



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS DONATING TO THE FERNIE MUSEUM COLLECTIONS

### **How are potential donations reviewed?**

Potential donations of artifacts are reviewed four times a year by a community-based Collections Committee to determine the artifact's suitability relative to the mandate of the Fernie Museum. The committee also reviews the condition of the item and examines the existing collection to see if there are examples of similar items that have already been collected. If the item meets the museum's criteria, the item is then accepted into the collection. Items are also accepted for use in the museum's hands-on community education collection if it does not have a mandate-related provenance.

### **Will the Fernie Museum appraise my donation for its monetary value?**

Under Revenue Canada, the museum can provide appraisals for the monetary value of items with a value of under \$1,000. Donations for objects valued at under \$1,000 are evaluated by museum staff using a minimum of three industry-accepted contemporary sources.

Donations with a value of over \$1,000 will need to be evaluated by a third-party appraiser. Since the beneficiary of the appraisal is ultimately the donor for taxation purposes, the Museum does not pay for third-party appraisals. Museum staff do not appraise objects for a third-party appraisal.

### **Can I take a tax deduction for my donation?**

The Fernie Museum is operated by the Fernie and District Historical Society, a non-profit charitable organization. To ensure that you receive the maximum tax benefit, it is recommended that you consult with your own accountant, attorney, and/or Revenue Canada.

### **Will the Fernie Museum exhibit the artifacts or documents in my donation?**

The Museum cannot guarantee that any objects or documents donated to its collection will be exhibited. Only a small fraction of the collection is on view at any given time.

However, the museum does maintain optimal conditions in its storage areas and galleries to insure the long-term preservation of all collection materials.

### **Does the Fernie Museum accept long-term loans?**

The museum does not accept long-term loans. While it does accept loan materials on a short-term basis in conjunction with exhibitions and other programs, the museum prefers to commit its resources to the storage and preservation of materials in the collection.

### **How do researchers access artifacts and documents in the Fernie Museum collection?**

The Fernie Museum is pleased to assist researchers in the study of Fernie's cultural, industrial, social and family history. To make an appointment to access the Museum's cultural and archival collections, please contact the Director-Curator at 250.423.7016, extension 2 or by [email](#).