



qathet Museum & Archives

## ***Memories of the Mill* Submission Guidelines**

We invite members of the public to submit stories about the paper mill in Powell River for the memoir anthology project, *Memories of the Mill*. Memoirs will be published in an e-book format, with the possibility for a printed version (TBD). Of the submissions, we will choose 15 memoirs to record and film for the creation of a video series in partnership with the Powell River Public Library. Please note; all memoirs submitted will become part of the Museum's archives, as historical records and accounts of the Powell River Paper Mill.

To help you write your memoir, we recommend the 7-week memoir-writing course with the Powell River Public Library from May 26<sup>th</sup> to July 7<sup>th</sup>. Contact Mark Merlino by e-mail at [mmerlino@prpl.ca](mailto:mmerlino@prpl.ca) to register. Another option is to request from Mark an informational package, for guidance on how to go about writing your memoir if this is your first time.

Through the summer, we will also host memoir-sharing circles with the Powell River Public Library in the First Credit Union Community Room. Dates and times to be announced.

### **THEME: MEMORIES OF THE MILL**

Your memoir should focus on topics relating to the Powell River Paper Mill. For example, your time as an employee, or your experience living in Powell River as a paper mill town. It can relate to any of the companies that owned the mill through the years: the Powell River Company, MacMillan Bloedel, etc. Be creative and don't feel restricted by the theme. Your memoir could simply be about life living in a company town, or it could also shed light on the people and groups marginalized by the paper mill.

### **Consider submitting a memoir if ...**

- you worked at the mill
- you had a family member work at the mill
- the mill was built on your traditional lands and cultural space
- you live(d) in Powell River and have observations & experiences from living in a mill town
- you had friends who worked at the mill
- you recently lost your job at the mill

We are inclusive of all people who have experiences related to the mill. These are just some examples of your potential connections, and therefore why you may have a story to share.

### **PURPOSE**

Writing a memoir is a way to share your story based on your experience related to Powell River's paper mill.



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### **The opportunity to share your story may include...**

- Connection to land and or place
- Celebration of your experience
- Celebration of the accomplishments of the mill and Powell River as a mill town
- Sharing difficulty, hurt, pain, and or marginalization
- Demonstrating intergenerational connections and relationships
- Providing an Indigenous perspective such as individuals from Tla'amin Nation
- Using writing as a tool to heal from and process your experiences

### **WORD COUNT**

All of the memoirs published in *Memories of the Mill* must be 1,000 words or less, not including title and byline. We encourage you to write your memoir as best you can without much thought to word count. Consider word count at the revision stage.

### **FORMAT**

Ideally, your submission will be typed and saved on a computer, then sent to Joëlle Sevigny at [jysevigny@powellrivermuseum.ca](mailto:jysevigny@powellrivermuseum.ca) If this is not possible, contact us so we can arrange help or an alternative means of submission. Do not let technology be a barrier to participating. There is always a way. Your participation is welcome and valuable no matter your computer skills or access.

### **PLEASE ENSURE YOUR DOCUMENT...**

- is single spaced with an extra space between paragraphs
- is saved as a doc, docx, or pdf file
- is sent as an attachment to an email with "Memoir Submission" as the subject
- list some key words from your memoir that will help in archival research
- attach, or bring in-person, your release form

### **DOCUMENT EXAMPLE**

My Title  
by Author Name

Once upon a time, there was a small community located on the North Sunshine Coast of BC. They had a giant paper mill where many people worked. This paper mill operated for a very, very long time.

The second paragraph of my memoir starts here. No indents or fancy business or anything and only one space between each sentence.

Keywords – paper, mill, community



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**SUBMISSION DEADLINE:** Thursday, September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022

### **PUBLICATION**

After you submit your memoir, we will suggest edits and revisions. In addition, we will invite you to find 1-2 historical photographs from the Museum, or your own pictures, to accompany your memoir. Once your document is complete and your image search finalized, we will publish your memoir as a part of the “Memories of the Mill” memoir anthology e-book (and possibly a print publication as well). All memoirs submitted will also become part of the Museum’s archives, as historical records and accounts of the Powell River Paper Mill.

### **VIDEO MEMOIR**

In the fall of 2022, from the submissions, we will invite 15 authors to record and film their memoir with Mark Merlino from the Powell River Public Library. With help from staff at the qathet Museum and Archives, they will choose interesting historical images to illustrate their memoir. They will also be able to include some of their own pictures.