

# **Readings and Speaker Events**

Programs include visuals, reading and time for talk. The visuals are presented through Powerpoint. So, a white screen, flash drive access to your computer or hook-ups for mine are needed. Please discuss this with Faye before booking. Fees are dependent on group size and time commitment. Presentations are usually 1 hour. Writing workshops are also available. Contact Faye for more information.

# Settling In: Early Homes of Western Canada

Enjoy stories about early homes in western Canada. First Nations, explorers, fur traders, missionaries, NWMP, homesteaders and wealthy entrepreneurs all had the challenge of building and furnishing homes for their families. Some shelters were soddies; others were mansions but, given the problems regarding materials and expertise as well as the inhospitable landscape and climate, the challenges and successes are fascinating.

# Canada's Rocky Mountains: A History in Photographs

Explore our Rocky Mountain past. First Nations and settlers, adventurers and sports enthusiasts, art lovers and tourists have long been drawn to the Rockies. Discover that dramatic past through old photos and stories of animals, people and places. And do expect to be challenged and inspired by the glimpses of our mountain history.

# **Our Everchanging Rockies**

Explore how the Canadian Rockies have changed over the years. The presentation includes early geographic beginnings, usage patterns, natural environs, recreational patterns and recent developments. Most of the colored photos related to the Rockies and activities were the experiences of Faye and her family over the years, making this a visual *memoir*.

# Alberta: A History in Photographs

Discover or rediscover our landscape & true stories. That past is the stuff of tragedies and comedies. Everyday people faced enormous obstacles, whether related to the natural environment, community needs or individual priorities. The famous, infamous and ordinary individuals all played their parts. So marvel at the drama, ingenuity and perseverance!

# Out of the Flames: Fires and Fire Fighting on the Canadian Prairies

Fire is a frightening enemy for prairie dwellers. With so little precipitation on the southern prairies, for centuries, wildfires have threatened people and devastated the landscape. This presentation will include stories about men, women and children faced with such fires.

#### Sharing the Good Times: Joys & Pleasures of Prairie Women

In the old days of endless physical labour, large families and far-off neighbours, were there any happy prairie women? Discover what made the worst of times and the best of times for our female predecessors in western Canada. Some did become famous. Some were virtually unknown, and most were just like women today.

### Prairie Twins: Alberta & Saskatchewan 1905-2005

No two provinces could be more alike and more different. Except for the far west in Alberta and the far northeast in Saskatchewan, the twin provinces share geography, First Nations, and settlement patterns. But somehow, they developed their own personalities. This presentation offers the images and ideas that reflect their similarities and differences.

# War and Remembrance for Western Canada

Although this is not a Remembrance Day ceremony, this program offers photos, comments and insights into the stories of Western Canadians and those serving in the forces during war time. Respectfully suggesting experiences and background for

those time frames, it touches upon involvement in the Boer War, First World War, Second World War and Korean War for men and women, at home and abroad.

### Awed, Amused & Alarmed: Fairs, Rodeos & Regattas of Western Canada

Summer in western Canada has always meant stampedes and rodeos in small and large communities alike. Competition was diverse and intense at events, but fun took many forms, too. From the parade to the fireworks, from the fast food to the Ferris wheel, days were filled with festivities. So, walk the midway and take in the history of pop culture in the West.

# Homemade Fun

Remember when glue and toys were homemade, and everyone from five to fifteen joined in the games. Whether the activities were staged outdoors or indoors, computer know-how was not a prerequisite. Games, crafts and entertainments have changed, but children of yesterday were masters at creating their own fun. So, enjoy the trip down memory lane and rediscover wonderful pastimes to hand down to the children of today.

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