



MUSEUM

Chronicles

UPCOMING EVENTS

- ◆ **September:** Walking tours every Saturday & Sunday at 11 am
- ◆ **September 11:** NOTL Snowbirds at the airport, 2-6 pm
- ◆ **September 13:** A Kirk, a Kilt & a Strawberry at St. Andrew's, 4 pm
- ◆ **September 18:** A Kirk, a Kilt & a Strawberry at the Library, 7 pm
- ◆ **September 19:** Lecture, 7:30 pm
- ◆ **September 23:** Famous & Infamous, 2 pm
- ◆ **September 20, 21, 27 & 28:** Theatrical Cemetery Tours at St. Andrew's, 6 pm, 7 pm & 8 pm
- ◆ **October 3 & 4:** Heritage Trail Walks, 5 pm
- ◆ **October 8:** A Kirk, a Kilt & a Strawberry at St. Andrew's, 2 pm
- ◆ **October 10:** Annual General Meeting, 6 pm
- ◆ **October 28:** Famous & Infamous, 2 pm
- ◆ **November 11:** We'll Meet Again, 7 pm
- ◆ **November 12:** Quilt exhibit opens
- ◆ **November 15:** Member's exhibit launch, 3-5 pm
- ◆ **November 25:** Famous & Infamous, 2 pm

Snowbirds to take flight in NOTL

The Snowbirds are returning to Niagara-on-the-Lake two years after their amazing display of aerobatic skill at the Niagara District Airport in 2017, as part of the Canada 150 celebrations.



This year the event is a major fundraising opportunity for The Niagara Historical Society. A team of more than 40 volunteers, led by NOTL resident and Society Board member Mona Babin, will manage all the details of the event, from logistics to food to vintage aircraft displays to parking. Many of the volunteers also worked on the 2017 event, which was a great success, attracting nearly 3000 people. The highly qualified staff at the Airport will ensure all safety regulations are met, and is providing guidance to the volunteer team on all these requirements.

Two levels of tickets are available for purchase by September 6:

- VIP tickets for adults and children will include gourmet food, a prime vantage spot in one of the airplane hangars, and the opportunity to meet members of the Snowbirds team in person following their performance. Tickets for adults are **\$90 until August 30, and \$100 from August 31 – September 6**. VIP tickets for children are **\$35 until August 30, and \$45 from August 31 – September 6**. VIP tickets must be purchased by September 6.
- General admission tickets prior to September 11 are \$10 per person when purchased online. General Admissions tickets will be \$15 per person onsite on September 11. Children 12 and under are free. The General admission area will have food trucks, Snowbirds souvenirs for purchase, access to the vintage aircraft display, and an excellent viewing space. The Snowbirds will also come to say hello and sign autographs at the fence after their performance.

All tickets are available for purchase online **only** at notlsnowbirds.ca. You are urged to purchase General Admission tickets in advance, and bring proof of purchase, to make entry and parking at the airport faster.

Don't miss your chance to see the Snowbirds up close, and to be a part of the excitement that can only be truly appreciated at the airport!

We thank all our sponsors and partners, especially The Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake, Niagara District Airport, and Allied Aviation. Visit notlsnowbirds.ca for all the details.

happening at the museum



New Exhibit Coming Soon...

A PIECE OF HER MIND

Quilts & Coverlets

November 12, 2019 - April 25, 2020

DONATIONS NEEDED

Our annual **wine raffle** is back again and would not be successful without the generous donations from our members. This year Ravine Winery has added dinner for four for the 1st prize and dinner for two for the 2nd prize! If you would like to donate a bottle of wine to our raffle, please bring it by anytime! A tax receipt can be given for donations accompanied by a sales receipt.

FAMOUS & INFAMOUS

January - November | 2 pm

Our Famous & Infamous biography discussion group has changed to Mondays! Join us in the gallery once a month for a presentation by a local resident, followed by a lively discussion about the life of a famous or infamous person from the past.

23 Sep Richard Merritt: William Claus

28 Oct Linda Fritz: Vanessa Bell

25 Nov Craig Tallman: Clementine Churchill

Theatrical Cemetery Tours

Please call the museum to reserve your spots as space is limited!
905-468-3912

St. Andrew's Church Cemetery
September 20, 21, 27, 28 @
6 PM, 7 PM, 8 PM
\$12/Person



"WE'LL MEET AGAIN"

November 11th at 7 pm

A Remembrance Day tribute in words and song commemorating the First & Second World Wars.

Join in the singing and share in the memories.

Tickets are \$15 and space is limited.
Please register in advance

2019 LECTURE SERIES ART & FASHION

19 Sep | Sonya de Lazzer

Bring me back a t-shirt: the history of the t-shirt and its role in fashioning the tourist landscape

Tickets are \$10 for the general public or free for Niagara Historical Society Members. Reservations required as seating is limited.

GEOFFREY & LORRAINE JOYNER
NIAGARA - ON - THE - LAKE





NIAGARA HISTORICAL SOCIETY PRESENTS:

A KIRK, A KILT AND A STRAWBERRY: 225 YEARS OF ST. ANDREW'S COMMUNITY HISTORY IN NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE

*Featuring:
Aaron Berger, Edwin Conroy Jr. & Laurel Minnes*

Written & Directed by: Barbara Worthy

MONDAY, AUGUST 5TH @ 2 PM
NIAGARA HISTORICAL MUSEUM

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13TH @ 4 PM
ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18TH @ 7 PM
NOTL PUBLIC LIBRARY

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8TH @ 2 PM
ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH

FREE ADMISSION



Upper Canada Heritage Trail Tours

October 3 & 4, 2019 | 5 pm

Join Chair of the Heritage Trail Committee, Rick Meloen, for a stroll along the Heritage Trail and learn about the history of the railway that once came along this corridor.

Tickets are \$10 and must be reserved in advance through the Museum. All proceeds will support the work of the Heritage Trail committee in restoring the first phase of the trail.

Tours start at the trail entrance at the corner of King & John Streets. Parking is available in the Parks Canada lot near Charlotte St.

The tour will be approximately 1.5 hours.
Space is limited so reserve your spot early!

Pictured from top to bottom: Denise Ascenzo leading a Neighbourhood Walk on Queen Street; Niagara Handweavers and Spinners at our heritage festival; the Kaufman family enjoying the heritage festival; our campers exploring Fort George.

Curator's Corner

with Acting Curator, Shawna Butts

If you haven't had a chance to come by the Museum to see the exhibition, From Head to Toe, you still have some time! It will be on display until October 31, 2019.

We have had some wonderful feedback from the public, most of whom can't believe that the garments on display are all original dresses, menswear, hats, shoes and other accessories that the Society has been collecting since our founding in 1895. Many of the pieces are from the 19th and 20th centuries. Those dated to the 1800s showcase the changing silhouettes which were achieved using a variety of under-structures like corsets, crinolines, petticoats and bustles. As our exhibition moves into the 1900s, the fashionable women's silhouette was achieved with a narrow corset, that pushed the chest forward and the hips back to give the body an S-shaped line. The black evening gown on display would have benefited from

this silhouette, and I bet it conjures up images of the many costumes worn on the television series, Downton Abbey.

There are many more items on display from the 1910s though to the early-1960s, and there are also a few wedding dresses too, including the dress worn by Eliza Magdalene Whitmore upon her marriage to famed Niagara author, William Kirby. The exhibition doesn't exclude menswear, it is just much harder to come by as men's clothing were often worn and mended repeatedly until they were discarded. We have on display beautiful silk waistcoats along with a few other men's pieces!

Since launching on Google Arts & Culture last year, we have made an effort to make our most recent past exhibitions available in a digital format. You will be happy to note that Painting Niagara-on-the-Lake is now available! Digitizing the items in From Head to Toe will be a little more difficult, but we hope to still make it happen in the months after it closes.

VOICES OF FREEDOM EDUCATION PROGRAM

After many months of hard work, the Voices of Freedom Education Committee is happy to say that the Voices of Freedom walking tour app is now available! The walking tour app launched at the park on July 9, 2019, a day which marked the 226th anniversary of the signing of the Act to Limit Slavery in Upper Canada.

The walking tour app is now available to everyone! You can access the app at home from your computer or anywhere on your smart phone. To download the walking tour, go to vofpark.org and scroll down to the links for the Apple Apps Store and the Google Play Store, here you will be able to download the Balado Discovery App. Once you have the Balado Discovery App you can use the compass to search for tours around you, or you can do a key word search and look for the Voices of Freedom tour. You will then be given the option to preload the tour to your device. Once downloaded, the walking tour will then appear in your favourites and you will be able to access the tour without internet.

The tour includes 15 locations throughout Niagara-on-the-Lake and St. Davids. Tour locations have pictures, audio and primary source information for you to explore! We hope you enjoy the walking tour and take time to explore all the of Black history sites in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

As the work on the walking tour comes to an end the final stages for the education program begin. In the fall Natasha Henry will be leading professional development sessions for teachers in the local Niagara school boards. The Voices of Freedom education program will be available to classes this coming school year.

As the tour has launched and the education program rolls out into schools, my time as the Voices of Freedom Education Coordinator comes to end. I am so very grateful that I had the opportunity to work on this project and work with the amazing Voices of Freedom Education Committee and the Niagara Historical Society & Museum staff. I hope that everyone takes a moment to share the voices that have been silenced in the past, as we continue to push for greater Black history education.

- Hillary Kerr

From the Acting Managing Director

This is my final note as Acting Director since Sarah Kaufman will be returning to her post in early September. It has been a year of much progress and we have lots of big things coming up in the next few months!

We have had another jam packed summer with weekly walking tours, Neighbourhood Walks, a Scandal & Gossip Tour, two weeks of Kid Curators Camp, yoga in the courtyard, wonderful lectures and a heritage festival. In addition we have been out at Canada Day in Simcoe Park, the Engagement at the Forty in Grimsby, the Peach Festival and Kids Day at the Market!

Thank you to everyone who came out to our Past is Present Heritage Festival on August 5th. A special thank you to those who donated treasures and baked goods for our sales. We made \$2000 towards the operation of the Museum!

The Society's current strategic plan (2016-2020) is coming to an end with almost all of the goals complete. This fall the Board and Staff will be going through a new strategic planning process with consultants in order to develop a strategy for the next 5 years. With plans for an expansion of the Museum and a major fundraising campaign on the horizon, there is a real need for a solid strategic plan to guide us through this next phase.

We have accomplished so much on our Strategic Plan since 2016:

- ✓ Increased the Town's awareness of and investment in the Museum
- ✓ Developed strategies for revenue growth—recruited new Phoenix Circle members, produced new retail items for the gift shop
- ✓ Implemented major fundraisers – Niagara Polo and Snowbirds
- ✓ Developed a Planned Giving Program
- ✓ Followed the Lord Report recommendations from our feasibility study
- ✓ Produced architectural drawings for an expansion and renovation of the Museum

- ✓ Implemented a Capital Campaign—a firm has been chosen to begin fundraising
- ✓ Developed a collection review and deaccession plan – assessment and deaccessioning are ongoing
- ✓ Expanded our outreach programming with Pop-up exhibits, offsite programs & events, a Black History education program and the Tiny Museum, now under construction
- ✓ Improved communication to members through email and social media
- ✓ Increased the number of professional staff to 3 full-time staff with plans for a part-time person by the end of 2019

As a member, if you have feedback on any of the work we are doing, please let us know! It will help us plan for the future of the Museum and let us know what programs have the biggest impact.

- Amy Klassen

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

David Hemmings, Society President

As I finish my first year as President, we can reflect on the completion of the design and costing for the proposed new Museum extension. With these in hand, we can now schedule our fundraising efforts with evidence of our intentions available for review. This year's major event, NOTL Snowbirds, is on Wednesday 11th September. You will see the exciting Canadian Forces Snowbirds, a spectacular flying formation, in action and a parachute demonstration in the air, as well as static airplane, helicopter and vehicle displays on the ground. This is a wonderful opportunity for adults and children to be together at a great event - with food and drink for all. Tickets are available on EventBrite. If you are available to volunteer for a few hours on that day, Mona Babin and her team are looking for all the help they can get. We hope to see you all at this largest fundraising event for the Niagara Historical Society this year. It will be an exciting day for all!

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: October 10 at 6 pm

Come learn about our accomplishments from 2019 and our plans for next year! We will also be voting in new board members. For a copy of the minutes from the 2018 AGM, please visit our website under the “Get Involved” tab. You can also call to request a paper copy by calling the Museum.

The following change to the Constitution has been suggested by the Governance Committee. There will be vote at the AGM to approve this change:

ARTICLE 4 – PURPOSE – CURRENT VERSION

Place: The Society has a continuing role in community education, connecting people to the past, present and future through programming of life-long learning opportunities with specific reference to the Niagara region.

Preservation: The Society shall encourage the preservation of Canadian historical records and artifacts with reference to the Niagara region and specific attention to the historical benchmarks in the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake.

Participation: The Society shall encourage the recognition of the Museum as a centre for heritage based learning and develop volunteer opportunities with the many skills available within the community.

Management: The Society shall manage the Museum and its' holdings as a community place, communicating cultural experiences from one generation to the next.

ARTICLE 4 – PURPOSE – SUGGESTED CHANGE

The purpose of the Society is to:

- enhance our community’s history and heritage education;
- encourage the preservation, interpretation and communication of Canadian historical records and artifacts with reference to Niagara-on-the-Lake municipality;
- promote and oversee the Museum as a centre for cultural heritage-based learning;
- assist in the promotion and operation of the Museum;
- provide volunteer opportunities with the many skills from the community; and
- raise funds for major capital projects, programs and related operations through planned giving programs.

The purpose of the Museum is to preserve, research, interpret, and present the history of the Town and, through its team of staff and the Society volunteers:

- manage the day-to-day operations of the Society’s collection, including the archival and physical artefacts from the town government and the local community;
- deliver professionally-researched and interesting exhibitions;
- manage the community programs and events that are held in Niagara-on-the-Lake municipality each year for the residents and visitors of various ages;
- assist the public with research regarding Niagara-on-the-Lake history;
- manage marketing and promotional activities through various forms of media; and
- maintain the physical infrastructure of the Museum’s built heritage.

Goodbye to our Students!



Canadian
Heritage

Patrimoine
canadien

Another summer has flown by and we could not have survived without the help of our wonderful summer staff. We wish Erin & Joel both a wonderful year ahead as they continue with their studies. A special thank you to the Government of Canada's **Young Canada Works/Jeunesse Canada au travail** for funding our two students this year.



Erin Grieve: I have had the pleasure of working at the Museum as the Program Assistant for the summer and could not have asked for a better experience! I have been able to do many different things at the Museum including helping develop the Past is Present Heritage Festival, coordinating walking tours and assisting with the two weeks of camp.

We were able to design two very unique weeks of camp this year. The July week was based on the Chronicles of Narnia and the August week on the Harry Potter series. While I may not have seen the Harry Potter movies or read of the books myself, the children taught me so much and I was able to develop a great appreciation for the series. During these two weeks we went to the Apothecary, the Mackenzie Printery, on a nature walk and on a ghost tour. We also got to see The Horse and His Boy front row with the kids, which they loved and so did I!

Being a part of the Heritage Festival, Peach Festival and Canada Day were also fantastic opportunities that I really enjoyed! I will remember all of the wonderful people that I got to meet at these events as well as the amazing kids!

At the beginning of September, I will be moving to St. John's, Newfoundland to complete a Master's of Education in Leadership studies. I am excited to begin a new chapter of my life and working at the Museum was the perfect way to send myself off! Thank you to everyone at the Museum, staff and volunteers, for your support and guidance throughout the summer and for teaching me new things everyday!

Joel Ganzevoort: During my time at the Museum this summer my primary task was to develop small, temporary exhibits located on the second floor of Memorial Hall. The exhibits that I put together were about the 225th Anniversary of St. Andrew's Church, the historical buildings of Old Town Niagara-on-the-Lake and the history of the wineries of Niagara.

As well as developing exhibits, I worked on submissions to the "Artefact of the Week" column for the Lake Report. This weekly spot in the newspaper gives clues to readers one week and reveals the artefact, along with an explanation of its history, the following week. Furthermore, I worked on digitizing the contents of archival boxes, scanning the documents and then giving web descriptions for each item.

Finally, I worked with St. Andrew's to reorganize the artefacts displayed in their church, creating new text panels and replacing some original documents with scanned reproductions. I also worked on any small jobs that needed to get done, such as organizing files and removing accession files of deaccessioned artefacts from our physical storage.

After my employment at the Museum, I hope to complete my degree at Brock University with a major in history and then continue my studies at the same University to complete my Master's in history.

Niagara Historical Society & Museum

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MUSEUM HOURS

The Museum is open daily year-round .

May-October: 10 am to 5 pm | November-April: 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 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.nhsm.ca