

ANNUAL REPORT 2023

ACKNOWLEDGING
OUR PAST FOR OUR
FUTURE



Lincoln
Museum & Cultural Centre
Home of the Jordan Historical Museum of the Twenty



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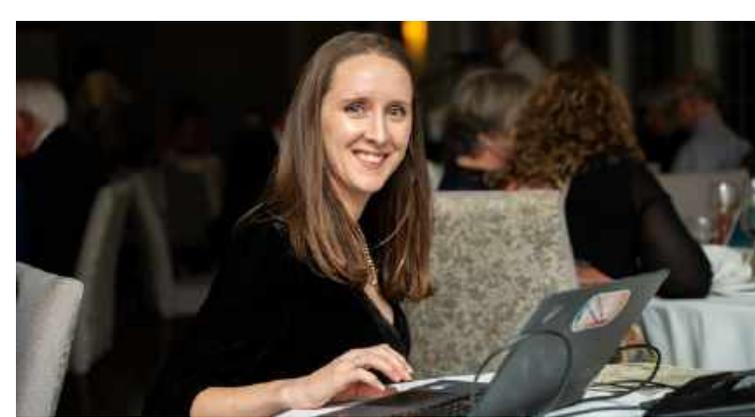
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STAFF

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Cultural Development Coordinator

Olivia Rozema

Curator of Education & Engagement

Beth Labrie

Museum Interpreter

Courtney Corbeil

Indigenous Culture & Heritage Specialist

Museum Assistants

Lexie Nelson (Former)

Andrey Mintchev

Digitization Assistants

Hannah Arndt

Avory Capes (Former)

Amanda Berardi

Students

Samantha Farmer (Former)

Naia Crowley (Former)



ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Community Members (Voting Members)

Anna Chiota

Angela Lytle

Donna Betts

Jane Woolsey

Pauline Creighton, Vice Chair

Ruth Smith

Steve Barnhart

Terry Teather, Chair

Council Appointed Members (Non-Voting Members)

Councillor Mikolic

Councillor Murre

Councillor Pachereva (Former)

Councillor Timmers (Former)





FROM THE CHAIR

Throughout the past year, our community museum's dedicated team has worked to uphold its commitment to inspire, educate, and engage the public with Lincoln's history. There is so much to be proud of in 2023. Although the museum was closed at times last year, we had record-breaking attendance - both in admissions and programming - confirming the museum's position as a cultural hub within our community.

Our 2023 capital projects provided much-needed restoration work to the museum's historic buildings and a new space for families to gather, play, and learn in the front courtyard with our marvellous distelfink bird.

Community support for the museum has been shown through donations and memberships. The Endowment Fund, established in 2022, is already 47% of the \$250,000 goal, the museum has a growing membership, and the museum received 230 donations to its permanent collection in 2023.

The museum has a strong base of 90 volunteers. The museum is very grateful to community members who graciously offer their expertise and time to the museum.

On behalf of the Museum Advisory Committee, thank you to our community, volunteers, funders, and supporters for their contributions to the museum in 2023. We look forward to welcoming you back in 2024.

Terry Teather
Chair, Museum Advisory Committee



FROM THE TEAM

In 2023, the Lincoln Museum continued to build on the momentum of the past three years. Throughout the year, our team demonstrated their commitment to enriching the community with arts, culture, and heritage despite disruption to site access during the Jordan Village Improvement Project, construction of the museum's courtyard, and restoration work on both historic buildings.

Even with a pause of in-person programming during the summer months to accommodate these significant construction projects, we achieved a remarkable 10% increase in museum visitors, and a 5.5% rise in programming participants compared to 2022.

These metrics underscore the resilience of the Lincoln community as well as the enduring appeal of the museum. While site access was impeded, the museum team also initiated an ambitious outreach campaign reaching 6400+ community members.

As we look to the future, we anticipate that with the completion of the improved streetscape of Main St. and our new courtyard with its dramatic play feature, the museum will continue to grow as a gathering place for the community and a hub of social, creative, and active engagement for everyone in our community.

Thank you for taking this journey with us.

Yours in Culture,
The 2023 Museum Team



MUSEUM IN 2023

Vision

The Lincoln Museum & Cultural Centre: Home of the Jordan Historical Museum of the Twenty will be a vibrant gathering place that shapes our community by engaging and inspiring residents and visitors in the celebration of heritage and culture.

Mission

The Lincoln Museum & Cultural Centre is dedicated to the interpretation, exhibition, research, collection and preservation of past, present, and future narratives relevant to the Town and the Niagara Region. Enriching the cultural fabric of our community through inclusive engagements will empower us to listen, learn, and acknowledge our history.

Land Acknowledgment

The Lincoln Museum & Cultural Centre is situated on treaty land.

This land is steeped in the rich history of the First Nations such as the Hatiwendaronk, the Haudenosaunee, and the Anishinaabe, including the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. There are many First Nations, Métis, and Inuit people from across Turtle Island that live and work in Niagara today. The Lincoln Museum & Cultural Centre: Home of the Jordan Historical Museum of the Twenty stands with all Indigenous people, past and present, in promoting the wise stewardship of the lands on which we live.



INDIGENOUS PLACEKEEPING



Museums have an ethical responsibility to foster national reconciliation.

The Truth & Reconciliation Commission Canada: Calls To Action (2015) holds 94 recommendations. #67 to #70 are specific to museums. The Summary of the Truth & Reconciliation Commission of Canada's Final Report states:

"In the Commission's view, there is an urgent need in Canada to develop historically literate citizens who understand why and how the past is relevant to their own lives and the future of the country. Museums have an ethical responsibility to foster national reconciliation, and not simply tell one party's version of the past."

Honouring the Truth, Reconciling the Future: Summary of the Final Report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada, page 251

The Lincoln Museum & Cultural Centre is steadfast in its commitment to Truth and Reconciliation. Through several 2023 projects, the museum has assisted in helping the community to engage with Truth and Reconciliation, while learning about Indigenous culture.

- *Ziibaaska'iganagooday* exhibit on the history and legacy of the Jingle Dress and Dance, curated in partnership with the Niagara Regional Native Centre.
- Cultural learning opportunities for the community including the permanent site installation of the Moccasin Identifier Project, lectures, a community Drum Night led by the Niagara Regional Native Centre, the installation of the Canadian Library project, and the RedDress project to promote awareness of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and Two-Spirit people (MMIWG2S+).
- Public art mural on the museum facade titled *Sge:no eye:twahs - She is Planting the Peace* by Odadrihonyaniso (Sara General).

- › Programming partnership with the Niagara Regional Native Centre, including a multi-year outreach commitment at NRNC summer camps, reaching approximately 200 children/youth.
- › Partnership with Mississaguas of the Credit First Nation in hiring Courtney Corbeil, Indigenous Culture and Heritage Specialist to catalogue, describe and interpret the museum's Indigenous collections.
- › Placekeeping project in partnership with the Mississaguas of the Credit First Nation to develop and install interpretive signage throughout Lincoln telling Indigenous histories from Indigenous perspectives.
- › Museum team was part of efforts to rename the park in Jordan Hollow. The park was named Sho'aríshon Park based on the area's connection to the Neutral Nation. Museum team continues involvement with concept planning and advocacy in the park re-design process.

Museums play an important role in a community's understanding of its history, and we take this responsibility very seriously. At the Lincoln Museum, we are committed to reconciliation and the work that that needs to be done. Reconciliation for museums involves acknowledging past wrongs and working towards building, healing, and repairing relationships.

Museums are not neutral and carry the weight of our colonial past. For many years, they have been responsible for upholding colonial narratives. It is our responsibility to challenge these systems. An important step in this process for museums is the repatriation of collections and also providing space within the institution for the centering of Indigenous voices and perspectives.





STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

GOVERNANCE

GOAL: The Lincoln Museum & Cultural Centre is supported by a responsible and accountable governance structure rooted in municipal ownership and operation, while engaged with community members through the establishment of a Museum Advisory Group. The museum's policies align with provincial requirements and reflect industry best practices.

1. Creation of a Museum Advisory Group with a defined terms of reference.

100%

Council established a Museum Advisory Committee and approved the Terms of Reference in 2021, appointing 8 members of the public and 2 members of Council. Sub-committees in the areas of Fundraising and Revenue Development and Collections, Research and Exhibitions have also been established. The committee met five times in 2023.

2. Update policies in accordance with Standards for Community Museums in Ontario and Regulation 877, Grants for Museums, the legislation governing the Grants for Museums awarded through the Ministry of Tourism, Culture, and Sport. Review policies on a biennial schedule and submit changes to Council for Approval.

90%

In 2023 staff brought updated policies on Finance and Administration and Education and Interpretation to the Museum Advisory Committee and Council and submitted an Accessibility Plan to the Ministry.

3. Produce annual report on museum progress and operations to improve transparency and accountability, and to demonstrate the invaluable position of the museum to funders, partners and community members.

 100%

The 2023 Annual Report will be submitted to the Museum Advisory Committee and Council in Q1 of 2024.

FUNDRAISING REVENUE DEVELOPMENT AND DIVERSIFICATION

GOAL: The museum will have consistent revenue streams outside of the municipal levy that reflect engagement in a variety of initiatives (i.e. funding and community support through grants, sponsorships, and partnerships) to increase financial capacity.

4. Identify and apply for grants that will enable the museum to enhance its operations.

 ONGOING IN PERPETUITY

In 2023 the museum was successfully awarded \$196,058 in new funding.

5. Identify new revenue streams to grow earned revenue (i.e. merchandising, rentals, events, etc.)

 ONGOING IN PERPETUITY

The museum has continued to grow its membership program and other revenue streams.

6. Develop a long-term fundraising strategy for the museum aimed at increasing private sector funding, sponsorships, and planned annual giving.

 ONGOING IN PERPETUITY

The museum has implemented its fundraising strategy which includes the establishment of an Endowment Fund, a donor recognition wall, and other recognition opportunities including sponsorships. The Endowment Fund is at over 47% of the \$250,000 goal.

7. Identify capital and operating projects that require targeted fundraising outside of regular museum operation (i.e children's outdoor educational space).

 100%

The museum completed multiple planned capital projects in 2023. The museum courtyard and children's educational space, historic buildings renovation, and accessibility ramp.

Fundraising, Revenue Development, and Diversification cont'd

8. Develop a special events hosting program, marketing the museum as a small premier venue with both a charming location and unique assets.

 ONGOING IN PERPETUITY

The museum has increased bookings for private events in 2023, particularly for birthday parties. The museum's covered Drive Shed has been added to the museum's inventory as a location for special events.

9. Establish corporate partnerships/sponsorships that enable the museum to increase revenues and offset costs (i.e. beer, wine, catering).

 ONGOING IN PERPETUITY

The museum has built upon its relationships and secured donations valued at over \$18,000 for its second annual fundraising dinner from local businesses. The museum will continue to develop and grow these relationships.

EXHIBITS, OUTREACH, AND PROGRAMS

GOAL: The museum will offer high-quality and engaging exhibits and programs that educate, inform, and entertain visitors. The museum will see an increase in attendance, engagement, feedback, and capacity as a result of its activities in these areas.

10. Create free opportunities for repeat visits in order to establish the museum as a community space.

 ONGOING IN PERPETUITY

In 2023 the museum team built upon its free programming including summer building tours, the schoolhouse speaker series, and special events and outreach initiatives.

11. Celebrate relevant community events through exhibits and programming.

 ONGOING IN PERPETUITY

The museum planned several programs to correspond with community observances, including the Red Dress Project, the Poppy Project, Treaties Recognition Week, and more.

12. Develop new programming offerings that target underserved groups/individuals. Align planning of these activities with partnership, promotion and communications goals.

 ONGOING IN PERPETUITY

The museum engaged 6,400+ people at outreach initiatives in 2023, reaching many who may face barriers to access. Museum programming and engagement plans were presented to the Joint Accessibility Advisory Committee in May 2023.

Exhibits, Outreach, and Programs cont'd

13. Expand educational programming to K-12



The museum hosted over 2,000 students from multiple school boards and homeschools, increasing attendance over 2022 by 53%. We also welcomed two university level education co-op students.

14. Implement children's education space in museum



The Children's Educational Space was completed in September 2023 and includes a custom play structure, outdoor classroom, and permanent installation of the Moccasin Identifier Project.

15. Develop a 2 year exhibitions plan that balances the community's desire to see the collection with topics that appeal to broader and more diverse audiences.



2023 exhibits included *Poppa Wilson: A Folk Art Story*, *Hockey!*, and *Ziibaaska'iganagooday*.

16. Develop related programming for each new exhibit.



The museum offers programs which relate to current exhibitions. In 2023 the museum continued programming partnerships with Lincoln Pelham Public Library and the Niagara Regional Native Centre.

17. Make exhibits interactive and dynamic using a range of technological features (including interpretation of the Fry House and School House).



A digital exhibit station was developed to provide broader access to museum exhibits (*Poppa Wilson: A Folk Art Story*). The Fry House tour video has been used to interpret the Fry House whilst the building was inaccessible in 2023.

18. Use digital presence (social media and website) to extend and enhance access to programs and exhibits.



The museum has used social media and its website to provide digital access to lectures, behind the scenes tours, exhibits, and programs.

19. Collect appropriate data to enable effective evaluation of programs, events, exhibits.



Feedback is solicited from participants through a variety of methods. 122 responses were collected via survey. Feedback is also collected at the museum and on social media.

Exhibits, Outreach, and Programs cont'd

20. Develop a Lincoln Youth Cultural Council to enhance youth engagement within the museum.



The museum has developed youth-led volunteer initiatives, with over 50 youth volunteers completing 1000+ hours. These programs are the foundation of the future Youth Council.

COLLECTIONS AND RESEARCH

GOAL: The museum's collection will be cared for in a way that ensures that it is preserved and accessible for future generations. Scholarly and accurate research on the collection will be generated by the museum and will be made accessible through a variety of channels.

21. Continue process of systematic accessioning, deaccessioning, and cataloguing all objects in collection in order to maintain accurate and up-to-date records.



The 2023 accession and deaccession report will be presented to the Museum Advisory Committee in Q2 2024. The museum collected 206 objects and deaccessioned 228 objects.

22. Write a Collections Development Plan (CDP) to guide collecting/deaccessioning efforts. Ensure that the CDP includes strategies to capture intangible cultural heritage and the repatriation of First Nations artifacts.



A partnership between the library, museum, and archives saw a joint application for funding to hire a coordinator to complete the plan. The Collections, Research and Exhibits Sub-Committee has made significant progress on background historical research.

23. Make collection accessible online through website, social media and online exhibits (Google Arts + Culture).



Close to 3,200 records have been added to the museum's online searchable database. This work has been expedited via a grant from the Museums Assistance Program.

24. Strengthen loan program with other institutions to promote the museum and the history of Lincoln.



The museum borrowed the temporary exhibition HOCKEY! from the Canadian Museum of History.

25. Contribute to discourse and scholarship through presentation at academic conferences and written contributions to industry publications.

 ONGOING IN PERPETUITY

Staff completed a course entitled 'Beyond GLAM Land Acknowledgments: Activating Decolonization and Indigenization in Galleries, Libraries, Archives, and Museums'.

MARKETING AND BRANDING

GOAL: The museum will actively maintain and develop its audiences by promoting its programmes, exhibitions, and events. This will ensure that audiences are aware of our activities and services, and information on the museum, its collection, exhibitions and programming will be easy to locate, accessible and engaging.

26. Develop a clear and recognizable brand for the museum that reflects a distinct identity.

 100%

The museum has further promoted its new brand through its application on marketing and publicity materials, and through a cohesive use of brand standards and guidelines.

27. Develop standalone museum website.

 100%

The museum launched its website in 2021 and uses it to promote programs, collections, and exhibits. Functional updates were made in 2023 to enhance user experience.

28. Develop a marketing and communications plan that enables the museum to connect with new and established audiences.

 100%

Communications and marketing tools developed by staff include a newsletter, website, social media, and press releases to media.

29. Coordinate with staff in the Economic Development Department to raise the profile of the museum and Jordan Village as a tourism destination.

 ONGOING IN PERPETUITY

The Cultural Development Coordinator has worked with the Tourism Coordinator and the Economic Development Staff to raise the profile of the museum and culture within Lincoln through participation in the Tourism Strategy Implementation Taskforce.

Marketing and Branding cont'd

- 30.** Revise museum operating hours to increase accessibility for visitors and residents during peak demand times (evenings, weekends, holidays).

 100%

Museum hours and programs accommodate visitors outside of typical business hours.

- 31.** Ensure Accessibility for Ontarians Disability Act (AODA) compliance to enhance accessibility for visitors.

 100%

Staff have all completed AODA accessibility training. A museum accessibility audit was completed in 2022 and adjustments were made to ensure the museum is fully accessible. An Accessibility Plan was submitted to the Ministry in 2023.

- 32.** Ensure the museum takes advantage of national, provincial, regional and local promotional events highlighting the cultural sector (i.e. Culture Days, Museum Week, Heritage Week, Doors Open, etc.).

 ONGOING IN PERPETUITY

The museum participated in several promotional events in 2023, including Culture Days, Museum Week, and Historic Places Days.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

GOAL: The Museum will have meaningful partnerships with local community organizations and representatives. These partnerships will be the foundation of the Museum's commitment to the community; they will enable the Museum to tell the stories that reflect the diversity of the community.

- 33.** Develop a volunteer program, establish 'Volunteer Coordinator' responsibilities within current staff complement, and develop a strong base of volunteers with defined task descriptions.

 100%

Volunteer Coordinator responsibilities are assigned within the museum staff, task descriptions are defined, and a base of over 90 volunteers has been established.

Community Partnerships cont'd

- 34.** Cultivate community partnerships that enable the museum to reach extended and diverse audiences, develop new programs, tell new stories, and offer new experiences.

 ONGOING IN PERPETUITY

The museum has maintained partnerships with The Jordan Historical Museum of the Twenty Volunteer Association and Friends of Lincoln's History which includes representation of these two organizations on the Museum's Advisory Committee and its sub-committees. Other valued partnerships include the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, Niagara Regional Native Centre, and the Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre.

- 35.** Take an active role within Museums Of Niagara Association (MONA) in order to enhance the museum's capacity through collaboration in the areas of marketing, promotion, programming, and professional development.

 100%

The museum staff are active members of MONA and attend monthly board meetings, in addition to sitting on MONA's Professional Development Committee.

- 36.** Develop a formal partnership with the Niagara Region Native Centre (NRNC) to increase the profile and visibility of the local Indigenous community and the history of Indigenous settlement of the area.

 90%

The museum has been fostering a relationship with the NRNC since 2019, and has engaged with the organization on a number of initiatives including programming and outreach, and consultation.

- 37.** Consult, advocate, decolonize, and collaborate with Indigenous peoples and communities in order to move towards the goal of reconciliation.

 ONGOING IN PERPETUITY

The museum takes this responsibility very seriously, and is continuously striving towards the goals of Reconciliation. As a result of a partnership with the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, the museum hired Courtney Corbeil, our Indigenous Culture and Heritage Specialist to work within the museum's collection and advance our progress towards reconciliation.

11,491

TOTAL VISITORS
^ FROM 10,440



8,581

PROGRAM/EVENT PARTICIPANTS



4,290

EXHIBITION VISITORS



6,478

ENGAGED VIA OUTREACH



BY THE NUMBERS

65 18

PROGRAMS EVENTS



770 HISTORIC BUILDING TOURS



4,841

UNIQUE ONLINE EXHIBIT VIEWERS



2,102

STUDENTS FROM 77 SCHOOLS



90+

VOLUNTEERS WORKING 1600+ HOURS



1828

NEWSLETTER READERS

FOLLOWERS

1,514 ^ OF 302

1,501 ^ OF 321



3500+

OBJECTS LISTED IN ONLINE DATABASE



16,864

OBJECTS IN COLLECTION



101+

UNIQUE DONORS

\$196,058

GRANTS AWARDED



MEMBERSHIPS

18 18
FAMILY INDIVIDUAL



47%

ENDOWMENT FUND RECEIVED



61

OBJECTS CONSERVED

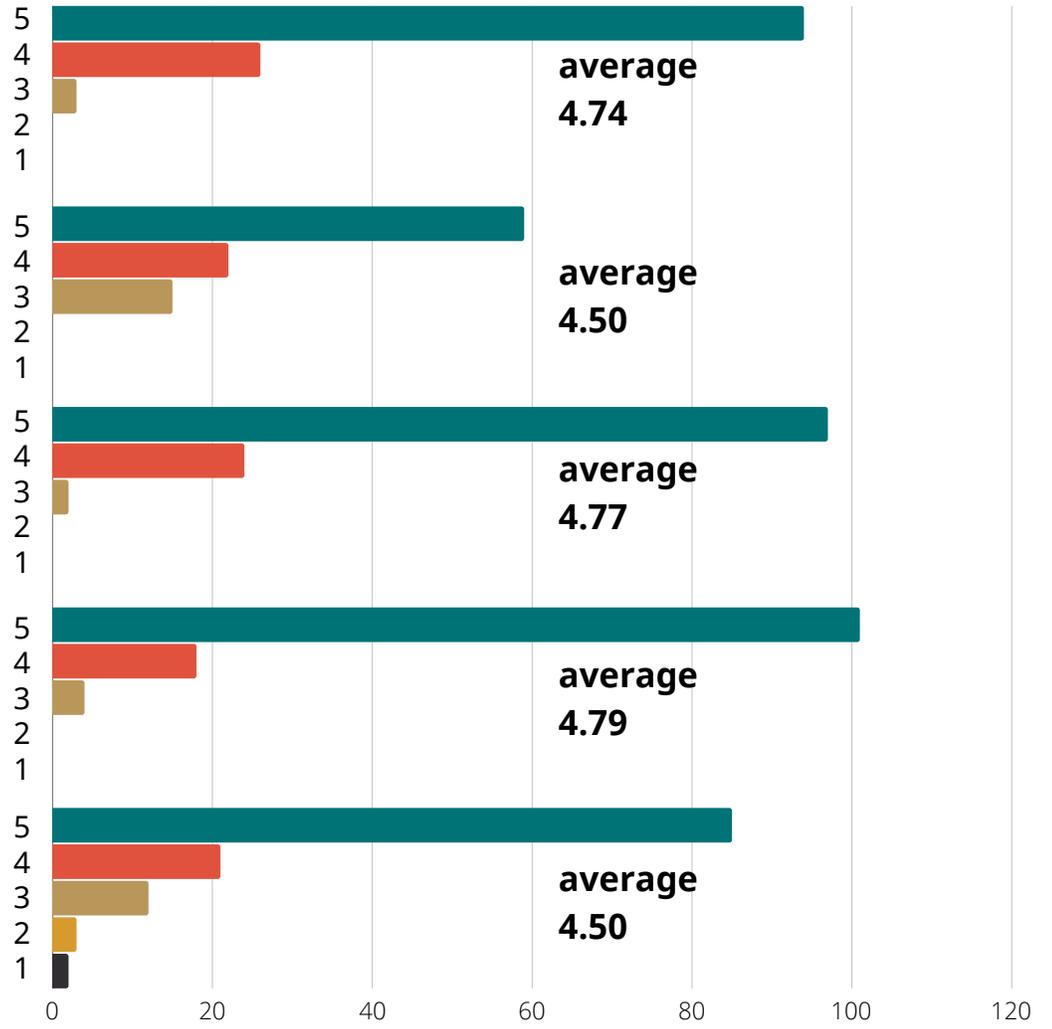
Rate your overall experience

Rate your overall satisfaction with the exhibits

Would you recommend the activity?

Would you register again?

Rate the ease of registration





COMMUNITY SUPPORT

GRANTS & FUNDS

Department of Canadian Heritage (Museum Assistance Program)

MAP Indigenous Heritage - \$137,550

Young Canada Works Building Careers in Heritage - \$10,512

MAP Exhibition Assistance - \$10,040

Niagara Community Foundation

Val and Art Fleming Fund - \$2,495

Ministry of Heritage, Tourism, Sport, and Culture Industries

Community Museum Operating Grant - \$25,461

Employment and Social Development Canada

Youth Enabling Accessibility - \$10,000

Total Grants Awarded 2023: \$196,059

(A 61% decrease from 2022, reflecting the wrapping up of several infrastructure and capital projects awarded in 2021 and 2022)

Endowment Fund

Guide: \$501 - \$5,000

Art Ellis *

Dr. Donna Betts and Michael Seaman

Herb and Cece Schreiber Family Foundation *

In Memory of Mary Jane Tanner

In Memory of Marjorie Hagerman *

Jane Woolsey and David Jacobs *

Jennifer Elliotson *

Lewis and Marilyn Coffman *

- In memory of Barbara Coffman

Mary Betts

Orson Sharpe

Pierrette Robillard

S. Cagampan and J. Grabuski

The Creighton Family *

The Teather Family

The Westerkirk Foundation

Tony and Sandra Easton *

Trenchline & Roads Inc. *

Verhoef Electric *

Interpreter: \$5,001 - \$24,500

Carolyn and David Vilim

Fleming Family Foundation *

Irma J. Brydson Foundation *

Lois Jean Tufford Kaytor U.E.

Margaret Tufford Romagnoli U.E.

Nu-Forest Canada Inc. *

Richard Adams *

The Moyer Family

Benefactor: 100k+

Jordan Historical Museum of the Twenty
Volunteer Association/Heritage Gift Shop

Jerry Haines Farrell + Family

Bench Brewing Company

Wise Guys Charity Fund

Vintage Hotels

Cave Spring Vineyards

Phelps Homes Limited

* Donations from 2023 identified with an asterisk



Total Endowment Fund Donations: \$117,869
(47% of \$250,000 goal)

2023 General, Object and In-kind Donations

1st Vineland Scouts
+VG Architects
Amanda Colina
Anna Chiota & Albert Sforza
Annette Gillespie
Arlene Grierson
Art & Joyce Ellis
Avella's Wood Fired Oven
Bachelder Wines
Barbara Chamberlain
Barry Moyer
Bayview Flowers Ltd.
BeautyBodyHome
Bench Brewing Company
Beth Wismer
Bruce & Linda Minter
Carolyn & David Vilim
Charlotte Bucknell
Chef Justin Downes
Cheryl & David Spiece
Chris Savage
Cindy Cameron
Colleen & Robert Logan
CosMic Plants
David Brown & Diane Bubanko
Donna Betts & Michael Seaman
Dyck Farms
Elizabeth Oliver-Malone
Edward Hildebrand
Foodland Vineland
Gary & Beth Dandridge
Geet Cahill
Greenlane Farms
Gregory Comisso & Stephen Shinn
Hanna Deb Boer
Home Hardware - Vineland
Jacqueline Marrama
Jackie Troup
Jane Woolsey & David Jacobs
Jay Moyer
Jean VandenElsen
Joan Romagnoli
Joe Speck
John Coffman
John Layton
John Suderman
Jordan Historical Museum of the
Twenty Volunteer Association
Heritage Gift Shop
Julie & Karl Stobbe
Kim Auty & Steve Barnhart
Kvas Fine Beverage
Knights of Columbus Council
15999 St Helen of the Cross
Laura & Kent Petrunick
Lisa Agnew
Lloyd & Jennifer Haines
Lynn Estall
Madeline Hoxie
Malivoire Winery
Margaret Andrewes
Marion Woodcock
Mary-Lou Kirby
Megalomaniac Wines
Mike & Danielle Mikolic
Mingle Hill Farms
Monica Hamilton
Moyer's Apple Products
Niagara Parks
Niagara Peninsula Conservation
Authority
Norm McIntyre
Norman Moyer
Nu-Forest Canada Inc.
Organized Crime Winery
Orson Sharpe & Mabel Sin
Pamela's Fashion
Paul Denter
Pauline Creighton
Peanut Gallery
Randy Loewen
Ray & Pat Konkle
Richard Adams
Richard Merritt
Robert & Sue Foster
Ronald Bowman
Rockway Vineyards
Rose Marie Cipryk
Ruth Burton
Ruth Smith
Senator Peter Harder
Shannon McKay
Sharon Romagnoli
Shriner's Creek Kettle Popcorn
Station Welding
Susan & Loris Pante
TAOTAT's Mystic Tea
Tawse Winery
Terry & Andria Teather
Tim Hortons - Vineland
The Maple Market
Tintern Road + Jack Style
Collective
Tom & Marie Pearsons
Trenchline & Roads Inc.
Upper Canada Cheese Company
Veronika Reiser
Vineland Growers Co-Operative
Limited
Vintage Hotels
Violet Turl
Warner Farms
Wenonah Tallman
Wilma Janssen
Wynne Nicholson

Thank you to all of our community supporters!

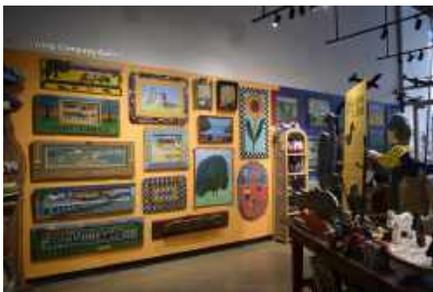


EXHIBITIONS



Fraktur

With bold pen strokes and brightly coloured nature motifs, Fraktur folk art presents a glimpse into the culture and every-day lives of early German-speaking settlers in this area. Immerse yourself in the beauty of some of the museum's most prized objects.



Poppa Wilson: A Folk Art Story

After beginning his career as an artist at the age of 81, Poppa Wilson made thousands of artworks. His folk art reflects his life in rural southern Ontario. Stories, both true and imagined, are captured in vibrant hues and bold brushstrokes. Self-taught and entirely instinctual, Poppa's art has a language of its own.



Hockey!

A travelling exhibition from the Canadian Museum of History. The sweat-soaked smell of the locker room. The flick of the wrist shot. The screams of enthusiastic fans. For millions of Canadians, winter is synonymous with hockey. Hockey brings us together. It thrills us. It is part of our identity, our shared history.



Ziibaaska'iganagooday

Ziibaaska'iganagooday, also known as the jingle dress, is a prayer dress with an accompanying dance representing healing and pride amongst Indigenous Peoples. The origin of the jingle dress is attributed to the Ojibwe (Anishinaabeg) from the area now known as the Minnesota-Ontario border. The dress has spread across Turtle Island, becoming a popular competition grouping at powwows.



Woodlands and Waterways

Ferns peek out of cracks and crevices while bright green moss blankets the north side of all things. Enormous boulders have fallen into waterbeds forming a landscape that speaks of the time before time. "Woodlands & Waterways" is Jennifer Elliotson's tribute to the precious Carolinian forest that defines the Niagara Escarpment.



Sign of the Thymes

In the late 1800s, schools began teaching children to "learn by doing". The move towards practical learning was a sign of the times - a shift in thinking to keep children interested in nature. Lincoln's Rittenhouse School and Gardens was recognized as having one of the best school gardening programs in Canada.



Sge:no eye:twahs - She is Planting the Peace

Designed by artist Odadrihonyaniso (Sara General), this piece depicts Jikonhsaseh, the first clan mother. Jikonhsaseh is considered by many Iroquois to be the 'mother of nations'. She was an important proponent for peace between warring nations that later became the Haudenosaunee Confederacy.



Moccasin Identifier Project

Designed and led by the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, the Moccasin Identifier builds treaty and Indigenous awareness by covering Canada in moccasins. The project uses four moccasin symbols reflective of the Indigenous diversity of Ontario. These stencils are adapted by artist Phil Coté from original 16th century moccasins in the private collection of the Bata Shoe Museum.



A YEAR AT A GLANCE



JANUARY

Wise Guys Donation



Wise Guys' Grants Chair J.D Pachereva presented a \$25,000 cheque to Museum Advisory Chair Terry Teather, and Cultural Development Coordinator Jessica Wilson in front of the newly completed children's education space. This is the final instalment of a \$75,000 commitment by The Wise Guys Charity Fund.

Museum Courtyard Planning

In January we kicked off our planning for the museum courtyard and Children's Education Space. The final element of the museum development project was the transformation of the front courtyard into a vibrant public space in the heart of Jordan Village, where people can gather, socialize, and connect with their community.

The Town of Lincoln engaged Earthscape Play to design and build the museum courtyard and Children's Education Space. Their mission was to design a courtyard and playscape with functionality, accessibility, learning and aesthetics in mind.

100% of the Children's Education Space was funded via external partners and grants.

Project Funding:



Government of Canada

Gouvernement du Canada

Ontario

Town of Lincoln

WISE GUYS CHARITY FUND

NIAGARA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

FEBRUARY

Cemetery Project Event



The museum welcomed over 100 people to discuss the Salem Chapel Underground Railroad Cemetery Project with Salem Chapel Trustee and Resident Historian Rochelle Bush and Historian Dr. Adam Montgomery, and cemetery expert Alan Ernest. This project will restore the damaged or missing gravestones of freedom seekers who settled in the region. Amazingly, after learning about the project, our community in Lincoln donated enough to restore 2-3 stones!

"I attended the talk about recognizing Black settlers and restoring their resting places. A very important undertaking for Niagara. Thank you for continuing to shed a light on this important project. It was very interesting and inspiring."

Loom Installation



Inspired by a handloom, the Loom community artwork was installed at the museum. Throughout 2021 and 2022 the wooden squares that make up the artwork were painted at special programs and events. The history and practice of weaving is a central theme at the museum, particularly related to Samuel Fry who lived in the Fry House.

MARCH

Collection Milestone

A major milestone was reached in the collection with all of the museums' projectile points catalogued and identified.

Cemetery Restoration

The Haines Cemetery holds the remains of early settlers of the Jordan district with burials as early as the 1840s. In March we completed the year-long restoration of the cemetery head stones.

Winter Programming

Program Wrap-Up

13 School Groups
28 Workshops and Events

"Everything was well done as usual. Always a variety of things going on at the Museum. So interesting. So much information/marketing as well. I always know what's going on. Keep up the excellent work!! Wonderful staff as well."

Opening Reception



We gathered to open a special exhibit curated in partnership with the Niagara Regional Native Centre. Ziibaaska'iganagooday, also known as the jingle dress, is a prayer dress with an accompanying dance that is used as medicine to bring healing to the sick.

The origin of the jingle dress is attributed to the Ojibwe (Anishinaabeg) from the area now known as the Minnesota-Ontario border. Today, the dress and dance have spread across Turtle Island, becoming a popular competition grouping at powwows. The jingle dress has grown to represent both healing and pride amongst Indigenous Peoples.

"Jingle dress opening was stunningly beautiful. Thank you."

Canadian Library

The museum community came together to wrap books to spread awareness for the ongoing tragedy of Missing and Murdered Indigenous women, girls, and Two-Spirit people. This initiative was a part of The Canadian Library, a grassroots art installation project that acts as a memorial to all MMIWG2S+. The goal is to cover 8,000 books in Indigenous made fabrics.

"Today we did a thing. True Reconciliation begins when the invisible become visible. MMIWG will not be forgotten...Wrapped with Love."

NRNC Drum Circle



To celebrate Ziibaaska'iganagooday, the Niagara Regional Native Centre hosted a Community Drum Night at the museum. Approximately 90 NRNC community members came out to drum and explore the exhibit.

"It was so wonderful to engage with culture and community, to learn, and to share stories."

Volunteer Appreciation Event

Our history was built by volunteers. The museum maintains a team of over 90 volunteers who have dedicated thousands of hours to support our programs, events, and operations. To show our appreciation, we invited them to a special reception during Volunteer Appreciation Week.

"Volunteering makes me feel like I am doing something for the community and it makes me feel so good about myself. This has helped me plan ahead because it has made me realize that I like teaching and working with kids. Everyone at the museum is so nice and it makes me feel included in the community." - Youth Volunteer

"Volunteering at the museum has helped me feel more connected to my community, as well as Niagara. As a transplant from the GTA, it has been a great opportunity to meet my neighbours and learn more about Lincoln." - Adult Volunteer

MAY

Opening Reception



A Red Dress installation was installed on the museum site on May 5th for Red Dress Day, the National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and Two-Spirit people (MMIWG2S+) in Canada. Red dresses are hung in public spaces around the country as a call for justice for the victims and their loved ones. The empty dresses are a visual representation of the pain and loss felt by the families of victims and act as stand-ins for the staggering number of people who have been murdered or go missing each year.

"Red Dress Day was very moving and important to have in our community."

"What an honour for our class to be part of the red dress ceremony. It is such a valuable and meaningful experience."

Spring Programming

Program Wrap-Up

34 School Groups
25 Workshops and Events

"The teachers were amazing. So patient and positive. They encouraged my son to continue using his imagination and supported all of his innovative ideas when creating and building - even when they were a bit crazy. Your program was a safe space for him to create. Thank you to the amazing teachers!"

The Story of Here

To help spread awareness in the TOL, staff prepared a series of social media posts about Lincoln's Indigenous History. The posts had a combined reach of **17500+**.

"Thanks for helping us build a sense of history and place in Lincoln"

Sho'arishon Park



Museum staff made a presentation to Town of Lincoln Council on the cultural aspects of the upcoming Sho'arishon Cultural Park. Sho'arishon (So-ah-ree-son), the park's new name, references one of four known remaining words from the Neutral Nation, and translates to "He is shaking a net". Souharissen was the name of an important Neutral Chief.

Lincoln has a cultural history that began over 12,000 years ago. The village of Jordan is a particularly significant site of Indigenous settlement in Southern Ontario, with recent archaeological evidence confirming settlement by the Attawandaron or 'Neutrals' dating to the early sixteenth century.

JUNE

Courtyard Design Finalized



After months of planning, the design of the new museum courtyard was finalized. The design team, Earthscape Play, created a dynamic play feature based on the distelfink, a fantastical bird often depicted in Fraktur folk art. The final design was presented to the community for feedback at the Joint Accessibility Advisory Committee & and Public Information Session.

Summer Closure



The exterior site of the museum was temporarily closed to the public beginning in June for multiple projects, including Twenty Mile Trail access and stair installation, Courtyard Construction and the re-roofing of the museum's historic buildings. The re-roofing of the 1815 Fry Family House and 1859 Schoolhouse was supported by a donation of cedar shingles from Nu-Forest Canada Inc. Large and small-scale maintenance projects are essential to preserve our material history.

JULY

Jordan Village Improvement

The Jordan Village Improvement Project made its way down Main Street to the museum site. During this period we shifted to outreach programming. The project will create an anchor destination for residents, businesses, and tourists with the Lincoln Museum at its centre.

Mobile Museum

The Mobile Museum was activated! Out of an abundance of caution, during the Jordan Village Improvement Project and Courtyard construction on the museum site, the museum team moved programming into the community. At **88+** different pop-ups and outreach workshops the Mobile Museum Team engaged **5,800+** community members in June, July, and August.

“Can’t thank you enough for your compassion and ability to engage with the residents in these workshops. It really makes all the difference when the facilitator loves what they do. It was a memorable afternoon.”

AUGUST

Smoke Shed Cleanup



The smokehouse was built in the early 2000s to compliment Fry House interpretation. A smokehouse was an essential component of a typical 1800s homestead, for both butchering and meat preservation. The construction of this reproduction smokehouse was supported by Jack Clinton, Doug MacNinch and Al Teather. The smokehouse has not been staged in many years but during the summer closure staff cleaned it out and it is now reopened with a display of butchering equipment.

Fall Exhibit Installation



Fall exhibits are installed at the museum, ready for their September opening reception.

Poppa Wilson: A Folk Art Story explores the journey of Poppa Wilson, who began his artistic career at 81, creating a kaleidoscope of folk art inspired by rural Ontario.

Hockey! is an exhibit from the Canadian Museum of History. From the sweat-soaked locker rooms to the thrill of a wrist shot, hockey is an integral part of our identity.

SEPTEMBER

Harvest Pioneer Day

The museum's 58th annual Harvest Pioneer Day festival was celebrated on Saturday, September 16. We celebrated with music, dancing, food, and historical demonstrations.

"It was the BEST ever. I especially liked all the demonstrations you scheduled. It really helps people understand how their ancestors had to live when they first came to this country. I saw so many children coming away with a candle they had dipped, or a piece of rope that they had made. Congratulations to you and your staff on a job well done."

Fry House Dinner



The Fry House Dinner was the showstopper prize at the museum's first annual Deep Roots Fundraising Dinner in 2022. This September, as the restoration of the Fry House wrapped up, we welcomed the lucky winners to a special dinner straight from the past.

Museum Courtyard Opens

This new play feature welcomes visitors into the courtyard and channels the distinct beauty of Fraktur. With an artful and abstract aesthetic, the designers included details inspired by the museum's significant Fraktur collection. Like the museum, the courtyard is a gathering place for the community and a hub of social, active, and passive play where children can climb, jump, hide or meet a friend.

First Play in Children's Space



The Fraktur Bird was ready to play for the 58th Pioneer Day. Little Livia was the first kid to give it a try!

OCTOBER

Powwow Outreach



The museum was happy to attend the Niagara Regional Native Centre's Annual Traditional Pow Wow at the Meridian Centre. Over **260** kids engaged with the museum outreach craft station.

Fall Program Launch

After several months without programming at the museum, we launched full speed towards a fall season filled with educational and social activities for all ages.

Lamplighter Tour



The Rotary Club of Lincoln Lamplighter Tour makes its way to the Museum! The Lamplighter Tour is comprised of live theatre, with the aim of bringing local history alive, showcasing our local talent, but also the rich heritage and culture that is our foundation in the Town of Lincoln.

NOVEMBER

Starlight Market



The third annual Starlight Market brought the magic of the season to Jordan Village. Lit entirely by holiday lights, the Starlight Market had all our favourite local artisans, food, kid's crafts, s'mores and the polar express train.

FLEMING FOUNDATION



A meaningful donation of \$20,000 is received by the museum from the Fleming Foundation. The investment will help build the Endowment Fund, ensuring that the museum will continue to impact future generations through programming, collections and research. The Foundation was established by Art and Val Fleming, who are recognized by for their devotion to community and philanthropy.

Poppy Project

The Poppy Project, a collaborative community art installation, hung from the schoolhouse façade in a powerful visual statement of respect and remembrance for all those who died in the service of our country.

Treaty Talk

Indigenous educator Darin Wybenga joined us at the museum to share the story of the lands around us and the treaties that govern their use.

At the end of the 17th century, Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation Ancestors arrived at the western end of Lake Ontario. They occupied, controlled, and stewarded over 4,000,000 acres of land, including the lands occupied by the present-day City of Burlington. Learn about the history of this land, and how we can uphold treaties to ensure it is respected and protected for years to come.

"I wanted to say thank you for arranging for Mr. Wybenga to speak on Treaties and the Mississauga First Nations. It was the most informative lecture I have ever attended. It makes me wanting to learn and understand more."

Digitization Milestone



All the pottery and basketry has been inventoried, catalogued, photographed, and made accessible online.

DECEMBER

Deep Roots Dinner



We hosted our second annual Deep Roots Fundraising Dinner. Over a great meal, the community joined us to celebrate the achievements of the last year. To acknowledge his amazing contribution to culture, Art Ellis was awarded the Deep Roots Contribution to Culture award.

In 1982, Mr. Art Ellis, a local real estate developer, acquired 60 acres of property along the Twenty Valley, including that upon which the museum and its buildings currently sit. Seeing the value of the land to the community, Mr. Ellis subsequently donated it to the Ontario Heritage Trust in 1984. The OHT would oversee the property and guarantee that the unique Carolinian forest growing there would remain unharmed.

That donation also provided for a permanent site and subsequent security for the future of the museum. It is with thanks that we recognize the contribution made by Mr. Ellis to both our natural and cultural heritage.

Schrieber Foundation



The museum receives a \$4500 donation to purchase three artworks for the museum's permanent collection from the Cece and Herb Schrieber Foundation. This donation has allowed the museum to collect and preserve the work of Lincoln folk artist Poppa Wilson.

Fall Programming

Program Wrap-Up

- 30 School Groups
- 30 Workshops and Events

"Great place! I picked up my granddaughter from a day camp, she had so much fun! She even had her birthday party there. Wonderful staff!"

"I am having a great time anytime I am in the Museum."





"What an amazing program. Kids were engaged the whole day. So many new experiences. A new hands on learning experience."

"Thank you so much for such a detailed overview of all the amazing activities you guys have been up to this week! Ruby has had a wonderful time and is already asking if there is a March Break or Summer Camp coming up."

"You've really gone above and beyond to make it a fun and educational experience. We really appreciate all of your hard work!"

"We love our museum! We love Beth and all the staff, our kids enjoy attending all events, it's a wonderful welcoming place!"

"Very informative programming. I really like the new hockey exhibit. Pioneer Fest was a lot of fun. Great food too."

"Pioneer Day was a great event! It was our first time. There was lots to see and do. The kids enjoyed all the interaction. We plan to come again next year. I especially liked that there was shuttled parking, low-cost activities, and a list of activities on social media. We liked seeing the yarn being spun and the blacksmith in action."

"Pioneer Day was spectacular. Very organized and well run. Crowd was large and entertainment was wonderful. Well done Jordan Museum!! Can't wait for next year."

"The opening night reception of the Jingle Dress exhibit was a wonderful showcase for our facility and provided a beautiful comment on the importance of including reconciliation events in our community."

"The Christmas events have also become part of our family's traditions and I know our daughter will look back on her time spent in the Schoolhouse fondly. It is a really special thing to have all of these family-friendly activities happening just outside our front door."

"Great program. Many interactive and engaging experiences and activities for the kids to understand what life would have been like. Loved it!"





"First off, the staff were all amazing! You guys were all so friendly, helpful, and attentive. There was no point while volunteering where I felt intimidated to ask questions or offer suggestions. I found my fellow volunteers to be helpful, understanding, and outgoing. The programs the museum has to offer helped me to appreciate history, and taught me a lot in terms of interacting with children."



"Absolutely amazing experience from the minute the bell rang to the minute we got back on the bus. This was so much fun, would love to come back with my family. What an amazing experience for our children."

"I liked the space in front of the building. It is an engaging design, appropriate for the museum and children can climb on it and be a part of it."

"A very authentic experience! This is my fourth time coming and I will come back every year until I retire. FANTASTIC! The students had a great time"



"The schoolhouse was a big hit. I brought my parents specifically for the schoolhouse and they enjoyed the entire museum. The backroom is a great space for creating crafts. Ms General's talk about Mohawk was also very interesting."

"I thoroughly enjoyed this workshop. Very informative and instructor was so knowledgeable. "



"We absolutely love stroller time and Beth!! We love the different activities that we do in one hour. Some sensory play, art, singing.. the variation is great!"

"Our son loved the programs and is excited to go back. Loves the staff and finds the daily activities engaging and exciting!"

"Both my girls had a wonderful time. This was the first camp that I've enrolled them in that they genuinely wanted to attend every day. Not a single complaint."

"Stamp carving workshop was so much fun! Learned a new skill, spent time with friends"



"He has been to other camps and it's a struggle to get him out of the car. Completely different story at this camp, super excited to engage in the activities, excited to wake up and get going to camp."



Lincoln
Museum & Cultural Centre
Home of the Jordan Historical Museum of the Twenty

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