

Message from The Board

Dear Members,

On behalf of the Victoria County Historical Society's Board of Directors, I want to thank you for your continuing support. The preservation of the collection and the ultimate goal of opening the doors to the Museum are well on the way, we look forward to working with you in the coming weeks, months and years as we make our goal a reality.

We would like to invite all of you to any or all of our upcoming events.

- Our speakers Series continues on April 28th, with our guest speaker Charles Cooper giving a discussion on the railways.
- Our Annual Yard Sale will take place May 15th in the courtyard.
- "Honouring the Past" July 24th, 2010 at the Lindsay Armouries.

Join us for a day of historical displays and music, and end the evening with a catered dinner with Big Band entertainment. Tickets are \$60.00 per person.

Fenelon Falls Celebration

This summer on August 7th, the town of Fenelon Falls will be celebrating the 125th anniversary of the opening of their municipal locks. This promises to be a family-friendly affair with the arrival of First Nations canoeists kicking off the day, and lots of activities around the locks and Fenelon's old fashioned downtown shops.

The VCHS will be in attendance with a heritage display, and was able to pull a photo from its files depicting construction on the site sometime in the 50's.



Grant Updates

Since having our financials back in good order, we have tried to take advantage of various opportunities offered for heritage grants, and I am delighted to report that we have met with some success!

We have in our collection a gold-brocaded uniform belonging to former MP and WW1-era Minister of Militia and Defense, Sir Sam Hughes. We believed it to be a full-dress uniform, but it may actually be his Court Uniform, worn when attending British royalty. We applied to the Canadian Museums Association's (CMA) *Preserving Canadian Treasures* funding program to enable us to build a display case in which we might show this artefact to its full advantage, and were delighted to receive the sum of \$1000. The photo to the right shows the uniform in its present case, which will not accommodate a full body and head mount.



The Lindsay Legacy C.H.E.S.T fund awarded us the generous amount of \$82,000 with which we can address the structural and fire code issues that keep us from opening the door to the public.

The Ministry of Tourism and Culture has granted us over \$7,600 through its "Celebrate Ontario" program to 'upgrade' our Honouring the Past' event so that we might advertise in the GTA, increase the stature of the day's entertainment and attract out-of-town visitors to our inaugural Heritage Showcase.

The City of Kawartha Lakes, through its Community Partnership and Development Fund, awarded us \$500.00 to help cover the cost of our new Speakers Series, so that we might continue to offer it to the public at large, free for all.

We have a few more irons in the fire, and hope to bring more such announcements with our next newsletter. Though we are preparing more formal expressions of thanks to our benefactors, we wish to acknowledge with gratitude the assistance we have received. It all goes to getting the doors open, and letting the public examine the treasures of Victoria County. The Society will shortly be commencing public fundraising in order to provide for ongoing capital projects and curatorial staffing of the Museum.



Speaker's Series a Success!

One new activity of the VCHS has been the commencement of a speaker's series, which offers interesting talks on heritage issues to the general public. Our first speaker was educator, author and culinary historian, Dorothy Duncan, who presented a lively discussion of pioneer and traditional Ontario foods and cooking. The lucky fifty or so guests were able to try some sample tarts, gingerbread and scones made from old-fashioned recipes and ingredients.

In February we hosted Kinmount's own Gus Scott, who presented an "affectionate history of agricultural fairs in Canada". Again, we got out a good crowd, especially considering the state of the weather at the time.

April's meeting brings us to Charles Cooper and Russ Moore of the Lindsay & District Model Railroaders, who will discuss the past and present of railway history in Victoria County. This newsletter may arrive too late for this meeting, but watch the paper for announcements of future lectures. Light refreshments are offered, and you need not be a member to attend. Financial assistance has been provided by a generous contribution from the City of Kawartha Lakes,

Honouring the Past

You are cordially invited to join the
Victoria County Historical Society
for its inaugural summer heritage showcase,
Honouring the Past
to be held at the Lindsay Armoury and Grounds on
July 24th, 2010 from 10:00 am. to 4:00 pm.

In keeping with the City of Kawartha Lakes' (CKL) stated strategic tourism priorities and our preliminary business plan, the Victoria County Historical Society (VCHS) has developed an annual signature special event for our region, to be known as "Honouring the Past". The inaugural event will be held on July 24th, 2010.

Please join with us in our first annual summer celebration of our unique and diversified past, from Aboriginal times and early settlement to Victoria County days and the present.



NOTICE TO MEMBERS

2010 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday May 27th, 2010 at 7:00 pm at the Lindsay Inn, Lindsay Street South

SPEAKER—Mr. Dennis Carter-Edwards of Parks Canada,
on 'The Trent Severn Waterway'

- Overview of 2009, President's Report:
 1. Progress made in 2009, Charity Status re-instated
 2. 'Jail' Project Grants Legacy C.H.E.S.T.
 3. Accessibility Plans –new entrance
 4. Renovations underway for Museum Occupancy
 5. Plan for 2010 and current status
 6. Business Plan update
- Approval of the Minutes of the May 28th, 2009 Annual General Meeting.
- Presentation of the Financial Statements For 2009
- Report of the Nominating Committee and the Election of Directors for 2010
- To Appoint the Accountants and to authorize the Directors to set their remuneration
- To transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting or any adjournment thereof.

Please join your fellow members for discussion of the above agenda items and bring along your ideas, questions and concerns. Your input is appreciated!