NOW & THEN Recent and Upcoming Events at the Museum







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









Challenge & Perseverance

Work continues despite setbacks and uncertainties

t has been a challenging winter for our community. On Friday, 22 January staff arrived to do a welfare check on the Museum facility and grounds, sadly that morning they found Mr. Arnold Sakanee of the Neskantaga First Nation deceased near the Museum's front entrance. Arnold's death was among many deaths this winter in Thunder Bay due to exposure complicated by Pandemic restrictions on shelters and other supports for our vulnerable population. Our heartfelt condolences go out to Arnolds family, friends, and the members of the Neskantaga First Nation for their loss.

With the Museum closing due to the Provincial lockdown on 26 December and then staff moving to telework due to the stay-at-home order on 14 January, as you can imagine there have been disruptions to the Museum's daily work and many

projects. However there have also been opportunities to go back into our planning and policies to make improvements. With the majority of the Museum's work taking place behind the scenes during normal times most of that work continued on managing the artifact and archival collections through cataloging, inventory, and research. Education programming and planning continued with the development of new materials, digital content, and virtual outreach. The planning of near term exhibits continued in earnest as well as detailed review of the Museum's permanent galleries for modernization and refresh. While it is great to tout the accomplishments of staff during these trying times we do miss our volunteers, researchers, members, and visitors. All we do now is to ensure when they are able to return we continue to be the great institution they love.









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New Life Member

Welcome Ann Martin, our newest Life Member

A fter decades of annual membership, I have arrived at a time in my life when I can choose to support the Thunder Bay Museum in this way.

As a career public historian and president of my local historical society in Eastern Ontario, I recognize the importance of supporting local and regional institutions that serve their communities. The TBHMS was instrumental in setting me on my career path so many decades ago and I am pleased to be able to support this organization now -- and maybe pay it forward for others to explore their own history using the resources of this regional gem.



New Honorary Life Member -Arthur 'Art' Gunnell

The Thunder Bay Historical Museum Society would like to acknowledge Arthur Gunnell as an honorary life member. Art has been an invaluable contributor to the Museum's Looking Back series in the Chronicle Journal, having penned 104 articles between 2004 and the present. Topics range from the earliest days of Prince Arthur's Landing and Fort William to the recent past, from industrial and railway development to hotels and movie theatres.

'20/20 Vision' Exhibit Extended

Exhibit extended until mid-June 2021

The Professional Fiber Arts Network of Western Canada has graciously allowed us to continue to exhibit the 20/20 Vision show! We are extending the dates until mid June 2021 before it gets shipped away to the next gallery. Once we are able to safely open to the public, we hope this allows for more visitors to see the beautiful work and dedication that the artists have put in the pieces. Here are some of the unique quilted pieces on display:



Leslie Forbes - One Direction

This piece was designed with a vision for our Earth moving forward. A challenge to protect and nurture our environment for now and future generations. What animals do you see?



Terry Aske - Can You Feel the Colour?

Each of the 113 squares are a different fabric, and the unique group of colours spells out each respective colour in braille.

In Search of Wendell Beckwith

Keep in touch on social media:

Film complete and available to watch for free

We are pleased to announce the completion of *In Search of Wendell Beckwith*, a collaboration between the Thunder Bay Museum and filmmaker Jim Hyder, which explores the life of Wendell Beckwith and those that knew him. The film can be viewed on our website: https://www.thunderbaymuseum.com/beckwith-film-project/. Copies of the film on a flash drive can also be made available upon request for a small fee. The Museum is grateful to all of those that made this possible, including our Beckwith Committee, our funding partners including the New Horizons for Seniors Program and the Ontario Arts Council, other partnering organizations as well as individual donors.



With generous funding assistance from:

Funded by the Government of Canada's New Horizons for Seniors Program





In Kind Supporters:









2021 A Taste of History Dinner Cancelled

Due to the worsening state of the pandemic in Thunder Bay, the annual 'A Taste of History' dinner has been cancelled for this Spring 2021. If this event was one of the ways you contributed to the Society please consider making a donation directly, there is even an option for monthly giving at our website: https://www.thunderbaymuseum.com/donate/ The Thunder Bay Historical Museum Society is also exploring options for another format of the event for later in 2021.

Draw Date Approaching

Two months remaining until the 1969 Chevrolet Camaro draw

Tickets are selling quick with only two months remaining until the draw date for this beautiful classic 1969 Chevrolet Camaro. Ticket orders can now be placed on our website with payment over the phone by credit card within 2-3 business days of placing the request.

Call (807) 623-0801 or visit www.thunderbaymuseum.com/classic-car-raffle/

Lottery License #M835459 -- Draw Date May 1, 2021 Prize Value \$44,500



Annual General Meeting

Instructions for How to Participate in the 2021 AGM

Join the Thunder Bay Historical Museum Society for its Annual General Meeting on Tuesday, March 23, 2021 at 7:00 PM EDT. The meeting will be conducted by webinar through an internet service called Zoom. Information about how to participate by computer, smart device, or telephone is included in the attached mailing.

You will also find the following information included:

- The Annual General Meeting Agenda and Motions
- Board Nominee Biographies
- Instructions on how to view the previous year's minutes and audited statement

Member Survey

Your opinion is important to us, let us know what you think

The Thunder Bay Museum is surveying its members to gain feedback and learn the preferences of its members on new initiatives.

A copy of this 4-page survey is included in this mailing along with a paid return envelope for you to submit your completed survey form.

An electronic version of the survey can be completed using this Google Forms link: https://forms.gle/FKi1BfhmUrB3fd5U6



Subject to Change: Spring Break is filled with various competitions from food to fashion! Registration opens March 5th for ages 6-12. The Museum reserves the right to cancel camps due to low registration, or changes to COVID-19 restrictions. If camps are canceled, we plan to offer take home craft kits.

Spring Lecture Series Coming to a Close

The spring 2021 lecture series are coming to a close this month with the last virtual session scheduled for March 23rd, 2021 at 8:00PM. During this final lecture, lain Angus will be presenting about the 100th Anniversary of Chippewa Park.

For more information and the link to join the lecture, visit our website: www.thunderbaymu-seum.com/lecture-series/



Watch Dr. Peter Raffo's lecture 'Saul Laskin: Man and Politician' online through Vimeo: www.vimeo.com/502352674

Erratum Notice Papers & Records

It has come to the attention of the editors of Papers & Records that the version of Professor Alan Alexander's article "The Institutional and Role Perceptions of Local Aldermen" published in the 2020 issue was not the proper, finalized version. After a thorough examination, we have discovered how this occurred and have taken steps for this to not happen again. The editors regret that the article was published as it appeared and would like to apologise to Professor Alexander. The 2021 issue will include the article as intend-