

# OSGOODE TOWNSHIP OBSERVER

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## HERITAGE DAY 2022

Join us and our Ottawa heritage and culture friends as we celebrate Heritage Day 2022: Growing From our Roots - our Heritage and Histories.

As an heritage organization, we're often reflecting on our own past and our roots. Our roots sprouted in 1972, when the Osgoode Township Historical Society, as part of the New Horizons initiative, was established by local members of the community, headed by Elizabeth Stevens Stuart. This year, we're celebrating 50 years since its inception!

The main objective of this group was to prepare for the 150th anniversary of the Township of Osgoode, on August 8th, 1973. This was when the group signed an agreement to use the property known as Vernon Public School.

We're incredibly fortunate to have seen our roots grow into a diverse, engaging community museum!



Pictured above: Elizabeth Stevens Stuart and Laura McDiarmid (nee McIntosh) stand with a newly acquired phonograph, donated by Mrs. McDiarmid.



## HERITAGE DAY 2022

### Louise & Eric Moore Award for Outstanding Volunteerism in Capital Heritage



Helen is a longtime volunteer board member at the Osgoode Township Museum, who also sits on several committees at the museum including the fundraising committee. Over the past couple years, Helen has taken on the gargantuan task of leading our Heritage Garden Committee in maintaining the museum's 10,000 square foot heritage garden, as well as surrounding orchard & grounds. Helen sources local partnerships and sponsorships for in-kind donations to supplement the small gardening budget. She organizes and oversees the volunteers who work in the garden, adapting with the changes during Covid and leading the group through two spectacular gardening seasons that have become a haven for the surrounding community during these difficult times.

If you pop by the museum anytime during the spring, summer, or early fall you're almost guaranteed to run into Helen, who will excitedly share tidbits of history, gardening information, or general enthusiasm with you, such as: "Come here and check out this Swallow Tail Caterpillar on our dill plants!" or "Have you seen these amazing Okra flowers?!" "Look how big our pumpkins are getting!" or "Come take some mint home with you!" Helen also takes the time to stop what she's working on and chat with any visitor or member of the public who stops in at the garden.

Above and beyond the countless hours she spends cultivating the Museum's Heritage Garden, Helen has also had a few major achievements while she's volunteered with the museum! One such achievement includes solving a long time mystery of how the previously installed irrigation system works. A total game changer for gardening at the museum! Helen has also taken on the tedious task of harvesting seeds for our seed fundraiser, researching best harvesting practices, germination rates and information for packaging. She also times and harvests large amounts of produce in the fall for our Harvest Festival Take-Home Baskets. Thank you, Helen, for your immense contributions to our local community!



## FROM THE COLLECTION

### New Acquisition - William Anderson Artefacts

William Anderson, originally from Scotland but having settled and farmed in Kenmore, ON, fought in the First World War, enlisting at 22. The objects recently donated include his discharge certificate from 1919, a recognition of service certificate from the citizens of Kenmore, a handwritten letter of thanks for war service from the citizens of Kenmore, a War Services letter from Buckingham Palace, and a framed oval convex black and white print of William.

This recent acquisition will enhance the current collection, as the museum was fortunate to acquire William's 42nd Highlander uniform in 1978.



### Canada Agriculture Day

On February 22, we, along with thousands of Canadians, celebrated local agriculture and the farmers who produce food to millions of Canadians and to citizens across the globe. 2022 marked the 6th year of Canada's Agriculture Day.

Maple Meadows Farm, owned by the Acres family, is located on Belmeade Road outside of Osgoode, and has been in operation since 1923! Their mixed farming includes sheep, beef, chickens and cash crops (primarily corn, barley and soybeans).



Pictured above: Shirley Hunter, Dwayne Acres and Alex Campbell, Metcalfe, 1978. Can you identify the lady for us?

## **FAREWELL TO OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Dear Osgoode Township Museum Community,

It is very bittersweet to be leaving Osgoode Township Museum after three and a half years as its Executive Director. It has been an honour, privilege, and joy to represent the Museum and to connect and engage with the local community. I have seen so much progress in the past few years that brings me great excitement to see where the Museum will be led next.

I wish the staff, board and members of the OTM all the best in the years to come! I look forward to being an OTM museum member and joining in on the new adventures in the years to come!

Jillian Jordan  
Executive Director



## **WELCOME, ASHLEY, OUR NEW COLLECTIONS OFFICER!**

We bid farewell to Patrick as our outgoing Collections Officer at the beginning of February 2022. He moves onto his exciting new venture as Collections Coordinator with the Canadian Museum of History! We wish Patrick all the best in his future endeavours!

Please join us in welcoming Ashley Cuthbert at the museum's new Collections Officer! Ashley is with us until early July. Ashley grew up in rural Ottawa and has a BA in History and minor in Art History from Queen's University. Ashley loves travelling and has always enjoyed visiting museums which is what led her to enroll in the Applied Museum Studies program at Algonquin College! Ashley's dream is to create memorable experiences for people and tell stories through interpretive exhibitions and visual design.





## UPCOMING EVENTS & UPDATES

### 2022 Summer Students

Do you know local Osgoode youth looking for work experience in a museum setting? Osgoode Township Museum is looking for summer students to join the team! They'll have the opportunity to engage with our local community as a Programming Assistant, or can delve into the fascinating array of artefacts as a Collections & Exhibit Assistant! Looking to increase inclusivity in the heritage sector? They can make your mark as a Diversity & Inclusion Officer!

Full details including how to apply is listed on the museum's website. Deadline to apply is April 8, 2022.



**Winter Break**  
**MUSEUM CAMP KIT**  
**COMMUNITY BUILDERS**

OSGOODE  
— TOWNSHIP —  
MUSEUM

**\$45**

Kit includes 5 days of engaging activities for at-home fun!  
For ages 6-12

To order your kit  
[osgoodemuseum.ca](https://osgoodemuseum.ca)

The poster features four diverse children in various roles: a girl in a firefighter's uniform, a boy in a construction worker's uniform, a girl in a chef's uniform, and a boy in a medical professional's uniform. They are standing in front of a stylized cityscape with a large sun in the background.

**Pickup is at the museum**  
**March 12 from 10am-4pm**

Are you looking for something fun and engaging to do with your kids over Winter Break? We've got you covered! Our upcoming Camp Kit is called Community Builders! In this STEM based kit you will learn about all of the wonderful people who live, work in and make up a community. People who grow food, build things, take care of people, teach, & fix things all play an important role and keep a community going! Each week day your kiddo will have 2 hands-on, engaging activities to do over Winter Break, for a total of 10 activities included in the kit!

Kits cost \$45 and curbside pickup will be at the museum Saturday March 12th, 2022 between 10am-4pm. Please ensure you are able to pick up your kit(s) on this date before registering. Questions? Email [education@osgoodemuseum.ca](mailto:education@osgoodemuseum.ca)



**YOUR 2022**  
**SUMMER** *at*  
**OSGOODE MUSEUM**

**MAY 17 - SEPTEMBER 2, 2022**

**DIVERSITY & INCLUSION OFFICER • PROGRAMMING ASSISTANT • COLLECTIONS & EXHIBIT ASSISTANT •**

**NEW SKILLS • GREAT TEAM • CAREER GROWTH • FUN REQUIRED!**

**APPLY NOW**

**VERNON, ON**

The poster features a farmer in a red shirt and blue overalls standing next to a red tractor. The background is a light yellow with a large, stylized sun and a corn stalk on the right side.

### 2022 Winter Take-Home Kits

## Museum Talks: Farmerettes – March 3, 7PM



Learn all about the young women who answered the call to work on farms in Ontario during World War II.

This virtual talk is all about the fascinating and little-known history of the Farmerettes! From 1941-1952 approximately 20,000 girls 16 -18 years of age enlisted in the Ontario Farm Service Force, ensuring that food would continue to be cultivated and harvested as they replaced the men who left farm labour to enlist for military service.

Their motto was "WE LEND A HAND" and that they did, as well as bending a back. Hear about the Farmerette Camps, their accommodations, the work in fields, orchards and vineyards, the fun, and the experiences of the women who were part of the group of people known as the greatest generation.

Register via our website, or call Caitlyn at 613-821-4062 to help set up your registration for you!

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### Osgoode Township Museum

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