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BRUCE
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2018 The Year in Review Annual Highlights



BRUCE COUNTY
museum & cultural centre

brucemuseum.ca

THE YEAR IN REVIEW



Mayor Mike Smith, Saugeen Shores; Chief Lester Anaquot, Saugeen First Nation; Vernon Root; Martha Pedoniquotte, Councillor Chippewas of Nawash Unceded First Nation; Lise Morton VP Nuclear Waste Management, Ontario Power Generation; Mike Rencheck, President & CEO, Bruce Power; and Cathy McGirr, Director Museum & Cultural Services, Bruce County are getting ready to officially open the 'Anishnaabwe Endaat' exhibit

2018 has seen the completion of the transformation of the permanent gallery space with the re-opening of the Anishnaabwe Gallery and the Anishnaabwe Endaat exhibition. The collaboration and partnership with SON (Saugeen Objiway Nation) and members of both Saugeen First Nation and Chippewas of Nawash Unceded First Nation have resulted in a new gallery representing Anishinaabe culture with endless programming possibilities. The journey to revitalize the permanent galleries has taken several years and each one of the new spaces has been purposefully designed not only to house new stories from the Collection but to encourage interactive participation with community groups and our visitors. Another long-time project was completed with the addition of the impressive Riding the Rails interactive diorama in the lower level gallery focusing on train history in Bruce County. Many dedicated and talented individuals made this project a reality under the direction of Randy Schnarr and they continue to be part of the exhibition on an ongoing basis.

Along with the new permanent exhibitions, we were fortunate to be able to host several temporary exhibitions with local artists Alan Weinstein and Roly Fenwick. The "Breaking the Silence" exhibition was a first for the BCM&CC in starting the important dialogue about mental health and one that will be continued in 2019 with another exhibition curated by Melissa Comyn. All of these projects were completed with programming elements carefully created in-house or in partnership to enhance the visitors' experience.

With the work completed on the Financial Feasibility Study in 2017 and the commitment of County Council towards the Museum Archive / Community Wing expansion, we will now focus on next steps for the project, so stay tuned.

We continue to focus on aligning our goals and projects to that of our strategic plan and enriching our visitors' experience. But we don't do this alone. The success of the BCM&CC is only possible through a strong community network and support from our

members, visitors, sponsors, volunteers, donors, business and community members. We are grateful that people like yourselves choose to make the BCM&CC part of your lives!

As another year comes to an end and we look towards 2019, I would like to thank everyone for your continued support in making the Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre a welcoming place for all! All the best for the New Year!

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cathy McGirr". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Cathy McGirr



Instagram

We launched Instagram this year
and have 864 Followers!

Thanks!

3,302 Facebook Likes



70 School Visits
2,022 Students

659

Members & Growing



10,800 Archival Records
are Online

EXCITING HIGHLIGHTS

New Development Officer

This year we welcomed Maria Canton to our staff team to fill the position of Development Officer. Maria's role is to work with our donors, plan fundraising events and foster our legacy giving and estate planning opportunities.

Since starting, she has launched the now-popular Take a Seat Campaign. For a \$150 donation, you can "purchase" a seat in the Museum's 108-seat theatre as a gift, to mark an anniversary, to promote a service club or simply for yourself. For your donation, you will receive an inscribed plaque on your seat of choice and a charitable tax receipt for the full amount. The theatre is used year-round for concerts, lectures, special events, movies, meetings and more.

We strive to provide an exceptional museum experience to everyone who passes through our doors and your donation dollars help us achieve that goal.

Canada: This is Who We Are

We started 2018 with a partnership, collaborating with grade 12 students from St. Mary's High School in Owen Sound to curate a show about their heritage. Students were asked to create a presentation on their genealogy and had the option to focus on individuals from their family, bring forth their stories, and share family heirlooms and artifacts. Our Exhibit /Graphic Designer attended a class to discuss exhibit design and answer questions the students had. In all, sixteen projects were created for the exhibition, highlighting the diversity of Canadians and the Canadian experience.

Developing Our Lives

During the month of February, we hosted "Developing Our Lives"; this exhibition was developed as part of a photography program created by the Alzheimer Society of Grey-Bruce for people with dementia and their care partners. The exhibit featured powerful and expressive photographs of hobbies and travel around the world.

Hallmarks of Humanity

In April we curated an exhibit featuring Bruce County quilts that were used for aid, comfort and community fundraising efforts.



To purchase your seat, or to inquire about any other fundraising activities, please contact Maria at mcanton@brucecounty.on.ca.

A special signature quilt created by Culross Township residents in 1918, which was discovered in England, came home to Bruce County for the first time since the Second World War. As part of the opening ceremonies, David and Maxine March from London, England, delivered the Culross Township quilt and made a presentation about this quilt and the Canadian Red Cross Quilt efforts during the War.

Breaking the Silence

During the first week of May, we curated an exhibition featuring works by artist Melissa Comyn. This exhibit provided greater understanding on the important topic of mental health awareness, coinciding with the National Mental Health Week campaign.

Alan Weinstein: The Ontario Studio, Five Decades"

We featured artist Alan Weinstein with a retrospective exhibit of paintings and prints from his Bruce County studio located in Teeswater. Since his one-man show in 1961 at the Pollock Gallery, Toronto, Weinstein has exhibited in museums and galleries across Canada, the United States and in Australia.



The opening of St. Mary's student exhibit "Canada, This is Who We Are".



Cathy McGirr with Alzheimer Society Grey-Bruce staff members and MPP Bill Walker.



Maxine presents her hallmark of Humanity.

Animal Gibberish, Subtitled for Humans

From May to September, Museum members and guests were able to learn how animals communicate when they discovered "Animal Gibberish, Subtitled for Humans." Thousands of people learned how animals share important information and warn each other from danger, and how to make a variety of animal sounds while exploring the many interactive stations. Our special guest emcee, 10 year old Bella, opened the exhibit to a full house in May where attendees were entertained with crafts, face painting and a petting zoo!

Riding the Rails

It was through the vision, interest and passion of many model train enthusiasts and local history buffs that "Riding the Rails" was created. As word of their work spread, more helpers magically "appeared," some with unique and critical talents. In total, there have been more than 30 "Bruce County Museum Railway members" working more than 8,000 hours with the team at the Museum to create this interactive exhibit.

8th Annual Marine Heritage Festival

The Marine Heritage Festival may have been a soggy weekend but that didn't dampen festivalgoer's spirits! The weekend's festivities kicked off with the Launch Party, where a special blessing by Saugeen First Nation elder Shirley John officially opening the festival. The Museum was a hub of activity with interpreters bringing the exhibits to life and a variety of activities the whole family could enjoy.

Roly Fenwick: Pow Wow Emanations

This fall we featured an art exhibition by Roly Fenwick, an artist who is known for his lush oil paintings inspired by the landscape of the Bruce Peninsula, which he refers to as his "ancestral bloodroots" as he was born in Owen Sound. The watercolour and oil paintings featured in the exhibition capture his time spent on the shores along Lake Huron & Georgian Bay, specifically at Saugeen and Cape Croker.

Anishnaabwe Endaat: Where We Live

The Museum unveiled the newly curated exhibition "Anishnaabwe Endaat - Where we live (and lived)" in November. The opening event saw many attendees who enjoyed an evening of traditional dancing and drumming from members of Saugeen First Nation, along with delicious cultural cuisine. This new exhibition, curated in part by guest curator Dr. William Fitzgerald, displays Anishinaabe culture in a broader environmental and cultural context.

Community members from both Saugeen First Nation and Chippewas of Nawash Unceded First Nation worked closely with the BCM&CC to create a vision for the exhibit, through to the development and final presentation that shares local Anishinaabe history.



Artist Melissa Comyn and Director Cathy McGirr at opening of Breaking the Silence



Alan Weinstein speaking during the Opening Reception of his retrospective exhibition



Bella addressing the crowd at the opening of Animal Gibberish, Subtitled for Humans



Randy Schnarr presents Riding the Rails and the Bruce County Museum Railway exhibit



8th Annual Marine Heritage Festival launch party at the Museum



Cathy and Roly Fenwick at the opening of Pow Wow Emanations



Vern Roote speaks at the opening of Anishnaabwe Endaat: Where We Live



Anishnaabwe Gallery opening ceremony



Anishnaabwe Gallery opening

COLLECTIONS IN REVIEW

2018 kept Collections staff and volunteers hopping with exhibits including the two that were created in-house, “Hallmarks of Humanity” and “Victorian Hang-Ups”, as well as behind the scenes projects.

Starting in 2016, Collections began reorganizing and housing objects in artefact storage to make better use of our storage space. This project continued through 2017 and 2018, and will continue well into 2019. During 2018, near 1,000 artifacts were organized including military objects, business related items and audio visual equipment.

Continue to check out our Online Collections website (collections.brucemuseum.ca) as we are adding images and information about new donations as well as items from artefact storage. This year we reached our goal of over 1,000 artefacts online!

2018 saw some sensational donations, coming from as far away as British Columbia and England. Most donors were giving family treasures, but there were also donations from businesses such as the Lucknow Medical Centre and a transfer from the Simcoe County Museum. There

were many great items donated this year, far too many to show here, but below are some of the highlights.

With objects this fantastic, we can't wait for what 2019 will bring!



This medal, known as the Colonial Auxiliary Forces Long Service Medal, was warranted by Queen Victoria in 1899, and was adopted by Canada in 1902. It was awarded to those who had served part-time for twenty or more years in the militia or volunteer services. This particular medal was awarded to D. Fisher, who acted as Bandmaster of the 32nd Bruce Regiment.



This signature quilt was created by the Junior Workers of Queen Mary's Needlework Guild of Culross Township in 1918. This chapter of the guild consisted of 14 ladies between the ages of 9 and 21. This quilt later found its way overseas, and was discovered in the belongings of someone with no ties to Canada. It is thought that perhaps the owner of the quilt donated it as part of the Canadian Red Cross' Second World War efforts, when they were giving blankets and clothing to British citizens who were affected by the Blitzkrieg.

PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

During 2018, we offered many new and returning programs for all ages to participate in, overall the variety of programs we provided engaged over 5,000 people.

Our year kicked off with an excellent Adventure Talk Series entitled “Planes, Trains and Automobiles” in reference to our train exhibit “Riding the Rails” which opened later in 2018. Peter Middleton launched the series with an excellent presentation about his roadtrip through Canadian National Parks during Canada’s 150th.

Family Heritage Day was another successful event with more than 14 demonstrators highlighting elements of their family heritage. The Celtic Academy Canada led three workshops to teach the public different Celtic Dances. Eldon John and friends played fiddle tunes and Eldon demonstrated his fiddle making skills.

During March Break Family Fun days, there was an assortment of workshops and classes families could enjoy such as: a cooking class led by chefs from Little Black Dog; a circus workshop led by Vita Bowen; a weird science presentation; and an invasive species presentation by Saugeen Conservation Authority.

Medieval Day brought out the sunshine again for all who participated in hands-on catapult building and embroidery activities, watched armed combat demonstrations and interacted with the members of the Barony of Ramshaven who were spinning, weaving and making chainmail.

Our annual Wine, Beer and Scotch Tasting events were all sold out again this year and provided ticket holders with delicious paired appetizers and entertaining and informative presentations from three excellent presenters. Over 10 distilleries, wineries and breweries, both local and abroad, were represented at these events.

The Geometry of Music, part 4 of 4, was presented by Mike Sterling, a renowned mathematician, and special guest Dr. Eli Maor, an author and mathematical scholar. Mike has invented and constructed an instrument called the Bernoulli Involute which links the logarithmic spiral to the musical chromatic scale. Members of the Perimeter Institute for theoretical physics



Peter Middleton presenting on his trip through several of Canada’s National Parks in our Adventure Talk series.



Jenna McGuire demonstrating weaving and sharing her Metis Cultural teachings during Family Heritage Day.



Eldon John and Friends playing East Coast Fiddle Songs while dancers from the Celtic Academy of Canada demonstrate their steps.



Combatants engage in a Heavy Arms duel during Medieval Day on the back patio in bright April sunshine.

attended this lecture and spent the day touring the Museum and the Chantry Island lighthouse.

On June 21, National Indigenous Peoples Day, a fantastic day was organized by the Saugeen First Nations Education Department, the Sweetgrass and Thistles committee, GC Huston Public School, the Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre and Bruce Power. The program began with a sunrise ceremony and a wonderful breakfast provided by the Wesley United Church by the Amphitheatre. A highlight of the day was the renaming of the Zgaabiignigan Bridge, which was driven by the students and staff at GC Huston and Elders from the Saugeen Community.

The summer was another busy one offering programs most days of the week with Speaking of Wildlife presentations on Mondays, First Nations Cultural Demonstrations taking place on Tuesdays and Thursdays, Special Guest Wednesdays, Fridays with the Women's Institute and their homemade cookies on the log home's front porch, and Saturday Afternoon at the Movies. This year we also launched the program Take a Walk on the Wild Side, which ran on Saturday mornings and focused on aspects of wildlife biology and conservation. Our volunteer interpreters also played a critical role in activating our exhibit spaces during the summer, bringing history to life!

The After Hours Museum Mixer held in October had a Burlesque theme. We hosted performers Coco Framboise and Charlie Quinn, these guests provided a movement workshop and a costume making demonstration, along with a lingerie display and, of course, a Burlesque show. The show was definitely a highlight for many at the end of the night, the evening also presented an escape room challenge, pop up displays, games, and delicious canapés.

Our Remembrance Day Program was a popular event again this year, with a presentation by Mat Johnson on the 100th anniversary of armistice and the PTSD that soldiers suffered after the First World War. Following refreshments, attendees enjoyed a concert of wartime music by the Charlie Bell Trio, which also included readings by cadets and the president of the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 155 Southampton.



Delicious appetizers provided by Walker Catering Co. delighted guests at our 10th annual Wine Tasting.



Mike Sterling explains details of his Bernoulli Involute to physicists from the Perimeter Institute and members of the public after his Geometry of Music lecture.



A picture of the crowd who attended the Zgaabiignigan Bridge renaming ceremony on National Indigenous Peoples Day.



Alex Dzenis demonstrates glass blowing on the back porch of the Museum for a Special Guest Wednesday program.

This year Randall Kahgee, a Senior Counsel with Pape Salter Teillet LLP law firm who specializes in Indigenous rights law, provided an informative lecture on the Treaties that affect the Saugeen Ojibway Nation's Traditional Territory.

The Sweetgrass and Thistles committee organized our Bimaadziwin, or "good path", workshops this year, bringing people together for a presentation by Elder and Residential School Survivor Shirley John. Shirley recalled childhood experiences when she was attending a residential school; this presentation was the introduction to the film screening 'Indian Horse'. Following this event, two workshops, led by Marilyn Roote, delved into the topic of intergenerational trauma and explored aspects of Anishinaabe Culture through art, song and language.

In the fall we led a program called Chapter 55, this program focused on recreation for retirees and provided a series of 10 workshops for people aged 55 and up. Workshops ranged in topics that included Tai Chi to bike repair and were very popular, filling up in just a few days. A volunteer committee and a senior consultant from the community organized this successful workshop series.

Visits with Santa delighted many youngsters who shared their Christmas wishes with Santa and mailed their special letters. Many enjoyed the live harp and Celtic dancers during A Victorian Christmas Tea, while sampling the many festive treats.

From Adventure Talks in early 2018 to Holiday programming, it was a year full of fun and interesting programs for all ages. Thank you to our many special guests and partners in programming. We look forward to the year ahead and more great programs in 2019. Stay tuned!



Charlie Quinn performs during the Burlesque After Hours Museum Mixer.



Mat Johnson poses in a WWI uniform before his presentation on the 100th Anniversary of Armistice.



Barrister Randall Kahgee provided a detailed lecture for Treaty Recognition Week.



Anishnaabemowin teacher Marilyn Roote led 2 workshops in the Bimaadziwin series.



Santa provided lots of smiles again for kids in December.



Retirees thoroughly enjoyed the Chapter 55 workshop series.

EDUCATIONAL AND CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS



KidZone campers learning about and tagging monarch butterflies with Caterpillar Corner.

There is never a dull moment in Education Programming here at the Museum! This year we saw 2,022 students and 389 adult chaperones through our programs both here at the Museum and in classrooms with our Mobile Museum. Students learned about Bruce County's rich history through engaging experiential learning activities including artifact identification, gallery visits, songs, games, STEM challenges, visual art, and outdoor exploration. Students especially enjoyed our summer exhibit, Animal Gibberish, along with the ROM's Mammals of Ontario kit as featured in the Great Outdoors program. They discovered how animals communicate to each other and how animal's bodies can communicate information to us!

In addition to our regular school programming, we also worked with G.C. Huston to host their 8th annual local Heritage Fair and we partnered with Bruce Power on the creation and delivery of a



Te@m participants at the end of their two-day leadership and advocacy workshop.



Children making and showing off their nature-inspired art during Art Attack in September.



waste-reduction themed Eco-Mentors program for Gr. 6 students during Earth week. Our Educational Advisory Group continued to meet through the year, helping us learn about the needs of the students and teachers we serve, and providing input as we evaluated and evolved our educational services.

Children's Programming saw the return of popular programs such as Eco Explorers, LEGO™ Fridays, Night at the Museum, and PA Day movies as well as two new fall art programs including Battlefield Model Painting. Holiday programs featured Chinese New Year, Easter, Halloween and winter holidays. Preschoolers and their caregivers enjoyed two sessions of Museum Munchkins (Fall and Winter), as well as our Preschool Holiday Fun Program. Leaders in training joined in the excitement too with Teens Engaged at the Museum ("Te@m"), a two-day leadership workshop that got participants ready to be Youth Museum Volunteers and advocates in their communities.

Our KidZone Day Camps were a hit once again with kids from all over the County, seasonal residents and visitors. We hosted 64 different children during March Break with 98% of spots filled, and 142 children over the summer with 96% of spots filled. KidZone provided educational crafts, games, outdoor play, Museum exhibit exploration, workshops with special guests and summer trips. Highlights this year included learning circus skills with Vita Bowen, "KidZone's Got Talent" karaoke on the stage, trips to MacGregor Point Provincial Park and Swing, Spring & Flip, and tagging monarch butterflies with Caterpillar Corner (to name a few!).



Night at the Museum participants decorating their own pumpkins to bring home.



LEGO™ Fridays WeDo™ workshops let kids animate their robots with code!



Grade 2 students learning about Chanukkah during the Holiday Traditions program.

ARCHIVES AND RESEARCH ROOM



Exploring records in the Research Room

Thank you to all our visitors, researchers, volunteers, partners and donors. Over the past year, we have helped hundreds of people explore the history of families, properties, organizations, businesses, and events in Bruce County!

Online Collections

(collections.brucemuseum.ca)

Thanks to our 10 Archives volunteers who work with staff members, we have increased the number of photos, archives and library descriptions available to view in Online Collections to 10,800 (half of which include images). This still only represents a portion of the records held at the Archives; please contact us if you are searching for information you cannot locate online!

This year, descriptions of books about family history, local history, church history and marine history have been made available online. This has enabled researchers to learn about available resources before their visit, and long-distance researchers to make informed requests for the research and copy services provided on a fee basis.

The many additional images uploaded this year include: 1950s Port Elgin and area photos taken by Lindsay Thornburn; 1960s and 1970s photos taken by Bruce and/or Howard Krug across the County and beyond; and a collection of school and government photographs

Municipal Records

As of 2018, all eight Bruce County

municipalities have now transferred minutes, by-laws, tax rolls, financial records and/or other documents of historic value for care and public access at the Archives. Over the past year, descriptions of many of these records have been made available online, enabling residents and visitors to know which records may be viewed at the Archives. Many people, for example, have accessed assessment rolls while exploring the history of their properties or residences owned by ancestors. Staff continue to work on creating descriptions for South Bruce and Saugeen Shores; these should be online by mid-2019. To assist in locating these descriptions, there are links for each municipality on the brucemuseum.ca website in the "Government Records" section of the "Search Our Archives" page.

2018 Donations

This year, over 60 individuals, businesses and organizations donated archival records, ranging from one photograph to two boxes of records. Family-related items received this year include family history books, oral histories, certificates, receipts, and photographs. Records donated by organizations this year include minutes, administrative and promotional records, and/or photographs from SouthPort Optimists, Bruce County Historical Society, Women's Institutes, and CFUW Southport. Photographs include 1920s Port Elgin scenes of the beach carnival and picnics; 1930s Allenford scenes; 1940s Lion's Head scenes; Sauble Beach scenes; and S.S. Nos. 2, 5 & 9 Kincardine Township School photos (ca. 1910s).

Photograph Donations Requested

The historic photographs cared for in the Archives are accessed for many purposes. This year, our photographs were viewed and/or purchased by people wishing to reminisce, illustrate books, articles or documentaries, learn about the appearance of a particular place at a particular time, or decorate their businesses, homes or cottages.

We would love to receive donations of more photographs reflecting activities, businesses, events and places in Bruce County, particularly from geographical areas that are currently under-represented in our Collection, including: Huron-Kinloss, South Bruce and Brockton. For more information about donating photos, contact the archivist or archives@brucecounty.on.ca

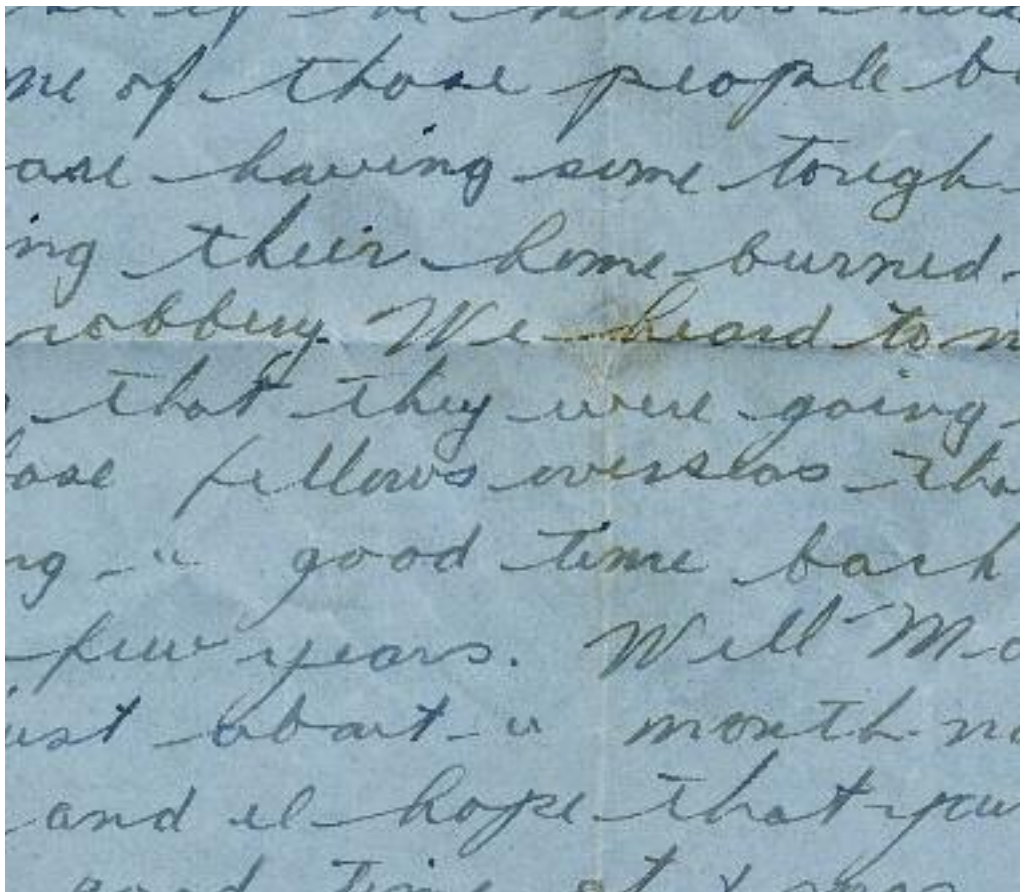
Military Records and Bruce Remembers

Letters written during war are valuable first-hand accounts of soldiers' experiences and interactions with loved ones. Now available in Online Collections are the Second World War letters of Elmer McIntosh of Carrick Township who served with the Royal Canadian Air Force. In the processing stage are First World War letters from William Skilling and Ray Jackson of Teeswater. Other donations of letters or diaries written during military conflicts by Bruce County individuals are welcome!

The BruceRemembers.org website features names of Bruce County residents who served in the armed forces during war or peace. This year, the site has moved to a new platform with improved search capabilities. Please contact us with any information you would like to have added to the site!



Scotch Picnic, Port Elgin, 1920s.



VOLUNTEER PROGRAM



Volunteers received Ontario Volunteer Service Awards this year, photographed are MPP Lisa Thompson, Dwight Clarke, Walt Heathers, Dylan Eisan, Wendy Evans and MPP Bill Walker.

Volunteering at BCM&CC involves many facets, such as assisting with school programs; children's camps; lectures; concerts; teen workshops; food and drink events; guided tours; visitor services; gardens; exhibit openings; exhibit interpretation; archives and collections inventory; assisting archive researchers; script writing; installing exhibits; and folding, stuffing and stamping when needed. Our volunteers help make each one of our programs and projects possible.

This year volunteers contributed the equivalent of 2.5 full-time employees working 35 hours a week for 52 weeks of the year! This is a significant contribution to our operations.

This was a busy year for the Volunteer Program, In January seven of our active volunteers were honoured with Ontario

Volunteer Service Awards. The recipients this year included one youth member; Dylan Eisan, and six adults; Dwight Clarke, Marvin Doran, Dennis Galley, Walt Heathers, Sharon Roppel, and Wendy Evans. Tania Gilchrist, one our long time volunteers, received the Sovereign Medal for Volunteers through the Office of the Secretary to the Governor General.

Following input from a volunteer survey, our annual recognition event was moved to April to accommodate busy fall schedules. . We look forward to celebrating our volunteers with this new timeframe coinciding with National Volunteer Week. While this timeframe is set aside to recognize all that volunteers do in our communities, we are very grateful for all our volunteers all year long!

If you are interested in volunteering or know someone who might be, please visit the volunteer section of our website at www.bruce-museum.ca/support-us/volunteering/ to learn more. There you will find an application form and contact information.

4,375 Volunteer Hours
75 Active Volunteers
19 New Volunteers!



Volunteer Captain Dennis Bodkin demonstrates the firing of a 4 pound cannon aboard the General Hunter.



Youth Volunteers helped staff members interpret the gallery spaces for the Marine Heritage Festival.



A member of the Grey Bruce Woodturners Guild demonstrates the art of woodturning.



Volunteers from the Women's Institute of Bruce County provide lemonade and cookies on the front porch of the log home on Fridays during July and August.

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Thank You to our 2018 Partners!

