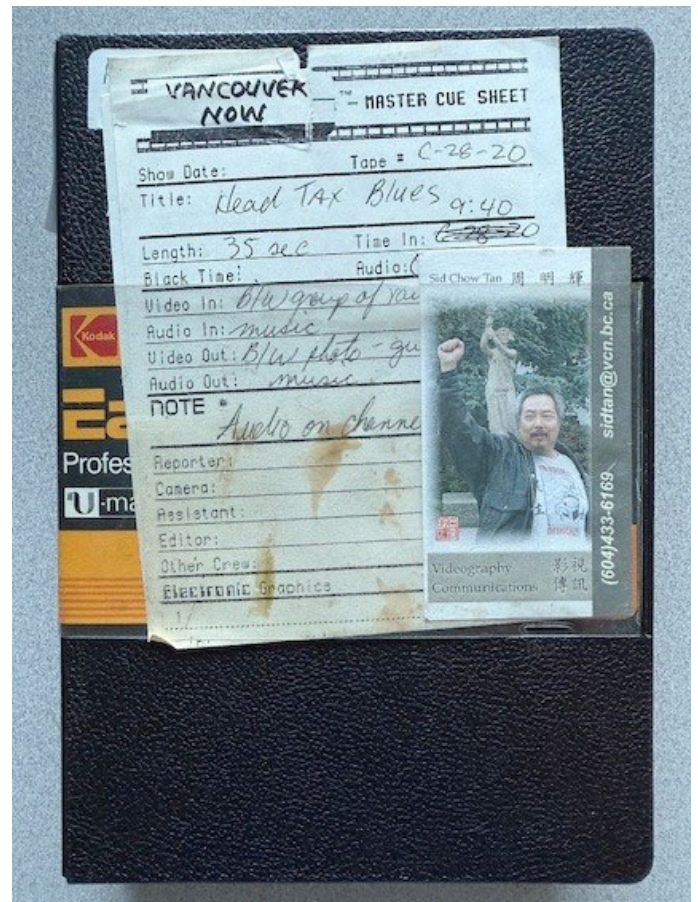
This year we completed the major undertaking of constructing our own video digitization suite, enabling our analogue video holdings to now be transferred in-house, rather than sent out to external vendors for digitization. Because analogue video equipment is no longer commercially produced and difficult to obtain, professional video decks and supporting technology, such as a vectorscope/waveform monitor and a time base corrector, initially had to be sourced through second-hand markets and refurbished by repair specialists prior to their addition to our suite.

After several months of assembling the station's components, engaging in troubleshooting and knowledge sharing with other archivists in the video preservation community, and completing numerous trial digitization runs, we began to successfully transfer videos in September 2025. Our work is presently focused on digitizing the video archives of Vancouver-based activist, community organizer and television producer Sid Chow Tan, whose fonds was donated to the Archives in 2023. Tan's archives contains a wide variety of video formats that our setup is able accommodate, including Betacam, U-matic, VHS, DV, and MiniDV. From September through December, we digitized 111 videotapes onsite, comprising over 73 hours of content. Digitization of Tan's tapes was supported by the BC History Digitization Program.

As mentioned earlier in this report, the team also devised a procedure for gradually making *Vancouver Sun* images available online. When a researcher submits a scan-on-demand order for an image, time permitting, the digitization technician will scan all the negatives in the job envelope. A digital archivist will then run the master .tif files through our digital preservation system, Archivematica, and then package the .jpg access copies that Archivematica creates into a .zip file. This .zip file is then uploaded to the online database as an attachment to the file level description, ready for download by researchers. This was a proof of concept for using .zip files to make large volumes of digital images available to the public without the need for labour-intensive item-level description and may be useful in speeding up processing of some large photographic collections.

DIGITIZATION STATISTICS

Images (photographs, maps and art)	6,114
Pages of text	6,509
Tapes (umatic, betacam, VHS)	227



PARTNERSHIPS

In 2025, the Archives collaborated on projects with a number of outside organizations and networks including the following:

- Community Archival Collections and Heritage Exhibitions (CACHE) Network
- Historypin
- Internet Archive
- InterPARES
- Vancouver Heritage Foundation



EXHIBITIONS & DISPLAYS

- W.J. Moore Panoramas (Gallery)
- Vancouver Vignettes (Video Wall)
- Food and Drink (Video Wall)
- Goods and Services (Video Wall)

LOANS

- Panoramic photographs for display in the Mayor's Office and boardroom
- Panoramic photographs for display in Councillors Bligh's, Dominato's, Fry's, Kirby-Yung's, Klassen's, Meiszner's, Montague's, and Zhou's offices
- Panoramic photographs for display in the City Clerk's Office corridor and reception area
- King John Sword replica to St. John Ambulance BC & Yukon Council Provincial Headquarters
- *Ka Baibala Hemolele* [Hawaiian Bible] to the Reach Gallery Museum for "Parallax: Reimagining the Canada-US Border" exhibition

TOURS

Several back-of-house tours and Reading Room group orientations were held in 2025, including the following:

- Six orientation workshops with undergraduate and graduate students from the University of British Columbia and Emily Carr University of Art and Design, and participants in Salmonberry Days
- International Cartographic Conference attendees
- COV Civic Engagement and Communications managers
- Land Title and Survey Authority staff members
- New Westminster City Archivist
- City of Richmond Archives staff members
- Langara Library Technician students
- Surrey Museum and Archives Young Canada Works interns
- York University Design Students Association members
- Transcribimus project volunteers
- Hazel Kwok, Asia Art Archive, Hong Kong
- Beth Sanders, student



SPECIAL EVENTS/OUTREACH HIGHLIGHTS

- The Archives staffed a booth at the Vancouver Heritage Foundation's Places that Matter Community Celebration on February 23.
- Bronwyn Smyth co-presented "Researching the history of a building" with the Vancouver Heritage Foundation on April 1.
- On August 20, the Archives hosted a group of attendees of the International Cartographic Association's bi-annual conference held in Vancouver. A back-of-house tour was conducted by Heather Gordon, and Sharon Walz gave presentations on records holdings related to pre-GIS geospatial data and cartographic records.
- Heather Gordon, Bronwyn Smyth and Kira Baker presented on "Access and Discovery at the City of Vancouver Archives" to the Brock House Society on October 7.
- Archives staff assisted with poster design, copy writing, EventBrite ticket sales, promotion, social media creation and monitoring for the Friends of the Vancouver City Archives online fundraising talk by Dr. Jennifer Chutter on November 4.
- Archives staff maintained a strong online social media presence, creating engaging posts regularly on a variety of platforms, interacting with not only the public but also other institutions.
- Archives staff provided research support for the Vancouver Heritage Foundation's Heritage Discovery Day.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT

- Dorcas Tong virtually attended the American Institute for Conservation's annual conference, "What's Your Story? The Power of Collaborations and Connections."
- Bronwyn Smyth attended the Society for the Study of Architecture's annual conference in Ottawa (partly at her own expense).
- Kira Baker, Bronwyn Smyth and Christine Tutt attended the City's workplace violence prevention training, required every three years.
- All Archives staff beta tested and completed the City's new "Access to Information and Privacy Foundations" online course.
- Christine Tutt completed LinkedIn's "Social Media for Government" webinar.
- Paola Merkins actively participated in online sessions related to occupational health and safety, disaster prevention and collections management, including the Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety's "The Good, The Bad and The Hazardous – Let's Talk Identification and Assessment" and "Workplace Hazards – Frighteningly Common, Easily Preventable," and the Foundation for Advancement in Conservation's "So Now What? Disposal of Materials After a Disaster."
- Paola Merkins and Heather Gordon received training to perform fire watch duty.
- Paola Merkins and Heather Gordon were certified as powered mobile equipment operators.



MAJOR PROJECTS

- Heather Gordon and Paola Merkins worked with Real Estate and Facilities Management staff to renovate the Archives' temporary satellite site in East Vancouver.

- Glenn Dingwall and Heather Gordon worked with Artefactual Systems Inc. to develop automation tools for the Archives' digital preservation system, Archivematica. This will allow Archives staff to process transfers of electronic records from the City's electronic document and records management system, VanDocs.

- With funding from the Friends of the Vancouver City Archives, Archives staff digitized 3,087 *Vancouver Courier* photographs. Mandy Roddick, Christine Tutt, Jana Grazley and Dorcas Tong were involved in this project.

- Kira Baker created item-level descriptions for 1,818 Park Board photographs (CVA 392) that had been digitized a few years ago. With descriptions to attach these digital files to, the images could finally be processed through Archivematica and uploaded to our online database.

- Jana Grazley and Abi Sebaly constructed the Archives' video digitization station and, with funding from the BC History Digitization Program, digitized 117 video recordings in the Sid Chow Tan fonds.

- Christine Tutt, Bronwyn Smyth and Barbara Sage (from the City's Access to Information team) transcribed 17 volumes of handwritten City Council minutes indexes for the entire 1940s decade of Council meetings. These newly transcribed indexes were reviewed by Kira Baker and added to the Archives' existing electronic Council minutes index.

- Kira Baker and Jana Grazley continued working on reparative description to review and revise legacy archival descriptions that contain problematic and outdated language.

- Dorcas Tong, Mandy Roddick, Bronwyn Smyth, and Christine Tutt worked on digitizing and OCRing Council minutes from the 1980s. By year end, 90 sets of Council minutes dating June 1981 to December 1982 were digitized. Of these sets, 74 have been ingested through Archivematica and are now available through our online database; 16 are OCR'd and will be ingested in Q1 2026. An additional 35 sets of minutes for January-July 1983 were digitized and will be OCR'd and ingested in 2026.

- Bronwyn Smyth finished processing a large series of Engineering major project files, under the direction of Glenn Dingwall.

- Bronwyn Smyth and Christine Tutt continued to transcribe metadata from *Vancouver Sun* photo shoot job envelopes and boxed them for preservation in frozen storage. Jana Grazley QC'd and uploaded 12,500 transcribed descriptions to our online database, resulting in over 67,200 files available for public access.

- Glenn Dingwall worked with Canadian Olympic Committee (COC) legal counsel to review ~100 files in the Vancouver Organizing Committee for the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games (VANOC) fonds that were due for public release on October 1, 2025. As part of the City's Archival Materials Agreement with the COC, these files were closed for 15 years following the Games and, as a result of this review, are now open for research.

- Heather Gordon worked with COV Desktop Services staff to upgrade all 43 Archives computers to Windows 11, including digitization-related machines and reading room public kiosks that have challenging non-standard and sometimes vintage software packages.



Thank you

The Archives could not preserve Vancouver's documentary heritage without the concern and active support of the many organizations and individuals who donate records and other materials.

Thank you to our 2025 donors.

Barker, Gregory
Bogle, Robert
Bosello, Kelly
Bridger, Steve
Carnegie Community Centre Association
Clement, Catherine
Diggins, Steve
Eagle Ridge Hospital Thrift Shop
Ewert, Henry
Fuller, John
Garvin, Sam
Gattrell, Tanja
Harrison, Michael
Jelfs, Frederick
Jones, Faith
Kaleden Museum and Archives
Kassa, Jacquelyn

Kluckner, Michael
Log, Frances
Malkin, Peter
McLeod, Margaret
Museum and Archives of Vernon
Oakes, Rev. Dr. Ken
O'Doherty, Heather
Olsen March, Christine
Otsuji, Kiyoshi
Pinkser, Paul
Vancouver Coastal Health Authority
Vancouver Estonian Society
Vivaldi Chamber Choir
Warren, Patrick
West Vancouver Archives
Whiteley, Hugh

FRIENDS OF THE VANCOUVER CITY ARCHIVES

The Board of Directors held nine meetings during the year. The Annual General Meeting was held on March 26 and featured a presentation by Donna Seto. Donna talked about her new book, *Chinatown Vancouver: An Illustrated History*, sharing details of her artistic process and research.

In 2025 the Friends provided funding to the Archives in the amount of \$8,800 to assist with the digitization of photographic images from the *Vancouver Courier* newspaper "Subjects" photos series and watercolours by Michael Kluckner.

On November 4, the Friends held a successful fundraiser, "Strathcona's Community-Led Housing Development." Dr. Jennifer Chutter spoke on the Strathcona Property Owner's and Tenant's Association's not-for-profit housing development corporation, the Strathcona Area Housing Society, and its role in constructing and selling new affordable family housing.

Chair

Jill Kelly

Vice Chair

Merrilee Robson

Secretary

Kevin Bowers

Treasurer

Neal Jennings

Members at Large

John Atkin

Scott Ashton Swan

Jennifer Chutter

Emilie Lonie (to October)

Elana Zysblat



ARCHIVES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Sue Baptie

Neal Jennings

Dr. Tina Merrill Loo

The Committee is authorized by City Council to assist the Archives on matters such as acquisition policy, donations, revenue projects, educational matters, public relations, and physical plant. It also oversees the use of the Major Matthews Memorial Fund. Neal Jennings attends meetings in the role of liaison from the Friends of the Vancouver City Archives. The Committee met once in 2025, on November 19th.

GRANTS & DONATIONS

Friends of the Vancouver City Archives

Vancouver Courier photograph digitization \$8,000

Funding was received to contribute toward digitizing 3,087 photographic prints from the *Vancouver Courier* newspaper's photo morgue.

Friends of the Vancouver City Archives

Documentary art digitization \$800

Funding was received to digitize 74 watercolours by Michael Kluckner.

British Columbia History Digitization Program

Sid Chow Tan Video Archives Digitization - Phase 1 \$15,000

Funding was received to digitize 227 videos created by longtime Vancouver community activist, documentarian and television producer Sid Chow Tan (1949-2022) between 1982 and 2010 (1990s predominant). The first phase of a multi-year project, the work focused on prominent dimensions of Tan's activism: justice for the Chinese Canadian community through work with the Head Tax redress movement, resistance to gentrification and displacement in Vancouver's Chinatown and Downtown Eastside, and environmental justice in British Columbia and beyond.



ORGANIZATION & STAFF

In 2025, City of Vancouver Archives staffing stood at ten regular full-time positions.

City Archivist:

Heather Gordon

Digital Archivists:

Glenn Dingwall

Jana Grazley

Sharon Walz

Archival Assistants:

Bronwyn Smyth

Christine Tutt

Digital Conservator:

Dorcas Tong

Archivists:

Kira Baker

Abi Sebaly (AUX)

Chak Yung

Digitization Technician:

Mandy Roddick (AUX)

Conservator:

Paola Merkins

IMAGE CAPTIONS AND REFERENCE CODES

Cover:

- New satellite site mobile shelving with Hollinger boxes
- Photo: Paola Merkins

Page 1:

- City Hall and Capt. Vancouver side view, ca. 1945
- Reference code: AM1545-S3-: CVA 586-6145

Page 2:

- Vancouver Planetarium, ca. 1983
- Reference code: AM1528-S1-F124-: 2008-127.03028 (crop)

Page 3-4:

- Satellite site renovation
- Photos: Paola Merkins

Page 9:

- Before and after treatment photos of "Opening Day" Con Jones Park
- Reference code: 2025-032.045

- During treatment photos of the fern album- stabilization of loose botanical specimen pressing (left) and reattachment of torn front board (right).

Reference code: AM1444-: LEG4839.1

Photos: Dorcas Tong

Page 10:

- Video digitization suite
- Photo: Heather Gordon

- Earth Seen Credit, ca. 1994

Reference code: AM1698-S3-: 2023-092.0254 (screengrab)

- Cassette Case, ca. 1992

Reference code: AM1698-S2-: 2023-092.0056 (content)

Page 11:

- Three raccoons in my back yard, ca. 1987

Reference code: AM1528-S1-F006-: 2008-127.00251 (crop)

- Sailboat in English Bay, ca. 1992

Reference code: AM1528-S1-F160-: 2008-127.03788 (crop)

Page 12:

- House Research workshop

Photo: Heather Gordon

- Places That Matter

Photo: Heather Gordon

Page 13:

- Satellite site mobile shelving units and lighting control system

Photo: Paola Merkins

Page 15:

- Bald eagles playing at Kits Beach, ca. 1989

Reference code: AM1528-S1-F006-: 2008-127.00137

- 304 East 28th [Avenue], painted 2011

Reference code: AM1562-S01-: 2025-015.18

Page 16:

- Roller skaters on Stanley Park seawall, ca. 197-?

Reference code: AM1528-S1-F188-: 2008-127.05619 (crop)

