Squamish Men's Shed LOOSE SCREW news

ISSUE ONE • WINTER 2018

MEN AT WORK

Workshop construction crew

Who we are

The Men's Shed movement started in Australia in 2007, expanding their tradition of backyard sheds into collaborative, communal spaces. Since then, the Australian Men's Shed Association has grown to over 900 member sheds.

Workshop project

Other places with large Men's Shed movements include Ireland, the United Kingdom, New Zealand and Scotland. We are hoping for a similar movement to develop here in Canada.

The first Men's Shed in North America began in 2009, in Winnipeg, Manitoba. There are now sheds in Kelowna BC, Nechako Valley BC, Pemberton BC, Coquitlam BC, Hope BC, Camrose Alberta, Elie Manitoba, Carleton Place Ontario, Riviere du Loup Quebec, as well as other sheds in the start up stage.

What we do

At the Squamish Men's Shed, we operate dependable equipment in a safe workshop environment that allows members to create an assortment of projects.

Workshop construction crew

We have built an annex to enlarge our workshop that doubles the square footage and we hope to expand further as our membership grows.

This expansion will allow for a common social area encouraging camaraderie within our group as well as enhancing the work space.

COMEDY CORNER

Do it yourself?

What you'll need:

- Sharp Saw
- Big Hammer
- First Aid Kit
- Plastic Surgeon's Number

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under construction

What we've done

We at the Squamish Men's Shed are dedicated to helping our community. To date, we have accomplished the following:

- Built an annex that doubles the square footage of our workshop
- Worked with the Hilltop House seniors assisted living facility to create Christmas tree ornaments
- Hosted Squamish Kid's Movie Night booth providing bird and fish silhouettes ready to be painted
- Constructed a bat condo for the Squamish River Watershed Society to be installed in the estuary to provide a home for up to 3000 bats
- Created the 3 foot high "CRAVE" marquee sign for the Squamish Helping Hands fundraising dinner
- Repaired a local street bench
- Built a large toy box for the Cedars Manor to collect toys for the Fire Department Christmas Toy Drive for kids

Brainstorming over lunch at Ernie's

Men's Shed annex construction

Creating Chrismas ornaments at Hilltop House

Repaired street bench in front of The Cedars Manor

Bat condo construction

Squamish Kid's Movie Night – painting booth

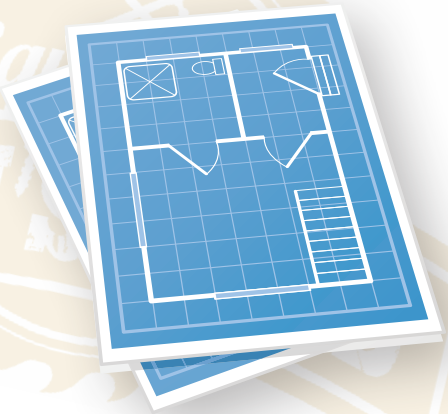
Built large toy box for Fire Department Christmas Toy Drive

What's to come

We have decided on the following projects for 2018:

- Construction of the "Before I Die" bucket list 3-sided black board for the Hospice Society
- Construction of community Take & Leave Outdoor Library Book boxes
- Assisting the Bat House Workshop sponsored by the Squamish River Watershed Society
- Creation of birch branches wall shadow boxes
- Construction of Mason Bee houses

So, we are keeping busy helping others – with more exciting projects on the horizon.



Creation of "CRAVE" marquee sign for fundraising dinner

Tips & Tricks

Anchor vacuum port to work station

To get a vaccuum port to stay put on your work station, simply drop a bag of lead shot or sand on top of port and it will stay in place.

Organize sandpaper

Store sheets of sandpaper in file folders and organize by grit. Sanding disks can also be stored this way.

Use tape to catch excess glue

To prevent stains caused by oozing glue along joints, clamp the pieces together without glue. Put tape on the joint, then cut along it with a sharp blade. Separate the pieces, apply the glue and clamp them together again. The glue will ooze onto the tape, not the wood. Peel off the tape before the glue dries.

Join us

To become a member of the Squamish Men's Shed you must be male 55 years or older.

There is an annual $10 membership fee entitling you to use the facilities which has flexible shop hours, 7 days-a-week.

To apply for membership, either pick up a Membership Application Form at the Squamish Men's Shed or go to www.SquamishMensShed.ca, click on the "Become A Member" button, download the Membership Application Form, complete and mail with a $10 cheque to "Squamish Men's Shed Society".

All people are welcome to assist the Squamish Men's Shed with their great cause.

Sponsorship

We are truly grateful for the fantastic support the Squamish Men's Shed has received from our generous sponsors.

With this support we have built our shed annex stocked with quality tools and equipment for our members to use.

To sponsor the Squamish Men's Shed please contact us at info@squamishmensshed.ca.

New sponsors are always welcome.

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