
Fort Frances Museum & Cultural Centre

259 Scott Street
Fort Frances, ON P9A 1G8
807 274-7891

Fax: 807 274-4103

www.fort-frances.com/museum

sgeorge@fort-frances.com

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Summer 2015

Currently featured in our main floor gallery...

“Noden Causeway, 50 Years Young!”

It's summer! Isn't it wonderful to have the season here, on time and feeling blessedly like summer? No flooding and lots of sunshine! Awesome.

Our summer's exhibit celebrates the **Story of the Noden Causeway**. On June 28, 1965, with the causeway completed, Highway 11 between Atikokan and Fort Frances was declared officially open.

Fifty years later we celebrate this magnificent feat of engineering that not only opened up the beauty of the lake district, but also contributed greatly to the prosperity of Fort Frances and area. This exhibit will be offered in our main floor gallery from May through August.



Calendar of Events

- May through August: 50th Anniversary of the Opening of the Noden Causeway - main floor gallery
 - Starting June 18: Specialty Tea and Homemade Scones upstairs on Market Thursdays
 - Wednesday, June 24th: Public reception to celebrate Noden Causeway Anniversary, 4:30—8 p.m.
 - Adult Art Workshops with Shawna Holmlund: 2 sessions: July 8 & 15, July 22 & 29, 6:30-9:30; \$75
 - Teen Art Camp with Shawna Holmlund: Aug 10-12 & 17-19, 1-4 p.m. Six afternoons for \$115.
 - September to December: The Artistry of Hooked Rugs - main floor gallery
 - September to December: Art workshops on Saturdays - more information to come.
 - Thursday, November 5th: Friends Fall Fundraising Gala!
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Tea and Scones

In addition to Market Thursdays on Scott Street, the Museum will once again be holding our Tea and Scones event. Smashing Tea will be providing both the usual flavours as well as a variety of new teas for the public to enjoy. Scones are being donated by generous volunteer bakers. This well-enjoyed weekly event will be held from 10am-4pm starting June 18th in our upstairs small gallery. We look forward to the start of this popular summer gathering.



Noden Causeway Reception

Due to the Noden Causeway's significance to our community, there was a great interest in the creation of this summer's exhibit. To celebrate its 50th anniversary, the public is invited to our Wine and Cheese reception. The event will be held at the Museum on Wednesday, June 24th, from 4:30 until 8 p.m., with opening remarks beginning at 5 p.m. Wine and cheese will be served on the main floor, and coffee and birthday cake in our upstairs meeting area. For those who prefer not to use the stairs, our elevator entrance will be open for the evening. Please join us! Everyone welcome!

Shawna Holmlund Workshops

This summer we are excited to have artist Shawna Holmlund working with the Museum to provide two workshops that will take place in July and August. The first workshop, aimed at adults, will show how to transform old furniture into something new. Shawna plans on using old chairs, as well as the ever-popular pallet within her sessions. The second workshop will be directed towards teenagers, ages 12-17, and will be focused on using recycled and natural materials to produce pieces of art. After learning the fundamentals and techniques of sketching, students will use these new skills along with items such as pop cans, bottles, wire, newspaper, and much more to create their unique art. Interested people can inquire and sign up at the Museum. These workshops are expected to be a great success and we are hopeful that we can provide similar classes throughout the year.



Returning Staff

We are once again excited to welcome our summer students back to the Museum. Fortunately, grants approved through federal and provincial agencies allow us to hire student help. This year we welcome back our two university students Savannah Woods and Jillian Berry and our high school student Naomi McManaman. There is a lot to get done this summer so we are eager to get started on all of our projects!



Right now our summer students are focusing on planning our children's summer programming. Through May to August we organize many events for both the end-of-the-school-year students as well as Rec'n Crew. In the top right corner, Savannah (Young Canada Works and Summer Jobs Service) is seen planning events for our weekly visits from the Rec'n Crew day camp and Day Care participants. They are planning many new activities that get the children more involved with the Museum and history.

In the picture to the right, Jillian (Canada Summer Jobs and Summer Jobs Service) is preparing birch bark for an activity with one of our school groups. The students organize different activities for each class to create a unique experience that correlates with the classes' curriculum.



In the above picture, Naomi (Summer Experience and Summer Jobs Service) is working on finishing up our school ledgers project. Attendance ledgers from area schools dating back to the Town's earliest history are being preserved for future generations. Once we enter July, the students will also recommence work on our digitization project. As an ongoing project the students work to digitize newspapers up to recent publications.

Summer Intern

In addition to our returning summer students, the Museum is excited to welcome a new one-year intern who is expected to start this summer. The Museum has received a grant from Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corp. to fund the position of a Collections Management Coordinator Intern. This intern will be a university graduate within the museum field. Their duties will include going through our collection in order to see if there are duplicate artifacts and missing research information and to note the location of the stored items within our collection. In addition there are a number of items that have been donated to the museum over the past couple of years; however, they have not been accessioned and formally entered into our collection. The intern will be responsible for working on this backlog and entering items into our newly updated database. The museum is currently in the process of arranging interviews for interested applicants. We are eager to find a suitable candidate who will be able to help us organize and improve our collection!



Update at the Museum

With the help of dedicated volunteers the Museum was able to update our permanent exhibit. In hopes of providing visitors with a fresh new look we have rearranged our displays and added new artifacts. As a result, our children's backpack program has also been updated to improve the experience and allow children to better explore our history.

School Groups

This third grade class from Robert Moore kicked off this summer's children's programming with a fun pioneer craft. There was no quiet place in the building as the children hammered plants onto a piece of fabric making beautiful, natural imprints. The activity corresponded with the student's curriculum as they were in the middle of their plant unit. We look forward to more school groups that are scheduled to visit during this month.



William Noden Regalia

Last summer the Museum received a fine example of native regalia, including headdress, from the granddaughter of William Noden. This regalia is now the main artifact displayed within our exhibit of the 50th Anniversary of the Noden Causeway. Mr. Noden received this regalia at the banquet that followed the ceremony for the opening of the Causeway. Chief George McPherson of the Couchiching Band presented Noden with the gift as well as an honorary chieftainship in the band. Mr. Noden was granted the name "Meekahnaw Ogemah" meaning "King of the Road."

