# NOV & THEN Recent and Upcoming Events at the Museum



TBHMS Newsletter
SUMMER 2020



**Executive Director:** Scott Bradley

Curator / Archivist: Michael deJong

**Chief Operating Officer:** Marcus Agombar

Education & Outreach: Marissa Kuper

Receptionist / Gift Shop: Kathleen Niven

**Registrar:** Breanne Olsen

**Bookkeeper:** Karen Bortolin

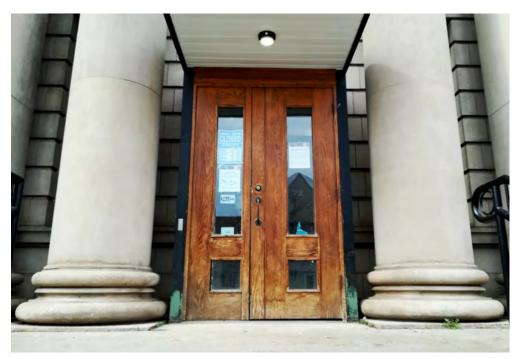
#### Thunder Bay Historical Museum Society

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The Society recognizes the ongoing support of the City of Thunder Bay through its Cultural Funding Program

# **Reopening Stages**

How the Thunder Bay Museum is Planning to Reopen



le appreciate our member's support and patience while the Museum has been closed due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. We want all of you to know we have a staged plan to reopen. After museums and similar institutions are authorized to reopen by the Provincial government the Thunder Bay Museum will reopen gradually with a focus on the safety of our staff and volunteers. Stage 1 will be approximately 2 to 3 weeks getting the staff back in the building, cleaning after our long absence, and preparing the building for visitors. Stage 2 will be limited access to the public (preferably family/household groups) and researchers by appointment only with mandatory masks and pre-screening questions. This will ensure we are able to

meet the Provincial limits for gatherings. Free Tuesdays would be postponed until Stage 4. Stage 3 would start when the Province removes all limits on the size of social gatherings, eliminating the need for appointments to visit the museum. Masks would remain mandatory however. Finally Stage 4 would be a return to normal operations start after a vaccine is developed and widely administered throughout Canada and the U.S. Throughout these stages the Museum will have enhanced cleaning protocols and some interactive exhibits will be closed. All of this is subject to change as the Pandemic is situation that is evolving daily. The latest information can be found at this website: https://www.thunderbaymuseum.com/about-us/pandemic-response/

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## **New Chief Operating Officer**

#### Welcome Marcus Agombar



ntroduction from Marcus Agombar, the new Chief Operating Officer of your Thunder Bay Museum:

"I am thrilled to be a part of the amazing team here at the Thunder Bay Museum. I'm a Lakehead University graduate from the HBComm Program and for the past few years I directed the Vox Popular Media Arts Festival. As a lifelong resident of ThunderBay, I am excited to contribute to collecting and preserving the history of this beautiful region. 2020 has no doubt proven to be a historic year already. I'm looking forward to meeting many of you once we are able to reopen. I can be reached at

<u>operations@thunderbaymuseum.com</u> should you have any questions or want to say hello.

# Changes to Museum Artifact Collecting

#### What to Know about Making a Donation

We are making a number of changes to how the museum collects artifacts and archival materials going forward. Chief among them, we are no longer accepting unsolicited donations at our front desk. This will allow us to evaluate incoming donations more carefully, though our Collections Committee (comprised of staff and board members) to ensure they fit within our Collections Policy and



priorities. We are also in the process of developing a Collecting Plan, which identifies special areas of emphasis to focus our acquisitions towards, in particular taking into account future exhibit plans.

We are grateful for each of the donations our members and the general public have made up to this point, which have helped build our collection into what it is today. However, increasing space constraints in our collections storage necessitate selecting donations more carefully. If you have any questions or concerns about these changes, please

email <a href="mailto:donations@thunderbaymuseum.com">donations@thunderbaymuseum.com</a>. And if you have an item for us to consider, please email us (with photographs and as much information about the item as you have) also at that address, and stay tuned to this section of our website (<a href="https://www.thunderbaymuseum.com/artifacts-archives/making-a-donation/">https://www.thunderbaymuseum.com/artifacts-archives/making-a-donation/</a>) for details on our Collecting Plan. We very much appreciate your understanding and cooperation in continuing to help build and maintain the Thunder Bay Museum's incredible artifact collection.



# Farewell to Nick Sottile

It is with sadness that the Museum sends a fond farewell to Mr. Nicholas Sottile who had served as the Museum's Chief Administrative Officer for the last 7 years before departing in April of this year. He will be returning to pursue his previous career as an educator. Mr. Sottile will be missed and we wish him all the best in the next chapter in his life.

# volgistics Volunteer Logistics

# Changes to Volunteering

In order to improve our volunteer experience, we are introducing Volgistics, a volunteer logistics management tool. Implementation is currently underway and we hope to have it operational by the middle of summer. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic those plans remain subject to change.

As we prepare for the transition, we are revamping our volunteer activities and the volunteer application process.

Please keep an eye on our websites' new volunteer page found below for updates.

https://www.thunderbaymuseum.com/ volunteer-opportunities/



# Classic Car Raffle Postponed

Due to Covid-19 our Classic Car Raffle has been posponed until May 2021.

Once a show car, this beautiful 1969 Chevrolet Camaro has had only three owners in its history.

Professionally appraised value: \$44,500

**Tickets:** \$15 each, 2 for \$20, 5 for \$40, 15 for \$100, 80 for \$500.

For tickets or more information, call us at (807) 623-0801. Some locations may currently be unavailable due to restrictions in effect.

#### Other Pickup Locations:

- Fat Guy's Auto Parts
- DC Automotive
- Thunder Bay Harley Davidson
- Crystal Beach Variety
- South Neebing Variety
- and more to come!

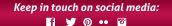
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## 'Anonymous'

#### **Hundred Years of Anonymous Photos**

In this new exhibit, we present you with dozens of anonymous historical photographs. These photos have been donated to the Museum over the last forty years and capture over one hundred years' worth of local history through the faces of the people that lived here. This exhibit encourages feedback from visitors - we do not know who these people are, but perhaps you do. Along with these photographs are several displays of interesting cameras and other photographic equipment from the museum's permanent collection. This exhibit will be complete upon the museum's reopening – please continue to stay tuned to our website and social media for updates.





# Wendell Beckwith Film Project

#### *An Update on the Project*

The Wendell Beckwith film project, a partnership between the museum and filmmaker Jim Hyder, is nearing completion. As always, we are grateful to all of those that have supported this project in different ways, including the project funding through the New Horizons for Seniors Program. Stay tuned for news on the film's launch through our social media



### **POSTPONED EVENTS**

Friday, September 18, 2020 at 6:00pm\*

Taste of History Dinner: Thunder Bay At 50 @ Prince Arthur Waterfront Hotel \* Date is tentative

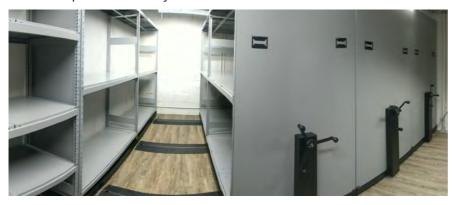
## **Textiles Relocation Project**

#### Mobile Rack System in the Augustine Room

he project to relocate the museum's textile collection to a new storage location continues. While the shutdown has slowed the project somewhat, our Collections Project Assistant, Kate Beaulieu, continues to work on aspects of the project that can be done from home, such as data entry, artifact research and creating artifact ID tags. Recently a new shelving system was installed in the room, and will be ready to accept newly housed textile artifacts upon reopening.

Kate continues to publish interesting stories about the artifacts in the 'Behind the Seams' blog.

https://thunderbaymuseum.wixsite.com/behindtheseams



This project has been made possible through the Museum Assistance Program and the Ontario Job Creation Partnership.









## **Hump Day History**

#### Wednesday Webinars @ 7pm EST



■ ump Day History is intended to get you over the mid-week hurdle with a little bit about our region's past. From April to June, every Wednesday, the Thunder Bay Museum will bring you live broadcasts from local historians, as well as behind the scenes look at the museum's collections. These free live and interactive webinars are brought to you on behalf of the Thunder Bay Historical Museum Society and Lakehead University.

#### **Upcoming Webinar Dates:**

- June 3 A Night at the Museum: The Textile Project - Kate Beaulieu
- June 10 "Ferocious Women:' Gender, Ethnicity, and Race Surrounding the 1909 Freight Handler's Strike" - Ms. Jenna Kirker
- June 17 "The Lakehead Response to the Cuban Missile Crisis" Nick **Duplessis**
- June 24 A Night at the Museum Michael deJong

https://www.thunderbaymuseum.com/webinars/





### **Explore the** Museum in 360°

You can now visit the Thunder Bay Museum from home!

Take a 360 virtual tour through the first and third floor exhibits, our gift shop, and lobby.

#### Coming soon:

- Second floor tour
- Pop-up information panels

www.thunderbaymuseum.com/360vr-tour/



### Tell us about your **Covid-19 Story**

We are looking to preserve the stories of how residents of the city and Northwestern Ontario have adapted to this new reality.

While it is difficult for us to receive physical artifacts right now, photographs can be a great way to tell these stories.

www.thunderbaymuseum.com/ covid-19-personal-stories