

# FERNIE & ELK VALLEY

CULTURAL GUIDE

WINTER 2017-2018



Photo: Griz Days Winter Festival / Vince Mo

[TOURISMFERNIE.COM](http://TOURISMFERNIE.COM)

**A CULTURAL GUIDE TO FERNIE AND THE ELK VALLEY**  
**ARTS, CULTURE & HERITAGE**

The Arts Station and Sugar Plum Festival	4
CP Holiday Train	6
Featured Artists & Performers: Mike & Anie Hepher	8
The Legend of the Griz	10
Coffee & Culture - The Valley Social	13
Fernie Heritage Library & Booked! Fernie Writers' Series	14
Featured Winter Events	16
The Fernie Museum & Fernie Treasures and Curiosities	18
Winter Cultural Events Calendar	20
Galleries & Studios	22
Cultural Attractions in the Elk Valley	24
Downtown Walking Tour of Fernie	26
Coming This Spring	30

**THE COMMUNITIES OF THE ELK VALLEY**

In the heart of the majestic Canadian Rocky Mountains the Elk Valley is an oasis of charming towns, abundant recreation, and engaging events and entertainment. For over 100 years pioneers have travelled to the region, first in search of valuable minerals and now seeking a sanctuary focused on family, community and the beautiful outdoors. Mining still forms the base of a thriving economy that has diversified to welcome a variety of artisans, small businesses, and an active year-round recreational and cultural tourism industry.

**FERNIE** is the largest and oldest of the 3 main communities in the Elk Valley. A town rich in heritage, award-winning architecture, and spectacular scenery, Fernie charms and delights all ages. Whether strolling century-old Historic Downtown, exploring the unique geography, visiting artists and artisans or revelling in the packed cultural calendar, there's something for everyone to enjoy.

Pop: 5,249 | Founded 1898  
 Incorporated 1904

**SPARWOOD** lies in the middle of the valley and is the first community reached on entering from Alberta. The town's name is derived from the local trees that were used for manufacturing spars for ocean vessels. The town was founded as a new home for the residents of the temporary communities of Michel and Natal. Several art murals can be seen here, depicting the strong connection to coal mining, with some by Michelle Loughery who was born in the area and went on to become a world-renowned muralist.

Pop: 3,784 | Founded 1966

At the head of the valley is **ELKFORD**, a small town with a passionate arts community. Writing, painting, photography, and pottery are among the popular endeavours, and well-known glass artist Katherine Russell has a working studio here. Elkford is the gateway to the Elk Lakes Provincial Park, a remote protected area bordering Alberta's Kananaskis Country.

Pop: 1,752 | Founded 1971

## THE ARTS STATION WHERE ART, CULTURE & HISTORY CONVERGE



A vibrant and engaging space for the creative community in Fernie featuring all disciplines of the arts for visitors and locals alike. The Arts Station has a varied program of entertainment and activities throughout the year including live concerts, film screenings, pottery workshops, community theatre, gallery shows, and art classes for all ages.

### LIVING HISTORY IN A HERITAGE BUILDING

From 1898 to 1964, the Canadian Pacific Railway station was the economic and social hub of the community and the only connection between the valley and the outside world. The station burned down in the Great Fire of 1908 and was rebuilt as the current station 1909. The CPR donated the disused building to the City of Fernie and in 1987 the Fernie Arts Council began the four-year process of moving the building onto a new foundation and undertaking renovations. The former waiting room became the foyer gallery and every other space found new life as studios, event space, and even a restaurant. The Arts Station opened in 1990 as an indispensable base for artists in the Elk Valley.

### SUGAR PLUM FESTIVAL NOVEMBER 30 – DECEMBER 22

The holidays come alive in Historic Downtown and at The Arts Station with a celebration of traditions new and old in the **Sugar Plum Festival**. On **November 30th** the festival opens with the **Holiday Wreath Show Reception** at 7:00pm. Wreaths will be on display throughout December, and available for sale with money raised going to the Youth Arts Station Bursary.

The festival continues **December 2nd & 3rd** with **Sugarcoated**, a nutcracker-inspired musical theatre show for all ages, featuring the dancers of the Heart & Soul Dance and Theatre Collective in full seasonal costumes. 6:30pm on **December 2nd** & 3:00pm on **December 3rd**. Tickets \$15.

On **December 9th** at 11:00am, **Tutus and Tails** is a magical experience for ages 4-10. A reading of ETF Hoffman's original Nutcracker, nutcracker-themed mask-making workshop with photo booth, ballet class, and gala performance for friends and family to attend. Tickets are \$68 and include a costume to take home, keepsake program, and 4 tickets for the gala at 1:30pm.

Don't miss the **CP Holiday Train**, arriving at the Arts Station on **December 11th** at 5:15pm with a performance by **Alan Doyle** (singer from Canadian band Great Big Sea) and the Beautiful Band. See page 6 for more details.

**A Fernie Holiday Story** on **December 16th** at 7:00pm is a special collaboration of stories and recollections of Christmas celebrations in Fernie, brought to you by Tunnel Theatre Group, featuring the joys and heartache of festivities in the mountains with plenty of laughs and a few songs for good cheer. Entry by Donation.

At the Vogue Theatre on **December 17th** at 5:00pm, an encore screening of this year's live performance of **The Nutcracker by the Royal Ballet**, a whimsical tale of mouse kingdoms, toys that come to life, magic, love, and revenge. Costumes encouraged! Free, arrive early to ensure your seat.

The festival wraps up on **December 22nd** with a **Holiday Lantern-Themed Craft** for children followed by **Caroling** on the steps outside, with hot chocolate. 3:00pm & 5:30pm. All welcome.

### GALLERY ART SHOW RECEPTIONS & CONCERT SERIES – ALL WINTER

Gallery receptions are engaging opportunities to meet local artists, see their latest work and perhaps even take home a piece of local art. Free entrance, complimentary appetizers and cash bar. The Concert Series features internationally renowned artists on tour and includes an eclectic range of musical genres and styles from jazz and blues to world music and Canadian indie. See events calendar on page 20 for dates & titles, or go online at [www.theartsstation.com](http://www.theartsstation.com)



601 1st Ave | 250-423-4842  
[theartsstation.com](http://theartsstation.com)





## LIGHTS IN THE NIGHT CP HOLIDAY TRAIN COMES TO ELK VALLEY

Rolling into the Elk Valley every second year with grand cheer, the CP Holiday Train will arrive once again on Monday, December 11th. A spectacle of lights, music and celebration in true Canadian style, the 2017 Holiday Train concludes CP's Canada 150 celebrations and will feature the Spirit of Tomorrow car, which was part of the Canada 150 Train this past summer.

The CP Holiday Train is over 1,000ft in length and each of the 14 cars are decked out in thousands of LED lights in festive designs. Arriving just after dark in Fernie, it is a spectacular sight flanked by blankets of pillowy snow reflecting the rainbow of colours.

The train begins its journey in Quebec in late November and travels across the country, stopping at towns and cities along the way. The dual purpose of the Holiday Train is to raise donations

for local food banks and to bring communities together to enjoy the festive entertainment.

### LIVE FREE CONCERT

Alan Doyle—of Great Big Sea fame—and The Beautiful Band will provide a live boot-stomping performance from the train as it stops in **Sparwood at 3:30pm, Fernie at 5:15pm and Jaffray at 7:15pm** before continuing through BC to the coast.

### HELPING LOCAL FOOD BANKS

Since its inception in 1999, the CP Holiday Train has raised over \$13 million dollars and 4 million pounds of food for North American Food Banks. CP Rail encourages you to bring non-perishable food to donate to the cause. The Fernie Food Bank also appreciates gift card donations to assist in helping local families.

### PHOTO CONTEST & COLOURING PAGES

Take a photo of the train and you could win four seats on the 2018 train and a \$1,000 donation to the local food bank. See website for details.

#CPHolidayTrain

cpr.ca/holiday-train/



**12th ANNUAL FERNIE MOUNTAIN FILM FESTIVAL 18**  
mountains :: waterways :: culture :: environment

**FEB 23 - 24, 2018\***

[www.FernieFilmFestival.com](http://www.FernieFilmFestival.com)

\* DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE, PLEASE VISIT WEBSITE FOR DETAILS

**10th Anniversary Event**  
Dedicated to the talent, skill and diversity of the Canadian Film Industry

**January 26-28th | Vogue Theatre**  
[WWW.REELFILMFEST.CA](http://WWW.REELFILMFEST.CA)

Opening & Closing Gala Receptions | 5 Feature Films & 5 Short Films  
Little Reels Showcase | Visiting Special Guests

**All Weekend Pass \$50 | Tickets to individual features available at the door.**

*Park Place Lodge*

Proudly supporting arts & culture in Fernie including the Reel Canadian Film Festival.  
Stay with us for a memorable vacation in the heart of historic Fernie BC.

250-423-6871 | [www.parkplacelodge.com](http://www.parkplacelodge.com)



## FEATURE ARTISTS & PERFORMERS ANIE & MIKE HEPHER

In a perfect world, an artist has just the right amount of space, clarity, and a dozen other things necessary for internal ideas to become finished creations. It's not a perfect world though, so when two russet-haired multi-disciplined artists find each other from distant corners of BC and come together to build a life, raise a family, and make beautiful music, it's clear something quite special has happened.

Mike and Anie Hepher met as guests at a mutual friend's wedding in Gibsons on the BC Coast where Mike was also performing and needed a harmony for a particular song. Music turned to conversation that went long into the night; fast forward a few months and Mike packed up his VW Van to join Anie in Cranbrook. They speak enthusiastically of being immersed in the music scene there and married in nearby Mayook on a rural property known in the grassroots music scene for intimate musical gatherings.

Mike recharged his graphic design education at Driven Media in Cranbrook following a spell as a blacksmith. In 2003, he obtained a printing press with the intention of using it for manual designs – typography wasn't in the plans at that stage. Inspired to open a business and now with two young children, Finn and Wren, the young family began scouting the Kootenays for a suitable home and workspace. Enter Fernie, and the wood-paneled, steel-gated studio space in the Ghost Rider Trading Building. They moved in July 2011 and opened Clawhammer Letterpress, one of Canada's few traditional printing studios, along with a gallery showcasing local art.

Anie produced a line of eco-friendly hand-sewn articles, and later, started the Fernie Ukelele Orchestra; seeking out an instrument that was easy for others to learn and share. The orchestra was an immediate hit with locals. Anie ran the orchestra from 2011 until 2017, and although she has now released the

reins, she continues to offer free ukelele workshops through her position as Community Programmer at the Fernie Heritage Library.

Together, they are Redgirl—a scalable band that is often a duo but can grow to 5 performers—all playing a light shade of bluegrass with a bit of roots showing. The Clawhammer studio provided space for the establishment of The Old Type Music Society, a casual arrangement of live music events, that eventually led to the creation of The Gillbilly Festival, a weekend of bluegrass and fly fishing held each fall.

By early 2016, Mike was spending more time managing the store and fielding inquiries than creating art. It was time for a change. An army of volunteers moved thousands of pounds of cast iron printing presses, letter cases, and miscellaneous equipment two blocks down the street to the studio space of painter Angela Morgan in April of that year. Together, the two artists settled on opening two days a week, leaving the rest of their time free to cultivate their craft.

Mike picked up his paintbrushes after a long hiatus and has quickly amassed an impressive body of work. Anie has slowed her pace and is enjoying time by the river, writing poetry, and the parenting sweet spot of raising two kids from tweens to teens. This past summer they spent 7 weeks touring BC's backroads on a family camping trip. Mike's artistic interpretation of that trip will be featured in an upcoming gallery show 'BC Backroads' at the Fernie Museum in 2018, and perhaps, the echoes will be heard in a future song or two.

Visit Clawhammer Press on Fridays and Saturdays, meet Anie at one of her many Library events or programs, or watch Redgirl performing live – see online calendars for updates.

441 2nd Ave | 778-519-5010  
clawhammer.ca | oldtypemusic.com  



## THE LEGEND OF THE GRIZ

*In the midst of the cruel and bitter winter of 1879, a baby boy was born in a grizzly bear's cave high in the mountains. The child grew strong in the harsh conditions and when the resident grizzly awoke, a terrible battle ensued between the two; the courageous boy fighting for his life, the ravenous bear for his dinner.*

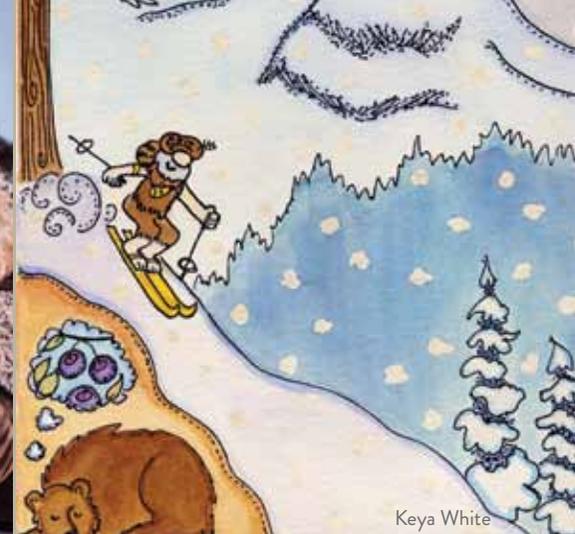
The next day, the townspeople went into the mountains to try to discover the source of all the noise from the previous night and looked high and low for signs of a struggle. One of the men thought he saw a little boy wearing a bear coat and hat nimble leaping from rock to rock, high up on the lofty peaks. His friends laughed at him and the incident was soon forgotten.

Many years later, a group of intrepid ski tourers were bootpacking on the peaks of the Lizard Range in the midst of a heavy snowstorm. When they stopped for breath, one of the men glanced up at the peak they were climbing. There on the very summit, stood a fantastic sight. A man with shoulders six feet wide, carrying a musket eight feet long. The bulk of the man's estimated 300 pounds was made to look even more awesome by the bristly, grizzly coat he wore. A bearskin hat was

pulled down shadowing his eyes. As the skiers watched, the man aimed his giant musket into the clouds and fired, causing blankets of snow to fall from the sky above. This delighted the skiers who loved that special brand of powder snow.

The travellers quickly skied down the mountain and excitedly told everyone of their experience. Some of the town's elders remembered the sighting of a little grizzly-clad boy so long ago, and with the discovery of massive, barefooted tracks upon the snow-covered peaks at a later date, the legend slowly took shape.

In recognition and admiration of the man who became known as GRIZ, the townspeople held a festival all week. Sporting events, competitions, parades, and gatherings marked the legend. Over the years, GRIZ continues to be celebrated in a variety of ways. He appears when least expect, but is most evident during the annual Griz Days Festival held every March. He can sometimes be spotted skiing at Fernie Alpine Resort or accompanying jailbirds in the Griz Jail. He's known to enjoy a party or two and loves to meet and greet visitors from far and wide.



Keya White

## GRIZ DAYS FESTIVAL

The annual Extreme Griz competition is held during Griz Days and is a hard-fought battle of bellies, brains, and brawn where the town's toughest take on a full day of challenges starting with a pancake eating competition and continuing with axe throwing and a variety of mountain-sized events. The winner is crowned with an impressive hand-forged metal crown and bestowed with the title of Extreme Griz for the coming year. The event is open to all challengers and is great for participants and spectators alike.

Griz Days is Fernie's biggest annual festival, celebrating snow, community

and everything we love about winter. Historic Downtown Fernie comes alive with a Parade, Fireworks, and Street Hockey, while Fernie Alpine Resort is the site for the Extreme Griz Competition, a chance to ski with the Griz, and the hilarious Raging Elk Dummy Downhill Competition. Festivities continue all weekend with live outdoor and indoor entertainment for all ages, including street performers, the Griz Stomp, Family Dance and Griz Days Craft Fair. Other past events have included a Rail Jam, Rocky Mountain Lumberjack show, Peewee Hockey and special exhibitions and live events. Don't miss your chance to be a part of one of Fernie's favourite weekends!



# GRIZDAYS WINTER FESTIVAL

## GRIZ DAYS GONE PLAID

MARCH 2<sup>ND</sup>-4<sup>TH</sup>

Join us for the biggest winter event in Fernie.

Extreme Griz Competition, Fireworks, Parade, Street Hockey, Dummy Downhill, Pub Crawl, Lumberjack Show & More!

#GRIZDAYS

WWW.FERNIEGRIZDAYS.COM



### FEATURE BUSINESS THE VALLEY SOCIAL — BRINGING COFFEE AND CULTURE TOGETHER

An idea that percolated in the mind of owner Dan Whillans as he sought to ease himself out of the hectic pace of outdoor education, The Valley Social is a fresh take on the coffee shop concept. Initially formulated as a brunch food truck intended for Ontario's Madawaska Valley, the business actually took shape as a mobile coffee bar in a converted Boler trailer in Fernie, BC.

Originally from the Ottawa Valley, Whillans had heard the call of the mountains and with a \$500 gift from a mentor set out west with a friend. After one summer serving coffee from his Boler, a competition caught his eye. Write an essay; win a coffee shop. As odd as that seemed, it was legit. A White Rock coffee shop was up for grabs. Dan obliged, submitted and won. Albeit he won the business not the premises. Arriving one afternoon in White Rock, BC, he was told: "It's yours when we close the doors at

4pm." Packing everything he could salvage into a truck, he drove the entire contents back to Fernie and began renovations on a new downtown location where everything has a story—from the wall made from kiln separators to the wooden light fixtures over the bar.

Blending small town familiarity with big city vibes, The Valley Social is a place to meet, to do business, to connect. Embracing the popup culture and a spirit of inclusion, the location has hosted feature dinners and a vendor market, and is home to the Fernie Pride Society's monthly 'Beers and Queers' socials. Featuring artisanal coffee from Fernie's own Rooftop Coffee Roasters and with a team of passionate baristas, the goal is to elevate Fernie's coffee culture and offer a space where everyone feels welcome.

Come. Sit. Relax.

562 2nd Ave | 778-519-5272  
instagram.com/thevalleysocial



### A FERNIE MUSEUM SHOP

## THE TRITES & WOOD MERCANTILE CO.

Named after the grand department store once located next door, the Fernie Museum's shop features a curated collection of jewelry, clothing and accessories, home décor, books, and stationery representing Fernie's geography, culture, and heritage.

### ARTIST SHOWCASE



**Matti Martin | December 1, 2017 to January 31, 2018**  
Matti Martin's jewellery is inspired by the simple shapes and form often seen in Fernie's architecture and the natural beauty of gemstones, rugged landscapes and mountain vistas.



**Sarah Pike | February 1 to March 31, 2018**  
Sarah's pottery is inspired by the landscape around her home, the rich history of ceramics, and antique tinware, textured metal and other old things found in the barns around Fernie.

491 2nd Avenue, Fernie BC | OPEN 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM DAILY from DECEMBER 2, 2017



## FERNIE HERITAGE LIBRARY BRINGING WORDS TO LIFE



L-R Angie Abdou, Randal MacNair, Emma Dressler

The Fernie Heritage Library is a place for discovery, inspiration and recreation. Fun and friendly, warm and welcoming; a sanctuary for all ages. Drop in to pick up a book or movie, or stay a while and enjoy the many programs and events including children's story time, reading groups, a ukulele class, a special social occasion or popular event such as the Lemonade Social. Curl up in a huge leather armchair by the sunny upstairs windows to enjoy the view of the Rockies and folklore of old Fernie.

### BUILDING FERNIE'S LITERARY HERITAGE

The Fernie Public Library started in 1899 as a simple public reading room thanks to a movement by the prominent ladies in town. It was a place where people, locals and visitors, could spend their evenings reading papers, magazines and writing letters. Today, the beautiful Romanesque Revival building that was built in 1907 as Fernie's Post Office, is now home to a thriving and grand community library. In all seasons it is a cozy refuge. During the warmer months enjoy the Library Garden with a book or a family picnic.

### BOOKED! FERNIE'S WRITERS' SERIES

Continuing the legacy of the Fernie Writers' Conference, the BOOKED! Fernie Writers' Series is a venue for creative discussion in a literary-themed social setting, and a chance to meet exciting authors rarely found outside of bigger cities. The Fernie Writers' Series was founded by library director Emma Dressler, local author and Athabasca University Assistant Professor Angie Abdou, and Fernie publisher Randal MacNair.

The skill with which these three—along with an incredible support crew—bring together the series is no happy accident. Macnair has been immersed in writing since birth; he is the great-grandson of founding manager of The Canadian Press, JFB Livesay, and grandson of Dorothy Livesay, two-time Governor-General's Award winner. Abdou is a McEwan Book of the Year Award winner and Canada Reads finalist, her sixth book HOME ICE: Reflections of a Reluctant Hockey Mom is due out in 2018. Dressler was the 2012 BC Library Director's Award of Excellence recipient.

Fernie's almost mythical attraction has wooed authors with ease for the past five years, says Macnair. Terry Fallis enjoyed a crowd three times the size of a typical Toronto book event, and Grant Lawrence found much to like about the concept of beer in a library. Credit must also be given to the enthusiastic and receptive audiences who send the authors away with warm smiles and new stories to tell. As well as an award-winning author, each event also features musicians from across the East

Kootenays, a key part of making the events such a big success.

### 2017-2018 BOOKED! SCHEDULE

The season opened with the launch of Abdou's latest book *In Case I Go* in September, and poet Lorna Crozier in October. The series continues with Relit finalist **Adam Lewis Schroeder** on **November 23rd**, and Giller Prize winner **Esi Edugyan**, and Rogers Writers' Trust Fiction Prize and Giller Prize winner **Joseph Boyden** in 2018.

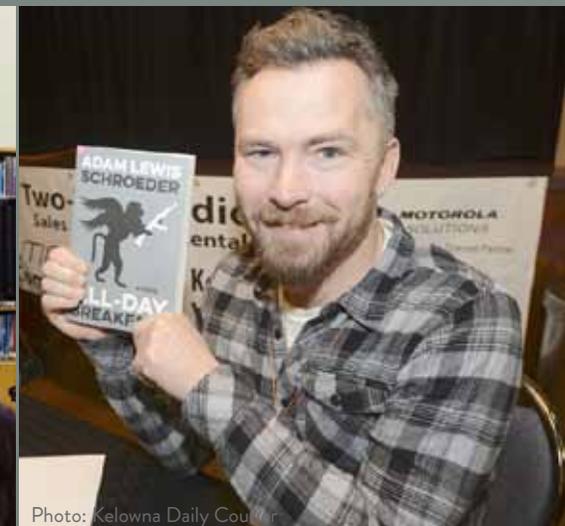


Photo: Kelowna Daily Courier

492 3rd Ave | 250-423-4458  
fern.bclibrary.ca



## FEATURED WINTER EVENTS



### 11TH ANNUAL HOME ROUTES— CHEMIN CHEZ NOUS HEARTLAND RAMBLE FEBRUARY, MARCH & APRIL 2018 ELKFORD MOUNTAIN MEADOWS CLUBHOUSE [Homeroutes.ca](http://Homeroutes.ca)

Featuring the best roots music from across Canada in a series of 'house concert' style events. The series kicked off in September with mid-western duo Big Little Lions and continued through the fall with east-coast performers. Quebec's Sarah Jane Scouten features on February 9th and Vince Andrushko from Manitoba on March 10th. The series ends with BC's Murfitt and Main on April 15th. Tickets are \$20.



### 10TH ANNUAL REEL CANADIAN FILM FESTIVAL JANUARY 26-28, 2018 | [VOGUE THEATRE](http://VOGUE THEATRE) [reelfilmfest.ca](http://reelfilmfest.ca)

A celebration of the rich diversity and creativity of the Canadian Film Industry, RCFF is a 3-day gala presentation of the year's top features and shorts with two receptions. The anniversary festival opens with the acclaimed *Public Schooled*, the latest hilarious collaboration between Director Kyle Rideout, writer Josh Epstein, and Fernie-based costume designer, Flo Barrett. The festival continues with an eclectic selection of films, a young film-makers competition, and chances to chat with the people who make these works of art.



### 41ST ANNUAL GRIZ DAYS MARCH 2-4, 2018 | [FERNIE-WIDE](http://FERNIE-WIDE) [Fernegrizdays.com](http://Ferniegrizdays.com)

Fernie's biggest festival of the year, honoring The Griz, Fernie's official winter mascot. Downtown Parade & Fireworks, Extreme Griz Competition, Pub Crawl, Country Stomp, Street Hockey, Craft Fair and much, much more. For details, see P11



### STOKEFEST MARCH 24, 2018 | [FERNIE COMMUNITY CENTRE](http://FERNIE COMMUNITY CENTRE) [Ferneistokefest.com](http://Ferniestokefest.com)

Fernie's own bootstomping stoke folk band, Shred Kelly, and friends in a double-header mini winter music festival. Early all-ages show and late 18+ show. Stomp it up all night long with lively original Canadiana and roots.



## SPEAKING EARTH *Haqatpaṭninam*

### LEGENDS, LAND & LANGUAGE

*A Canadian Rocky Mountain First Nations Experience*

Join Ktunaxa Nation members for four days of entertainment, excitement and enlightenment. Speaking Earth - *Haqatpaṭninam* (Hackalth-palth-knee-nam) - is offered only through the Ktunaxa Nation-owned St. Eugene Golf Resort & Casino - an exclusive destination in southern British Columbia.

This rare opportunity is available for guests beginning Spring of 2018.

*Travel to another nation. Journey to a different world.*



*For more details, rates and to book this four-day, fully catered package, please contact:*

1.866.292.2020 || [www.SpeakingEarth.ca](http://www.SpeakingEarth.ca)

## FERNIE MUSEUM EXPLORE 140 YEARS OF HISTORY



The Fernie Museum and Visitor Centre, located in the historic 1908 Home Bank building, has welcomed over 55,000 visitors since opening in that location in 2013. Featuring intriguing stories and collections it is a must-do for all visitors.

### THIS IS OUR FERNIE

The permanent exhibition tells the story of Fernie's legends and mythology, fires and mining disasters and tales of commercial, sporting and community life over the past 140 years. See the updated and refreshed exhibit, including new interactive displays, from December 1st.

### TRITES & WOOD MERCANTILE

A new museum gift shop opens December 1st featuring a curated collection of items inspired by the museum's collection, and life in Fernie. Browse the Fernie-branded products including Murchie's Fernie blend tea, miniature rugs inspired by the carpets once sold at Trites-Wood department store, and Fernie Ladies' Apothecary Soaps. The Museum is proud to present featured artists in the gift shop, beginning with jewellery designer Matti Martin in January and February.

### FERNIE TREASURES AND CURIOSITIES

DECEMBER 2 – MARCH 31

The fascination of historic objects is the foundation for museum collections. Objects make us wonder: "Who made this, and why?" Spanning over 40 years of collecting, the Fernie Museum has almost 10,000 artifacts in its Cultural History Collection that tell the story of the Elk Valley. The exhibit will feature a curated collection of 150 treasures and curiosities from the museum's vaults, many of which have not been seen by the public in over 20 years.

### VAULTS OF HISTORY:

The vault doors of the former Home Bank—still on display in the museum as the entrance to the elevator—have their own story to tell. In 1923 the collapse of the Home Bank lost over \$800,000 of Fernie residents' money. The scandal caused a rewrite of Canadian Banking Law, preventing banks from taking such unmitigated risks in the future and paving the way for a robust and reliable Canadian banking system that prevented widespread bank failures during the Great Depression.



### A 1950's WEDDING:

On November 8th, 1952, at the Knox United Church in Fernie, The Reverend J. M. Alexander married Jaqueline Wyman to Cecil Alexander. Among the collection are copies of the wedding album, Cecil's wedding suit, and Jaqueline's wedding dress that was worn by her daughter in 1985 for her own wedding. Through this mini collection of documented items, we see a picture of how one of the most important days in a couple's life was celebrated over 60 years ago.



### COMMERCE AND COMMUNITY:

The Trites-Wood Department Store was central to community life in Fernie.

The source of all necessities, the Fernie store was one of 4 branches of one of the biggest retail empires in British Columbia. The ornate cash register would have been one of the most recognized items in Fernie in its day.

The final exhibit of the Fernie Canada 150 Cultural Series, presented in partnership by the Fernie Museum and the Fernie Arts Station. Visit the [ThisIsFernie.ca](http://ThisIsFernie.ca) for more information about the exhibit series.

On **February 4th, 2018**, a Canadian Roadshow-style event will offer local citizens a chance to have their own artifacts appraised by qualified historians in a fascinating glimpse into the lives of Fernie residents from time gone by.



691 2nd Ave | 250-423-7016  
[ferniemuseum.com](http://ferniemuseum.com)



# WINTER CULTURAL EVENT CALENDAR

For full details visit [tourismfernie.com/events](http://tourismfernie.com/events).



## NOVEMBER

- 17–Dec 3 Elk Valley Festival of Trees, Park Place Lodge
- 18–Dec 2 Photos with Santa, Park Place Lodge
- 23 Booked! Fernie Writers' Series Presents: Adam Lewis Schroeder, Fernie Heritage Library
- 23 Film Screening - Warren Miller: Line of Descent, Vogue Theatre
- 23 Live Music: Matthew Hornell & Andrew Sneddon, Elkford Mountain Meadows Clubhouse
- 23 Tree Lighting, Bonfire, & Caroling with Santa, Sparwood Centennial Square
- 24 DJ Night: Inc.Line & friends, The Royal
- 24–25 Black Friday Holiday Market, Park Place Lodge
- 24–25 Twilight & Holiday Craft Fair, Fernie Community Centre
- 25 Bel Canto Strings - Beyond Classics, The Arts Station
- 25 Live Music: Mick Shafer Band, The Brickhouse
- 25 DJ Night: Chuurch & friends, The Royal
- 30 Sugar Plum Festival: Holiday Wreath Show, The Arts Station

## DECEMBER

- 1–2 Hearth 7: Annual Studio Sale, Sarah Pike Pottery
- 1 Winter-long 100 hour Dance Challenge Kick-off, The Royal
- 1 Gallery Opening & Exhibit Relaunch: Fernie Treasures & Curiosities, Fernie Museum
- 1 Opening Day, Fernie Alpine Resort
- 1 Opera Screening: Hansel und Gretel by Humperdinck, The Arts Station
- 2 Sugar Plum Festival: Sugarcoated, The Arts Stn
- 2 Art & the Mountains Collide on the Divide, Island Lake Catskiing
- 3 Caroling Jam, Fernie Heritage Library
- 3 Indie Films Fernie: A Man Called Ove, Vogue Theatre
- 6 Light up the Night! Christmas Tree Lighting, Fernie Court House
- 8 Beers & Queers Open Mic, The Valley Social
- 9 Sugar Plum Festival: Tutus and Tails, The Arts Stn
- 9 DJ Night: SkiiTour, The Northern
- 10 Fernie Wine Club Christmas Mingler, Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory
- 11 CP Holiday Train featuring Alan Doyle, Stn Sq
- 15 Fernie Community Choir Christmas Concert, Holy Family Church
- 15 Live Music: Shred Kelly, The Northern
- 16 T'is the Season Craft Fair, Fernie Community Centre
- 16 Sugar Plum Festival: A Fernie Holiday Story, The Arts Station
- 16 Community Christmas Party, Fernie Heritage Library
- 17 Sugar Plum Festival: The Nutcracker by the Royal Ballet, Vogue Theatre

- 20 Storytime Plaid Party, Fernie Heritage Library
- 22 Sugar Plum Festival: Kids Craft & Carolling, The Arts Station
- 22–Jan 7 Horse-drawn sleigh rides, Fernie Alpine Resort
- 23–24 Ski & Photos with Santa, Fernie Alpine Resort
- 23–Jan 6 Griz Kids Family Activities, Fernie Alpine Resort
- 31 Family New Year's Eve, Fernie Alpine Resort
- 31 New Year's Eve Parties, Fernie-wide

## JANUARY

- 3 Banff Mountain Film Festival World Tour, Vogue Theatre
- 4 Gallery Opening: Pruthvi Harshan, The Arts Station
- 5 Opera Screening: Norma by Bellini, The Arts Station
- 7 Indie Films Fernie, Vogue Theatre
- 18 & 20 Black's Fireside Dinners, Fernie Wine Club
- 23 Live Music: The Tequila Mockingbird Orchestra, The Arts Station
- 25 Australia Day: Triple J Hottest 100 Countdown, The Royal
- 25 Gallery Opening: Vanessa Croome, The Arts Station
- 26–28 10th Annual Reel Canadian Film Festival, Vogue Theatre
- 26 Family Literacy Day, Fernie Heritage Library
- 26 Live Music: Pat Moloney, Infinitea
- 27 Kokanee Snow Dreams, Fernie Alpine Resort
- 28 Snowed In Comedy Tour, The Northern

## FEBRUARY

- 3 Opera Screening: Pelleas et Melisande by Debussy, The Arts Station
- 4 Treasures from Fernie Attics, Basements & Garages, Fernie Family Centre
- 4 Indie Films Fernie, Vogue Theatre
- 6 Waitangi Day Celebrations, Bars around town
- 7 Live Music: WiL, The Arts Station
- 8 Date with a Book, Fernie Heritage Library
- 9 Live Music: Sarah Jane Scouten, Elkford Mountain Meadows Clubhouse
- 10 Cooking lesson with Pina, Fernie Wine Club
- 12 German Sparkle Party, The Royal
- 14–17 Valentine's Day Dinner Specials, Restaurants around town
- 16 Thunderstruck Film Night, Fernie Snowmobile Association
- 16–17 Figure Skating Carnival, Fernie Memorial Arena
- 16–17 Fernie Snowmobile Festival & Sled Drags, Various Locations
- 16–18 Griz Kids AB Family Weekend Activities, Fernie Alpine Resort
- 17 Winter in the Wild Pottery, Painting & Craft Open House, Elkford Art Studio
- 18 Italian Bistro Night, Fernie Wine Club
- 22 Gallery Opening: Jesse Bell, The Arts Station

- 23–24 Fernie Mountain Film Festival, Fernie Community Centre

## MARCH

- 2–4 41st Annual Griz Days Winter Festival, Fernie-wide
- 2 Opera Screening: Un Ballo In Maschera by Verdi, The Arts Station
- 4 Indie Films Fernie, Vogue Theatre
- 4 Raging Elk Dummy Downhill, Fernie Alpine Resort
- 7 Live Music: Big Little Lions, The Arts Station
- 10 Live Music: Vince Andrushko, Elkford Mountain Meadows Clubhouse
- 12 Mr Fernie Competition, The Royal
- 13 Fernie Wine Club Event, Bridge Bistro
- 17 St Patricks Day Celebrations, Bars around town
- 24 Retro Day, Fernie Alpine Resort
- 24 Live Music: Stokefest with Shred Kelly, Fernie Community Centre
- 29 Gallery Opening: Spinners & Weavers Guild, The Arts Station
- 31 Griz Kids Winter Carnival, Fernie Alpine Resort

## APRIL

- 1 Easter Brunch/Dinner, Restaurants around town
- 1 Easter Eggstravaganza, Fernie Alpine Resort
- 1 Indie Films Fernie, Vogue Theatre
- 4 Hot Dog Day, Fernie Alpine Resort
- 6 Opera Screening: Otello by Verdi, The Arts Station
- 12 Live Music: Ken Whiteley, The Arts Station
- 13–14 End of Season Parties, Bars around town
- 14–15 Fernal & Coca-Cola Slope Soaker, Fernie Alpine Resort
- 15 Live Music: Murfitt & Main, Elkford Mountain Meadows Clubhouse

## WEEKLY EVENTS

### MONDAY

Jam Night at Kodiak Lounge, 9pm

### TUESDAY

Storytime at Library, for under 5  
\$6.50 Movie Night, Vogue Theatre 7 & 9 pm  
Karaoke at the Royal, 9pm

### WEDNESDAY

Storytime at Library, for under 5  
Tarot at Infinitea, 8pm  
Trivia Night at the Fernie Hotel, 9pm  
Jam Night at the Royal, 9pm

### THURSDAY

Team Trivia at The Pub Bar & Grill, 8pm  
Jam Night at the Brickhouse, 10pm

### FRIDAY

Storytime at Library, for under 5  
Live music at Loaf, 6pm  
Live music at Infinitea, 8pm

### SATURDAY

Vinyl Appreciation Night at Infinitea, 8pm  
Open Mic at the Fernie Hotel & Pub, 9pm

**ANGELA MORGAN GALLERY**

Fine art gallery and working studio in Historic Downtown Fernie.

441C 2nd Ave, Fernie | [www.angelamorgan.com](http://www.angelamorgan.com)

Open: Fri & Sat 12–5pm

**THE ARTS STATION**

The hub of Fernie's cultural scene. Two art galleries, 100-seat theatre, craft and painting studio, pottery studio and workshop/meeting spaces.

601–1st Ave, Fernie | 250-423-4842

[www.theartsstation.com](http://www.theartsstation.com) | Open: Mon–Fri 9am–3pm

**BRIAN POLLOCK GALLERY**

Fine art photography gallery offering high quality large-format photo printing. Gallery selling original prints and framed artwork.

532 B 2nd Ave. Fernie | 250-430-7114 | [www.brianpollock.ca](http://www.brianpollock.ca)

Open: Open regularly & by appointment

**CHAINSAW CARVER**

Michael A. Penny's working studio gallery producing finely detailed wood sculptures. See feature article on P19.

1439 MacDonald Ave/Hwy 3 | 250-423-0552

[fernielogcarver@gmail.com](mailto:fernielogcarver@gmail.com) Open most days & by appointment

**CLAWHAMMER LETTERPRESS**

Print making and typographical art in the artisan tradition. Gallery space featuring posters, art cards & original paintings.

441C 2nd Ave, Fernie | 250-946-6400 | [www.clawhammer.ca](http://www.clawhammer.ca)

Open: Fri & Sat 12–5pm

**ELKFORD ARTS STUDIO**

A collaborative space offering a variety of visual art and pottery classes, workshops and experiences for all ages and abilities. Operated by the Elkford Arts Council.

816 Michel Road, (2nd floor of Arena) Elkford | 250-433-7007

[www.elkfordartscouncil.blogspot.ca](http://www.elkfordartscouncil.blogspot.ca) | Open: Open daily, hours vary

**EYE OF THE NEEDLE & FERNIE FORGE**

Artisan gallery & studio in a heritage building featuring metalwork from Fernie Forge and others, plus fibre art, candles, glasswork and one-on-one felting classes.

260–5th Street, Fernie or 2087 Hwy #3 Fernie

250-423-2671 | [www.fernieforge.ca](http://www.fernieforge.ca)

Open: Thu & Fri 10am–5pm | Sat 11:30am–5:30pm

**FERNIE ARTS CO-OP**

Art from over 60 local artists including handmade jewellery, photography, original paintings, textiles, pottery, and sculpture portraying the region and lifestyle of the Elk Valley.

572– 2nd Ave, Fernie | 250-423-7044

Open: Mon–Sat 10am–6pm | Sun 12pm–4pm

**KATHY STEAD – VISUAL ARTIST**

Fine art painter and mixed media artist working in a variety of semi-abstract and realism styles.

86 Ridgemont Dr. Fernie | 250-423-4979

[www.kathysteadsfineartstudio.com](http://www.kathysteadsfineartstudio.com) | Open: Open by appointment

**KYLE HAMILTON PHOTOGRAPHY**

A wedding and lifestyle photography studio with a studio space for portraits and fine art landscape gallery prints. Custom framing and passport/ID Photo services available.

341c 3rd Ave, Fernie | 250-423-0904 | [www.khphotograph.com](http://www.khphotograph.com)

Open: Open regularly & by appointment

**STUDIO 562**

Leanne's studio and gallery space features canvas paintings of landscapes, animals and scenes of children playing.

562–2nd Ave Fernie | [leannestothertpaints@gmail.com](mailto:leannestothertpaints@gmail.com)

[www.leannestothert.com](http://www.leannestothert.com) | Open: Saturday 12pm–4pm

**POLAR PEEK BOOKS & TREASURES**

Unique selection of books by local & Canadian authors, local maps & guides, gifts, and toys. Original art and art cards by local artists.

592–2nd Ave. Fernie | 250-423-3736 | [polarpeekbooks.ca](http://polarpeekbooks.ca)

Open: Mon–Thu 9:30am–5:30pm | Fri & Sat 9:30am–6pm

Sun 11am–5pm

**SARAH PIKE POTTERY**

Unique, slab-built pots with personality, beauty and a little attitude. Product is sold from a small display area in Sarah's home studio in West Fernie, and internationally.

1480 McDonald Ave, Fernie | 250-430-7937 | [sarahpikepottery.com](http://sarahpikepottery.com)

Open: Call or text for appointment

**STEPHANIE'S GLASS & ART STUDIO**

Working stained glass and sandblasting studio. Stephanie's custom pieces have been exhibited worldwide. Gallery features work from other local artists. See Feature on P18.

532 2nd Ave, Fernie | 250-423-3944 or

250-423-0433 for private appointments | [stephaniesglass.ca](http://stephaniesglass.ca)

Open: Tue–Fri 10:30am–5pm | Sat 10:30am–4pm



### FERNIE MUSEUM

This is Our Fernie permanent exhibit, seasonal gallery exhibitions, special events and interpretive walks. Home the Downtown Visitor Centre. See feature, P18.

491 2nd Ave, Fernie | [ferniemuseum.com](http://ferniemuseum.com)  
250-423-7016 | Open: Daily, 10am–5:30pm



### FERNIE HERITAGE LIBRARY

3 floors of literature and reference materials plus regular events & programming. See feature, P14.

492 3rd Ave, Fernie  
[fernie.bclibrary.ca](http://fernie.bclibrary.ca) | 250-423-4458  
Open: Tue, Wed & Fri & 11am–6pm | Thu 11am–8pm  
Sat 1pm–5pm | Closed Sun & Mon



### THE ARTS STATION

The home of the Fernie & District Arts Council. 3 floors of reception, gallery, event, restaurant and studio space. See feature, P4.

601 1st Ave, Fernie  
[theartsstation.com](http://theartsstation.com) | 250-423-4842  
Open: Mon–Fri 9am–3pm



### FERNIE COURT HOUSE

Award-winning, 1909 chateau-style brick building and site of the Fernie Memorial. In use as the Service BC Government offices. Visitors welcome in the grounds and grand entrance hallway.

401 4th Ave, Fernie  
[tourismfernie.com/activities/attractions/court-house](http://tourismfernie.com/activities/attractions/court-house)  
Open: Mon–Fri 8:30am–Noon & 1–4:30pm



### FERNIE CITY HALL & MINER'S WALK

Fernie's home of local government and the location of a beautiful tribute to the Elk Valley's mining heritage. Interactive information panels, challenges for kids, the unique Face of the Miner sculpture and local ironwork from the Fernie Forge.

501 3rd Ave, Fernie  
City Hall open Mon–Fri 9am–5pm. Miner's Walk always open. | [fernie.ca](http://fernie.ca)



### THE VOGUE THEATRE

Fully refurbished, family-owned movie theatre and arcade gallery. Comfortable new seating & 2 screens with the latest in audio-visual technology including 3D. Regular special screenings and festivals.

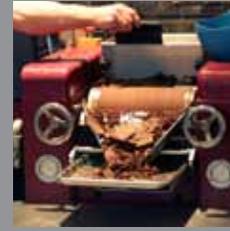
321 2nd Ave, Fernie  
[ferniemovies.com](http://ferniemovies.com) | 250-423-7111  
Daily 7pm screenings plus weekend matinees & 9pm screenings



### BEANPOD CHOCOLATE

One of just a handful of artisan chocolate makers in the entire world producing chocolate the traditional way. Watch antique chocolate making machines, sample chocolate nibs and learn about the process from bean to bar. Freshly roasted coffee, gelato (summer only) and macarons made in-house.

691 2nd Ave, Fernie | [beanpod.ca](http://beanpod.ca)  
778-519-5008 | Open: Tues–Sat 10–5pm, hours may vary



### FERNIE BREWING COMPANY

Tasting room expanded and refurbished summer 2017. Serving 11 core brands and an ever-expanding range of seasonals, features and limited editions. Brewery store featuring a wide range of merchandise, gift packs, growler sales and refills.

26 Manitou Road, Fernie  
[ferniebrewing.com](http://ferniebrewing.com) | 250-423-7797 | Open: Mon–Thurs 11am–7pm, Fri–Sat 11am–8pm, Sun 11am–6pm



### THE FERNIE OIL DERRICK

The last standing wooden oil derrick in BC. Relocated to this spot from the Flathead Valley in 1984. Interpretive panels, picnic area, Visitor Information Centre, and geocache.

102 Commerce Road, off Hwy #3 at the Eastern gateway to Fernie  
[tourismfernie.com/activities/attractions/oil-derrick](http://tourismfernie.com/activities/attractions/oil-derrick)



### SPARWOOD MUSEUM

Discover the community and mining history of Michel, Natal, Middletown and Sparwood.

141-B Aspen Drive, next to Sparwood Visitor Centre  
[sparwood.ca/museum](http://sparwood.ca/museum) | 250-425-0560  
Open: Mon–Fri 10am–4pm



### SPARWOOD VISITOR CENTRE & TEREX TITAN

Visitor Centre and location of the 1974 GM Terex Titan – once the world's largest truck measuring 350 tonnes and 66ft long!

141 Aspen Drive, Sparwood | 250-425-2423  
Open: Mon–Fri 9am–5pm



### MICHEL-NATAL HERITAGE KIOSK

A series of six panels detailing the history of the Michel-Natal communities that used to be at this location. A part of Sparwood's heritage, these panels include history of discovery, mining and the Ktunaxa Nation.

Kiosk is in two locations, one next to the Titan Truck in Sparwood, and second on Hwy #3 east of Sparwood at the site of former Michel Hotel.



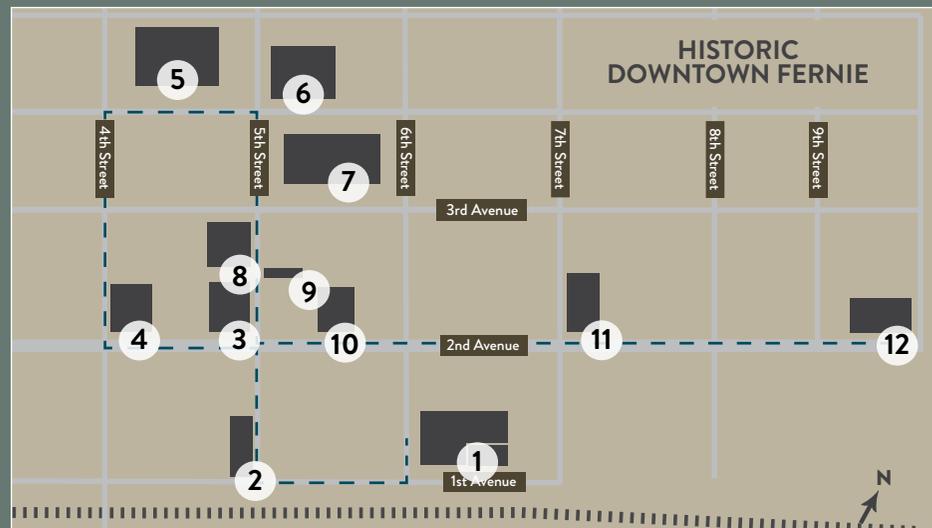
## HERITAGE ARCHITECTURE

### A DOWNTOWN WALKING TOUR OF FERNIE



As if alighting from an arriving train, begin a walking tour of Fernie at the former CPR Station, 501 1st Avenue, now the Fernie Arts Station. This tour visits 12 of Fernie's most iconic Historic Downtown buildings and features a variety of architectural styles and photo opportunities. Beautiful deep gold and rose-tinted brick and sandstone buildings line 2nd Avenue and are unique to Fernie. Look for evidence of the 1908 fire in the form of soot and smoke residue on the brickwork.

Accessible, paved sidewalks | Approx. 45 minutes–1.5 hours



#### 1 CPR STATION

601 1st Avenue | Now in use as  
The Arts Station

As use of the automobile grew, rail travel declined and so did use of this Second-Class station that had once been the centre of activity in Fernie. Although passenger services were discontinued in 1964, the train tracks are still in daily use carrying the freight trains that regularly pass through the Elk Valley. Since 1987, the Fernie &



District Arts Council has used this facility as a performing and fine arts venue. Dine trackside at the Blue Toque Café and imagine yourself arriving on the platform for the first time 100 years ago! See P4 for more.

#### 2 HOW FOON'S LAUNDRY

491 1st Avenue | Now in use as  
Fernie Elks Lodge



The Chinese entrepreneur How Foon established several businesses in this building constructed in 1908. He ran a café, laundry and shoemaking shop on the main floor and rented apartments upstairs. The Fernie Elks Club purchased the building and removed the dividing walls to open the interior for use as a hall. The exterior surface, though, retains its original outline and the original advertising mural for 'Royal Crown Soap.' Across 5th street at The 1909 Royal Hotel, note the tops of the filled-in windows along the base of the building indicating that the street was once lower than it is today.

#### 3 THE HOME BANK

491 2nd Avenue | Now in use as  
The Fernie Museum



This highly decorative building was constructed in 1910 to house a branch of the Home Bank on the main floor and the Herchmer-Mitchel Law Office on the second floor. Except for the paint, the exterior is in its original configuration making this a significant heritage building. The failure of the Home Bank in 1923 cost Fernie depositors \$800,000 and led to a re-writing of Canada's banking laws. These new rules prevented the widespread bank failures in the 1930s.

#### 4 THE IMPERIAL BANK 1909

401 2nd Ave | Now in use as  
The Brickhouse Bar & Grill



On August 1, 1908, on the corner of 2nd Ave and 4th St, the members of the Fernie Fire Department made their last stand in the fight of the catastrophic fire that would consume Fernie in just 90 minutes. The Imperial Bank of Canada built a new bank here in 1909, using a standard small city branch design. The company merged with the Canadian Bank of Commerce in 1961 and closed the branch in 1963. Although some features have been altered, the brick and sandstone exterior retains many of its striking original features. Step inside for a taste of today; the Brickhouse serves up a large selection of Fernie Brewing Company Beers, BC wines and a tasty pub menu. The original bank vault is still in use as the chef's pantry.

#### 5 THE COURT HOUSE

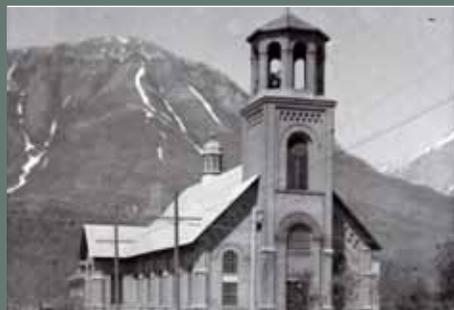
401 4th Ave | Now in use as  
Fernie's Government of BC Offices



Built between 1909-1911 and lauded as one of BC's best buildings, the Court House is a spectacular chateau-style building rarely found in the area. The majestic courtroom with stained glass windows is still in use today. Enjoy the grounds and beautiful views.

**6 HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC CHURCH**

521 4th Avenue



The history of the church dates back to the beginning of Fernie when Father J. Welsh was sent from Cranbrook to hold masses for approximately 200 miners in 1898. Some of these miners donated one day's wages every month towards the construction of a place of worship and volunteer parishioners completed this church in 1912. It was and still is home to Fernie's largest congregation.

**7 THE CROW'S NEST PASS COAL CO. OFFICES**

501 3rd Avenue  
Now in use as City Hall



In 1905, the Crow's Nest Pass Coal Co. constructed this building as the head office to manage its expanding coal mining operations. It also housed the offices of the Crow's Nest Pass Electric Co. and the Morrissey-Fernie-Michel Railway, subsidiaries of the coal company. Constructed in cement blocks, the building survived the 1908 Great Fire and served as a place of refuge during and after the fire. It has served as Fernie's City Hall since 1984. Located on the grounds, the Miner's Walk is a fascinating glimpse into Fernie's coal mining heritage with interpretive panels, sculptures, ironwork art, benches and more.

**8 THE FERNIE POST OFFICE AND CUSTOMS OFFICE**

492 3rd Avenue | Now in use as the Fernie Heritage Library



This imposing Romanesque Revival building reflects Fernie's importance as a government centre for the region; the engraved stone signs above the entrance to the Post Office and Customs Office are still in place. The building, for a time, served as the US consul office for the region. Built in 1907, the building was gutted but not destroyed in the 1908 Great Fire. An exhibit on the 1908 Great Fire is located on the landing of the main staircase. See P14 for more.

**9 SALVATION ARMY**

260 5th Street | Now in use as Eye of the Needle Studio



In 1904, William Eschwig of the Northern Hotel made a trade in which he secured the Salvation Army this site in exchange for the Victoria Avenue location, where they had been operating since November 3, 1900. The original building was lost in the 1908 Fire. The replacement building, seen here, was the Salvation Army's

home until 2001 when they moved to their current location on Victoria Avenue. Step inside and discover a working felting studio, beautiful antiques, and unique artisan crafts including Katherine Russel glasswork and ironwork from the Fernie Forge. The Fernie Meat Market next door has antique tins and some of the best jerky in the Kootenays.

**10 ISIS THEATRE**

531 2nd Avenue | Now in use as Nevados



In 1910, Wm. Eschwig began construction of the building next to his Northern Hotel. Known initially as Eschwig's Hall, it was remodeled and opened as the Isis Theatre in 1911. The theatre was again remodeled in 1930 and reopened as the Orpheum Theatre. Moving pictures entertained Fernie residents here until 1949 when the Orpheum was bought by Sam Rossell, proprietor of the Vogue Theatre. At that time, it was agreed there was not enough business for two theatres and the Orpheum closed. The Orpheum is fondly remembered by Fernie oldtimers as the site of Saturday afternoon entertainment.

**11 FERNIE CARTAGE COMPANY**

701 2nd Avenue | Now in use as Urban Settler and private residences



Unlike many businesses in Fernie's Historic Downtown, the Fernie Cartage Company rebuilt its livery using rubblestone from the banks of the Elk River, rather than brick, following the 1908 Great Fire, making it unique in downtown Fernie. For many years before automobiles were commonly used, the company delivered milk, coal, and other goods with a fleet of horse-drawn drays. In the 1920s, it was "The Up-To-Date Garage," servicing a number of makes of early automobiles, and owned by prominent Italian entrepreneur, Al Rizzuto.

**12 FERNIE SECONDARY SCHOOL**

901 2nd Ave | Now in use as 901 Fernie & Spa 901



The Fernie Secondary School operated here for 89 years from 1909–1998. Early photographs show that the original façade looked much as it does today, however it was covered with stucco from 1978 until the time of the renovations in 2006. It was then that Parastone developed the site; revitalizing the original school and gymnasium and adding 2 new condominium buildings. Inside, the 16ft ceilings, craftsman finishes, and granite fittings make this one of Fernie's most sought after properties, while the award-winning 6,600sq ft Spa 901 offers the ultimate in urban relaxation.

After the tour, stroll down 2nd Avenue to enjoy local shops, galleries, cafes and restaurants, pubs and attractions.

## COMING THIS SPRING



### FERNIVAL 2018 | APRIL 14 – 15TH FERNIE ALPINE RESORT

As the sun begins to shine and the days get longer, take in the **Bonus Weekend at Fernie Alpine Resort April 14-15th**. The lifts will be turning and the music cranked for **Fernival**—Fernie's biggest FREE live concert, in the resort plaza. Previous entertainment has included Wide Mouth Mason, Trooper, Platinum Blonde and BC/DC – 2018's headline act is a hotly anticipated announcement to come this winter. There's more action for the whole family to enjoy with great events joining the weekend lineup – the **Powder Pedal Paddle Relay Race** and **Coca-Cola Slope Soaker** are fun for participants and spectators alike.

### SPRING CRAFT FAIR | MAY 5TH FERNIE COMMUNITY CENTRE

The **Spring Craft Fair** at the Fernie Community Centre on **May 5th** welcomes craft vendors from around the region and is packed with beautiful artwork, jewellery, woodcrafts, leatherwork, home-baking, preserves, textiles and more! There's plenty to discover and lots to take home to treasure, bring a basket and dig in!

### SNOW VALLEY SLAM 2018 JUNE 1 – 3RD | FERNIE

Cheer on Fernie's all female roller derby team, the Avalanche City Roller Girls in this head-to-head competition against teams from near and far. Having consistently ranked in the top 20 of over 140 national teams, a great show is guaranteed.

### SPRING CONCERTS ELKFORD & FERNIE

Cross-country banjo rhythms herald in the spring at the final concerts of Fernie and Elkford's concert series. Elkford's Heartland series ends with Vancouver's **Murfitt and Main** on **April 15th**, and the Fernie Arts Station closes out the winter series with old favourites, Toronto's **Slocan Ramblers** on **May 8th**.



### Elkford, Fernie, and Sparwood Visitor Centres are part of the BC Visitor Centre Network.

Visitor Counsellors are ready to tell you about the local must-sees, where to stay, where to eat, where to hike, where to bike, what to try and more. Stop by any one of the four Elk Valley Visitor Centres for personalized assistance.

#### ELKFORD

PH: 250-865-4015  
750 Fording Drive  
HOURS: Mon-Sat 9am – 5pm

43

#### SPARWOOD

PH: 250-425-2423  
141 Aspen Drive  
HOURS:  
Open Mon-Fri  
9am – 5pm,  
except holidays

3

#### VISITOR CENTRES OPERATED BY



#### FERNIE

PH: 778-519-0748  
102 Commerce Road / Hwy 3  
HOURS: Tuesday to Saturday 9:30am – 5pm

# CP RAIL, TECK AND THE COAL CONNECTION

Teck is the second-largest producer of seaborne steelmaking coal in the world, most of which comes from the five Elk Valley Mines where approximately 4,000 people are employed. An average of 10 coal trains pass through the Elk Valley daily on their way to or from the port in Vancouver. CP Rail has transported millions of tonnes of Elk Valley Coal annually since 1970; the powerful locomotives are a cultural and economic icon.

