

Rossland Swimming Pool



Rossland Swimming Pool 2014

Heritage Register – Site

- 1) **Historical Name:** Rossland Swimming Pool
- 2) **Common Name:**
- 3) **Location:** 1869 Columbia Ave.
- 4) **Date of Construction:** 1932

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Description:

The Rossland Swimming Pool is located on the south side of Columbia Avenue, at the western edge of the downtown area. The pool property includes three Lots - 15, 16 and 17 of Block 26 and has a 90' frontage on Columbia Avenue where the entrance is located.

Heritage Value:

Rosslanders take pride in having the oldest outdoor swimming pool in the province and the fact that it has served the community so well, from the same site, for over 85 years.

The construction of the Rossland Swimming Pool is a testament to the community initiative and spirit of Rosslanders at a time when the gold mines had finally closed and the Great Depression had begun. Land was donated by the City, Cominco donated the pump and community fundraising provided the materials. As noted in the *Rossland Miner* in May 1939:

"In the depths of the Depression, Rossland did a "first class" job in building the Swimming Pool as a Community effort. It is a lasting monument to the public spiritedness of our citizens and an invaluable asset for the physical development of its young people."

Rosslanders have always valued sport and recreation. The addition of the pool was a natural step in the development of facilities and opportunities for active leisure time and skill development. Many children learned to swim there when they attended public school.

The Rossland Swimming Pool continues to play an important role in the summer social fabric of the community, a popular place to meet and enjoy activity. The Pool is a noteworthy amenity for the community and its importance is always mentioned when Rosslanders are asked to list their community's attractions.

Character Defining Elements:

- Location
- The pool itself - original dimensions
- Changing rooms
- Surrounding high fence



Rossland Swimming Pool c.1935