



Roedde House Museum 2022 Report

Prepared for 2023 Roedde House Preservation
Society Annual General Meeting

January - December 2022



Roedde House Museum Annual Report

Roedde House
Museum
2022 Report

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Billie-Ann & Minnie

Board Chair Message

Billie-Ann Woo

2022 was a terrific year for the Roedde House Museum. It was a year to fully welcome visitors back into the House and we did it in a big way. We held interesting, unique, and fun events through the entire year and welcomed so many new people inside the house – many that had never visited before.

I want to first of all thank our staff, volunteers, and Board of Directors for all the hard work in 2022 and well into 2023! Every visitor smile can be credited to their dedication, enthusiasm, kindness, generosity and hospitality. It feels like more than ever, our community is dedicated to preserving this gem of a museum and cultural space for current and future generations.

In the last couple of years, we have seen different organizations and business not recover from 2020 and even we were unsure of our future. But we have seen in the last year, a voracious return in appetite for thoughtful and curated events and opportunities to interact and engage – and we delivered. I am excited to share with you some of the great things that happened inside and immediately outside the museum and the great breadth of events that we hosted – and how much potential we have for 2023 and onwards.

It is particularly bittersweet for me to reflect on the past year as it is my last as President of the Roedde House Preservation Society. It has been an honour and joy to serve as President of this society for the last 7 years, I have learned and grown so much as a person and professional and I encourage anyone who is interested in giving back in a more tangible way to seek opportunities in their community. You never know where you wind up, perhaps on the steps of 1415 Barclay St.

Sincerely,

Billie-Ann Woo



Manager's Message

Sara Hepper

I am pleased to say that 2022 was another successful year full of interesting programming, events, and partnerships at Roedde House Museum. It was a busy year for our small staff of two, as we took on more events and partnerships than ever before.

Thankfully, our amazing group of dedicated volunteers provided support and endless hours and energy to make all these events and programs possible. It was also wonderful to have the support of our community members who came out to attend our events and programs with such encouraging enthusiasm.

Aside from all the bustle of events, we continued to offer guided tours of the museum four days a week, with tour attendance returning very closely to our pre-pandemic numbers.

Experienced docents continued to lead our award-winning school program for classes in grades 4 to 6, offering them a glimpse into what life was like for the Roedde family in the late 1800s.

The year was full of great music, as our jazz series saw a number of talented musicians grace the museum's parlour for intimate concerts, while summer months brought larger scale, by-donation, outdoor concerts to the museum's side porch.

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Manager's Message

Continued

We expanded programs like our silent movie night series, and showcased more films during the year, while also hosting special introductions.

We were pleased to welcome a number of talented authors and artists for new events and partnered programs. Not to mention the three markets we hosted with various local artists and vendors sharing their art, antique finds, crafts, and talents (including tarot and tea leaf reading)!

Outside the house, we enjoyed working with our lovely neighbours at the West End Seniors' Network and Vancouver Friends for Life, for a series of summer events from dog treat bake sales, to the annual Strawberry Festival. We were also pleased to join Vancouver Heritage Foundation for their latest Places that Matter commemorative plaque celebration at English Bay which honoured Seraphim "Joe" Fortes.

We were grateful to present many interesting exhibitions in 2022 as well, thanks to various guest curators. We are looking forward to continuing many of these programs, events, and partnerships in 2023, while adding in some exciting new partnerships, including a new musical series. Stay tuned for announcements, and thank you all for continuing to visit, support, and work with us to keep historic Roedde House feeling young as we approach the houses' 100th birthday this year!

Sincerely,

Sara Hepper

Mission

The Roedde House Preservation Society is dedicated to the preserving, maintaining and enhancing of the Roedde House Museum and to presenting heritage exhibits and programs reflecting the early history of Vancouver for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations.

Since the Museum's official opening in May, 1990, the Roedde House Preservation Society has run Roedde House as a threefold facility:

- a museum with tours, including a schools program,
- a venue for music and other cultural entertainment,
- a rental facility for small receptions and artistic projects.

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Staff, Board & Volunteers

STAFF

Sara Hepper (Manager), Joyce Cheung
(Community Engagement Coordinator)
Thank you to our UBC Student Shane Atienza

BOARD

Thank you to our 2022-23 board!
Paul Busch, James Gibson, Jason Eckford, Ben
Hutchinson, Anita Lee, Tanya McCarthy, Lindsay
McIntosh, Diana Mogenson, Anthony Norfolk, Taylor
Tomko, Elizabeth Roach, Sarah Wang

VOLUNTEERS

44 active volunteers

MEMBERS

65 members (Mar 2022)

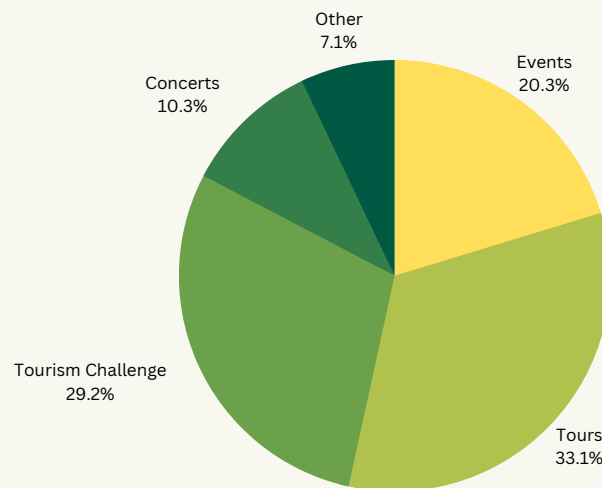
Visitor Statistics

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We had an impressive increase in visitors over 2021. We expanded tour hours, participated in Tourism Challenge, and hosted more events than ever.

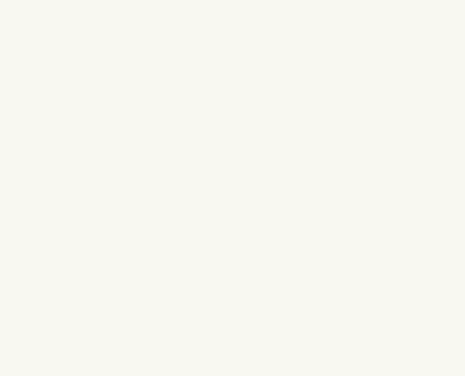
Total: 5,549

- Tours: 1,822
- Events: 1,116
- Tourism Challenge: 1,608
- Jazz Concerts: 564
- Other: 389



2021: 1,140
2020: 965
2019: 7,110





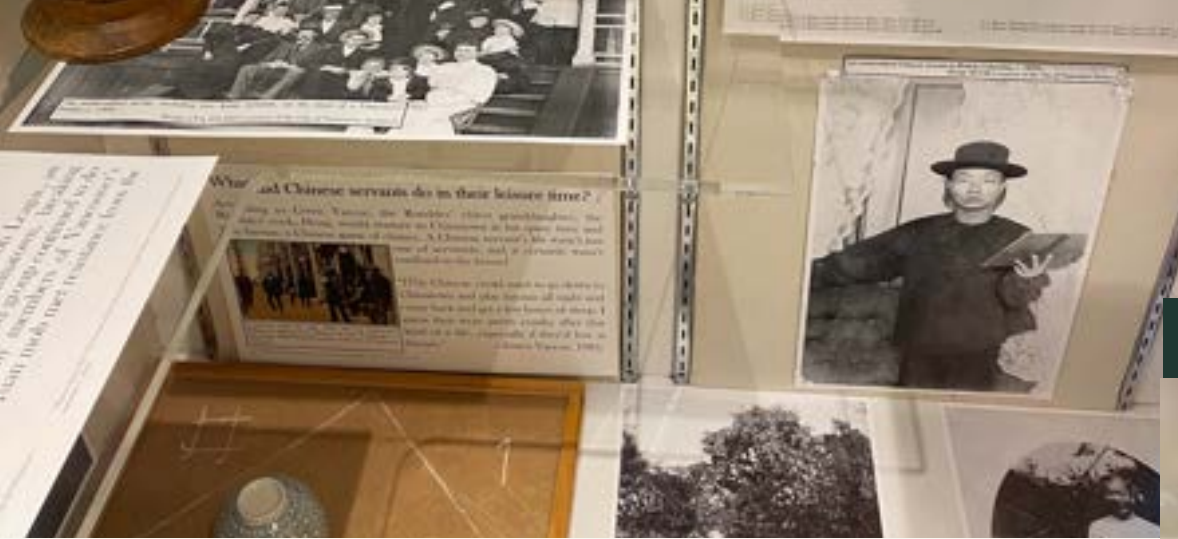
Programming

We have had another year of excellent and diverse programming including:

- Tin Type Valentine Photography Night
- Family Day Sewing Activity
- Mystery Month featuring Eve Lazarus talk
- Magic in the Moonlight & Mystic Market
- Victorian Spiritualism talk by Dr Aren Roukema
- Embroiderers Guild Demonstration
- Strawberry Festival with West End Seniors Network
- Dog Days in Barclay Square
- Charles van Sandwyck presentation
- Parlour Drawing Classes
- Paranormal Exploration Night
- Victorian Ghost Stories
- Movie Nights in the Parlour
- Monthly Jazz Concerts







Exhibitions

We were grateful to present many interesting exhibitions in 2022, thanks to various guest curators. This included work by our UBC summer students, **Shane Atienza**, who provided a permanent exhibition illuminating what life was like for Chinese domestic help during the early 1900s, and our remote research student, **Noah James** who highlighted the origins of the house and Roedde family history. We also welcomed the archivists at the **King George Secondary Archive**, local photographer and resident, **Fred Hume**, esteemed collector and fashion historian, **Claus Jahnke**, and collector and doll house enthusiast, **Jenny Morgan**. Smaller exhibitions were also a plenty with a Sherlock display by **Bill Allman** of Famous Artists and **The Stormy Petrels**, as well as exhibitions on Pauline Johnson, the Roedde family in the news, and a Remembrance exhibit focusing on Duncan Lawson all curated by Roedde board member, **James Gibson**.



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Preservation

Roedde House is now several years into the **Maintenance and Improvement Project**. We tend to focus on two rooms per year with some overlap and flexibility. In 2022:

- Washstand acquired for girl's bedroom.
- Two chairs reupholstered for parents' bedroom and boy's room.
- Wallpaper repairs in parents' bedroom, kitchen, and den.
- Carpets acquired for parents' bedroom and boy's room.
- Two metal covers for access to chimney repainted and reinstalled securely.
- New light acquired for boy's room and bedside table for parents' bedroom.

If you have not seen these improvements, we invite you to take a look during your next visit. Planning for 2023 commenced in the fall of 2022, with fundraising commenced on Giving Tuesday in November. Projects do not proceed unless fully funded.

Thank you to our generous donors who make these restoration and preservation projects possible!



Collections

The Collection Committee met online for the first half of the year. Starting at the end of May several committee members began to volunteer on site, this included orientations and training for new and returning volunteers. Elizabeth began a parental leave at the end of July and Jim Gibson took over as Acting Committee Chair, with Angela Raasch overseeing the administrative duties. The committee serves a twofold purpose: one is to perform administrative duties which includes approving and accessioning donations and acquisitions and working on collection projects, the second is to perform collection care, which includes cleaning and inspecting the museum and the collection.

Projects:

The committee focused on two projects this year (both are still in progress), one was to inventory the entire collection and update the museum's Collective Access database, the second project was to digitize the museum's archives and a number of photos and postcards.

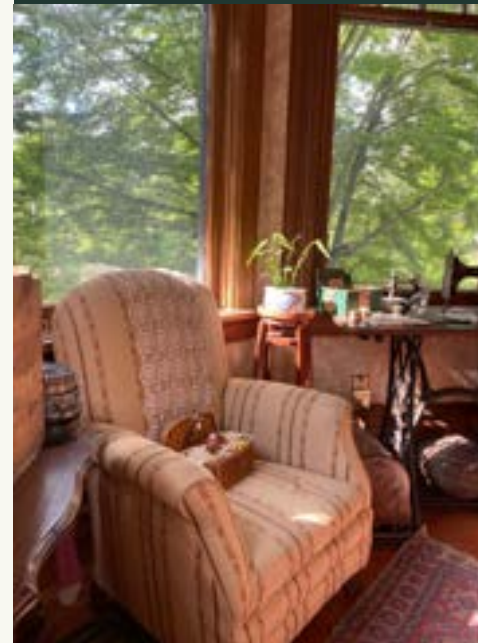
Collection Care:

In order to ensure that the collection was being properly maintained, Sara and Angela developed a collection care plan. Part of the plan was to create a cleaning schedule that included: monthly moth/pest and mold inspection, vacuuming, dusting, cobweb removal, cleaning vents, cleaning displays, changing bed linens, lightly cleaning clothing on display, shaking out carpets and running an air purifier in the rooms. In addition, one room would be deep cleaned each month, this would include removing furniture and carpets and washing the floors. In addition, recommendations to purchase equipment such as a HEPA vacuum cleaner and a shoe cleaning machine were also included as part of the collection care plan.

Volunteers:

- Two students: one SFU student (Riley Martin) and one high school student (Julia Collins).
- Three adult volunteers worked on projects: Elizabeth Peterson, Angela Raasch and Barbara Dale

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Collaborations & Community Partnerships

We were fortunate to have opportunity to collaborate with many of our community members on various events at the museum this year, including:

- The Stormy Petrels (Vancouver's Sherlock society) for our March Mystery month and silent movie night
- The King George Secondary Archive for exhibits and shared research
- UBC professors Aren Roukema, Ilinca Lurascu, and Ervin Malakaj for presentations
- The Vancouver Guild of Embroiders for demonstrations
- Eve Lazarus, for a book talk on Inspector Vance
- The West End Seniors' Network and Vancouver Friends for Life for outdoor summer events, including our dog treat bake sale and the annual Strawberry Festival
- The Vancouver Heritage Foundation for their Places that Matter plaque unveiling celebration for Seraphim "Joe" Fortes
- Joe Lepenska of Pretty Dead Taxidermy for art classes
- Charles van Sandwyck for a book reading and sale
- Vancouver Supernatural for an evening of paranormal tours
- Bill Allman and Famous Artists for our Christmas Ghost Stories
- Plus various local artists, artisans, and crafters as vendors for our three markets!





Financial Highlights

Overall the Museum had an optimistic financial performance in 2022. Several categories exceeded expectations including Special Events, Rental Income, and Tour Income. These outstanding categories are great indicators of visitor rebound after the public health closure and limitations as well as the increased awareness of the Museum as an unique rental venue and exciting program space.

We did not meet our goals for grants as the Federal government cut back the wage subsidy grants and limited financial support for heavily impacted industries including tourism. However we made it for it in several above mentioned categories, and finding non-grant-based income is more sustainable for the future.

We also learned critical lessons on planning and running events with external parties and developed several new best practices for the future to ensure more better planning and accounting outcomes.

Many thanks to all those who donated to keep the museum going, especially the McGrane Pearson Foundation for their support of our jazz and school programs.



Income Distribution

Total: \$120,935

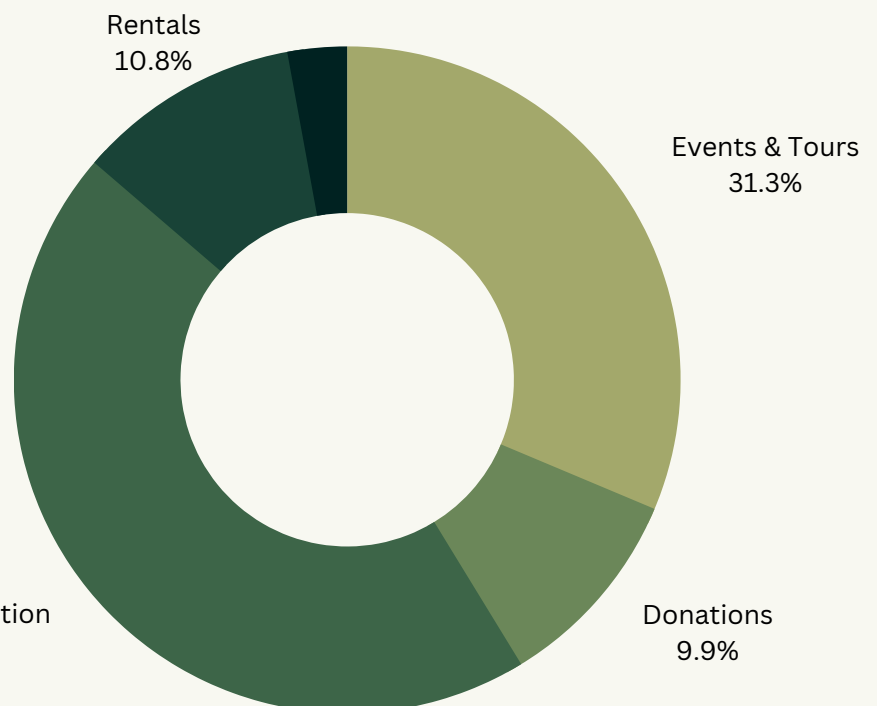
Events/Tours/Concerts: \$35,406

Donations: \$9,787

Grants & Distribution: \$59,701

Rentals: \$12,232

Membership & Other: \$3,809





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Thank you for your support, trust,
encouragement and patronage!



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