



UPCOMING EVENTS

- ◆ **March 2:** Virtual Lecture, 11 am
- ◆ **March 4:** Doc Club, 10 am
- ◆ **March 11:** Doc Club, 10 am
- ◆ **March 16:** Virtual Lecture, 11 am
- ◆ **March 18:** Doc Club, 10 am
- ◆ **March 25:** Doc Club, 10 am
- ◆ **March 30:** Virtual Lecture, 11 am
- ◆ **April 24-30:** National Volunteer Week
- ◆ **May 1:** Seasonal Hours begin— open everyday 10 am - 5 pm
- ◆ **May 18:** International Museum Day (free admission)

All programs and events are subject to change. We are monitoring the COVID rules and restrictions to determine what is allowed. Our online calendar will be updated regularly on notlmuseum.ca when new events are announced.

FROM THE MANAGING DIRECTOR

First off, I would like to say thank you to all of our members who participated in the History in the Vineyard event last December! We raised over \$1,500 each for both the Museum and the Friends of Fort George. Not only were you helping our organizations but you were also supporting Ravine Vineyard Estate Winery, The Garrison House and Ruffino's Pasta Bar & Grill! Thank you again to each of these businesses for their delicious offerings!

Niagara-on-the-Lake will see significant growth over the next five years and our community is confronting many economic and social demands. To address these changes, the Board passed our 2021-2025 Strategic Plan last year. The discussions around the future-focused goals of the Museum were challenging as we tried to figure out how best to continue our current services while also transitioning to new realities and future demands.

Our vision is that we become a museum with expanded experiences that connect and engage people with the past, being the heritage champion for ALL who value Niagara-on-the-Lake, its history and culture. We will bring this vision to reality by focusing on three strategic priorities:

- ✓ Reimagine the museum as the beacon of your history
- ✓ Extend the museum beyond its walls
- ✓ Broaden our civic responsibility as your heritage steward



We are committed to transforming these words into reality by establishing an Action Plan that provides specific goals with performance measures. This Plan will be reviewed at our Board meetings and will be reported on at our Annual General Meetings. Our actions will implement these strategies into spaces, exhibits, and programs for you! We look forward to seeing our Museum grow in many ways over the next five years!

- Sarah Kaufman

happening at the museum



We're Digging for Gardeners!

As you know we have a wonderful crew of gardeners who maintain, plant, nurture and generally love the museum grounds, all year long. We'd love to have a few extra green thumbs to add to this great crew.

So, if you love digging in the dirt, please send your details and best availability to Babs Worthy: bworthy@nhsm.ca

SAVE THE DATE

THE NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE MUSEUM

presents

NIAGARA POLO

THE COMMONS | NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE

GENERAL ADMISSION, VIP DINING &
LOUNGE OPTIONS AVAILABLE
FREE PARKING - ENTER ON JOHN STREET

Two 4-chukker games, traditional divot
stomp, food & drink vendors and more!

• SEPTEMBER 10, 2022 •

12 - 4 pm | Gates open at 11:00 am

WWW.NIAGARAPOLO.COM



WINTER VIRTUAL LECTURE SERIES

11 AM
on ZOOM

MAR 2 **Katelynn Best** - *Apothecaries to Pharmacies: Prescriptions, Potents, and Healthy Herbs*

MAR 16 **Leonard Connolly with Barbara Worthy** - *Shaw at 60!*

MAR 30 **David Hemmings** - *Exploring some of the heritage homes of Niagara-on-the-Lake*



Presented by the Niagara-on-the-Lake Museum
and RiverBrink Art Museum to Celebrate
Women in Art & History

- MAR 04** Colette
- MAR 11** The Story of Women and Art
- MAR 18** Romany Romance: Russian Gypsies' child marriage tradition
- MAR 25** In the Making: Shelley Niro & Deanna Bowen

WATCH THE DOCUMENTARY ONLINE AND THEN JOIN A GROUP
DISCUSSION LED BY MUSEUM STAFF ON ZOOM

FRIDAYS AT 10 AM IN MARCH

To register and receive links to each
documentary email bworthy@nhsm.ca



Volunteer Awards 2021

Each year we nominate 6 volunteers for the Ontario Volunteer Service Awards, beginning with 5 years of service. The following volunteers were nominated in 2021, and a virtual ceremony is being held in March 2022. They will receive pins and certificates for their years of service by mail:

- David Livett** – 10 years
- Lorraine Joyner** – 10 years
- Elizabeth Surtees** – 10 years
- Jolanta Janny** – 5 years
- Geoff Senson** - 5 years
- Elizabeth Senson** - 5 years

Thank you to the 2021 award recipients and to our many volunteers, who are the backbone of the Niagara Historical Society and the NOTL Museum!!

President's Report

Hello Everyone,

What an interesting 2022 it has been so far. As things are starting to open up, I have mindfully started adding new activities to my day. In February, I finally got to visit the NOTL Museum's "Photographic Memory" exhibit. What a great walk through history! I loved the interactive aspect of the displays, including the video. I also appreciated how the exhibit included old and new pictures. Overall, it was great to visit the town 'back in the day'.

While at the museum, I renewed my membership (I opted for the dual enhanced, which will provide me with passes for friends and family), and took the opportunity to do a little shopping. My home library is well stocked on history books. So far, I have enjoyed 'Off to Paradise Grove', and 'The Underground Railroad: Next Stop, Toronto!'. Next up is Niagara-on-the-Lake a History in Images.

I am looking forward to warmer days. You might see me under the tent in the museum courtyard.... If so, please drop by to say hi!

Take care, *Mona Babin*

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When planning your estate remember the Niagara Historical Society. Contact us to learn more about different planned giving options.

ENDOWMENT FUNDS

Linda and Ron Fritz Niagara Historical Society Endowment Fund
NOTL Museum Fund at the Niagara Community Foundation

UPDATES ON THE NOTL MUSEUM COLLECTION

New Acquisition

Here at the NOTL Museum we actively collect items about the diverse history of NOTL and its communities. A great artifact that recently came into the collection is this WWII aviator cap, worn by Norm Howe during his service in the Royal Air Force. Howe flew 90 combat missions over France, Netherlands, and Belgium, and took part in the Dieppe Raid.

As many of you are aware, we will be undergoing a planned expansion and renovation in the next few years. A part of this project will include a brand new collection storage area, renovation of our current collection spaces, and mobile shelving, to provide appropriate storage for the collection.

The growth and improvement of our storage spaces will allow us to continue collecting our town's remarkable history as well as preserve items like Norm Howe's aviation cap for generations to come.

But while renovations are happening, the collection cannot stay at the Museum. We need to relocate around 50,000 items temporarily off-site. This is quite a task because packing a museum collection is not like packing up a house.

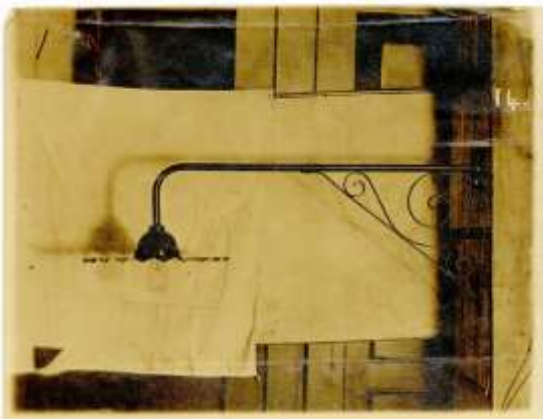
We must ensure that items are inventoried and their location tracked. Each item needs to have an updated photograph and be inspected before it leaves the museum. In some cases, new packaging and custom boxes need to be created.

In the coming months, we will be training a volunteer crew to help us pack the collection. So, if the opportunity to handle some of our town's and our nation's most treasured history is of interest to you, please send me an email expressing your interest!

- Shawna Butts (sbutts@nhsm.ca)



Digitization Project Discoveries



I am now four months into the digitization project. I am currently working through the large item cabinets which contain maps of Niagara-on-the-Lake and art pieces. Every day I am finding interesting items that add to my knowledge of Niagara-on-the-Lake.

This month I have digitized a collection of records from the Niagara Electrical Company, mostly from 1908, that focus on the new power transmission line. There are time cards for the employees, receipts for material shipments and letters about new street lights. The photo on the left shows what electric street lights were offered to the Town in 1915.

Another group of items that produced interesting research were images of the Niagara Navigation Company's ships. The first ship of the Niagara Navigation Company was the Chicora. This ship transported passengers from Toronto to



Packing the Collection

Hi all! My name is Katie, and since December I have been working as the Packing Coordinator, through a Young Canada Works – Building Careers in Heritage Internship. In this role, I have begun the process of packing our small object collection in preparation to be moved offsite. The process is not quite the same as packing your house for a move – we must carefully consider each object’s condition and needs, and how to best support them to minimize the risk of damage in transit. In many cases, this means creating custom mounts and supports.

One such group of objects that required special care were these five paper-mâché headpieces created by Chris Allen for the play “Christmas in the Marketplace.” Founded by Calvin Rand and Brian Doherty, the Court House Players mounted this play in 1962. The success of these productions led to the founding of the Shaw Festival the following year. The headpieces consist of an inner wire frame with polychrome paper-mâché on the exterior. Due to flaking, cracking, and paint loss on the outer layer, it was very important to limit movement and surface contact.

A custom inner mount was created for each headpiece, made of carved Ethafoam padded out with polyester batting, and covered with Tyvek to ensure all contact points had a smooth surface that would not lead to further damage. Similar supports were made for parts of the headpieces that extended out. Each headpiece also got a three-part box custom made to the appropriate size, which consists of a bottom tray, separate walls, and a lid to allow for easy removal without having to reach far down into the box.

Designing and creating these mounts was both fun and challenging, and certainly put my problem-solving skills to the test! I love working hands-on with the collections and preventative conservation, and I am excited to be continuing this work through the end of March.

...Continued from page 6

Niagara and Lewiston. However, it was originally designed to operate as a freighter transporting goods from South Carolina to England. The ship was purchased by Toronto investors in 1867, then spent many years operating on the Great Lakes before being converted to a passenger steamer in 1878. It was used to transport passengers until 1920.

I have also created a presentation around the Niagara Apothecary items from our collection. There are many product labels and bottles as well as documents pertaining to the restoration of the Apothecary building in our collection. If you can not attend the presentation on March 2nd, hopefully you can watch the recording!

-Katelynn Best

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CONTACT US: Niagara-on-the-Lake Museum

43 Castlereagh Street, PO Box 208
Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON L0S 1J0
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Visit us at www.notlmuseum.ca



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STAFF

Sarah Kaufman

Managing Director/Curator
skaufman@nhsm.ca

Amy Klassen

Director of Finance & Marketing
aklassen@nhsm.ca

Shawna Butts

Assistant Curator &
Educational Programmer
sbutts@nhsm.ca

Barbara Worthy

Visitor & Member
Services Assistant
bworthy@nhsm.ca

MUSEUM HOURS (WINTER)

THURSDAY TO MONDAY, 1 PM TO 5 PM

The Museum is closed: New Year's Day, Good Friday, Easter
Sunday, Thanksgiving, Closed December 18 - 31.



NHS Mission Statement

We are a team of staff & volunteers that passionately collects, preserves, researches, educates and promotes the history of Niagara-on-the-Lake and its communities. We inspire an appreciation of local history through engaging programs and exhibitions.

www.notlmuseum.ca