
Fort Frances Museum & Cultural Centre

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August 2017

Closing the Distance: *150 Years of Getting from 'A' to 'B'*

There is still time to see our summer exhibit, featuring transportation.



Above: Steamers: Itasca & Agwinde—Howarth photo.
Left: 983.018.001—railway crew

Below: 977.034.003 — T.H. Best Livery
Below left: Norseman at Manion Lake

Until you see the photos, it's hard to believe that so many steamers and other large vessels plied the river: ferries, passenger ships, freighters, fishing boats, logging tugs, cruise ships, pleasure craft and more.

Later came the era of rail and road, which employed dozens of local crews in manual labour, carving a path through forest and rock, and around our many waterways.

And where the roads could not go... due to terrain, weather or distance... the bush-planes did, opening the north to mineral exploration and tourism, and bringing needed health care to northerners.



The scope of Northwestern Ontario has been determined by its ease of navigation, a key component to communication and economy in this part of Canada.

Exhibit closes Sept 30th.

Museum Upgrades

As reported earlier, the Museum has received funding through the Canada 150 initiative for some needed upgrades to our facility. Trillium, through the provincial government, will fund half (\$77,000); FedNor, through the federal government, has announced funding for the other half (\$69,300).



Canada

This will replace our roof, build a ramp in the courtyard that will bypass the seven steps, and combine the two small washrooms in the foyer into one large, accessible washroom.

We are very grateful for this opportunity to enhance our museum! The roof was due for replacement, and work in the front will increase the accessibility of our museum, making it inclusive to all visitors! Roof work begins soon!

Ontario
Trillium
Foundation



Fondation
Trillium
de l'Ontario

*Thank you to both levels of government,
and to Trillium and FedNor
for financial assistance!*



2017! As we celebrate Canada 150, we know it's important to find a few quality souvenirs of this momentous year. To mark the event, the museum is offering a line of souvenirs that is very attractive, well-made and available only through museums.

They include the hat, shot glass and book mark in one design (showing a stylized Canada goose and polar bear), and umbrellas and china mugs in the iconic Canadian images design similar to those on the box of chocolates.

We are very pleased with the product... something to keep in mind for holiday giving!



With the end of summer, and students heading back to school, we conclude **Tea & Scones!**

We thank all of you who participated. Numbers were down slightly, but we did contend with a number of road closures and lack of parking due to construction at the Rainy Lake Square site and replacement of sidewalks. As these are very positive developments for the future of our community, we must make way.

Our apologies if you missed out. Join us next year as we show off a new ramp and washroom!

Important Museum Initiatives

Reminder! Our interactive programming is now available!

If you haven't been in to check them out, our tablets are now in place throughout our permanent exhibit areas. In addition, eight more in two smaller versions can be carried about by visitors or shared by a classroom. Information is available by touching the screen and covers subjects in a variety of ways... video, audio, text.

Stop by! The tablets are very simple to use, but should you like some instruction, we will be happy to walk you through it.



William Hampden Tener (Tenner)

Coming soon... the **William Hampden Tener photos!** Great quality, important history!

Photo book will be available later this year through the hard work of author, **Merv Ahrens**. We also thank summer student, **Cameron Cawston**, for his help with photographs.

This will be great Christmas gift for the historian on your list!

Strategic Planning

The Museum Advisory Committee would like to thank everyone who took the time to read through our new strategic plan, sent comments or made suggestions.

A final copy will be posted to our website soon. It will also be available in hard copy at the museum, if you care to pick one up.

Thanks once again to Ian Simpson for giving so generously of his time to lead us through this important process.

Newspaper Digitization

Our newspaper digitization project is closer to completion!

Each summer our students continue photographing our weekly newspapers — a project that was begun a few years ago with the help of a grant through the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation.

But as students moved through the decades, they encountered larger weeklies, meaning that progress slowed down.

This fall, with an anonymous donation from a generous patron, we will keep someone working on the project until it is finished.

Whoohoo!

Calendar of Events

Exhibit ends Sept 30 — **150 Years of Getting from 'A' to 'B'**

Writers Group starts again in September—2nd Wed, 6:30

Adult and children's arts programming resumes. Caren has put together an exciting line-up! Details on next page.

Oct — **Keep it Hanging Around!** Details on page 5!

Thurs Nov 2 — **Friends Gala.** Did someone say beer?!

Nov/Dec — **Fashion 150**, Costume Museum of Canada. Do you have an interesting fashion piece you can loan?

In the new year, 2018, the **museum celebrates 40 years!**

*Starting Sept 5th, we're back to off-season hours:
Tues - Sat, 11 - 4. Admission by donation.*

Interested in volunteering? We're looking for someone (or group) who would like to decorate for the season or events.
Call Sherry at 274-7891.

Night at the Museum — So much fun!



Fall workshops!

Typically Saturdays, from 1 - 4 p.m. unless otherwise indicated. Book early as classes fill up fast!

Adult classes are for age 12 and up, but young adults must be interested and able to participate. Both candy-making and rug-hooking have special requirements, so stop by and pick up instructions.

Open Studios for children and families will run the last Saturday of each month, 1-4 p.m. These are drop-in sessions, so depending on your child and your schedule. \$2 per child, or \$5 maximum family rate. Lauren Hyatt will lead classes. Sessions emphasize individual expression and may include dramatic play. *A shy child? No worries; he/she won't even know they're acting!*

***Reminder:** These classes have been subsidized with funding from **Friends of the Museum** who help pay for artist's fees, advertising and snacks! So please be generous to Friends fundraising efforts!

Adult Classes	Instructor	Date/Time	Cost	Max size
Felting	Jamie Nelson	Sat Sept 16 & 23	\$16	13
Thanksgiving floral arrangements	Jen Coats	Wed Oct 4, 6-9	\$30	10
Sushi-making	Aya Sletmoen	Sat Oct 14 11 - 1 p.m.	\$25	10
Advanced Soap-making	Char Mallory	Wed Oct 25, 6-9	\$25	10
Fudge/candy for Christmas	Deb Ballard	Wed Nov 8, 6-9	\$8	10
Christmas cookies	Meghan Spooner	Sat Dec 9	TBA	10
Christmas floral arrangements	Jen Coats	Sat Dec 16 10 - 1 p.m.	\$30	10

Coming in the new year... Cup-cake decorating MSpooner Jan 20; Sip & Paint Sun-catcher glass CPruys Jan 22; Rughooking DBallard Feb 3 & 10; Silk Tie painting CPruys Mar 3; Spring floral arrangement JCoats Mar 24; Scone-making SGeorge & MHickling Apr 15; Garden stepping stone NLowey May 5. Details to be confirmed.

SAVING THE OWANDEM!

The Fort Frances Museum, in partnership with Friends of the Museum, has launched four fundraising initiatives to save the OwanDEM:

- 1) In July we sent out pledge sheets with Town utility bills. We thank those who were quick to respond; your generosity is greatly appreciated! If you still have plans to fill out a form, we will be accepting pledges for the remainder of the year.
- 2) You may have noticed donation boxes around town, suitable for anyone not requiring a tax receipt. Loose change and small bills are gratefully accepted!
- 3) In October, the museum is hosting “Keep It Hanging Around!” ...for those who’d prefer to help out in another way — information below.
- 4) All proceeds from this fall’s gala go toward the boat.

Help save this important piece of our logging history!



Left: logging tug and bug forwarding wood, featured on the old Canadian \$1 bank note.

**\$4000 plus
& counting!**



OwanDEM, pictured above, in front of the mill boat-house, located at Crowe Avenue.

Below right: Donation boxes made by Eric Fagerdahl.



We gratefully acknowledge all those who have so generously pledged money to the OwanDEM!

Admirals: the George Armstrong Company Ltd, & Robert & Kathie Nugent;

Old Salts: Fort Frances General Supply, & Mary & Dave Hickling; **Ship's Mates:**

Kimberley & Guy Beaudry, West End Motors, Jack & Elaine Allen, & Robert & Joyce Schulz;

Deck Hands: Margaret Kircher, Fort Floral, Pat Basaraba, Carolyn Oliver; and Louise Erb

Keep It Hanging Around! Raising funds for refurbishing the OwanDEM! *Let's make this happen!*

Have you recently renovated? Are you changing colour schemes, or simply tired of last year's décor? If yes, we want your gently used art pieces. Whether a painting, a vase or that antique lamp that no longer works with your contemporary design, consider donating it to a worthy cause: *Keep It Hanging Around!*

Drop off your gently used art pieces at the museum during the month of October, Tues through Sat, 11-4. Items will be displayed at the museum and sold through silent auction.

Silent auction forms will be pulled each Tuesday, beginning October 10th thru Oct 31st, so stop in often and make your bids!!

Keep it mind that this is NOT a garage sale! Only like-new, decorative items, please!



Left: 987.153.605—Flanders meat run, Calm Lake, 1947

Below: 987.153.600a—Little Turtle River drive, 1947



Owandem - hard at work



Above: 987.153.606b—Calm Lake, October

Below: 995.009.004—Hallett & bug, boom at the dock, 1950



Above: 987.153.551—poling logs for a boom

Below: 2005.021.005—Hallett & bug in Bear Pass Channel

