Preserving Niagara-on-the-Lake’s heritage since 1895
Board of Directors January 1 - October 12, 2017
Faith Bell, President
Elizabeth Surtees, Vice-President Society
David Hemmings, Vice-President Museum
John Sayers, Treasurer
Lorraine Joyner, Secretary
Martin Richardson, Director
Denise Ascenzo, Director
Doug Phibbs, Director
Suzanne Hebert, Director
Ron Dale, Director
Chris Pratt, Director
Paolo Miele, Town Representative

Board of Directors October 12 - December 31, 2017
Faith Bell, President
Suzanne Hebert, Vice-President Society
David Hemmings, Vice-President Museum
Mona Babin, Treasurer
Ted Rumble, Secretary
Lorraine Joyner, Director
Denise Ascenzo, Director
Doug Phibbs, Director
John Sayers, Director
Ron Dale, Director
Chris Pratt, Director
Paolo Miele, Town Representative

Staff
Sarah Kaufman, Managing Director
Amy Klassen, Society Administrator
Shawna Butts, Assistant Curator

Honourary Life Members
Joy Ormsby
Richard Taylor
Dr. Richard Merritt
Christopher Allen
Robert Knight

The Society & Museum wishes to thank the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake and the Province of Ontario for their ongoing support.

FOLLOW US!
/NHS_Museum
@NHS_Museum
MANAGING DIRECTOR’S REPORT

On behalf of the Board of Directors and the staff of the NHSM I would like to say a special thank you to all our donors for their support in 2017. Without you, we would not be the successful community museum that you know and love!

2017 kicked off with the VERY popular travelling exhibition from the Royal Ontario Museum called *Through the Voices of Beads*. Thank you to the anonymous donor who helped us secure this display! To commemorate the 150th Anniversary of Canada, we opened the *Putting Down Roots* exhibition in May which focused on the groups who settled, immigrated or took refuge in Niagara-on-the-Lake. Further, on November 11th, we opened *Camp Kosciuszko: The Polish Army at Niagara Camp, 1917-1919*, which commemorates the 100th anniversary of the opening of the Polish camp in our Town!

We were excited this year to receive $136,000 from the Trillium Foundation’s Ontario 150 Community Capital Grant to complete exterior work on our heritage buildings. This grant, along with donations from the John Walker Memorial fund and the Heritage Grant from the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake, gave us the opportunity to repaint and repair our windows, soffits, fascia and doors on all our buildings. This project also included the creation and installation of storm windows. This project was long overdue and we’re happy to say it was completed in March 2018! Thank you to the Drew Chapman Carpentry team for all their great work!

The Museum has been working with the architects Lynch & Comisso over the year to finalize our plans for the new addition and a renovation of our current facilities. We desperately need proper programming space, additional storage for the collection, improved accessibility, better staff and research facilities and an expanded exhibition gallery. Plans were unveiled at the Annual General Meeting by the architects and members were very pleased to see the new developments. The finalized plans will be available soon! We’ll be engaging in a major capital campaign in the coming year and I hope we can count on your support!

Finally, I would like to thank you again for your support of our exhibitions, programs, and the preservation of Niagara-on-the-Lake’s culture and history.

- Sarah Kaufman
PROGRAMS & EVENTS

In 2017, we presented a variety of programs and special events for our members and the community:

- Members Trivia Night
- Lecture on “Canada’s Aboriginal Warriors”
- Annual Lecture series - 7 lectures generously sponsored by Geoffrey & Lorraine Joyner and the Niagara-on-the-Lake Bed & Breakfast Association
- Three Exhibition launches for members and VIP’s
- Trip to Quebec City & Charlevoix planned and led by Lorraine Joyner
- First Friday Series with the Museums of Niagara Association - A Royal Affair
- Heritage Cruise along the Niagara River with the Friends of Fort George
- Confederation Celebration Roadshow and Author Fair on Janet Carnochan Day
- Walking tours of the town from June - September (43)
- 5 & Dime Film Night
- Kid Curators Summer Camp sponsored by the Niagara-on-the-Lake B&B Association and the Shaw Festival
- The Past is Present Heritage Festival with a performance of the Confederation Celebration Roadshow
- Renegade Street History program (7 performances) funded by the Niagara Region and the Niagara-on-the-Lake B&B Association
- Special lecture by Parks Canada staff on Vimy Ridge Anniversary Commemoration
- Theatrical Cemetery Tours at St. Mark’s Church (12 shows)
- Doors Open Niagara-on-the-Lake
- Voices of Freedom Festival Symposium presented by Bravo Niagara!
- Bus trip to St. Jacob’s
- We’ll Meet Again Remembrance Day performance and sing-a-long with an outreach show at Upper Canada Lodge
- Famous & Infamous biography discussion group (11 sessions)
- Participation in the annual Rotary Holiday House Tour and the Santa Claus Parade
- Phoenix Soiree holiday event

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

The NHSM continued to increase outreach to the community and beyond. Staff and volunteers represented the Museum at Simcoe Park on Canada Day, on Queen Street during the Peach Festival and at the Roncesvalles Polish Festival in Toronto. We continued our partnership with the Niagara-on-the-Lake B&B Association and hosted the Town’s annual Heritage awards at the Museum. We also made presentations to Town Council, the Ephemera Club, University Women in Niagara, the Girl Guides, and at two school heritage fairs in the region. We assisted with a Public Archaeology Program for the Ontario Heritage Trust and participated on the St. Davids Heritage Day committee and with the Communities in Bloom initiative.

Several outreach activities took place for the Town’s Canada 150 initiatives including participation on the local committee, involvement in the Tall Ships, Snowbirds and 225th Anniversary events, and organization of the Doors Open Niagara-on-the-Lake initiative. Staff are also involved on the Voices of Freedom Park committee.
NHSM BY THE NUMBERS 2017

MEMBERSHIP
Total Membership: **424**
*this number includes many family memberships consisting of at least 2 individuals per membership
New Members: **41**

COLLECTIONS & RESEARCH
Research Enquiries: **193**
New Acquisitions: **117**
Donors to the Collection: **28**

VISITOR STATISTICS
Overall Attendance: **7,640**
Website Visits: **42,774**
Social Media Followers: **3,542**
Tours Conducted: **43**
Program Participants: **4,116**
Programs Delivered: **90**
Door Counter: **25,500**

Artist Kathy Thomas exhibits to visitors at the Past is Present Heritage Festival; Barbara Worthy, Jenny Wright, Peter Millard and Gabrielle Jones perform We’ ll Meet Again.
COLLECTION & RESEARCH

In 2017 we had 28 donors with 117 items collected. Some of the highlights are:

- Van Every Slant Top Desk
- Items pertaining to McClelland’s West End Store (106 Queen Street)
- Painting of the Lakeview House-Riverside-Harbour Inn by Jackson G. Smith
- Inventory for the estate of John Boyde - Appraised by Andrew Heron and John Grier, Merchants of Niagara, 1804-1810
- 37 records for a property on Gate street
- Set of golf clubs owned by Launcelot Cressy Servos of Niagara
- "Cufflink box" that purportedly belonged to Sir Isaac Brock
- A series of military commissions for George Field, First Regiment of the Lincoln Militia
- List of men from Niagara Township that volunteered for WWI
- Rand family baby carriage

Museum staff and volunteers assisted with over 190 research requests from researchers both on and off site. We are continuously uploading our collection online. Summer staff and volunteers are working hard at digitizing and writing web descriptions for our online database. We currently have 5,059 items listed online.

Keep checking our website www.niagarahistorical.museum, under the “Collections and Research” section, as we are always adding new content.

Publications

In 2017 we reprinted two publications, Niagara-on-the-Lake: A History in Images and Niagara-on-the-Lake as a Confederate Refuge. We also published a brand-new book, Niagara-on-the-Lake in Colour, a colouring book that features artistic drawings reflecting three artists’ perspectives of Niagara-on-the-Lake’s built heritage. Each of the pages is accompanied by history of the building.

EXHIBITIONS

THROUGH THE VOICES OF BEADS | January 5 - May 5, 2017
A travelling exhibition of Iroquois beadwork from the Royal Ontario Museum and artist Samuel Thomas.

PUTTING DOWN ROOTS | May 15 - October 31, 2017
Celebrating Canada’s 150th Anniversary by exploring the many cultural groups who settled or visited Niagara-on-the-Lake and shaped our community.

CAMP KOSCIUSZKO: THE POLISH ARMY AT NIAGARA CAMP, 1917-1919
November 11, 2017 - November 15, 2018
An exhibition commemorating the 100th anniversary of the opening of Camp Kosciuszko, where thousands of soldiers of Polish descent trained before being shipped off to free Poland from 123 years of occupation.

Generously sponsored by: Consulate General of the Republic of Poland in Toronto, Polonia Canadian Institute for Historical Studies, and Royal Canadian Legion Branch 621—Polish Veterans.
Phoenix Circle
In 2017, the Phoenix Circle contributed $8,040 towards our operating costs. As a thank you for their generous donations, donors enjoyed the following special receptions and presentations:
- A private tour of the John Brown House in St. Catharines
- A reception at the home of David Murray & Elizabeth Surtees
- A “sneak peek” and private exhibit talk with Acting Curator, Shawna Butts

The Phoenix Circle is crucial to the sustainability of the Society. If you are interested in making an annual individual commitment of $500 to preserve our heritage, please contact the staff at the Museum.

Heritage Cruise Along the Niagara River
We partnered with the Friends of Fort George for a second year to bring members aboard the Niagara Belle for a heritage cruise along the Niagara River. The event raised over $2,700 for each organization. Thank you to our generous sponsors Niagara Sunset Cruises and Tom & Kim Elltoft, as well as all the silent auction donors and our historic narrators for making the event a success!

Trip to Quebec City & Charlevoix
A private tour was organized by Lorraine Joyner of beautiful Quebec City and Charlevoix. The trip raised over $3,000 for the Society. Thank you to Lorraine for all of her hard work and organization!

The Phoenix Soiree & Wine Raffle
Our annual wine raffle and holiday event raised over $3,500. Thank you to the many members who donated bottles of wine to our hamper. Guests of the Soiree enjoyed Christmas music, homemade stew and holiday cheer at this annual event.
2017 DONORS

Phoenix Circle
Armstrong, J. Richard & Diane
Bell, David & Faith
Enns, Amalie
Hinchcliffe, Steve
Jackson, Chuck & Sandra Lawrence
James, Janet
Joyner, Geoffrey & Lorraine
Kam, Dennis
Murray, David & Elizabeth Surtees
Paine, Deborah
Sayers, John & Judith

Gaudet, Mark & Monica
Goodwin, Nicole
Hemmings, David & Dianne
Hill, Mary E.
Holden, Jo & Rai Lauge
Horton, Janine
Hutchinson, Carol
Johnson, Fred & Sonia
Joyner, Geoffrey & Lorraine
Lewis, Charlotte
Lindsay, Ann
MacNeil, Jack
Meloen, Rick
Merritt, Richard & Nancy
Mitchell, Sally
Monette, Richard
Morrison, Barbara
Murray, David & Elizabeth Surtees
Nitsche, Charles
Nixon, Miriam
NOTL Horticultural Society
Phibbs, Doug & Christine
Press, Joel
Rand, Cynthia
Reynolds, Jim & Patricia Hartman
Sayers, John & Judith
Sears, Robert
Slack, Nina & Bill
Steele, Rita
Stevenson, David & Sonia
Sullivan, Sandy
Tallman, Craig & Sue
Turner, Wes
Walker, Margaret
Young, Mac

Memoriam

IN MEMORY OF KELLY JAMES
Joyner, Geoffrey & Lorraine
Paine, Deborah

IN MEMORY OF RICHARD TAYLOR
Merritt, Richard

Collection

Agnew, Carley
Allen, Chris
Baraniecki, Roman
Bennington Museum
Bridgeford, W.
Caldwell, Jennifer
Chamberlain, Mary Jane
Dodd, Susan
Dutton, Harold
Ellis, Robin
Fontyn, Herman
Ford, Gordon
Harris, Wayne
Huronia Museum
King, Sandra
Knight, Bob
Mactaggart, Terry
Merritt, Richard
Niagara Foundation
Niagara-on-the-Lake Public Library
Parliament, Isabelle
Royal Canadian Legion Branch 124
Sayers, John
Smith, Henry M.
Smith, Jim
Swayne, Margaret
Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake
Woodruff, Richard

Endowment

Bell, Faith & David

General Donations

Ann-Louise Branscombe Fund at the
Niagara Community Foundation
Bader, Irene
Blaney, Betty
Bongard, Nancy
Bosley Real Estate
Brass Bell Niagara B&B
Bray, Marilyn
Butler, Rob
Catling, Donna
Chapman, Lois
Cushing, Jean
Deyholos, Richard
Egan, Mary Gayle
Finora, Brian & Monique
Garrett, Beverley

Sponsors

Consulate General of the Republic of
Poland in Toronto
Elltoft, Tom & Kim
Niagara Bridge Commission
Niagara-on-the-Lake B&B Association
Polonia Canadian Institute for Historical
Studies
Royal Canadian Legion Branch 621—
Polish Veterans

New Life Members

Armstrong, J. Richard & Diane
Deglmann, Ludwig Alexander
Gardner, Judy
Kurtz, Edward
Lemon, Garry & Anne
Sherlock, Kevin
Sweetman, Debra
Watson, Robert
Wiacek, Andrew

In Kind

Allan, Carol & Bobby
Aquabella Bed & Breakfast
Ascenzo, Denise
Babin, Mona
Bader, Irene
Baker, Jean
Barberian, Helen
Baxter, Steven
Bell, David & Faith
Bonnell, Robert & Julie
Butts, Shawna
GRANTS & FOUNDATIONS

Grants and Foundations that supported projects in 2017:

CANADA CULTURAL SPACES - $98,220 is funding the first phase of work by architects Lynch+Comisso to develop drawings for the expansion.

NIAGARA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION - We received $500 from the Ann-Louise Branscombe Fund at Niagara Community Foundation, which is being put towards Niagara Polo in 2018.

NIAGARA INVESTMENT IN CULTURE (NIAGARA REGION) - $9,000 funded our Renegade Street History program.

ON 150 (ONTARIO TRILLIUM FOUNDATION) - A $136,500 grant funded a large portion of the restoration of the windows and trim on all our buildings.

ONTARIO SENIORS COMMUNITY GRANT - $2,970 supported a WWII Remembrance Day performance at the Museum as well as an outreach presentation at Upper Canada Lodge.

SHAW FESTIVAL TOWN PREVIEW GRANT - $300 assisted in funding our summer children’s program.

TOWN OF NOTL HERITAGE RESORATION & IMPROVEMENT GRANT - $15,000 supported the restoration of the windows and trim on all our buildings.

YOUNG CANADA WORKS - $11,068 helped us hire two summer students to work on programs, exhibitions and digitization.

OPERATIONAL GRANTS: The Niagara Historical Society & Museum is also generously supported by the TOWN OF NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE and the PROVINCE OF ONTARIO

ENDOWMENT

The Society has opened the “Niagara-on-the-Lake Museum Fund” at the Niagara Community Foundation thanks to a special donation of $10,000 from Faith & David Bell specifically for this purpose. The endowment will be held in trust by the Niagara Community Foundation (NCF) and will enable us to add donations, including bequests, and be paid interest from the fund annually. There is no minimum donation for adding to the fund. For more information, including the terms and conditions of the fund, or if you would like to make a donation to the Niagara-on-the-Lake Museum Fund, please contact Museum staff or the Foundation directly.
VOLUNTEERS

The Society has over 100 dedicated volunteers who are vital to our success. In April, a luncheon was held to show appreciation for our wonderful volunteers. Nominations were also made to the Ontario Voluntary Service Awards and to the Town of NOTL Volunteer Awards to recognize individual efforts. Volunteers are involved in almost all areas of our operation including Collections Management, Research, Exhibitions, Programs & Events, Facility, and Administration.

Without this support from these individuals, the Society would not be able to preserve the rich heritage of Niagara-on-the-Lake and offer engaging exhibitions and programs for the community and its visitors.

2017 ONTARIO VOLUNTARY SERVICE AWARD WINNERS:

These individuals all received their 5 year pin:
Kathy Heit    David Livett    Berndt Meyer    Pam Mundy    Stephen Steele

10 year pin: Steven Baxter

Cemetery Tour volunteers from left to right: Paul Byrne, Sandy Sguigna, Pam Mundy, Rick Meloen, Briar Collins, Steve Steele, Director Barbara Worthy (with Louie), Roy Roden, Tony Chisholm, Judy Thornton, Denise Ascenzo and Geoff Senson.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revenue/Expenditure</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2016</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Federal and Provincial Grants</td>
<td>180,361</td>
<td>41,184</td>
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<tr>
<td>Municipal Grant</td>
<td>154,645</td>
<td>99,637</td>
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<tr>
<td>Donations</td>
<td>54,389</td>
<td>13,498</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gift Shop Sales</td>
<td>23,467</td>
<td>27,027</td>
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<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>21,872</td>
<td>25,664</td>
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<td>HST/GST Refunds</td>
<td>21,405</td>
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<td>Admissions and Tours</td>
<td>15,853</td>
<td>14,552</td>
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<td>Memberships</td>
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<tr>
<td>Programs and Events</td>
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<td>23,565</td>
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<td>Miscellaneous</td>
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<td>Interest Revenue</td>
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<td>582</td>
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<tr>
<td>Special Project Revenue</td>
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<td>13,498</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fundraising—Polo</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>66,690</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Revenue</strong></td>
<td><strong>503,676</strong></td>
<td><strong>350,160</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Expenses</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Capital Assets Purchased with Designated Revenues</td>
<td>163,488</td>
<td>5,920</td>
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<td>Staff Salaries and Benefits (permanent and contract)</td>
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<td>139,887</td>
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<tr>
<td>Programs and Events</td>
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<td>Maintenance and Utilities</td>
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<td>27,125</td>
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<td>Exhibition</td>
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<td>Gift Shop Merchandise</td>
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<td>Advertising and Website</td>
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<td>Publishing and Education</td>
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<td>Feasibility Study and Other</td>
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<td>Special Project Expense</td>
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<td>11,868</td>
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<td>Polo Fundraising Expense</td>
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<td>43,551</td>
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<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>469,529</strong></td>
<td><strong>328,684</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Excess (Deficiency) of Revenue Over Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>34,147</strong></td>
<td><strong>21,476</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS*

| Net Assets - Beginning of the Year       | 103,163  | 81,687   |
| Excess (deficiency) of Revenue over Expenses | 34,147  | 21,476   |
| **Net Assets - End of Year**             | **137,310** | **103,163** |

For a full copy of the audited financial statements by Bridgman & Durksen, Chartered Accountants, please contact the Museum.