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The Royal BC Museum publishes richly detailed new coffee-table book

VICTORIA, BC – Today, the Royal BC Museum released a spectacular new coffee-table style book called *Treasures of the Royal British Columbia Museum and Archives*.

The hardcover book is anchored by five major essays and lavishly illustrated with colour photography and archival images.

“Our new *Treasures* book puts forward a fascinating array of narratives about the stories behind the Royal British Columbia Museum and Archives,” **said** Royal BC Museum CEO Jack Lohman, who compiled the book. “Drawing on the collections and the inspiration of the past, we get to know what lies at the heart of the Museum today.”

The essays are written by Lohman, senior curators Martha Black, Richard Hebda and Grant Keddie, **and BC’s** Provincial Archivist (Emeritus) Gary Mitchell, for many years a Royal BC Museum Vice President. The foreword is by the Honourable Steven Point, former Board member of the Royal BC Museum. The intention of the book is to provide readers with a sense of the reigning philosophy of the Royal BC Museum by those who know it best.

The book is studded with stunning photographic portraits of some of the museum and **archives’ treasures** – both those the institution has acquired for its collections, and those recruited as world-leading experts in their field. Images range from a stunning cover image of a Bill Reid gold box to a peek into the vast entomology collection, from a portrait of Archaeology Curator Keddie testing tools to the fragile but enduring beauty of a Chinese **Freemason’s lantern, diligently conserved in 2013**.

The rich illustrations and thoughtful meditations of the curatorial staff make the book worthy of consideration as a gift for anyone with a deep **interest in BC’s natural or human** history.

Treasures of the Royal British Columbia Museum and Archives retails for \$39.95, and is available in book stores everywhere in BC. It is also available through the Royal BC Museum’s online store, at royalbcmuseum.bc.ca/shop.

A companion 16-month-long calendar featuring many of the same images as the book will be available in June 2015.

About the Royal BC Museum

The Royal BC Museum explores the province’s human history and natural history, advances new knowledge and understanding of BC, and provides a dynamic forum for discussion and a place for reflection. The museum and archives celebrate culture and history, telling the stories of BC in ways that enlighten, stimulate and inspire. Looking to the future, by 2017 the Royal BC Museum will be a refreshed, modern museum,



extending its reach far beyond Victoria as a world-class cultural venue and repository of digital treasures.

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