



UPCOMING EVENTS

- ◆ **September:** Weekend walking tours on Sat & Sun at 11 am
(Note: no tours on Sept 14 & 15)
- ◆ **Sept 13:** Heritage Garden Party, 3-5 pm
- ◆ **Sept 14:** Niagara Polo, 12-4 pm
- ◆ **Sept 19:** Lecture, 7:30 pm
- ◆ **Sept 23:** Famous & Infamous, 2 pm
- ◆ **Oct 4:** Doc Club, 10 am
- ◆ **Oct 17:** AGM, 6 pm
- ◆ **Oct 19:** Doors Open NOTL
- ◆ **Oct 28:** Famous & Infamous, 2 pm
- ◆ **Nov 1 - 12:** NOTL Poppy Project
- ◆ **Nov 8:** Doc Club, 10 am
- ◆ **Nov 25:** Famous & Infamous, 2 pm

Thank you to our Corporate Sponsors:



RAVINE VINEYARD
ESTATE WINERY

Volunteers in Action

Once again, the summer has been packed with events and activities – we love keeping our wonderful Museum volunteers busy.

This year we had our volunteers assisting with all our Tiny Museum bookings around the region, which resulted in more than 70 hrs of volunteer labour. A crew of nine volunteers were on hand to assist Robyn Weishar, our summer student and Tiny Museum Coordinator. But special kudos must go to super stars, Judy Thornton and Nina Slack. Their joyful enthusiasm became a signature of the Tiny Museum events. In fact, they are almost part of the exhibits!

Our collection volunteers continue to keep the Museum records organized, filed, and readily available. And anyone who visits the Museum can see the work of our steadfast gardening crew, who come every second Thursday, with our veteran gardener, David Livett, biking here from Fonthill.

Niagara Polo and Garden Party volunteers have not taken a breath. And the results of their mammoth tasks will be seen on September 13 and 14.

The Poppy Project will return in the fall, in all its crimson glory. The first Poppy Brigade meeting is scheduled for Friday September 20th, 11am. If you want to participate and are not yet on our list of Poppy Brigaders, please email Babs at bworthy@nhs.m.ca, or call the Museum.



Left to right: Nina Slack, Robyn Weishar, Janet Guy and Judy Thornton.

happening at the museum

2024 LECTURE SERIES FINAL LECTURE:

Thursday, September 19 | 7:30 pm

**FREEDOM SEEKERS AND THE
POWER OF OUR STORIES**
by Saladin Allah

\$10 or Free for members
Call to reserve your spot!

FAMOUS & INFAMOUS:

Biography Discussion | 2 pm | \$10 or Free for members

Date	Speaker	Subject
Sep 23	Suzanne Hebert	Alexandre Dumas
Oct 28	Judy Thornton	Shakespeare
Nov 25	Peter Kemball	Elliot Jaques



Saturday, October 19, 2024

VISIT SEVERAL SITES OF HISTORICAL, ARCHITECTURAL
OR CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE FOR FREE IN NOTL

Visit doorsopenontario.on.ca for hours and
information on individual sites

Doc Club Returns in October

Watch the films in your own time, and then join online for a discussion. All Zoom discussions are at 10 am. The theme for the fall series is **“Under the Covers”**.

Friday, Oct 4: Coco Chanel – Unbuttoned: Chanel, born in poverty, ruled Parisian haute couture for almost six decades, but her life was enigmatic and controversial.

Friday, Nov 8: Men at the Baare – Inside the Royal Ballet: Despite their herculean body workouts, artistry, and growing fandom, male ballet dancers still face stubborn myths about their profession.

Friday, Dec 6: The Secret Lives of Geisha: Exotic and alluring, the Geisha are symbols of Japan’s ancient traditions, but their lives are complicated and steeped in secret.

If you are interested in joining, email Babs Worthy: bworthy@nhsm.ca for video and zoom links.




NIAGARA ON THE LAKE MUSEUM

NOVEMBER 1-12, 2024

The NOTL Poppy Project

An outdoor installation of knitted, crocheted and fabric poppies on the Niagara-on-the-Lake Museum, the Niagara District Courthouse, and Royal Canadian Legion Branch 124.


DAVEY
Proven Solutions for a Growing World

Fall 2024



THE NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE MUSEUM PRESENTS

NIAGARA POLO

THE SPORT OF KINGS

SATURDAY · SEPTEMBER 14 · 2024

THE COMMONS | NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE | 12 - 4 PM

Two 4-Chukker Games | Half-time Entertainment | Divot Stomp with Bubbly | Best Hat Contest
Food & Drink Vendors | Artisans | Vintage & Performance Cars | Silent Auction | Pony Rides | Loads of Fun!

GA | EARLY BIRD \$20 | \$25 as of August 20 | FREE for ages 18 & under | FREE accessible parking

WWW.NIAGARAPOLO.COM | 905.468.3912 |   



MAJOR SPONSOR
Elaine & Donald Triggs



THANK YOU TO OUR STUDENTS!

This summer we had two students join us to help with both collections and programming. Both positions were generously funded by the Government of Canada's **Young Canada Works/Jeunesse Canada au travail** program.



ROBYN WEISHAR

My name is Robyn Weishar, and I am beginning my first year of Teacher's College at Brock University in the fall. This has been my second summer working at the Museum as the Programming Assistant, and I have enjoyed it considerably. This year I was also entrusted to travel with the Tiny Museum to various community events. Through these opportunities I have been able to share my passion for history with visitors, members, volunteers, and the general public.

Over the past few months I have become more confident in my understanding of local history and the many ways Niagara's past relates to the greater history of the nation. I have been very fortunate to work closely with some of our members and volunteers who have imparted their wisdom with me. As the Programming Assistant and Tiny Museum Coordinator I have assumed many roles and responsibilities ranging from front desk work and planning and co-leading Kid Curator Camps, to organizing and overseeing the Tiny Museum for a variety of events and festivals.

Working at the museum has helped me to improve my interpersonal and critical thinking skills, which will be a valuable asset throughout my life and career. Being able to work so closely with the museum's collection has given me a new appreciation of the past and the abundance of history that Niagara-on-the-Lake has to offer. I am so appreciative of the kindness staff, members, volunteers, and visitors have shown me over the last two summers. I want to extend a big 'thank you' to those who have supported me and the museum, and to those who have made this another memorable summer.

COLLECTIONS CORNER

Yeeha! We Have a "new" Database! Okay this may not seem very exciting to you, but some of us at the Museum are pretty happy about this.* During the stay-at-home orders and the restrictions during the COVID-19 pandemic, we were unable to access our collection, undertake research, or perform necessary membership, volunteer, and donor services while working from home. The pandemic showed us that we had a big gap in our digital infrastructure. Renovations, illnesses, and the dreaded "double F" (fires and floods) are all things that can force us to work from home, but we need to be able to continue to access our database. Thankfully, the company that developed our internal system also offers a web-based version. So, we upgraded! Now it wasn't as easy as we thought it was going to be. We had to standardize data on over 1,000 records before we could make the change, but we did it!

I have to say the update to the online database has been a game changer. I have been able to work on exhibitions and even addressed research requests all while sitting in the comfort of my own home! Others have been able to work on membership and volunteer data management while working from home. The new database also makes searching our collection much easier, which means we can provide better research services.

Continued on page 5...

My name is Tylaan Kalemba, and I am a student at Brock University dual majoring in History and in Medieval and Renaissance Studies. This summer I have had the pleasure of being the Collections Assistant for the Niagara-on-the-Lake Museum. I am incredibly grateful for the opportunities this position and the staff at the museum have given me to learn and grow. I could not have asked for a better environment or a better team to explore the vast world of Canadian history with. While Niagara history was a passion of mine before this position, I am now able to walk into the world with a deeper connection to its intricacies and impacts on our community, and on the greater community of Canada.

Through my time with the Museum, I have been able to work closely with our collection for research inquiries, digitization projects, and the creation of displays and exhibitions (both physical and digital). Being able to familiarize myself and connect with the life force of this town and all that came before it has been an immense pleasure, and in some ways working with the collections at the Museum has felt like working with a living breathing person, with their own nuances and quirks. Every project I've completed regarding the past has revealed echoes in this town's present that have given me a new-found love and appreciation.

I am so grateful to the whole staff at the Museum, all of whom have been staunch guides and teachers who have facilitated my work and my (near overzealous) desire to learn. Over the course of the summer, with their guidance, I have been able to switch over nearly all the displays in the Upper Gallery of Memorial Hall, as well as install "Memento Mori: A History of Mourning in Early Canada," an exhibition showcasing practices surrounding death during the Georgian (1714-1837) and Victorian (1837-1901) eras.

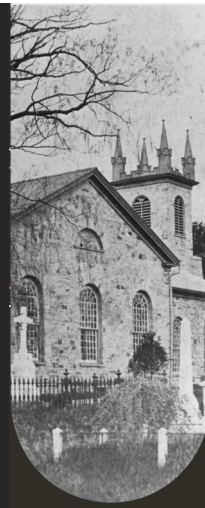
TYLAAN KALEMBA



Memento Mori: A History of Mourning in Early Canada

The early years of Upper Canada (Ontario) were defined by constant change. Many residents lost loved ones through war or through hardships of early Canadian life. The act of mourning took on a culture of its own. This exhibit explores mourning practices and customs in Upper Canada during the Georgian (1714-1837) and Victorian (1837-1901) eras.

Memento Mori can be found in the Upper Gallery of Memorial Hall.



Funding for UV Protection

Have you ever wondered why the interior windows at the museum look wavy and weird? That is UV-film that helps protect our artefacts from fading. But it is high time these are replaced. Thanks to the Ontario Trillium Foundations Capital Grant, we will be replacing the film with UV-coated Plexi-glass!

...continued from page 4

One of the best updates is how much easier it is for us to make collection records available on the public database, which you can access here: <https://notlmuseum.catalogaccess.com/>. Now we just tick a little box, and POOF, a record is immediately available to researchers, students, and of course, our members!

We were able to complete this work thanks to funding received from the Government of Canada's Community Services Recovery Fund.

**I say some, because as I am typing this, Babs is yelling at the database because it's not doing something. Honestly, I have done it too! We are all still learning its new quirks!*

- Shawna Butts, Assistant Curator

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hello Everyone,

I have been anticipating this moment, but it doesn't come easy. After seven wonderful years on the Board of Directors of the Niagara Historical Society, four as Treasurer and 3 as President, I leave my role to take on new challenges.

I am grateful for so many things. I have been able to work with the most qualified, kind, and generous individuals, including the dedicated staff (Sarah, Amy, Shawna, Babs, and Peter), the many volunteers (too many to fit in this column), and a supportive and active board. I have learned so much and truly enjoyed being part of this amazing team.

The Niagara-on-the-Lake Museum has grown in so many ways over the time I've been here, and its future is so bright!!! The new Board of Directors will continue to support the Museum's vision and work hard to make this community shine.

As Past President (as of October 17, 2024), I will continue to work on our expansion project "Building History, Strengthening Community", and hope to connect with every one of you to talk about our exciting plans to grow.

Thank You to Our Summer Students

As you know, we hire students to work with us every summer to help us execute our summer programs.

Thank you Robyn and Tylaan for contributing to our team.

A Special Thanks to our Departing Board Members

Alex Topps (Vice-President) has been my right-hand man over the last three years. He was always present to add insightful perspective and to take over when I wasn't available. Alex is leaving the Board of Directors but will remain as Chair of the Expansion Team. The entire team is grateful to Alex for the countless hours and incredible expertise he continues to lend to the project. We wish him luck in his future endeavours and thank him for his enormous contribution.

Paul Harber (Director) leaves the Board after his six-year contribution. Paul's dedication to the town's history is unwavering. He was a key contributor to our "History in the Vineyard" program both as a business owner and as an organizer of the event. Paul, we appreciate your expertise and availability during this time.

Ben Buholtz (Director) leaves the Board after three years. Sadly, Ben passed away this spring. The Niagara-on-the-Lake Museum was very close to Ben's heart. He will be missed.

I look forward to seeing you at our many programs and events in the months to come.

Take care,
Mona Babin,
President of the Niagara Historical Society

BIKE TOURS



Left to right: Steve Steele, Ted Rumble and Dee Steele

We have decided to offer History Bike Tours in 2025. Thanks to Steve and Dee Steele for stellar research and many biking hours (25+), we have devised a history cycling tour starting and ending at the Museum, running 10km, and lasting two hours. The tour stops at significant sites, including The Commons, Navy Hall, the Dock Area, and Fort Mississauga. It gives participants a fabulous overview of the Town and our history, with a medium challenge bike ride.

This October we are offering pilot rides, with a special invite to all our members: **Saturday October 5 and Saturday October 19.** We want your feedback. You'll need a bike, and a helmet. If you are keen, please register with Babs: bworthy@nhsm.ca And you might even find some snacks at the Museum when you return. (Dogs allowed in baskets, of course.)

FROM THE MANAGING DIRECTOR

Surprise!! We bought a house!

The Carnochan house next door to the Museum suddenly came up for sale and our Board of Directors knew this was an opportunity we couldn't miss. The house holds historical significance as the former residence of Janet Carnochan, the founder of our museum, and a distinguished educator, historian, and community leader. When she purchased the property from her brother, she severed it in order to provide land for the building of Memorial Hall, Ontario's first museum building, over 117 years ago.

We are forever grateful to the donors who helped make this all happen: Geoffrey and Lorraine Joyner, and Lauren and Vaughn Goettler. These two couples are avid patrons of heritage and supporters of the Museum. Thank you so much for believing in our future and helping the Museum to reunite these properties.

I would also like to express my deepest thanks to the Lord Mayor, Town Council, and Town Staff for the Town's contribution. Their financial support of the house purchase was crucial to the acquisition. Thank you to each of them for supporting the Museum and our future.

Finally, we would like to thank Niagara-on-the-Lake Realty, in particular Tom Elltoft, Chris Bowron, and Nicole Vanderperk, for their donation and helping to guide us through the process.

This purchase helps bring us one very big step closer to realizing our transformational expansion plans. We are grateful to all our capital donors for their support in ensuring our Museum is fully accessible and that we have the programming space we so desperately need. You will notice more donor announcements in the coming months. In addition to the Joyners and Goettlers, I would like to thank all our major capital donors for their support: David Murray & Elizabeth Surtees, Robert Sears, David & Colleen Johnston, Ted Rumble & Rona Gray, John & Judith Sayers, David Hemmings, Betty & Jamie Knight, the NOTL Rotary Club, Janet James, Ann-Louise Branscombe, Alexander Topps, Sean Simpson, Gail Lord, Mario Ferrara & Annabel Kennedy, Don Beddage, the Bank of Montreal, and CIBC.

The NOTL Museum is so grateful to all our capital donors who have showed their support towards ensuring the future of our community's museum. If you're interested in learning more or contributing to the campaign please [donate here](#) or call me at 905-468-3912.

- Sarah Kaufman

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: October 17 at 6:00 pm

Learn about our accomplishments in 2024 and our plans for next year! We will also be voting in new board members. For a copy of the minutes from the 2023 AGM, please visit our website under the "Membership" tab or call to request a paper copy.

ORANGE SHIRT PINS



Orange Shirt Day is Sept 30. If you don't have a shirt, these lovely pins are available at the Museum for \$10. All proceeds will be donated to the Niagara Regional Native Centre.

NIAGARA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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MEMBERSHIP DUES

Due in January each year

Individual: \$35
Individual Enhanced: \$50
Dual: \$60
Dual Enhanced: \$85
Student: \$15
Individual Life: \$300
Couple Life: \$500

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.

CONTACT US: Niagara-on-the-Lake Museum

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STAFF

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Shawna Butts Assistant Curator & Educational Programmer sbutts@nhsm.ca	Barbara Worthy Community Outreach Coordinator bworthy@nhsm.ca
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Peter Wright - Maintenance Coordinator

MUSEUM HOURS

MAY TO OCTOBER: 10 AM TO 5 PM DAILY
NOVEMBER TO APRIL: 1 PM TO 5 PM DAILY

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

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