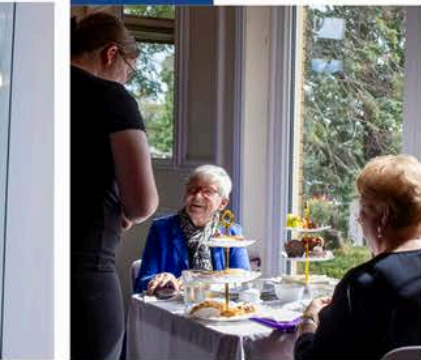


PORT COLBORNE
HISTORIAL & MARINE MUSEUM

ANNUAL REPORT

20
24
—



Port Colborne Historical & Marine
MUSEUM
...more than a museum!

ANNUAL REPORT

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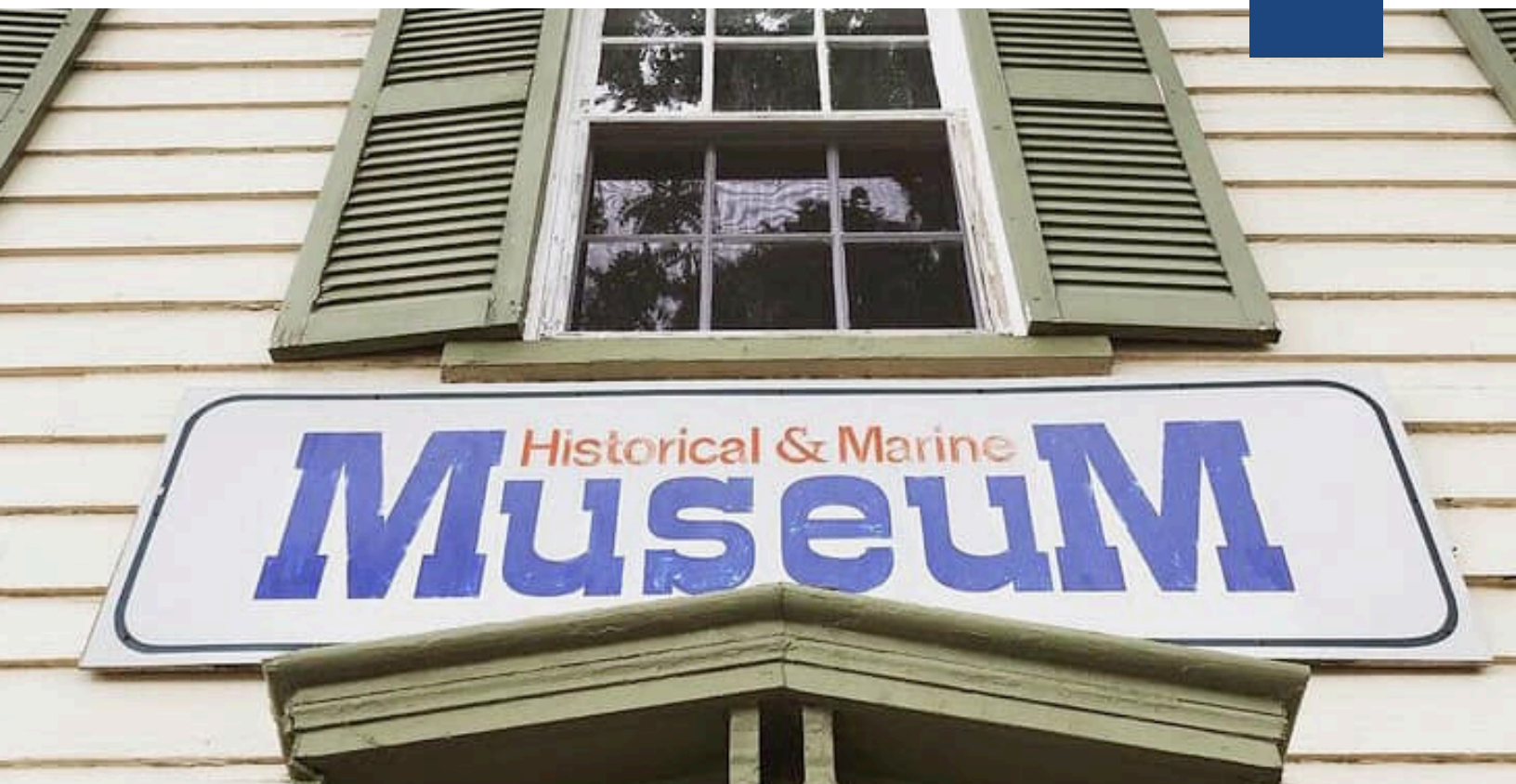
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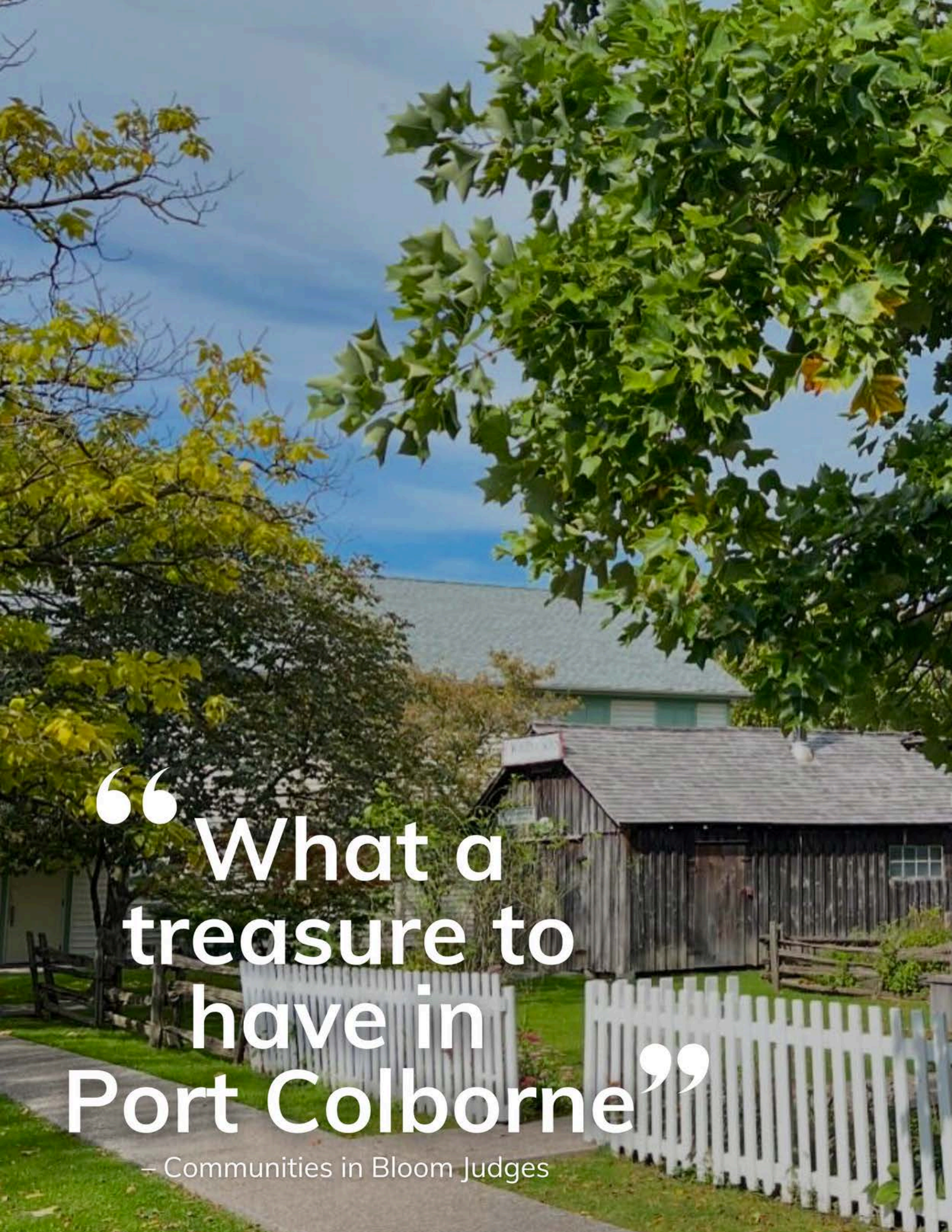
ABOUT US

The museum began as a concept by citizens of Port Colborne in 1974. Staff and volunteers have worked together since then to collect and share the history of Port Colborne, with more than 26,000 donated artifacts. Museum volunteers assist in nearly every area of operations. Our volunteers are Board of Management members, Heritage Committee, Auxiliary Members, weekly and event volunteers.

The Port Colborne Historical and Marine Museum is part of the Department of Heritage and Culture of the City of Port Colborne, and is dedicated to preserving and telling the story of Port Colborne.



MORE THAN A MUSEUM...



“What a
treasure to
have in
Port Colborne”

– Communities in Bloom Judges



LETTER FROM THE CHAIR:

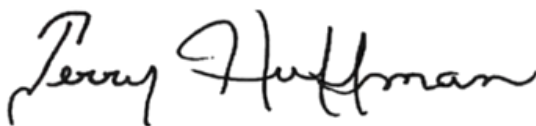
As we approach 2025, and prepare to celebrate the Museum's 50th Anniversary, I cannot help but reflect on all that was accomplished in 2024. In the last year, the Museum expanded its services, connected with new community partners, and showcased the collection in new ways. It was certainly a year of accomplishments and working together to preserve the history and marine heritage of Port Colborne and Humberstone.

In 2024 we welcomed 34,667 visitors, with new exhibits, outdoor entertainment, and a schedule of special events, held across the Department of Museum and Culture's facilities and offsite outreach programming.

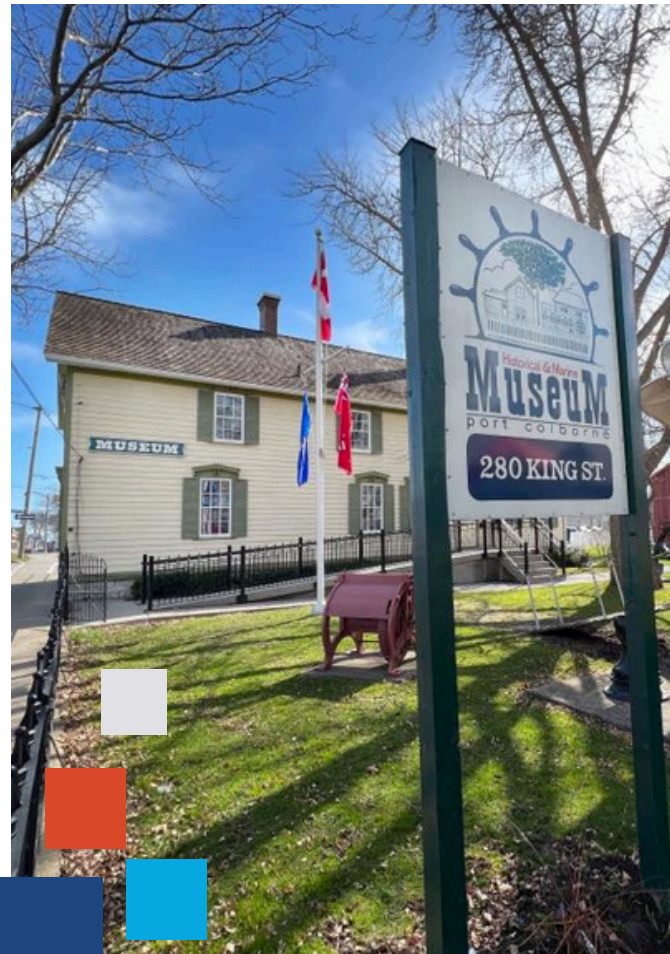
The Museum opened on May 1st with two new exhibits concentrated on the impact of local industries: Made in Poco and A Step in Time: The Humberstone Shoe Factory. Guided tours of museum exhibits and the heritage village, along with the Urban History Walking Tours brought community members and visitors a look into the history of Port Colborne. This year the department also collaborated with the City of Port Colborne's Tourism Department to create local history tours for the growing Cruise Ship industry. The annual Arabella's Pie Social and History Fair, Canal Days Marine Heritage Festival, and Grand Old Christmas Festival were very well attended and included new heritage demonstrations and activities.

Once again, with the help of the Friends of Roselawn Centre, we also presented three outdoor concert dates with music by Back in the Daze, Kindred, and The Toronto All-Star Big Band. All three concerts were very well received, with over 680 visitors. The Roselawn Centre also saw new collaborations with local artist collectives, The Phoenix Artists and Port Colborne Art Club, through the exhibits Rising and Traveling Art Show, as well as partnerships with local businesses such as The Pie Guys and 270 Degrees West for the highly successful Fall into Fashion High Tea event.

As this is my second year, of a two-year term, as Chair of the Board of Museum, Heritage, and Culture I would like to thank the Museum staff, the Board of Management, the Auxiliary, the Friends of Roselawn Centre, volunteers, sponsors, and guests for your kindness and generosity. Finally, I wanted to extend my thanks to Arlene Lessard who will be stepping into the role of Chair and leading us into our 50th Anniversary in 2025.



Terry Huffman
Chair of the Port Colborne Museum,
Heritage and Culture Board



MUSEUM VISTORS:



10,801
Daily
Museum



2,426
Tea
Room



129
Speakers
Series



2,483
Education and
Outreach



8,195
Heritage
Research
Archives



168
School
Tours



7,372
Special Events (Pie
Social, Canal Days,
Christmas Festival,
Music on the Lawn)



2,843
Daily
Roselawn



250
Weddings/
Photography

**TOTAL VISITORS
= 34,667**



MUSEUM MEMBERS:

- Year 2024 Members = 86
- Life Members = 324
- Corporate Sustaining = 50
- Archives Advocates = 55
- Roselawn Centre Illuminators = 10

TOTAL MEMBERS = 525



VOLUNTEERS:

- Board Member Volunteers = 12
- Grounds and Gardens Volunteers = 13
- Research and Collections Volunteers = 14
- Special Events Volunteers = 151
- Arabella's Tea Room Volunteers = 41
- Friends of Roselawn Board = 7
- Roselawn Conservation Volunteers = 7
- Roselawn Event Volunteers = 23

TOTAL VOLUNTEERS = 268



STAFF

FULL TIME:



**Stephanie
Powell Baswick**
Director of Museum
and Culture



Michelle Mason
Curator



Tami Nail
Assistant Curator



**Michelle
Vosburgh**
Archivist



**Meghan
Chamberlain**
Community
Engagement
Officer



**Sloane
McDowell**
Public
Programmer



Katelynn Best
Registrar



“The Museum staff always do
amazing work”

– Councillor Dave Elliott

STAFF

PART-TIME:



Frank Habjan

Custodian



Barry Stickles

Custodian



**Susan
Nicholson**

Receptionist/Gift
Shop Coordinator



Anna Carlsen

Archives
Assistant

PROJECT STAFF:



**Stephani
McDougall**

Collection
Assistant
(Museum
Assistance
Program)



**Elyse
Richardson**

Exhibit &
Research
Assistant (Young
Canada Works in
Heritage
Institutions
Internship)



Isaac Millett

Lakeshore Catholic
High School Co-op
student



STAFF

SUMMER STUDENTS:

Young Canada Works in Heritage Institution Grant

- Digitization Assistant, Jasmaya Echlin
- Digitization Assistant, Darius Maddalena
- Research & Conservation Assistant, Olivia Desbiens

Summer Experience Program

- Outreach Development Coordinator, Miles Brant

Canada Summer Jobs

- Official Language Coordinator, Avery Smits-Talving
- Cultural Activities Leader, Cristina Soares



BOARD MEMBERS

PORT COLBORNE MUSEUM, HERITAGE, AND CULTURE BOARD

2024 Citizen Appointees:

- Gary Hoyle
- Bonnie Schneider
- Cheryl MacMillan
- Arlene Lessard
- Brian D. Heaslip
- Claudia Brema
- Jeff Piniak
- Luke Brazeau
- Terry Huffman
- Marianne Heaslip
- Margaret Tanaszi
- Bert Murphy
- John Maloney

City Council Liaison

- Councillor Eric Beauregard

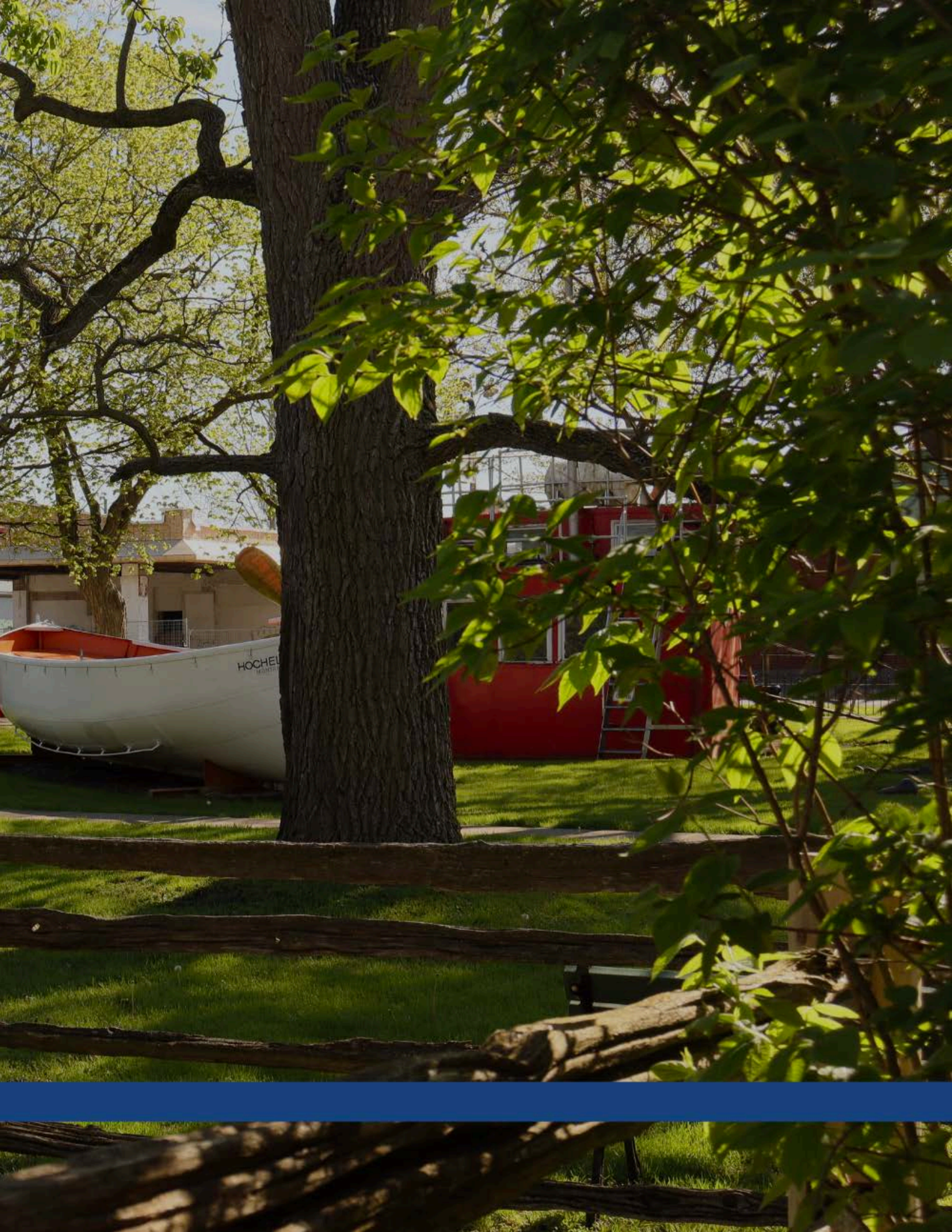


A scenic outdoor museum exhibit area. In the foreground, a large, leafy tree stands to the left of a rustic wooden fence. Behind the fence, several green picnic tables are arranged on a grassy lawn. In the background, a red building with a red roof and large windows is visible, surrounded by more trees and a white picket fence. The scene is bathed in warm, golden light, suggesting late afternoon or early morning.

MUSEUM EXHIBITS

2024 Highlights







Made in Poco

Port Colborne is home to people of great ingenuity, creators, businesses, and industries which greatly benefited the city. Share in the city's pride as we showcase some of the many impressive Port Colborne made creations, innovations, and products.



The Humberstone Shoe Factory had more than 90 years of doing business in Port Colborne and left a lasting footprint on the community. Walk your way through this exhibit featuring this important Port Colborne enterprise.

A Step in Time: The Humberstone Shoe Factory



Message in a Bottle

Uncork the heritage and the mysteries of ships in bottles accompanied by an impressive display of bottled ships in the Marine Exhibit Lighthouse.



Come discover the magic of a snowy Christmas in a lakeside town and enjoy memories of how residents not just endured but embraced the ice and cold.

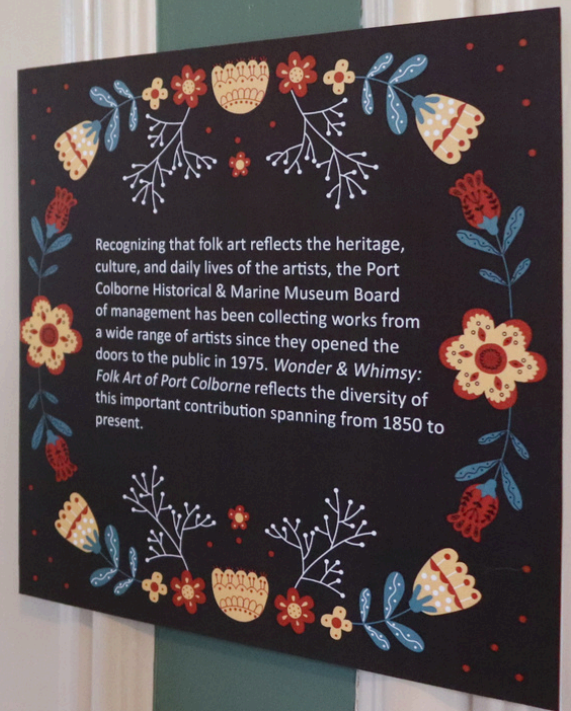
A White Christmas



ROSELAWN EXHIBITS

2024 Highlights





Wonder & Whimsy: Folk Art of Port Colborne

Come and see colourful, inventive, and unique works from our archives, along with artifacts collected from the community. This exhibit will be complemented by the Art Library, supported by the Friends of Roselawn Centre.



In honour of the Ontario Arts Council's "Culture Days" the Port Colborne Art Club, a group of local artists that enjoy painting together in the Juila Yager Recreation Centre in Bethel, will pack up their works and bring them to the Roselawn Centre for all to enjoy.

Traveling Art Show: Port Colborne Art Club



Rising

Explore select works from members of the Phoenix Artists Group, a collective that boasts a diverse range of artists and designers, with featured artist Doug Maracle, from the Mohawk Nation, Bear Clan from the Six Nations of the Grand River whose own world-famous pieces are among the works Roselawn is proud to present.





Celebrate the creations of talented young members of our community as they envision their perfect Christmas Card to submit to the City of Port Colborne for the municipality's corporate Christmas card.

Season's Greetings



PERMANENT ON-SITE EX





XHIBITS



The Welland Canal

Using an interactive touchscreen display and dozens of archives and photographs, this permanent exhibit looks at the people who built the canal, the economic impact of the canal, and its role in shaping the community.



Originally housed in a barn on Pinecrest Road, the Nigh Agora Museum now has a home in the museum's Carriage House. Started by the late Mildred Nigh, who discovered a collection of handcrafted tools, utensils, and baskets – some almost 200 years old – when she and her husband brought their farm from Olive Knisley in 1972, the collection was generously donated to the Museum in 2020.

Nigh Agora Museum



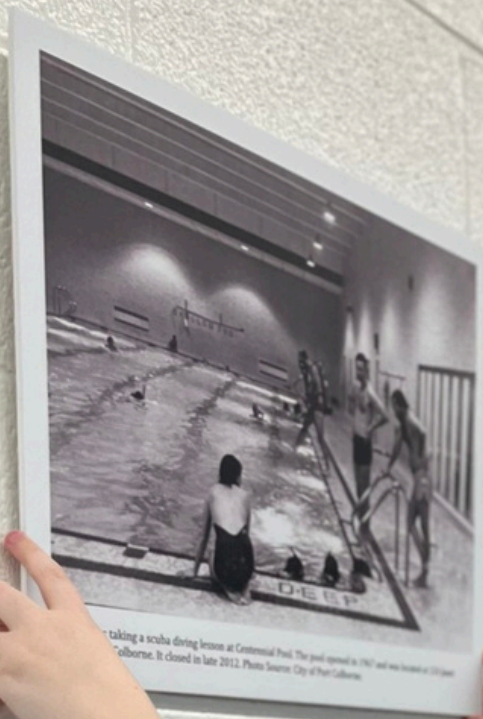
Graf Family Weavers

The Graf family produced a wide variety of woven textiles for everyday use, though they are best remembered for their production of jacquard coverlets. The Graf exhibit in the museum's Timber Cabin explores the history of their weaving business and showcases one of the original Graf looms in a recreated workshop.



Explore the 100 year, multi-country journey of the Neff Steam Buggy from a local attraction to a national phenomenon.

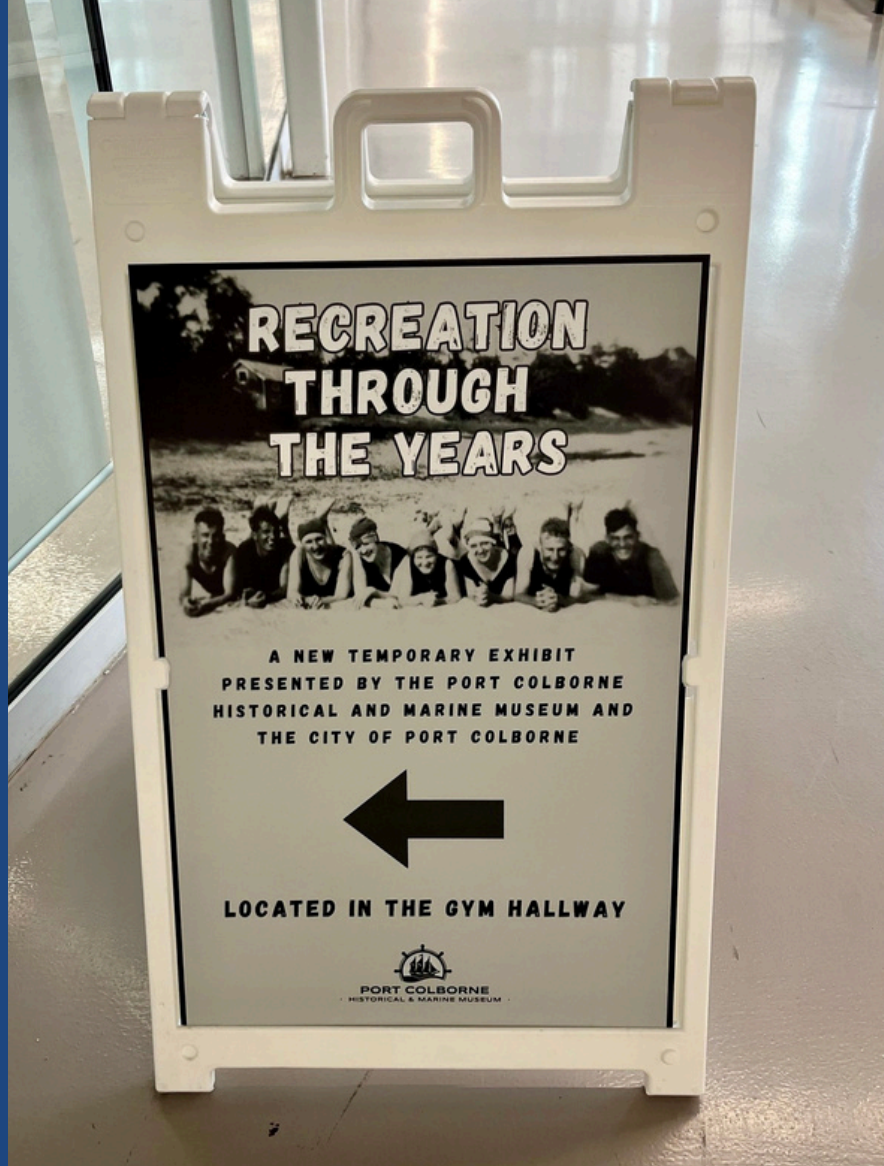
Steam Dreams: The Journey of the Neff Steam Buggy



TRAVELING EXHIBITS FROM THE MUSEUM



The Port Colborne Historical and Marine Museum has teamed up with the City of Port Colborne to bring the museum out into the community through a new temporary micro-exhibit in the Vale Health and Wellness Centre. The exhibit takes the form of ten blown up historical photos from our collection that capture the history of sports and recreation in Port Colborne through the years. From canoeing on Gravelly Bay in the 1880s to ice skating on the frozen quarry in the 1960s, these photos capture the joy that sport brings and how crucial having recreational activities is to building a happy and healthy community. And what better place to display these images than at the Vale Health and Wellness Centre-- a hub for community activity. The display can be seen along the gym hallway leading towards the Bocce Club facilities, so check it out while you can! This installation is just one part of the expanding outreach initiatives by the Department of Museum and Culture.



Recreation Through the Years





British Home Children: Local Stories (The Ontario Legislative Assembly at Queens Park, April-December)

From 1869 to 1932, over 100,000 British children migrated to Canada's rural communities through programs set up by charitable organizations. It was hoped they could escape the urban poverty of industrialized Britain for a new life on Canadian farms. This exhibit will share the stories of some of the Home Children who came to local communities.



time before satellite imagery, the aerial program was initiated to increase the quality and the mapping of Canada. The program first focused areas and then the arctic to observe ice movement, and scanning equipment were specially designed to important photography work.



In the wake of the First World War, a small part-time air force developed into the independent, professional, military service known today as the Royal Canadian Air Force. Over the last century, the men and women of the RCAF have served Canada and the world through their bravery in wartime and peacekeeping, their dedication to forestry protection and surveying, their innovations in aerial equipment, and much more. The exhibit honours the legacy of the RCAF and our local Port Colborne contributions.

Pathway to the Stars – 100 Years of the Royal Canadian Air Force



ON-LINE EXHIBITS







Through the Ages: Port Colborne's Lighthouses

The Welland Canal has gone through four major construction periods. Each of these construction phases created a new version of the canal, designed to accommodate larger and more technically-advanced ships. Each version of the canal also required new breakwalls, piers, and lighthouses to protect the expanded harbours.





There are 11 unusual stereoscopic views mounted on cards in the archival collection of the Port Colborne Historical and Marine Museum. By virtue of their age, the local scenes they depict, and their uniqueness, these photos represent a significant visual resource for local and marine history.

Early Images of Port Colborne: Stereoscopic Views from the 1870s



Graf Family Weavers

This online exhibit on Our Ontario website highlights the Graf family's woven textiles from the museum's collection. Included in this collection is the Graf jacquard coverlets, wool blankets, rag carpets, and several photographs of the Graf family. This detailed account of this collection is accessible to researchers and anyone looking to explore the interesting history of settlers' textiles produced locally.





The City of Port Colborne's website features an exhibit on the Welland Canal where you can learn about the transformation of the canals through the years, focusing on the Welland Canal in Port Colborne: the construction, the commerce, and the industry it influenced, the people, and pleasures of living close to the canal.

Port Colborne and the Welland Canal

PROGRAMS & EVENTS

Ontario Heritage Week – Half-Hour Histories (February 19-23)

- During Ontario Heritage Week the Department of Museum and Culture invited the public on behind-the-scenes tours of the facilities. These 'Half-Hour Histories' showcased the Roselawn Centre, William's House, Arabella's Tea Room, Heritage Resource Centre, and L.R. Wilson Heritage Research Archives and the work done by Museum staff and volunteers.

PD Day Programs

- Mini Exhibits (February 16)
- Eclipse Thaumatrope (April 8)
- Mini Exhibits (June 7)

March Break

- Drop-In: Nautical Knots (March 11)
- Secret Garden Edwardian Tea Party (March 13)
- Digging In (March 14)
- Drop-In: Mini Exhibits (March 15)

Top Hat Presentation (March 22)

- The 2024 Top Hat ceremony at Lock 8 Gateway Park celebrated the opening of the Welland Canal welcoming the Algoma Conveyor as the first downbound vessel of the shipping season. Assistant Curator, Tami Nail presented the Top Hat to Captain Ed Kemp



PROGRAMS & EVENTS

Archives Awareness Week – Archives A to Z

- In honour of Archives Awareness Week, the L.R. Wilson Archives launched a month-long digital campaign highlighting the many resources, research opportunities, and services made available through the Archives as well as some special sneak peeks at the behind-the-scenes work that goes into the operation of the facility.

Total Eclipse Lecture (April 3)

- Lecture led by Dr. Brian Pihack, former President of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada in preparation for the Total Eclipse on April 8, 2024.

Award of Excellence Presentation (April 15)

- Mayor Bill Steele and Stephanie Powell Baswick presented the second Department of Museum and Culture Award of Excellence to Mieke van Es in honour of her many years of service as an Auxiliary volunteer.

May is Museum Month (May 2024)

- Museum Month is an annual program created by the Ontario Museum Association and celebrated by Ontario's 700+ museums, galleries, and heritage facilities. The Port Colborne Museum celebrated Museum Month by launching the My Space program at the Roselawn Centre. This program allowed for community members or groups to use the historic spaces of Roselawn to meet, create, or learn free of charge.



PROGRAMS & EVENTS

International Museum Day (May 18)

- Museums for Education and Research – My Space Program ‘In the Study’ allowed guests to use the historic rooms of the Roselawn Centre to study, draw, write, or read in a peaceful environment.

40th Annual Pie Social and History Fair (May 26)

- Visitors enjoyed delicious pie and beverages at Arabella’s Tea Room, experienced traditional skills in the heritage village from spinning, blacksmithing, and printing, and were able to try heritage games or purchase plants from the plant sale.

Music on the Lawn at Roselawn

- Back in the Daze (June 2)
- Kindred (July 21)
- Toronto All-Star Big Band (August 5)

Art Tool Loaning Centre (July 15 to August 30)

- Visitors to the Roselawn Centre were given the opportunity to explore new creative ventures by checking out a craft kit from the Art Tool Loaning Centre. Crafts included crocheting, bracelet beading, watercolours, rock painting, and more.



PROGRAMS & EVENTS

Tiny Art Library (July 15 to August 30)

- A mini-exhibit at the Roselawn Centre of locally made art that will allow visitors to make and exchange art with friends, family, and the whole community.

Canal Days (August 3 & 4)

- The 46th Annual Canal Days at the Museum brought demonstrations, vendors, and volunteers welcomed visitors to discover and celebrate marine heritage through demonstrations, displays, and fun activities for all ages.

Remembrance Day

- In honour of Remembrance Day, hundreds of poppies were displayed on the fence around the museum, the front of the Yvonne Dupre Jr., and the entrance of the Roselawn Centre. The hand-crocheted poppies were donated by the Niagara Falls Museum's Poppy Project.

48th Annual Grand Old Christmas Festival

- The 48th Annual Grand Old Christmas Festival was all about holiday cheer, with favourites like roasted chestnuts, Christmas pudding, photos with Santa, caroling, horse-drawn carriages, and activities throughout the decorated heritage village.





TOURS

Cemetery Tours

- Overholt Cemetery Part 1 (May 11)
- St. Paul's Lutheran Cemetery and Overholt Cemetery Part 2 (May 11)
- Oakwood Cemetery Tour (May 18)

Urban History Walking Tours

- Offered Friday mornings on a rotating schedule throughout June, July, and August
 - West Street
 - Humberstone Village & Main St.
 - Humberstone Club & Tennessee Ave.

School Tours

- Lakeshore Catholic High School (January 12)
- Lakeshore Catholic High School (May 22)
- Dewitt Carter Elementary School (May 24)
- Dewitt Carter Elementary School (May 29)
- First Friends Child Care Centre (June 21)
- St. John Boscoe Daycare (August 26)

Lantern Tours

- Lantern Tours at the Museum (October 25 & 26)



Hands-on Heritage Workshops

- Decoupage (June 29)
- 'Paper Bag' Basket Weaving (July 20)
- Rug Hooking (August 10)

Partnerships

- Land Care Niagara
 - Pollinator Seed Ball Workshop
- Port Colborne Public Library
 - Summer Reading Club Activity (August 28)
- The Paranormal and Historical Association of Niagara
 - Paranormal Ghost Hunt at the Roselawn Centre (October 18 & 19)
- Port Colborne Optimist Club
 - Christmas lunch at Roselawn for members of Community Living (December 4)
- Museums of St. Catharine, Welland, and Thorold
 - Welland Canal Bicentennial Travelling Speaker Series
- Port Colborne Garden Club
 - Volunteers assisted in the maintenance and upkeep of the Museum's gardens
- City of Port Colborne
 - Assisted in the creation of local history walking tours for Cruise Ships visiting Port Colborne





OUTREACH

Learning Café at the Guild Hall (March 7)

- Public Programmer spoke about Museum resources.

City of Port Colborne Total Eclipse Event (April 8)

- Outreach table showcasing programming materials.

Stoney Creek History in Action Day (May 30)

- Over 600 students participated in marine heritage activities like knot tying and rope making at an outreach table.

Battle of Stoney Creek Reenactment (June 1 & 2)

- Outreach table showcasing Museum resources, upcoming events, programs, and interactive activities, visited by over 800 guests.

Coverlet Study Group (May 2024)

- Archivist, Dr. Michelle Vosburgh presented on the Graf Family.

St. Jean Batiste Celebration – Club Richelieu (June 23)

- Curator Michelle Mason spoke on the progress of “Nos Histoires” and the importance of connection with the Port Colborne Francophone community.

Lincoln Pioneer Day (September 21)

- Museum outreach table including a printing press activity visited by 200 guests.

Hamilton Apple Festival (September 28)

- Outreach table with fall-themed programming activity for guests.



SPEAKERS SERIES



- Tornado in Niagara: An 18th-Century Canadian Catastrophe, presented by Jessica Linzel M.A. (September 7)
- “With Great Sadness” – Exploring the Victorians’ Unique Approach to Mourning their Dead, presented by Anna Carlsen, M.A. with Katelynn Best (September 21)
- Kaboom! Stories of Explosions in Port Colborne’s Past, presented by Michelle Vosburgh, Ph. D. (October 26)
- Bicentennial Speaker Series: Ensuring the “Future Usefulness” of the Welland Canal – The Debate over the Lake Erie Terminus, presented by Michelle Vosburgh, Ph. D (November 9)



SERVICES & FACILITIES

Museum Services Provided:

- Free admission to museum, exhibits, heritage village and marine park
- Guided group tours
- Public programming
- Speaking engagements
- Research room
- Museum gift shop
- Covered pavilion
- Picnic tables, benches, gardens, and pathways
- 7 washrooms (4 accessible)
- Free parking

Research Assistance Provided For:

- Heritage consultants
- Environmental and industrial researchers
- Genealogical researchers, students, and general researchers
- City staff and committees
- Archaeologists
- Journalists and reporters
- Author





SERVICES & FACILITIES

Research Facilities Provided:

Fully accessible Heritage Research Archives providing documentary history of Port Colborne, Humberstone, and the Welland Canal:

- Historic maps
- Historic photographs
- Indexed deeds and property records
- Directories (business and telephone)
- Microfilm
- Census records
- Cemetery records
- Welland Canal files and marine documents
- Ship files
- Family history files
- Local history books
- Microfilmed historic business ledgers
- Assessment and collector rolls
- Land registry records
- Historic newspapers
- Florence Neff Young collection
- Meeting room rental

Roselawn Services Provided:

- Rentals
- My Space - Community Gathering Initiative
- Art and Heritage Workshops
- Volunteer and Staff Training
- Networking
- Live Theatre and Music
- Reference Library
- Kitchen facilities and meeting rooms



PROJECTS & PUBLICATIONS

Building & Property Projects:

Museum

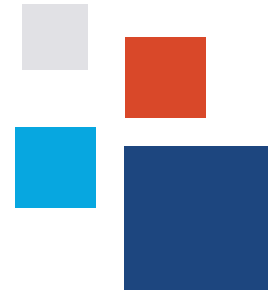
- New carpeting was installed in the Archives Research Room
- Leak in Arabella's Tea Room repaired
- Re-secured the stairs/base of the Hochelage
- Replaced damaged windows on the Yvonne Dupre Jr.
- Acoustic cover was sprayed on the ceiling of the Archives' Conference Hall
- Repaired the eaves on the log cabin
- Repaired damages done to loft floor of the Sherk House
- New generators installed at the William's House and HRC
- New drop ceiling and lighting installed in HRC gallery
- Cedar roofs on all buildings ,except for the Sherk House, were treated, cleaned, and oiled.
- Damaged exterior boards on the Carriage House walls and double doors were replaced and painted.
- Rebuilt rail fencing around the heritage garden
- Made a new sign for the East side of Arabella's Tea Room
- New metal roof on garage
- Pillars around the HRC stained
- New accessible door at the HRC

Roselawn

- Painted and patched the walls of the President's Room and Back Bar.
- Retractable projector screen mounted in the President's Room
- Drywall replaced in the second-floor office and repainted.
- Water damage on upstairs windows was treated and repainted.
- New security cameras installed
- Replaced security door for the ground entrance of Lighthouse Theatre
- Ceiling and lighting of back entrance replaced
- New drywall on areas of the building where the knob and tube wiring was replaced.
- Fresh coats of paint on the historic entrance, front bar, double parlour, piano room, and back sunroom
- Carpet torn out of 2nd floor and replaced.
- Carpet torn out of President's Room and Back Bar. Replaced with wood flooring.
- Replaced flooring and painted 2nd floor washroom.
- 400 tulip bulbs planted
- Front garden feature was created by City of Port Colborne gardeners



PROJECTS & PUBLICATIONS



Publications Produced

- 3 museum newsletters: Spring, Summer, and Fall
- Posters: Rising Exhibit, Pie Social & History Fair, Wonder & Whimsy: Folk Art Of Port Colborne Exhibit, Traveling Art Show: Port Colborne Art Club Exhibit, Season's Greeting Exhibit, Cemetery Tours, Urban History Walking Tours, Speakers Series, Grand Old Christmas Festival, Hands-on Heritage, Paranormal Ghost Hunts, Lantern Tours, Music on the Lawn: Back in the Daze, Kindred, and the Toronto All-Star Big Band, Heritage Week 2024, Secret Garden Edwardian Tea Party Program, Digging In Program, Total Eclipse Lecture, Art Tool Loaning Centre, Tiny Art Library
- 4 Banners for the Rising Exhibit
- Invitations: Members Preview Reception, Tea Room Volunteer Appreciation, Rising Exhibit Reception, Traveling Art Show: Port Colborne Art Club Exhibit Reception, Volunteer Appreciation Christmas Party
- Volunteer Handbook
- Tri-fold Brochure - Department Navigator
- Museum site maps
- Emergency Management Plan

Museum Publications for Research & Sale

- Golden Age of Humberstone Village
- A-Z Documentary History of Humberstone Village
- Port Colborne: Tales from the Age of Sail
- Coming Home – The 1901 Neff Steam Buggy
- Humberstone Township – The First Fifty Years
- Memoirs of Pat MacDonald
- Scruples of Conscience – The War of 1812 in the Sugarloaf Settlement
- David Sherk and Descendants
- Caspar Sherk and Descendants
- Sherk-Troup House
- Kendricks: Port Colborne Lighthouse Keepers
- The Locktender's House
- Port People – Builders and Shapers of our Culture and Community
- Port Colborne and The Fenian Invasion of Canada June 1866
- Along the Lakeshore – Builders and Shapers of our Community in Port Colborne and Wainfleet



2024 REVENUE

Programs	
Museum	\$450.00
Roselawn	\$1220.00
Total	\$1670.00
Memberships	
Total	\$2160.40
Museum & Archives Tours	
School	\$125.00
Roselawn & Museum Village	\$399.51
Cemetery & Urban History Walking Tours	\$670.00
Total	\$1194.51
Workshops	
Hands on Heritage	\$450.00
Museum & Roselawn	\$130.00
Total	\$580.00
Rentals	
Archives	\$8376.00
Roselawn	\$5579.66

2024 REVENUE



Sales	
Museum Gift Shop	\$8319.66
Roselawn Gift Shop	\$4736.62
Archive Sales (Publications, research, photocopies)	\$587.00
Donations	
Museum	\$16,597.61
Archives	\$446.00
Roselawn	\$5749.25
Fundraising and Special Events	
Museum (Pie Social, Canal Days, Christmas Festival)	\$19,937.60
Roselawn	\$5380.10
Grants	
Total	\$86,310.00

2025 EVENTS

**JAN
29**

Annual General Meeting

**FEB
17-23**

Heritage Week

**MAY
1**

Museum opens

Daily 12-5 p.m.

**MAY
1**

Archives opens

Monday - Friday 12-5 p.m.

**MAY
25**

**41st Annual Arabella's Pie
Social and History Fair**

**JUNE
1**

Arabella's Tea Room opens

12-4 p.m.

**JUNE
8**

**Music on the Lawn: Marty
Allen Band**

1-3 p.m.

**JUNE
8**

**Music on the Lawn: No
Illusions**

1-3 p.m.

**JULY
6**

50th Anniversary Picnic

2-4 p.m.

**AUG
2 & 3**

**47th Annual Canal Days
Marine Heritage Festival**

11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

**AUG
4**

**Music on the Lawn: Toronto
All-Star Big Band**

1-3 p.m.

DEC 7

**29th Annual Grand Old
Christmas Festival**

12 - 5 p.m.





2025 EXHIBITS:

Museum

Step Right Up

- Explore never-before-seen artifacts and share in the wonder of the most fantastic and mysterious items plucked from the museum vault in honour of half a century of collecting along the southern terminus of the Welland Canal. You'll be amazed!

Sleigh Bells Ring

- Step inside our Carriage House to discover the delights of traveling through the snow in a horse-drawn carriage to shop, deliver gifts, and visit family and friends to celebrate Christmas.

Towing the Line

- Lower Lakes Towing Ltd. Began in 1994 as a small tug and barge operator and has become one of the largest marine transportation service providers operating in Canada and the United States today. As the longest supporter of Canal Days, the marine exhibit lighthouse will feature Lower Lakes Towing and its 30-year history on the Great Lakes.

Hope and Healing Canada

- Tracey Mae Chambers, installation artist and a citizen of the Métis Nation of Ontario, comes to Port Colborne with her outdoor art installation that helps to build connections between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples through her site-specific art installations that seek to decolonize public spaces. This exhibit will be featured on the grounds of the Museum and Roselawn Centre.

2025 EXHIBITS:

Roselawn

Beneath the Mansard Roof

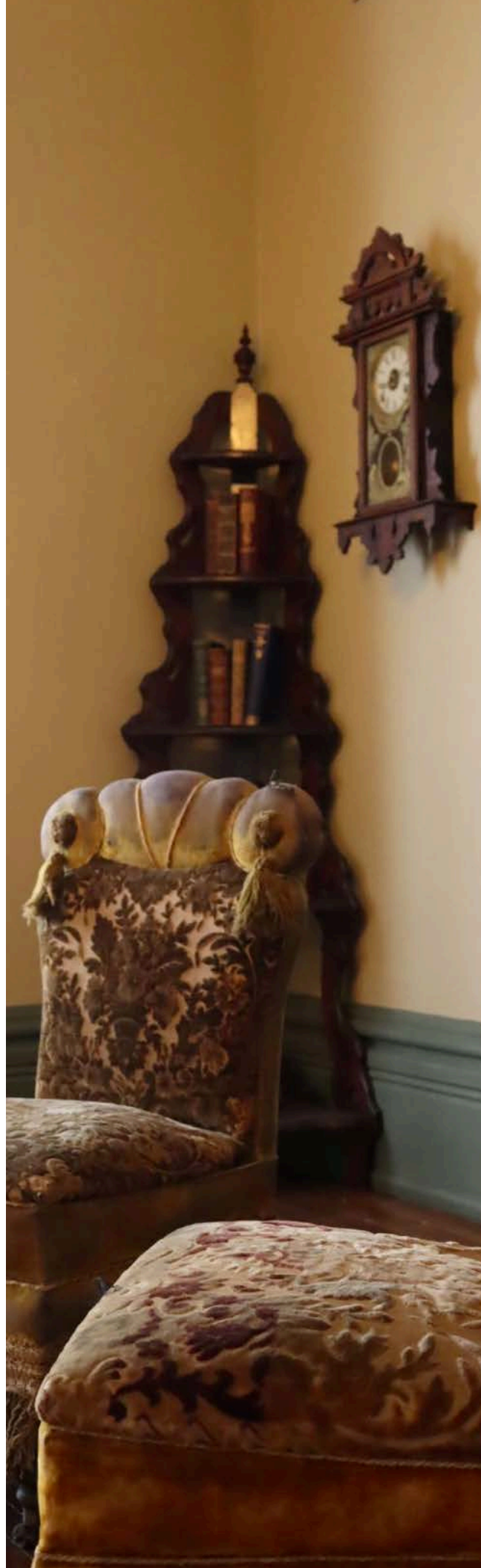
- Join us on a journey through the rich 165-year history of this exquisite Victorian mansion known as Roselawn. From a family home to a private member's, to a theatre and more, Roselawn has been a pillar in the community for decades.

Presenting

- This art auction, presented by the Friends of Roselawn Centre, features one-of-a-kind treasures by local artists in honour of Ontario Culture Days. Come in person or view online, all works will be available for you to bid on and take home.

Community Curator

- Community members take the reins of exhibit design to create an exhibition that features artifacts and archives as chosen by guest curators.



2025 EXHIBITS:

Off-Site

Right on Track: 100 Years of the King Street CNR Rail Station

- City Council Chambers
- Travel through this historic station's 100 years of existence as a part of Port Colborne's significant railway history. Follow its story from a bustling train station to a busy business hub, and to a cultural landmark in the community.

Etched in Time

- Port Colborne Public Library Atrium
- The Port Colborne cultural block features a retrospective exhibit from the art park launched in 1984. This collaborative exhibit with the Port Colborne Public Library and the Port Colborne Historical and Marine Museum features etchings, rubbings, and posters in the Library's atrium.



Photograph of the Williams House on King St., near the Port Colborne Historical and Marine Museum.
Etching by Deborah LeBlond

“...It is the best small town museum I have ever seen”
– Trip Advisor Review



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