

## **Coal Town Culture**



Photo: Courtesy of Crowsnest Museum and Archives CM-CP-35-09

Coal Town Culture – it sounds like an oxymoron. Some people think that Crowsnest Pass a century ago was just a series of dirty towns – and they'd be right. Some think of it as 'disaster alley', the site of violent events including huge landslides, mine explosions and shootings – and they'd be right too. Others think of labour unrest and violent strikes – also right. With all that going on, who had time for culture?

It turns out, almost everybody. Many of the people here at the beginning of the twentieth century were immigrants from the cultural hothouses of Europe. Far from their familiar homes, folks naturally banded together in their new settings, and reinforced common bonds of food, dance, costume, music, and customs, sometimes by forming ethnic societies. Smaller ethnic groups from Asia and other places also brought in influences, much of which is undocumented and unremembered.

There were a great number of musical bands in the Pass, including duos, quartets, dance bands, full string orchestras, and brass marching bands. Swiss-born Walter Moser could have lived anywhere in the world, but he settled in Hillcrest and spent the rest of his life teaching music to students from Lethbridge to Cranbrook, and not a few in the Pass. The oldest amateur symphony in Alberta still practices and performs here. Our annual music festival was started in 1925.

The Gushul Studio in Blairmore was once the finest photographic studio between Winnipeg and Vancouver. Thomas and Lena Gushul were self-taught photographers who took both formal and spontaneous photographs, and documented Pass life for several decades, starting in about 1920. Our local museum archive has over ten thousand Gushul prints and negatives, and thousands more reside in

the Glenbow and Galt museums. Today their studio operates as an artists' retreat run by the University of Lethbridge.

In the 1920s through to the 1930s, Crowsnest Pass was visited by travelling Chautauqua shows, where doses of European culture were presented in skits, songs, and recitals. There were also frequent visits by traveling symphonies, theatre troupes and dance bands. Crowsnest Pass once had three opera houses and a number of dancehalls, and later had four movie theatres.

When it comes to cultural history, we don't take a back-seat to anyone. Today our public art gallery is augmented by several artist's studios and collectives, a dance academy, talented musicians, and a handful of published authors and poets.

# **The Coleman Cenotaph**



Artistic expression can be found in the most unexpected places. Take for example the life-sized figure atop the cenotaph next to the Coleman Legion. Most Canadian cenotaphs with sculptures are bronze or stone depictions of First World War soldiers, but Coleman's is a World War Two infantryman made from concrete, and is in color, which may be unique.

This fine figure dates from 1966 and was sculpted by an artist better known for his paintings and rustic carvings on cowboy and native themes. Jack Fuller was born in 1900 on a horse ranch near Innisfail and was a cowhand and horseman for much of his life, and was a self-taught artist although he briefly studied art in New York in 1926. Fuller helped with the life-sized diorama figures in the Luxton Museum in Banff, but the Coleman cenotaph sculpture is his only large solo work.

This striking piece of public art continues to turn heads today.



# Music in the Crowsnest Pass – A Cultural Tradition

The coal mining communities of the Crowsnest Pass have a rich musical culture, stemming from a diverse blend of immigrant settlers with their rich cultural traditions of music and dance.

The various town, regimental, and ethnic bands and local orchestras played a prominent role in the first half of the twentieth century in almost every community event from parades to weddings and funerals.

Today, there are many local groups and musicians that participate in "jam sessions" at various local venues every week.

Two of the region's most influential musical institutions are the Crowsnest Pass Symphony Orchestra and the Crowsnest Pass Music Festival.

The Crowsnest Pass Music Festival began almost a century ago in 1925 as the Crow's Nest Pass Sunday School Music Festival. It was so successful that in subsequent years it expanded to become one of the major music festivals in the region attracting participants from Fort Macleod to Fernie until 1943, when it became dormant. It was revived in 1957 and continues to this day. Originally competitive in format, since the 1990s the festival has put greater emphasis on participation. The first festival featured vocals, violin, and piano competitions during a one-day event. Today's Crowsnest Pass Music Festival is held in the second week of March.

It features a week long programme in various venues in the Crowsnest Pass and Pincher Creek with classes for voice, music theatre, choral, piano, string, and fretted strings. The Grand Concert is the highlight of every festival



Photo: Sally-Ann Taylor

showcasing the best performances from the week's events.

According to Crowsnest and Its People (Volume III), the Crowsnest Pass Symphony Orchestra began in 1926 with the Hillcrest Orchestra, conducted by J.E. Upton. It had two trumpets and thirteen strings, many of whom studied with Walter Moser.

The symphony continues to this day and is Alberta's oldest continuing performing amateur orchestra. In 1998, it garnered recognition by Orchestra Canada's National Conference as Canada's only "teaching" orchestra.

It continues that tradition with youthful members participating with accomplished senior members performing annual Christmas and spring concerts and delighting audiences in both the Crowsnest Pass and Pincher Creek. Over the years the orchestra has attracted musicians from as far away as Fernie and Lethbridge as members.

This year's Doors Open and Heritage Festival features two events which reflect the musical heritage of the Crowsnest Pass.

The launch event on Friday, August 2nd at 7 pm at MDM includes participation of the CNP Chamber Orchestra to accompany the Heritage Youth Theatre production of "Living Portraits". The Saturday, August 3rd Dare to be Square Barn Dance at MDM with doors opening at 6:30 pm, features the Second Fiddle String Jam and friends.

# **Coal Town Clothing Culture**



Photo: Rebecca Dewey

The Crowsnest Pass, with its high immigrant population and coal-mining heritage, remains a culturally unique area. Major ethnic groups of British, Eastern Europeans, Italians and many more have left their mark on the identity of the area. Over time, as people lived and worked in close proximity to one another, their cultural identity evolves to reflect their new Canadian coal mining lifestyle.

Clothing is one of the most visible markers of identity, while indications like food, religion, and holidays are often out of the public eye. Historic photographs from the Crowsnest Pass show a variety of recently arrived immigrants, or those in celebration and costume, dressed in traditional ethnic clothing. As cultural identity shifted, clothing reflected that. Lifestyle changes like climate, work, and neighbours, forced these changes. Sturdy western style

clothing was adopted for everyday use. On special occasions, the traditional costumes would be brought out of storage and proudly displayed. Clothing culture wasn't lost, just adapted to life in the Crowsnest Pass.

There is one part of clothing culture that is stubbornly resilient. Despite the relentless wind in the Crowsnest Pass, carrying an endless supply of coal dust, white garments remained. Coal Town Clothing is surprisingly not entirely black.

The launch event on Friday, August 2nd at 7 pm at MDM includes participation of the CNP Chamber Orchestra to accompany the Heritage Youth Theatre production of "Living Portraits" which will include historical costumes.



## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

#### **THURSDAY, AUGUST 1**

#### **Crowsnest Community Market**

Gazebo Park Main Street, Blairmore 4 pm - 8 pm Cost: Free

Join in the fun of an evening at an Old Fashioned Country Fair. This weekly market has some extra special activities planned for the Doors Open and Heritage Festival. The market will feature fresh produce, locally handcrafted items, art work, fair games, live music, pie eating contest, auction and more! Contact: visit www.crowsnestmarket.com

#### **Oral History and Documenting Family History**

Crowsnest Museum 7701-18 Avenue, Coleman 7 pm - 9 pmCost: Free

Join the Crowsnest Museum for a short

presentation on the significance of oral history, and a screening of Canadian award-winning director Sarah Polley's film, "Stories We Tell" (2012). "Stories We Tell" explores how history is remembered and changes from individual to individual while focusing on the importance of documenting history.

Contact: call 403-563-5434



FRIDAY, AUGUST 2

#### **Heritage Nature Guided Walk**

Crowsnest Conservation Society Miners' Path — Flumerfelt Park, Coleman 8 am - 11 amCost: Free

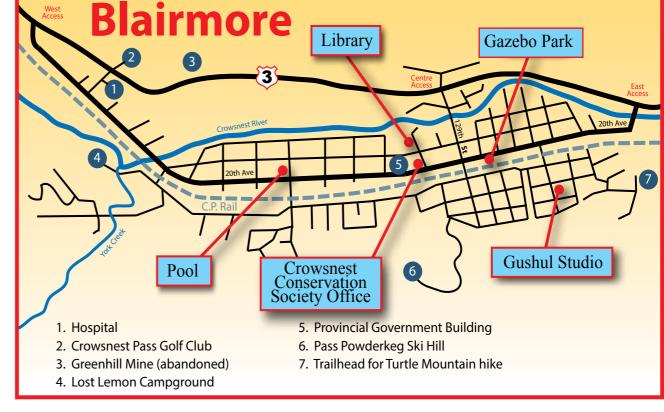
Walk the historic Miners' Path,

tracing the footsteps of the men who took this route to work at the McGillivray Mine between 1909 and 1957. Stroll in the shade of towering Douglas firs and listen to the bird songs that may have accompanied the miners years ago. Explore the past in a beautiful natural setting. Bring cameras, notepads, sketchbooks and pencils if you wish to stop and capture a memory. Wear suitable clothing and footwear for weather conditions and for walking on uneven terrain. Bring water and, if you wish, snacks, binoculars and hiking poles. Meet at Flumerfelt Park in Coleman — north of Hwy 3 at 76th Street. Park at the north end of the park next to the trailhead sign. Contact: please pre-register by calling Merilyn at 403-563-7545 or email cnpbirds@outlook.com

#### Meet the Authors: Barbara Janusz, Ian McKenzie, Stephanie Hamilton and more

Crowsnest Community Library 2114 -127 Street, Blairmore 1 pm - 3:30 pm Cost: Free

Drop in to the library to meet writers who will answer questions about their works and about the influence of Crowsnest Pass on their writing. Some may have books for sale. From July 29 to August 2, the library will have a display of books by local authors and by writers whose works feature Crowsnest Pass. Contact: call Merilyn at 403-563-7545 or email cnpbirds@outlook.com



#### **Launch Event – Coal Town Culture**

MDM Community Center 2802-222 Street, Bellevue 7 pm - 9 pmCost: Free

WELCOME TO THE FESTIVAL LAUNCH

Join us for an evening event featuring music, theatrical fashion show performed by the Heritage Youth Theatre Company, and of course great food, drink and good times.

#### The Heritage Youth **Theatre Company** presents "Living Portraits"

MDM Community Center 2802-222 Street, Bellevue 7 pm Cost: Free



Created & directed by Rebecca Dewey with CNP Chamber Orchestra. The Heritage Youth Theatre Company will bring historical images to life in a theatrical fashion show inspired by this year's theme: Coal Town Culture and the photography of Thomas Gushul. A cast of talented young performers, historical costumes and the CNP Chamber Orchestra – a feast for your eyes and ears. Presented as part of the Doors Open and Heritage Festival Launch Event. Contact: call 514-232-7373 or email

heritageyouththeatrecompany@gmail.com

#### **SATURDAY, AUGUST 3**

#### **Uplift Adventures** · Ghost Town, BBQ and Art

9 am - 3 pm Cost: \$175/person

Visit the famous ghost town in Crowsnest Pass. Join our accredited



Archives CM-L1-32-09a

guides in learning about the area during this interpretive adventure. While at Lille, have your hand at sketching the town on your own canvas to fill in what is missing, all the while enjoying a local BBQ. Your art piece is yours to keep. Return to the Frank Slide Interpretive Centre and wander through the exhibits.

Includes: Art supplies, Local sourced BBQ, On-trail snacks and beverages, Admission to the Frank Slide Interpretive, accredited guide, safety equipment, such as bear spray, first aid kit and emergency communication devices. Use of hiking poles (upon request). Small group sizes. Book online at www.uplifeadventures.ca Contact: call 403-232-7373 or email info@upliftadventures.ca

#### **Crowsnest Pass Pottery Sale**

Coleman Sportsplex 8702-22 Avenue, Coleman 9 am - 3 pmCost: Free entry — Pottery for purchase

The Pass Pottery Club is home to over 50 potters from the Crowsnest Pass and surrounding area. 2019 is our 45th anniversary! Come visit our studio to purchase beautiful pottery and meet our talented members.

Contact: email cheryl@chmilar.org

#### **Teddy Bears' Picnic**

Crowsnest Museum 7701-18 Avenue, Coleman 10 am - 3 pmCost: \$5 Teddy Bear registration Concession available



Don't miss the 13th annual Teddy Bears' Picnic! Fun for the young and young at heart. Join us for old fashioned games, face painting, a Teddy Bear Adoption Centre, personalized photos, and a Teddy Doctor Station, just to name a few of the "bear necessities." Contact: call 403-563-5434 or email cnmuseum@shaw.ca Visit: www.crowsnestmuseum.ca

#### **Crowsnest Country Market**

Coleman Community Society Flumerfelt Park, Hwy 3, Coleman *Open Air Market: 10 am – 4 pm Silent Auction: 11 am − 1 pm* Cost: Free



There is something for everyone at the Crowsnest Country Market in the historic Flumerfelt Park — land donated to the miners and their families back in 1910. Live music and various food vendors are available while visitors look over the 30+ vendor tables with a variety of products: pottery, artwork, photography, books, garden produce, handiwork, craft projects, jewelry, jams and jellies, plus a 50/50 draw. Children can enjoy the Waterplay Park while adults browse the tables. At 11 a.m., a silent auction of donations from local businesses and residents supports an active community group — join in the bidding and fun! Silent auction proceeds will go to the outdoor classroom project at Horace Allen School. Please refrain from bringing pets to this busy event.

NO PETS WILL BE ALLOWED IN THE VENDOR AREA

Contact: call 403-563-5408 or email reimcons@telus.net



#### SATURDAY, AUGUST 3 (Cont'd...)

#### **Royal Canadian Legion Open House**

Branch #9, Coleman 7831-17 Avenue, Coleman 10 am - 4 pm Cost: Free

Alberta's oldest legion was established in October of 1926. The legion's cenotaph honours WWI, WWII and Korean War Veterans. The building is a Registered Historic Resource. Contact: call 403-563-5480 or email branch9@shawbiz.ca

#### **Masonic Hall Open House**

Sentinel Summit #26 Masonic Hall, 14806-21 Avenue, Frank 12 noon – 2 pm Cost: Free

Built as a Methodist Church and subsequently used as a Union Hall and a community hall, this building now serves as the Masonic Hall. Tours will include the upstairs meeting room.

#### Meet the Authors: Michael J Leeb, Helen Webster, Barbara Janusz, Monica Zwikstra and more

Crowsnest Pass Public Art Gallery 13737-Hwy 3, Frank 2 pm - 5 pmCost: Free

Authors who live in and/or write about Crowsnest Pass will read from their works, talk about the writing process and answer your questions. Books will be available for sale and writers will be available to sign them.

Contact: call Merilyn at 403-563-7545 or email cnpbirds@outlook.com

#### **Booze and Bars Blairmore Walking Tour: The Beer Edition**

Leaving from the Blairmore Gazebo Blairmore Main Street, across from the Cosmopolitan Hotel

4 pm - 6 pm

*Cost: \$5 minimum donation to the Crowsnest Museum and Archives* 

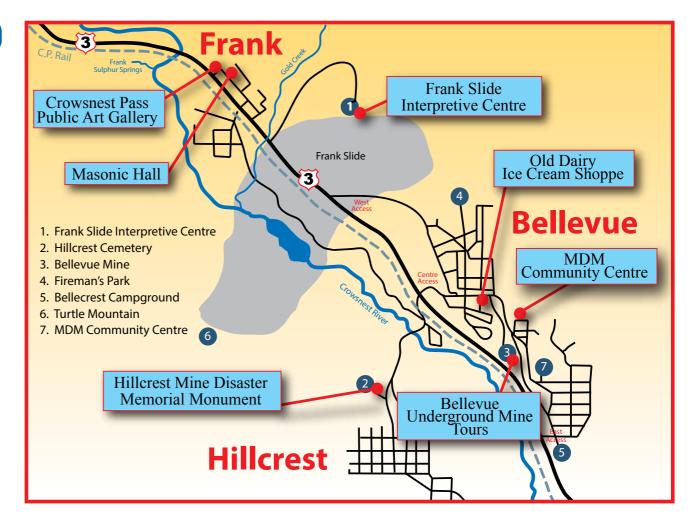
Explore the 'Booze and Bars' of Crowsnest Pass, Doors Open Style! Come stroll around Blairmore and make stops at several buildings that contribute to the pub culture of the Crowsnest Pass — the Alberta Hotel, the Cosmopolitan, and the Lethbridge Brewing Company building. Participants must be 18 or older. Contact: To register call 403-563-5434.

#### Dare to be Square

MDM Community Centre 2802-222 Street, Bellevue Doors Open at 6:30 pm Cost: advance tickets \$10 at the door \$15 Aged 12 and under: Free

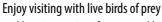


Join us for Square Dancing: Virginia Reel, Waltzes, Two Steps, Polkas, And More! No Dance Experience Necessary (we will teach you what you need to know!) This is an all-ages, family-friendly event, so no alcohol will be served but there will be refreshments and light snacks. Bring the whole family and dance the night away. Live music and dance calling by Second Fiddle String Jam and friends. Contact: call 403-562-2218 (Allied Arts)



#### **Alberta Birds of Prey Centre**

Beauvais Lake Provincial Park **Amphitheatre** 8 pm - 9 pm Cost: Free



and hearing stories of rescue and habitat conservation from Colin Weir, founder of the Alberta Birds of Prey Centre. Bring your questions and cameras for this amazing presentation.

Thank you Shell Waterton and The Beauvais Lake Cottage Association for sponsoring this Heritage Weekend Event.

Driving to the park for this presentation? Arrive early, park at the Beaver Creek Day Use area and have a picnic dinner first. You can hike to the amphitheatre from there, or park at the Boat Launch and walk in through the campground. The Amphitheatre is in Beauvais Lakes Campground near site #68.

Contact: email Heidi.Eijgel@gov.ab.ca

#### **SUNDAY, AUGUST 4**

#### **Meet the Minotaur**

8 am - 6 pm

A high alpine wilderness foot race that takes participants on a roller coaster of adventure in the scenic Crowsnest Pass. From bushwhacking to scree slopes to ridge running, Meet the Minotaur is the ultimate test. Participants have 8 hours to complete this gruelling race and must register in advance via www.meettheminotaur.com

#### Mountain Bike Ride to the Ghost Town of Lille

United Riders of Crowsnest (UROC) Drive up the Frank Slide Interpretive Centre road to the cattle guard, then follow the UROC signs to the staging area.



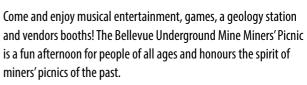
Cost: Free (limit of 30). Pre-register by calling Frank Slide Interpretive Centre at 403-562-7388

Join UROC for a family friendly mountain bike ride to the historical town site of Lille. We will be riding approximately 10 km with various stops at the cemetery, power house and town site. Be prepared for a couple of rocky hill climbs and descents. Please bring water and snacks. Waivers must be signed before the ride begins. For those looking for something a little more challenging, there will be a ride extension offered. Social to follow at Fireman's Park in Bellevue. Contact: call 403-651-4142 or email Redekjo@gmail.com

#### **Miners' Picnic**

Bellevue Underground Mine – just off Main Street Bellevue 10 am - 5 pmCost: Entrance to the Miners' Picnic is by donation and BBQ lunch is free

with entrance (1 burger or hot dog, chips and a drink).



Contact: call 403-564-4700 or email bellevuemine@telus.net

#### **Gushul Studio and Writer's Cottage Tour**

13301-19th Avenue, Blairmore 1 pm - 4 pmCost: Free

The Gushul Studio, established in

Blairmore by photographer Thomas Gushul in 1918, has been home to the University of Lethbridge's Gushul Studio & Writer's Cottage Residency Program since 1988. Come visit August's artists-inresidence in the Studio and tour the Cottage. Contact: call 403-329-2089 or email mctrmt@uleth.ca

Meet the Authors: Rick Gillis, Merilyn Ruth Liddell,

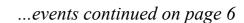
#### Michael J Leeb, Stephanie Laine Hamilton, Monica Zwikstra and more

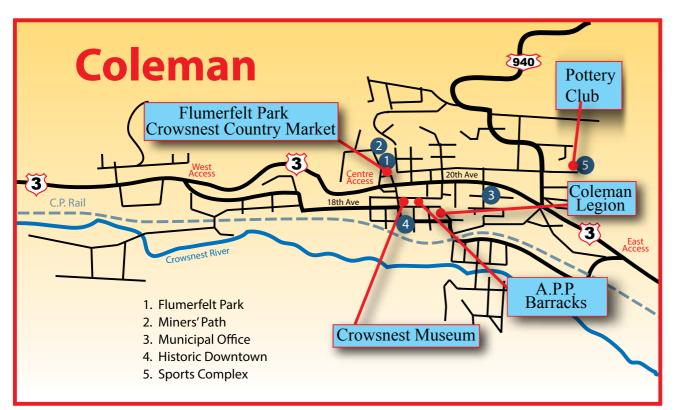
Crowsnest Pass Public Art Gallery 13737- Hwy 3, Frank 2 pm - 5 pm Cost: Free

Authors who live in and/or write about Crowsnest Pass will read from their works, talk about the writing process and answer your questions. Books will be available for sale and writers will be available to sign them.

Contact: call Merilyn at 403-563-7545 or email cnpbirds@outlook.com



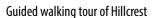




#### SUNDAY, AUGUST 4 (cont'd...)

### Hillcrest Mines Cemetery Guided Tour

Hillcrest Mines Cemetery, Hillcrest 4 pm — 5 pm Cost: Free



Cemetery with emphasis on headstone art and imagery. Wear weather-appropriate clothing and footwear, and meet in the cemetery parking lot.

Limit of 25. Pre-register by calling: 403-562-7388.



Meet the Authors: Ian McKenzie, Michael J Leeb, Merilyn Ruth Liddell, Joey Ambrosi, Stephanie Laine Hamilton, Monica Zwikstra, Joni MacFarlane and more



Frank Slide Interpretive Centre
1.5 km off Hwy 3, Crowsnest Pas

1.5 km off Hwy 3, Crowsnest Pass 9 am – 5pm

Cost: Free for Author Meet and Greet. Regular admission to the Frank Slide Centre will be charged to tour the exhibits and see shows.

Drop in to chat with authors who live in and/or write about Crowsnest Pass. Their books will be available for sale and writers will be available to sign them and answer your questions. Different authors will be at the centre at different times throughout the day. Contact: call Merilyn at 403-563-7545 or email cnpbirds@outlook.com

#### **Coal Town Culture Bus Tour**

Frank Slide Interpretive Centre 1.5 km off Hwy 3, Frank 11 am – 1 pm Cost: Free



Join your tour guide, Joey, as he takes

you on a tour of the historic coal mines of Crowsnest Pass. From Coleman Collieries to Leitch Collieries, learn about the influence of these mines on the culture and economy of Crowsnest Pass.

Pre-registration is required for this tour — call 403-562-7388 to book a spot. Limit of 35

#### Alberta's Park

Presented by Alberta Environment and Parks Frank Slide Interpretive Centre 1.5 km off Hwy 3, Crowsnest Pass 11 am – 2 pm Cost: Free



Wildlife Safety — for people, pets and wildlife! Join Alberta Park Educators at a display revealing tips and tricks for enjoying the wilderness and camping without putting yourself or wildlife in challenging situations! Prizes, trivia and more!

Contact: email Heidi.Eijgel@gov.ab.ca

## **Crowsnest Pass Community Pool**

11973-20 Avenue, Blairmore 1 pm – 5 pm Cost: Free

Join us for a fun free public swim

at the Crowsnest Community Pool. A great way to cool down after experiencing the fun activities of Crowsnest Pass Doors Open and Heritage Festival.

Contact: call 403-562-8255

#### Book Signing at Frank Slide Interpretive Centre Comic Book Launch

"Black Beauty — A Crowsnest Pass Tyrannosaurus rex"

Frank Slide Interpretive Centre

1.5 km off Hwy 3, Crowsnest Pass

2 pm – 4 pm

Cost: book signing event is free. Admission will be charged to tour the exhibits and see the shows.

Join us at the Frank Slide Interpretive Centre as we launch our newest comic book in our historical series, "Black Beauty." This comic tells the story of the finding and recovery of the famous Alberta tyrannosaurus rex "Black Beauty", that was found along the Crowsnest River. Special discounts will apply to the comic book "Black Beauty," and to the series package on Monday only. Contact: call 403-562-7388

#### Hillcrest Mines Cemetery Guided Tour

Hillcrest Mines Cemetery, Hillcrest 4 pm – 5 pm Cost: Free

Guided walking tour of Hillcrest Cemetery with emphasis on headstone art and imagery. Wear weather-appropriate clothing and footwear, and meet in the cemetery parking lot. Limit of 25. Pre-register by calling: 403-562-7388

#### THROUGHOUT THE WEEKEND

#### **Crowsnest Museum**

7701-18 Avenue, Coleman 9 am – 5 pm Cost: Admission to museum

Located in the Coleman National Historic Site, the museum is home to over 60,000 artifacts with an estimated 25,000 on display in the six

themed galleries and numerous exhibits and displays.
Contact: call 403-563-5434. Visit: www.crowsnestmuseum.com



7809 -18th Avenue, Coleman 9 am – 5 pm Cost: Admission to museum



Coleman beside the former Miners' Union Hospital and two doors down from the Crowsnest Museum, the former Alberta Provincial Police barracks embodies Canada's most infamous rum running murder. The new museum and exhibit walks you through Alberta's prohibition heritage, the stories surrounding the Alberta Provincial Police, and the local history surrounding the shooting of Constable Steven Lawson by Florence Lassandro and Emilio Picariello. Contact: call 403-563-5434. Visit: www.appbarracks.com



July & August: 9 am – 6 pm Rest of the year: 10 am – 5 pm Cost: Admission to centre

1.5 km off Hwy 3, Crowsnest Pass

The Frank Slide Interpretive Centre has four levels of interactive exhibits highlighting the 1903 Frank Slide, the Hillcrest Mine Disaster and the community of Crowsnest Pass. Two award-winning audio-visual presentations run daily and our talented interpretive staff will be offering numerous programs, hikes and presentations throughout the summer months.

Contact: call 403-562-7388 Visit: www.frankslide.org

#### **Bellevue Underground Mine**

Main Street, Bellevue Open Daily: 10 am – 6 pm First tour at 10 am, last tour at 5 pm Cost: Admission to mine tour

Don a miner's helmet and

experience life as an underground coal miner first hand.

Contact: call 403-564-4700

Visit: www.bellevueundergroundmine.org

### Crowsnest Pass Public Art Gallery Exhibit & Historic Tour

Crowsnest Pass Public Art Gallery, 13737-Hwy 3, Frank Tuesday — Saturday: 10 am — 4 pm Sunday and Monday: 1 pm — 4 pm Cost: Free Public Art Gallery

"Birds of a Feather: a Celebration of the Winged World" – felted art by Esther Neufeld.
Contact: call 403-562-2218

#### Leitch Collieries Provincial Historic Site

Hwy 3, east end of Crowsnest Pass Cost: Free

Step back in time to the coal mining era in Crowsnest Pass. Interpretive



panels and audio stations tell the story of this sophisticated early mining company. Or if you like to hear the story first hand, take a guided tour at 11 am or 2 pm, daily. Contact: call 403-562-7388

...events continued on page 7



#### THROUGHOUT THE WEEKEND (Cont'd...)

#### **Crowsnest Pass Photo Contest and Exhibit**

Crowsnest Pass Public Art Gallery 13737-Hwy 3, Frank Summer hours: Sunday and Monday: 1 pm – 4 pm

Tuesday — Saturday: 10 am — 4 pm

Cost: Free

Entry categories: Crowsnest Pass Heritage, Scenery, Wildlife and People. Contact: call 403-562-2218

#### Hillcrest Mine Disaster Memorial Cemetery Hillcrest Mines, Hillcrest

Hillcrest Mines, Hillcrest Open Daily Cost: Free

Contemplate the quiet scenery and

tragic legacy of Canada's worst mine disaster on a walk past interpretive signs at the Hillcrest Cemetery. The site includes the Millennium Mine Disaster Monument.

Contact: call 403-562-7388. Visit: www.hillcrestminedisaster.com

#### **Mystery Towns**

Downtown Blairmore All weekend Recommended 2 - 4 person teams Cost \$59 / team

This clue-based game can be played almost anytime over the weekend. The game is played by downloading the app onto your smart device. You will solve the clues based around Thomas Gushul, the legendary and highly talented photographer who captured much of the culture in the area. The game will take you to many historical sites in Blairmore and you will engage in the history of the area in a fun and adventurous way. This game is great for all ages. We recommend you play in teams of 2-4 people for the best experience. You can also race other teams to find out who can solve the clues the fastest. To book this game, visit www.mysterytowns.com

#### **Flight of Corvids**

Crowsnest Pass Public Art Gallery
– yard area
13737-Hwy 3, Frank
Cost: Free

Visit our newest outdoor public art installation and mural, next to the Crowsnest Pass Public Art Gallery in Frank.

Contact: call 403-562-7388

#### SELF-GUIDED TOURS AUG 1 – 5

Brochures can be picked up at the Bellevue Mine, Leitch Collieries Provincial Historic Site, Frank Slide Interpretive Centre, and the Crowsnest Pass Public Art Gallery, Crowsnest Museum and at Old Dairy Ice Cream Shoppe during their regular hours of operation. Brochures can also be picked up at historic kiosks where listed.



# **Stories in Stone**

In the 19th century, western headstone art moved away from literal portrayals of earthly death (carvings of skeletons, for example) and began to use more optimistic symbols to portray promises of an afterlife, or qualities of the deceased during their life. Less common were the long epitaphs which used words to convey a message, largely replaced by allegorical images.

Here in the Crowsnest Pass, our century-old heritage cemeteries fall firmly in this second, later style category. Although you still see epitaphs expressing personal affection for the deceased ("loving husband") or placing blame ("killed in the mine"), many headstones employ easily-recognized symbols to make their point. These allegorical symbols transcended language barriers assuming the observer was familiar with their meanings, many of which had Biblical or Pagan roots.

You can join one of two guided tours of Hillcrest Cemetery, and learn about the meaning of symbols engraved on headstones there. Please register in advance for this free event by calling the Frank Slide Interpretive Centre at 403-562-7388 as attendance is limited. Registrants meet in the cemetery parking lot.



# Crowsnest Pass: Fact, Fiction & Poetry



As she stood looking and listening her face changed. Through the hum of the mill there pierced now and then the notes of a violin.

– An excerpt from the first novel set in Crowsnest Pass, The Doctor, by Ralph Connor, originally published in 1906 and later republished as The Doctor of Crow's Nest.

A reproduction of this "important historical work" is still available online.

For more than a century, the stunning vistas and fascinating history of Crowsnest Pass have

inspired authors. Miners, madams, bootleggers, bandits, lawmen, and ghosts populated the community and became the subjects of works of fact, fiction and poetry, including textbooks, comic books, novels and opera. Historians documented the stories of Crowsnest Pass' natural and man-made disasters. Novelists used the same events as backdrops for their works of fiction. Our landscapes and our people influenced tales set in the past, the present and the future.

Other writers, wanting to ensure that locals and visitors could safely navigate the terrain of our valley and enjoy a good meal at the end of their treks, published guidebooks and cookbooks.

Numerous authors will be in attendance at the 2019 Crowsnest Pass Doors Open & Heritage Festival to read from their works, engage in conversations about writing, and sell their books. Look for them at the Crowsnest Community Library on Friday afternoon, at the Country Market on Saturday, at the Art Gallery on Saturday and Sunday, and at the Frank Slide Interpretive Centre on Monday, where the latest historical comic book will be launched. Refer to the brochure for details, including the names of authors who will be present at each event.

Authors' Readings and Book Sales available at various locations throughout Crowsnest Pass



### SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

#### **THURSDAY, AUGUST 1**

4 pm – 8 pm **Crowsnest Community Market** - Gazebo Park, Main Street, Blairmore

7 pm – 9 pm **Oral History and Documenting Family History** - Crowsnest Museum, 7701-18th Avenue, Coleman

#### FRIDAY, AUGUST 2

8 am – 11 am **Crowsnest Conservation Society Guided Walk** - Miner's Path, Flumerfelt Park, Coleman

1 pm – 3:30 pm **Meet the Authors** - Crowsnest Community Library, 2114-127 Street, Blairmore

7 pm – 9 pm **Launch Event** - Coal Town Culture, MDM Community Centre, 3802-222 Street, Bellevue

7 pm **The Heritage Youth Theatre Company -** MDM Community Centre, 3802-222 Street, Bellevue

#### **SATURDAY, AUGUST 3**

9 am – 3 pm **Uplift Adventures – Ghost Town, BBQ and Art** - Meeting location given at booking

9 am – 3 pm **Crowsnest Pass Pottery Club Sale** - Coleman Sportsplex, 8702-22 Avenue, Coleman

10 am – 3 pm **Teddy's Bear Picnic** - Crowsnest Museum, 7701-18th Avenue, Coleman

10 am – 4 pm **Crowsnest Country Market** - Coleman Community Society, Flumerfelt Park, Hwy 3, Coleman

10 am - 4 pm Crowsnest Pass Photo Contest & Exhibit - Crowsnest Pass Public Art Gallery, 13737 - Hwy 3, Frank

10 am - 4 pm **Royal Canadian Legion Open House** - Branch #9, 7831-17 Avenue, Coleman

12 noon – 2 pm **Masonic Hall Open House** - Sentinel Summit #26, 14806-21st Avenue, Frank

2 pm – 5 pm **Meet the Authors** - Crowsnest Pass Public Art Gallery, 13737- Hwy 3, Frank

4 pm – 6 pm **Booze and Bars – Blairmore Walking Tour -**Leaving from Gazebo Park, Main Street, Blairmore

6:30 pm **Dare to be Square – Old Time Dance -** MDM Community Centre, 2802-222 Street, Bellevue

8 pm – 9 pm Alberta Birds of Prey – Wildlife Theatre Presentation - Beauvais Lake Provincial Park

#### **SUNDAY, AUGUST 4**

8 am – 6pm Meet the Minotaur - A high alpine wilderness foot race
10 am – 2 pm Mountain Bike Ride to Lille UROC - Meet at pipeline, 2 km past cattle guard, left of road to Frank Slide Interpretive Centre.

10 am – 5 pm Miners' Picnic - Bellevue Underground Mine, Main Street, Bellevue

#### SUNDAY, AUGUST 4 (Cont'd...)

1 pm – 4 pm **Gushul Studios and Writer's Cottage Tour** – 13301-19th Avenue. Blairmore

2 pm – 5 pm **Meet the Authors** - Crowsnest Pass Public Art Gallery, 13737-Hwy 3, Frank

4 pm – 5 pm Hillcrest Mines Cemetery Guided Tour - Hillcrest Mines Cemetery, Hillcrest

#### **MONDAY, AUGUST 5**

9 am – 5 pm **Meet the Authors** - Frank Slide Interpretive Centre, 1.5 km off Hwy 3, Crowsnest Pass

11 am – 1 pm **Coal Town Culture Bus Tour** - Frank Slide Interpretive Centre, 1.5 km off Hwy 3, Crowsnest Pass

11 am – 2 pm Meet and Discover the "Wild Life" of Alberta Parks - Frank Slide Interpretive Centre, 1.5 km off Hwy 3, Crowsnest Pass

1 pm – 5 pm **Free Public Swim** - Crowsnest Pass Community Pool, 11973-20th Avenue, Blairmore

2 pm – 4 pm **Book Signing and 'Black Beauty' comic book Launch** - Frank Slide Interpretive Centre, 1.5 km off Hwy 3, Crowsnest Pass

4 pm – 5 pm Guided Cemetery Tour - Hillcrest Mines Cemetery, Hillcrest

#### **ONGOING EVENTS: AUGUST 1 – AUGUST 5**

Flight of the Corvids - Crowsnest Pass Public Art Gallery - yard area. 13737-Hwy 3, Frank

**Mystery Towns** - Downtown Blairmore. See details in Throughout The Weekend listing.

**Tours**Provincial Historic Site, Frank Slide Interpretive Centre, and the Crowsnest Pass Public Art Gallery, Crowsnest Museum, Old Dairy Ice Cream Shoppe – during their regular hours of operation.
Brochures can also be picked up at historic kiosks where listed.

**Historic Sites Crowsnest Pass Photo Exhibit and Art Gallery Exhibit & Museums**Crowsnest Pass Public Art Gallery, 13737- Hwy 3, Frank
Tuesday — Saturday: 10 am — 4 pm
Sunday & Holidays: 1 pm — 4pm

9 am – 5 pm **Crowsnest Museum -** 7701-18th Avenue, Coleman

9 am – 5 pm Alberta Provincial Police Barracks - 7809-18th Ave, Coleman

9 am – 6 pm Frank Slide Interpretive Centre – 1.5 km off Hwy 3, Crowsnest Pass

10 am - 6 pm **Bellevue Underground Mine** - Main street, Bellevue 10 am - 5 pm **Leitch Collieries Provincial Historic Site** - Hwy 3

Guided tours at 11 am & 2 pm

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ALBERTA CULTURE, MULTICULTURALISM AND STATUS OF WOMEN, ALBERTA PROVINCIAL PARKS, BELLEVUE UNDERGROUND MINE, CANADIAN HERITAGE, COLEMAN COMMUNITY SOCIETY, COMMUNITY FUTURES CROWSNEST PASS, CROWSNEST COMMUNITY LIBRARY, CROWSNEST COMMUNITY MARKET, CROWSNEST CONSERVATION SOCIETY, CROWSNEST COUNTRY MARKET, CROWSNEST HERITAGE INITIATIVE, CROWSNEST HISTORICAL SOCIETY, CROWSNEST MUSEUM AND ARCHIVES, CROWSNEST PASS AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, CROWSNEST PASS ALLIED ARTS ASSOCIATION AND PUBLIC ART GALLERY, CROWSNEST PASS ECOMUSEUM TRUST, CROWSNEST PASS POTTERY CLUB, FRANK SLIDE INTERPRETIVE CENTRE, HERITAGE YOUTH THEATRE COMPANY, ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION-COLEMAN #9, ROYAL LEPAGE REAL ESTATE, MUNICIPALITY OF CROWSNEST PASS, ROCKY SUMMIT LODGE #30, OLD DAIRY ICE CREAM SHOPPE, RIVERSDALE RESOURCES, UPLIFT ADVENTURES, UNIVERSITY OF LETHBRIDGE, UROC.

























