

BC CULTURAL CRAWL IN PORT ALBERNI

*Your journey in the BC Cultural Crawl in the Alberni Valley
will take you from the past to the present.*



The sound of the Steam Whistle, a call from the Conductor “all aboard” and you’re off to the historic McLean Mill the old-fashioned way – pulled by the **No. 7 steam locomotive**. Enjoy life on the slow track, your journey accompanied by the rhythmic chant of the steam engine and the clatter of metal wheels on rail. Steam through lush west coast rain forest, whistle by rolling farmland, and rattle over wooden trestles as you look wa-a-a-y down into crystal clear creeks. The train leaves the Port Alberni Train Station, 3100 Kingsway, at 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Thursdays to Sundays. Cost for the Steam Train and Mill entrance – adult \$29.95, senior/youth \$22.50, child \$14.95 and family (2 adults, 3 children) \$79.95. Be careful on August 14th & August 28th as there is a rumour that the Beaufort Gang will rob the train!

The whine of saws, the smell of fresh cut wood and the hiss of steam engines take you to **McLean Mill**, a 1925 lumber and logging camp that operated until 1965. Explore the original buildings where the bookkeeper kept the time cards, the cook turned out hearty meals and the workers’ children grew up. Get up close to vintage logging trucks. The site includes an operating steam driven sawmill, steam donkey, and many activities and programmes. Meet characters from the past and skilled people of today who restore and operate the heritage equipment. McLean Mill at 5635 Smith Road is open seven days a week during August, 10:30 a.m. to 5:15 p.m. Entrance fees for the Mill only are adult \$15.25, senior/youth \$10.00, child \$7.50 and family (2 adults, 3 children) \$40.75.

Interact with members of the Tin Pants Theatre Co. on Monday and Tuesday as they provide visitors with fun filled, “old fashioned” and family focused activities, along with their regular stage shows and interpretive tours of the site. The Tin Pants Stage Shows are at 11 am, and 3 pm Monday to Saturday, and 11:45 am & 3:45 pm on Sundays.

Theatre Sports occur every Friday evening during August at McLean Mill. The Steam Pot Café and gate open at 7 pm and then, just before show time, the Referee rings the school bell and everyone is led over to the Nikkei Theatre. It is there that audiences get to enjoy live, spontaneous, fun filled, and family friendly entertainment in the form of Theatre Sports, McLean Mill Style. It’s wacky and hilarious, “on the spot” improvisational theatre performed by the Mill’s own Tin Pants Theatre Company and local actors. Theatre Sports cost \$5 adult & senior, \$2.50 youth & child.

The **Alberni Valley Museum** at 4255 Wallace Street is a highly rated community museum that presents the cultural history of the area. Artifacts tell the stories of life in a simpler time and involve you in the memories of those who were drawn to this valley. Learn about local First nations art and culture, including an excellent basketry collection. Find out about the development of the West Coast Trail or the trans-Pacific cable line. Marvel at the imagination that fuelled the creation of local folk art. From the artistic to the zoomorphic – you’ll be educated and entertained. Admission is by donation. The museum is open Tuesday – Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00



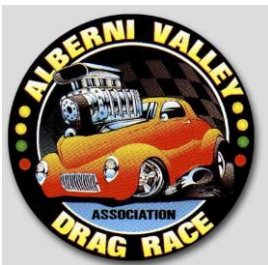
p.m. and on Thursdays until 8:00 p.m. During August the exhibit Hisheenqu’as (Living Together), Alberni and the Birth of the BC Forest Industry will be on display.

The intrigue of the Sea surrounds you at the **Maritime Discovery Centre** on the waterfront on Harbour Road. Watch the activity of a modern harbour at work. Compare the waterfront then and now at the heritage lookouts. Explore the lighthouse and discover how the original Chrome Island light sends out its beacon. You’ll learn about maritime life above and below the water, on rugged outer coast or in sheltered port. New exhibits this year are Navigating the Graveyard and Lady Paisley Sails Up The Inlet as well as activities for the children. Admission is by donation. The Maritime Discovery Centre is open 7 days a week, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.



The Community Arts Council of the Alberni operates the **Rollin Art Centre Gallery and Public Gardens**, located at 3061-8th Ave. Relax in the tranquil heritage gardens. Enjoy delightful Tea on The Terrace on Thursday afternoons, 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. with local musicians performing for your enjoyment. Reservations are a must! Call 250-724-3412.

Explore the unique gift shop representing 75 local artisans. In the Gallery, Pauline Hannaford will display her photography until Aug. 16 and from Aug. 19-Sept. 14, Tia Baarda will have her acrylic paintings on display. Also available at the Rollin Art Centre is a free Artists Studio Guide of numerous artists in Port Alberni and in the Valley. Free admission to the gallery! Wheelchair accessible. The Rollin Art Centre is open Tuesday to Saturday, 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.



Thunder In The Valley Drag Race weekend – August 5-7 – kicks off with a “Show & Shine” on Friday Aug. 5th from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Alberni Harbour Quay. The Show & Shine features vintage cars right through to present day vehicles. Free admission! Saturday, Aug. 6th, the Thunder starts at the Port Alberni Regional Airport, approx. 7 km west of Port Alberni. Gates open 8 a.m. Racing at 9 a.m. Gates close at 8 p.m. on Saturday and 5 p.m. on Sunday. Admission is \$20 per day. This includes the races,

parking, pit-pass and numerous door prizes. Children under 12 are free, if accompanied by an adult. Racing includes everything from Vintage to Door Slammers and Dragsters. Sunday, Aug. 7th the Thunder starts at 8 a.m., running eliminations all day, hoping to wrap up between 5 p.m. and 6 p.m.