



Fort Frances Museum & Cultural Centre

259 Scott Street
Fort Frances, ON P9A 1G8
P: 807 274-7891 F: 807 274-4103
www.fortfrances.ca/museum
sgeorge@fortfrances.ca

Find us on Instagram & Facebook!

Winter & Spring Classes Wrap Up



We've had an amazing series of classes this winter and spring! Thank you to all the people who were able to teach the classes, and an even bigger thank you to all those who participated. We wouldn't have been able to run the classes without you! Let us know what classes were your favorite, and what you would like to see for classes in the fall!

Baking Scones is to the left, and silk tie painting is below.



Issue 26
May 2018

Inside this issue:

Upcoming Exhibit	2
Museum Updates	3
Children & Youth Summer Programs	3
Calendar of Events	4
Notes From The Curator's Desk ...	5
Indian Horse	5
Staff Updates	6
Volunteer News	7

Special Dates of Interest

- International Museum Day is May 18th! Come out and support your local museum!
- Opening Night Reception for our new exhibit: We Were Taught Differently is May 23rd from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. All are welcome to join.
- National Indigenous Peoples Day is June 21st!

New 'Friends of the Museum' Swag

We've got new 'Friends of the Museum' merchandise! Come on by the museum and get your own Campfire Mug — it's big enough to fit a cup of soup! It will be perfect for your home for any purpose — tea, coffee, ice cream, or as a decoration! It can be yours for only \$20!



bakaan nake'ii
ngii-izhi-gakinoo'amaagoomin:

we were
taught
differently

the indian
residential
school
experience



**EXHIBITS
OPENING
RECEPTION**

May 23rd, 2018
3 p.m.—7 p.m.

Evening Schedule:
3:00 p.m. - Browse
Exhibits

3:30 p.m. - Traditional
Drumming followed by
Opening Remarks

Refreshments Served
Following Opening
Speakers

**EXHIBITS DISPLAYED
MAY TO AUGUST 2018**

Exhibit is on loan from
Lake of the Woods
Museum in Kenora,
located in the Main Floor
Gallery

Plus a special exhibition
of St. Marguerite's
Indian Residential School
in Fort Frances by Glenn
Jourdain of Couchiching
First Nation, located in
the Upstairs Gallery

Museum Updates & Renovations

We joined Instagram! Come and give us a follow at [fortfrances.museum](https://www.instagram.com/fortfrancesmuseum/) ! We've also been trying to be more active on our Facebook — let us know what kind of content you would like to see for future posts.

In regards to renovations, Ed Halvorsen and his team have put in a new door frame, and finished the bathroom on the main floor. Thanks! Come check out their awesome work!

We still have plans to complete the ramp that was part of the Canada 150 upgrades to our facility. These will bypass the front steps. Once again we thank FedNor and Trillium for the federal and provincial funding that allows us to grow as a community museum.

The town's 2018 capital budget includes repairs to the Hallett this summer — woohoo! This means that some windows and doors will be replaced, and the engine room will receive a little TLC. By the end of the summer the Hallett should be ship-shape! Anyone feel like a tour to kick off their summer??



Ontario
Trillium
Foundation



Fondation
Trillium
de l'Ontario

SnOasis 6 Fun



The Tugboat Owandem

Although fundraising for the Owandem has taken a short recess, work continues. If you would like to contribute to this cause, Owandem supporters say thank you! With still roughly \$13,000 to be raised (painting and building a berth), we are still accepting contributions to the fund.



Tuesdays at the Rainy Lake

Program will be held Tues afternoons, from 1-3 p.m. for 6-10 year olds.

There will be a variety of activities that will change weekly. Overseen by Museum staff, children will use the museum facility as an alternate location should weather interfere.

Price: \$5 per child or \$12 per family for each 2-hour session. Pre-register to hold your spot. Maximum class size: 25 children.

Calendar of Events

Summer Exhibits

We shall be hosting two exhibits from May through August. **Opening reception: May 23rd from 3 to 7 p.m.** Everyone welcome.

The exhibits are: *Bakaan Nake'ii Ngii-izhi-gakinoo'amaagoomin: We Were Taught Differently, The Indian Residential School Experience* on loan from Kenora's Lake of the Woods Museum; and the work of Glenn Jourdain of Couchiching First Nation which focuses on St. Marguerite's Indian Residential School here in Fort Frances.

Join us as we share this difficult, but very important story.

Spring Classes

Spring classes are now wrapping up and will be on a hiatus for the summer. Check our August newsletter or follow on Facebook for updates for Fall Classes.

Summer Events

There will be a couple speakers but times have not been locked down yet! Follow us on Facebook for upcoming events, programs, and speakers!

Summer Programs

We have some new children and youth programs! They will be running several times during the week. Check out details on page 3.

Tea & Scones are back every market **Thursday from June 28th until August 30th** from 11 a.m. until 4 p.m. Smashing teas and home-made scones are baked fresh each day. Back elevator entrance will be open. Only \$5!



Newspaper Digitization

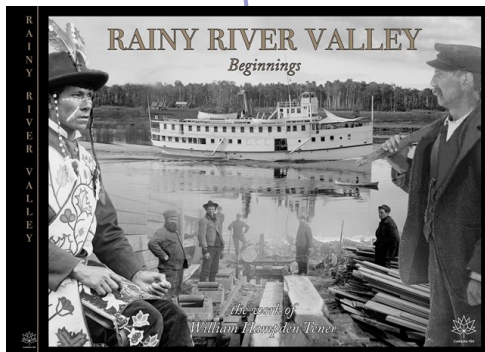
Work continues. With financial assistance that came through an estate settlement, Chris Silver is nearing completion of our weekly papers. With the inclusion of recent Fort Frances Times — already digitized — we will soon have all weekly newspapers readily accessible to the public.

Upcoming Exhibits

September - October 2018: The Museum's 40th Anniversary

November - December 2018: Indigenous Veterans

January - March 2019: Fibre Arts Festival



William Hampden Tener (Tenner)

We still have photo books for sale! It will look great displayed on your coffee table at home for only \$25.

Tener's photographs are fantastic as he recorded the 'everyday' of the late 1800s and early 1900s. During this period it was difficult to get a camera or a photographer, due to expense and lack of access in Northwestern Ontario! His photos present a glimpse into a remote, but growing community.

Notes from the Curator's Desk...

The museum remains very busy.

You will have noticed on page 6 that we have a new intern, Laura Gosse, who started March 5. She will be with us for one year through the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation. We are very grateful for this program which continues to give us a much needed pair of hands for museum initiatives. Laura's primary function this year will be to reach out to our community as we tell our local history from a First Nations perspective, a project where we'll be partnering with a number of other community groups.

In addition, Laura has put together this newsletter. Thank you, Laura, and welcome to our community!

We ran workshops most Saturdays during the off-season. These often have waiting lists, which indicates to us that there is a need. Adults in our community are looking for things to do where they can get out and socialize. If you are a frequent user of the these programs, do make suggestions as to what more you would like to see offered. In future we would also like to offer evening speakers, so if you've an idea, please forward.

Students are back and will be helping with our expanding summer programming, not only a weekly session for the 6-10 age group, but also drama for our youth. This latter group is often left with little to do over the summer, so we're hoping they take advantage of a great opportunity to create and act in their own play. We have kept costs down to bare bones to keep it affordable, and is only available through a partnership with Friends of the Museum and Friends of the Library, a fantastic group effort from an even more fantastic group of volunteers who continue to do amazing things for our community!

We have another wonderful season lined up. Do visit our very important exhibit, on loan to us from the Lake of the Woods Museum in Kenora. As we've come to expect, they've handled a very difficult subject with respect and sensitivity. Please take some time to stop by and see it. Opening is May 23, from 3-7 p.m.

Thank you for your ongoing support!

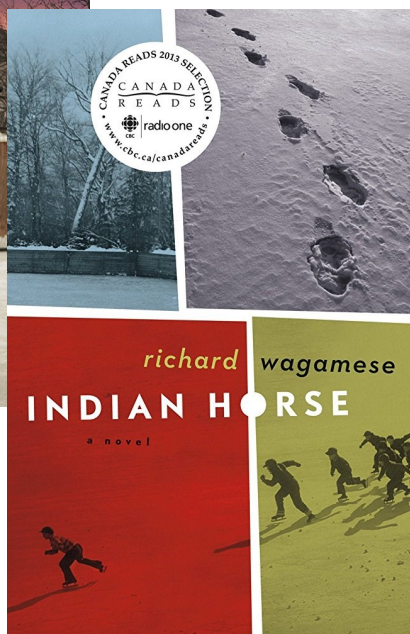


Indian Horse Showing in Fort Frances

In the late 1950s Ontario, 7 year old Saul Indian Horse is torn away from his Ojibway family and is sent to a Catholic Residential School. He isn't allowed to speak his language or embrace his indigenous culture, while witnessing all kinds of abuse at the school. Despite this, he finds freedom as he plays hockey. He secretly teaches himself how to play, and he becomes exceptionally talented at the sport. This then allows him to leave the residential school and play pro — although he is still faced with the exceptional challenges of racism and assimilation. He embraces his heritage and draws upon the strength of his ancestors and his friends to heal and to persevere against all of the obstacles in his way to succeed.

This book was written by Richard Wagamese and was produced by Clint Eastwood in 2017. It has won several awards in Canada.

The Fort Frances High School will be hosting two public showings at the Townshend Theatre: May 23rd and 24th at 6:30 p.m. Admission is \$10.



Staff Updates: New Summer Students!



Savannah Woods

I am excited to be back at the museum for my third summer! Since I have been gone, I have graduated from university with a Psychology degree and have started Teacher's College. I am looking forward to being back working with the community and our area's tourists! Savannah's position is funded through the Ontario Summer Experience program.

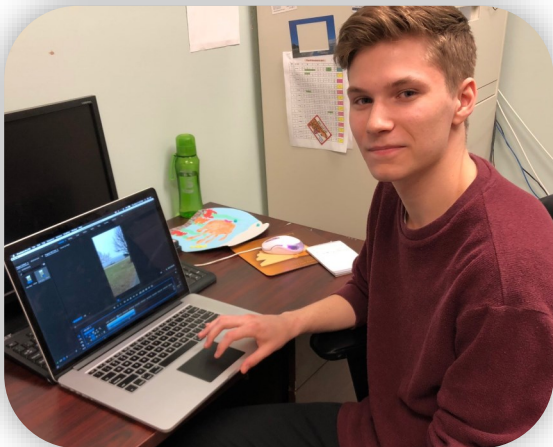
Naomi McManaman

I am so excited to be back working at the museum this summer. Currently I am a student at the University of Ottawa, pursuing a Honours BA in Psychology. This year I am really looking forward to all of our summer programming and reopening the Hallett back up for tours! Naomi returns through the funding of Canada Summer Jobs program.



Cameron Cawston

This is my third year working at the museum for the summer. I am looking forward to working with our community on various projects and lending my technical skills where ever I can. Cameron has one year left at OCAD University where he is pursuing a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Integrated Media. Cameron's position is funded through Canada's Summer Jobs program.



Alyssa Armstrong

I am coming back for my second year working at the museum. I have just finished my second year of school at Queen's University in Kingston, where I am pursuing an undergraduate degree in biology. This summer, I'm most excited to be involved in the kids programming events again!

Alyssa returns to the museum through federal grant funding: the Young Canada Works program.



Laura Gosse

I have just completed by BSc in Archaeology & Geography from the University of Lethbridge. I am thrilled to be the new intern at the Fort Frances Museum thanks to the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation. My role as the community engagement coordinator will be doing outreach with indigenous communities in our surrounding area in order to develop programming that tells local history from a First Nations Perspective.



Volunteer News



Nell Laur has bravely undertaken the daunting task of accessioning the backlog of artifacts in our basement! With not enough man power in the museum, the accessions log has fallen to the wayside. However, with Nell's help we should be able to start going through the room! She's currently accessioning clothing from the Fashion 150 Exhibit from the winter that was donated by June Smith.

Some of our summer students will learn accessioning skills this summer from Nell. If you'd like to offer your assistance on this project we will be looking for additional volunteers in the fall!

Maxine (aka Max) Hayes and Darlene Mitchell have been busy organizing and cataloguing files in our library! Thanks ladies for cleaning it up for us and making it easier to find files for us and the community!

Max has been working on a special project for a client — prohibition and bootlegging in the Rainy River District! She is enjoying finding all sorts of tidbits about former members of our community and how some government agencies were in on the illegal activities...



Sandra Brunetta is currently interviewing members of our community and getting their personal histories and their memories about the town. Great job Sandra! Since she has started this, the list of people we need to interview has grown long. When one considers our many elders that are living in towns, in the country, and in our First Nations communities there is much to be done!

Anyone who would like to volunteer please contact the museum.

Image to the left is of Fort Frances High School in 1914.

We are ALWAYS looking for new faces from the community to join our volunteer team. It doesn't matter what age you are or what you do — if you need school credit, need something to do, or just a general interest, come to the museum and volunteer — I guarantee you'll learn something if you do!