



WHO RUNS BARKERVILLE NOW?

This is a common question at Barkerville. For many years, in fact since 1958 when Barkerville was chosen as BC's Centennial Project, Barkerville was run by the Provincial Government. However, in 2002 the Province announced they were looking for alternative ways to manage the Provincial Heritage Sites.

True to form, the people of the Cariboo were very outspoken when it came to Barkerville. The mayors of 100 Mile House, Williams Lake, Quesnel, Wells and Prince George jointly requested that the Province set up a Task Force to investigate how to manage Barkerville. Each of the communities appointed people to sit on this committee.

The Task Force met for several months in 2003 and carefully examined all aspects of Barkerville and its impact on the region. They recommended a very unique management structure that Government accepted.

The Task Force heard loud and clear that Barkerville belonged to the people of British Columbia and especially to the people of the Cariboo. People were dissatisfied with Barkerville being run 'out of Victoria' and wanted more local participation. On the other hand, they realized that if Barkerville was to be successful there needed to be strong connections to provincial-level organizations.

The Task Force recommended that a non-profit society and registered charity called the Barkerville Heritage Trust be established. This group would have four appointees shared between the seven local governments in our area – 100 Mile House, Williams Lake, Quesnel, Wells and Prince George, the Cariboo Regional District and the Fraser-Ft. George Regional District.

Because Barkerville plays such a key role in education, the local educational institutions (School District 28, UNBC and the College of New Caledonia) were asked to jointly appoint a representative.

Appointees from the Friends of Barkerville (a local heritage group) and jointly from the British Columbia Museums Association and the Heritage Society of BC ensure that Barkerville remains first and foremost a museum and that due care and attention is paid to its heritage resources.



To ensure Barkerville remains closely linked with the tourism industry, there are appointees from both the regional Cariboo Chilcotin Coast Tourism Association and the provincial-level Tourism BC.

This nine member Board of Directors then appoints five Directors-at-Large to increase the expertise around the table in areas such as multi-culturalism, fundraising and business and corporate relations.

The Barkerville Heritage Trust began managing Barkerville on April 1, 2004. For profiles of the Board of Directors of the Barkerville Heritage Trust visit www.barkerville.ca.

Judy Campbell, Chief Executive Officer.
August 2007.