

Annual Report 2015-2016

Colchester: Life in the Heart of Nova Scotia

The past few years of meetings, discussions and designing has come to fruition with the installation of the new core exhibit, *Colchester: Life in the Heart of Nova Scotia*. Part of a revitalization of the Colchester Historeum, the core exhibit is a multi-faceted interpretive installation that celebrates both the building's original architecture and the rich history and culture of Colchester County. The exhibit features numerous photographs from our own collection on retractable banners which allow for multipurpose use of the main gallery. Sometimes mistakenly named a permanent exhibit, this core exhibit features components which can be changed to keep it fresh, such as the

large exhibit cases and the ability to upload new videos in the mini-theatre.

The entrance lobby has been redesigned with an emphasis on reciprocity; walls of “pigeon holes” offer valuable space to promote other heritage groups and sites in our county. The goal is to encourage visitors to stay longer in Colchester. The giant floor map greeting them as they enter the building is just another tool to showcase what Colchester County has to offer.

In February, the society hosted two events to mark this achievement and to thank those who made it happen, including volunteers, financial donors, government

representatives, and the team of Camus Productions. Our Core Exhibit Committee worked closely with Camus Productions, and we will be pleased to see the completion of this major revitalization project, which has breathed new life into our building and our society. Thank you to all the members and volunteers who were involved in this process. Congratulations on a job well done.

At the time of writing this report, the final touches are being put on *Colchester: Life in the Heart of Nova Scotia*; although the installation is essentially complete.

Submitted by Joe Ballard

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Society Objectives	2
President's Message	3
Museum Committee	2
Curator's Report	5
Archivist's Report	7
Programs Report	8
Membership Report	11
Newsletter Report	12
Programs	14/
Budget for 2016/17	16
Financial Statement	17

Colchester Historeum



Objectives of the Colchester Historical Society

CURATOR/ADMINISTRATOR

Margaret Mulrooney

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ARCHIVIST/LIBRARIAN

Nan Harvey

Phone (902) 895-9530

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ADMINISTRATION**MEMBERSHIP****TREASURER**

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Truro, NS B2N 5C5

The objects of the Society are:

To gather, compile, and preserve written, printed and photographic documents of historic value and interest, relating to Colchester County.

To acquire, preserve and display artifacts significant to the historic development of Colchester County.

To gather and record stories until now unwritten, which exist only in the memory of older people.

To administer and operate for the enlightenment, entertainment and benefit at large the Colchester Historical Society Museum, open to the public, and to select and display therein a continuing series of traveling or temporary exhibits chosen for their historical, scientific or artistic value. In addition, a permanent display area will be designated depicting the natural history of Colchester County.

To administer and operate for the benefit of members and society at large, a research library known as the Colchester Historical Society Archives.

To promote the marking of historic sites within Colchester County by suitable plaques, cairns or otherwise; and

To cooperate with civic officials in civic celebrations of an historic nature.



President's Message

Another year under our belts. We saw the completion of the main exhibit gallery and the opening up of our new front foyer.

Funding for the core project came principally from the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency. ACOA contributed \$199,567.00 which was 53% of the total cost. Other contributors worthy of mention are the province of Nova Scotia, the County of Colchester, and the Town of Truro, each contributing dollars over the past three years. The **Fostering History Capital Campaign** under the direction of Beth Johnston and Bonnie Waddell realized \$59,577.00. Culminating in a gala evening honoring the late Wayne Foster, a popular history teacher and society members. Former students & friends of his dedicated a window screen in the main gallery to his memory. Other community and society members purchased the claiming rights to four other of the window screens during the campaign. (There are still two available, is anyone or group is interested.)

The board, whose main job is making and implementing policy have undertaken the task with gusto in preparation for the upcoming Community Museum Assistance Program's (CMAP) evaluation slated for July. In the past CMAP has funded the society with \$47,000 per year toward operating expenses. These funds were not tied to conditions in the past, but that is changing. Thus, the headlong rush into spiffing up our policies, programs and facility. Should this amount be reduced it will be a major challenge for the board. Prudent use of existing funds is always a high priority for the board.

Last August, we also said good-bye to Curator/Administrator, Jordon LeBlanc who went back to Joggins Fossils Museum. In November we welcomed Margaret Mulrooney to that position. Since her arrival, Margaret has not stopped. The third floor storage area has been revamped to maximize storage for our artifacts. This was a golden opportunity for her to learn first hand the scope and breath of our collection. The basement storage area is experiencing her expertise in storage allocation. With the help of Barry Zolkivski and Dick Ackerman, maximum use of the space is being realized.

Our new facility has seen an increase in usage with local groups hiring the space for luncheon meetings. We have used the catering facilities of local café owners to augment the meetings.

Because Truro is central to the Northeast Heritage Group, we have been able to offer our third floor meeting space to them for their semi-annual gatherings. This networking opportunity keeps Colchester Historical Society in tune with heritage happenings in the region.

Now that the work is complete in the main gallery, it is time for the board to work up a new five year **strategic plan**. The input of the membership is vital to the success of the enterprise going forward and your thoughts are welcome anytime.

Pauline Thomson, President

Board of Directors

2015-2016

- *Pauline Thomson, President, Secretary & Membership*
- *Terry White, V-Pres, Museum*
- *Gladys Otterson, Treasurer*
- *David Arnfast, HR*
- *Beth Johnston, Marketing*
- *Barry Zolkivski, Archives Committee, Used Books*
- *Eleanor Maher, Program*
- *Bonnie Waddell, Member at Large*
- *Enid Cooper, Member at Large*
- *Bruce Gray, Member at Large*
- *Ken Henderson, Member at Large*
- *Mitchell Whiteland, Member at Large*
- *Fund Raising*
- *Heritage*



The Colchester Historical Society recognizes the support of the Province of Nova Scotia. We are pleased to work in partnership with the Department of Communities, Culture and Heritage to develop and promote our cultural resources for all Nova Scotians.

Life Members

Richard Ackerman
 Joe Ballard
 Melanie Ballard
 Ross Barns
 Leslie Blackburn
 Marjorie Bulmer
 Mildred Burrows
 Dr Gerald Buyers
 Dr C Jean Cameron
 Charles Cameron
 Marc A Campbell
 William Canning
 Tom Carlson
 CEC History Dept
 Evelyn Clark
 Bob Cooper
 Enid Cooper
 Ira Creelman
 Laurie Creelman
 Stacey Culgin
 Bob Danson
 Heather Dau
 J Brad Davidson
 Betty Davis
 Margaret Anne Dodson
 Deborah Dunlap
 Dale & Marilyn Ells
 Deborah Everett
 John Gammell
 Judith Graham
 Ross Graves
 Doreen Hall
 Peter & Marg Hamilton
 Bruce & Nan Harvey
 Harold M Harvey
 Wyn Harvey
 Jans Henderson
 William Hill
 William Hine
 Dr Gordon Jeffery
 Scott Johnson
 Brian Kinsman
 Frances Langille

Curator's Report**Collections Management**

In January, we discovered that our artifacts and archival documents from 2011 onwards had duplicate accession numbers. The accessions group are working very hard to correct the issue and have already corrected all duplicate numbers for two of the five years; 2011 and 2016. For the time being, we have put a pause on accessioning new artifacts until we have corrected the remaining duplicate numbers. We expect to have this project completed by September.

Communications (Website, Facebook, Twitter)

I've taken over updating our website and social media accounts. I try to update the accounts several times a week to ensure an active online presence.

MAP Application – CCI Storage RE-ORG

The Canadian Conservation Institute (CCI) is facilitating a RE-ORG training program for Atlantic Canada. Throughout 2016, ten participants from six Atlantic institutions will use the RE-ORG methodology to complete a condition report of their storage spaces and develop an action plan to improve their storage conditions. As part of the training course, CCI offers a three-day hands-on workshop in which participants complete a re-organization at a host institution. At the recommendation of the Association of Nova Scotia Museums (ANSM) the Colchester Historeum was selected as the site for the three-day workshop.

In order to partially fund our RE-ORG project, the museum applied for funding through the Federal Museum Assistance Program (MAP). We were successful in our application and were granted \$3,425 from MAP to put towards the purchase of compact shelving for our 3rd floor artifact storage room.

From March 1st-3rd, sixteen people worked together to re-organize the Historeum's 3rd floor storage space. The contents of the storage space were removed and temporarily stored in the third floor exhibit space. Objects were rehoused to ensure their long-term preservation and new sliding shelving was installed to maximize storage space. A number of new storage features were constructed by repurposing our old storage furniture.

On March 4th, the Historeum was the site of the RE-ORG Atlantic Conference. RE-ORG Atlantic program participants presented condition reports for their own institutions and we were also joined by guest speakers from throughout Canada and even Belgium (via Skype).

The final report for our MAP grant will be submitted next week. A complete inventory of the space must be completed and the artifact's new locations must be edited in the collective access database. The summer student will work on this project with the Curator.

Museum Evaluation Program (CMAP)

Pre-Evaluation documentation deadline: May 6

Evaluation Date: July 13, afternoon (time TBD)

On our last CMAP evaluation in 2009, we received a score of 76.9%. This score is slightly above the provincial average. Although that is a promising beginning, the evaluation materials have changed considerably since our last evaluation. This means our past score does not necessarily promise a similarly

Curator's Report (con't)

positive score moving forward.

ANSM's new submission website went live last week. I have begun to upload our pre-evaluation documentation and will continue to do so until the May 6th deadline.

The President and I compiled a comprehensive checklist of all the tasks that need work between now and our evaluation on July 13. With the help of our many volunteers we have been working through this list and will continue to accomplish as many tasks as we can before our evaluation.

Professional Development

From April 13-14, I attended the Canadian Museum Association National Conference in Halifax. The conference was a great opportunity to network and learn about new initiatives at museums throughout the country. On April 12, I attended a pre-conference workshop on the subject of deaccessioning projects. I had the opportunity to speak with other sites about their collections challenges and received advice about beginning our own deaccessioning project.

On May 20, I will attend ANSM's Security Symposium and AGM in Tatamagouche.

School programming

We hosted our first school program of the year on April 26th. Students viewed five models of telephones from different time periods spanning from 1899-2010 and discussed the changes in technology and how these changes affect their lives. The students then completed our I-Spy brochure for the new exhibit "*Colchester: Life at the Heart of Nova Scotia*". The third activity was examining and discussing a mystery object (a handmade radio from 1923). The students completed their visit with a trip to the archives in which the Archivist, Nan Harvey, explained the services she provides and Dick Akerman discussed the wall mounted map of Nova Scotia from 1870. The teacher received an evaluation form so that we can apply any feedback to improve future programs.

We are hosting two groups of students from the Heritage Fair on May 6 and have another class booked for a program on May 13.

Summer Staff

The Archivist and I each applied for a summer student through the provincial SKILL program. We received approval for our applications and will each hire a student for 14 weeks. We posted our job posters for an Interpretive Assistant and Archivist Assistant on several online job boards, our website, and social media accounts. The deadline for application is April 29, and we will schedule interviews for May 2. The students will begin May 24 and finish their contracts on August 27.

Margaret Mulrooney, Curator/Administrator

Life Members (con't)

Michael J Layton
 Norm & Marg Layton
 Donald G Lewis
 George Lewis
 Dawn MacKay
 Ron V MacKay
 George MacKenzie
 Alison & Alan MacLean
 Keith & Fran MacLean
 Beverly MacLellan
 Rod MacLennan
 Malcolm MacLeod
 Heather MacLeod
 Charlotte MacQuarrie
 Elinor Maher
 The Hon Margaret McCain
 Audrey McCallum
 Kim McCallum
 David McKillop
 Carl McNutt
 Dr Dan J McNutt
 Glenn McNutt
 Alice Mombourquette
 Mary Jean Muir
 Robert Murray
 Dr George Nye
 Kevin O'Neil
 Gladys Otterson
 Gary Patterson
 Remax-Fairlane Realty
 James Retson
 Ellen Robertson
 Mary Sheppard
 Leona Smith & C Barnes
 Jim Smith
 Jean Soper
 Margaret Swan
 Marion Thomson
 Bonnie Waddell
 Wendy G Walter
 Terry & Charlotte White
 Jane Wile
 Dave Wilson
 Robert Winters
 Dave Yuill

Annual Members

Tom Acker
 Kay Ackerman
 Jane Andrews
 Tillie Armstrong
 Dave/Karen Arnfast
 Deborah Baillie
 Betty Barnhill
 David Bartlett
 Sarah Beanlands
 Don Beeler
 Joan & Eric Bent
 Richard/Roberta Blaikie
 David Boehm
 Doublas Bolton
 Mike Boulton & Julia Holland
 Margaret Boomer
 Janice Booth
 Lynn Boulanger
 Della & Charlie Boyce
 H douglas Boyce
 Lois Bray
 Annie Brown
 Elfriede Budgey
 Jane Bute
 Elaine Burrows
 Leslie & Jim Burrows
 Doub & Shirley Byers
 Carolyn Cahill-Lane
 Elizabeth Caldwell
 Joel Calabreze
 Charlene Caldwell
 Ken F Cameron
 Sarah Campbell
 & David Livingstone
 Sally & JP Camus
 Vanessa Chase

Archival Statistics**Archives Statistics**

- ◆ Visitors -963
- ◆ Volunteers -20
- ◆ Volunteer Hours - 5922
- ◆ Donations of documents and books – 136 accessions and 702 items
- ◆ Number of Books printed for sale in Book Mart - 124
- ◆ Number of books sold in Book Mart - 189

Archives Committee

Chairman – Barry Zolkivski
 Archivist – Nan Harvey
 Members – Dick Akerman
 Enid Cooper
 Stacey Culgin
 Pauline McManus
 Donna Meese
 Malcolm MacLeod

Book Mart Coordinator

Dick Akerman

Cemetery Project

Carolyn Lane (left
 in the Fall of 2015)

Cataloguing New Acquisitions

Gary Patterson
 Joanne Hunt

**Clipping Current Newspapers
 for vital stats and events**

Pauline McManus
 Marion Thomson

Daily Assistants to the Archivist

Carol Campbell
 Jim Smith

Duty Archivist for Saturdays

Laurie Creelman
 Enid Cooper
 Fran Ettinger
 Joanne Hunt
 Deborah Smith

Indexing Newspapers

Michael Bolton
 Ann MacNeil
 Donna Meese

Typing Vital Records

Debbie Everitt

From the Archivist's desk

Year-end Report March 31, 2016

The following are some of the activities undertaken in the Archives through the fiscal year of 2015-2016.

In April, 2015 we received an Earltown Grant and seal which was issued in 1827 to five men of Earltown. Dick Akerman made a frame so it could be seen from both sides. It is now mounted on the wall in the Archives.

In the spring I trained three new volunteers for Saturdays, however, only one decided to stay. Joanne Hunt is a great volunteer and loves to research. I also have her cataloguing acquisitions, and also volunteering when I need to be out of the office.

We received a Summer Student grant from the Nova Scotia Economic & Rural Development and Tourism Student Employment Program for 13.8 weeks. We were able to hire Emma MacGillivray for that time period. She was an excellent worker and a good fit for the Archives. She worked on scanning photos, helped visitors and looked after the Archives while I was on vacation. There was a good number of visitors looking for family information – we had about 100 more visitors than in 2014.

Dick Akerman is our Book Mart coordinator and does monthly articles for the “Shoreline Journal”.

He did nine articles this past year and provided a photo and a map to where it took place. The topics he covered this year were:

April 2015 – Copper Mine at Cape

D’or

June 2015 – Layton’s of Great Village
 July 2015 - Bass River Creamery
 August 2015 – Pole Railway Castlereagh
 September 2015 – Acadia Mines Station
 November 2015 – Chapel Bridge, Londonderry Mines
 January 2015 – Great Village Post Office/Ice Cream Parlor
 February 2015 – Tramway work crew – Londonderry Mines/Lornevale area
 March 2015 – Layton’s Store Great Village

Our newspaper project is still being carried on by three volunteers who extract obituaries, marriages and events. We have two volunteers cataloguing material that has been donated to us. Other volunteers do Saturdays when we are open.

The Robie Street Cemetery project is almost complete but needs someone to finish it. Carolyn Lane who took over from Jackie Archibald could not finish it due to her health.

The Archives had four meetings during 2015-16 – May, September, November and March.

I took the Emergency First Aid CPR Level A Recertification course in December.

The Book Mart sold 189 books and 21 maps from 1 April to 31 March. We printed 124 books. The sales revenue was 5342.20, Sales Cost 2367.60 and the Gross profit was 2374.57. A more in depth report is attached to this one.

Nan Harvey
 Archivist/Librarian

Annual Members

Marilyn Challis
 Angus & June Chisholm
 Arthur Chisholm
 Don Chisholm
 Merle Chaisholm
 Dianne Chysyk
 Evelyn M Clark
 Georgina Cock
 Lorne & Shirley Cock
 Garth & Trinkie Coffin
 Myrtle G Conrad
 Charles F Cox
 Kenneth & Lavenia Cox
 Reg & Dorothy Culgin
 Marc Curran
 Catherine Dale
 Allen Darby
 Penny Darby
 Glenda Davidson
 Lisa Davis
 Lance Dearmond
 Alice Di Stefano
 Gregg & Sandra Dill
 Robert Domanski
 Carolyn Doyle
 William Dunbar
 Richard G Duncan
 Susan Eickhoff
 Graham Elliott
 Ralph Elliott
 Fran Ettinger
 Don & Linda Forbes
 Ralph & Nancy Fraser
 Joyce Gerbrandt
 Linda Gittens

Annual Members

Wayne Gillis/Lisa Light
 Sandra Gittens
 Irene Gratto
 Pam Grace
 Shirley Grant
 Irene Bratto
 Bruce Gray
 Peter Green
 Sandra Guinan-Donaldson
 Laurie Gunn
 Brian Hagell
 Walter J Haglund
 Darlene Hanham
 Joyce Harper
 Dorothy Harrity
 Catherine Hasking
 Amanda Hatfield
 Mary & Lisa Henderson
 Ken W Henderson
 Marilyn Higgins
 Geraldine Hilchey
 Anne Hill
 Cathy Hoeg
 & E Esterbrooks
 Isabell Horne
 Joanne & Dave Hunt
 Glenda Hunter
 Fred & Jane Hutchinson
 Gail Jasperson & Family
 Rebecca Jenkins
 S Albert Johnson
 Evelyn & Gordon Johnson
 John Johnston
 Beth Johnston
 Stephen C Kennedy
 Dr Donald M Kent
 Kathleen Kevany
 Archie & Janet Killawee
 Tom Killawee
 Valarie King
 Norma Langille
 Maxine A Larson
 Robert S Latimer
 Vivian & Truman Layton

Programs for 2015/16

Program Committee Members: Elinor Maher, Stacey Culgin

Thursday, Sept 24 - Frank Cameron. Much loved TV personality and author of *I Owe It All To Rock and Roll (and the CBC)* spoke on **Truro in the 1950s**. Frank reflected on his days at CKCL, Rocky Jones, his career refereeing hockey and other asides.

Friday, Oct 2, 7 p.m. A.J. B. Johnston - Book launch - *Crossings*

Thursday, Oct 22 - Jill Martin Boutellier - Lunenburg-based retired educator and author presented an illustrated talk, **Return to Sable**. Jill's great-grandfather was Superintendent of Life Saving on Sable Island from 1880-1913.

Sat., Oct 24, 2:00 Exhibit opening **How Colchester Women Helped Win the War: 1939-1945** Speaker for the day was Andria Hill-Lehr, author of *Mona Parsons - From privilege to prison, from Nova Scotia to Nazi Europe*. Ms Hill-Lehr spoke about a young woman from Wolfville who was a genuine war hero.

Thurs, Nov 26 - Dr. Kirrily Freeman - **The Monuments Women: Capt. Edith Standen and the Restitution of Looted Art**. St. Mary's professor and author Dr. Freeman gave an illustrated presentation on Halifax-born Standen who joined the US Women's Army Corps in 1942, and in 1945 went to Germany with the Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Division of the Allied Expeditionary Forces. They were charged with safeguarding and returning the European masterpieces looted by the Nazis, and in 1946 Edith Standen became Director of one of the largest art restitution centres in Germany.

Thursday, Jan 28 - **African-Canadian Women Making a Difference: The stories of Rose Fortune and Viola Desmond** These ladies lived more than one hundred years apart and, in many ways, they were worlds apart. However, both of them made an important mark on Nova Scotia history. Anne Marie Lane Jonah, historian with Parks Canada, led an illustrated talk based on recent research on Fortune and Desmond, including the difference that their contributions have made.

Program's (con't)

Sat., Feb 27, 2 p.m. opening of the exhibit - **Sea Captains of the Cobequid Shore.** Dick Akerman and Jim Smith entertained with dramatic readings about events in the lives of the men who captained the sailing vessels launched in Colchester County.

Thursday, March 24, 7:30 p.m. The Colchester Historical Society meets at the Colchester Historeum, 29 Young St. - The annual Dawson lecture features Dale Ells - Sharing **Science Resources for Agricultural Education and Teacher Training in the early 1900s.**

Saturday, April 9, 1 p.m. Bob Latimer, ordained minister, historian and author of several books, including *Draw the Circle Wide*
"FIRST UNITED CHURCH, TRURO - JOURNEYING ON THE ROAD"

Thursday, April 28, 7:30 p.m. AGM - Dick Akerman will give a presentation - **The Story of Devil Tom.** Thomas Faulkner of the Londonderry Township had a close call with the British authorities in 1779 and Dick will tell us about his narrow escape and many adventures.

Saturday, May 14, 1 p.m. - Author Gary Saunders ***My Life With Trees: A Sylvan Journey*** - a talk with readings and discussion. Gary's newest book is an unconventional memoir, part reference book and part personal history. The book will expand one's understanding of forest ecology.

Thursday, May 26, 7:30 p.m. - Roger Marsters, Curator of Marine History at the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic, will speak on **Maritime Cultural Landscape of the Upper Bay of Fundy Region**

Proposed June trip - Bass River Museum, Parrsboro for lunch, Ottawa house, Age of Sail Museum

Annual Members

Jordan LeBlanc
Luch Ann LeBlanc
Dianne LeFort
Marjorie Lepper
Glendon Light
Gail Lynch
Henry MacConnell
Daniel MacDonald
Marinda MacDonald
CJ David MacDonald
Emma MacGillvary
Carol MacKay
Kenneth MacKenzie
Charles MacKinlay
Greg & Priscilla MacLeod
Beth MacMichael
Nadini MacMullin
Nancy MacNaughton
Phyllis MacNeill
Gladys MacPherson
Heather Macumber
Glaudia Malloch
Ray & Nancy Mar-chand
Bryce G Marshall
Sherry Martell
Glen Matheson
Myrna Matthews
Mary J Maxner
Janet Maybee
E Marie McCullock
Vernon & Carrie McCully
Marie McCully-Collier
Sybil McCurdy
Ann & D'arcy McDonah
Norma McEwan
Velma McIntyre
Brian McKenna
Pauline McManus

Annual Members

Randy McRae
Robert Meehan
Donna Meese
Floyd Mesheau
Leola Miller
Anne Mitchell
James H Morrison
Barbara Morton
Ralph C Murray
Elizabeth Murray
Cathy Muzur
Jessica Neil
Shirley Nettin
Helen Nichols
Emily Nielsen
Nielsen Family
Edith Patterson
John Patterson
Clair Peers
Walter Perrin
Marjorie Peterson
Bob & CJ Prest
Alice Pugsley
Jeanne Purdy
Jennifer Pye
Susan Ranni
Roselyn Reid
Angela & Thomas Reid
Judith S Reid
Barbie Reynolds
Norma Richardson
Edith Ritchie
Gail Robbins
Margret Robbins & Fam
Heather Robinson
Dana Rushton
Jerry Sabourin
& H Dunn
Cliff & Bernice
Sanderson
Lester Settle

Museum Committee Report

This has been a year of transition. We have had the grand opening of our main floor exhibit space. That space now “shines” with window portraits, creative banners, excellent photographs and excellently designed fixed exhibits.

Practically every corner of the space in our building has been reorganized under the capable direction of our new Curator/Administrator Margaret Mulrooney. The third floor exhibit storage space for our collection has been transformed by new movable racks/shelves for efficient storage.

Our basement area has also been reorganized to reveal more space and cleaner space. There is a much better use of the space there.

Our front foyer area is new too – new design- better work space for staff and reception for visitors. The new purpose of promoting our county and its attractions is gradually taking form.

Our extensive Archives on the second floor continues under the direction of Nan Harvey. This is always a busy area for visitors and for compiling, recording and doing the detective work that genealogy often requires.

This report commends the volunteerism of President, Pauline Thomson who has devoted many hours to assist in the operation of the Historeum. Notable as well are three very dedicated volunteers – Barry Zolkivski, Gladys Otterson and Dick Akerman.

The energy of our new curator/administrator, Margaret Mulrooney, is very encouraging. We can only be optimistic as we begin our ‘reinvention’. We are confident that we have become a “must see” place to visit in Central Nova Scotia.

Respectively submitted

Terry White, Chair
Museum Committee

Membership Report

Membership continues to hover around the 325-350 mark. A list of paid up members, both life and annual can be seen throughout this publication. One of the perks of membership is the quarterly newsletter and the membership list is used for this purpose. The past year has seen an increase in requests to have the newsletter delivered by e-mail. This is us doing our part for the environment and the society; saving trees and expensive postage. We will continue to mail out printed copies to those who don't have e-mail or who just prefer a printed copy.

Membership rates remain the same, \$20 per individual and \$25 for families. The annual membership funds are directed toward general operating expenses, this year comprising \$3,070.00

Annual Members

Life Membership is \$200 and those funds are deposited into the Memorial Trust Fund. This year's contribution is \$800.00.

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Memorial Fund

The Memorial Fund was established a number of years ago when a former resident of Truro, Doris White, made a substantial donation to the Society. This idea coincides with the *Planning your Legacy and Memorials* notion. It is a way to confirm your belief in the ideals of the society and the funds help ensure its sustainability. The fund has gained in modest prosperity. The Board oversees the fund and the policy states that the principle will not be touched except in dire circumstances. The interest from it is directed toward operating expenses. This fund, although small by financial measures will continue to grow with not only donations that are made in honour of deceased members, but the life membership funds as well.

A Memorial Book is on hand, containing the obituaries of deceased members that may be viewed at any time.

(Information on this project may be obtained from the Treasurer or by dropping into the museum.)

Annual Members

Pattie Sharpe & Fam
Linda Shears
H Sheppard
& R Sanford
Thomas Shoar
Faye Sinclair
Joyce Slack
Deborah Smith
Foster Smith
Phyllis Smith
Ruth Smith
Phyllis Smith
Ruth Smith
Betty Spence
Lloyd & Vivian Spicer
Sheila & Harold Stewart
Beverley Sumpter
Dale Swan
Debbie Taylor
Tom & Sheryl Taylor
Sheila Terry
Rebecca Taylor
Anna Thomas
Jeanne Thomas & Family
Marion Thomson
Pauline Thomson
Pam Tonary
Margaret Topshee
Keith & Jeanne Trimper
Mildred Walorz
Charles Walters
Allan & Natalie Wellwood
Norris M Whiston
Mitchell Whiteland
Pamela Wile
Pat Widden
Heather Williams
Walter Williams
Linda Wittman
Helen Wojcik
Brian Wright
Rev Dr G & E Wrywas

Annual Members

Jan & Paul Zann
Barry Zolkivski

Institutions

Allan County Public Library
Spring Garden Public Library
Toronto Reference Library
Mount Allison University
Truro Fire Brigade
Colchester Hants Public Library

Newsletter Report

During the year, four issues of the Member Newsletter were published to coincide with the quarters beginning, the first of July, October, January and April. Three hundred print copies, each comprised of twelve pages, were printed with about 230 distributed to members, advertisers, and civic leaders. About 50 were distributed electronically to members who requested copies in that format. The remainder were held for distribution to new members and for Public Relations activities. Our printer is The Colchester Printing Company which submitted the lowest tender in our last tendering procedure. The editor continues to receive favorable comments from members who appreciate the news photos and reports made available through the newsletters.

There are still several copies of our 60th Anniversary Magazine. These are available for \$5 each at the museum shop in the entrance lobby of the Colchester Historeum.

The planned costs as well as the expected revenues and recoveries for next year are stated below. No increase in the financial impact on the Society is expected. It is noted that the extra copies of the newsletter are useful when recruiting new members.

Thanks to the eleven to sixteen sponsors who have supported us with advertising. Their support has more than paid for the printing costs. As editor I thank all who contributed stories, pictures and news, especially our staff, the president and other officers and committee chairs who supply a report for each issue. Thanks to the membership secretary and front desk volunteers who help prepare the mailing labels. A special thank-you is also extended to Bill Hine for his proof reading, and his group of friends for the mail-out assistance.

Dale Ells, Editor

Projected Expenditures and Revenues in 2016-17 for Member Newsletter

Printing costs – 4 issues @ 155.25	621
Postage – 4 issues @ 297	1,832
Envelopes for Mailing - 4 issues @ 35	140
HST on printing	93
HST on postage	178
Total Expenses	2,864
Advertising – equivalent of 14 @ 120.	1,680
Recovery on HST	136
Total Revenue and Recoveries	1,816
Estimated Net Cost to CHS Operations	1,048

We're on the web!

Colchesterhistoreum.ca

www.facebook.com/colchesterhistoreum

Twitter.com/Col_Historeum

Archives Book Mart Report

A so-so year at the Book Mart. Sales were down considerably, as is profit. Profit margins have been maintained. One would assume that the work involved with the installation of the permanent exhibit on the main floor, and the subsequent closure of the museum during the construction phase cut down on the visitor count, but the new main floor exhibit hall was well worth the effort and inconvenience, and should draw more visitors in the years to come.

Books sold 189 –maps sold 21 In house printing- 124 books

Sales YTY Comparison

Yr	Sales	Cost of sales	Prof.	%	Ship.	Rev.	Ship Cost	Profit	%
12/13	7856.58	3324.03	3324.48	42%	572.31	511.68	60.10	10%	
13/14	4430.32	2325.16	2115.15	48%	212.00	158.11	53.39	25%	
14/15	7057.75	3762.97	3353.88	47%	326.22	257.26	68.95	21%	
15/16	5342.20	2867.60	2374.57	44%	256.00	209.57	46.43	18%	

END OF YEAR INVENTORY

Yr	Invent.value	Sales Value
13/14	4598.38	9679.28
14/15	3449.40	8876.70
15/16	3410.69	9149.47

Dick Akerman Book mart co-ordinator

Wayne Foster Tribute

On Oct 21 we celebrated the Window for Wayne Tribute Night. Everyone who attended enjoyed an evening with fine wine, food, friends, musical entertainment and of course wonderful memories of Wayne Foster and his love of history.

This was the first of many events we have enjoyed with larger than ever crowds in our new exhibit hall at the Historeum. The first floor is now an outstanding place to bring visitors, your grandchildren, a neighbour or just yourself to step back in time and discover Colchester's fascinating past.

We are extremely grateful for every donation received , whether it was \$20 or \$20,000, as it has made "Colchester: Life in the Heart of Nova Scotia " possible.

The museum and archives are now ready to join the rest of the civic square, market and library in a revitalized historic downtown core for residents and visitors to enjoy.

Respectfully submitted. Beth Johnston

Canasta

Canasta, a popular spin off of Rummy is played by a dedicated group of players. They meet year round between 1 and 3 every Thursday afternoon. The

group averages between 10 and 20 players, most of whom are now Society members. Several card players also volunteer when the museum puts on other activi-

ties.

The group is under the capable direction of Michael Boulton who takes attendance and keeps score.

Knit-In

If 'nittin' is your thing, the monthly Knit-In is for you. Ladies (and Gents) gather to share their latest project, drink tea and tell tall stories. The museum has a large supply of vintage patterns for both knitting and crocheting which are available to

the public. Also donated yarn and needles are available to help you get your project started. If you don't know how to knit or crochet, (or tat) the ladies will be only too happy to help you. Beth Johnston takes attendance and usually has some munchies

and tea for the group. This group meets on the 15th of the month between 1:30 and 5:00 pm throughout the year, except for July and August. New members will find a warm welcome!

Heritage Committee

This year we were unable to hold our annual heritage grant program for lack of personal to take on and run the project. Instead of a Heritage night, the museum held a Heritage Day on the February holiday with an open house. The museum welcomed over 200 visitors.

Rumor has it that one of the current board members is about to volunteer to chair the Heritage Committee and will see to judging at the school heritage fair and oversee the Built Heritage Grant program.

Funds for this program are provided by tours of local residences. Persons volunteer their homes for the occasion and paying customers enjoy a taste of Truro's old and celebrated homes. If you would like to add your home to next year's tours, please let the curator know.

Bargain Basement Book-Mart

A few years have past since I walked into this building to see if there was an opportunity to learn something about this community or perhaps to volunteer as I was now fully retired and had a bit of time to spare. My wife thinks I have taken on this volunteering thing as a full time job. Hopefully after fifty-one years she knows that I am not one to

sit at home looking out the window. It did not take me long to find something to do shortly after my joining the Society.

As a person who likes symmetry and order, what better opportunity than setting up a book sale that would provide some much needed funding for the Society. It all started with a couple of tables, a few bags and boxes of books, our donors and

patrons, and recently added space. Little did I realize, as we are now in our second year, this would develop into a weekly event. It allows me to do something I enjoy doing and provides a product to those that still love to turn pages and read the written word.

Barry Zolkivski

Yet to come

Tea in the Garden

Among new things on the horizon in the very near future is plans to establish a Food Service Group who will take charge of the *Tea in the Garden* on Wednesday afternoons. We need a small core of folk who will oversee the solicitation of baked goods, set up and run the tea urns, serve the goodies, collect and wash the dishes. Others will be needed to set up the tents, tables and chairs. This event have been very popular in the past and already folk are asking if we are going to do it again this summer. Who couldn't enjoy a cup of tea in fine china under a canopy in the north garden?

Costume Collection

Most of the membership don't know about the *Marjorie Hine Costume Collection*. Marjorie was a former member and a past president who loved to come out to meetings dressed in a period costume.

She enjoyed making and wearing her own creations and sharing the thrill with her audience.

When she passed away her family gave a small legacy in her name to establish a collection. Since then a number of Planter and Acadian costumes have been produced. They have their own special storage place as part of that collection. A volunteer has come forward to be the Wardrobe Monitor. This person will oversee the inventory, the care and handling of the collection. It is our intention to offer members the opportunity to borrow and wear the outfits at Historeum events. The Wardrobe Monitor will see to signing them out and in, and to their cleaning and care and maybe add to the collection. If you are interested in joining this team, speak to the Curator.

Volunteer Coordinator

We need a volunteer coordinator. Some one to man the phone when persons are needed for an event. We have lists of persons who have offered their services and a Coordinator would get to know them and chart their availability and their skill sets. If this is an opportunity you might be interested in, talk to the Curator.

The last word

The last word belongs to those who stand out in their contribution to the society. This year the eight volunteers who have manned the desk for the past number of months come to mind. Each takes a morning or afternoon shift and greets our visitors, sees to their introduction to the exhibits and our other amenities. They tend the visitors book and man the gift shop.

Several of them have taken on other tasks and attend them with devotion. One cuts and pastes

articles from the local newspaper, another tallies the visitor stats for the month along with the volunteer hours. Another has been entering some of the back log of Deed-of-Gift forms into a database that will help identify many of the orphan artifacts that reside within our walls.

In other areas of the facility approximately 50 persons volunteer a portion of their time to the organization and some months it adds up to more than 10,000 hours.

This year, the board is loosing two members, Bonnie Wadell and Enid Cooper. The Society is grateful for the time and energy they gave to their board responsibilities.

You just can't do any better than that!

Financial Statement 2015-2016

Revenue			Totals	
	Misc Sales	109.07		
	Donations	30430.67		
	Revitalization Funding/Donations	220,481.66		
	Fund raising	7,238.30		
	General Revenue	35,467.31		
	Public Funding	23,541.12		
Total	Revenue		317,268.13	
Expenses				
	Marketing & Fundraising Expenses	4,406.28		
	Retail Operation Expenses	3,625.84		
	Payroll	70,070.41		
	Facility Expenses	93,553.26		
	Admin & Management Expenses	8,738.22		
	Collections & Access to Info Expenses	1,791.73		
	Interpretation & Programming Expenses	1,206.30		
	Historeum Revitalization expense	118,609.00		
	Other	39.98		
Total			302,041.02	
	Net Income			15,227.11

