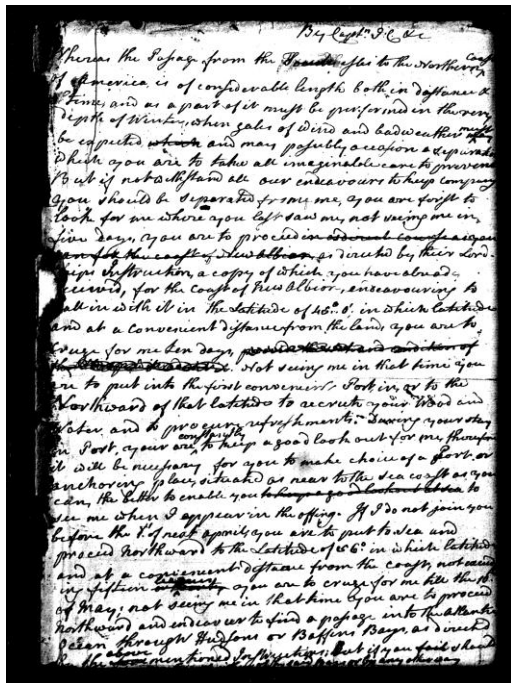


December 31, 2013

Admission by Donation and Letter Writing Weeks at the Royal BC Museum

Victoria, BC – As a gift to thank the community, the Royal BC Museum is continuing its New Year's tradition of offering Admission by Donation Week. Visitors are asked to pay what they can from January 2 - 9, 2014.



Visitors are also invited to mark Letter Writing Week from January 8 - 14, 2014. Writers can reach out to family or friends with a message that may last longer than a text, tweet or post. The museum provides paper, pens, envelopes and stamps at its letter writing station. Letters are often treasured and can become part of future archival collections.

Image: Letter from Captain James Cook. BC Archives A-01938

This will also be an opportunity for visitors to experience *Wildlife Photographer of the Year 2013*, the new Royal BC Museum exhibition featuring the world's best nature photographs. This visually striking exhibition from the Natural History Museum in London showcases 100 large-scale, backlit photographs in 18 categories (including Young Wildlife Photographer of the Year, Endangered Wildlife, World in Our Hands and Wildlife

Photojournalist of the Year) chosen from almost 43,000 international entries from 96 countries.

Holiday festivities continue at the Royal BC Museum – the streets of Old Town are decked in the season's finest, welcoming visitors to experience an old-fashioned Victorian Christmas.

About the Royal BC Museum

As the provincial museum and archives, the Royal BC Museum explores the province's human history and natural history, advances new knowledge and understanding of BC, and provides a dynamic forum for discussion and a place for reflection. Through collections, research, presentations and partnerships, the museum and archives tell the stories of BC in ways that enlighten, stimulate and inspire. Its two-hectare cultural precinct in Victoria includes a number of historically significant buildings and First Nations sites.

For more information about the Royal BC Museum, visit www.royalbcmuseum.bc.ca or call 1-888-447-7977.

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