

**The Carleton Place and Beckwith Historical Society's
2019 Yearly Report
of the Carleton Place and Beckwith Heritage Museum**



267 Edmund Street, Carleton Place, Ontario K7C 3E8

Carleton Place and Beckwith Heritage Museum 2019



Our Artifact Collection:

We safeguard our community's past and are continually adding to our collection of:

- 4172 photographs (302 new in 2019)
- 9185 objects (226 new in 2019)
- 4091 archival documents (477 new in 2019)



66 individuals donated a total of 648 objects in 2019. (This number does not include backlogged items awaiting documentation)

Our Guests:

We welcome the community and visitors:

- **3,061** people visited the museum in 2019 (*increase of 358 visitors from 2018*)
- **7,032** people were introduced to the museum through outreach including visibility at Carleton Place 200th events

We reach and interact with our online guests:

- **Facebook:** our "likes" increased by 356 to **2240 friends**; each month our posts reach between **5,000 to 8,000 people**
- **Website:** averages **30 visitors** per day
- **Research enquiries via our website** were received from **71** individuals
- **Instagram:** saw an increase of 138 followers for a total of **679**

TOTAL REACH TO 13,113 INDIVIDUALS!!

Our Members:

Historical Society Memberships allow us to continue our valuable work in the community; members get perks such as reduced or free admission to events, a quarterly newsletter and exclusive museum tours:

- 5 Corporate
- 17 Life
- 28 Individual
- 34 Family
- 26 Senior

In House Exhibitions:

Visitors enjoy our varied displays:

- **"Wish you Were Here – Postcards of the Past" Exhibition** until January 7
- **"Carleton Place – 200 Years in the Making"** May 25 – October 12
- **Felt Sculptures of Gesina Laird-Buchanan** September - October
- **"Men in Kilts"**, November 30 -

Off Site Exhibitions:

Exhibits are displayed in the community at:

- Carleton Place Information Centre
- Beckwith Township Offices
- The Carleton Place Arena
- Above are changed quarterly and are seen by **1000's** yearly.
- New in 2019 we offered our **"Museum on Wheels"** traveling museum!



The Museum participates in many local festivals with our pop-up displays:

- New Year's Levee
- Canada Day
- Lions Club Car Show
- Spring Home and Garden Show
- Doors Open Carleton Place
- Carleton Place Amazing Race
- * Lambs Down Festival
- * Beckwith Heritage Days
- * Lilac Festival
- * Lanark County Harvest Festival
- * Summerfest

Upon special request, we are happy to provide temporary exhibits:

- Farmer's Market, July 13
- Carleton Place Trivia Night, July 26
- Carleton Place Chamber Awards Gala
- Mississippi Mudds Performances, November
- St. James Anglican Church Armistice Service, November 9

Interpretation/Education:

Staff are in the community, sharing knowledge and engaging residents and visitors alike:

- Manager Jennifer Irwin gave **presentations on the history of Carleton Place** to the following groups: Carleton Place BIA/Carleton Place Members of Council/Lanark County Seniors Games Participants/St. James Anglican Church Family Group/Carleton Place Civic Reception/Opening Ceremonies of Carleton Junction/Korean Delegation/Sister City Committee and Guests

Group Tours included:

- **Special Request Guided Walking Tours:** "Aging Jewish Adults"/Mississippi Mudds members/CPHS History Classes/Lanark County Exchange Students/Franklin Tennessee delegation/Paula Roy, Ottawa Citizen Food Editor
- **Scheduled Guided Walking tours:** **River Walk**, weekly, July, August and September
United Cemeteries Ghost Walk, September 19



We recruit interesting guest speakers to share their knowledge with our membership:

- **2019 Speaker Series:** Ryan Goode: "Love Tokens", February 17
Frank Hitchens: "Apollo 11", October 27
Lindy Mechefske: "Out of Old Ontario Kitchens", November 3



Special Events:

Many events are organized by the Museum throughout the year:

- **2019 Heritage Day Dinner**, "In Rhythm with our Roots" with the Mississippi Mudds at the Town Hall, Feb. 20
- **Creating Memory Books** worship with Claudia Radmore, March 3
- Carleton Place and Beckwith **AGM**, May 6
- **Opening** of Summer Exhibit, June 6
- **Canada's Historic Places Day**, July 6
- Monarch **Butterfly Release Party**, September
- **Picnic Like it's 1919**, August 4, at Riverside Park
- **Doors Open** Carleton Place, September 20
- Opening of "**Men in Kilts**" exhibit with Perth Scottish Country Dancers and 78th Fraser Highlanders, November 30
- **Christmas** Open House, December 14

Fundraising:

The Carleton Place and Beckwith Historical Society is continually fundraising to enable Museum programming:

- Heritage Day Dinner, February 20
- Snow Stag Paint Night, February 27
- Junk and Disorderly Sale, March 30,31
- Vintage Clothing Sale, April 26 - 28
- Vintage Finds Sale, September 20
- Full Deck Fundraising Lunch, September 22
- Lyle's Birthday Concert, October 20
- Vintage Christmas Sale, November 9
- Facebook Birthday Fundraisers sponsored by Jennifer Irwin and Shane Edwards
- Foss Room Rentals
- Nevada Ticket Sales, ongoing
- Gift Shop revenues, ongoing
- Encouraging private donations

Consulting: Museum staff provides research and information upon request:

- Provided historical research, images and text for Town of Carleton Place information panels at Junction Park
- Carleton Place Municipal Heritage Committee heritage plaque program
- Carleton Place 200th Anniversary program, calendar and events, merchandise, speeches, context
- Carleton Place BIA downtown heritage banners/storefront posters
- Central Bridge Rehabilitation Study
- Planning Department regarding various properties
- Inventory and evaluation of archival materials in Town Clerk's vault
- Assisted with staging and installation of artifacts and props in One Room Schoolhouse, Beckwith Heritage Park

Grant Opportunities:

The Historical Society thanks those programs that enable the hiring of support and summer staff:

- The Town of Carleton Place
- Beckwith Township
- Young Canada Works
-received funding of two summer students for 13 weeks
- Job Creation Program
-received funding for 200th Special Event Planner for 36 weeks
- Canada Summer Jobs
-received funding for two students for 8 weeks

Advertising:

Various means are utilized to increase our presence in the community:

The Museum is featured regularly in the EMC, Humm, and Hometown News newspapers and in the Ottawa Citizen. We utilize Jack FM, Lake 88 and CBC radio to publicize our events.

Staff Development:

Keeping current, our Manager Jennifer Irwin participated in:

- Ontario Museums Association Conference, Brantford, October
- Online learning sessions offered through Ontario Heritage Trust

The Historical Society is a Member of the following Professional Organizations:

- The Lanark County Museum Network
- The Ontario Museums Association
- The Canadian Museums Association

Volunteers:

The Museum could not function without the generous support of our many volunteers. Thank you!

- **34** volunteers on a regular basis put in ***just under 2000 hours*** of service in 2019
- **Volunteer Open House on April 13 to recruit new volunteers**
- Our annual **Volunteer Appreciation** Picnic held in garden, August 21



Partnerships:

The Historical Society and Museum benefit from the sharing of knowledge and resources with community players:

Carleton Place Municipal Heritage Committee

Roy Brown Society

Applied Museum Studies Program, Algonquin College (student placement Jan. – April)

Carleton Place Public Library

Carleton Place Chamber of Commerce

Carleton Place Horticultural Society

Community Labyrinth

Beckwith Heritage Committee

Downtown Carleton Place

Carleton Place High School (student volunteers)

Mississippi Mudds