

Denman Museum awarded Canada 150 grant for Oral History Project!

Submitted_by Claire King

The Denman Seniors and Museum Society is pleased to announce that the Denman Museum has been awarded a **Canada 150** grant of \$3,560 for the Oral History Project initiated by the *Friends of the Museum*. The project has also been approved and supported by the DSMS board.

The Canada 150 grant is an initiative to celebrate an historic landmark in Canada's history: our country's sesquicentennial. *"The Community Fund for Canada's 150th is a collaboration between Canada's Community Foundations, the Government of Canada, and extraordinary leaders from Coast to coast"*.

In our region, the Comox Valley Community Foundation issued the grant which is designed to support relevant community projects in the Comox Valley. The criteria for such qualifying projects include: their ability to inspire a deeper understanding about the people, places and events that shape our communities and country; their encouragement of participation in events to mark Canada's 150th, and their help in building vibrant and healthy communities.

The purpose of the Oral History of project is to help preserve Denman Island's history through the stories of elders who are willing to share their stories and memories of Denman in videotaped interviews. Several interviews have taken place already and the raw footage will soon be edited and transferred to the Museum archives. The project organizers anticipate that approximately five more interviews will be filmed with Denman seniors and/or descendants of Denman pioneer families.

After this phase, we move into the post production which will necessitate professional expertise, as well as continued time from the volunteers in order to plan and oversee the final product. The grant application was made to secure the technical help needed to edit the footage professionally, and then to subsequently produce a short documentary film for the museum, the community school, and for all interested members of our communit