

FERNIE & ELK VALLEY

CULTURAL GUIDE

FALL 2018



Issue #9 | Photo: Matt Glastonbury

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

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**NEW - View the Cultural Guide content and past issues online
at www.ElkValleyCulture.com**

**THE COMMUNITIES
OF THE ELK VALLEY**

In the heart of the majestic Canadian Rocky Mountains, the Elk Valley is a hidden oasis of verdant landscapes, charming towns and abundant recreation. 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 now diversified and welcomes 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

Photo Credit: /Matt Glastonbury

Credits - Writing by Rebecca Hall, Jikke Gyorki. Photos by Vince Mo, Matt Glastonbury, Raven Eye Photography, Henry Georgi, Fernie Museum, Matt Kuhn, Fernie Alpine Resort, Sparwood Chamber, St Eugene Resort, Chris Istace, Nancy Stevenson, Rebecca Hall

FERNIE FALL FAIR

FEATURED EVENTS

The Elk Valley pulls out all the stops for a month (and more!) of festivals celebrating music, the arts, cuisine, heritage, culture, diversity, harvest, community and friendship. Set amongst the vibrant fall foliage from mid-September to mid-October, these festivals show our corner of BC at its very best. Schedules and locations may vary.

An annual celebration in the heart of Historic Downtown Fernie including interactive events with authors and artists, exceptional live music, children's activities, heritage connections, and all the sights, sounds and flavours of the mountains at the Fall Fair.



SPARWOOD FALL FOOD FAIR

September 7th

Held outside the Sparwood Chamber, savour the cultural cuisine offered by nine regional food trucks as you enjoy live music by Seany J & the Boys and refreshments 11:30am till 8:00pm.

250-425-2423

FB: /sparwoodchamber

FERNIE CHAUTAUQUA & FALL FAIR

September 13th-16th



Most events are free to attend! See full festival schedule and ticket information on P23.

fernichautauqua.com

wildsight.ca/events/ferniefallfair/



GILLBILLY FESTIVAL

September 28th-30th

A foot-stomping weekend of old-time music, jamming, workshops, fly fishing, good food and great friends. Hosted by The Old Type Music Society, performers and instructors include:



John Lowell, Nomad Jones, Paul Silveria, Clayton & Joelle. Weekend passes are \$110 for adults and \$95 for youth. Tickets available online.

oldtypemusic.com/gillbilly

HOME ROUTES / CHEMIN CHEZ NOUS CONCERTS

September 25th, October 24th & November 22nd

Venture north to Elkford for a series of intimate performances held at the Mountain Meadows Golf Club featuring French and English-speaking musicians from around North America. September 25th features California based Dan & Laurel, with Manitoba based Brent Parkin on October 24th and BC's Twin Peaks on November 22nd. October 24th features Manitoba based Brent Parkin. November 22nd features BC's Twin Peaks. Call for tickets.

Ph: 250-425-5989 | homeroutes.ca



ELK VALLEY PRIDE FESTIVAL

October 9th-14th

A celebration of pride, diversity and inclusion for the LGBTQ+ community and their allies. Locals and visitors will enjoy over 10 fabulous events over six days including:

- Non-binary musician and author Rae Spoon
- Dragilicious Dance Party with Misty Meadows
- Friday Fuze Pride Party
- Rainbow Flag Raising & Pride Lights Creation Party
- LGBTQ+ Author event with Andy Sinclair and Angie Abdou
- Drag Queen Storytime & Bingo
- Ninja Self Defence
- Big Gay Brunch & Hike with Pride
- 2 film events: Transformer, and The Miseducation of Cameron Post

Elkvalleypridefestival.com



ELK VALLEY
Pride Festival

OCTOBER 9 - 14, 2018
elkvalleypridefestival.com
FERNIE, BC



FERNIE PRIDE
 Festival Host

  @ElkValleyPrideFestival #elkvalleypride

Park Place Lodge

Park Place Lodge proudly supports arts and culture in Fernie. Stay with us and enjoy Fernie's Historic Downtown with its unique dining, shops, cafes and attractions.



Chautauqua & Pride Festival Specials! Stay from \$124/night



250-423-6871 | www.parkplacelodge.com |  



FEATURE ARTIST

JOEY KOSOLOFSKI

Joey Kosolofski is bringing urban art to Fernie one dumpster at a time. As a regular at the annual Fernie dumpster painting event, he turns plain metal boxes into works of modern art. His latest piece features a graphic interpretation of mountains meetings letters in bold, colourful style. His dumpsters can be found at the Community Centre, Bottle Depot and at the Tipple Liquor Store – his 2017 dumpster was the winning design.

Like many Fernieites, Kosolofski moved here for one ski season (in 2014) and never left. Originally from Kindersley, Saskatchewan, he cites his grade 5, 6 teacher, Mrs White as having inspired him to pursue his passion from a very early age. He seeks out street art as inspiration, travelling across the country and from California to Melbourne. Having started with acrylics, he constantly looks to create new styles, experimenting and working with spray paint, oils and watercolour.

His commercial work includes large-scale logo installations, some of which can be seen at SOAR and Coal Town

Goods. A large feature mural is on display at Snow Valley Spa & Leisure and he has produced custom designs for Fernie-based ski & snowboard manufacturer, DID. He draws his inspiration from the mountains around Fernie, manipulating shapes and using plenty of colour to make his work pop. Seeking to replicate the movement of the landscape, he focuses less on detail and more on the emotion of the environment. Kosolofski lives in Fernie with his girlfriend Janice and his stepdog, Bodie, where they enjoy mountain life in every season.

See his work at a solo gallery show, opening at the Arts Station on November 29, on display until January 2, 2019.



306-460-6376

jkosolofski9@gmail.com



FALL 2018 CULTURAL EVENTS

For full details visit elkvalleyculture.com/events

SEPTEMBER

- 1-2 Heritage Walking Tours, Fernie Museum
- 1 Live Music: Shaun Rawlins & Tyler Bartfai, Kodiak Lounge
- 2 Birding & Breakfast, Fernie Alpine Resort
- 2 Guided Hike: The Secret History of Trees, Fernie Alpine Resort
- 2 Fernie Mountain Market, Rotary Park
- 2 Lions Demolition Derby, Railway Ave Demo Grounds
- 4 Book Launch: Home Ice by Angie Abdou, Polar Peek Books & Treasures
- 7 Fall Food Fest, Sparwood
- 7 Opera Screening: Tales of Hoffman, The Arts Station
- 8 Plein Air Artists Workshop with Michael Hephner, Fernie Museum
- 9 Guided Hike: Heiko's Trail, Island Lake Lodge
- 9 Pop-up Mountain Market, Fernie Alpine Resort
- 9 Indie Films Fernie: Puzzle, Vogue Theatre
- 13-16 4th Annual Fernie Chautauqua & Fall Fair—see PG22, Historic Downtown
- 14 Beers & Queers, The Valley Social
- 15 Horseshoe Competition, The Fernie Hotel
- 15 Scenic Mountaintop Dinner, Fernie Alpine Resort
- 15 Live Music: Kakagi, The Northern
- 16 Guided Hike: Lizard Lake, Island Lake Lodge
- 19 Live Music: Del Suelo, Infnitea
- 20 UKE 101 Ukulele Workshop, Fernie Heritage Library
- 20 Fall Concert, The Arts Station
- 21-23 Playful Colour Techniques Workshop with Mirja Vahala, The Arts Station
- 21-23 Lobsterfest Weekend, Lizard Creek Lodge
- 21 CBT Community BBQ & Live Music by RedGirl, Fernie Community Centre
- 21 Escape Rooms - For One Night Only! Sparwood Golf Course
- 22 Colour Crawl, The Arts Station
- 23 Live Music: Tom Savage, Infnitea
- 25 Live Music: Dan & Laurel, Mountain Meadows Golf Course
- 27 Gallery Opening: Art of Building, The Hornquist Family, The Arts Station
- 28-30 3rd Annual GillBilly Festival—see P4, Historic Downtown
- 28-30 Yoga Therapy Balls Weekend, Essential Yoga Studio
- 28 Gallery Opening: Bent on Art, Fernie Museum
- 29 Fall Craft Fair, Fernie Community Centre
- 29 Watershed Tour, Wild Nature Workshops

OCTOBER

- 5 Opera Screening: Nabucco, The Arts Station
- 6 Oktoberfest, Fernie Alpine Resort
- 9-14 2nd Annual Elk Valley Pride Festival—see P5, Various Locations
- 14 Indie Films Fernie: The Miseducation of Cameron Post, Vogue Theatre
- 20 Annual Pumpkin Hunt, Elk Valley Nordic Centre
- 21 Yoga Philosophy Workshop: Yamas and Niyamas, Essential Yoga Studio
- 21 WWI Internment Operations in the Elk Valley: Tour, Talk, Film & Dinner: That Never Happened, Museum/Senior's Centre/Vogue/Legion
- 24 Live Music: Brent Parkin, Mountain Meadows Golf Course



Chautauqua & Fall Fair



Chautauqua & Fall Fair



Colour Crawl



GillBilly Festival



Craft Fair

- 27 Halloween Howlers, The Fernie/Royal/Northern
- 23-28 You and Your Body Wellness Retreat, Lizard Creek Lodge
- 28-29 Theatrical Fernie Ghost Tour, The Arts Station
- 31 Pumpkin Walk, Sparwood
- 31 Gallery Opening: Light, The Arts Station

NOVEMBER

- 1 Gallery Opening: En Pointe, Fernie Museum
- 2-4 Fall Yoga Retreat, Lizard Creek Lodge
- 2 Opera Screening: Ariadne Auf Naxos, The Arts Station
- 3 A Night at the Ballet Gala Dinner, Fernie Family Centre
- 10 Festival of Lights, Station Square
- 11 Remembrance Day, Fernie Cenotaph
- 11 Indie Films Fernie, Vogue Theatre
- 15 Taste of Fernie, Fernie Restaurants
- 16 Festival of Trees: Spirits of Christmas Kick-off Party, Park Place Lodge
- 17 Live Music: David P. Smith, The Arts Station
- 21 Festival of Trees: Senior's Tea, Park Place Lodge
- 22 Live Music: Twin Peaks, Mountain Meadows Golf Course
- 23-24 Twilight & Holiday Craft Fair, Fernie Community Centre
- 23-24 Festival of Trees: Black Friday Holiday Fair, Park Place Lodge
- 25 Grey Cup Party, The Fernie Hotel
- 29 Gallery Opening: Joey Kosolofski, The Arts Station
- 30 Holiday Kick-off & Light Up The Night, Historic Downtown
- 30-1 Hearth 8 Artisan Show & Sale, 1480 McDonald Ave

DECEMBER

- 1 Exclusive Junior Ballet Workshop, The Arts Station
- 1 Festival of Trees: Date Night Dinner/Kids Movie Night, Park Place Lodge
- 1 Swan Lake Screening and Evening at the Ballet, The Arts Station
- 2 Festival of Trees: Photos with Santa, Park Place Lodge
- 2 Live Ballet Performance: The Swan Lake Experience, The Arts Station
- 7 Opera Screening: The Pearl Fishers, The Arts Station
- 9 Indie Films Fernie, Vogue Theatre
- 13-15 Back to the 80's Do they Know it's Christmas? The Arts Station
- 15 'Tis the Season Craft Fair, Fernie Community Centre

WEEKLY EVENTS & PROGRAMS

MONDAYS:

Open Mic at Kodiak Lounge, 9pm

TUESDAYS:

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

WEDNESDAYS:

Storytime at the Library, for under 5's
Tarot at Infnitea, 8pm
Jam Night at the Royal, 9pm

THURSDAYS:

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

FRIDAYS:

Storytime at the Library, for under 5's
Live music at Loaf & Infnitea, 6/8pm

SATURDAYS:

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

SUNDAYS:

BBQ & Beats at Infnitea, 6pm (until Thanksgiving, then weekly Roast)



Live Music at Infnitea



Pride Festival



Pumpkin Hunt



Festival of Lights



Hearth Artisan Show



Movie Nights at the Vogue



JOIN US THIS FALL AT THE BRICKHOUSE

A GREAT PLACE TO CHILL
AFTER A DAY ON THE TRAILS

100%
GMO FREE
MENU

- Featuring a 100% BC only wine list and beer on tap
- Lunch and dinner menu with homemade burgers
- Open 7 days a week, 11:30am to close
- Live music
- Thursday Jam Night

RAVEN EYE PHOTOGRAPHY



thebrickhousefernie.com • 401 2nd Ave, Historic Downtown Fernie • 250.423.0009



SIMPLY THE BEST MOVIE THEATRE EXPERIENCE IN THE KOOTENAYS

From First Run Block Busters to Quirky Indies and everything in between. Grab some delicious theatre popcorn, sit in our newly updated seats and experience the way movies are meant to be seen and heard.

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GIVING THE GIFT OF ENTERTAINMENT SINCE 1908



321 - 2ND Avenue, Historic Downtown | 250-423-7111 | f: vogue theatre fernie
FERNIEMOVIES.COM



FEATURE PERFORMER

J-SKILLZ - JEFF STEIERT

This singing bartender is the resident performer at the Pub Bar & Grill at Park Place Lodge. When he's not pulling pints, Jeff Steiert is a one-man musical marvel, carefully crafting melodies and building rhythm. With the skillful use of a looping pedal, a 6-beat drum synthesizer, 3 guitars and a harmonica, Steiert can replicate the authentic sounds of well-known singer-songwriters including Johnny Cash, Neil Young and Bob Dylan.

Born in Kelowna and raised in Medicine Hat, Steiert moved to Fernie about a year and a half ago seeking a change of pace. While looking for work, he heard about the MAST program at the College of the Rockies – a 9-month immersive hands-on adventure skills training course for those looking to enter the outdoor adventure industry. As part of the course, he utilised his musical talents and turned two of Fernie's legends into a music video to assist with promotions for the

annual Griz Days Festival. Watch the video online at youtube.com/watch?v=QL0Gm2Ck1A0.

Surrounded by music all his life – his Dad was in a wedding band and he regularly jammed with the bands who visited his family's Restaurant and Country Bar – he is keen to develop his skills and perform more locally. With influences ranging from AC/DC to Biggie Smalls to CCR to Blink 182, a growing collection of his own originals, and a few new instruments being added to the mix, there seems to be no end to the performance possibilities. Steiert can regularly be seen performing at the Pub Bar and Grill and plans to expand his performance calendar this Fall. Watch for him around town or get in touch to find out about upcoming dates. While he's not working or performing, Steiert can be found in the mountains – biking, camping and snowboarding, or chilling with his room-mates.

jeffsteiert@gmail.com

FEATURE BUSINESS

ELK RIVER APIARIES



Deborah Davidson's journey into apiculture began in 1995 when she responded to an ad looking for a beekeeper while studying in Vernon, BC. Her interest piqued, she stayed up until 5am reading library books on beekeeping, and eventually followed the job to Fort St John. Later, she travelled to Tauranga, New Zealand and worked for a large honey producer where she also learned about bee breeding.

In 2008, having returned to her hometown of Fernie and following a stint working at the local coal mine, Deborah was looking for a more natural lifestyle with her husband Doug as they

started their new family. Keen to revive her passion for bees, she began her own beekeeping business with just 4 hives. Now, thanks to friends and family who are happy to share their land with the bees, the business is thriving with a collection of around 100 colourful beehives dotted throughout the Elk Valley.

Managing bee colonies in our variable climate is no easy feat. The winters here can be very long, and as bees rely on the food they store during the summer months, they will perish when these stores are depleted. While the business can produce around 5,000lb of honey



per year, this amount is very dependent on conditions.

While many beekeepers prefer a plain white look for their apiaries, Deborah has a practical approach for her bee boxes. Mis-tinted paint is cheaper than plain white, so she buys up assorted colours and creates a beautiful colour-blocked look for her hives. The unique combinations of stripes also help young bees locate their own hive after their maiden flights.

Honey is available directly from Elk River Apiaries at local craft fairs and markets, and also from Fernie retailers including The Cottonwood Tree, The Good Earth, Mugshots, Le Grand Fromage, Happy Cow, and the Fernie Museum. A delicious ingredient, local food creatives are also incorporating Elk River Apiaries honey into their produce – try honeycomb ice cream at Happy Cow, Bear Bar chocolate at Beanpod, or in a number of culinary creations at Island Lake Lodge. Elk River Apiaries also sells natural beeswax candles at market and craft fair stalls.

Elkriverapiaries.com 



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 creative 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. The current station building was completed in the spring of 1909 after an earlier incarnation burned down in the Great Fire of 1908. 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 completely renovating the dilapidated structure. 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.

A HARDY TOWN – PERMANENT SCULPTURE

In the grounds of the Arts Station, a new permanent sculpture has been installed to commemorate the 1908 Fire. **A Hardy Town** is a collaborative effort from Michael Hepher of Clawhammer Press and metalwork artist Paul Reimer. Although the devastating fire of August 1908 razed the town in just 90 minutes, no lives were lost. The artwork reflects the impact the fire had on Fernie's architecture and the City ordinance that followed, directing all future construction to be of fireproof material. This commemorative sculpture is a testament to the tenacity of the people of Fernie who rose up through the ashes to rebuild and endure, and a reflection of the town that fell but was not fallen. The sculpture is on permanent display and is illuminated at night.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND FESTIVALS

The Arts Station is a cultural hub for Fernie and features a lively program of entertainment and events throughout the fall. Tickets can be found on Eventbrite.ca or contact the Arts Station for more information.

The foyer gallery features a series of temporary exhibitions by local artists, with free opening receptions held on the last Thursday of every month. Shows remain on display for approximately four weeks. 'Two Views,' a mixed media exhibit by Carol Cohen and Margaret Hinton, opens **August 30th** and will be on display until September 25th. Rounding out the year, our featured artist **Joey Kosolofski** (see feature P7) will present a series of new paintings, opening on **November 29th**. For other fall dates, see the events calendar on P8.



Special events and theatre shows bring life to this historic space this fall. Take a Painting Workshop with Mirja Vahala, **September 21-23rd**, enjoy a screening of a favourite opera on the first Friday of every month or marvel at the dark comedic musical stylings of Vancouver's **David P. Smith on November 17th**. Get your spook on with the **Theatrical Fernie**

Ghost Tour, October 28-29th; a ghostly trip into downtown Fernie, featuring dark histories, ghostly ghost encounters and blood-curdling recollections by real Fernie residents. Tours are for ages 19+ and not for the faint of heart! The theatre will also host several of the **Elk Valley Pride Festival events, October 10-16th**.

Step outside for the **Festival of Lights**, bringing colour, music and light to the darkest days of the year. Paper lanterns, light shows, fires and fireworks will light up the night on **November 10th**. Dress up warm for this very special event that the whole family will love! Back indoors, the **'Back to the '80's Do they Know it's Christmas?'** is a full run, Broadway-style musical theatre show on **December 13-15th**. For more Arts Station events visit their website.



601 1st Ave | 250-423-4842
theartsstation.com [f](https://www.facebook.com/theartsstation) [i](https://www.instagram.com/theartsstation) [t](https://www.tumblr.com/theartsstation)

THE ARTS STATION

An active and engaging space for creators and creatives with gallery, theatre, studio and meeting spaces. See feature, P14.

601 1st Ave, Fernie | 250-423-4842
www.theartsstation.com | Open: Mon–Fri 9am–3pm

**FERNIE MUSEUM GALLERY**

Museum-quality gallery art exhibits. Fall 2018 shows: Backroads BC – Bent on Art – En Pointe. See feature, P20.

491 2nd Ave, Fernie | www.ferniemuseum.com
Open: 360 days per year, 10am–5:30pm

**BRIAN POLLOCK GALLERY**

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

532 B 2nd Ave, Fernie | 250-430-7114 | www.brianpollock.ca
Open: Open regularly & by appointment

**CHAINSAW CARVER**

Michael A. Penny's working studio gallery producing finely detailed wood sculptures.

1439 MacDonald Ave/Hwy 3 | 250-423-0552
fernienlogcarver@gmail.com Open most days & by appointment

**CLAWHAMMER LETTERPRESS**

Artisan print making, typographical art, original paintings and studio sales. Exhibition at the Fernie Museum until September 16th.

441C 2nd Ave, Fernie | 250-946-6400 | www.clawhammer.ca
Enter through furniture store or via laneway across from Library garden. Open: Fri & Sat 12–5pm

**ELEMENT 7 NINE**

Modern, sculptural and understated jewellery created with passion. Specializing in custom wedding rings.

592 3rd Ave Unit B, Fernie | 250-430-0700
www.element7nine.com | Open: Mon–Fri 10am–5pm
& by appointment

**ELKFORD ARTS STUDIO**

Collaborative space operated by Elkford Arts Council offering visual art classes and workshops for all ages and abilities.

816 Michel Road, (2nd floor of Arena) Elkford | 250-433-7007
www.elkfordartscouncil.blogspot.ca | Open: Open daily, hours vary

**EYE OF THE NEEDLE & FERNIE FORGE**

Artisan gallery & studio featuring Fernie forge metalwork, fibre art, candles, glasswork and felting classes.

260 5th Street, Fernie or 2087 Hwy #3 Fernie
250-423-2671 | www.fernieforge.ca
Open: Thu & Fri 10am–5pm | Sat 11:30am–5:30pm

**FERNIE ARTS CO-OP**

Art for over 60 local artist including textiles, paintings, photography, sculpture and more reflecting the Elk Valley.

572 2nd Ave, Fernie | 250-423-7044
Open: Mon–Sat 10am–5:45pm | Sun 12pm–4pm

**KATHY STEAD – VISUAL ARTIST**

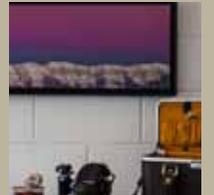
Fine art painter and mixed media artist working in a variety of semi-abstract and realism styles.

86 Ridgemont Dr. Fernie | 250-423-4979
www.kathysteadsfineartstudio.com | Open: Open by appointment

**KYLE HAMILTON PHOTOGRAPHY**

Wedding, lifestyle and photography studio. Custom framing and ID photo service.

341c 3rd Ave, Fernie | 250-423-0904 | www.khphotograph.com
Open: Open regularly & by appointment

**POLAR PEEK BOOKS & TREASURES**

Books by local and Canadian authors, local maps & guides, gifts, toys and local, original art & art cards.

592 2nd Ave, Fernie | 250-423-3736 | polarpeekbooks.ca
Open: Mon–Thu & Sat 9:30am–5:30pm | Fri 9:30am–6pm
Sun 11am–4pm

**SARAH PIKE POTTERY**

Unique slab-built pots with personality and a little attitude. Home studio & international sales.

1480 McDonald Ave, Fernie | sarahpikepottery.com
250-430-7937 | Open: Call or text for appointment

**STEPHANIE'S GLASS & ART STUDIO**

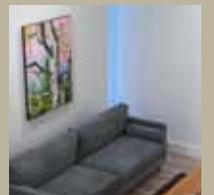
Renowned working Stained Glass & Sandblasting Studio. Art Gallery & Studio sales.

532 2nd Ave, Fernie | 250-423-3944 | stephaniesglass.ca
Open: Wed–Fri 10:30am–5pm | Sat 10:30am–4pm | Sun
11am–3pm

**STUDIO 562**

Studio and gallery space featuring original paintings of local landscapes, animals and whimsical scenes of childhood.

562 2nd Ave Fernie | leannestothertpaints@gmail.com
www.leannestothert.com | Open: Saturday 12pm–4pm



Pick up the Fernie Art Walk Map Guide at the Museum or Visitor Centre.
View it online at elkvalleyculture.com/galleries-studios

BEANPOD CHOCOLATE

Artisan producers of chocolate, coffee, gelato and macarons using traditional methods and equipment.

691 2nd Ave, Fernie | beanpod.ca | 778-519-5008

Open: Tues-Sat 10-5pm, hours may vary



ELKFORD VISITOR CENTRE

Local information & maps, Elkford Living History interpretive displays.

Located in the Elkford Community Conference Centre
750 Fording Drive, Elkford | 250-865-4015 | www.elkford.ca
For hours, see inside back cover



FERNIE BREWING COMPANY

Expanded tasting room with 11 core brands & seasonal products. Branded merchandise, gifts & growlers.

26 Manitou Road, Fernie | ferniebrewing.com | 250-423-7797

Open: Sun & Mon 11am-6pm, Tue-Thu 11am-7pm, Fri & Sat 11am-8pm



FERNIE CITY HALL & MINER'S WALK

Interactive interpretive panels, local Fernie Forge sculpture, and The Face of the Miner sculpture.

501 3rd Ave, Fernie | fernie.ca

City Hall open Mon-Fri 9am-5pm. Miner's Walk always open.



FERNIE COURT HOUSE & CENOTAPH

Award-winning 1909 chateau-style building. Visitors welcome in grounds and grand entrance. See feature, P38.

401 4th Ave, Fernie

tourismfernie.com/activities/attractions/court-house

Open: Mon-Fri 8:30am-Noon & 1-4:30pm



FERNIE DISTILLERS

Handcrafted small batch artisan spirits and liqueurs featuring local produce.

531 1st Ave, Fernie | www.ferniedistillers.com

Open: Wed-Sun Noon-9pm



FERNIE MUSEUM

Permanent & temporary displays, gift shop, special events, interpretive walks and local information. See feature, P20.

491 2nd Ave, Fernie | 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, P32.

492 3rd Ave, Fernie | fernie.bclibrary.ca | 250-423-4458

Open: Tue, Wed & Fri & 11am-6pm | Thu 11am-8pm
Sat 1pm-5pm | Closed Sun & Mon



MICHEL-NATAL HERITAGE KIOSK

6 panels interpreting the towns that used to be situated here, along with heritage, mining, and Ktunaxa Nation content.

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.



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 | 250-425-0560

Open: Mon-Fri 10am-4pm



SPARWOOD VISITOR CENTRE & TEREX TITAN

Traveler information, interpretive displays and the 1974 Terex Titan measuring 350 tonnes and 66ft long!

141 Aspen Drive, Sparwood | 250-425-2423

For hours, see inside back cover.



THE ARTS STATION

An active and engaging space for creators and creatives with gallery, theatre, studio and meeting spaces. See feature, P33.

601 1st Ave, Fernie | theartsstation.com | 250-423-4842

Open: Mon-Fri 9am-3pm



FERNIE VISITOR CENTRE & OIL DERRICK

Traveller information and displays, picnic area and Fairy Creek Falls trailhead. Last Standing wooden oil derrick in BC.

102 Commerce Road/Hwy 3, east side of Fernie
tourismfernie.com/activities/attractions/oil-derrick

For hours, see inside back cover.



THE VOGUE THEATRE

Classical-style independent theatre featuring the latest 2D and 3D screenings, festival and special events.

321 2nd Ave, Fernie | ferniemovies.com | 250-423-7111

Daily 7pm screenings plus weekend matinees & 9pm screenings



FERNIE MUSEUM 130 YEARS OF FERNIE HISTORY



130 YEARS OF FERNIE HISTORY

The Fernie Museum has welcomed over 55,000 visitors since it opened to the public in 2013. The main floor exhibit, *This Is Our Fernie*, explores the legends and mythology, fires and mining disasters, and stories of the commercial, sporting, and community life over the past 100+ years. The exhibit features several new digital kiosks. Stop by and chat with one of the knowledgeable information desk staff for events, activity, heritage and interpretive information.

TRITES-WOOD MERCANTILE

The museum gift shop features a curated collection of items inspired directly by the museum's collection, and life in Fernie. Products include a range of books featuring local and Canadian history, Fernie inspired items including Murchie's Fernie blend tea and Elk River Apiaries Honey, and Korite jewellery, featuring unique ammolite gemstones exclusively found in Southern Alberta. Feature artwork includes leatherwork and lamps from Holly Kimola in September & October.

BACKROADS BC IN THE GALLERY UNTIL SEP 16, 2018

Explore the backroads and wild places of British Columbia with artist Michael Hepher in his visual record of a summer family roadtrip. As wildfires impacted much of BC in the summer of 2017, Hepher and his wife and two children spent 7 weeks in their 1971 yellow Volkswagen van, Truman, camping, exploring, and touring from Fernie to Vancouver Island and north to Terrace. For much of their trip, Hepher's mother joined the family in her own camper, Hyacinth. Together they played music, hiked, enjoyed laketime and relaxed into the simpler way of life where little matters except the rhythm of the road. The exhibit of 30 original oil paintings along with mementos, photographs, diaries, and family recollections is in the gallery until September 16th.

BENT ON ART IN THE GALLERY SEP 28 – OCT 14, 2018

A pop-up exhibit highlighting the work of queer and trans/gender non-

conforming artists in the Kootenay region while creating educational opportunities, fostering community connection, and promoting resilience through the arts.

Join in at the Pride n' Paint event at the Valley Social on September 13th, and your work could be featured as part of the exhibit! Pride Fuze Opening Gala Gallery Event & Dance Party during Elk Valley Pride Festival with artists, live entertainment and 2 floors of DJs – Friday, October 12th.

ELK VALLEY INTERNMENT CAMPS | 100TH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATION EVENTS OCT 21, 2018

Far from the front, Fernie still felt the effect of WWI. A dark period in the history of the Elk Valley, internment operations at Morrissey from 1914-1918 affected the lives of many immigrants and left deep divides in the community. To commemorate the closing of the Morrissey Internment Camp on September 21st, 1918, the Fernie Museum will host a day of recognition:

1:00PM | Fernie at War Walking Tour

3:00PM | Talk, Panel Discussion and Q&A with Sarah Bealieu, Internment Archaeologist

5:00PM | Film Screening: *That Never Happened*, directors in attendance

7:00PM | Legion Dinner

EN POINTE IN THE GALLERY NOV 1, 2018 – MAR 31, 2019

Over a period of 17 years, Gordon Milne has attended a company class each week to draw the dancers of Alberta Ballet. This ongoing relationship has inspired a very distinctive feel to his drawings and paintings celebrating movement in dance. The exhibit also celebrates the 50 year history of the illustrious ballet troupe.

Thur, Nov 1 | Gallery Opening Reception with appetizers and cash bar.

Sat, Nov 3 | A Night at the Ballet Gala Dinner with live painting demonstration, dancers in attendance, live entertainment and live auction.

691 2nd Ave | 250-423-7016
fernziemuseum.com   

CHAUTAUQUA & FALL FAIR

FERNIE FALL FAIR

A RE-INVENTION OF THE TRADITIONAL FALL FAIR THAT IS AS UNIQUE AS OUR COMMUNITY, COMPLETE WITH BLUE RIBBON CONTESTS, HERITAGE CRAFTS, HOME SKILL DEMONSTRATIONS AND A BACKYARD LIVESTOCK EXHIBIT, MOUNTAIN MARKET & DOG AGILITY SHOW.

FARM-TO-TABLE GOODNESS

CELEBRATE THE HARVEST AS FERNIE CHEFS BRING THE BEST OF THE LOCAL HARVEST TO THE CHAUTAUQUA FALL TEA, JAZZ BRUNCH, THE CHAUTAUQUA CULTURAL DINNER, SUNDAY PIG ROAST AND LOCAL FOOD TRUCKS.

FERNIE CHAUTAUQUA & FALL FAIR

◆ SEPTEMBER 13–16, 2018 ◆

THURSDAY 13TH

- 5:30 PM **Chinese Cultural Dinner \$30** | Fernie Family Centre
- 7:00 PM **Pride n' Paint \$20** | The Valley Social

FRIDAY 14TH

- 12:00 PM **Lunch n' Literature \$20** | Fernie Heritage Library
- 5:30 PM–10:00 PM **Food Trucks** | 3rd Ave, between 5th & 6th St
- 6:00 PM–10:00 PM **Fuze: BC On Tap FREE admission** | Chautauqua Main Stage

SATURDAY 15TH

- 9:00 AM–4:00 PM **Chautauqua Pancake Breakfast and Grill** | Museum Parking Lot
- 11:00 AM–4:00 PM **Chautauqua Children's Tent** | Library Parking Lot
- Antique Cars** | 5th St, In front of Library
- Culture on the Lawn** | City Hall West Lawn
- Vintage Market** | 6th St, between 3rd & 4th Ave
- Ktunaxa Heritage Demonstrations** | City Hall East Lawn
- Doors Open** | Various locations, see official event guide
- Art Walk** | Various locations, see official event guide
- Food Trucks** | 3rd Ave, between 5th & 6th St

- 11:00 AM **Fernie's Greatest Heritage Hits Walking Tour FREE** | Fernie Museum, 491 2nd Ave

- NOON–4:00 PM **Main Stage Live Entertainment FREE admission** | 5th Street, CIBC Parking Lot

- 1:00 PM **Is that From Eatons? Catalogue House Walking Tour FREE** | Fernie Museum, 491 2nd Ave

- 3:00 PM **Fernie at War Walking Tour FREE** | Fernie Museum, 491 2nd Ave

- 7:30 PM–1 AM **Back Alley Speakeasy Tour \$70** | Fernie Museum, 491, 2nd Ave

SUNDAY 16TH

- 9 AM **1910-style Anglican Service** | 561 4th Avenue

- 10 AM–3 PM **Fernie Fall Fair** | City Hall Lawns

Horticultural & Agricultural Displays, Blue Ribbon Contests, Craft Exhibits, Zucchini Races, Cake Walk, Carnival Games and Contests, Live Music, Chilli Cook-off

- 10 AM–NOON **Chautauqua Jazz Brunch \$40** | Park Place Lodge

- 1 PM–1:45 PM **Chautauqua Community Gathering** | Main Stage, 5th St CIBC Parking Lot

- 2 PM–4 PM **Chautauqua Afternoon Tea \$25** | Fernie Senior's Centre

- 10 AM–3 PM **Food Trucks** | 3rd Ave, between 5th & 6th St

- 5 PM–8 PM **Farewell Pig Roast** | Nevados

SOME OF OUR SPECIAL EVENTS

CHINESE CULTURAL DINNER

FUZE: BC ON TAP

FERNIE AT WAR LUNCH AND LEARN

CHAUTAUQUA MAIN STAGE

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES ANTIQUE CAR SHOW VINTAGE MARKET

Back Alley SPEAKEASY TOUR

Chautauqua Afternoon Tea

FACE TIME WITH LOCAL ARTISTS

EXPLORE 6 GALLERIES WITH ART WALK. CONNECT WITH LOCAL ARTISTS AT ART ON THE LAWN. CONNECT WITH LOCAL ARTISANS AT THE SUNDAY MARKET.

LIVING HISTORY | TRADITIONS

EXPLORE FERNIE'S HERITAGE WITH OPEN DOORS AND WALKING TOURS. EXPERIENCE KTUNAXA TRADITIONS AND CHINESE MUSIC. EXPLORE EARLY TRANSPORTATION WITH THE ANTIQUE CAR SHOW.

SPONSORED BY



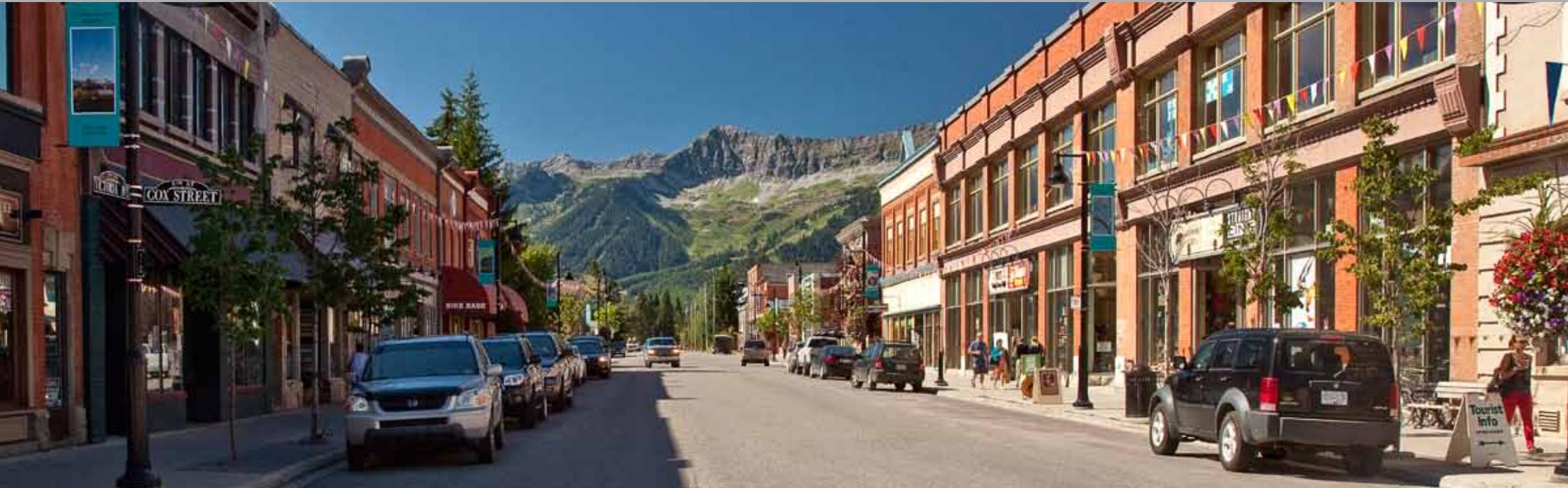
HOSTED BY



FERNIECHAUTAUQUA.COM

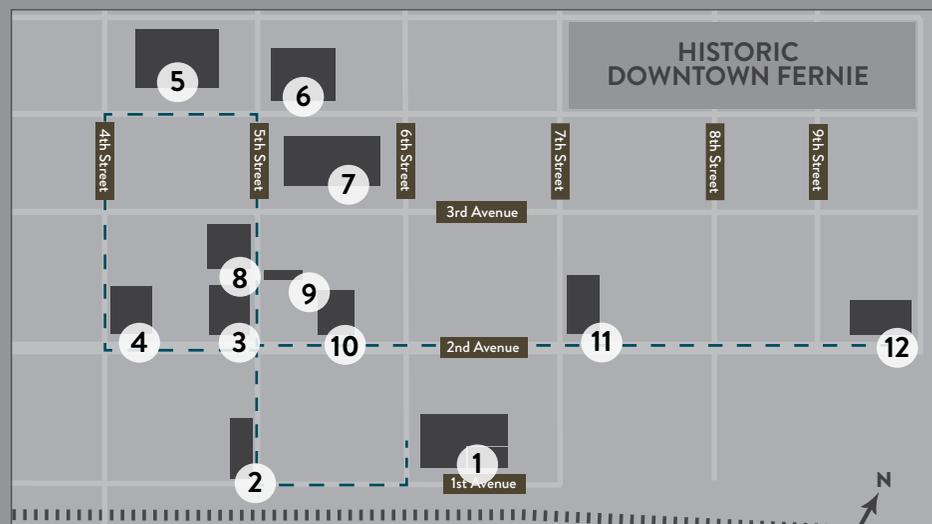
HERITAGE ARCHITECTURE

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. Join a guided walking tour this summer at the museum.

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 P17 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 and Visitor Information Centre



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

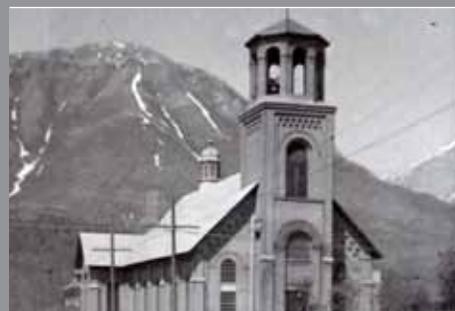
401 4th Ave | Now in use as Fernie's Government of BC Offices



Lauded as one of BC's best buildings, the Court House is a spectacular chateau-style building rarely found in the area. Enjoy the grounds and beautiful views of the surrounding mountains.

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. The walk features interpretive panels, sculpture, challenges for children, ironwork art from the Fernie Forge and municipal garden with picnic tables and benches. Mayor Giuliano welcomes visitors.

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 P28 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 Nevada



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

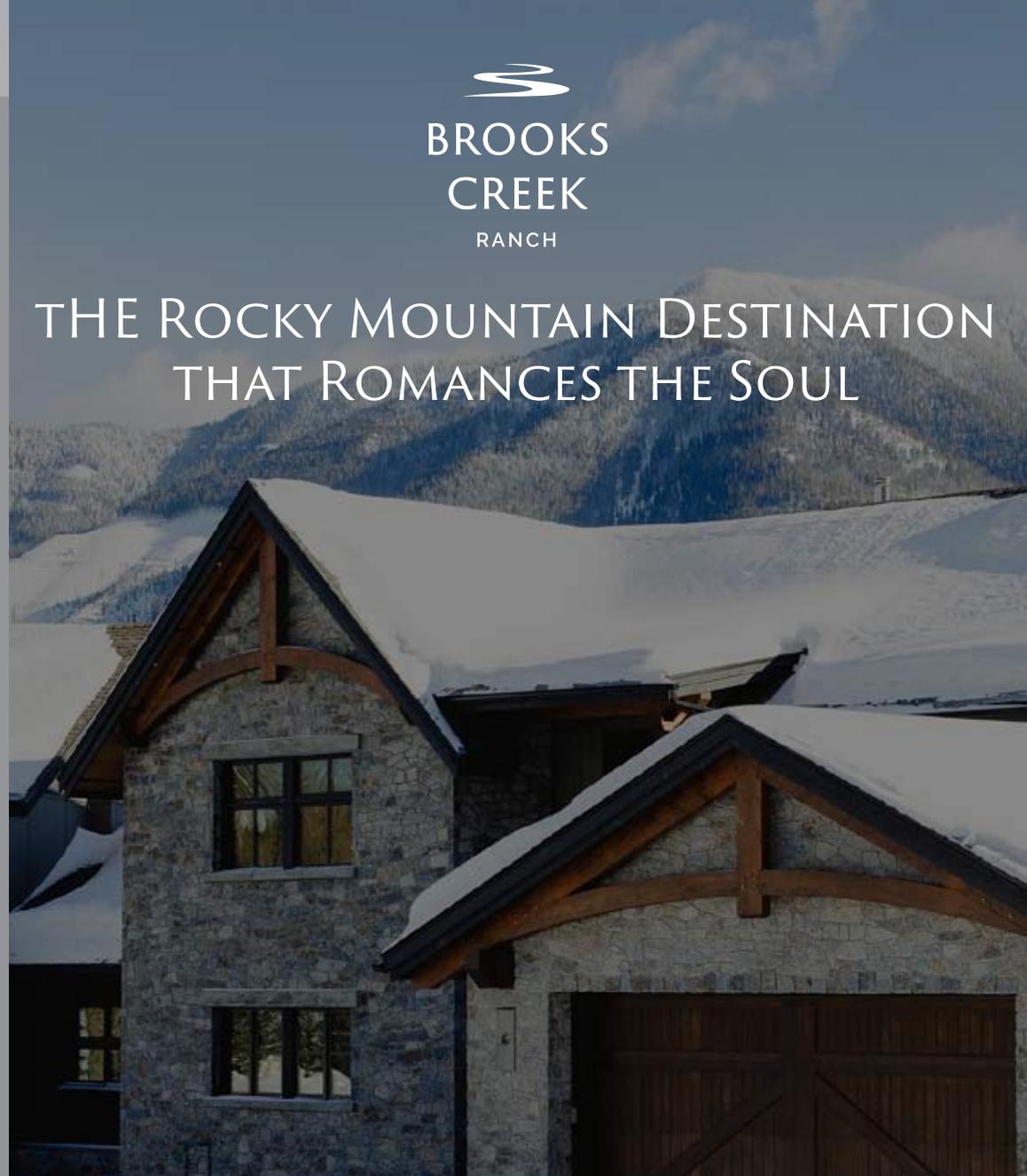


The Fernie Secondary School operated here for 89 years from 1909–1998. Early photographs show that the original façade looked much as it does today, however it was covered with stucco from 1978 until the time of the renovations in 2006. It was then that Parastone developed the site; revitalizing the 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.

Be sure to enjoy Historic Downtown's local cafés, boutique shopping and cultural attractions (see attraction listings, P18). Visit working artists and artisans in their studios (see gallery listings, P16) and soak in the atmosphere of a town rich in history and heritage.

**BROOKS
CREEK**
RANCH

THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN DESTINATION
THAT ROMANCES THE SOUL



ESCAPE INTO YOUR GREATEST ADVENTURE
IN CANADA'S MOST EXCLUSIVE OUTBACK.



FALL ICONIC PHOTO SPOTS

The Elk Valley's scenic beauty shines all year round. Find and photograph historic attractions, big Rocky Mountain viewpoints, waterfalls, rivers or parks as autumn colours transform our local landscape. For more details visit tourismfernie.com.



The Elk River runs gently through Fernie, with many beautiful vantage points. Capture this river shot with the Lizard Range from the North Fernie Bridge.

Matheson Falls is tucked away 9km along Coal Creek Road and takes a bit of exploring to find but is worth the effort.



The Ghost Rider Shadow appears on Mt Hosmer at sunset during the warmer months. Best place to photograph it? At the Fernie Golf Club.



The 1974 Terex Titan at the Sparwood Visitor Centre was the world's largest truck for 25 years and continues to be a highly photographed icon.



Take a scenic chairlift ride up the Rockies! Fernie Alpine Resort offers these daily in summer and on weekends in September.



Historic Downtown Fernie with its Rocky Mountain backdrop. Photograph from every crosswalk along 2nd Avenue between 7th Street and 5th Street.



Mt Proctor viewpoint taken from the bench at the top of Swine Trail. Bike or hike up from the Fernie Visitor Centre.



Annex Park with colourful foliage, duck ponds, wooden bridges, gentle trails along the river and mountain views. Access at the end of 11th Street.



Josephine Falls east of Elkford is an 83 ft waterfall into a steep canyon and is an easy short hike from the trailhead.



Maiden Lake at 19th Street and 9th Avenue is a great spot to capture fall foliage with a backdrop of Mt Proctor, the Three Sisters and Mt Fernie.



Island Lake Lodge, open till October 8th, has a series of its own Iconic Photo Spots each with magnificent views of the Canadian Rockies.



The bench on Hyper Ventilation Trail on Castle Mountain offers great views of the valley looking west, and is popular for mountain bikers and hikers.



Fairy Creek Falls is one of Fernie's most popular and family-friendly trails. A short, mostly flat hike leads to this lovely spot from the Visitor Centre.



Mt Fernie Provincial Park's lush forest and easy trails provide many photo opportunities. Access Sherwoody Trail from various points within the campground area.



The Old Growth Trail begins 4km from the Island Lake Lodge lower parking lot. It features Western Red Cedars. This is the furthest east these giants grow.

FERNIE HERITAGE LIBRARY BRINGING WORDS TO LIFE



The Fernie Heritage Library is a place to discover and nurture a love of literature and language. Fun and friendly, warm and welcoming; a sanctuary for all ages filled with every variety of media. Curl up in a huge leather armchair by the sunny upstairs windows to enjoy the view of the Lizard Range and folklore of old Fernie. More than you imagine, the Fernie Heritage Library brings words to life.

BUILDING FERNIE'S LITERARY HERITAGE

Housed in the beautiful historic former Customs & Post Office building in the heart of Fernie, the Fernie Heritage Library has provided library services and programs for over one hundred years. The Library has been recognized for its excellence in community programming and engagement and offers three floors of books, magazines and reference materials, a research and study room, computer use, and fax, copy, and scan services. In all seasons, it is a cozy refuge; warm in winter, cool in summer. The tranquil Library garden is a sunny space to relax with a book or a family picnic during warmer months.

ENGAGING PROGRAMMING FOR ALL

A range of engaging programming suitable for all ages from toddlers to seniors is offered throughout the year both inside the library and out in the community. Programs this fall include weekly storytime, lego and tech events for kids, and two monthly book club events for adults – one indoors and one that includes a scenic walk along the Elk River. Special events include Ukulele 101 on Sep 20th and 'What I did on my Summer Vacation' - an all-ages slideshow with free popcorn on Sep 21st. All programs are free and everyone is welcome to attend.



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



THE KTUNAXA NATION — LIVING CULTURE, LIVING TRADITIONS

For more than 10,000 years, the Ktunaxa people, also known as the Kootenai or Kootenay, have occupied a traditional territory that spans what is now known as southeastern British Columbia, Southwestern Alberta, and parts of Washington, Idaho and Western Montana.

For hundreds of generations, the Ktunaxa people used the Elk Valley and the Crowsnest Pass as a trade and travel route through the Rocky Mountains. Twice a year, Bison hunts were coordinated on the prairies east of the Rockies until the bison population was decimated in the mid-1800s.

The Elk Valley area was the primary home of the easternmost branch of the Ktunaxa people, who are closely connected to families living at what is now Tobacco Plains. The Michel Prairie people, after whom the former town of Michel was named, used the area near Sparwood to plant tobacco. Their Ktunaxa name is kaqawakanmituqnik and means 'river running into and out again' (the Michel Creek into the Elk River).

Despite being subjected to 120 years of living on Indian Reserves, and decades of forced attendance at a Residential School at the St. Eugene Mission near Cranbrook, the Ktunaxa Nation continues to be a strong and thriving community. Today, there are more than 1,500 members in the BC communities of Pakisq̓nuk, Paq̓am, Pakinkumtasnuq̓tiṛit, and yaqan nuṛkiy. The Ktunaxa Nation Council is located in Cranbrook. There are two Bands in Idaho and Montana connected by language and culture but politically independent.

To learn more about the living culture and traditions of the Ktunaxa Nation visit Ktunaxa.org.

THE TIPI

The traditional dwelling of indigenous communities, the tipi (or teepee) is a large, durable, cone-shaped tent. Traditionally, it is constructed of wooden poles and tanned animal skins, often buffalo. The poles are tied together at the smaller ends and then raised with a twist, the bases spread out to form a large circle. A hole is left at

the top of the cone when the skins are spread over the poles, allowing smoke from the central fire to escape. These dwellings are very strong and dry, cool in the summer and warm in the winter. They are sometimes misidentified as wigwams, which are dome-shaped shelters typically constructed of tree bark.

Tipis were designed to be easily erected, dismantled and transported by the nomadic plains people. Today they are mostly used for ceremonial and exhibition purposes. Learn more about the tipi, hear the Ktunaxa Creation Story and participate in traditional Ktunaxa crafts and activities at the **Fernie Chautauqua - Heritage on the Lawn on Saturday, September 15th.**

SPEAKING EARTH

The Ktunaxa Nation offers an exclusive First Nations experience in a resort setting in the Canadian Rocky Mountains.

Speaking Earth Haqatpatniṛnam (Hackalth-palth-knee-nam) is a series of extraordinary activities: Guests will experience traditional knowledge and culture interpreted by nation members in a hands-on environment. They will hear stories, scrape hides, learn to bead, and play traditional games. At night, guests may also sleep in traditional tipis.

Speaking Earth is offered exclusively through the Ktunaxa Nation-owned St. Eugene Golf Resort & Casino.

Visit SpeakingEarth.ca for more details.



AS THE SNOW FALLS

EVENTS IN FERNIE THIS WINTER



FESTIVAL OF TREES

NOV 16 – DEC 2, 2018

PARK PLACE LODGE

FB: /Elkvalleyfestivaloftrees

Sparkle on with the Elk Valley Festival of Trees – a special fundraising event featuring a spectacular collection of decorated trees on display from mid-November. The Festival includes a ‘Spirits of Christmas kick-off Party’ with festive food and beverage tastings, dancing and prize draws, plus a Senior’s Tea, Holiday Fair and Date Night. The trees will be on display for the duration and can be viewed free of charge at any time – be sure to vote for your favourite!



SWAN LAKE EXPERIENCE

DEC 1-2, 2018

THE ARTS STATION

theartsstation.com

Lose yourself in the passion and romance of one of the most beautiful ballets of all time – Tchaikovsky’s Swan Lake. The weekend begins with an exclusive ballet workshop and dance event for little dancers and includes a costume for each participant and a live performance at the end of the workshop for family members to enjoy. In the evening, be mesmerized by a screening of the Kirov Ballet Company’s presentation of Swan Lake. On Sunday, the Heart and Soul Company dancers and special guests will bring the ballet to life with a special performance inspired by the magic of Swan Lake.

MOUNTAIN MAGIC

THROUGHOUT DEC 2018

FERNIE ALPINE RESORT

Skifernie.com

Don’t like to ski or snowboard, but want to experience the magic of a Resort-

style Christmas? Spend some time at Fernie Alpine Resort this December and fall in love with the festive season all over again! Events include photos in the snow with Santa, magical holiday horse-drawn sleigh rides, candlelit dinners and lots of entertainment, crafts and fun for little ones with the Griz Kidz Holiday Program.

11TH ANNUAL REEL CANADIAN FILM FESTIVAL

JANUARY 25-27, 2019

VOGUE THEATRE

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 festival opens with a gala presentation and welcome reception on Friday evening and continues with an eclectic selection of films, a young film-makers competition and complimentary programming. Tickets on sale from December.

42ND ANNUAL GRIZ DAYS

MARCH 1-3, 2019

FERNIE-WIDE

Ferniegrizdays.ca

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, Craft Fair and much, much more.





BUILT HERITAGE

COMMEMORATING THE END OF WWI — THE FERNIE CENOTAPH

2018 marks the 100th anniversary of the end of the Great War of 1914-1918. At the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month of 1918, the Allies and Germany signed armistices at Compiègne, France, bringing an official end to four years of war.

Around the world, November 11th has been a day of remembrance ever since; a time to pause and reflect on the sacrifices of our forebears and give thanks for our freedoms. In Fernie, the annual service of remembrance is centred around the Fernie Cenotaph, a gently imposing granite likeness of a soldier bowed in sorrow over a cross inscribed with 'Flanders Fields' and gently strewn with poppies. The plinth raises our soldier aloft, placing him in stark contrast against the snowclad mountains that surround on every side. The setting in the gardens of the beautiful chateau-style Fernie Courthouse lends additional weight and significance to the importance of the piece.

Built as part of a national memorial initiative in the 1920's that cost in excess of \$3M, the Fernie cenotaph is one of several of a singular design. Others can be found in Nova Scotia, Ontario and Saskatchewan. Although the designer was fired after it was found that he was of German descent, he was allowed to keep the prize money from the design competition and a century later, his vision remains as our main memorial to

WWI. The construction amounted to \$10,000 in 1922, a staggering sum by today's standards.

Take a moment to visit this calm oasis in the centre of Fernie and soak in the reverence of the site. Now more than ever, it is important to remember the lessons learned and honour the fallen. Read more about the Fernie Cenotaph at edwardianfernie.ca.



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 three Elk Valley Visitor Centres for personalized assistance.

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

SPARWOOD
PH: 250-425-2423
141 Aspen Drive
Sept. 4 till Oct. 8:
Sat. - Thurs.: 9am - 4pm
Friday: 9am - 1pm,
Holidays: 10am - 3pm
Oct. 9 till Dec. 15:
Mon. - Thurs.: 9am - 4pm
Friday: 9am - 1pm
Holidays: 10am - 3pm,
Closed Weekends

FERNIE
PH: 250-423-6868 • 102 Commerce Road
September 4 till December 2:
Monday to Friday 9:30am - 5pm



RUINS ALONG THE ELK VALLEY TRAIL

Filled with sights and stories, the Elk Valley Trail is a 130km section of the Great Trail, also known as the Trans Canada Trail. Visit the Hosmer section just east of Fernie for a glimpse into the area's rich past.

From 1908, the Hosmer Mine—a subsidiary of the Canadian Pacific Railway—produced coal. By 1910, over 1,200 people lived in what appeared to be a community with a bright future but in 1914, the C.P.R. unexpectedly announced that the mine would cease production immediately. Still inhabited today, the community is a popular spot where the Hosmer Cemetery, former power house, coke ovens, and other ruins can be explored.

