

**The Carleton Place and Beckwith Historical Society's  
2020 Yearly Report  
of the Carleton Place and Beckwith Heritage Museum**



**267 Edmund Street, Carleton Place, Ontario K7C 3E8**

**[www.cpbheritagemuseum.com](http://www.cpbheritagemuseum.com)**

# Carleton Place and Beckwith Heritage Museum 2020



## Our Artifact Collection:

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

- 4497 photographs (325 new in 2019)
- 9427 objects (242 new in 2019)
- 4321 archival documents (230 new in 2019)



53 individuals donated a total of 577 objects in 2020. (This number does not include backlogged items awaiting documentation)

## Our Guests:

We welcome the community and visitors:

- **526** people visited the museum in 2020 (*these low numbers reflect our ongoing closures due to COVID-19 lockdowns*)
- **1, 091** people were introduced to the museum through outreach programming
- **Thousands** more were introduced to the museum and our collections through the virtual exhibition "Kitchen", co-hosted by Sivarulrasa Gallery

We reach and interact with our online guests:

- **Facebook:** our "likes" increased by 484 to **2724 friends**; each month our posts reach between **5,000 to 8,000 people**
- **Website:** averages **47 visitors** per day
- **Research enquiries via our website** were received from **24** individuals
- **Instagram:** saw an increase of 453 followers for a total of **1132**

**TOTAL REACH TO over 10,000 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
- 20 Life
- 4 Individual
- 16 Family
- 15 Senior

## **In House Exhibitions:**

### **Visitors enjoy our varied displays:**

- Only our permanent gallery was open to the public in 2020 due to COVID-19 restrictions.

## **Off Site Exhibitions:**

- **“Kitchen”**, a collaborative effort between the Museum and Sivarulrasa Gallery was held in May at Sivarulrasa Gallery, Almonte, Ontario



### **Exhibits are displayed in the community at:**

- **Carleton Place Information Centre**
- **Beckwith Township Offices**
- **The Carleton Place Arena**
- These showcases are changed quarterly and are normally seen by **1000's** yearly.

### **The Museum normally 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
- \* Lambs Down Festival
- \* Beckwith Heritage Days
- \* Lilac Festival
- \* Lanark County Harvest Festival
- \* Summerfest

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

- Santa's Workshop, Downtown Carleton Place, December
- St. James Anglican Church Armistice Service, November 11

## Interpretation/Education:

The Historical Society welcomed Erica Holbrough, 3<sup>rd</sup> year Museum Studies student at Algonquin College, who completed her Co-op placement of 12 weeks with us. Erica assisted in rehousing and documenting our textile collection.

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

- Manager Jennifer Irwin was a guest speaker on “Carleton Place Junction” podcast
- Irwin presented several times to the 4<sup>th</sup> year History and Theory of Architecture class at Carleton University
- Irwin was interviewed by Humber College film students on heritage architecture and local history
- **Group Tours** included:
  - **Private Group Guided Walking Tours**
    - for home school children “bubbles”.
    - For Carleton University School of Architecture professors
  - **Cemetery Tours**
    - United Cemetery, October 23
    - St. James Cemetery, October 24

**We recruit interesting guest speakers to share their knowledge with our membership; however, due to COVID-19 shutdowns, we were not able to offer our planned speaker series in 2020.**



## Special Events:

**Many events are organized by the Museum throughout the year:**

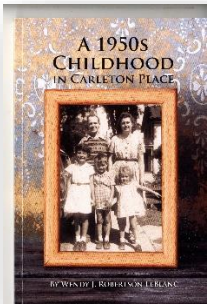
- **Preserving Your Family’s Treasures** worship with Michelle Bedel and Kayla Ubinkk, January 19
- **Roy Brown Society** Show and Tell, February 22
- **Plein Air Sketch and Cemetery Tour**, October 15
- **Porcelain Painting Workshop**, October 17



## **Fundraising:**

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

- Junk and Disorderly Sale, September 11 - 13
- Vintage Clothing Sale, September 11 - 13
- “Back to School” Photo Sessions, October 18
- “Christmas” Photo Sessions, November 29
- Production and sales of two local history themed t-shirts, “Findlay frypan” and “No Swimming Alligators”
- Thanks to the generosity of supporter Wendy LeBlanc, we sold over 150 copies of her biography, with all proceeds going to the museum
- Facebook Birthday Fundraisers sponsored by Jennifer Irwin and Shane Edwards
- Foss Room Rentals not available due to COVID-19 restrictions
- Nevada Ticket Sales not available due to COVID-19 restrictions
- Gift Shop revenues, ongoing
- Encouraging private donations



## **Consulting:**

**Museum staff provides research and information upon request:**

- Provided photographs from our collection to be included in “Ontario Picnics – A Century of Dining Outside” by Lindy Mechefske
- Provided historical research, images, and text for Town of Carleton Place information panels
- Carleton Place Municipal Heritage Committee heritage plaque program
- Central Bridge Rehabilitation Study
- Planning Department regarding various properties
- Ongoing inventory and evaluation of archival materials in Town Clerk’s vault

## **Grant Opportunities:**

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

- The Town of Carleton Place
- Beckwith Township
- Training Incentive Placement Program
  - received funding for a Digitization Technician for 12 weeks
- Canada Summer Jobs
  - received funding for one student 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 many online webinars and workshops and completed the online "Indigenous Canada" course at the University of Alberta

### **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!**

- **14** volunteers on a regular basis put in *just under 1000 hours* of service in 2020



## **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  
100 Women Who Care  
Carleton University Architecture Department

