

TBHMS Newsletter WINTER 2023



Executive Director: Scott Bradley

Curator / Archivist: Michael deJong

**Chief Operating Officer:**Marcus Agombar

Education & Outreach Coordinator:

Dannielle Pesheau

Collections Curator: Sarah Silvestri

**Exhibits Curator:** Sydney Belluz

Receptionist: Felicity Wyatt

**Bookkeeper:** Terri-Lynn Carter

### Thunder Bay Historical Museum Society

425 Donald St. E.
Thunder Bay, ON P7E 5V1
Tel: 807-623-0801
Fax: 807-622-6880
info@thunderbaymuseum.com
www.thunderbaymuseum.com

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



# A Message From The President

Hello. Bonjour. Boozhoo.

Between education programs, new exhibits, special events, and our monthly lecture series the Society's staff and volunteers have had a busy fall. Behind the scenes staff have continued their work ensuring that our collection is available for anyone wanting to explore our collective past.

To that end, several new initiatives launched over the past couple of months have been made possible by on-going commitments of various levels of government and individual donors. In particular, funds from the Ontario Trillium Foundation's Community Building (2021-22) and Resilient Communities (2022-23) grant programs have already had immediate impact on our continuing success, future viability, and ensuring that Northwestern Ontario's heritage resources are accessible for present and future generations. I would also like to acknowledge and thank life-member Ken Boshcoff for his recent generous donation.

In January the Society will be kicking off the Our Past Needs a Future feasibility study. The study Our Past Needs a Future will explore the Thunder Bay Historical Museum Society's facilities needs for the next 50 years considering expanding artifact and archival collections, programming, exhibits, staffing, and institutional partnership opportunities. The study will be led by Form Studio Architects, Inc. and is being funded through grants from the Department of Canadian Heritage and the City of Thunder Bay.

The Society has also recently entered into a new education service agreement with the Lac des Mille Lacs Education Center. Beginning early in the new year, this annual agreement ensures the students and educators from Lac des Mille Lacs Education Center have access to the Thunder Bay Museum's educational programing without financial barriers and includes field trips, classroom visits, educator resources, classroom kits, and virtual classroom visits.

Since our last newsletter, the Society was saddened to learn of the passing of two long-time supporters. Shortly after our last newsletter, the Society learned that Dorothy Duncan had passed away. Dorothy was a titan in the historical and heritage field. She served as the Executive Director of the Ontario Historical Society for 25 years, and our understanding of Ontario's past, not to mention Canada's culinary history, owes much to her dedication to preserving, promoting, and protecting our shared stories. Dorothy was not only a long-time friend of the Thunder Bay Historical Museum Society providing sage advice and support, but a life-member. In late October, just ten days short of her 86 birthday, Beverley Leaman passed away. Many members will remember Beverley as a teacher and supporter of numerous causes in Thunder Bay, including establishing in memoriam of her husband the late Ernest Zimmermann the Society's first endowed publication award. Both Dorothy and Beverly will be missed.

Finally, mark your calendars for a couple of events in the new year. The President's Reception and annual Volunteer Recognition will be held on 7 January. Our Annual Taste of History dinner will be on 5 April and recognize the 100th Anniversary of the Royal Canadian Air Force. Our featured speaker will be Dr. Mike Bechthold, an historian with the Royal Canadian Air Force History and Heritage section.

On behalf of your Board of Directors, I would like to wish you all a safe and happy holiday.

Michel S. Beaulieu, PhD, FRHistS President

### In this issue:

New Exhibits / Raffle Car Teaser / Lectures / Holiday Hours and Discounts

Fur Trade Fort William: A Chronology Through Art, 1805-1882

### On display now until March 2024

In celebration of 50 years of bringing life to history as a provincial attraction, Fort William Historical Park (FWHP), in partnership with the Thunder Bay Historical Museum Society, presents 45 works of art, executed by 20 different artists, assembled from 12 collections. These works have been curated by Shawn Patterson, FWHP Collections Team Leader, and will be available for viewing from October 2023 to March 2024. This exhibit captures the vibrancy, bustle and inhabitants in and around Fort William throughout the 1800s.



View the website accompanying this exhibit: https://fwhp.org/fur-trade-fort-william-a-chronology-through-art/



### Fort William Historical Park

CELEBRATING 5 YEARS OF BRINGING LIFE TO HISTORY





# Under the 'Scope: Medical History at the Lakehead



### On display now until 4 February 2024

This exhibit will feature a timeline of the history of medicine at the Lakehead, with a specific focus on epidemics and pandemics that have swept through the region. Visitors will be able to learn about the various diseases and viruses that have affected people here, while also exploring the roles of Indigenous medicine, prominent doctors and hospitals, and how mass-scale world events, such as the World Wars, have affected public health. This exhibit has been guest-curated by Lakehead University students Emily Hunt and Haileigh Riddell in partnership with Thunder Bay Museum curatorial staff, and partially funded through the Information and Communications Technology Council Work Integrated Learning Digital grant.



Information and Communications Conseil des technologies de l'information Technology Council et des communications

Digital

# **Online Archival Photo Sales**

### Viewing and buying our photos has never been easier!

The Thunder Bay Museum is pleased to announce the launch of its online archival photograph sales platform. Online viewers can now browse our digital collection of rich historical photos depicting the vibrant history of Thunder Bay and Northwestern Ontario, and purchase photos from the comfort of their desk with 5,000 to choose from so far.

Please visit www.thunderbaymuseum.com/product-category/digital/ to see the photos. Please note that this does not yet represent the entirety of our digitized photograph collection. More will be added as staff resources allow – please stay tuned for further updates on uploads.

Most recent upload: October 25, 2023













# A Taste of History Dinner 2024

### Join us 5 April 2024 to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the RCAF

Join the Thunder Bay Museum for a night of food, drink, and discussion as we celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Royal Canadian Air Force. This dinner will once again take place at the Prince Arthur Waterfront Hotel with a historically inspired menu from the 1920's Royal Canadian Air Force mess halls. Each ticket purchase will include a donation tax receipt in the amount of \$80.05 for single tickets, or \$70.05 for multiple seat ticket purchases. Gluten-free and vegan options are available upon request. For more information or to notify of dietary restrictions contact: reception@thunderbaymuseum.com. There will be a bar at

the dinner along with a 50/50 raffle so be sure to bring cash. We are also excited to announce our special guest speaker, renowned military historian, Dr. Mike Bechthold!





#### **Presentation Description:**

It has been an eventful century. From its roots in the Great War and interwar years, through the challenges of the Second World War and Cold War, and its subsequent roles in support of Canada, NATO, and the UN, the RCAF has seen good times and bad. This talk explores the history of the RCAF through a number of innocuous objects - a Group of Seven painting, a German Gotha bomber pilot's helmet, a battered leather suitcase, and others that provide a window into the known and unknown stories of the Air Force.



# Indigenous Ingenuity: Timeless Inventions

### Only on display from 9 February to 17 March, 2024

Anishinaabewin Maamninendimowin: Pane Gii-Bite (Indigenous Ingenuity: Timeless Inventions), presented by Indigenous Tourism Ontario and Science North, is coming to the Thunder Bay Museum from February 9 to March 17, 2024.

#### **About Indigenous Ingenuity:**

Since time immemorial, Indigenous peoples of Turtle Island have demonstrated tremendous ingenuity; inspired and guided by place, spirit, and nature. The world we know today is influenced by their scientific knowledge. Ongoing contributions of Indigenous innovations, knowledges, and worldviews are integral to the mosaic of humanity. The exhibition invites visitors to experience the innovative processes that give rise to Indigenous knowledge by:

- OBSERVING nature as a source of inspiration
- LISTENING to bearers of knowledge
- EXPERIMENTING with scientific principles
- SHARING knowledge by passing it on to others

This exhibition presents a clever and novel mix of science and culture intended to stir a sense of pride among First Nation, Inuit, and Metis communities. It celebrates the diversity, interconnectedness and resourceful ways of knowing and being, that Indigenous knowledge and innovations provide in the global community.



### Interested in making a gift to the Thunder Bay Museum?

All contributions received before 31 December 2023 will be eligible for a charitable donation receipt for the 2023 income tax year.

Scan the QR code, visit us online at <a href="https://www.thunderbaymuseum.com">https://www.thunderbaymuseum.com</a> or phone us at 807-623-0801 to make your donation today.

View our website for more information on how to donate securities or used vehicles.



# 2024 Classic Car Raffle

### 1969 Pontiac Firebird - \$46,500 Appraised Value

Here's a sneak peak at our eye-catching raffle car for 2024! This year we have an antique gold 1969 Pontiac Firebird coming in at an appraised value of \$46,500. Lottery license and launch date pending.

Check our website for more information, updates, and raffle launch details: <a href="https://www.thunderbaymuseum.com/events/classic-car-raffle/">www.thunderbaymuseum.com/events/classic-car-raffle/</a>



## **Free Public Lecture Series**

We are over halfway through our annual public lecture series but there are still two great lectures on the horizon. Be sure to mark your calendars and register for the lectures. Start time is 7:30PM. Find more information on our website including recorded videos of many past lectures. This lecture series is sponsored by the Lakehead University Department of History. <a href="https://www.thunderbaymuseum.com/events/public-lectures/">https://www.thunderbaymuseum.com/events/public-lectures/</a>



January 23 Lakehead University, History Graduate
Students - Taylor Mae Laughton, Aja
Mayer, and Bronwyn Chesterfield
February 27 Allan Campbell - Logging Industry and
Career in Northwestern Ontario



Department of History



# Extended Hours & Member Discounts

The Thunder Bay Museum will be open for extended hours from 9AM to 5PM on December 23 & 24 to give you more time for shopping and exploring our galleries. We will then be closed December 25 & 26. As a thank you for being a member, you'll receive 20% off our gift shop items in December, including online! Use coupon code *MEMBER20* online, or show your member card to our receptionist.

We have stocked many new products including jewelry, books, purses and bags, hot sauce, and more! The brand new second edition of *The North West Company in Rebellion* is now also available for \$20.



### **Presidents Reception**

Join the Thunder Bay Historical Museum Society for our annual President's Reception at 1:30PM on 7 January 2024 in our Multipurpose Room.

This event will be in-person with a virtual attendance option. Refreshments will be available during the event and admission is free for all attendees.

#### **Agenda**

- Remarks by the TBHMS Chair & President, Dr. Michel Beaulieu
- Volunteer Recognition
- 100 Hour Volunteers
- 500 Hour Volunteers
- Volunteer of the Year
- President's Service Award

