



UPCOMING EVENTS

- ◆ **September 24:** Tea in the Courtyard (details to come)
- ◆ **October 1:** Doc Club, 10 am
- ◆ **October 6:** Virtual Lecture, 11 am
- ◆ **October 14:** AGM, 6 pm
- ◆ **October 20,** Virtual Lecture, 11 am
- ◆ **November 1:** Launch of Poppy Project
- ◆ **November 3:** Virtual Lecture, 11 am
- ◆ **November 5:** Doc Club, 10 am
- ◆ **November 11:** We'll Meet Again, TBD
- ◆ **November 17:** Virtual Lecture, 11 am

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.

Community Courtyard

Our Community Courtyard was busy this summer! Book launches, a Treasure Sale, a craft vendor market, Kid Curator camp, silent films, and the Shades of Summer dinner to name a few. Plus, our members, friends and visitors enjoyed a beautiful and quiet space to meet with a friend or have a coffee. The tent will be up until the end of Oct.



The Shades of Summer dinner looked beautiful when the sun went down!



Watching a silent film under the tent, even with a bit of rain.



We had so many treasures donated to this year's sale, we made over \$4,500! Thank you to all of our generous donors.



Our Program Assistant, Emma Facca making paper with one of our campers.

happening at the museum



Volunteer Update and Orientation

Although the museum is still closed for research purposes and for regular volunteer activity, we are looking forward to welcoming volunteers back into the NOTL Museum in the fall, dependant on Public Health recommendations.

Prior to resuming volunteer activities, we will offer a Volunteer Orientation. This will provide a solid introduction (or re-introduction) to the Museum, our history, background, COVID protocols, and our current strategic priorities. Also, we will delve into the roles and responsibilities of volunteers, and offer specific training sessions.

Volunteerism has always been the heart of the NOTL Museum. We value and appreciate all our volunteers and are especially eager to welcome new and returning friends. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, or have any questions, please email Babs: bworthy@nhsm.ca



THE DOC CLUB

Hello Doc Clubbers,

As the summer draws to a hot and steamy end, we hope you're looking forward to another season of our Virtual Doc Club. Mark your calendars for the first Friday of the month (mostly).

Schedule from October – March:

October 1: A Buster Keaton Special

The Railrodder & Buster Keaton Rides Again: This features one of the last films Keaton made – a travelogue here in Canada in 1965 - and a feature documentary about the making of the film, his life, and a wonderful look at the history of silent movies.

November 5: War History and Propaganda: This month will feature four short films in honour of Remembrance Day and the 100th Anniversary of the 'poppy'. Each film takes a different look at wartime struggles, military strategies, and there's even a song or two from Bing and Frankie.

December 10: (to avoid clashing with the Holiday House Tour on December 3): **The Walrus and the Whistleblower:** An audience and 'fan-favourite' award-winning Hot Docs winner, this film looks at an animal rights activist's personal quest to end mammal captivity at Ontario's popular Marineland.

Our Winter 2022 dates are as follows:

Friday, January 7 | Friday, February 4 | Friday, March 4

Plus standby for possible 'in-person' events for the Doc Club in the spring of 2022.

If you're interested in joining the Doc Club, email Babs at: bworthy@nhsm.ca.

As before, we will send you links to watch the videos in your own time, and the zoom links for the virtual discussion groups. Get ready for your close-up everyone.

- Babs Worthy

Our gardening volunteers have been able to continue working this summer. Thank you to all of our gardeners for keeping the grounds looking great! Pictured left is Ken Schander.



2021 VIRTUAL LECTURE SERIES

- OCT 6** **Dena Doroszenko** - *Archaeology of the Niagara Apothecary and Niagara-on-the-Lake's Rich History*
- OCT 20** **Kathleen Powell** - *Triumph and Tragedy: Building the Welland Ship Canal*
- NOV 3** **TBA** - *Treaties*
- NOV 17** **Peter Mulcaster** - *A Railway History of Niagara-on-the-Lake 1854-1959*
- DEC 1** **Sarah Kaufman** - *Opening the Curator's Treasure Chest: Exploring The War of 1812 Collection Part II*
- DEC 15** **Rochelle Bush** - *The Lesser Known: Uncovering some of the Black people of Old Niagara and the surrounding area*

WEDNESDAYS AT 11 AM ON ZOOM

Visit notlmuseum.ca to register
Follow us @NOTLMuseum or email
contact@nhsm.ca for more information



GOOD LUCK TO OUR STUDENTS!

This summer we were able to have two students join us to help with both collections and programming. A special thank you to the Government of Canada's **Young Canada Works/Jeunesse Canada au travail** for funding these positions.

NICHOLAS: My name is Nicholas Casey, and I am a second year Teacher Candidate at Brock University who had the honour of working as the Curatorial Assistant this summer at the museum. I worked on a myriad of unique and engaging projects ranging from collections management to the development and installation of my own exhibit. In the collection I had the chance to work hands on in the museum's packing project, the exciting work needed to safeguard the collection in preparation from the museum's expansion. This task was my biggest and evidently the most rewarding. As an aspiring history teacher, the chance to hold in my hands the physical representations of history was extremely special. I was shown everything from the menial to the magnificent, artefacts that belonged to the folks that changed history and the tools that defined their lives. I had worked in collections management prior to this position but this experience is one I will not forget.

As for the exhibition, the team at the museum encouraged my creativity and gave me the opportunity to dive into a topic very close to me. I was able to research, describe, design, and display a vast amount of the museum's collection relating to the artistic expressions of Indigenous people through different lenses. I was given the opportunity to collaborate with knowledgeable folks outside of the museum, get feedback from my coworkers, and received tremendous amounts of support. The completion of that exhibit and the time spent working with the collection is undoubtably one of my favourite memories from this summer. Next for me is the second year of a 2-year teacher education program, and then hopefully, a career that is never too far away from a museum.



EMMA FACCA: I was so thrilled to be back for my second summer at the NOTL Museum as their Programming Assistant. This year I was able to develop both a two-week virtual Kid Curator camp kit, which featured daily crafts themed around historic moments, and I was able to build, promote and facilitate an in-person camp that sold out. Additionally, I started a TikTok page for the Museum that showcases short clips/ skits on events, items in the gift shop and much more. The page has been very successful with over 250 likes. Lastly, I researched, designed and curated the Apothecary exhibit on the second floor of the Museum. This was a great way to showcase my love of items in the collection and my passion for research. The biggest takeaway from this summer was learning to create a program that sparks the interest of the local community. I used my social media posts and both camps to engage the community in history. Thank you to all the members that I had a chance to chat with and meet over these last two years, this has been a valuable learning experience that I will carry forever.

Pictured are Emma and Nicholas at the Treasure Sale.

FROM THE MANAGING DIRECTOR

We were happy to reopen the NOTL Museum on July 16th, 2021 to the community and we were so excited with the turn out of visitors! Many were excited to see the Making Her Mark exhibition, shop in person in our gift shop and enjoy a chance to chat with Museum staff.

We were very excited to receive support from the Healthy Communities Fund through the federal government, administered by the Niagara Community Foundation. The funding was used to create a community space in our courtyard that now has accessible benches, garbage receptacles, free wifi and access to our online exhibitions and videos. Community members can enjoy a quiet spot to safely distance and meet with friends or answer emails this Fall!

Many members have been asking me how our capital expansion and renovation project is coming along. I'm happy to say that we are shovel-ready and are manoeuvring our way through the municipal requirements. The fundraising campaign- Building History, Strengthening Community- has been moving along well. We are enjoying some great conversations with donors and community members interested in learning more about the future of NOTL's Museum! We plan on applying to the Canada Cultural Spaces Grant with the Federal Government this Fall, as well as a few other government grants which will help set us on our way to success! If you're interested in learning more, please contact me at skaufman@nhsm.ca.

- Sarah Kaufman

THE POPPY PROJECT

This month the NOTL Museum joined a nation-wide Poppy Project to create an exterior poppy display on the exterior of the museum to honour veterans of all wars, and to pay special homage to the symbolism of the poppy.

More than 20 volunteers have formed 'The Poppy Brigade', and over the next few weeks they will knit, crochet, glue, cut, and attach approximately 2000 poppies to netting or bamboo sticks. The poppies will be installed on the outside of the museum, and on display from November 1 – 12. Visitors will be encouraged to come and visit the display, especially on Remembrance Day, November 11. This year, 2021, is also the 100th anniversary of the adoption of the poppy by the Great War Veterans' Association as a symbol of remembrance, and the annual 'poppy campaign' allows the Royal Canadian Legion to offer advocacy and financial assistance to veterans and their families.

The 'Poppy Brigade' itself is reminiscent of the knitting and sewing groups during both world wars, when packages of socks and woollens were precious supplies for troops overseas. The same enthusiasm and community spirit is evident amongst all the participants. The poppy 'production line' has already begun, with balls of red and black yarn purchased, and various hooks and needles.

The mission is underway, and we will post regular 'Poppy Brigade' updates on our website. Also, stay tuned for our annual *We'll Meet Again* concert. This year we are hoping to offer an outside performance on November 11, dependant on COVID protocol and restrictions.



Niagara Falls Museum Poppy Project 2020

Writing Women back into NOTL's History

Well, it finally happened. The book about the women of Niagara-on-the-Lake that we have been talking about for the last few years has finally been published! *Making Her Mark: The Women of Niagara-on-the-Lake* features the stories of over 100 women in our town's history. The success of this book is largely due to the 27 authors that came forward to help write biographies.

Until now, the story of women in Niagara-on-the-Lake's history has typically focused on women as daughters, mothers, and wives of the men in Niagara-on-the-Lake. By changing the historical narrative, *Making Her Mark* puts the spotlight on the lives of women from very early in our town's history to the recent passing of significant influencers. Take, for example, Joanna Ellen Wood, who was a feminist author, and former Queenston resident, or even women like Sally Carter who took vigil outside the Niagara Courthouse and Jail in 1837 and more recently, Margherita Howe, who fought to prevent pollution being dumped into the Niagara River.

I hope that the women in *Making Her Mark* inspire you, in some way, as these courageous environmentalists, heritage activists, artists, scientists, war heroes, teachers, matriarchs, politicians, and professionals show that women can and do achieve great things. If you are interested in purchasing a copy, they are \$20 and are available on-site at the Niagara-on-the-Lake Museum or can be ordered online through our [gift shop](#).

- Shawna Butts,



TINY MUSEUM UPDATE

It is wild how quickly a year has flown by! Five new programs have been developed for the museum's kit of education programs. The first, *People of Niagara*, focuses on some of the distinct groups that have called Niagara home, either permanently or temporarily, and their contributions. The second, *Voices of Freedom*, was designed in 2017 to focus on the Black community in Niagara and has been adjusted to suit the Tiny Museum format. The third, *Museums 101*, teaches students the ins and outs of museum work, and in particular, highlights how objects have meaning and stories attached to them. The fourth, *1812*, is a program specifically for grade 7 students, which uses primary documents to explore how different groups experienced the War of 1812. The final program, *Classroom Curator*, switches the programming format with students designing their own exhibition for display at their school. This is a longer style program done over several weeks of collaboration with the museum. As my time with the Niagara-on-the-Lake Museum comes to an end, I want to sincerely thank the staff, the board members, and the museum members for being so welcoming to me in my time here. I cannot wait to see how the museum grows in the future!

- Amanda Balyk

President's Report: 2021 AGM

The first Monday of August was a beautiful day to welcome residents and friends back to the NOTL Museum at the Treasures Sale. Everyone wore masks and the event was a great success, thanks to our hard-working staff. Several people in attendance also became Museum members to get our newsletters and to have free access to Niagara museums. This year we have also seen a significant increase in online out-reach activity, and our excellent new website is one of the top three social history sites in Ontario. Our collection is now 125 years old and our archives represent a rare collection for a small rural museum. Now that the fundraising efforts to expand our community-oriented museum's footprint, accessibility and archival storage space have started, our staff and Board are encouraged that community contacts are talking with us about generous contributions.

There is light at the end of the pandemic tunnel. Although we are not permitted to have a large meeting indoors yet, our online Zoom sessions have proven to work well. So, the Niagara Historical Society/Niagara-on-the-Lake Museum Annual General Meeting will once again be run online this year. We encourage you to become part of our quorum for this meeting at 6:00 pm on Thursday, October 14, 2021. Details on how to join the meeting by video or phone can be found in this newsletter; reports and proposed amendments will be sent to all Members by email prior to the AGM. If you do not use email and would like copies of the reports, please contact Museum staff in advance to pick up copies. The opportunity to vote on motions will still be there, and also to convey your questions through the Chair of the Board via the Q&A box or by "raising your hand". Slides will be used for the agenda, financials and motions during the meeting. We plan to make the meeting as smoothly run as possible and look forward to your attendance. You will be required to register to gain access to the meeting.

See you there!

- David Hemmings

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: October 14 at 6:00 pm on ZOOM

Come learn about our accomplishments from 2021 and our plans for next year! We will also be voting in new board members. For a copy of the minutes from the 2020 AGM, please visit our website under the "Membership" tab. You can also call the Museum to request a paper copy.

To register for the AGM, please email aklassen@nhsm.ca for a link.

Please see the insert in this newsletter for changes to the Constitution, which will be voted on at the AGM.

IN MEMORIAM

Paul Catling (1942-2021)- Paul was well-known as the President of the local Charles Dickens reading group and had a keen interest in history, often sharing his own collections at meetings of the Ephemera Club. He was a regular face at many of our historical programs such as the monthly lectures and Famous & Infamous discussions.

Yvonne Playle (1924-2021) - Yvonne was a long-time member of the Niagara History Society and very supportive of our programs over the years. She always made sure to come check out each new exhibition and will be greatly missed.



Pictured right: A small ceremony was held in August to unveil the tree planted by the Town of NOTL in memory of Diane Hemmings, a driving force behind the Town's Communities in Bloom awards and activities.

NIAGARA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

David Hemmings, President
George Webber, Vice President
Mona Babin, Treasurer
Ted Rumble, Secretary
Paul Harber
Jim McArthur
Gill Mukkar
Judy Thornton
Carol Perrin
Alexander Topps
Amanda Shanks
Allan Bisback- Town Rep

HONORARY LIFE SUPPORTERS

Joy Ormsby
Dr. Richard Merritt
Christopher Allen
Robert Knight
Nancy Butler

GENEROUS SUPPORT FROM:



MEMBERSHIP DUES

due in January each year

Individual: \$30
Family (household): \$50
Student: \$10
Commercial: \$45
Individual Life: \$300
Couple Life: \$500

CONTACT US: Niagara-on-the-Lake Museum

43 Castlereagh Street, PO Box 208
Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON L0S 1J0
Phone: 905-468-3912 | Fax: 905-468-1728
contact@nhsm.ca

Visit us at www.notlmuseum.ca



@NOTLMuseum

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

THURSDAY TO MONDAY, 10 AM 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 which 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