



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **Museum of Vancouver's 70,000 item collection now accessible online**

**(VANCOUVER, BC)** – Vancouverites can now broaden their understanding of Vancouver history with the click of a mouse, thanks to the Museum of Vancouver's newly launched digital collections database.

Using OpenMOV from the Museum of Vancouver's website (<http://openmov.museumofvancouver.ca/collection>) anyone from anywhere can access information about the museum's more than 62,000 items, with nearly 10,000 entries currently accompanied by digital images.

"With open MOV, we were able to update the old electronic database while opening the collection to the public. OpenMOV allows the public virtual access to objects when they are not on display," explains Wendy Nichols, the MOV's Curator of Collections. "Increasingly, museums are finding that allowing their communities to access the collections digitally not only connects people to history, but also stimulates museum going."

The digital database was developed with support from the Museums Assistance Program of the Department of Canadian Heritage. OpenMOV was custom-made for MOV using Drupal open source content management system by Vancouver-based Fuse Interactive.

MOV will continue to flesh out and refine artifact information and to increase the number of objects accompanied by digital images. The creation of digital images has been made possible in part by the BC History Digitization Project through the Irving K. Barber Centre at UBC. The Project has supported digitizing all material in the BC First Nations ethnology collection over the last two years.

The digital collection metaphorically throws the doors open to the back-room shelves of MOV. With the information now online, researchers can access images and information about the collection from their desks at home or school.

#### **About the Museum of Vancouver**

The Museum of Vancouver is a non profit museum that holds a mirror to the city and lead provocative conversations about its past, present and future.

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