

Oshawa Historical Society

2015 Annual Report

1450 Simcoe Street South
Lakeview Park
Oshawa, ON L1H 8S8
Tel: 905-436-7624

info@oshawamuseum.org
www.oshawamuseum.org
www.oshawahistoricalsociety.org





Table of Contents

2015 Year in Review.....	2
President’s Report	3
Executive Director’s Report.....	5
Operating Highlights.....	8
Mandate and Governance.....	11
Mandate	11
Mission Statement	11
Governance	11
Highlights & Events.....	12
Curator’s Report	15
Archives Report	17
Sponsors & Donors	18
Donors in 2015	18
Sponsors in 2015	18
Community Partnerships in 2015.....	18
Education Award Recipients	19
Public & Education Programming.....	20
Oshawa Historical Society	22
Membership Services	23
Volunteers	24
Youth Engagement	25
Minutes, Annual General Meeting	26
Personnel.....	28
Board of Directors & Standing Committees.....	28
Staff.....	30
Financial Report.....	33
Special Gifts & Memorial (Bequest) Fund	33
Henry House Bequest Fund (Endowment).....	33
Volunteer Award Investments (Brick Fund)	34
Society Income & Expenses	34
2016 - 2019 Exhibition Schedule	35



2015 Year in Review...

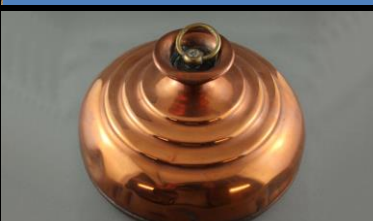


29 Objects Donated
Additional artifacts were found during Trent Excavation



4777 Visitors at Guy House
627 Students Participated With School Programming
7433 People Attended In-House, Outreach, and Partner Events

164 Total Memberships
18 New Members



1841 Twitter Followers
1230 Facebook Followers
415 Instagram Followers

886 Volunteer Hours
by
45 Volunteers



12 Archival Donations,
which include photographs,
documents, postcards, and
newspapers





President's Report



It can be said that Board Presidents come and go but the Society carries on. It is now my time, as President, to move on and to pass the reins to someone else. The past five years have gone very quickly, and I have enjoyed my time at the helm of the OHS. It has been a wonderful experience and I am very pleased with the growth and development that we have enjoyed over those years. As we approach our 60th anniversary, it is nice to look back to the beginnings of the OHS in 1957 when our buildings were a mix of neglect and promise and presented both a challenge and opportunity. It is also good to reflect on our journey so far that has brought us to where we are today and to also look ahead to what the future might bring.

Our first Board, lead by Verna Conant, did a wonderful job to begin the process of rescuing, refurbishing and repurposing our three museum buildings, and establishing and building our current museum and archival operations. Through the '80s and '90s, under the leadership of people such as Isabelle Hume, Regan Hutcheson and Lorne Marshall, the Society established more secure operational funding that allowed for the hiring of staff, the establishment of an Executive Director to take over the responsibility of day-to-day operations, and to put long term planning in place that allowed them to further develop the organization.

Since the early 2000s the focus of the Society has shifted to activities for members that involve them in learning more about local history as well as related Canadian history of current interest through our Speaker Series, member outings and events, and the activities of the Museum and Archives themselves. Matters pertaining to governance, policy and direction setting, and overseeing the operation of the Museum and its sustainability have become the focus of the Board, while day-to-day operations and programming have become the primary focus of the ED and her very professional staff. While members continue to provide support to our programming through their volunteer work and participation in events and activities, as well as some very generous donations of artifacts, documents and monetary donations, they are now provided more opportunity to celebrate and explore our local history without the responsibility of day-to-day operations.

In recent years our staff have also undertaken an expanded role that involves community engagement, more partnerships and a move to multi-media and on-line services that include publications, blogs, social media posts, virtual displays and much more. Through community-based workshops and classes they have had more opportunities to share what we have managed to collect, preserve, record and document about our local history. The challenges and opportunities continue to centre around how to share what we have to offer with our community.



Our future will hold more for our members and visitors as we continue to expand our capacity and role through work with our community partners. While our services will continue to be centred on our three historic buildings, there is growing optimism that we will be able to add a dedicated building for administration and programming that could also become a community centre that could host other cultural activities and provide a focal point for year-round activity at Lakeview Park.

With your continued support over the next decade, it is my hope that our current plans to explore ways to expand our facilities and partnerships will bear fruit, and that the Oshawa Historical Society will continue as a leader in community development and celebration of your rich history and culture. At this time we appear to be well positioned to further develop that role and to learn from others who are exploring new ways to make local history important to their communities. I am confident that we have the leadership and professional staff to make this happen and to make membership in the OHS meaningful and enjoyable.

While Oshawa's History Resides at what will be known as the Oshawa Museum, it lives on in the hearts of our members and the many people who experience what we have to offer and learn more about Oshawa and join in celebrating our very interesting local history.

Merle Cole
Oshawa Historical Society President



Executive Director's Report

It is an exciting time for culture in our community and the staff of the OCM is proud to be part of the creative energy evident in Oshawa.

The way museums do business has changed a great deal in the 25 plus years since I started working with the OHS. Those of us working in the museum field have always been very good at doing “museum” work: collecting artifacts, researching inquiries, preparing exhibits and conserving treasures, to name just a few of our duties. Today, however, in addition to the “traditional” work of museums, we are being asked to consider our contribution to the livability of our community and what we can do to enhance it. Quality of place is the most important source of community pride. Urban studies theorist Richard Florida believes creativity is the defining feature of economic life, and it is being valued more and more. We know arts, culture and heritage will play an important part in our new economy, and by preserving, presenting and actively connecting people and communities with their past, history organizations make their communities more attractive places in which to live, work, learn and play. In general our field is now more comfortable with demonstrating our value and showing how we matter. No longer is it enough to operate in our silos.

Although our focus remains on preserving and presenting our past, the ways in which we engage with our audience has changed immensely. Here at the OCM, programming choices include tours and teas, however we are combining these programs and the way we do things with fresh outlooks and new partners. We continue to push the boundaries – our partnership with the paranormal research group Proo{f} is an example. Our 2015 achievements highlight the great diversity of our activities, and as the only community museum in Oshawa we take great pride in showcasing the history of our city from the earliest First Nations occupation to the end of WWII.

Our 2015 Business Plan guided our work to develop and manage the collection, undertake research, work collaboratively with our colleagues and stakeholders and present compelling experiences to the public. The five objectives, along with related strategies and actions, ensured the OCM played a central role in the cultural life of Oshawa and:

- Is visitor oriented;
- Is accessible and engaging to a diverse audience;
- Is financially responsible;
- Is connected with the community;
- Supports the City's tourism initiative.

Objective: Enhance profile and visibility

The OCM realizes the importance of building recognition for our brand and we continue to use social media to drive awareness and attendance. The OCM employed various communication strategies to enhance our visibility and profile with the public, sought opportunities to showcase the Museum and promoted ourselves as the authoritative source of information on the history of Oshawa. Our staff are active and engaged and represented the OCM at several professional conferences.

**Objective: Present collections and exhibitions**

Our collection is a significant asset and we continue to develop and steward the collection to the highest standards as outlined by the Operating Standards for Community Museums developed by the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport. We increased access to the collection through our website, permanent exhibit galleries, temporary exhibits and touring collections. We presented temporary exhibits at several locations during the year including Art in the Hall at City Hall (two exhibits), Oshawa General Hospital Nursing School Alumni, Oshawa Public Library (two exhibits) and the Durham District School Board. Several new events held during the year focused on staff engaging more directly with the collection and were popular with visitors.

Objective: Engage audiences

We pride ourselves on our high customer service standards and strive to deliver excellence in our programming and business practices. Our Visitor Hosts are well trained and we continue to invest in front line training to ensure visitors receive an engaging and inspiring visit to the Museum and our staff are good cultural ambassadors for the city. We encouraged our visitors to become members, volunteers, supporters and advocates for the Museum. To ensure we are meeting our visitors expectations and constantly improving, the OCM collects feedback through a variety of methods including written surveys, program evaluations and staff input. The OCM was proud to continue our partnerships and alliances with the Cultural Leadership Council, Art and History Committee, York-Durham Association of Museums and Archives, The Robert McLaughlin Gallery, Central Collegiate Institute, OSCC, University of Toronto, Trent University, Oshawa Public Library, Durham College, and Durham Region and Area Archives Group (DRAAG).

Objective: Sound financial leadership

The OCM continued to operate with financial and organizational responsibility with good governance practices and a workplace where staff are productive, satisfied and well equipped. The Board ensures our policies and operations are at the highest standards as classified by the Standards for Community Museums in Ontario. Recognizing that new challenges require new strategies, in 2015 the OCM introduced a new admission model (admission by donation) which is proving to be very successful. Year to date admission revenue is up 11.5% over 2014 totals. We continued to work closely with the City of Oshawa to ensure we are operating within the framework provided and using resources efficiently. Our strategic plan guides our work and we ensure our board, staff and volunteers understand their roles and responsibilities and are supported with professional development opportunities.

Objective: Provide adequate space and facilities

The Museum is challenged to meet the demand for our programs and events with the physical limitations of adapting heritage homes to Museum functions. These limitations are reflected most acutely in two areas: a lack of programming space which restricts the number of participants in our events and a lack of space and restrictions which hampers our ability to host travelling exhibits and mount in-house exhibits. Building on the results of our 1996 Feasibility Study, the Board is investigating ways to provide space and facilities that are aesthetically pleasing and effective in preserving and interpreting Museum collections and can perform these functions efficiently and sustainably. Staff engaged in an exercise to project space and facility requirements needed, defined the objectives and parameters of a space and determined future uses for the space.



I would like to acknowledge the support of the Corporation of the City of Oshawa for the Oshawa Community Museum. As our largest funder and partner, members of Council and city staff have been very supportive of the museum's mandate, and we look forward to future opportunities to work together in enhancing the cultural landscape of our community. Of course I must thank the Board of Directors who provide astute leadership and sound advice at every turn. The successes of the OCM are due to their diligence and oversight. Last but not least I must thank the incredible staff who continue to amaze me with their creativity and "can-do" attitudes. It is a pleasure to come into work every day and experience the passion and energy of such a dedicated team.

I can't wait to see what 2016 has in store.

Laura Suchan
Executive Director



Operating Highlights

2015 Accomplishments

The OHS has an extremely professional and dedicated staff which is one of the assets of our organization. Our accomplishments for the year 2015 highlight the OCM as an engaging, energetic and entertaining organization.

Enhance the profile and visibility of the OCM and the work we do.

Strategies	Accomplishments
Communication strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Professional video completed highlighting work of the Museum 36% increase in Facebook followers, 25% increase in Twitter followers Cooperative promotion with The RMG, Parkwood and Ontario Regiment Museum
Connect with others to share skills and knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff were invited to present at several conferences and symposiums including the History of Education Society in St. Louis, MO., the Association of Canadian Archivists in Regina, SK, The Canadian Museum Association, Oshawa Cultural Summit, Durham Region Teacher Librarian Conference, The RMG Youth Volunteer Leader Symposium and The University of Toronto Museum Studies Program Continued as member of Program Advisory Committee at Durham College Became stakeholder members of Heritage Oshawa and Cultural Leadership Council Staff held board positions on Emerging Museum Professionals Advisory Committee for Ontario Museum Association, York-Durham Association of Museums and Archives, Durham Region Area Archives Group and the Trent University Alumni Association – Oshawa Chapter.
Creative use of building exteriors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weekly summer yoga sessions in HH garden, musical performances in garden Canada Day songwriters showcase



Present collections and exhibitions

Strategies	Accomplishments
Encourage projects that engage staff with collections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monthly podcasts on variety of historical topics and artifacts Introduced monthly Tea and Talk events Sunday FUNday event held monthly to encourage closer engagement with collection. Accessioned was a new event introduced to highlight the work of Museum staff
Design and deliver engaging exhibitions aligned with 21st century learning experiences and relevant educational content	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Mourning After</i> exhibit opens Travelling exhibit <i>Dear Folks at Home: William Garrow</i> completed Study in HH and “Dress Like a Victorian” area in GH renewed RH redevelopment plan created – describes new First Nations gallery <i>Oshawa’s Sporting Past</i> exhibit at Art in the Hall <i>The Gift of Play: Toys of Yesterday</i> – Toy Exhibit in RH
Pursue collection research and strategic collecting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guy House publication and <i>Mourning After</i> exhibit booklet produced Collecting priorities established – include Smith Potteries pieces and material related to the Henry, Robinson and Guy families Acquired 25 items for museum and 100 items for archival collections

Engage audiences

Strategies	Accomplishments
Continue to grow membership, attendance and volunteer support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8 student placements however overall hours contributed were down about 11% due to the job action by the DDSB 95% retention rate on memberships 5 OMY meetings held, initiative with BIA to tell stories of downtown buildings Attendance figures for visitors to the Museum are up almost 16% over 2014 (Jan to Oct) however school visits are down almost 75% for the same period contributing to an 11% decline in overall attendance
Cultivate shared interests with current and new partnerships, collaborations and alliances	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Member of CLC 2017 celebration sub committee Enrolled in Cultural Access Pass New partnerships with Oshawa Art Association, Oshawa Civic Band, Hot Roots Soup Festival, Oshawa Senior Camera Club, Archaeological Services Inc., & Honey & Tea Member of Art and History Committee Creation of Union Cemetery tour brochure with City, collaborated on Public Art brochure Promoted Collaborative Collecting Policy amongst community collecting organizations
Deliver an appealing and engaging visitor experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New informal seating areas added Prioritized front line Visitor Host training



Sound financial leadership

Strategies	Accomplishments
Practice good governance to ensure effective and efficient management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collection Policy updated, other policies reviewed Internally restricted \$20 000 to meet future building needs
Develop effective human resource practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Professional development emphasis allowed staff to attend conferences including the Ontario Museum Association, Building Museums, Association of Canadian Archivists, Museum Enterprises Continued to seek additional sources of revenue through various means Grant applied for and awaiting decision - Museum Assistance Program for First Nations Gallery in RH Grants applied for and received – Documentary Heritage Communities Program grant application for the digitization of the microfilmed newspaper collection to be hosted on the internet, Community Museum Operating Grant, Heritage Organization Development Grant, Young Canada Works, Summer Career Placement Legacy donation information placed on website and promotional material developed Continued co-operative retail agreement with The RMG, the Ontario Regiment Museum, and Canadian Automotive Museum (CAM); expanded to include Parkwood

Provide adequate space and facilities

Strategies	Accomplishments
Define the basic objectives and parameters of facility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Executive Director attended Building Museums Conference to learn about the vision, implementation and sustainability of Museum building projects 3 sites selected for future visits and benchmarking, 1 visit completed Staff provided report Vision for the Visitor Centre to the Board outlining potential space requirements and uses for visitor centre.
To project space and facilities requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed exercise to determine future collection growth. Preliminary report prepared To determine the existing and potential uses of the Museum with a new facility. Report completed for Board on potential uses Update prepared and submitted for Parks, Recreation, Library and Culture Facility Needs Assessment Discussions with other museums regarding planning, implementing and completion of Museum building projects



Mandate and Governance

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 artifacts and written records of historical interest to Oshawa.

Mission Statement

The Oshawa Community Museum preserves and actively promotes awareness and appreciation of Oshawa's history for the education, enrichment and enjoyment of a diverse audience.

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 Community Museum and Archives 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 Community Museum and the Oshawa Historical Society are the responsibility of the professional staff under the direction of the Executive Director.



Highlights & Events

January

- Jillian and Jennifer attended a Teacher Librarian Conference at the Durham District School Board
- Speaker Series: Samantha George presents: The Parkwood Greenhouse Restoration Project
- Jillian attended the Canadian Museum Association's Museum Enterprise Conference, leading a session on Visitor Experience Plans
- Melissa attended the U of T Museum Studies Human Book event

February

- Sunday FUNday: Victorian Valentines
- School Program: Primary Source Workshop
- Outreach presentation: If These Houses Could Talk
- Hosted a birthday party: Victorian Tea
- Outreach presentation: Prominent Citizens
- Family Day at the Museum
- Speaker Series: Elaine Lievaart presents: The Bomb Girls of DIL
- Tea & Talk: Black History in Oshawa

March

- Sunday FUNday: Candle making
- Outreach Presentation: Fires in Oshawa
- Attended Purple Woods Maple Syrup Festival
- March Break at the Museum
- Speaker Series: Melissa Cole presents: Reflections of Oshawa
- Hosted a Victorian Tea
- Laura attended the Building Museums conference in Boston, MA
- Tea & Talk: Stories from the Homefront



Ksenia and Carmela at Purple Woods 2015

April

- Hosted a birthday party: Victorian Tea
- Volunteer recognition event at City Hall where volunteers Sharon Henderson and Pat Davies were recognised
- Attended Durham District School Board Volunteer Fair at Pickering High School
- Outreach presentation: Letters from the Trenches
- Attended the 2015 Heritage Showcase at the Oshawa Public Library: Industry in Oshawa
- Sunday FUNday: Toys & Games
- Attended Swing into Spring at Windreach Farms
- Oshawa Historical Society Annual General Meeting and Speaker Series: Alexander Gates presents The Rolls-Royce Limos of the Canadian Automotive Museum
- Evening Tour: Victorian Child
- Tea & Talk: Historical Re-enacting
- Attended United Way Volunteer Fair at the Oshawa Public Library
- Attended the Durham Region Heritage Fair
- Outreach exhibit: *Oshawa's Industries*, at the Oshawa Public Library

May

- Outreach presentation: Stories from the Collection
- Sunday FUNday: Click! A Photo Scavenger Hunt
- Attended a school outreach/fun fair
- Exhibition opening: *Mourning After: The Victorian Celebration of Death*
- Lisa attended a Youth Symposium at the Robert McLaughlin Gallery
- Speaker Series: Larry Cotton presents: *Whiskey & Wickedness: 100 Taverns in 100 Miles, Yonge Street*
- Hosted a private Victorian Tea
- Jillian appeared on Rogers *Daytime*
- Tea & Talk: If These Houses Could Talk: Henry House
- Lisa attended a Citizenship Ceremony at the Oshawa Public Library
- Lisa attended the media launch for the Durham Festival
- Accessioned: The Life of the Artifact



Curator Myra at our inaugural Accessioned! Event



June

- Jesse, UOIT Intern, begins a 100 hour placement
- Attended OSCC Swing into Summer
- Yoga in the Garden begins, with Durham Yogi Community
- Attended a school outreach/fun fair
- Outreach Presentation: the War of 1812
- Jennifer attended the OPL How-To in 10 Fair
- Attended Children's Community Fair
- Sunday FUNday: Oshawa's Cultural Communities
- Led Downtown Walking Tour
- School program: Victorian Child
- Outreach Presentation: Curious about Cameras
- Jennifer presented at the Association of Canadian Archivists conference in Regina, SK
- Attended the Victory Garden Party at Parkwood
- Hosted a private Victorian Tea
- Attended Culture² at City Hall
- Tea & Talk: Street Name Stories



*June's Annual
Downtown Walking
Tour*

July

- Canada Day at the Lake
- Outreach Presentation: The 1937 GM Strike
- Thomas Henry's Grandpa Picnic
- Outreach Presentation: Farewell Cemetery
- Hosted two Downtown Walking Tours as Pan AM Activations
- Victorian Tea in the Garden
- Private Museum Tour
- Music in the Gardens: Oshawa Civic Band
- Attended Culture² at City Hall
- Tea & Talk: Henry House Garden Tour
- Outreach exhibit: *Oshawa's Sporting Past*, at Oshawa City Hall, Art in the Hall

August

- Sunday FUNday: Garden Weaving
- Outreach Presentation: Curious About Cameras
- Private Tour: Victorian Child
- Private Victorian Tea
- Attended Culture² at City Hall
- Attended the Durham Festival Woodland Disco & Glowfest at Parkwood
- Hosted a Birthday Party: Victorian Tea
- Victorian Tea in the Garden
- Trent University Durham began two week archaeological excavation of Henry House Gardens
- Tea & Talk: The Language of Fans, Flowers and Calling Cards

September

- Private Union Cemetery Tour
- Outreach Presentation: Eye Spy
- Sunday FUNday: Butter making
- Private Victorian Tea
- Annual Union Cemetery Tour
- Speaker Series: Union Cemetery
- School program: Archaeology
- Doors Open Oshawa – outreach at City Hall
- Evening with Proo{f}
- Tea & Talk: Letters from the Trenches
- History of Oshawa Class, OSCC
- Carrie joins staff as Visitor Host



*Group of visitors searching for
paranormal activity in Henry House
during the Evening with Proo{f}*

October

- Sunday FUNday: Archaeology in Oshawa
- School program: Letters from the Trenches
- Evening Tour: Candle making
- International Archaeology Day, in partnership with Archaeological Services Inc. and Trent University Durham
- Private Victorian Tea
- Speaker Series: CANADIGM presents Souterrain Impressions
- Evening Tour: Stories from the Homefront
- Tea & Talk: Mourning After
- Outreach exhibit: *Oshawa General Hospital Nursing School Alumni Class of '65*



*Dr. Johanna Kelly, Dr. Katie Hull,
and Dr. Helen Haines at 2015
International Archaeology Day*



November

- Sunday FUNday: Drop Spindles
- Tour with Durham College Library & Information Technology students
- Lisa attended the Ontario Museum Association Conference in Windsor
- Melissa spoke to a Kiwanis Group
- Remembrance Lecture: Stories from the Homefront
- Private Union Cemetery Tour
- Melissa provides lecture for Fleming College's Museum Management and Curatorship program
- Evening Tour: Toys & Games
- Speaker Series: Deepa Kundur presents: The History of Manipulated Images, in partnership with the Robert McLaughlin Gallery
- Volunteer Recognition Oshawa Generals Hockey Game
- Tea & Talk: Adelaide McLaughlin's Chrysanthemum Teas
- Melissa attends a YDAMA Workshop
- Outreach Lecture: If These Houses Could Talk
- Evening Tour: Museum Tour & Activity
- Jennifer took part in the Program Advisory Committee meeting for the Library & Information Technology program at Durham College

December

- School Tour: Local Traditions (three schools)
- Attended a Volunteer Fair at Pereyma Secondary School
- Annual Lamplight Tour
- Sunday FUNday: Pen & Ink Writing
- Evening Program: Tour & Holiday Activity (three groups)
- Evening Program: Candle making
- Hosted three Christmas Teas
- Outreach program: Victorian Fashions
- Tea & Talk: Holiday Traditions
- Hosted a private Victorian Tea



Local singer, Rosalee Peppard, entertaining our guests at our Christmas Victorian Teas



Curator's Report

One of the strategic objectives of the OHS is to present our collections and exhibitions in a way that is well managed and central to our activities. Our stewardship of the collection is managed in a way to preserve and grow it for current and future generations. The collection continues to be developed as a resource for education and research, and we continue to broaden access to the collection through our online collection (oshawa.pastperfect-online.com), 'What is it Wednesdays,' podcasts, blogs, permanent galleries, temporary exhibits, and touring collections in the community and beyond.

Since 1957, the museum has continually added to its holdings of artifacts through acquisitions, donations and fieldwork. In 2015, 29 objects were accepted and processed by curatorial staff. This number does not include the artifacts discovered during the archaeological dig that took place at Henry House in the summer of 2015. Our collecting priorities were focussed on General Motors in Oshawa, Smith Potteries and artifacts related to the families connected to the three houses that make up the Oshawa Community Museum. I am happy to report that we acquired 1 male General Motors shop coat, 2 female GM shop coats and 1 pair of coveralls for the collection. Unfortunately no Smith Potteries pieces were added to the collection in 2015, but I can happily state as I write this report we have acquired 4 pieces in early 2016 in a variety of shapes, sizes, and colours.



Four pieces of Smith Potteries acquired in early 2016

Back by popular demand, the exhibition *Mourning After: The Victorian Celebration of Death* was the feature exhibit for 2015. This exhibition was well received once again by our members and the general public. One may ask why is an exhibit that features the topic of death so popular? Death is a subject that we tend not to talk about today, but during the 19th century, death was so prevalent that mourning customs and rituals were defined and adhered to. For many of us it may be difficult to understand the need for such practices today with our medical advances and wonder drugs.

Thank you to our *Mourning After* exhibition partners and funders, McIntosh-Anderson-Kellam Funeral Home (loaning us a hearse), Oshawa Port Authority, Suchan McQuaid Financial, The Oshawa Community Credit Union, The Costume People, Clarington Museums and the City of Oshawa. One other exhibit was hosted this year as well, *The Gift of Play: Toys of Yesterday*, featuring toys from the museum collection and toys that belonged to staff members of the Oshawa Community Museum.



Oshawa's Sporting Past, on display at Oshawa City Hall

In addition to our onsite exhibitions, outreach exhibits were created for our community partners including *Oshawa's Sporting Past*, showcased at Art in the Hall, Oshawa City Hall during Pan Am Games. Oshawa hosted wrestling and boxing at the GM Centre. *Industries in Oshawa* was featured at the Oshawa Public Libraries, McLaughlin Branch during the month of April when the annual Heritage Showcase is held. Other outreach exhibits included: Oshawa General Hospital Nursing School, 50th Reunion Celebration Class of 1965.

We continued to partner with the Conservation Program at Sir Sandford Fleming College through the loan of artifacts for conservation treatment by the students enrolled in the conservation program. This has been a beneficial partnership for the museum; artifacts receive much needed conservation work while students gain valuable hands on experience working with real artifacts from a museum collection.

Thank you to my volunteers Donna Martino and Patty Davis and my co-op student from Father Leo J. Austin, Jodie Leach, for all your assistance with the museum collection.



Archives Report

The focus of 2015 was making the archival collection more accessible to the public. To that end, I wrote a grant application to the Documentary Heritage Community Program, a new granting program offered by Library and Archives Canada, to digitize and make available online Oshawa's earliest newspapers. The grant application was successful and work began on preparing the hardcopy newspapers for digitization. The project is scheduled to be completed by April 2016.

Digitization is not the only way that the archival collection was made more accessible. I worked to bring the collection to the public through a variety of speaking engagements. In May, I attended the Association of Canadian Archivists Conference held in Regina, Saskatchewan. While there, I presented on the partnership between the Oshawa Community Museum and Central Collegiate in Oshawa. The paper, called *Embedding Local History in the Classroom*, discussed the how to use archival holdings to complement the high school curriculum.

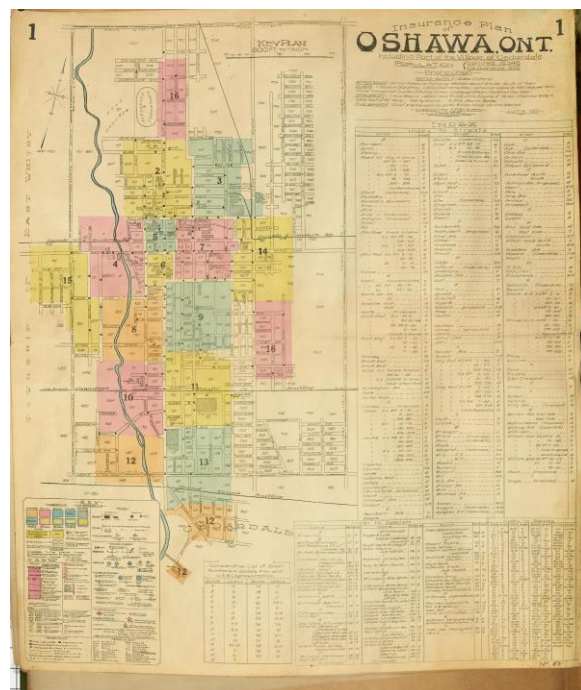
The collection was also highlighted in a series of newspaper articles written for the *Oshawa Express*. This partnership has been ongoing since 2006.

The archival photograph collection was reorganized to make it more user-friendly. The organization system now in use is similar to the one used to organize the archival and museum collection.

The year saw the creation of pop-up exhibit panels to complement the online exhibit *Letters from the Trenches*. The exhibit panels are available to be displayed in public spaces throughout Oshawa.

The archives accessioned twelve new collections into the holdings. Within these new donations was a 1921 fire insurance map, a series of photograph postcards of the Columbus and Raglan area and an aerial photograph of the General Motors plant circa 1940.

I continued to participate in community leadership roles such as in the role of Chair of the Durham Region Area Archives Group, a chapter of the Archives Association of Ontario (AAO). As chair, I participated in the Annual Leadership Meeting to set out goals and priorities of the archival community in Ontario.



Fire Insurance Map that was donated to the Oshawa Community Archives



Sponsors & 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 2015. Thank you for your support.

Donors in 2015

- Anonymous
- Francis & Pearl Cooper
- Sandra Gaskall
- Tedd Hann
- Sharon Henry (Garden Brick)
- Honey & Tea Oshawa

Thank you to members who made optional donations with their membership renewals.

Sponsors in 2015

- Robert Bell
- Lisa Cooper & Family
- CRCS Disaster Clean-Up
- Janet Dowson
- IODE: Golden Jubilee Chapter
- Lions Club Of North Oshawa
- McIntosh-Anderson-Kellam Funeral Home
- Oshawa Community Credit Union
- *Oshawa Express*
- Oshawa Port Authority
- Ontario Power Generation
- Suchan McQuaid Financial Services

Community Partnerships in 2015

Throughout the year, the Museum worked with the following groups on various projects:

- Alumni, Oshawa General Hospital School of Nursing, Class of '65
- Archaeological Services Inc.
- Canadian Automotive Museum
- City of Oshawa – Art and History Committee
- Clarington Museums
- The Costume People
- Downtown Oshawa BIA
- Durham College
- Durham Region Area Archives Group
- Durham Yogi Community & Wendy Melville
- Heritage Oshawa
- Museum and Gallery Educators Group – Durham (MAGEC-D)
- Ontario Regiment Museum
- Oshawa Arts Association
- Oshawa Civic Band
- *Oshawa Express*
- Oshawa Public Library
- Oshawa Senior Citizens Centre
- Parkwood National Historic Site
- Proo{f}
- Robert McLaughlin Gallery
- Margaret Rodgers
- Sir Sandford Fleming College, Conservation Program
- Trent University Durham
- University of Toronto, Museum Studies
- Welcome Cyclists Network
- York-Durham Association of Museums and Archives



Education Award Recipients

The 2015 awards were as follows:

Eastdale CVI	Alia Logan
G.L. Roberts CVI School of the Environment	Essica Rahman
Maxwell Heights Secondary School.....	Hollie Olenik
Monsignor John Pereyma Catholic Secondary School.....	Rachel Rivoire
Monsignor Paul Dwyer Catholic High School	Kyra Kozole
O’Neill CVI.....	Lauryn MacDonald
R.S. McLaughlin CVI	Dustin Hickey



Public & Education Programming

Public Programs

In 2015 the Museum instituted two new programming initiatives – Sunday FUNdays and Tea & Talks. Both are monthly events that allow visitors to actively engage with museum staff and our collection. Guests participate in activities that are normally reserved for education programs or special interest groups. Sunday FUNdays were held on the first Sunday of the month and Tea & Talks were held on the last Sunday of the month. Admission rates were \$5 and \$10 per person respectively.

Sunday FUNday Activities

- Victorian Valentines
- Candle making
- Toys & Games
- Click: A Photo Scavenger Hunt
- Cultural Communities
- Grandpa's Picnic
- Garden Weaving
- Butter making
- Archaeology in Oshawa
- Learning to Spin
- Pen & Ink Letters to Santa

Tea & Talk Lectures

- Oshawa's Black History
- Stories From the Homefront
- An Introduction to Re-enacting
- If These Houses Could Talk: Henry House
- The Streets of Oshawa
- Garden Tour
- The Language of Fans, Flowers and Calling Cards
- Letters From the Trenches
- Mourning After
- Adelaide McLaughlin's Chrysanthemum Teas
- Victorian Christmas Traditions

The events as well as the others listed brought in 1,873 onsite visitors (does not include casual visitors or tours). Offsite events such as the Purple Woods Maple Syrup Festival, the Cedarcroft Retirement Home Lecture Series, OHS Speaker Series, and various information fairs reached 6,187 people.

Education Programs

The Programming Department always loves to have kids through the doors of the Museum. We educate them about the history of the City where they are growing up and inspire them to continue learning about history throughout their education. Throughout 2015 we educated 8 primary, 7 secondary and 4 post-secondary classes/groups. Our most popular programs were 'Archaeology in Oshawa' and 'Introduction to Primary Sources'/'Analyzing Artifacts.'

Visitor Experience

Year after year we find that visitors prefer a guided tour of the houses. We have 6 occasional Visitor Hosts as well as the Community Engagement Coordinator and Visitor Experience Coordinator that deliver tours. Throughout 2015 these staff members submitted 236 Visitor Host Observation surveys. These told us that 273 of these tours were guided, and only 6 were self-guided. Generally tours last 45-60 minutes long, but timing can vary depending on the age and size of the group.



An analysis of our guestbook in late 2015 gave us a glimpse of where many of our guests over the past four years have visited from. Ontario visitors hailed from Whitby, Aurora, Guelph, Ottawa, Toronto, Peterborough, Ajax, Napanee, St. Catharines, Burlington, Port Perry, London, Brooklin, Courtice, Pickering, Markham, and Scarborough. Other Canadian guests were from: New Westminster, BC; Edmonton, AB; Kamloops, BC; Quebec; and, Newfoundland. International guests have visited from: Wyandotte MI; Huntington Beach, CA; Tustin, CA; Wales; England; Northern Ireland; Norway; Holland; Peru; Scotland; and, Germany.

Social Media and the Oshawa Community Museum

Social Media is an important tool for promotion of the Oshawa Community Museum, helping to raise our profile, awareness of the work we do, our events, as well as promoting the Oshawa Historical Society and the monthly Speaker Series.

We are actively engaged on a number of platforms, including Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Pinterest, YouTube, Tumblr, and Wordpress. Through these channels, we share information, images, videos, artifacts, and special events. Many of these are largely visual mediums, and our historical photograph collection, unique artifact collection, and dynamic staff and events lend themselves well to these platforms.

The following chart shows our Social Media followers at the end of 2015 compared to the previous year, and how much we have increased.

Platform	2014	2015	% Increase
Twitter	1451	1841	27%
Facebook	908	1230	35%
Pinterest	176	223	27%
Instagram	149	415	179%
YouTube - Yearly Views	12,286	20,380	66%
YouTube - Total Subscribers	49	85	73%
OCM Blog - Yearly Views	6,264	12,495	99%
OCM Blog - Followers	51	65	27%
Tumblr - 2015 Victorians - Yearly Views	n/a	4,287	n/a
Tumblr - Reflections - Yearly Views	n/a	4,100	n/a
Tumblr - OCM - Yearly Views	n/a	4,321	n/a

By embracing Social Media and maintaining active and engaging profiles, we are not only reaching audiences within our own community, but also abroad. It is another way that the Oshawa Community Museum is able to promote awareness and appreciation of Oshawa's history.



Oshawa Historical Society

A continuing trend for the Oshawa Historical Society has been yearly increases in total membership numbers and steady attendance at the popular Speaker Series. We thank you for your support.

We strive to offer varied, unique, and engaging topics for the Speaker Series, and this year featured talks on the Bomb Girls of Defense Industries Limited, the history of Union Cemetery, and *Whiskey & Wickedness: 100 Taverns in 100 Miles, Yonge Street*. Meetings are typically held on the third Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m., except June, July, August, and December, and take place at the McLaughlin Branch of the Oshawa Public Library.

Featured speakers for 2015 and meeting attendance:

Date	Speaker	Topic	Members	Non-Members	Total
Jan 20*	Samantha George	Parkwood's Greenhouse Conservation Project	65	2	67
Feb 17*	Elaine Lievaart, Ajax Public Library	The Bomb Girls of Defense Industries Limited	62	7	69
Mar 17	Melissa Cole	Reflections of Oshawa	59	8	67
April 21	Alexander Gates	Rolling in Style: The Seven Rolls-Royces of the Canadian Automotive Museum	65	8	73
May 19	Larry Cotton	<i>Whiskey & Wickedness: 100 Taverns in 100 Miles – Yonge St.</i>	54	13	67
Sep 15	Laura Suchan & Melissa Cole	History of Union Cemetery	38	7	45
Oct 20**	CANADIGM	Souterraine Impressions: Cave Carvings by Canadian Soldiers in WWI	43	3	46
Nov 17	Dr. Deepa Kundur	Photography and the History of the Manipulated Image; in partnership with RMG	40	7	47

*Held at the Northview Branch of the Oshawa Public Library

**Held at the Arts Resource Centre



Membership Services

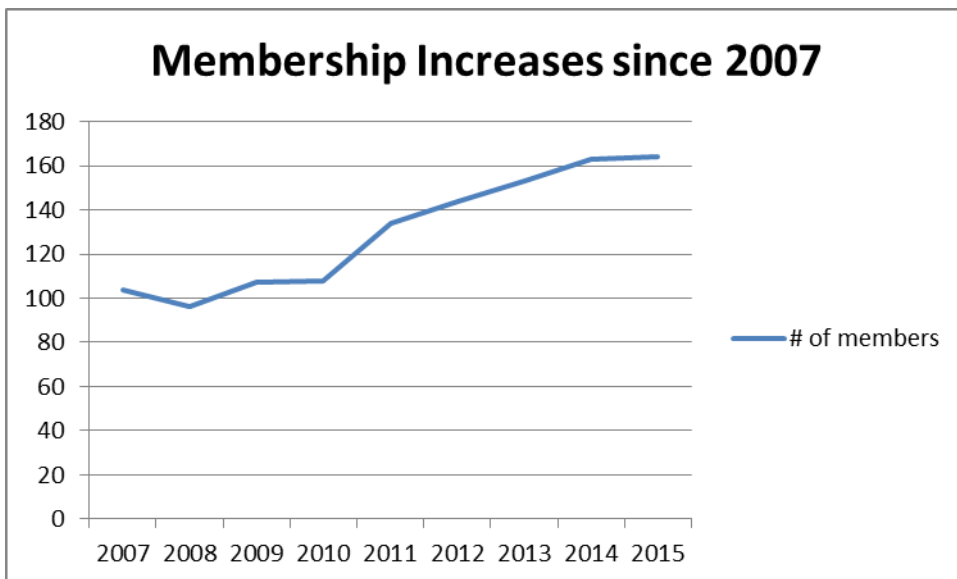
In addition to assisting in the preservation of Oshawa's history, being a member of the Oshawa Historical Society offers: free admission to the monthly Speaker Series, addressing a variety of heritage topics; the Society newsletter *Historical Happenings*; free admission to the Oshawa Community Museum; the monthly Historical Society e-news bulletin, with news and information from the Museum; discounts on museum programming, such as Victorian Teas and special lectures; discount on selected item in our Museum Shop; and, early notice of historic tours and special events sponsored by the Society.

As of December 31, 2015, the total number of Society memberships was 164 with 18 new memberships throughout the year. This represents a 1% increase over the year before, not a large increase, however it is still on trend of steady increases since 2009. Since 2007, the Oshawa Historical Society membership has increased by 58%. Once again, we thank you for your continued support.

Membership Breakdown of 2015

Individual.....	68
Family	54
Community.....	1
Corporate	1
Student.....	2
Life.....	14
Complimentary	24
(Volunteer/City Council/Reciprocal)	

Total Membership 164





Volunteers

Those who can, do. Those who can do more, volunteer.

~Author Unknown

The 2015 Volunteer Canada theme was ‘Volunteers are Part of the Ripple Effect.’ As has been the case for many years, our volunteers have been great ambassadors of the Oshawa Community Museum. Their thoughtfulness, generosity, kindness towards staff, visitors and respect for their volunteer positions knows no bounds. Our volunteers this year have tended to the beautiful gardens around Henry House and Guy House, helped with collections and archival database entry, delivered tours, assisted with programs and special events, and so much more.

Throughout 2015 staff at the Museum have worked with 45 youth and adult volunteers who volunteered 886 hours. Our top hour earners are:

Adult

Ann Thurn – 107
Pat Davies – 83.5
Ann Lloyd – 70
Trish Bruce – 63
Patty Davis - 46

Youth

Sydney-May Legault – 48
Alicia Wadden – 34
Josh Clauser - 32
Hunter Ritchie - 28
Cathryn Klincans – 23.5

As well as being our top hour earner for 2015, Ann Thurn has also been selected as the Earl Hann Volunteer of the Year award recipient. Ann began volunteering in April 2015 after retiring from over 40 years in the nursing field. Ann has spent countless hours in the gardens and baking for the Victorian teas. She also assists with special events like the Lamplight Tour, outreach events and school programming. Ann always comes to the Museum with a smile on her face, ready for whatever the day might bring. Staff have said that “Ann has been the most eager, energetic, fun-spirited, and helpful!” and “Ann has been such a pleasure to work with; her commitment to ensuring the museum ‘shines’ is most obvious in her pledge as volunteer.” Congratulations Ann!



2015 Volunteers

Sinegha Anantharaj	Emily Fuher	Graeme Lavender	Hunter Ritchey
Tyler Angi	Dylan Galley	Jodie Leach	Rachel Rivoire
Shalaila Bhalla	Ksenia Gayvronoskaya	Danielle LeBlanc	Lauren Rupert
Mackenzie Bodnar	Sharon Henderson	Sydney-May Legault	Ellen Samek
Trish Bruce	Alvin Ho	Ann Lloyd	Susanne Sutton
Carrie Bugler	Wilson Hommell	Donna Martino	Ann Thurn
Josh Clauser	Kathryn Holden	Hope Matson-Kwong	Roland Thurn
Brian Campbell	Mahdin Imtiaz	Jacobo Matta	Allie Wadden
Michael Campbell	Bea Jenkins	Anton Mauti	Breanna Whitney
Pat Davies	Dorothy Kitchen	Megan Powers	
Patty Davis	Cathryn Klincans	Gord Price	
Shoshannah Dwara	Michael Lassila	Dave Ricard	



Youth Engagement

With an initiative which began in 2011, the Oshawa Community Museum has been actively seeking out new ways of engaging youth in the Museum and their local heritage.



This year saw an increase in youth volunteers and hours contributed to the Museum, by way of archives assistants and special event assistants. Notably, our OMY Volunteers were out in force at the Woodland Disco and Glowfest helping the Oshawa Community Museum party like it was 1879! Dressed in Victorian finest, our volunteers talked about early lighting and candles and helped our visitors at our Victorian photo booth. They were also their amazing and engaging selves at events like Lamplight, Canada Day, Purple Woods, and at the new Thomas Henry Grandpa Picnic!

During the Spring and Summer of 2015, the OMY volunteers undertook the *Four Corners: One Story* project, in partnership with the Downtown Oshawa BIA. Volunteers were introduced to the rich history of Oshawa's Downtown and discovered the stories that can be found there. They found historic photos from the archival collection and recreated those images in present day. A series of posters were created with the assistance of the City of Oshawa, and these posters will be on display through 2016 at various City of Oshawa locations, in Guy House, and at locations downtown.

One highlight of this project was seeing the youth making connections between the downtown of 2015 and the stories that were shared during the *Reflections of Oshawa* project, as many youth helped with both initiatives. To hear the volunteers saying, "Hey, isn't this the place that ___ talked about?" was really encouraging.

Finally, I would like to extend sincere thanks to co-op students, Durham College job shadows, and our UOIT Alternative Placement student. Through placements such as these, we have received a great amount of support in the Archives, education program development, collections management, and creatively developing material for our Social Media outlets. Many thanks to Helaina Bartello, Nadia Buhot, Carrie Bugler, Jesse Campbell, Shanna Copp, Ann Cullen, Jodie Leach, Lauren Rupert, Stephanie Walker, Sarah Warren, and Liqi Zhu for your hard work, dedication, and for being a wonderful complement to our staff!

Through 2015, we had 29 Youth Volunteers contribute 372.25 hours to the Museum, and our students contributed an additional 742.5 hours! Once again, many thanks, and we cannot wait for what will come in 2016!



From left: co-op student Nadia in the Schoolroom exhibit; Accessioned! with curator Myra, Visitor Host Carmela, and volunteers Cathryn and Sydney-May; Woodland Disco crew; OMY Youth in Downtown Oshawa; co-op student Lauren feeling the heat in the Victorian kitchen!



Minutes, Annual General Meeting

Held at 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 21, 2015, at the McLaughlin Branch of the Oshawa Public Library; 65 Bagot Street, Oshawa

1. **Welcome:** Stoney Kudel, Human Resources Chair, called to order the 57th Annual General Meeting of the Oshawa Historical Society and drew attention to last year's minutes printed on page 24 of the Annual Report.
2. **A motion was called to accept the Minutes** of the April 21, 2014 Annual General Meeting as distributed. *Moved by Hilda Tischler, seconded by Pat Davies. CARRIED.*
3. Stoney then asked the Membership to review the information contained in the 2014 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 2014 Annual Report as written.** *Moved by Gary Bazowsky; seconded by Brian Gough. CARRIED.*
4. Stoney Kudel 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.** *Moved by Marg Wilkinson; seconded by Linda Bazowsky. CARRIED.*
5. Stoney asked for a motion regarding the appointment of Deloitte as auditors for 2015. **A motion was called "to reappoint Deloitte as auditors for 2015".** *Moved by David Dowsley; seconded by Dorothy Kitchen. CARRIED.*
6. Next Stoney called upon Jill Passmore, Visitor Experience Co-ordinator, and Lisa Terech, Community Engagement, to present volunteer recognition certificates and the 2014 Earl Hann volunteer of the Year Award recipient. **Donna Martino was the Earl Hann Award recipient, Ksenia Gayvronoskaya was the Youth Volunteer of the Year, and Pat Davies was the top hour earner for 2014.**

Volunteer certificates were presented to, or accepted on the behalf of,: Karen Albrecht, Ashley Aldred, Tyler Angi, Shalaila Bhalla, Mackenzie Bodnar, Eva Bridgeman, Trish Bruce, Brian Campbell, Michael Campbell, Mary Ellen Cole, Michelle Cooperthwaite, Emily Dafoe, Pat Davies, Patty Davis, Jenny Dufton, Gale D'Souza, Elizabeth Fuher, Emily Fuher, Ksenia Gayvronoskaya, Susan Gilbert, Alexx Harris, Sharon Henderson, Kathryn Holden, Wendy Jing, Erika Johnston, Dorothy Kitchen, Steve Kinnunen, Graeme Lavender, Ann Lloyd, Brandon Martin, Donna Martino, Hope Matson-Kwong, Marla Matson-Kwong, Jacobo Matta, Anton Mauti, Dominik Mauti, Victoria Nelimarkka, Lokson Ng, Susan Pandelidis, Dave Ricard, Cayda Rubin, Susanne Sutton, Erika Suchan, Anne Terry, Hannah Trainor, Kayley Whalen, Chelsea Wishak.



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

5 year pins

William Cane (no pin, Life Member, but recognised)
 William, Donald & Charles Cooper
 Andrew Jackson
 Winston LeGrand
 Ed & Jean Warner

10 year pins

Donna Bradley
 Robert & Betty Davies
 David Dowsley
 Gordon & Marilyn Dowsley
 Harry & Bea Lack
 Roy Miles
 Grace Moores
 Skip & Darlene Williams

15 Year Pins

David & Joan Andrews
 Brian & Myrna Gough
 Margaret & David Perkins

20 year pins

Steve Barker
 Dorothy Kitchen
 Susanne Sutton

8. Stoney then called for **a motion to adjourn the 57th Annual General Meeting of the Oshawa Historical Society.** *Moved by David Dowsley, seconded by Sharon Henderson. CARRIED.*

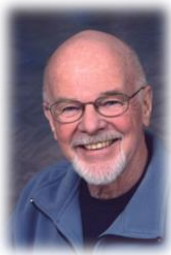


Personnel

Board of Directors & Standing Committees

The Oshawa Community Museum is administered by the Oshawa Historical Society through a duly elected Board of Directors as an agent for the City of Oshawa. The Constitution and By-Laws of the Oshawa Historical Society detail the election process and the roles and responsibilities of the Board. The Board consists of eight members elected annually at the Annual General Meeting by the Oshawa Historical Society.

Board of Directors, 2015-2016



Merle Cole

President

The President is an ex-officio member of all committees

Retired from the Federal Public Service, Merle enjoys travel, photography and his family. He attributes his interest in local history to his wife Mary Ellen.



Keri Semenko

Vice President

Keri Semenko is a full-time professor at Durham College and previously she worked in a variety of positions within the non-profit sector. Keri's relationship with the Oshawa Historical Society goes back many years to her high school co-op placement at the museum. As a lifelong resident of Oshawa, she is pleased to be able to contribute to the community by serving on the OHS Board of Directors.



David Dowsley

Treasurer

A former teacher in Oshawa, David Dowsley has served on the Oshawa Historical Board in a number of different roles, including Human Resources Committee Chair, and Vice President. He is currently the Treasurer, a role he has held in the past.



Stoney Kudel

Human Resources Committee

Stoney has returned to the Board of Directors after a hiatus in 2011. He has previously served as President of the Historical Society and is currently the chair for the Human Resources Committee



Janet Dowson

Membership Secretary

A Life member of the Oshawa Historical Society, Janet has served on the Board of Directors for a number of years in capacities of: Treasurer, Secretary, Finance & Audit Committee and Human Resources Committee. Born and raised in Oshawa, Janet has a keen, natural interest in preserving Oshawa's history. Retired from the City of Oshawa's Human Resources Branch, Janet continues to enjoy helping people as a realtor at the Oshawa branch of Urban Landmark Realty.



Brian Gough

Director at Large

Brian has served on the Board of Directors since 2000. He is now retired from municipal government and is keenly interested in preserving community and military history and transport.



David Tonkin

Director at Large

Dave's background is in municipal government and real estate sales. In addition to 34 years in sales and management, he is a past president of the local Real Estate Board, and as director he has served on numerous board committees. As a fourth generation resident, he has a strong interest in the growth and heritage of Oshawa.



Staff

Executive Director, Laura Suchan

905.436.7624 ext 104 director@oshawamuseum.org



Laura has been employed at the museum for 27 years, and as Executive Director is accountable to the Board of Directors and manages the development and operation of the Museum, directs and plans for the use of historical resources through management plans, directives and guidelines; directs staff in all areas of interpretation, visitor services, historical resource management and programme development and delivery; prepares and implements operational work plans; controls administration and management activities; and develops and maintains a public relations programme.

Laura has a Bachelor of Science (Honours) degree from Trent University majoring in Anthropology, a Master of Arts degree from York University in History and a Certificate in Adult Teaching and Training.

Archivist, Jennifer Weymark

905.436.7624 ext 100 archivist@oshawamuseum.org



Jennifer has been employed with the museum since September 1999 previously in the position of Program Co-ordinator and since September 2000 as Archivist. As Archivist Jennifer reports to the Executive Director and assumes a lead role in the supervision, development and presentation of the archival collection. The position involves research and the communication of research findings in exhibit and audio/visual scripts, reports, articles or books.

Jennifer has a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) degree from Trent University majoring in History and Anthropology, a Museum Management and Curatorship certificate from Sir Sandford Fleming College and a Master of Museum Studies from the University of Leicester.

Curator, Melissa Cole

905.436.7624 ext 103 curator@oshawamuseum.org



Melissa joined the museum staff in August 2000. She reports to the Executive Director and assumes a lead role in the supervision, development and presentation of the museum collection. Her position involves research and the communication of research findings in exhibit and audio/visual scripts, reports, articles or books. Melissa is also responsible for the design and overseeing the construction, fabrication, installation and maintenance of exhibits.

Melissa has a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) degree in Anthropology from Trent University and a Museum Management and Curatorship certificate from Sir Sandford Fleming College.



Visitor Experience Co-ordinator, Jillian Passmore

905.436.7624 ext 106 programming@oshawamuseum.org



Jillian has been employed at the museum since September 2002. As VEC, she assumes a lead role in all facets of visitor management including the planning, monitoring, delivery and evaluation of onsite tours and activities to ensure visitor experience is positive, engaging and meaningful. In addition, Jillian is responsible for the planning, monitoring and evaluation, and the design, fabrication and delivery of tours and activities to ensure visitor experience is positive, engaging and meaningful.

As part of her duties Jillian manages the adult volunteer program and garden.

Jillian holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Brock University majoring in History and Classical Studies.

Community Engagement, Lisa Terech

905.436.7624 ext 106 membership@oshawamuseum.org



Lisa started with the Museum in 2007 as a volunteer and joined the staff in October 2010. In the role of Community Engagement, Lisa participates with the Museum team in developing and delivering creative, engaging and consistent public programs. As part of her duties, Lisa manages the youth volunteers and co-ordinates the Oshawa Historical Society membership.

Lisa has a Bachelor of Arts degree in History (Honours) and Canadian Studies (General) from Wilfrid Laurier University and a Museum Management and Curatorship Certificate from Sir Sandford Fleming College.

Visitor Hosts

The Oshawa Community Museum's Visitor Hosts perform a primary role in the delivery of tours and programs to the public to ensure visitor experience is positive, engaging and meaningful.

There are currently six Visitor Hosts on staff at the Museum:

- Karen Albrecht
- Carrie Bugler
- Sarah Coates
- Carmela Dunlop
- Kathryn Holden
- Caitlan Madden

Maintenance, William Fiddler

William has been employed at the Museum since May 2013. He is responsible for maintaining the Museum's physical facilities and takes a role in maintenance and exhibition projects.



2015 Oshawa Historical Society Board of Directors



From left: Brian Gough, David Tonkin, Stoney Kudel, Janet Dowson, Keri Semenko, Merle Cole
Not Pictured: David Dowsley

2015 OCMA Staff



Standing, from left: Caitlan Maddan, Carrie Bugler, Laura Suchan, Lisa Terech, Sarah Coates, Jennifer Weymark, Jillian Passmore, Melissa Cole, Carmela Dunlop, Kathryn Holden
Not Pictured: William Fiddler, Karen Albrecht



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 Special Gifts and Memorial Fund finances the work of the Society in preserving the history of Oshawa. 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. Examples of the projects for funding include, but are not limited to, plaques, markers, books and videos. Donations in excess of \$200 are recognized on a plaque located in Guy House.

The principal is invested in a TD Canada Trust Investment Certificate. Interest from the certificate is deposited annually in the Fund's interest account. This investment is held at TD Canada Trust.

Financial Statement

Dec. 31, 2015 Balance \$7,117

A copy of the administrative guideline may be obtained by contacting:

President
Oshawa Historical Society
1450 Simcoe Street South
Oshawa, ON
L1H 8S8

The 2015 Independent Auditor's Report completed by Deloitte LLP is on file and available upon request.

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. Examples of eligible projects include, but are not limited to; design projects to enhance the period look of the house or the purchase of artifacts for the house.

The principal is invested in a GIC with TD Canada Trust. The interest from the certificate is deposited annually in the fund's interest account.

Financial Statement

Dec. 31, 2015 Balance \$3,112



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, 2015 **Balance \$1,598**

Society Income & Expenses

The Society's income is based on membership fees, 50/50 draws, and donations. The Society also received an Organization Development Grant from the Province of Ontario in the amount of \$622. The majority of the expenses in 2015 were for speaker honorariums, history awards and auditorium rental.

Total Income **\$3,998**

Total Expenses **\$1,773**



2016 - 2019 Exhibition Schedule



On Display
at the



May 2016 to August 2016

May – August 2016

Freemasonry: A History Hidden in Plain Sight

An exhibit to promote the knowledge, appreciation and understanding of Masonic history, and Freemasonry's influence upon our society today. Learn about the history of this fraternal organization, and in particular, the history of Freemasonry in Oshawa.

A travelling exhibit from the Bruce County Museum and Cultural Centre.

September – December 2016

Oshawa's Musical History

2017

60 Years of Collecting

An exhibit to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Oshawa Historical Society, featuring highlights from the collection over the last 60 years.

2018

Community Health in the 20th Century: An Oshawa Perspective

2019

Ex Libris: A History of Education in Oshawa

creative family culture events
 history exhibits iconic accessible
 research artefacts collaboration connected
 memory visitor oriented participation
 Society integral vital creative respected fun
 respected Oshawa Community Museum
 educational sustainable photographs diligence storytelling
 stewards Oshawa Historical Society learning
 memories inclusive engaging community creative
 archives artefacts collaboration proactive Museum
 Oshawa Community identity presentation
 stories



1450 Simcoe Street South
 Lakeview Park
 Oshawa, ON L1H 8S8
 Tel: 905-436-7624

info@oshawamuseum.org
www.oshawamuseum.org
www.oshawahistoricalsociety.org

