

# New Pathways to Gold

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June 2008  
eNewsletter

## Audiences feel the rush as *The Motherlode* hits the road



Feel the rush! Audiences across B.C. are being treated to a mix of music, myth and history as *The Motherlode* troupe hit the road on May 21.

Kicking off the tour with rave reviews in Prince George, the five-actor troupe had standing ovations in Barkerville on May 25 for their dress rehearsal

performance, followed by the opening on May 27.

“The cast did a great job of selling the gold rush sizzle,” said Producer Richard Wright of the Newman & Wright Theatre Company. “Folks were impressed with the attention to the accuracy and depth of the stories and with how the music wove the whole thing together.”

Financed by BC150, *The Motherlode* is a musical drama wrapping the stories of the Fraser River corridor from Hope to Barkerville around an English gold seeker, a roadhouse keeper, a black poetess, a hurdy dancer and a Mexican packer. They tell stories of Native encounters, Chinese miners, the early years of Yale, the Cariboo Road and the gold fields.

The troupe is made up of Caitlin Hayes, Enrique Barragan, Keisha Haines, Laura McNaught and Syd Sengotta. The company will hold workshops for two days in each community they visit where they’ll collaborate with residents to develop a 10-15 minute local segment about the community, making each show unique.

*The Motherlode* tour will be joining the CP Spirit of 150 Rail Tour from June 12-July 6 followed by performances and workshops in the Hope-Barkerville corridor from July 9-August 31.

The show is produced by Wright and directed by Ross Desprez. The script was developed by Desprez, Wright and Don Hauka. Musical direction is by Alison Jenkins and the tour technical director is Aaron Wicks.

For more information on the tour schedule and workshops, please call 1.888.994.3225 or visit [www.theatreroyal.ca](http://www.theatreroyal.ca).



## Tune in to Shaw TV

Catch a sneak preview of the musical drama *The Motherlode* on Shaw cable. Thanks to Owen Siddals of Shaw Prince George, a 2:44 report of the show will be broadcast 40 times a day during the first week of June in Fort. St. John, Dawson Creek, Prince George, Quesnel, Williams Lake and 100 Mile House.

The segment may be seen in other regions across the province June 2-6 as part of Shaw’s “BIG SUMMER” series.

*The Motherlode* is garnering a lot of media attention, benefiting corridor communities and raising the profile of NPTGS and BC150. The *Prince George Citizen* ran a front-page photo of the troupe and producer Richard Wright as well as a story and photo on the front of its community section on May 22.

[Tour Dates](#) | [Tour Blog](#)

## Hume retraces Simon Fraser’s steps in lecture series



Inspiring, challenging, thought provoking. That’s what audiences are saying about Stephen Hume’s lectures on Simon Fraser. Some 200 years after Fraser’s epic voyage, journalist and poet Hume brings this blunt, tenacious Nor’wester to life in a series of free talks from Prince George to Vancouver.

The series started May 22 in Prince George and will end over 800 kilometres later in Vancouver at Simon Fraser University’s Downtown campus in the Segal Centre, 500 Granville Street. In-between, Hume is speaking in venues as varied as a First Nations longhouse to a bowling alley and stopping in communities like Quesnel, Boston Bar, Soda Creek and Skatin (Skookumchuck).

Hume says that while many British Columbians know Fraser’s name, few know much about the man himself or what drove him to trek from the Rockies to the mouth of the river with the help of B.C.’s aboriginal peoples.

“As a fur trader working with powerful First Nations, Simon Fraser laid the foundations for modern B.C.,” said Hume. “As an explorer he charted the still-wild river that’s been called the soul of the province.”

Celebrating the bicentennial of Fraser’s journey, the series is sponsored by the New Pathways To Gold Society, the BC150 Secretariat, Harbour Publishing, Budget and the *Vancouver Sun*. The tour is also made possible by many community organizations and bookstores that are providing venues, publicity and other support.

Tour co-sponsor Harbour Publishing has just published Hume’s latest book: [Simon Fraser: In Search of Modern British Columbia](#).

**NEXT STOPS:** Stephen will be in the Fraser Canyon, Fraser Valley and the In-SHUCK-ch Nation’s territory June 1-4. Please join us in:

- **Boston Bar**, June 1, at the Canyon Lanes, 47585 Trans Canada Hwy, 7pm.
- **Yale**, June 2, at St. John’s Anglican Church, 31187 Douglas, 7pm.
- **Hope**, June 3, Fraser Valley Regional Library (Hope branch), 1005 6th Ave, 6pm.
- **Skatin (Skookumchuck)**, June 4, Head of the Lake School, 12pm.
- **Mission**, June 4, Xa:ytem Longhouse & Cultural Centre, 35087 Lougheed Highway, 7pm.

For more information on the Stephen Hume Simon Fraser Lecture series, please call Gail Lucier at 250.392.1400 or visit [www.newpathwaystogold.ca](http://www.newpathwaystogold.ca) and click on [Events](#).



Stephen Hume with kids at the BC150 tent in Boitano Park at the Williams Lake Children’s Festival.

## Don’t miss the finale at Simon Fraser University

Stephen Hume’s Simon Fraser Lecture Series wraps up on June 6 at 7 pm, in Vancouver at Simon Fraser University’s Downtown campus in the Segal Centre, 500 Granville St. This is a free, public event, but seating is limited. Call reserve your free seat 778.782.5100.

[Tour Dates](#) | [Tour Blog](#)

## Did we miss you?



Not to worry—we’ll work it out. Stephen Hume had to postpone a few dates on the Simon Fraser Lecture Series tour because of a family emergency. Dates in Lillooet, Lytton, Ashcroft and Logan Lake are being rebooked.

Stephen is committed to fulfilling his commitment to your communities and hopes to have new dates to announce soon. Please check the [events calendar](#) - we’ll post them as soon as they’re confirmed. Thank you for your understanding.

## Thank You Sponsors!

The New Pathways To Gold Society thanks all the sponsors whose generous support have helped make our programs happen. Without our community partners from Hope to Barkerville, we couldn’t operate. With the financial assistance of our government and corporate sponsors, we’ve been able to stage events like *The Motherlode* tour and the Stephen Hume Simon Fraser Lecture Series. We’d specifically like to thank: [BC150](#), [Northern Development Initiative Trust](#), [Telus](#), [BC Transmission Corporation](#), [Simon Fraser University](#), [CN Rail](#), [CP Rail](#), [Harbour Publishing](#), [Budget](#), and the [Vancouver Sun](#).

## Pathways to Gold Symposium • Sept 26 • 100 Mile House

Educators will get a fresh perspective on how to teach students about B.C.’s rich and diverse history at the Pathways to Gold symposium. Designed to provide new teaching strategies and resources, the symposium is ideal for school teachers, particularly those teaching grades 4 and 5, as well as Social Studies 10 and 11.

The symposium is funded by BC150, the Northern Development Initiative Trust, District of 100 Mile House, BC Social Studies Teachers Association, Aboriginal Tourism Association of BC and Fraser Basin Council.

For more information on the symposium, please contact Paula Waatainen at 250.758.6543 or [pwaat@shaw.ca](mailto:pwaat@shaw.ca).

**The New Pathways To Gold Society** is a community-based organization dedicated to continued reconciliation with First Nations, investment in BC heritage and economic development for [BC150](#) in 2008, and beyond.

For more information on the New Pathways To Gold Society, please contact Don Hauka, Communications and Creative Director, at 604.524.1884 or [ddclauka@shaw.ca](mailto:ddclauka@shaw.ca).