

New Pathways to Gold

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Spring 2015
eNewsletter

Working Group to develop strategy to save historic Alexandra Bridge

NPTGS Briefs

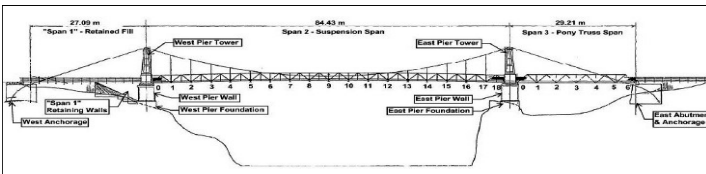


Figure 1-2
Key Elevation of Old Alexandra Bridge

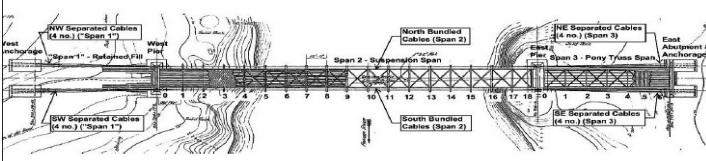


Figure 1-3
Key Plan of Old Alexandra Bridge



Former NPTGS Board Member Byron Spinks was honoured at the Society's January Board meeting in Ashcroft. Spinks was the founding co-chair of the Society and showed his dedication to First Nations reconciliation and developing new heritage tourism opportunities for all the communities along the Gold Rush Trails. Byron was presented with a plaque as a token of the Society's gratitude by current Co-chair Terry Raymond. Byron is now the manager of Tuckkwiowhum Village. See what he's up to at: www.tuckkwiowhumvillage.com.

A Working Group has been formed to develop a strategy to save the historic 1926 Alexandra Bridge and develop the adjacent site's heritage tourism potential. The group composed of members from First Nations, heritage tourism organizations and businesses, the Chinese Canadian community and representatives from the civic and provincial levels of government had their first meeting in Chilliwack on March 27.

The Alexandra Bridge Project Business Planning Development Working Group has the goal of developing a business strategy and subsequent plan for the Alexandra Bridge site. The Working Group has the support of an Oversight Committee composed of the Alexandra Bridge Project Partners lead organizations including the Spuzzum First Nation, Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure and NPTGS.

The business plan developed by the Working Group will map out strategies for elements such as fund raising, community consultation and communications support to save the bridge and add new heritage tourism assets to the area. For more details on the Alexandra Bridge Project, please check out the NPTGS [website](#).

NPTGS First Nations Co-Chair Cheryl Chapman is helping to organize the Save Wild Salmon Caravan, an initiative to inspire, encourage and support a convergence of efforts to save the iconic fish from industrial harm as well as celebrate its magnificent spirit. The caravan kicks off in Prince George in May and winds up in Vancouver after two weeks of music, food, ceremonies and more. Check it out on Facebook [here](#).

First Fish Ceremony bridges time and cultures



The Spuzzum First Nation (SFN) is once again inviting the public to their First Fish Ceremony on July 25, 2015 in their traditional territory. This community celebration of abundance and reverence for the natural environment that sustains us all takes place at the Alexandra Bridge Provincial Park picnic area from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The event will also celebrate the SFN's efforts to restore the historic 1926 Alexandra Bridge. Last year's First Fish Ceremony saw over 350 people pack the picnic area for great food, music and the launch of the Save the 1926 Alexandra Bridge petition drive. To see last year's event, visit our Facebook [page](#).

Gold Rush Trail Project Update

The Gold Rush Trail project continues to move forward, making new connections and working with partners to market the communities, attractions and businesses in the Gold Rush/Spirit Trails corridor. The project has been working on social media and other means to reinvigorate the Gold Rush Trails brand. The initiative is a partnership between NPTGS and a number of Destination Tourism Organizations.

NPTGS Directors back at city hall

A pair of NPTGS Directors made successful bids to return to city hall - and the regional district office - after last fall's civic election.

NPTGS Co-chair and Canyon Director Terry Raymond was elected Director for Electoral Area A of the Fraser Valley Regional District. He returns to the FVRD as an elected representative after a seven year absence. Raymond was Electoral Area A Director from 1995-2008 and served four years as chair of the Fraser Valley Regional District.

NPTGS North Cariboo Director Ron R. Paull is back on Quesnel City Council after a three year hiatus. Paull previously served nine years as a councillor and before that was a city employee at the management level for 24 years.

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 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.