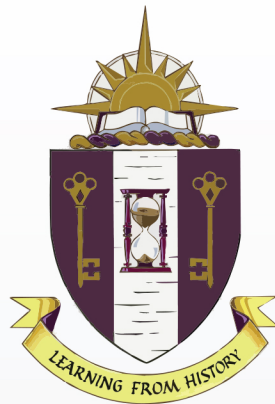


NOW & THEN

Recent and Upcoming Events at the Museum



TBHS Newsletter
FALL 2021



Executive Director:
Scott Bradley

Curator / Archivist:
Michael deJong

Chief Operating Officer:
Marcus Agombar

Education & Outreach:
Marissa Kuper

Collections Curator:
Sarah Silvestri

Exhibits Curator:
Sydney Belluz

Receptionist / Gift Shop:
Kathleen Niven

Bookkeeper:
Karen Bortolin

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



Museum is Back in Action

HVAC Replacements, High Density Shelving, and Officially Reopened

Your Thunder Bay Museum was able to reopen on visitors, researchers, and students on Monday, 26 July after being closed since Christmas of 2020. It was a very successful reopening with 3 temporary exhibits waiting for visitors upon their arrival including, Science Norths: The Science of Guinness World Records, the 2021 Grand National Fibre Art Exhibition "Crossroads" and the Thunder Bay Quilters Guild "Reflections" exhibit. In the first month we were open we welcomed over 1600 visitors through the door. It is just fantastic for our staff to get back to providing in-person services again.

This summer also saw the two major projects come to fruition behind the scenes. First, thanks to the Museum Assistance Program and the Ontario Job Creation Partnerships all of the shelving in the Archives was replaced with high density mobile racks provide by Equipment World, doubling the storage capacity.

Archival intern Andrew Turnbull has returned to the Museum to complete this project which will result in a full inventory of our archival collection. In addition, an in-depth inventory, rehousing to acid free materials, and cataloging effort will improve our intellectual and physical control for the collection.

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As well, the Museum's twenty-year-old HVAC units of which there are four protecting the collection were replaced, by contractor Clow Darling, through the support of the Canada Cultural Spaces Fund and the Museum Assistance Program.

This summer also saw the donation of two important collections from both Shelia Burnford and Susan Ross. The archival collections include artwork, correspondence, news clippings, notes, and other personal papers. Prior to being donated to the Museum, the collections had been loaned by the families to local filmmakers and historians Kelly Saxberg and Dr. Ron Harpelle and utilized in their 2017 documentary, *Long Walk Home: The Incredible Journey of Sheila Burnford*. Credit is certainly due to the filmmakers for their efforts in preserving and caring for these important collections prior their movement to a permanent home. Sheila Burnford was a writer who settled in Port Arthur in 1951, best known for *The Incredible Journey*, which became a bestseller later made into a 1963 Disney film that premiered in Port Arthur. Susan Ross was an artist, born in Port Arthur, who is most well known for her portraits of Indigenous peoples in Northern Ontario as well as Canada's Arctic region. Burnford and Ross were close friends who travelled together to remote communities, with Ross sketching and painting, and Burnford recording their experiences in books such as *Without Reserve* and *One Woman's Arctic*.

It has been a busy summer for your Museum staff and we look forward to seeing our members again for the lecture series and other events this fall.



Exhibits : Ongoing, Upcoming & Completed

Science of Guinness World Records, Crossroads, Reflections, and Much More!

Since reopening to the public in late July, it has been gratifying to once again see the public enjoying our exhibits. Through most of August we had the privilege of hosting The Science of Guinness World Records Northern Tour, an exhibit produced by Science North in partnership with Ripley Entertainment Inc. and Guinness World Records. This highly interactive exhibit was a hit with children and adults alike as they learned about how humans accomplish incredible feats, and challenged themselves to try breaking their own.



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Between reopening and late September we also hosted Crossroads by the Grand National Fibre Art Exhibition, alongside Reflections, a collection of works from the Thunder Bay Quilt Guild. These exhibits were also much enjoyed and appreciated by museum patrons. The Museum has also continued to develop outreach exhibits outside the museum building, most recently a window exhibit at Sleeping Giant Brewing Co. on the history of brewing at the Lakehead. The Museum extends its appreciation to the Brewery for hosting us in this format.



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Board Members Departures

This year saw the departure of two of our board members. Sara Janes, an archivist with Lakehead University, who had served on the Society's Board since 2009 and left in March as her term ended. Sara had most recently served as the chair of the Board's Publications Committee and the Programs and Plaques Committee. Gillian Matson left the board at the end June after serving since 2015. Gillian is a lawyer with Ericksons LLP specializing in Wills, Estates, and Residential Real Estate. She had most recently served as the Board's 2nd Vice President. Both Sarah and Gillian will be sorely missed for the wisdom, tenacity, and integrity.



Bingo Volunteers Needed!

Each day we are moving one step closer to Bingo restarting in November 2021. We are seeking volunteers to assist with the Museum's Bingo nights held at the Superior Shores Gaming Association. As a result of the 1.5 year gap since the last in-person Bingo was held, all volunteers must be retrained. There have also been numerous procedural changes relating to COVID-19.

If you are interested in volunteering with us for Bingo please contact us at the email below to arrange for training and scheduling.

operations@thunderbaymuseum.com



Exhibit at Sleeping Giant Brewing Co.



Preserving the Past
While Building the Future

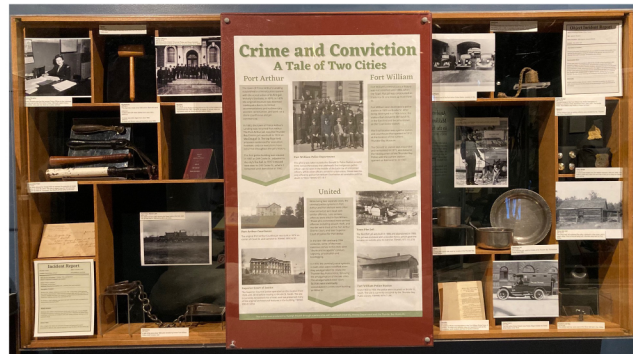


The Champlain
Society

Many exciting exhibits are upcoming as well. Our exhibit commemorating the bicentennial of the 1821 merger of the North West Company and the Hudson's Bay Company continues to be in the development stage and is intended to open in early October. This exhibit is a partnership between the Museum, the Champlain Society and Fort William Historical Park; we are also grateful to those individual donors who have contributed to the exhibit as well.

We are also pleased to develop an exhibit featuring the much-loved pottery works of the Strawberry Hill Werkshop. The museum has developed an excellent collection of these works over the last several years which will be on display until late December.

Many smaller exhibits continue to be in the works as well. Our 'Recent Years' case now features a small exhibit on the policing and judicial history of Port Arthur, Fort William, and Thunder Bay featuring artifacts from our collection. This exhibit was developed by Haileigh Riddell through a placement partnership with the Lakehead University Department of History.



Finally, summer intern Ella Whitehead has developed an exhibit featuring many of the fascinating soda pop bottles from our collection in our lobby cases.

Culture Days 2021

Events Happening September 24 to October 24

The Thunder Bay Museum is hosting multiple events for the duration of Culture Days including walking tours, kids crafts, a book launch, and pay what you can admission. All of these events are free to attend, but the walking tours and book launch must be pre-registered for based on current COVID-19 health guidelines provided by the Thunder Bay District Health Unit. For more information, search for "Thunder Bay Museum" on the Culture Days website: www.culturedays.ca

CULTURE DAYS

ADMISSION

For the entire duration of September 24 to October 24 admission to the Museum will be Pay What You Can. Our hours of operation will be Tuesday through Sunday from 1pm to 5pm.

KIDS CRAFTS

We will be offering an in-person event for children between the ages of 6 and 12 to participate in a culture days craft!

FORT WILLIAM WALKING TOURS

Join us on a Fort William Walking Tour and learn about buildings, people, and historic information from the area!

"BECOMING CANADIAN" BOOK LAUNCH

Join us on Tuesday, September 28, 2021 from 7PM to 9PM for the book launch event for *Becoming Canadian* by John Potestio. Comments by Publications Committee Member(s), select readings by author John Potestio.

Holiday Market 2021

Join us on Saturday, November 13, 2021 for the Museum's third annual Holiday Market and Open House! Purchase hand-made arts and crafts from local vendors, enter to win prizes, and experience all three floors of exhibits with all proceeds going towards helping the museum continue to make history. Admission to the Holiday Market and Open House is completely free, however a mixed timed-ticketing system will be in place. Building capacity is set to a 140 person limit. For more information and to view our safety protocols, please visit our website at www.thunderbaymuseum.com



Upcoming Lecture Series

The Thunder Bay Museum is hosting a forthcoming lecture series sponsored by Lakehead University. Learn more by visiting our website at www.thunderbaymuseum.com/lecture-series/

- September 28, 2021** @ 7:30 PM Book Launch - *Becoming Canadian: Memories of an Italian Immigrant* by John Potestio
- October 26, 2021** @ 7:30 PM TBD
- November 23, 2021** @ 7:30 PM Topic TBD, presented by the Friends of the Grain Elevators
- January 25, 2022** @ 7:30 PM TBD
- February 22, 2022** @ 7:30 PM Topic TBD, presented by graduate students from Lakehead University
- March 22, 2022** @ 8:00 PM TBD

Anti-Racism and Inclusion Accord

The Thunder Bay Museum is now a signatory to the Thunder Bay Anti-Racism & Inclusion Accord. Staff will receive additional training on Indigenous awareness, inclusivity, and we will be taking definitive steps ensuring our institution is actively anti-racist and meeting the spirit of the accord. For more information about the Accord visit: <http://tbchamber.ca/advocacy/anti-racism-accord/>