

















Heritage Week Participants 2025

	Africans in Okanagan okanaganafricans.ca Through cultural events, community-building initiatives, and educational programs, the association fosters diversity, inclusion, and resilience while highlighting the contributions of African residents.
	BC Métis Federation (BCMF) bcmetis.com macobc.com The Métis Association of Central Okanagan (MACO) is the local community group of BCMF, a non-profit, works to ensure the well-being of its membership across British Columbia, through capacity building, advocacy, and cultural revitalization efforts and to advance Métis knowledge.
	Central Okanagan Heritage Society (COHS) okheritagesociety.com COHS, incorporated in 1982, is a registered non-profit Society. COHS' mission is to "build awareness of the distinct heritage of the Central Okanagan through conservation, collaboration, advocacy and education for the benefit of current and future generations."
	FRAHCAS frahcas.org "The Friends and Residents of the Abbott Street Heritage Conservation Area Society" advocates for the preservation, conservation, and restoration of heritage. It works toward more public awareness and understanding of heritage in their area and its importance to the City.
	Kelowna Canadian Italian Club (KCIC) kelownaitalianclub.com The Kelowna Canadian-Italian Club, founded in 1966, is the social and cultural centre of the Italian community in Kelowna. As friends, we carry on our cultural traditions by promoting the Italian language and culture, through food, music, and wine.
	Kelowna Chinese United Association (KCUA) kelownachinese.ca The KCUA aims to foster unity and mutual support within the Chinese community in Kelowna and surrounding areas. We are dedicated to promoting cultural heritage, encouraging cultural exchange, and enhancing community cohesion, integration, and inclusivity.
	Kelowna Community Music School (KCMS) kelownacommunitymusicschool.ca Since its founding in 1976, KCMS remains dedicated to preserving the significance of music in our society, ensuring that it continues to be a vibrant and integral part of our cultural heritage for generations to come.
	Kelowna & District Genealogical Society (KDGS) kdgs.ca KDGS, a non-profit charity, held its first meeting in 1984. Its mandate is to assist people in discovering their family history through educational opportunities, providing a resource centre and other support.
	Kelowna Museums kelownamuseums.ca The Kelowna Museums Society, a registered non-profit society since 1951, has provided the region's residents and visitors with interpretation of the Okanagan and beyond. The three museums are Okanagan Heritage Museum, Okanagan Military Museum and Laurel Packinghouse.
	The Kelowna Pipe Band Society facebook.com/p/Kelowna-Pipe-Band-Society The Pipe Band, established in 1923, is one of the oldest Pipe Bands in B.C. It is a not-for-profit society that supports local community and private events and is open to welcoming new and existing pipers and drummers.
	Kelowna Tree Protectors (KTP) kelownatreeprotectors.ca We educate the public about the importance of Kelowna's tree canopy, significant trees in our city, how to care for trees as well as interacting with Mayor and Council in tree related matters.
	Lake Country Museum & Archives lakecountrymuseum.com Since its inception in 1985, the Lake Country Museum & Archives has been active in collecting, preserving and presenting to the public, artifacts, manuscripts and photographs documenting the history of Lake Country.
	Mandarin Mondays Kelowna facebook.com/mandarinmondayskelowna Established in 2018, this vibrant, volunteer-led group focuses on celebrating culture through language exchange and activities such as playing mahjong. Their free Monday sessions at the downtown Kelowna library provide learning and connections to participants of all skill levels.
	OCCA Communities Association occabc.ca OCCA is a registered charity founded in 2010, serving multicultural communities across the Central Okanagan. We offer a range of services and programs to support immigrants and newcomers, helping them overcome barriers and succeed at every stage of their journey.
	Okanagan Historical Society Kelowna Branch (OHS) okanaganhistoricalsociety.org OHS is one of the oldest societies in British Columbia dedicated to the preservation of local history. Incorporated in 1925, the society published twelve reports with articles about various historical topics and, after the Second World War, has published a report every year.
	Okanagan Regional Library (ORL) orl.bc.ca Provide information through books, media and talks. Our libraries are a haven for curious minds.
	Sncewips Heritage Museum sncewips.com As an Indigenous owned and operated business, this non-profit museum holds space for syilx voices, connects our community to opportunity, and maintains a safe space for open, honest conversation. This is a protected place for sqilx™ representation, culture, and heritage.
	Westbank Museum westbankmuseum.com The mission of the Westbank Museum is to be a cultural centre for the community and provide a repository dedicated to the ongoing collection, preservation, and interpretation of Westbank and the surrounding area's history.

We thank: The City of Kelowna, The Province of British Columbia, & The Central Okanagan Foundation for their financial support.



Heritage Week Events 2025

Saturday February 15th	10:00am-12:00pm Family Day Weekend Drawing Workshop at the Westbank Museum (2376 Dobbin Road, West Kelowna). Come hone your drawing skills while drawing museum artifacts with local artist Linda Lovisa. There are only 12 spots, \$20 a person with all supplies included. Email: info@westbankmuseum.com or call 250-768-0110
Monday February 17th (Family Day)	<p>1:00pm-4:00pm The Heritage Week Opening Event at the City of Kelowna's Family Day Fun event at MNP Place (4105 Gordon Drive). There will be displays, activities, and music by various organizations celebrating the heritage, culture and history of the valley. There will also be Family Day Fun featuring fun and games for the whole family. This is a free event! For more information on Heritage Week, please visit: okheritagesociety.com/heritage-week or the individual participants' websites.</p> <p>12:00pm to 4:00pm Heritage Hobbies: Blast From the Past at the Okanagan Heritage Museum. Celebrate BC Family Day and Heritage Week with hands-on stations showcasing Okanagan leisure activities and sports of the past. Don't miss this fun and educational way to experience the history of our community's pastimes! Admission is by donation. kelownamuseums.ca/event</p>
Tuesday, February 18th	<p>5:00pm-6:00pm Sncewips Heritage Museum's Coralee Miller with the Kelowna Tree Protectors will give a special tour of the Sncewips Museum with a focus on the significance of Okanagan trees and plants in Syilx Culture. Join a special tour of the Museum with a focus on the significance of Okanagan trees and plants in Syilx culture. Learn about their role in medicines, ceremonies, captik™, and a variety of pastimes in community life. Adults \$5, children no charge. To register, email: kelownatreeprotectors@gmail.com</p> <p><i>Watch The Daily Courier for this year's COHS Heritage Award Winners!</i></p>
Wednesday, February 19th	<p>6:00pm-8:00pm Old School: Pop Quiz Trivia Night at the Okanagan Heritage Museum. Test your knowledge on classic school subjects while enjoying a drink—because this class is just for adults! For ages 19 + \$25 per ticket kelownamuseums.ca/event</p> <p>6:00pm Heritage Week Trivia Night at Whiski-Jack's Pins & Pints (620-525 Highway 97 South, West Kelowna). Get your team together (max 8 players per team) and come down to have some fun, learn some new things about your community's history, and maybe even win some prizes! Organised by the Westbank Museum and by the Sncewips Heritage Museum. info@westbankmuseum.com ; 250-768-0110</p> <p>7:00pm to 9:00pm Central Okanagan Heritage Society's 41st Annual Heritage Awards presentation will take place at Benvoulin Heritage Church (2279 Benvoulin Road, Kelowna). Light refreshments will be available after the presentation. This event is open to all Heritage Week participants as well as the general public. Admission by Donation. For more Information: okheritagesociety.com; cohs@telus.net</p>
Thursday February 20th	7:00pm FROM ROOTS TO RESILIENCE: Exploring the Journey of Italian Immigrants to Canada- Stories of Family, Identity and New Beginnings at the Kelowna Italian Club Hall. Join this roundtable discussion with four KCIC members who were born in Italy and later immigrated to Canada. Discover their personal stories as they delve into the resilience and courage behind their journeys. Free Admission. Registration Required: kelownaitalianclub.com/rootsresilience
Saturday February 22nd	<p>10:00am-11:00am Old School: Ring the Bell Tour at the Okanagan Heritage Museum This interactive tour takes you through the fascinating evolution of education, from charming one-room schoolhouses to the modern classrooms we know today. Perfect for all ages! \$15 a person kelownamuseums.ca/event</p> <p>1:00pm and 2:15pm Central Okanagan Heritage Society will be giving two 45 minute tours of the Bennett Heritage House. To attend, please pre-register, as limited spaces are available on each tour. The tours are by donation (minimum \$10/person), secure your spot at cohs@telus.net</p> <p>4:30pm- 9:00pm Black History Cultural Celebration, hosted by Africans in Okanagan. This vibrant and inspiring annual event, honours Black history, culture, and resilience within the Okanagan community. It brings together residents from all walks of life to experience the richness of African heritage through captivating fashion showcases, soulful music, and delicious culinary delights. \$25-\$35 okanaganafricans.ca/events</p>
On Going Events During the Week	<p>The Kelowna Downtown Library will have a number of Heritage Personality Displays from Feb. 16 to the 23rd. There will be new displays on the five SS Sicamous Captains. These displays have been researched and created by members of Kelowna & District Genealogical Society.</p> <p>The Lake Country Museum & Archives published Stroll Guides for each of the four wards of Lake Country in celebration of the 30th anniversary of the creation of the District of Lake Country. The guides are available during Heritage Week. lakecountrymuseum.com</p> <p>OCCA Chinese Heritage & History Showcase at Kelowna City Hall. In collaboration with the Chinese Freemasons, OCCA Communities Association is presenting a unique historical display, featuring treasured family artifacts that showcase the courageous journey of immigration, hard work, and cultural celebration. Explore the rich history and resilience of the Chinese community in the Okanagan until the end of March.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">See all the Heritage Week events on: facebook.com/heritageweekokanagan instagram.com/heritageweekcentralokanagan okheritagesociety.com/heritage-week</p>

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