

TBHMS Newsletter WINTER 2021



Executive Director: Scott Bradley

Curator / Archivist: Michael deJong

**Chief Operating Officer:**Marcus Agombar

Education & Outreach: Marissa Nieminen

**Collections Curator:**Sarah Silvestri

**Exhibits Curator:** Sydney Belluz

Receptionist / Gift Shop: Kathleen Jewett

> **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



# **New Exhibit Unveiled**

### 'Aftermath 1821: A Union of Rivals' on display until June 2022

In an exhibit commemorating the anniversary of the merger of the North West Company and the Hudson's Bay Company, the Thunder Bay Museum is glad to have partnered with The Champlain Society and Fort William Historical Park to bring the story to life. It explores the fierce and sometimes violent rivalry between the companies that led to the merger, and its effects on the history of Northwestern Ontario throughout the remainder of the 19th Century. These effects include the relative decline of Fort William, new industries that took the place of the fur trade and resulting development of treaties with the Indigenous peoples of the area. The Museum would also like to thank the many financial donors who helped make this exhibit a reality!

On October 15th the Museum hosted the opening event for the exhibit. It was a great success. Thank you to everyone who attended, and if you did not attend, the recording is available at https://vimeo.com/thunderbaymuseum.





Preserving the Past While Building the Future



The Champlain Society

A tobacco twist, axe head, skinning knife and necklaces were all common trade items during the fur trade.

### In this issue:

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# Strawberry Hill Werkshop

### Pottery exhibit on display until April 2022

In 1967 Liz and Peter Powlowski opened a pottery studio in their home in Kaministiquia, and since then their pottery has been beloved by many people despite the Werkshop closing in 1994.

We invite you to take a look at over 50 items of the Museum's Strawberry Hill collection of owls, small birds, rabbits and other animals as well as images of the studio courtesy of the Powlowski's. In the exhibit's guest book we invite guests to reflect and share their memories with the pottery. The Museum's Gift Shop also has copies of "The Strawberry Hill Werkshop: A History and Collector's Guide" by Wayne Pettit.



# **Reel Memories Update**

### Project work continues with new Digitization Assistant

The first year of work on the Reel Memories Project – a partnership between the Thunder Bay Museum, Shebafilms Ltd, and the Friends of the Finnish Labour Temple – has come to an end. We are grateful to Dr. Tom Peotto and Katie Green for their hard and enthusiastic work in cataloging and processing this valuable archival footage. We are pleased to announce we have been able to secure new funding through the NOHFC to continue this project. Dr. Brandon Cordeiro has been hired to pick up where Tom and Katie left off and we look forward to working with him. Once again the Museum and our partners are grateful to the NOHFC for their support of this project. Please continue checking the Museum's website and the project's Facebook page for continuous updates on its progress.









### Multi-Purpose Room Rentals

at the Thunder Bay Museum

Located on the third floor, this room is decorated with floral wallpaper, crown moulding, stained glass & unique artifacts. With seating for up to 75 people, the Multi-Purpose Room is an ideal venue for meetings, baby & bridal showers, small weddings and more!

For information or bookings please contact: reception@thunderbaymuseum.com education@thunderbaymuseum.com



# Walking Tour a Success

Emily Hunt led the first walking tour the Museum has held since 2019. This one-off East End walking tour was incredibly well received with over 80 participants total. In Summer 2022 we plan to once again offer our complete series of walking tours including: Port Arthur, Court Street, East End, Fort William, and Westfort. If you would like to be notified of future tours please contact Marcus to be added to our mailing list: at operations@thunderbaymuseum.com





# Oral History Tape Digitization

This fall the Museum employed Valiharju through the Independent Living Resource Centre of Thunder Bay on a project to digitize the Museum's collection of oral history interviews on cassette tape. These interviews cover a wide range of fascinating topics, and this digitization will considerably improve access for researchers. Over 150 tapes were digitized by Erica totalling over 200 hours worth of recordings. A big thank you to Erica for her accomplishments on this project.

# Digital Exhibit Planning Underway

The Thunder Bay Museum is excited to announce a new partnership with Lakehead University and the Information and Communications Technology Council of Canada to connect opportunities to youth and to enhance learning and by creating technology jobs.

Emily Hunt and Haileigh Riddell have been hired and tasked with using digital tools such as the Adobe suite, the Microsoft suite, the Museum's cataloguing software PastPerfect, and various Social Media technologies to create and market for a future exhibit. Stay tuned for the exhibit theme!

ICTC CCTIC
Information and Communications Conseil des technologies de l'information



## **Upcoming Lecture Series**

The Thunder Bay Museum is hosting a forthcoming lecture series sponsored by the Lakehead University Department of History. Learn more by visiting our website at <a href="https://www.thunderbaymuseum.com/lecture-series/">www.thunderbaymuseum.com/lecture-series/</a>

January 25, 2022 ...... @ 7:30 PM ...... Dr. Brian McLaren – Travelling West

and East from Lake Superior to

Lake of the Woods February 22, 2022 ....... @ 7:30 PM ....... Topic TBD, presented by graduate

students from Lakehead University

March 22, 2022 ......@ 8:00 PM ...... TBD



Department of History

### **Hubertine Bucknell** (1934-2021)

### Written by Dr. Thorold Tronrud, previous Museum Director

Hubertine (Tine) Bucknell, a long-time volunteer, board member and former vice president of the Society, died of cancer on November 15, 2021 in St. Thomas, Ontario, her family at her side. Many will remember Tine as the tireless promoter of the Society and the person responsible for many of its fundraising ventures, ranging from car raffles and bingos to dinner auctions. She loved to take charge of such events and to rally others to help, invariably with gusto, sparing no one's feelings if they proved reluctant but praising highly those who pitched in.

She started at the Museum as a volunteer receptionist in 1995, shortly after moving to the city with her husband, Captain Gordon Bucknell



(LSSR), but soon found that an occasional stint at the front desk was not enough. Accordingly, she ran successfully for the board a year later (a position she maintained for twenty years) and, not long after, assumed control of the Society's bingo committee. It was a role she relished and, within months, we had increased our bingos from ten per year to a three a month, which boosted our earned revenue significantly. When, in 2004, I proposed we take on another car raffle, this one focused on muscle cars, Tine was eager to take it on. Our previous car raffles, the first an antique vehicle and the second a new one, had limited success. But the 1968 Mustang we offered in 2002, under Tine's supervision, cleared over \$70,000, sparking a long series of such raffles that continues today, many of which she helped coordinate. For all her fundraising efforts, she was made an Honourary Life Member of the Society. Of course, Tine also had an active life beyond the Museum, volunteering for Caring Hearts, the 55 Club, Thunder Bay Community Bingo, the Oliver Road Community Center, Lions Club and Royal Canadian Legion just to name a few.

Tine was born into nobility as a Countess in Köln, West Germany in 1934, amidst "interesting" times. As a girl, she lived in several European countries (following her father, a military engineer,) before taking a Masters degree in Physical Education and Sports from Mönchengladbach University. She married a British soldier in 1958 and came to Canada shortly thereafter. After his death in 1974, she resided in North Bay where she met and married Gordon and moved to Thunder Bay. Tine was full of stories of her life as a young woman -- racing motorcycles, crossing the ocean, running a restaurant, seeing Hitler on parade – much of which was recorded in a series of interviews later in life. However, it was her energy and dedication to a cause, whatever that may be, that I will remember most.



### The Thunder Bay Historical Museum Society

### **Request for Nominations - 2022**

Nominations for positions on the Board of Directors of the Thunder Bay Historical Museum Society will be accepted until 12:00 noon, March 22, 2022. Further nominations will be accepted from the floor of the annual general meeting of the Society to be held on Tuesday, March 22, 2022 at 7:00pm, provided the consent of the person nominated is given personally or in writing at the time such additional nominations are made. Candidates and nominators must be valid, current members of the Society.

Four directors are to be elected for three-year terms. One director to a two-year term to fill and early departure from the board. One director to a one-year term to fill and early departure from the board.

The following persons continue in office as directors until their term of office expires in March of the years indicated below

2022	2023	2024
Michel Beaulieu	Douglas A. Yahn	Richard Longtin
Frank Gerry	Nick Duplessis	Christina Wakefield
Jenna Kirker	Greg Johnsen	Donna Gilhooly
Diana Pallen		
Vacancy (1 Year Term)		
Vacancy (2 Year Term)		

Nomination Form		
I,	, nominate	for the office of Director of the
	rical Museum Society.	
Signature of Nomir	nator:	
Consent of Nomine Historical Museum	2	ion for the position of a Director of the Thunder Bay
Dated the	day of, 202	
First name:	Second name:	Last name:
Address:		
	ee:	

Note: to have voting privileges at any meeting of members, one's membership must have been acquired at least two weeks prior to the meeting. [bylaw #7, March 28, 1985]