

MUSEUM ADVISORY REPORT

Meeting Date: February 25, 2025
Department: Museum Strathroy-Caradoc – Community Services
Report No.: CS-2025-10
Submitted by: Michelle Wright, Museum Curator
Approved by: Michelle Wright, Museum Curator
SUBJECT: Curator’s Report: November 2024 – January 2025

RECOMMENDATION: THAT: MAC receive report CS-2025-10 Curator’s Report: November 2024 – January 2025 for information.

Exhibits

- Broken Promises - scheduled to close February 18, 2025
- Public Art Shows – March, opening night February 28 @4:30-6:30pm
 - Gallery A - Artists Katie Dortmans
 - Gallery B - Artists Kristyn McCoy
- The Art of Printing: An Age of Ink
 - Exhibit in development about print history in general and about the area. Exhibit to highlight the newly fixed printing press. Currently planned for mid-April until mid-August.
- History of Strathroy-Caradoc (permanent display)
 - Monitor purchased, STQRY contracted to create app on the device, staff providing content and graphics, etc.

Special Projects

- Middlesex Heritage Trail - updating of heritage signs throughout the community, Mount Brydges, South Caradoc, and Melbourne signs to go up in the Spring, Strathroy’s to come.

Collections Management

Collections Database - PastPerfect Update: For 2024, 1676 records were updated. This includes adding new records, images, and locations as well as new information to existing records. January 2025 saw 356 records updated. See Collections Report for recent acquisitions and Pending Deaccession list.

Volunteer Hours

There are currently 5 volunteers that are working on Collections, Exhibition, and Programming related activities. Projects include database management, rehousing artifacts, exhibit creation, markets, etc. Hours at yearend totalled 492. January 2025 saw 34 hours of dedicated volunteer time.

Coop Student

Cillian Geary, a student from Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School completed his hours at the end of January. Cillian’s main tasks during his placement were collections and social media. He researched and filmed a number of collection-based videos that will be launched on the Museum’s YouTube channel in the coming months.

Research

Research requests come in on a regular basis through email and in person, for 2024 there was 127 reports completed. In January 8 requests came in. Recent queries include but are not limited to the following: WWI Melbourne soldier, Dutch painting query, as well as a number of property searches of homes and businesses in town.

Marketing/Public Relations

- *MYFm*: Different pieces on events and programs.
- *Social Media*: Facebook, Instagram and website are regularly updated
- *Keepin' it Local*: events section
- *The Age Dispatch*: Poppy Articles
- Flyers and pamphlets

Programming/Events:

- Nov 1 – 11 Days of Remembrance: Documentary Showing (8 attendees)
- Nov 2 – 11 Days of Remembrance: Strathroy Unveiling (60 attendees)
- Nov 2 – 11 Days of Remembrance: Mount Brydges Unveiling (50 attendees)
- Nov 4 – 11 Days of Remembrance: War Artifact Day (17 attendees)
- Nov 5 – 11 Days of Remembrance: Strathroy Cadets guest speaker (5 attendees)
- Nov 6 – SCCS School visit (23 attendees)
- Nov 7 – 11 Days of Remembrance: Cemetery Walking Tour (6 attendees)
- Nov 7 – Scouts visit (28 attendees)
- Nov 8 – 11 Days of Remembrance: Huron Professor guest speaker (22 attendees)
- Nov 9 – 11 Days of Remembrance: Andy Robertshaw guest speaker (20 attendees)

Upcoming events and activities...

February 2025	
18-27	Gallery closed for exhibit turn over
28	Art Shows Opening Night @4:30-6:30pm

March 2025	
3	Chess Club
6	Poppy Attaching Day @1-4pm
12	Poppy Attaching Day @1-4pm
13	Poppy Attaching Day @1-4pm
20	Beading Workshop @5-7pm

April 2025	
1-11	Gallery closed for exhibit turn over
2, 9	Wood Carving Workshop with Early Brown
3	Poppy Attaching Day @1-4pm
7	Chess Club
18	Good Friday CLOSED
21	Easter Monday CLOSED