

Granite Creek Hits Motherlode With Canada 150 Grant By George Elliott

It won't be long before there will be a lot more to see at Granite Creek than ruins of a handful of structures and a cemetery. The tiny little ghost town located near Coalmont will soon become an educational stop of interest revealing details of its past in British Columbia's history.

The Granite Creek Preservation Society was formed in September 2013 with the goal of protecting and sharing the significance of the once booming mining camp. One such project was to have a series of interpretive signs erected at locations of historic interest at both the townsite and cemetery.

At the time, the task was far out of the reach of the modest bank account of the GCPS. As of this week, that has changed thanks to the group being awarded with a Canada 150 Grant in the value of \$7,800.

"To say this was an easy job would be a huge understatement," says GCPS Chairman George Elliott.

"The process leading up to the grant announcement seems to me to have taken forever but fortunately, the RDOS saw the same kind of potential we did with this project and that was the encouragement we needed."

Elliott credits RDOS Rural Projects Coordinator (Community Services) Candice Gartner for her guidance and the entire GCPS Board of Directors and Membership for working together to reach this goal.

"We even had an informal name-the-project contest within the group to get everyone involved," Elliott adds.

"The spectrum and volume of suggestions from the small group was incredible and it was left up to Candice to pick the one she thought best described what we were trying to do."

The Canada 150 Grant Application was built around the title of "Granite Creek: From Gold Town To Ghost Town." The GCPS will spend the next few months coordinating designs, content and placement of the signs at the ghost town site with full cooperation and participation of the RDOS.