

What's Happening

It's Happening Now!

The Brant Historical Society's Inventory Project will prepare our extensive collection for a planned move to a new home.

The current state of storage at the Brant Museum & Archives is close to, if not already surpassing its capacity within its current location at 57 Charlotte Street. In preparation for the move to a new facility, a collections management project is essential for the organization of the collection. In order to facilitate an efficient moving process as well as creating an updated digitized inventory, detailed steps must be taken.

The Society has not done a complete inventory of the collection since 1982-84. In the past 30 years, we have continued to protect artefacts, and also added significantly to the collection. Now that our museum is at capacity for storage, it is imperative that we do a complete inventory of the collection.

The first and most crucial component of this project is to obtain a complete and accurate inventory of every item in our collection, including up-to-date condition reports, storage, and location information.

The Inventory Project will include the digitization of the collection into our database. We will be able to add each artefact in the inventory to the digital database, removing the necessity to refer to past card catalogues for item information and location. The items will be photographed, allowing for staff and researchers to view and visually identify the items through the database software. The digitization of our collection will allow staff, volunteers, and researchers to navigate the Brant Museum & Archives Artefact Collection in a manner which is expedient and integrated, allowing for instant access to complete object information, improving the efficiency of our record-keeping and information storage capabilities.

The project will include a critical component, where we will carefully examine each of the items the BHS houses to review and qualify each artefact in the collection. Each artefact will be examined to ensure that it reflects the Brant Historical Society collections mandate to collect, preserve, and share the history of the people and communities of Brantford, Brant County, Six Nations, and New Credit.

Each artefact will be carefully stored in acid-free tissue and boxes which can be easily and safely accessed for relocation during the moving process. This aspect of the project will allow for the artefacts to be both inventoried and prepared for relocation in a single process, carrying out two vital tasks in a single undertaking, making efficient use of both time and staffing resources.

We will then be able to provide complete information on the objects in our collection and digitize that information, allowing greater reach and ease of access to the people of Brantford, Brant County, Six Nations, and New Credit. The improved digitization of Brant Museum & Archives artefact records will assist researchers from all over Ontario, Canada, North America, and the world, who turn to the Brant Historical Society to find out more about their local ancestors, the development of this area and its lands, and our shared history.



What's Happening

For the past few months our team has been working our way through the vast collection here at Brant Museum & Archives. Room by room and box by box, we accession, label and catalogue a variety of artifacts. Working so closely with the collection means every day we are finding fascinating pieces of history. One day we worked with mid 1800 land deeds which had us oohing and ahing over the beautiful calligraphy and seemingly impossible straight lines. Speaking of beautiful, it was a most delightful moment when we stumbled across a newspaper which featured a spectacular glamour shot of young Wayne Gretzky! While we learned that day that fancy feathered cowboy hats were once all the rage, the museum objects are constantly teaching us about the way people lived. Even something as simple as a Westinghouse Flip Toaster, which toasts - rather tediously - only one side at a time, reminds us of the "olden days". Everyday keeps us in suspense as we uncover treasures from our collective heritage.

Written by: The Museum Techs



Volunteers Needed

The Brant Historical Society has a lot of interesting volunteer opportunities available.

If you are interested please call us at **519-752-2483**
Email us at information@brantmuseums.ca
www.brantmuseums.ca

Events



PA Day Camp: Fun with Dr. Seuss!

Join us as we play along with words and read all of your favourite Dr. Seuss stories! Make your own Whoville, spend some time with the Cat in the Hat, and taste some really neat treats! Camp is January 13 from 9am-4pm. Drop off is between 8am-9am and pick up is between 4pm-5pm.



Holiday Open House and Volunteer Appreciation Night

We are very pleased to host our annual Holiday Open House and Volunteer Appreciation Night on Thursday, December 19th from 7-9pm at Myrtleville House Museum, 34 Myrtleville Drive. Join us as we celebrate the holidays and honour the hard work and dedication



Do you have a story, memory, or historical document that you want to share?

We want to hear from you! Fill out the form at our website www.brantmuseums.ca to share your story with us, and become an integral player in preserving the history and heritage of Brantford and Brant County, because your history matters!