

## **Agenda**

**Tuesday November 06, 2018 at 4:30pm**  
Council Chambers

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Approval of Agenda**
- 3. Approval of the Minutes:** October 1, 2018
- 5. Statements of Significance (SOS) Project:**  
The Cumberland Cemetery Statement of Significance, with edits provided by the Commission and staff, is attached for review and consideration.
- 6. Committee Workshop:**  
A change to discuss the work of the Committee, the Terms of Reference (attached), effectiveness, efficiency. Dates and times of meetings. What is working well? What could be improved?
- 7. Next Meeting:** Monday December 3, 2018 time TBD.
- 8. Termination**



Corporation of the  
Village of  
Cumberland

**Heritage Commission  
Meeting Minutes**

Minutes of the Heritage Commission held on Monday, October 1, 2018 in Council Chambers at 2675 Dunsmuir Avenue, Cumberland, BC.

**PRESENT:** Mike Tymchuk Chair  
Paul Laronde  
Gillian Brooks  
Karen Webber  
Meaghan Cursons  
Gwyn Sproule

**ABSENT:**

**STAFF** Cleo Corbett, Senior Planner Secretary  
Ken Rogers, Manager of Development Services

**1. Call to Order 5:37 pm.**

**2. Approval of Agenda:**

Webber/Sproule: THAT the agenda be approved, as amended.

CARRIED

**3. Approval of the Minutes**

Laronde/Webber: THAT the minutes of the Sept 10, 2018 meeting be approved.

CARRIED

Minutes from the August 7, 2018 meeting were deferred for consideration at the September 10, 2018 meeting.

Cursons/Brooks: THAT the minutes of the August 7, 2018 meeting be approved.

CARRIED

**4. Resignation of Gillian Brooks**

Ms. Brooks was thanked for her dedication to the Committee.

Ms. Webber and Mr. Tymchuk both indicated a desire to step down from the Committee in the near future for various reasons but both indicated they might stay on to ensure Committee business moves forward given small membership numbers.

**5. Referral from Council: Development Procedures and Fees Bylaw No. 1073, 2018**

Mr. Rogers gave an overview of the proposed amendments and the process by which they were developed. The proposed fees recommended are based on the existing development process.

Questions and comments were discussed regarding:

- Heritage Alteration Permit process,
- when Development Permits are required for subdivisions,
- window replacements on heritage buildings, and
- the potential disconnect between conceptual drawings for development applications vs. what actually gets developed.

The Commission discussed the next OCP Review and wishes to review the Heritage Alteration Permit process in aims of finding a balance between effective development conditions and regulations and an efficient and streamlined approach.

The Committee expressed not being concerned with the cost recovery related to the proposed Bylaw amendments but wanted to explore an efficient development approval process.

**6. Statements of Significance (SOS Project):** Five SOS documents were presented again after previous amendments. Committee discussed all documents and indicated that although most required minor grammar and formatting revisions prior to be finalized, the Committee was comfortable with staff undertaking this. The Cumberland Cemetery SOS required more significant revisions to content including:

Joe Nayler should be added to the list of well-known Cumberland citizens buried at the Cemetery and the Spanish Civil War memorial should also be added as a character defining element. The editions shall be made and presented back to the Committee for consideration at the following meeting.

Cursons/Webber: That the Committee recommends approval the following Statements of Significance:

- Camp Road Neighbourhood
- Saito House
- Ilo Ilo Theatre
- Chinatown, Coal Creek Historic Park

CARRIED

7. **Next Meeting: Tuesday November 6, 2018** in Council Chambers at 4:30pm.

Requested agenda item: Review Commission meeting times and Cumberland Cemetery SOS for review as amended.

**Termination:**

Webber: THAT the meeting terminate.

Time: 6:41pm.

Certified Correct:

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Chair

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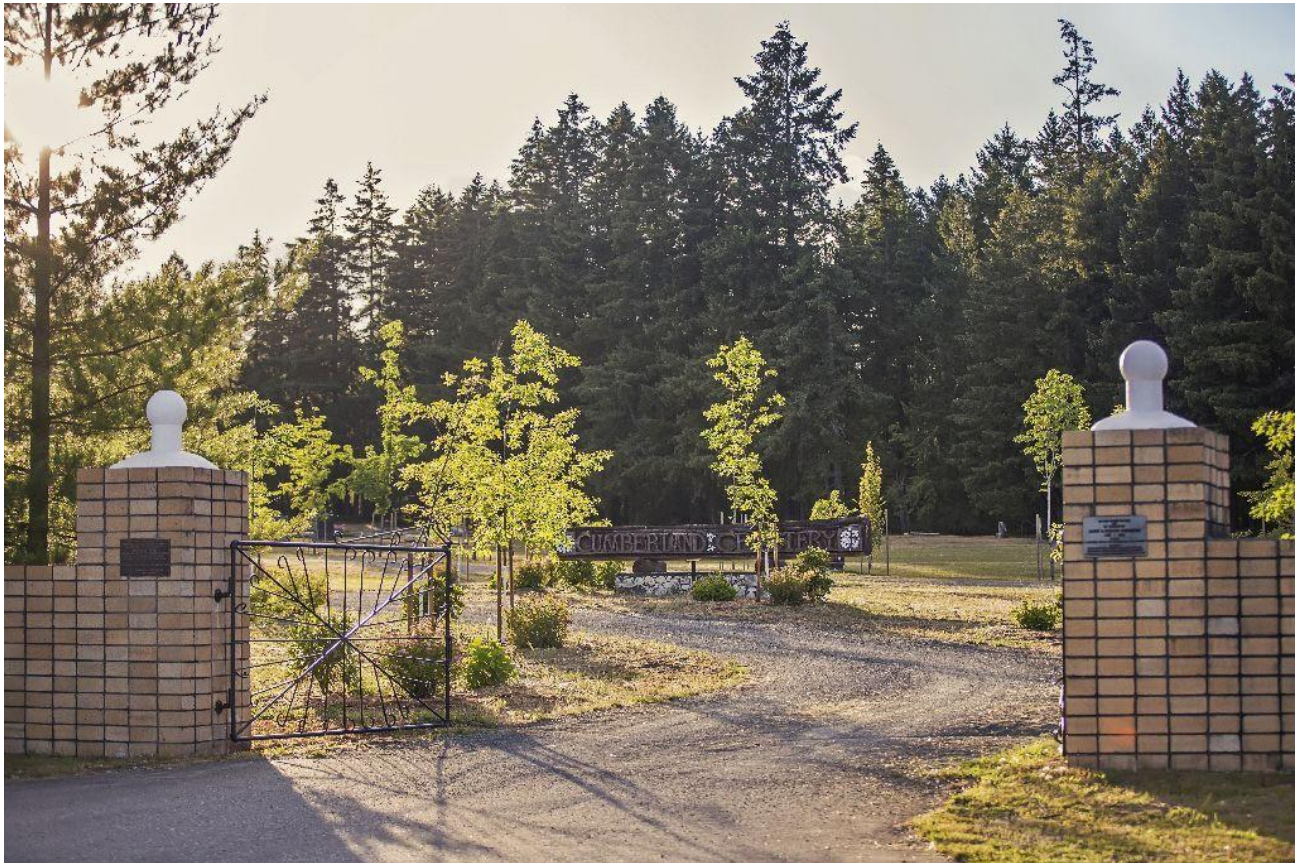
Deputy Corporate Officer

DRAFT

Village of Cumberland  
Statement of Significance

# Cumberland Municipal Cemetery

4441 Memorial Way, Cumberland B.C.  
Established 1895



Prepared by Denise Cook Design + Elana Zysblat, Ance Building Services  
November 2018

**Cumberland Cemetery - 4441 Memorial Way, Cumberland B.C.**



**Description of Historic Place**

The Cumberland Municipal Cemetery is a 4-hectare cemetery and public open space located at 4441 Memorial Way, approximately 2.5 kilometres east of the Village of Cumberland townsite and just east of the Inland Island Highway. The cemetery, divided into two main sections, contains elements such as graves and grave markers, entry gates and a carved log sign. The Cemetery has heritage designation through Village of Cumberland Heritage Designation Bylaw # 882, 2007.

The cemetery, once highly visible, was located on the original Cumberland Road between Courtenay and Cumberland until 1997 when the Inland Island Highway was constructed.

**Heritage Values**

The Cumberland Cemetery has historical, cultural, social, spiritual and aesthetic value, particularly for its past use as a pioneer cemetery and its ongoing use today. The cemetery is valued as an enduring record of the people of Cumberland and the surrounding region, their contribution to the growth and character of the community and their role in the industrial development of Cumberland.

Established in 1895, the Cumberland Cemetery is considered to be an essential and unique feature of Cumberland, valued as the resting place for generations of Cumberland's citizens. It represents a tangible link between those living and those buried, and to the community's past through its natural landscape features, physical layout, and built elements such as grave markers and monuments. Today, it retains a connection to early families that still remain in Cumberland and the surrounding area.

Constructed on a portion of the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway land grant owned by Robert Dunsmuir's Canadian Collieries Dunsmuir Ltd., the cemetery is important for being representative of the role that the coal mining company played in the area. Its connection and importance to the mining community is found in its original design and layout of family burial grounds and grave sites by Union colliery surveyor Frank Smith. In addition to citizens of Cumberland, the cemetery became the final resting place for many Union Bay, Bevan and #8 Mine townsite residents, communities established by, and associated with, the colliery.

Located within a forest setting of Douglas Fir and Western Hemlock, the physical landscape of the cemetery represents the larger landscape of the region, with gently sloping topography and natural vegetation cover of moss and Kinnikinnick overlaying glacial till. New planting includes *Robinia pseudoacacia* in rows along the roadway.

The original layout of the cemetery reflects the spiritual, social and political norms of the time, as well as the diversity of Cumberland's population. Historically, two separate cemeteries with different entrances for Catholics and Protestants existed. The two were combined in 1983 and now use a common entranceway. Japanese Canadians and Chinese Canadians had separate cemeteries altogether.

The development of the cemetery over 120 years also reflects the economic, cultural and spiritual changes in Cumberland's history seen in new cemetery regulations, headstone marker styles that include formal upright obelisks, ground level plaques and Canadian War Grave markers, and materials that range from wood, to polished granite, to concrete. The more recent rustic, hand-carved identity sign gives the cemetery a distinct sense of place. The transfer of ownership of the cemetery from the Colliery Employees Medical Fund to the Village of Cumberland in 1954 reflects economic change in the community as coal mining diminished, as well as the change in the roles of public and private institutions in the mid-20th century.

The Cumberland Cemetery is significant for its connection to many well-known citizens of, and events related to, Cumberland. To name just a few, the cemetery hosts the grave sites of renowned local labour leaders and activists Joe Naylor and Ginger Goodwin. Goodwin's shooting in 1918 led to strikes and riots across the country. Thomas Banks, Cumberland's undertaker, importantly compiled a list of those buried in the cemetery with their cause of deaths from 1908 until 1955. The cemetery is also associated with the Spanish Civil War, with volunteer soldiers buried here, and Miners' Row recalling workers in the early industrial history of the area.

The cemetery is a reminder of the victims of mine disasters such as the significant explosions in 1901 and 1922, with burials undertaken by different fraternal organizations and societies associated with the mineworkers. Unmarked graves may be those of miners who lost their lives in the mines or in other places.

The cemetery is valued for its ongoing use and utility as an active community cemetery, offering full burials, cremation lots and niches in a columbaria wall, with new and innovative approaches such as the inclusion of green burials. It is considered a spiritual and sacred place, with a sense

of connectivity and belonging: a permanent feature in Cumberland's landscape that conveys respect toward the dead.

A popular pilgrimage destination, the cemetery has social value through the commemoration and honouring of Cumberland's mining families through its formal heritage designation. New entry gates installed in 1983 were in honour of pioneers James and Janet Whyte and their descendants, many of whom were buried in the cemetery.

### **Character-defining Elements**

- Location of the cemetery on the original Cumberland Road within a forested setting
- Cemetery layout
- Two sections with separate entrances for Catholics and Protestants still evident and legible on the site
- New entrance established in 1983 representing the amalgamation of the two separate parts of the cemetery
- Wooden entry sign
- Grave sites of well-known Cumberland residents, such as Joe Naylor and Ginger Goodwin
- Provincial stop of interest plaque commemorating Ginger Goodwin
- Spanish Civil War memorial where volunteer soldiers were buried
- Location of community celebrations
- New tree planting and other current and future improvements

### **Research Resources**

Barr, Jennifer. 1997. *Cumberland Heritage: A selected History of People, Buildings, Institutions and Sites 1888-1950*. Corporation of the Village of Cumberland.

BC Archives - Archival photographs of Cumberland.

Comox Valley Family History Research Group. *In Memoriam: Cumberland Cemetery, Cumberland, B.C.* Courtenay, B.C.: Comox Valley Family History Research Group, 2002.

Cumberland Cemetery Index.

Cumberland Islander - various archival editions.

"Funerals Last Week." *The Cumberland News*, Wednesday April 16, 1901.

Isenor, D.E., E.G. Stephens, and D.E. Watson, *One Hundred Spirited Years: A History of Cumberland*. Seattle: Ptarmigan Press, 1988.

Village of Cumberland. "Cemetery Heritage and Preservation Plan." Memorandum dated 11 October, 2017.

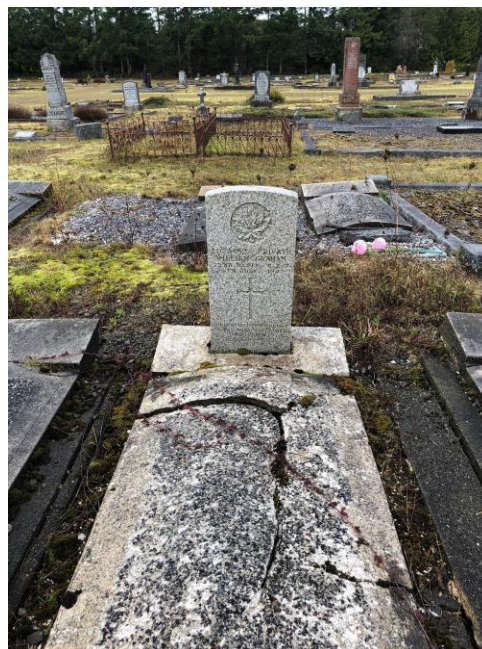
Village of Cumberland. *Village of Cumberland Cemeteries Master Plan*. Vancouver: Lees + Associates, 2014.



Preferred option for improvements to the Cumberland Municipal Cemetery reflecting the original form and layout of the cemetery. (Lees + Associates 2014)



View to the original Catholic section showing surrounding forest and native groundcover species associated with the site.



Upright headstones and burial plots in the original Protestant section.



Headstone and provincial stop of interest sign commemorating Ginger Goodwin.



Carved wood sign, new entry road and landscaping.