

OSHAWA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

ANNUAL REPORT

2016



OSHAWA
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

— Collections. Spaces. People. —



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MANDATE

The Oshawa Historical Society was founded in 1957 and is an affiliate of the Ontario Historical Society. The purpose of the Oshawa Historical Society is to bring together those individuals interested in the diverse historical aspects of Oshawa and to research, record, retain, preserve and present historical information pertaining to the Oshawa area. The objectives of the Society are:

- ◆ Encourage the study and research of the history of Oshawa.
- ◆ Secure and preserve an accurate account of the historical, architectural and archaeological heritage of Oshawa.
- ◆ Promote public interest in the history of Oshawa.
- ◆ Maintain, as an agent of the City of Oshawa, a community museum and archives as a repository for artefacts and written records of historical interest to Oshawa.

GOVERNANCE

The Oshawa Historical Society's governing body is its Board Of Directors whose eight members are elected by the membership at the Annual General Meeting held in April. The role of the Board is to set policy and direction and to provide guidance to the staff of the Oshawa Museum as well as pursuing the mandate of the Historical Society and representing the interests of its members in the community.

Standing and ad-hoc committees assist the Board in their duties. These committees report to the Board and bring important matters to the Board for discussion and direction. The Standing Committees are: Finance and Audit Committee, Governance Committee and Human Resources Committee.

The day-to-day operations of the Oshawa Museum and the Oshawa Historical Society are the responsibility of the professional staff under the direction of the Executive Director.

AT A GLANCE...



5870 Visitors to Guy House



190 Archives Research Requests



5767 Social Media Followers



120,000

Pages of newspapers digitized and available online for research and review

53

Objects donated to the Museum collection



6151

Guests engaged with at onsite and outreach events



965

Hours our dedicated volunteers donated, helping with the collection and programs



OSHAWA
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564

Objects donated to the Archival collection



PRESIDENT'S REPORT



When I began to work on this report (which was late, as usual) I asked the Museum staff for some talking points to stimulate my thought process. When I reviewed the information sent to me, I couldn't have been more proud of who we are and what we have accomplished. We have a new tagline for the Society – Collections, Spaces, People. For 60 years our Museum has served as a gathering place for our local history, a space where our community comes together in celebration of our past, and where the people of Oshawa can be proud of our heritage.

Our 2017 Action Plan is another demonstration of the Museum's commitment to our community. The Oshawa Museum is a vibrant part of the cultural community in Oshawa. We can't do that without

maintaining strong relationships with community partners and other organizations. And we certainly can't do that without the committed and professional Oshawa Museum staff members and volunteers. I would like to thank each and every one of them for making our Museum the great success that it is.

I would also like to thank the members of our Board of Directors for their dedicated service to the Museum. In particular, I would like to personally thank Brian Gough, who will be leaving the Board after 17 years of service to us and the community. Brian has been an indispensable member of the Board and will be missed by all of us at the Museum.

People is a big part of our tagline. People can refer to many groups: our community, and our staff and volunteers for example. One group of people without which the Museum could not survive is our members. You are the lifeblood of the Society and the Museum, and we thank you for supporting the Museum's presentations, exhibitions and other events, and for taking the time and effort to care about the history of our great city and its incredible communities.

Best regards,

Stoney Kudel, President, Board of Directors, Oshawa Historical Society

YEAR IN REVIEW 2016

FEBRUARY

2 school programs (outreach)
1 outreach presentation
Primary Source Workshop with Trent University Durham students
Family Day at the Museum: Curio
Jennifer spoke with Durham College Journalism students
Hot Roots Festival: Presented Oshawa's Black History
Melissa attended Canadian Conservation Institute's Emergency & Disaster Preparedness for Cultural Institutions workshop

APRIL

4 school programs (2 onsite, 2 outreach)
3 outreach presentation
1 private Victorian Tea
Hosted a Volunteer Appreciation Event at the Northview Branch of the Oshawa Public Library (OPL)
Annual General Meeting
Participated at the Heritage Showcase
Offered a workshop as part of the DDSB Heritage Fair
Participated at Windreach Farm's Swing into Spring event

JUNE

6 school Programs (all onsite)
3 private bookings (tours, rentals)
Attended the Oshawa Senior Citizens Centre's (OSCC) Swing into Summer event
Attended Walter E. Harris Public School's Fun Fair
Attended the Oshawa Community Health Centre's Children's Community Fair
Downtown Walking Tour
Attended the Fiesta Week Kickoff event at Memorial Park
Hosted an Adult Colouring Night, in partnership with the LivingRoom Community Arts Centre
Laura attended the Association of Gravestone Studies Conference in Cincinnati, OH

JANUARY

3 evening tours
2 outreach presentations
1 birthday party
Melissa attended Human Book event at University of Toronto iSchool
Lisa attended CMA Museum Enterprises Conference

MARCH

3 evening programs
3 outreach presentations
Welcomed staff from Lang Pioneer Village for a special tour of our site
Jill attended Greatest Canadian History Fair at Durham District School Board (DDSB)
Purple Woods Maple Syrup Festival
March Break at the Museum: We DIG History! Archaeology
Attended a volunteer fair at Eastdale CVI

MAY

6 outreach presentations (including a 4 part lecture series at Durham Lifelong Learning)
2 Rogers TV appearances
1 school program (outreach)
1 birthday party
1 private tea
Jennifer attended the Archives Association of Ontario Conference in Thunder Bay
Melissa attended the Ontario Museum Association's Queen's Park Day
Attended Aquino Day at the Ontario Regiment Museum
Accessioned: The Behind the Scenes Tour of the Oshawa Museum
Member's Preview: *Freemasonry: A History Hidden In Plain Sight*

	JULY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 private bookings (tours/teas/wedding photos) 2 school tours 1 birthday party
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5 private bookings (tours/teas/wedding photos) 2 appearances at Oshawa's Culture Squared event 'Made in Oshawa' carriage talk & tour Henry House Gardens featured on the We Grow Food garden tour Participated in the OPL TD Reading Club event 	AUGUST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Museum Tours for annual Canada Day at the Lake Attended RMG Fridays as an event partner Hosted 2nd Annual Thomas Henry's Grandpa's Picnic Hosted the Oshawa Civic Band for Music in the Henry House Gardens
	SEPTEMBER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 outreach presentations (including a 4 part lecture series at Durham Lifelong Learning) 1 school program Annual Union Cemetery Tour Jennifer spoke with Durham College Library & Information Technician (LIT) students <i>Scenes from the Cemetery</i>: dramatic play through Union Cemetery Attended an open house at Cedarcroft Retirement Residence Hosted an Evening with Proof{f} Melissa & Laura attended the American Association for State and Local History Conference in Detroit, MI
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 school programs (outreach) 1 private booking Participated in Doors Open Oshawa Annual International Archaeology Day at the OM (4th annual event) DRAAG held an oral history workshop at UOIT 	OCTOBER	
	NOVEMBER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5 school programs (4 on site, 1 outreach) 4 outreach presentations 1 private booking 1 evening program Hosted LIT students for site tour Lisa attended the Ontario Museum Association Conference in Mississauga Melissa spoke to Sir Sandford Fleming College Museum Management and Curatorship students Attended Oshawa Tree Lighting event Participated in Oshawa Santa Claus Parade Jennifer and Lisa co-led a PA Day Workshop for DDSB Secondary teachers Attended a volunteer fair at Pereyma CSS Lisa spoke with CKDO for their Christmas Eve Extravaganza Melissa presented at the Rotary Club Remembrance Day event at the Armouries
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 outreach presentations 2 school programs 1 evening program Jill spoke with Rogers TV Durham Attended Deck the Halls event at Northview Community Centre Annual Lamplight Tour 	DECEMBER	

ONGOING ACTIVITIES:

Speaker Series (8/year)

Tea & Talk (8/year)

Sunday FUNdays (8/year)

Museum Victorian Teas (7/year)

Yoga in the Garden (11 days)

TO BE VIBRANT AND VITAL

The Oshawa Museum is part of a **vibrant cultural community** in Oshawa. We focus on providing **meaningful experiences** for our users.

2016 HIGHLIGHTS



32% increase in Facebook followers, 60% increase in Twitter followers

763 hours contributed to the Oshawa Museum from 8 students (high school and college level)

Name change to Oshawa Museum, and new logos and taglines for OHS and OM

7% yearly increase in Oshawa Historical Society Memberships: 175 Memberships at year's end

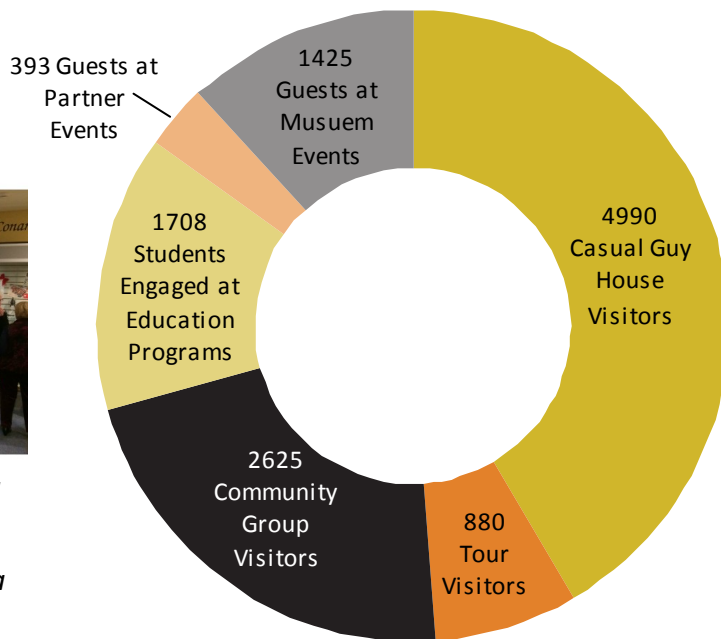


2016 Yoga In the Garden, in partnership with Durham Yogi Community.

OHS Member's Preview of Annual Lamplight Tour. Thanks to all who attended and Buster Rhinos for catering.



Fleming College Intern Laura Green installing Milk Stories, a pop-up exhibit in the Verna Conant Gallery.



RELEVANT AND MEANINGFUL COLLECTIONS

The Oshawa Museum continues to explore alternate and relevant ways to **increase public use of the collection.**

2016 HIGHLIGHTS



Two feature exhibits: *Freemasonry: A History Hidden in Plain Sight* (pictured left), and *Getting In Tune: Oshawa's Musical History*.

"One thing I found surprising was that Freemasons would take us on tour. We are always the ones giving the tours but it was nice to learn about Masons and the work they do from Masons. They also were able to provide some more information that we could tell visitors on tour."—Caitlan, Visitor Host



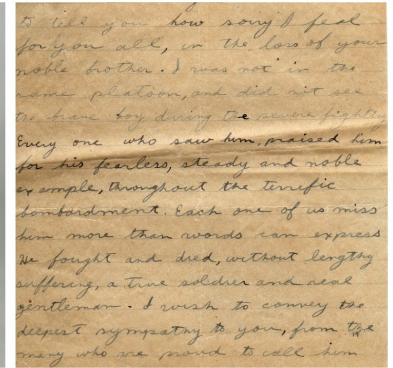
Successfully completed Oshawa Newspaper Digitization Project 1862-1930 resulting in more than 120,000 pages of Oshawa's historic newspapers available and searchable online.



New travelling exhibition on Oshawa's Black History created, highlighting the story of the Andrews/ Dunbar/Pankhurst family.



Acquired 53 items for museum and 540 items for archival collections.



Created 11 new podcasts for our *Stories from the Collection* series on YouTube, with over 1400 combined views.

AN EFFECTIVE AND COLLABORATIVE STAFF

The OM has a **committed, professional staff** and ongoing skill development is encouraged. Staff will continue to pursue **meaningful connections** with academia.

2016 HIGHLIGHTS



In late 2016, **183 students** participated in education programs at the Oshawa Museum as part of an initiative, sponsored by Ontario Power Generation. This program helps reduce the cost of visiting the Museum for local students, making engaging educational experiences more accessible to the community.

Oshawa Museum staff were invited to present at several conferences and symposiums throughout 2016, including the Association of Gravestone Studies Conference (Cincinnati, OH), the Association for State and Local History (Detroit, MI), co-lead a DDSB Workshop, and the Museum Educators Peer Learning Circle (The Robert McLaughlin Gallery).

Staff also held various positions as members or board members of: Heritage Oshawa; Cultural Leadership Council; Archives Association of Ontario; Abandoned Cemeteries Committee; Emerging Museum Professionals Advisory Committee for Ontario Museum Association; York-Durham Association of Museums and Archives; Durham Region Area Archives Group; the Trent University Alumni Association – Oshawa Chapter; and, Durham College Library and Information Technician Program Advisory Committee.



3 Staff training sessions

- ◆ Demonstrations (candle making, butter making, etc.)
- ◆ Workplace violence
- ◆ Holiday programming

Original Research in 2016 included:

- ◆ 2 e-books available on our website
- ◆ 1 book published (*Until Day Dawns: Stories from Union Cemetery*)
- ◆ 5 articles in local news publications
- ◆ 4 quarterly newsletters, *Historical Happenings*
- ◆ 2 articles in Oshawa's Culture Counts newsletter
- ◆ 1 article submitted to *Ontario Gravestones Studies* on Farewell Cemetery
- ◆ Article in the *Ontario History* journal about the history of Demille College



CONTINUE TO BE STRONG AND SUCCESSFUL

The Oshawa Museum maintains **strong relationships** with our partners and other organizations and will continue to **seek new relationships** to strengthen and support our mandate.

2016 HIGHLIGHTS



Through 2016, we continued to encourage additional sources of revenue, including the **7 Reasons to Donate campaign**, and applying for grants and sponsorships.

Cooperative promotion with The RMG, Parkwood and Ontario Regiment Museum.



Collaborations with the higher education sector include our relationships with Trent University Durham, Durham College, Sir Sandford Fleming College, and University of Toronto.



Partnership and participation in local initiatives, including the Cultural Leadership Council, Art & History Committee, and planning for city-wide 2017 celebrations.



In February 2016, the OHS Board of Directors and OM Staff hosted Susan Neale, Executive Director of the Peterborough Museum and Archives, who discussed the expansion project undertaken by the PMA in 2014-2015.

Artefact storage in the attic of Robinson House with mostly crowded shelves, shelving units often reaching near the relatively low ceiling and narrow aisles between units draped with unbleached cotton (left).

Photo credit: Irene F. Karsten, Canadian Conservation Institute



In the summer of 2016, the OM was selected for a Canada Conservation Institute Site Facility Assessment which took place early November 2016. The Final Report made several recommendations to help us work towards our mandate of preserving and actively promoting Oshawa's history.

2016 HIGHLIGHTS

SPACE AND FACILITIES

The OHS will continue to investigate the provision of **space and facilities** to allow the OM to **operate efficiently and sustainably**.

SPONSORS AND DONORS

The Oshawa Historical Society appreciates the support of the City of Oshawa, the Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario, the Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport, and Canadian Heritage.

We are also grateful for the individual donors and local businesses/organizations who supported our programs and activities throughout 2016. Thank you for your support.

2016 DONORS

Anonymous
Steve Barker (Garden Brick)
Linda & Gary Bazowsky (In memory of Pat Mackie)
William Cane
Frank & Pearl Cooper
David Dowsley
Sprague Furey
Sandra Gaskell
Tedd Hann
Armour Hanna
Regan & Nancy Hutchison
Dorothy Kitchen
Stoney Kudel
Robert & Bev Leask
Doris Spencer
Susanne Sutton
Thank you to members who made optional donations with their membership renewals.

2016 SPONSORS

Robert Bell
Lisa Cooper & Family
Janet Dowson
IODE: Golden Jubilee Chapter
Lions Club Of North Oshawa
Oshawa Express
Oshawa Port Authority
Ontario Power Generation
Suchan McQuaid Financial Services
Compute
Brooklin Floral & Garden Shoppe
Buster Rhinos
Décor Therapy Plus

2016 COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Alumni, Oshawa General Hospital School of Nursing, Class of '66
Canadian Automotive Museum
Cedarcroft Retirement Residence
Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority (CLOCA)
City of Oshawa – Art and History Committee
The Costume People
Downtown Oshawa BIA
Durham District School Board
Durham College
Durham Region Area Archives Group
Durham Yogi Community & Wendy Melville
Fleming College, Conservation Program
Heritage Oshawa
LivingRoom Community Art Studio
Museum and Gallery Educators Collective – Durham (MAGEC-D)
Ontario Regiment Museum
Oshawa Civic Band
Oshawa Express
Oshawa Public Library
Oshawa Senior Citizens Centre
Parkwood National Historic Site
Proo{f}
Rick Kerr
The Robert McLaughlin Gallery
Scugog Shores Museum
Trent University Durham
Union Cemetery
University of Toronto, Museum Studies
Welcome Cyclists Network
York-Durham Association of Museums and Archives

EDUCATION AWARD RECIPIENTS

The recipients for the 2016 Honorary Colonel, The Honorable Michael Starr History Award were:
Mykaela Officer, Maxwell Heights SS
Conner Sykes, G.L. Roberts CVI
Kierstyn Hawke, O'Neill CVI
Paolo Ramones, Monsignor John Pereyma CSS
Anna Hetzel, Monsignor Paul Dwyer CHS
Noah Leroux, R.S. McLaughlin CVI



MINUTES, ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, 2016

Held at 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 19, 2016, at the McLaughlin Branch of the Oshawa Public Library; 65 Bagot Street, Oshawa

1. **Welcome:** Merle Cole, President, called to order the 58th Annual General Meeting of the Oshawa Historical Society and drew attention to last year's minutes printed on pages 26-27 of the Annual Report.

2. **A motion was called to accept the Minutes** of the April 21, 2015 Annual General Meeting as distributed. *Moved by Ray Smith, seconded by Gary Bazowsky. CARRIED.*

3. Merle then asked the Membership to review the information contained in the 2015 Annual Report. He noted that the Oshawa Historical Society is financially sound and continues to grow and prosper. **A motion was called to adopt the 2015 Annual Report as written.** *Moved by Linda Bazowsky; seconded by Carolyn Adams. CARRIED.*

4. Merle Cole read the Nomination Committee Report detailing the members put forth for positions on the Board of Directors. **A motion was called to approve the Nominating Committee Report, dated February 19, 2016.** *Moved by Stoney Kudel; seconded by Brian Gough. CARRIED.*

5. Merle asked for a motion regarding the appointment of Deloitte as auditors for 2016. **A motion was called "to reappoint Deloitte as auditors for 2016".** *Moved by Brian Gough; seconded by Stoney Kudel. CARRIED.*

6. Next Merle called upon Lisa Terech, Community Engagement, to recognise the 2015 Earl Hann Volunteer of the Year Award recipient. **Ann Thurn was the Earl Hann Award recipient for 2015.**

7. **Membership service pins** were presented by Lisa Terech, Community Engagement, to the following long-standing members:

5 year pins

Gord & Isabelle Bryant
Brian & Val Fredenburgh
Joe Haynes
Sandra Malcolm
Susan Marsh
Donna Martino

John & Dianne McFeeters

Mona Peters

Pat Rudka

Marjorie Sorrell

June Spence

John & Marjorie Stephenson

Hilda Tischler

Don & Joan Wotton

Millbrook & Cavan Historical Society (no pin, but recognition)

10 year pins

Tom Burnett

Kathy Ranstead

Scott & Oliva Smith

Ray Smith

George Guy (Life Member, no pin, but recognition)

15 Year Pins

Oshawa Public Library (no pin, but recognition)

20 year pins

Carol Evans (Life Member, no pin, but recognition)

8. Merle then called for **a motion to adjourn the 58th Annual General Meeting of the Oshawa Historical Society.** *Moved by Gary Bazowsky. CARRIED.*

FINANCIAL REPORT

SPECIAL GIFTS & MEMORIAL (BEQUEST) FUND

This fund was established in 1990 and is financed entirely by contributions and bequests from individuals, organizations and businesses interested in the preservation of Oshawa's history. The income earned from the fund is used towards projects that result in a tangible, permanent product and communicate a message regarding the history of Oshawa.

Financial Statement

Dec. 31, 2016 Balance \$7,139

HENRY HOUSE BEQUEST FUND (ENDOWMENT)

In 1973, the Society received a bequest of \$2,000, the interest from this is to be used to finance projects that result in a tangible product and communicate a message regarding the heritage of Oshawa through Henry House.

Financial Statement

Dec. 31, 2016 Balance \$3,134

VOLUNTEER AWARD INVESTMENTS (BRICK FUND)

In 2007 an investment was started at DUCA Financial Services by Tedd Hann in memory of his uncle Earl Hann. The interest from the investment funds the purchase of a garden brick to commemorate the recipient of the Earl Hann Volunteer of the Year Award.

Financial Statement

Dec. 31, 2016 Balance \$1,629

SOCIETY INCOME & EXPENSES

The Society's income is based on membership fees, 50/50 draws, and donations. The Society also received a Heritage Organization Development Grant from the Province of Ontario in the amount of \$622. The majority of the expenses in 2016 were for speaker honorariums, history awards and auditorium rental.

Total Income \$3,988

Total Expenses \$1,832

The 2016 Independent Auditor's Report completed by Deloitte LLP is on file and available upon request.

Margaret Wilkinson – Director-at-Large

A group of four young women are standing on a wooden balcony in front of a stone building. From left to right: the first woman has blonde hair and is wearing a grey t-shirt; the second woman has dark hair and is wearing a pink patterned top; the third woman has blonde hair and is wearing a white t-shirt under a grey cardigan; the fourth woman has blonde hair and glasses, wearing a dark green patterned shirt. The building behind them has large multi-paned windows and a door with a house number '1454' above it.

A group of four young women are posing in front of the Oshawa Museum. They are holding a large white rectangular frame that has the word "OSHAWA" in orange, stylized letters at the top and the word "MUSEUM" in the same style at the bottom. The woman on the far left is wearing a yellow patterned top and a white apron. The woman next to her is wearing a light-colored patterned top. The woman in the center is wearing a black tank top and glasses. The woman on the far right is wearing a black t-shirt with white text that includes "Oshawa Museum" and "History". They are all smiling. The background shows the stone and green door of the museum building.



"...That's why we have the Museum... to remind us of how we came, and why: to start fresh, and begin a new place from what we had learned and carried from the old."

— Lois Lowry,
Messenger





OSHAWA

HISTORICAL SOCIETY

— 1957 - 2017 —

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UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS

Celebrating 60
Sixty Years of
Collecting

April - November 2017
at the
OSHAWA MUSEUM
— Home to our History —

AND DON'T MISS...

A CARRYING PLACE **Oshawa's Indigenous Story**

Opening July 2017

Funded
by: **Canada** 