



## Message from the Board of Directors

Welcome back, as we prepare to present the new season of 2026-27. We hope you had a great summer!

The Board has refined the Strategic Plan with a set of management goals to help us achieve some of its ends this year. There will be a strong focus on fundraising to help grow our reserve fund and provide greater security for our operation. Publicity and promotion will be another focus, intended to raise our profile across our coverage area. (It may be hard to believe, but in the 1950's everyone who was anyone was a member of the Brant Historical Society.) The other main focus will be on the membership to better understand why people join or withdraw from the Society.

Over the summer there has been a greater connection with the National Trust for Canada and we hope it will result in a renewed focus for developments on the Myrtleville property. Also, we have come to a better understanding of the finer points of the agreement with the city about the Brant Museum & Archives.

Jane Angus led a small group that worked on reviewing and updating several Society policies. The main focus was on the Human Resources manual and related policies, as well as some financial policies. There are several other policies under review, so we should have some good updated policies by the time we have the resources to employ an Executive Director.

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BRANT  
HISTORICAL  
—SOCIETY—

Established on May 8, 1908, the Brant Historical Society is an independent registered charity operating two museums uniquely positioned to make a difference in the lives of Brant citizens.

The Brant Historical Society is dedicated to preserving, educating, celebrating, and sharing the unique history, culture, and stories of the Brantford/Brant area, fostering a sense of connection and pride among its residents and visitors.

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- Upcoming Events

## Contact Us

519-752-2483

information@brantmuseums.ca

Several members wanted to see an improved application form and process for the Wall of Honour nominees. That update was completed last year, so we are now awaiting your submissions. We would love to add some new honorees – so consider an application from you personally or from a group of contributors.

Thanks for your continued support and participation.

-BHS Board of Directors

Myrtleville House Museum  
34 Myrtleville Drive  
Brantford, Ontario N3V 1C2

519 – 752 – 3216  
esther.brouwer@brantmuseums.ca

Monday to Friday 9:00am – 4:00pm



There has been much going on at Myrtleville the past few months! The site was home to Summer Camp during July and August, where local youth aged 4-11 were able to spend nine weeks participating in outdoor play, crafting, baking, and community building while at our day camp.

We started out the summer on July 8th with a theme of *Dragons 101*, followed by other fun weeks like *Artful Antics*, *Go Sports!*, and *Storybook Adventures*. The final week was filled with the artistic side: painting, drawing and making other masterpieces during *Craft & Create*.

Special thanks goes out to summer staff Kaitlyn, Coral and Brianna for all of their hard work of making camp so much fun.

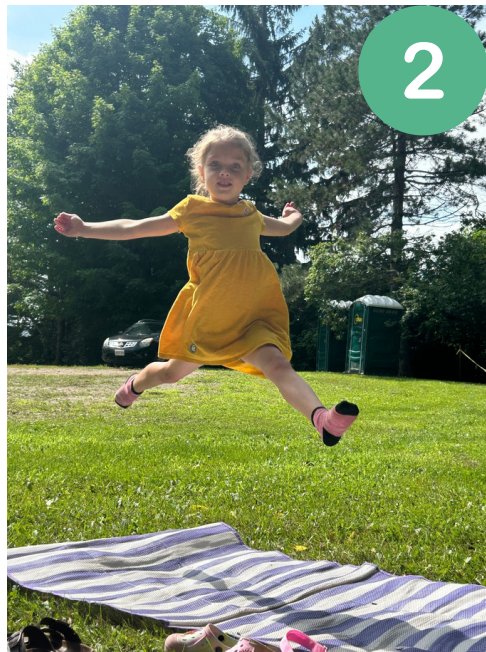
Take a look at the following pictures to see the campers in action!



Camper Sawyer playing "Feed Bill an Apple" - our take on 'Pin the Tail on the Donkey'!



Summer Staff Coral reading a book to the campers



Photos 1 & 2: Campers practicing their gymnastics skills  
Photo 3: Campers & Staff playing a drawing train game  
Photo 4: Campers in line for their afternoon activities!  
Photo 5: Limbo time with Kaitlyn (left) and Coral (right)  
Photo 6: Campers having fun with paint!

Looking to volunteer?  
These positions are  
available:

- Gardening
- Cleaning/tidying  
exhibit spaces
- Helping with  
children's programs
- and more!

Email [volunteering@brantmuseums.ca](mailto:volunteering@brantmuseums.ca) for  
more information



## Photo Spotlight

This photo is one from the Brantford Expositor Negative collection. It was taken in May of 1985 and shows Commander Frank Down watching Leading Cadet Dale Hambly demonstrate the bo'sun's chair. It was taken during the annual inspection of the Admiral Landymore Corps.

Brant Museum and Archives  
Brantford, Ontario N3T 2W6

519 – 752 – 2483  
[information@brantmuseums.ca](mailto:information@brantmuseums.ca)

Tuesday - Saturday  
1:00pm - 5:00pm



## Update on Collections Work

Over the summer, we were lucky to have summer staff member Julia working on organizing and cataloguing the backlog of “recent” donations. She created a spreadsheet to help with this, that we have been using in the never-ending job of organizing and cataloguing. The good news is that we have catalogued all the donations from the past 4 years! We are currently going through other items we’ve found and are adding them to our catalogue.

We currently have a student from the Mohawk College Library and Information Technician program. She has been helping us with transcriptions, scanning, and catalogue records. A Co-Op student from BCI is also spending the semester with us, and will be helping us with miscellaneous archival tasks.

Our volunteers Bev and Crystal are still hard at work with transcriptions. Bev is working on the Ambulance Call ledgers collection, with Crystal having moved onto the Fire Call ledgers collection. If you are interested in donating anything to the museum, please call 519-752-2483 or email us at [information@brantmuseums.ca](mailto:information@brantmuseums.ca)



Our newly organized shelves, thanks to Julia's hard work!

## New Exhibits

The 'Roots and Routes: Brantford's Black History' exhibit closed at the end of August, and the next Memories exhibit set to open on October 17<sup>th</sup>, titled **"Opportunity Bloomed: The Dutch Community in Brantford/Brant"**. This year, the Memories Exhibit will be hosted in the three temporary galleries on the second floor. Downstairs, we have three new exhibits that will be up until the end of the year.

In our very pink gallery, we have a selection of art painted by local artist Alice B. Pilant. Her art was donated to us in 1973 after her death. She painted local heritage sites.

In the gallery where the gift shop is located, we have two new exhibits in one! Along the walls is an exhibit we call "Bits and Bobs from the Collection." It consists of the Electron Microscope, a switchboard, and other interesting items from the collection. Come by to see our Bits and Bobs!

In the centre and back wall cases is art from our Summer Campers. Come by to see what they made this year at Myrtleville!



Alice B. Pilant Art Display



Bits and Bobs/Summer Camp Art Exhibits



## OPPORTUNITY BLOOMED

### THE DUTCH COMMUNITY IN BRANTFORD/BRANT

SPECIAL EXHIBIT  
BRANT MUSEUM AND ARCHIVES  
57 CHARLOTTE STREET, BRANTFORD  
OCT. 17, 2026 - AUG. 07, 2027  
OPENING GALA 12:00PM

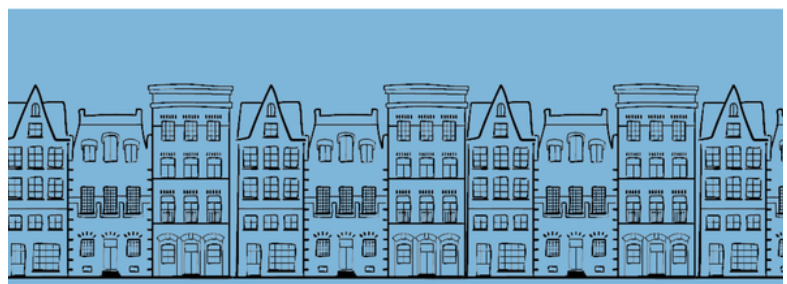


CANADIAN INDUSTRIAL  
HERITAGE CENTRE

BRANT  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY



LAURIER  
UNIVERSITY



**Memories of Brantford's Immigrant Communities**

The next event profiling the Immigrant Experiences in Brantford will focus on the Dutch community. There will be an exhibit opening at the Brant Museum and Archives on Sat. Oct. 17<sup>th</sup> at noon, followed by a walking tour at 1:00pm. There will be an afternoon tea & desserts at 2:30 PM with a play titled "Herinnering" (Remembrance) at 3:00pm, both at the Research & Academic Centre (West) (150 Dalhousie Street). There will be another opportunity for refreshments at 4:30pm and organizers are working to arrange a panel discussion to conclude the day. The exhibit and play will be available on Sunday as well.

**Speakers Series**

The Brant Historical Society's Events Committee is excited to announce the return of our Speakers Series presentations for the 2026/27 season! We will begin our Speakers Series on Wed. Sept. 23 with a talk by Yakowennatoken, Claudine VanEvery-Albert who lives on Six Nations and will share stories of being Indigenous in Canada and living on Six Nations. It should be an enlightening evening.

On October 21st, Murray Angus returns to present "The Philanthropic History of the Cockshutt Family". Both presentations begin at 7:00pm, and are free to attend. Please call 519-752-2483 or email [information@brantmuseums.ca](mailto:information@brantmuseums.ca) to register.

**Fall Fundraiser Walking Tours**

We have scheduled three dates for our annual fundraiser walking tour: "Murder, Mystery, and Mayhem"! More details below:

**Murder, Mystery & Mayhem Walks**

A historical walking tour that explores some seasonal stories of Brantford's past.

Wednesday Oct. 28 2026 | 7:00 PM

Thursday Oct. 29 2026 | 7:00 PM

Friday Oct. 30 2026 | 7:00PM

Walks begin at the Brant Museum and  
Archives (57 Charlotte Street)

These walking tours are \$15.00 for BHS members and non-members (tax included). Call 519-752-2483 or email [information@brantmuseums.ca](mailto:information@brantmuseums.ca) to reserve your spot.

Upcoming Events:

- **Walking Tours** have returned! Check out the full fall schedule on our website.
- The September **Speakers Series** presentation is on Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00pm at the BM&A. Claudine VanEvery-Albert will be discussing her experiences living on Six Nations.
- The **Woodland Cultural Centre** is hosting a day of reflection, learning, culture and community on **Wed. Sept. 30<sup>th</sup>** to mark **National Day for Truth And Reconciliation**. Keep an eye on their social media for more details.
- The October **Speakers Series** presentation is being held on Wed. Oct. 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm at the BM&A. Murray Angus will be presenting on the "Philanthropic History of the Cockshutt Family"
- The **Memories of Brantford's Immigrant Community** Committee is opening their next exhibit at the BM&A on Sat. Oct. 17<sup>th</sup>! Join us to celebrate **Brantford's Dutch Heritage**.
- Join the BHS, Canadian Military Heritage Museum, and Middleport Historical Society for a **Veterans Tribute** event at the TF Warren Community Hall in Cainsville on **Sun. Nov. 8<sup>th</sup>** from **1:00 - 4:00pm**
- The **BHS Christmas Social** will be held on Wed. Dec. 16<sup>th</sup> at Myrtleville House Museum. More details to come!
- Our last day open for the year is **Tuesday, December 22**.

The Brant Historical Society is out for another adventure! On the evening of September 25<sup>th</sup> we have reserved tickets at **Whistling Gardens** in Townsend to view the spectacular Festival of Fountains. Owner and mastermind behind the performance, Darren Heimbecker, has spent years composing and orchestrating a show of lights and fountains that dazzle and enchant. The show runs just over 50 minutes and has been described as magical, and a 10 out of 10!

Doors open at 6:00pm and guests are welcome to tour the extensive 22 acre gardens before the show begins shortly after sunset. The ticket grants you all day access to the gardens if you would like to come earlier, although the garden is closed from 5:00-6:00pm for set up.

Tickets are being offered for \$30.00 for this event (tax included), deadline for payment is **Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup>**. To purchase please contact Brooklynn Hambly at the Brant Museum and Archives at (519) 752-2483 or by email at [bhambly@brantmuseums.ca](mailto:bhambly@brantmuseums.ca).

Join the Brant Historical Society on **Saturday October 24<sup>th</sup>** from **5:30 - 9:00pm** for our 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Halloween Haunt at Myrtleville House Museum!

This family-friendly event is held in partnership with the Myrtleville/Mayfair Neighbourhood Association, and will feature:

- A chance for you to test your bravery in the haunted historic house
- A pumpkin patch to wander through (and take photos!)
- A junior zone - with games, activities, and a movie or two!

Admission to the event is free, though donations are welcome. There will be NO PARKING on site during the event. If you have any questions, or would like to volunteer, please contact Esther at 519-752-3216 or email [esther.brouwer@brantmuseums.ca](mailto:esther.brouwer@brantmuseums.ca)



Each membership package comes with the following privileges:

- ✓ Advance notification and special invitation to all our Activities and Events, including Children's Camps and PA Days
- ✓ Free Admission to our monthly Speaker Series
- ✓ Free Admission to our Walking Tours (fee applies to all non-members)
- ✓ BHS Newsletter – all that's new and exciting at BHS
- ✓ 10% off all Gift Shop purchases over \$20
- ✓ Access to, and use of, our Research facilities - 5 hours of research time



Packages:

☐ Student (\$20.00)  
(to 24 yrs with school/college/university ID)  
(One voting membership in all Brant Historical Society membership meetings, including the Annual General Meeting, plus all privileges)

☐ Individual (\$25.00)  
(One voting membership in all Brant Historical Society membership meetings, including the Annual General Meeting, plus all privileges)

☐ Couple (\$40.00)  
(Two voting memberships in all Brant Historical Society membership meetings, including the Annual General Meeting, and all privileges for two individuals living at the same address)

☐ Family (\$80.00)  
(Four voting memberships in all Brant Historical Society membership meetings, including the Annual General Meeting, and all privileges for a family living at the same address)

Payment may be made at or sent to:

Brant Historical Society  
57 Charlotte Street  
Brantford, Ontario N3T 2W6

Please provide the names of all individuals per package and indicate if over 18 years of age for voting membership.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ 18+ ☐

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ 18+ ☐

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ 18+ ☐

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ 18+ ☐

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ 18+ ☐

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ PC: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Donation Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

(Tax receipts will be provided for monetary donations above \$20.00)

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \_\_\_\_\_

METHOD OF PAYMENT

☐ Cash ☐ Cheque

☐ Credit Card: \_\_\_ Visa \_\_\_ MC

Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiry date: \_\_\_\_\_