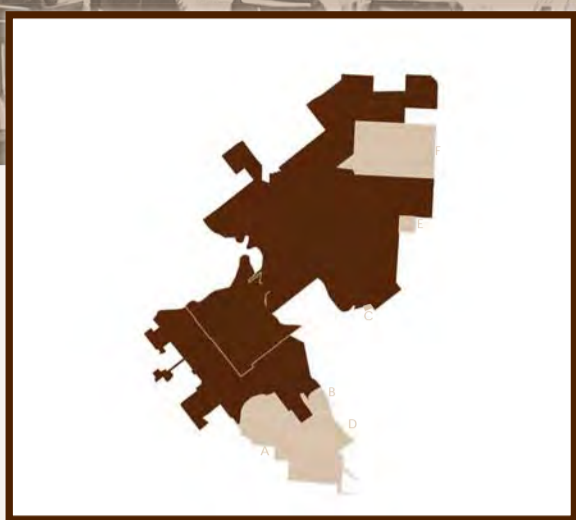




# A walk through time... 2006-2015

**People Make a Vibrant City.** The Walk of Achievement, which highlights notable residents, and the Rotary Trail Along The Rails, which is a further expansion of the city's walking and cycling network, remind us of the contribution of organizations and individuals, volunteer and otherwise, that no lively and livable city can be without.



Outdoor Concert at Simms Park | City of Courtenay

Population: 24,099 (in 2011)

Map: Dark brown areas represent the City boundary as it was in 2005. Lighter shaded areas show areas that were added to the City between 2006 and 2015.

### CIVIC RENOVATIONS

It was a decade of renovation. The Native Sons Hall built in 1928 which had for 30 years been the home of the Courtenay and District Museum and Archives was empty after the Museum had in 2000 moved into their new facilities in the old Post Office. The Native Sons Assembly had disbanded. The City wanted to once again have the Hall for its original use as a community centre. Upgrading restored the upstairs to a Dance Hall with better kitchen facilities. The unique log structure was stripped and returned to the original stained finish.



The Lewis Centre, an amalgamation of many structures, has been renovated over the years into multipurpose halls suitable for a range of activities including sports and crafts for all ages. In 2013, it received a new addition including a fitness centre and multi-purpose rooms. The City Hall received a much needed face lift.



The parking lot between "the Sid" and the Native Sons Hall was changed in 2002 to accommodate the November 11th Ceremonies and was renamed the Jubilee Square in honour of the Golden Jubilee of the reign of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. Veteran's Wall was opened July 16, 2011 depicting our military history on the north wall of "the Sid" theatre.

### COMOX VALLEY WALK OF ACHIEVEMENT

Embedded in the sidewalk of the downtown business district are small ovals listing the recipients of the Walk of Achievement. This honour recognizes the outstanding lifetime accomplishments of those from the Comox Valley who have excelled in their field of endeavour. Established in 2006, it is hoped that these honours will inspire valley youth that in the wider world there are limitless possibilities.



- 2006 Red Robinson: *Broadcaster, Inducted into Rock & Roll Hall of Fame*
- 2007 Dr. Fred Leung: *Noted Academic, Researcher, Biochemist and Teacher*
- 2008 Dr. Roberts A. Smith: *Scientist- Antiviral Research Pioneer*
- 2009 Honourable Stanley B. Hagen: *BC Cabinet Minister, Served in 10 Ministries*
- 2010 Comox Valley Olympians (see 2010 Olympics for list of names)
- 2011 Jack Hodgins: *Author & Member of the Order of Canada*
- 2012 Kim Cattrell: *Actor & Golden Globe Winner*
- 2012 Honourable Ion Campagnola: *Lieutenant Governor of BC, Rights Activist & Officer of the Order of Canada*
- 2013 Brian Howes: *Producer, Songwriter, Musician & Juno Award Winner*
- 2014 Louise Carvalho: *International Lawyer*

### DISAPPEARING LANDMARKS



The original mill started in 1947 on the site of Arden Elementary and moved to the location shown in these images in 1949. A major employer in the region, Field's Sawmill ceased operations due to poor market conditions and was demolished in 2006 which was a tremendous loss to the local economy.

Originally opened as E.W. Theatre in 1940, the Palace Theatre was badly damaged by a roof fire and subsequently demolished in 2008.



### TRAIL ALONG THE RAILS

In early 2011 the Courtenay Rotary Club opened the selection of that year's project to the public. The selected project idea came from residents of the neighbourhood near the early freight terminus of the E & N railway, on the north side of 5<sup>th</sup> Street. They suggested a landscaped walking/cycling trail from 5<sup>th</sup> Street to the railway station on Cumberland Road. This would serve a local and larger community purpose: to beautify the neglected E & N right-of-way, and to be the northern trailhead of a walking/cycling trail following the rails all the way to their southern terminus in Victoria. The Rotary Trail is a partnership of the City of Courtenay, The Rotary Club and the Island Corridor Foundation. Through the efforts of these groups, the trail now extends to 26th Street with planned extensions to Fraser Road. The Rotary Club has further contributed to the improvement of the railway by taking on the renovation of the 1914 Courtenay train station which is listed on the City's Heritage Register.



Originally constructed c 1890, the Courtenay Hotel had been a historic landmark for well over a century. It had been through hard times & good times and was a favourite watering hole and entertainment centre for many people over the years. Following its last bankruptcy, it was purchased for a major development which has not yet been built. It was demolished in 2007.

### 2010 VANCOUVER OLYMPICS



celebrating the 2010 Winter Games, many Olympians have called the Comox Valley home. Our Olympians include:

- Cliff Salmond, Athletics, London 1948
- Dick McClure, Rowing, Melbourne 1956
- Terry Tobacco, Track & Field, Melbourne 1956, Rome 1960
- Jay Dahlgren, Track & Field, Mexico City 1968
- John Hawkins, Track & Field, Munich 1972
- Edgar Smith, Rowing, Munich 1972
- Tom Graham, Volleyball, Montreal 1976
- Susan Kelsey, Swimming, Montreal 1976
- Patty Loverock, Track, Montreal 1976
- Rhonda Ross, Rowing, Montreal 1976
- Don Irvine, Canoeing, Los Angeles 1984
- Glenn Rupertus, Biathlon, Calgary 1988, Albertville 1992, Lillehammer 1994
- Lindsay Sparkes, Curling, Calgary 1988
- Geoff Kabush, Mountain Bike, Sydney 2000, Beijing 2008, London 2012
- Kiara Bisaro, Mountain Bike, Athens 2004
- Tom Herschmiller, Rowing, Athens 2004
- Cam Levins, Track & Field, London 2012
- Spencer O'Brien, Snowboarding, Sochi 2014

The Comox Valley hosted athletes, coaches and trainers from around the world as they trained up at Mount Washington in the weeks leading up to the 2010 Vancouver Olympics. Local residents also took part in the torch relay as it made its way across the country. In addition to enthusiastically

