



**19. BANKER**

The first bank that opened in Quesnel was the Northern Crown Bank. It was temporarily located in the annex of the Occidental Hotel that was located on Front Street (where the Cariboo Hotel presently stands). All the buildings located there were destroyed in the fire of 1916.

**20. CYCLIST**

A.J. Elliot rode his bike from Ashcroft on his way to Barkerville. He had to leave the bike at Cottonwood due to snow. Pop Elliot moved his family to the city and purchased the Rex Theatre.



**21. CHARLIE CHAPLIN**

The Empress Theatre was built in 1910 and Quesnel's first motion pictures were shown there. It is also where the huge fire of 1916 started.

**22. NURSE**

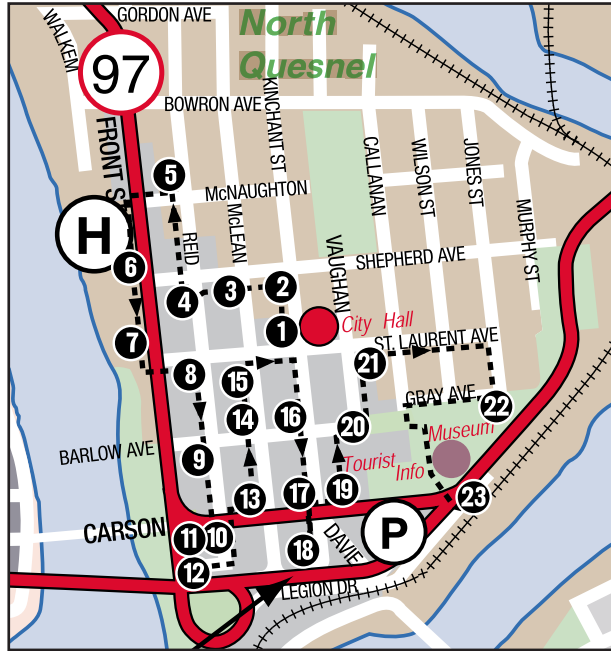
In 1950 Willa Stevenson started being the attending nurse for baby deliveries in Quesnel. Willa helped to deliver over nine hundred babies through her career here at Baker Hospital.

**23. ENGINEER**

Bobble head Bob of the Rocky Mountaineer Vacations welcomed its first train into Quesnel May 2nd, 2006—86 years after the first passenger train came through in 1921.

**TAKE THE WALKING TOUR**

The tour begins at City Hall on the corner of Kinchant Street and St. Laurent Avenue. Follow the map below to see all the hydrants in the order they are presented in this brochure.



**FIRE HYDRANT SPONSORS (IN ORDER OF THE TOUR):**

- |                               |                                     |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1) Ron Rasmussen CA           | 13) Green Tree Health & Wellness    |
| 2) Subway                     | 14) Billy Barker Casino             |
| 3) City Furniture             | 15) Discovery Computers             |
| 4) Safeway                    | 16) Ether Ore                       |
| 5) Expressions by Ewe         | 17) Royal Canadian Legion Branch 94 |
| 6) Circle 'S' Western Wear    | 18) Regency Chrysler                |
| 7) Outlaws                    | 19) Bank of Montreal                |
| 8) Willis Harper              | 20) Granville's                     |
| 9) Spa Rivier                 | 21) K-Max Video                     |
| 10) Cariboo Observer          | 22) Integris Credit Union           |
| 11) Rocky Peak Adventure Gear | 23) Rocky Mountaineer Vacations     |
| 12) Chudiak-Schmidt           |                                     |

Project Coordinator- Quesnel Downtown Association  
 Hydrants designed and painted by Leigh Cassidy, [www.EtherOre.ca](http://www.EtherOre.ca)  
 Research- Cheryl Norquay  
 Information- Quesnel & District Museum and Archives and the Quesnel Library  
 Photography- Bob Michek  
 Brochure Design- South Hill Graphics, Quesnel, [www.southhillgraphics.ca](http://www.southhillgraphics.ca)

**A GUIDE TO THE 23 PAINTED FIRE HYDRANTS IN DOWNTOWN QUESNEL**

# QUESNEL'S LITTLE PEOPLE



VOTED 2005'S BEST IN THE WEST FOR BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT AREAS OF BC

PRINTED IN CANADA



### 1. TEACHER

Alice Northcott arrived in Quesnel on August 4, 1884, after being hired as one of the first school teachers. She married Otis Earley in 1902. They were active members of the community and well respected.

### 2. BX COOK

The sternwheelers brought cargo and adventurers from the south from 1863-1915. Ship cooks had an important job keeping the passengers and crew fed during their long journey north.

### 3. CAN CAN GIRL

Also known as the Hurdy-Gurdy Girls, these energetic and sassy dancers performed in the saloons during the gold rush.

### 4. NATIVE MOTHER

The Native mother and child were the honour of the people of the Chentait'hala nation that used the flats at the junction of the Quesnel and Fraser Rivers as their summer camp.

### 5. SCOUT

Lord Baden Powell sent a letter welcoming Quesnel into the scouting movement in 1912. The organization continues to thrive in our community to this day.

### 6. RODEO CLOWN

The first Quesnel Rodeo was held in 1966 at the Bert Eberding property at Bouchie Lake. For five years the rodeo was held there before it was moved to its present location at Alex Fraser Park.

### 7. BANDIT

"Hands up!" It is said that this adage was coined by Bill Miner right here in BC. Over his career, Bill Miner and his gang stole approximately \$250,000 in coin, cash and gold.

### 8. CARPENTER

Bill Willis and Lloyd Harper originally opened Willis Harper Furniture and Hardware in 1946. Located on the corner of Reid and Barlow, the store still operates under this name.

### 9. HAIRDRESSER

May Eagleson became the first female "barber" in Quesnel when the local barber left to serve his country during the war.



### 10. PAPER BOY

The Cariboo Observer newspaper started in Quesnel in 1908 on Reid Street. Their present building originally was the Royal Bank.

### 11. VOYAGEUR

The Northwest Company explorer, Alexander Mackenzie was the first European to stop here on June 21, 1793.

### 12. JUDGE BEGBIE

BC's first judge who became known as the "Hanging Judge" actually sentenced very few hangings.

### 13. APOTHECARY

In 1869 Yan War opened an apothecary shop downtown to serve Asian and natural healing supplies. It later added other sales goods until it burned down in 1927.

### 14. CARD DEALER

During the gold rush, gambling was a popular pastime. The Chinese merchants ran many gambling houses. You can see some of the gambling artifacts at the Quesnel and District Museum.

### 15. MAIL SLED DOG

In the early 1920s until the 1960s, mail was delivered to distant and remote areas by dogsled. Quesnel is living history with one of the last routes actual mail is carried on, The Sled Dog Mail run.

### 16. ARTIST

Born in 1933 Jason (Barry) Curtis was Quesnel's first mural artist. He painted the Goldrush murals and designed the Barkerville Saturday Night poster. Jason has inspired and still gives joy to many.

### 17. PILOT

This hydrant was painted as a World War 1 pilot to commemorate all the brave men and women that fought for the right for us to enjoy peace and freedom.

### 18. GOLDMINER

This hydrant represents the gold rush years and the miners that were so integral in the building of our city.