



## NANAIMO MUSEUM

May 13, 2016

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Nanaimo Museum

### **Bastion Opens with a Visitor Information Kiosk**

Nanaimo – Nanaimo’s iconic Bastion opens with a bang on Friday, May 20. Members of the public are invited to watch the firing and view the history exhibits inside the Bastion. A visitor information kiosk will be hosted by Tourism Nanaimo on the first floor.

The cannon firing and operation of the Bastion are made possible with support from the City of Nanaimo, the Nanaimo Port Authority and Tourism Nanaimo. “Our sponsors make it possible open the Bastion and fire the cannon all summer,” says Debbie Trueman, General Manager of the Nanaimo Museum. “We appreciate the support they have given us for many years to share Nanaimo’s heritage with the community and tourists.”

A visitor information kiosk will be located inside the Bastion from May 18 to Labour Day weekend from 10am-6pm. The visitor information kiosk is the result of a partnership between the Nanaimo Museum and Tourism Nanaimo. Exhibits and artifacts from the Bastion’s 163 year history are located on the second and third floors with admission by donation.

This year marks the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the cannon firing. “Community support for the cannon firings has turned them into an attraction over the last three decades,” says Aimee Greenaway, Interpretation Curator at the Nanaimo Museum. “Over 4,000 visitors watched the cannon firing ceremony last summer season.”

The Bastion is open daily 10:00-6:00 from May 18 to Labour Day. The cannon firing re-enactment ceremony takes place from 11:45-12:00 daily. On Thursdays and Saturdays in July and August only the cannon firing ceremony will feature Highland dance performances by youth from the Brigadoon Dance Academy. These dance performances are a tribute to the Scottish families that immigrated to Nanaimo in the 1850s.

For more information please visit [www.nanaimomuseum.ca](http://www.nanaimomuseum.ca) or call 250 753-1821. The Bastion is located downtown on Front Street.

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