



2018 Year End Report

PAHS Mission:

To preserve and promote the heritage of Prince Albert and area for residents, visitors, and researchers
to understand the past and inform the future

Thank you to our funders:



Dr. C.H. & Lenore Andrews

Philip E. West

President's Message

This past year was one of many new renovation projects. The funds from the Andrews Bequest are helping us make some much needed changes in our displays and to the stories we tell about our community. We are renovating our space to make it more efficient and welcoming to visitors as well as refreshing the main floor displays. We have also made good use of some extra grant money to help this process along.

We replaced part of the flooring on the main level early in the year, and revamped our military display area including setting up the WWI trench again. We painted, changed shelving and moved cabinets. We also set up a new, more open, front desk and staff work space including our store area. In the fall, we hired a contractor to pull off the old wallboard from the Connaught Room and drywall those walls. The brick walls were left as is, because of the buildings historical status. We added some new electrical wiring so we have more outlets as well.

We began the year with our first set of consultations with a group of five First Nations Knowledge Keepers who assisted us by examining photographs and artifacts in our collection and providing background information about them. In the fall, similar sessions were held with five Métis Knowledge Keepers. Both groups helped us begin the process of redesigning the Connaught Room to house the displays on local First Nations and Métis culture and the earliest beginnings of Prince Albert and area. We received two grants from the Northern Lights Development Corporation to do this. This work is ongoing and will not only result in wonderful new art and artifact displays but more background and stories about the first peoples of this area. We hope that this will be a museum that embraces all the many strands of our heritage.

For the first time we hosted a travelling exhibit for the summer from the Lake of the Woods Museum called Miijim: Traditional Foods of the Anishinaabeg. We supplemented this with the addition of material on local food from our area with the assistance of Diana Bird who also, through her company, Bird's Kitchen, was our tearoom contractor.

After many years of consideration, the City of Prince Albert and the PAHS cooperated to remove the Church and Blockhouse from their location at Kinsmen Park. Their condition had been deteriorating and it was felt that they should be moved nearer to their original locations downtown, near the river. They were dismantled, the usable logs saved and now we await approval from City Council for a location near the Historical Museum.

Our curator and some very busy volunteers are working on a project with Re-Org Canada, a project through the Canadian Conservation Institute that helps museums with their storage issues. In 2017, we received a grant for new shelving for the archives and storage areas and realized that we needed to do a major reorganization to put it to the best use. This project is resulting in a major clean up and we are amazed at the space that is being freed up with improved shelving and storage. This also is an on-going process.

Looking back on 2018, it was a year when you could come into the museum after a week or two away and something always looked different. There was a lot of visible change. This cannot happen without the ongoing hard work of our many volunteers and staff who moved things, painted, dusted, worked on background information, imagined new spaces, jerry-rigged solutions to problems and generally used their ingenuity and creativity. They are the ones who bring the stories and artefacts of the past forward for the community to enjoy and learn from. They make our vision real: to be accessible and inviting for all and to present our archives and artefacts in an attractive and interesting way.

Thank you to all of Prince Albert and area and particularly to the City of Prince Albert, for your interest in your past and your ongoing support of our efforts.



President, Prince Albert Historical Society

Curatorial Staff Message

Wow, has 2018 flown by! There have been so many changes in the Historical Museum, it is a little dizzying. First, I would like to thank the many volunteers who have worked tirelessly on the many projects we have undertaken this year. Without you, I would be absolutely overwhelmed and the projects would not be complete. Thank you to our funders SaskCulture, the City of Prince Albert, the Northern Lights Development Corporation, the Saskatchewan Archaeological Society, and the Dr. C.H. and Lenore Andrews and Philip E. West Bequest.

The year started with a renovation to the front entrance and military display which opened up the entry way. Taking a little break over the summer months, we started once again with renovations to main floor in October- the Connaught Room and the rest of the pumper room. This work has completely revitalized the main floor. I look forward to seeing the final outcome in the spring of 2019.

One project that I look forward to is working with the Indigenous Knowledge Keepers to redevelop the Connaught Room into an Indigenous exhibit area. This room will show the history of the Métis and First Nations people from pre-contact times to approximately 1900. The aim of this display will be to educate the residents and visitors of Prince Albert about the First Nations people in the area, as well as the relationship between the First Nations/Métis and European settlers. We could not do this project without the assistance of the Northern Lights Community Development Corporation, the City of Prince Albert Public Art Stimulus, and the Saskatchewan Arts Board. We will aim to have the room completed in 2020.

As I look forward to 2019, the Historical Society will once again be busy. Projects will include the reorganization of the archives and large artefact storage room, displays in the pumper room, the relocation and rebuilding of the Nisbet Church and Blockhouse among other smaller ongoing projects.



Michelle Taylor
Manager/Curator

Board of Directors

Current

President- Connie Gerwing

Lorraine Brassard

Vice President- John Thompson

Garry Prokop

Treasurer- Todd Robertson

Nancy Pardoe

Secretary- Mary Brown

Harris May

Shirley Swain

Morris Yelland

Morley Harrison

Outgoing

Emmanuel Shenouda

Garry Prokop (resigned January 2019)

Staff

Manager/Curator

Michelle Taylor

Office Administrator

Darlene Otet

Museum Assistant (October to present)

Cherise Robertson

2018 Seasonal Staff

Alanna Carswell

Miles Warkentine

Katelyn Lysitza

Nigel Town

Bailey Monsebroten

Jasmin Otet

Julianna Maggrah

Kaylee Hoko

Olivia Boden

Taylia York

Tessa O'Bertos

Tia Furstenberg

PAHS Committees

Audit

Fred Payton
Shirley Swain
Harris May

Building

Garry Prokop
Les Anderson
Lorne Green
John Thompson

Collections

Jamie Benson
Jack Kucherawy
Donna Nutter
Ken Guedo
Shirley Swain
Lorraine Brassard

Human Resources

Fred Payton
Connie Gerwing
John Thompson

Marketing

Nancy Pardoe

Nominations

Garry Prokop
Les Anderson

Governance

John Thompson
Morley Harrison
Harris May
Jim Milliken

Programming

Morley Harrison
Connie Gerwing
Shirley Hamilton
Fred Payton

Herb Bassett Home Outreach

Alma Newman
Morley Harrison
Lillian Donahue
Mary Brown
Ken Guedo
Darlene Otet

Membership

Les Anderson
Doris Lund
Bunny Tatlow

SK Archaeological Society Rep.

John Thompson

Volunteers

The Prince Albert Historical Society is a volunteer based organization, with a full-time manager/curator overseeing day-to-day operations of the Society and museums. In 2018, the volunteers donated 3,157 recorded hours, with hundreds more unwritten. This time is equivalent to 79 weeks of full-time work. The top volunteers, as recognized at the Christmas supper, each recorded over 200 hours. One volunteer, Ken Guedo, exceeded 500 hours! Without your knowledge and time, the Historical Society could not continue to function. THANK YOU for your dedication.

The Historical Society has 84 members, paid and lifetime, which is down from previous years. There is a core group of about 20 volunteers, with 40 individuals donating their time for different events.

Volunteers worked on a variety of projects this year, which Michelle is grateful that she only had to help organize. Throughout the year volunteers have taken part in the Urban Programming for Indigenous People (UPIP), the Municipal Cultural Action Plan (MCAP) which are initiatives organized by the City of Prince Albert. Volunteers have also attended meetings for Culture Days and the external agency programming committee, groups that help to plan and cross promote cultural activities in the City.

Volunteer projects are elaborated in other areas of this report. In 2019, the volunteers will be very busy again with projects that have carried over from 2018.

Finances

Annual Grants

City of Prince Albert	\$67,030
Museum Grant Program from SaskCulture	\$11,200

Project Grants

Canada Summer Jobs Four summer students	\$10,517
Young Canada Works Four summer students	\$23,857
West Bequest	\$26,471
Northern Lights Community Development Corporation First Nation and Métis consultations	\$17,500
City of Prince Albert Public Art Stimulus	\$2,000

Donations

Other donations	\$1,102
Tax-receipt donations	\$1,703

Building Upgrades/Maintenance

Diefenbaker House

The City removed the cedar trees from the front of the museum. The trees were also to be pruned from the east side of the house but this has been put off until 2019. The City also installed 'no smoking/vaping signs' to the exterior doors.

In late December, the low temperature alarm did not work properly and some of the pipes froze. The City workers were able to look after the damage in the short term but we will not know the extent of the damage until the spring.

While not necessarily upgrades and maintenance, in January 2018, the City and Historical Society received word that the Diefenbaker House Museum was named a National Historic Site! Articles were written in the *Muse Magazine*, a national publication from the Canadian Museums Association as well as local media outlets. Plans are set in place to have the official unveiling of the John and Olive Diefenbaker Museum, National Historic Site in August 2019. We will send out invitations later in the year for you to join us for the occasion.

Rotary Museum of Police and Corrections and Evolution of Education Museum

New air conditioning units and 'no smoking/vaping signs' were installed by the City.

Historical Museum

The museum has been going through big changes this year! The Pumper Room underwent a sizeable renovation this year. From January to May, new flooring and front desk were installed and the military section was re-structured, as well as new lighting for the front desk and military sections. These changes made a huge difference for visitors coming to the museum in the summer months. Further changes to this room will wait until the winter of 2018/19.





The Connaught Room was next! In October/November, the wallboard was removed and drywall was installed. Harris May painted the room in early 2019. This renovation has made a difference in the warmth, look and size of the room. These changes were spurred by the desire to create an Indigenous exhibit area.



April 2017



December 2018

In late November, there was flooding in the map room. We found out a day later that there was a water main break in front of McIntosh Mall, the water followed the SaskTel line and entered through the wall in the basement. The water came in over top of the oversized rolled maps and we were very fortunate that none were damaged beyond repair. We were very lucky that a volunteer was here and had to go into the room, as it happened on a Sunday, otherwise there could have been much more damage. Thank you to the dedicated PAHS volunteers who agreed to come in overnight to empty the water buckets and mop up the floors. On the plus side, it gave us an opportunity to clean out the non-collection material from that room. Water sensors were installed in the archives to notify us if this ever happens again.

Another large renovation that will be occurring through to the fall of 2019 is the reorganization of the large artefact storage and archives room. See Projects area for more information.

Smaller projects that were completed by the City include the repair of the furnace, hot water tank, and inside front doors. A bicycle rack was installed on the east side of the building as well as the same 'no smoking/vaping' signs at each of the doors.

Nisbet Church and Blockhouse in Kinsmen Park

In the spring of 2018, the Nisbet Church and Blockhouse were once again a topic of discussion for the City. Below is a timeline of events of what happened with regards to the careful dismantling of the Church and Blockhouse.

April

Connie and Michelle met with Mayor Dionne about the future of the buildings (Church and Blockhouse) in Kinsmen Park. It was decided that the City would provide funding for the demolition of the buildings to be completed in June 2018.

April/May

The Historical Society found bids to carefully dismantle the buildings- Darryl Sande of Pipestone Creek Contracting won the project with a bid of less than \$10,000. Members of the Historical Society met with Darryl Sande, Don Cheeseman, Judy McLeod-Campbell to discuss how the project would look and what services the City would provide.

June

Press release sent to media.

The Historical Society removed the remaining garbage and artefacts from the two buildings. Darryl started dismantling the blockhouse first and later in the month the church. The plaques that were attached and near the buildings were brought to the Historical Museum. Darryl took photographs throughout the process to show the dismantling process.

At the end of the month the buildings were 95% down.

Blockhouse



June 6



June 9

June 12



June 16

July 5

Nisbet Church



June 16



June 17

June 24



June 24

July 5

July

Final work was done to dismantle the blockhouse and the remaining logs were moved to the Old City Yards for storage. The wood is wrapped in house wrap, and will need a tarp for the winter.



August

Early estimates for the cost of the project is \$50,000 to complete both buildings, however, this cost could change as more formal quotes are sought for the project.

This winter the Historical Society will look into funding to help offset any costs. However, we will require Council approval to put the buildings on the Riverbank at a chosen site. The buildings would be set on concrete pads to prevent future deterioration. With the help of Darryl Sande we hope to procure the correct sizes of logs this winter, pour the slabs in the spring and have the buildings back up in the fall of 2019.

November

Connie Gerwing made a presentation to the Executive Council on November 19th giving a brief update and plan for the buildings. At that time, Director of Community Services Jody Boulet recommended that the Historical Society bring back a report to City Council by April 2019. This report would include the future plans, budget, and proposed location for the buildings.

January/February 2019

John Thompson and Michelle Taylor have been working with the City on a project report to council, which includes all information required by the City. In early March, the Historical Society will once again go before council and ask for approval of the plan- including a new site on the riverbank- between the totem pole and the bandstand.

Administration

This year the Historical Society had more projects going than in previous years and so Michelle applied for grants to offset some of the costs. All of the grants, save one were successful in generating project funds. Successful grants included the Northern Lights Community Development Corporation, Saskatchewan Arts Board- Artists in Communities, City of Prince Albert Public Art Stimulus; these grants focused on the renovation of the Connaught Room. Summer interpreters were partially funded by the Young Canada Works (YCW) grant and the Canada Summer Job (CSJ) program- the YCW grant is applied for by the City of PA with our assistance and the CSJ is applied for by the Society. The City then puts those funds against our summer interpreter budget line. SaskCulture's Museum Grant Program, Stream 2 grant was due in December and we should hear what our 2019-2020 funding will be in April 2019.

The Board of Directors approved a change in the Historical Society fee structure in February. This new structure would have admission rates at every museum and increase rates at the Historical Museum. Considering three of the museums were by donation, this increase was met with little resistance by the public. Before the museums opened in May, everything was set. Adult admission was set at \$4.00, students \$2.00 and under 6 remained FREE. The Society also instituted family and day use rates that were very popular. Family rates were \$10.00 per museum or \$25.00 for the day. Adult day rates were set at \$10.00.

In June, SHARE contacted the Society office- they could not afford to bring their clients to the museums as often as they would like with the increased fees. Michelle and one of the facilitators made a deal. Since we needed to move out of the storage space at the Gateway Mall and into a new one, SHARE was asked to do the move and in return the Society provided them with passes to visit the museums for the rest of the summer at no charge. Everyone was very happy how the situation worked out.

On May 22nd, the tea room opened with Diana Bird, Bird's Kitchen, as the chosen contractor. Bird's Kitchen served food that had Indigenous flavours, such as smoked trout and fiddleheads. Due to staffing issues, Diana was forced to close her operation at the end of July. During its opening there were two evening suppers, a BBQ for Street Fair, and 716 patrons. In August, she rented the tearoom for three evening suppers with 11 people in attendance. There were many positive comments about the tearoom this year!

Once again, in May twelve summer museum interpreters were hired by the Society, four returning from the previous year. We were very fortunate to receive grants from the Young Canada Works and Canada Summer Job programs. Each program funded four students for 8 to 12 weeks of the summer season. The students were kept busy with the PA Daily Herald negatives, Past Perfect data entry and reconciling file information, and inventory of the artefacts on the exterior walls in the large storage room.

In October, the Society was able to hire a Museum Assistant, with the remaining funds from the museum interpreter budget. This person would provide tours, conduct data entry, as well as working on the many projects in the museums. Cherise Robertson was hired on a temporary full-time basis. Early in the New Year, we were able to extend Cherise's contract to May. She has been a great asset for the Historical Society.

The greatest challenge for 2018 was the organization of the Knowledge Keeper Meetings. The preparation and the meetings took a lot of time. These meetings were held in the first and last three months of the year. With

the help of the volunteers photographs were taken of the Indigenous artefacts and archives photographs were found to be part of the Knowledge Keeper orientation packet. Michelle put together the meetings and worked on draft designs for the space itself. See the project overview below.

Projects

Knowledge Keeper Consultations/ Connaught Room

OVERVIEW

Following discussions with Past-Chief Dr. Leo Omani of Wahpeton Dakota Nation, in the fall of 2017, it was decided by the Prince Albert Historical Society to create a new Indigenous space in the Historical Museum. This space would focus on the history and early interactions with the European community of the First Nations and Métis people in the area. In order to do this properly, we recognized that consultations with the First Nations and Métis communities were key. We did not want to propagate more of the same historical blunders in telling someone else's story.

We collaborated with Dr. Omani to write a grant to the Northern Lights Community Development Fund to fund the first part of these consultations. This grant would cover the cost of three consultation meetings with First Nations Knowledge Keepers as well as contract fee for a final report. Knowledge Keepers from each tribal group in the Prince Albert Grand Council was present. Individuals representing the Swampy, Plains, and Woodland Cree, Dene, and Dakota were chosen to participate in the project. Dr. Omani made first contact with the individuals who were chosen not only because of their tribal affiliation, but their knowledge of their people's history and willingness to work on such a project.

The Prince Albert Historical Society was granted \$10,000 for these consultations. The Society's manager/curator and programming committee met with the Knowledge Keepers once a month in January, February, and March 2018. These were very productive meetings- the Historical Society provided copies of everything (photographs and artefacts) in the collection to the Knowledge Keepers to assist us in correctly identifying the people and items in the collection.

There were discussions about what items should and should not be put on display and if put on display that they be blessed and used to bring them back to life. By the end of the second meeting, the display was starting to come together, for the third meeting a draft exhibit plan was given to all members of the committee. The ideas of the committee were put together into basic themes to tell a more complete story of the First Nations people in the area. It was decided that each tribal group would have their own section to tell their history- both in English and their mother tongue- to increase awareness of the language.

To increase awareness of Indigenous art, it was decided that the Historical Society apply for the City of Prince Albert Public Art Stimulus Fund. This matching grant is used to promote free public art within the community in partnership with local artists. In October 2018, we were notified our application was successful! This grant is to create a mural border around the top of the Indigenous exhibit area.

After the success of the First Nations Knowledge Keeper meetings, we once again applied to the Northern Lights Community Development Corporation for a second grant of \$10,000. This grant, successful in the fall of 2018, funded Métis Knowledge Keeper consultations. Again, five individuals were chosen because of their interest in

the project, historical knowledge, and family connections to early Prince Albert. One of the member's of this committee was the Regional Director of Western Region 2 of the Métis Nation. This group met in October, November and December 2018 going through the same process as the First Nations committee and were provided with the draft exhibit plan of the First Nations section.

These Knowledge Keepers were also required to submit a written report about the Métis people in the area as well as information they deemed pertinent to a display.

RELATED ACTIVITIES

Coinciding with this project are two smaller ones, the renovation of the Indigenous exhibit area and the development of the mural at the top of the space.

In order to create the new Indigenous exhibit area, the Historical Museum's Connaught Room needed renovating. The room was an addition to the building after the museum moved in and completed in 1983. In the fall of 2018, the removal of wallboard and installation of drywall was completed. This is both better for the building and in highlighting the artefacts. In January 2019, this portion of the renovation is nearing completion.

As mentioned above, the Knowledge Keepers wanted to promote Indigenous art in the form of large murals along the top of this newly drywalled space. The Society contacted local Métis artist Leah Dorion to help plan and apply for grants. We knew we could not only have one artist complete the murals, so the First Nations Knowledge Keepers suggested a Cree artist out of Saskatoon- Kevin Pee-ace.

With their intent to work on the project, the Society applied to the City of Prince Albert for the Public Art Stimulus. We were successful in receiving \$2,000 in matched funds to pay for consultation with the artists and some of the supplies. Together with the artists, we decided this should be a community project to foster ownership and understanding of the work and display space. In November 2018, the Society also applied for the Saskatchewan Arts Board- Artists in Communities grant, which would further help fund the work. As part of this grant, the Society and artists work within the community to design and complete the project. The Prince Albert Housing Authority and Queen Mary School were approached as potential partners to complete the artwork. We were notified in December, that the Society was successful in receiving \$7, 500 for the project.

In January 2019, the manager/curator of the Society met with the artists and provided the exhibit plans as well as copies of the photographs and artefacts in the collection. Much of the sketch work will be completed by the artists, which will then be brought to the Knowledge Keepers and Historical Society members in February. One section of the mural will be designed and painted by the students at Queen Mary School, other sections will be painted by members of the community, including the residents of the Northcote Manor, a senior's apartment building operated by the Prince Albert Housing Authority. Times will be available for the wider community to participate February through March.

These two projects have a timeline for completion of May 1st, 2019 so the original displays in the Connaught Room may be put back in place for the 2019 summer season.

FUTURE

The Historical Society will continue to work on this project for the next 18 months, with the aim to complete the display in 2020. Further consultations with the Knowledge Keepers and interested community members will continue in that time.

Members of the Knowledge Keeper Committees

Prince Albert Historical Society

Michelle Taylor
Connie Gerwing
Fred Payton
Don Guedo
Morley Harrison

First Nations

Dr. Leo Omani- Dakota, Wahpeton Dakota Nation
Willie Ermine- Plains Cree, Sturgeon Lake Cree Nation
Allan Adam- Dene, Fond du Lac Dene Nation
Ian McKay- Swampy Cree, Red Earth Cree Nation
Elmer Ballantyne- Woodland Cree, Montreal Lake Cree Nation

Métis

Leah Dorion
John Hannikenne
Corrine Isbister
Joanna McKay
Sherry McLennan- Métis Nation, Director for Western Region 2

Re:Org of Lower Level Storage and Archives Room

In August, a project opportunity was brought forward by the Museums Association of Saskatchewan that would help us to reorganize our storage space. The Re:Org Canada project has been in all of Canada, for the last 5 years, with the Prairies and North its final region. Re:Org Canada is funded by the Canadian Conservation Institute and ICCROM (International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property). After applying, notification came in early September that the Historical Society was chosen as one of the six institutions chosen for our region.

With the official start in late September, the organizing committee, which includes Lorraine Brassard, Donna Nutter and Michelle Taylor started looking at how our collection was stored. The large artefact storage room and the archives work room were chosen to be reorganized. Both rooms received new shelving from the Museums Assistance Program grant in 2017. The mobile shelving units in the archives were installed in August and the artefact storage room shelves were installed in the fall/winter of 2018/19. The summer interpreters started work in the artefact storage room by completing an inventory the items around the exterior of the room so the old shelves could be removed and new installed. More shelving and storage containers will be purchased under the Re:Org MAP grant in 2019.

With organization in mind, the Board has agreed to de-accession (take out of our collection) many artefacts that are broken, duplicates, or completely unnecessary. This will leave us with fewer artefacts, but better quality artefacts to tell Prince Albert's history.

Thank you to all the volunteers who have put in hundreds of hours to move artefacts, remove and install shelves and be all around grunts for the organizing committee.



July 2018



December 2018





April 2017



December 2018

Volunteer and Staff Training

There were many opportunities for staff and volunteer training in 2018. Two collections volunteers, Donna Nutter and MaryLou Milliken, and Michelle took part in the Canadian Conservation Institute's Mannequin Making workshop that was held in Prince Albert on September 19th and 20th. On September 20th the Re:Org committee also attended a brief training/ introductory webinar about the Re:Org program.

Michelle attended the Police Museums Conference in Winnipeg in June. The theme was 'Exhibiting Difficult Material,' which would be pertinent for the Police and Corrections Museums. Contacts were made across Canada and into the United States; however it was interesting that there were only two museum-based people who did not work for a police force. Michelle also took an online Museums Association of Saskatchewan class

about research, this was a 6 week class that promoted finding original sources for material and finding the most about artefacts that you can.

Connie Gerwing attended the Museums Association of Saskatchewan conference and AGM in June learning about a different way to engage visitors in the museums. For more information visit museumhack.com

Saskatchewan Archaeological Society

Below is an excerpt of the 2018 Chapter Report completed by chapter representative John Thompson. As a chapter of the SAS, the Historical Society is required to have five people who are members of both societies. At this time, the Historical Society only has three. If you are interested in finding out more about the SAS please contact John Thompson.

Chapter Meetings and Events:

Chapter Member meetings all held at 7:00 P.M.

Meetings held on Jan 11, Feb 8, March 15, April 12, May 10, June 14, October 11 & November 8.

Topics at member meetings: a photo journey near Prince Albert, pictures of abandoned churches falling into ruin, presentation by the Prince Albert Genealogical Society on their research in Saskatchewan.

Events: Historical walking tours of the Prince Albert downtown area with stops in local restaurants, Tours of the historic St. Mary's Anglican Church and adjacent graveyard. Museum opened for Street Fair held on a Saturday in June. Crocus Tea held in May. Museum opened for Family Day and Remembrance Day as well as having volunteers ringing a bell 100 times at sunset.

Chapter Grant REQUIRED BY SASKCULTURE Please include a brief description of how you used your Chapter grant (25 word maximum) and the number of participants benefitting from the funding.

The Prince Albert Historical Society after consultations with Past Chief Dr. Leo Omani of the Wahpeton Dakota Nation would create a new Indigenous space in the Historical Museum. This space would focus on the history and early interactions with the European community of the First Nations and Metis people in the area. In order to do this properly, the Museum recognized that consultations with the First Nations and Metis communities were essential.

The Chapter Grant was used to defray some of the costs associated with the consultations.

Please estimate your Chapter's total number of volunteers & volunteer hours

Number of Volunteers: 40

Total Number of Volunteer Hours: 3157.35

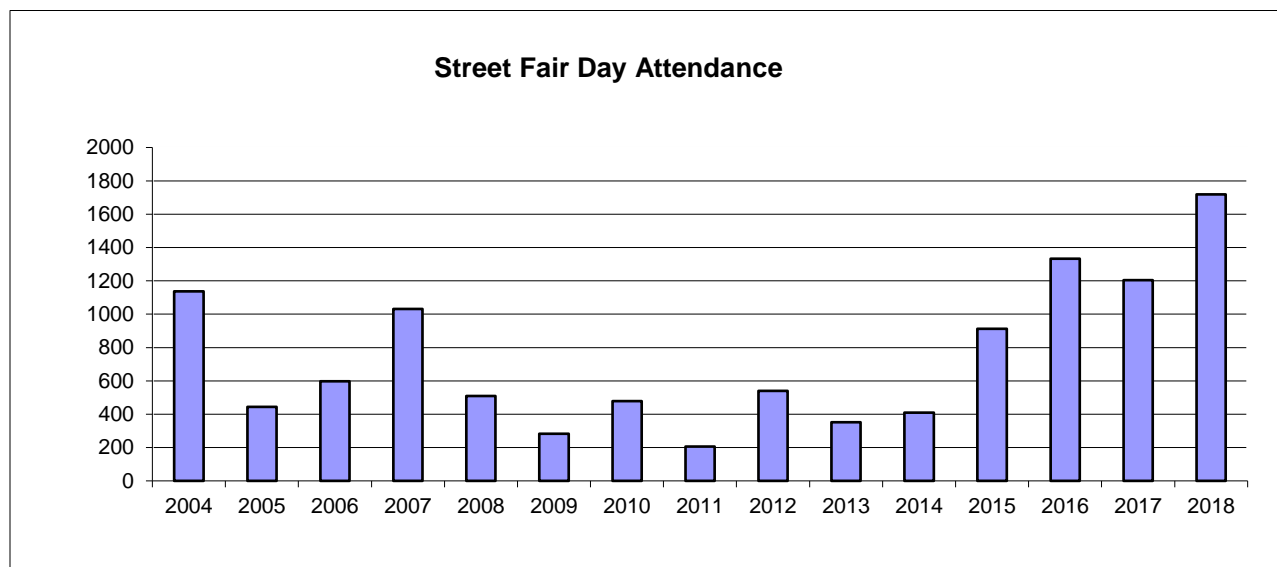
Programming and Outreach

This year was an exciting year for programming and outreach as we have added some new programs and tours! Through our outreach (outside the museum) programs we have engaged almost 1,300 people interested in the museums and Prince Albert history.

The Herb Bassett Home outreach program started in February. The recreation coordinator contacted the Society to see if we would provide a short program to promote talking and remembering about Prince Albert. The program was spearheaded by Alma Newman, who found new volunteers to go to the Home twice a month, later in the year Darlene was asked to take over administration of the program. Each visit to the home has a new theme with different presenters and an audience of about 30 people. We will look into expanding the program in 2019 to Pineview Terrace. We have had a great deal of positive feedback from the program and everyone looks forward to visiting the residents and the residents look forward to seeing the volunteers.

The biggest event for the Historical Museum is the annual downtown Street Fair. On this day, the museum offers free admission. The weather was cooperative, booths were at the north end of Central Avenue (including the pony rides in our parking lot), and Diana Bird provided bison burgers. Because of these factors, there were over 1700 people through the museum, 500 more than last year! The museum was outrageously busy and no one was prepared to see that number of visitors. We have learned for next year that at least 6 volunteers at a time plus summer staff need to be available to count people and direct traffic!

Below, for your information is the historical data for street fair attendance. You can surmise that the Historical Society is becoming more well-known and active within the community so more people are coming to visit.



The Historical Society once again participated in the Culture Days events as part of the Culture Days hub on September 28 and 29th. The Society's participation was limited this year due to the theme of "Bead-In"; volunteers staffed a booth at the Arts Centre on September 28th for school participants. The booth provided a

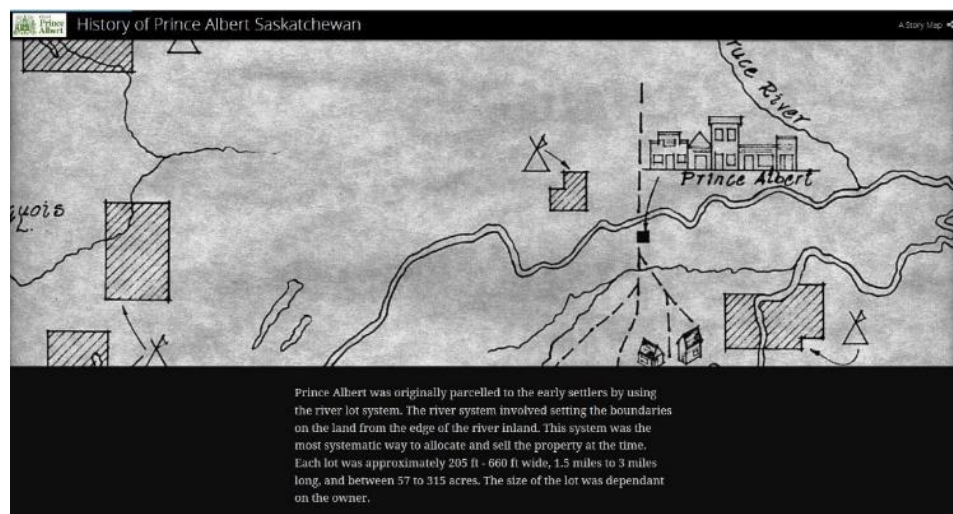
variety of beadwork from our collection, both of European and Indigenous origin. Seventy-six participants viewed the display that day.

Downtown tours of Prince Albert have been very popular in 2018. Special thanks goes to Fred Payton for leading the food walking tours with Councillor Terra Lennox-Zepp and the wagon ride tour in association with the Downtown Art Walk. Forty-eight people participated in four walking food tours and approximately 75 people participated in the wagon ride tour. The Historical Society receives any profits from the food tours and in 2018 it amounted to \$570.00.

The Historical Museum offers two regular winter openings, one on Family Day in February; the museum was not going to be open due to renovations to the front entrance area. However, we have become a staple and 130 people visited the museum without any promotion. A second opening on Remembrance Day had 82 people in attendance. This year's program by Connie Gerwing and Lorraine Brassard focused on the Prince Albert and area connections to World War I and the aftermath of the war that still exists in Europe today. Lorraine and Connie did this same presentation for the Library's Explore Lifelong Learning program, Herb Bassett outreach, and at Queen Mary School, reaching approximately 150 people. After the Remembrance Day opening, to mark 100 years since the Armistice, organizations within the city rang bells 100 times at sunset. Volunteers and staff were on hand to ring our train bell outside the front door at this time. In 2018, we were asked to open after the Santa Claus parade on November 25, there were 72 people that came through the museum and viewed a small toy display. For these winter opening the Historical Museum from 1 to 4pm and operated run by volunteers.

Member led events also include the annual Crocus Tea, the fall BBQ, and our Christmas supper. All were well attended this year.

The City partnered with the Saskatchewan Polytechnic GIS department to provide students a 'real life' work project. One student, Alexander Benmerrouche, was excited by the idea of a story map. Michelle and Alexander came up with a brief history of Prince Albert in pictures and text for the public to view. This project will very soon be on the PAHS website.



Screen shot from the "History of Prince Albert Saskatchewan"

The Historical Society had booths at the Model Railroaders Hobby Show and the Family Expo in the spring, great events that promoted the museums to different groups of people. It is estimated that over 200 people were engaged (stopped at the booth and chatted with volunteers) in the two days. In August, the summer staff set up booths at the Downtown Association's Summer on the Square, while not particularly well attended the young people who stopped by were mesmerized by the typewriter!

In May a group of volunteers, spearheaded by Morley Harrison took a skit and some artefacts to a King George middle school class. At this time, Michelle took the opportunity to talk about the museums and what museum workers do. The "what is it" box gave students opportunities to imagine what some items were and brought out some interesting answers! The teacher has already spoken with Morley about coming back in 2019.

The Society has been much more active within the community in 2018 and we can see the difference in our numbers. Where once the museum was stagnant in the winter months, the museum is now preparing and delivering a number of programs to various people in the City.

Public Relations

Our Facebook page was as always, very well received! There were over 47,000 engaged users on this year's posts, which means they liked, commented or shared the posts. A large portion of this number came from the viewing of the June St. Mary Church tour. In the two weeks following the post over 18,000 people viewed the videos! That is tremendous when we only have 7,000 followers. Our reach (the number of people who could potentially see the post through interactions) was 750,000. Facebook seems to be the way that we connect most with those interested in Prince Albert history. There are many good conversations and debates going on daily and we are still asked to settle coffee row debates! Historical Society events are also posted on Facebook and shared with the wider community.

In the early fall the Board decided to hire a marketing firm to help develop a plan on how best to get the Historical Society into the public eye. Unfortunately, that plan did not materialize and Board member, Nancy Pardoe has stepped in. This has taken some of the pressure off the office staff to prepare the marketing material.

Once again this year, the Historical Society had a small feature photograph in the Prince Albert Shopper, a feature which at times garners a lot of discussion.

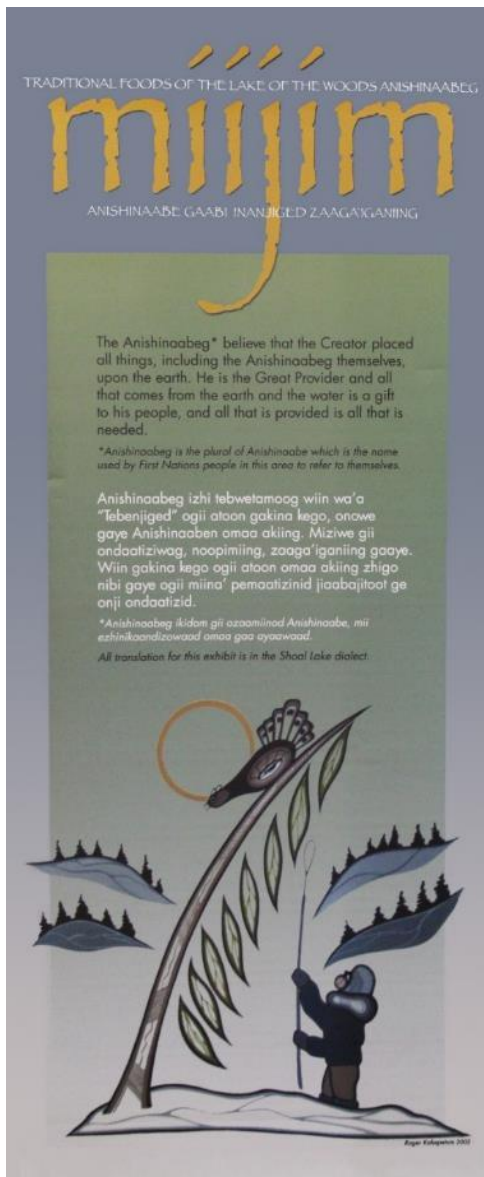
Michelle, summer staff, and some volunteers have been interviewed for the many events and historic related questions by PANow, the Prince Albert Daily Herald, and CBC in 2018. There were two interviews conducted by students for final projects, a media arts student wanting the story of La Colle Falls and a First Nation University student wanting to know about reconciliation in the museum. Prince Albert Tourism conducted interviews with the summer staff during Tourism week to promote the museums throughout the City. President, Connie

Gerwing has been the face of the Historical Society with City Council, presenting the Historical Society activities twice in the fall.

Another PAHS calendar, with photographs chosen by Don Guedo, was put together. The chosen photographs were donated to the Historical Society by members of the community. They are available for sale at the Historical Museum.

Exhibits

Summer Exhibit at the Historical Museum



2018's summer exhibit was entitled "Miijim: Traditional Foods of the Lake of the Woods Anishinaabeg", it was a travelling exhibit from the Lake of the Woods Museum in Kenora, Ontario.

Overview provided by Lake of the Woods Museum:

"The Anishinaabeg believe that the Creator placed all things, including the Anishinaabeg themselves, upon the earth. He is the Great Provider and all that comes from the earth and the water is a gift to his people, and all that is provided is all that is needed.

In return for the abundance of gifts, the Creator has placed a responsibility of safekeeping upon the Anishinaabeg - gimiiingoowizimin gaaganawendang - as "keepers of the gifts." This foundational belief informs the Anishinaabeg relationship to the traditional foods they enjoy.

This exhibit, done in partnership with iskatewizaagegan No. 39 Independent First Nation and the Natural Resources Institute of the University of Manitoba, focuses on miijim - food- and its importance to the body, mind, soul and heart of the Anishinaabeg. "

In addition to the pop up panels, Diana Bird put together some local seasonal foods to put on display. An opening reception was held on June 14th.

During the renovations of the Pumper and Connaught Rooms and work in the artefact storage room some exhibit areas have been in disarray. In 2019, 95% of the reorganization of the artefact and archives rooms will be completed and the lower level will return to a fully functioning display area once again.

In 2018, the Pumper Room display area went through some drastic changes, especially on the northwest side. The military display was enlarged and now promotes local involvement in the Armed Forces from WWI to present. Work still needs to be done, but it draws people into the museum from the front door.

In August, a new canoe case was constructed to properly preserve and display the dugout canoe. The case was purchased as part of the 2017 Museums Assistance Program grant. Thank you to Les Anderson for building a new cradle for the canoe.



Bill Smiley Archives

While archive usage numbers are down from the previous year, it has still been a hive of activity! Volunteers have been organizing and sorting through material in the archive areas to prepare for the new shelving units. This may not sound like a time consuming job, but it took 4 or 5 months for four volunteers to look at every item, sort, shred or dispose of (if needed). Some of the material went back onto shelves to await entry, but much of the work was done immediately.

The archives volunteers trained the summer staff on archives activities during May's training week. This year each student was given his or her own box of PA Daily Herald negatives to accession/archive. Because of this,

there has been a surge of negatives entered in the computer. Some archiving and data entry will need to be done in 2019 but most of the work is in verifying.

We do receive many queries from our Facebook page. Archive volunteers check the page on a regular basis, answer those queries, and post photographs. One of the more time consuming requests was from Dan Robson who was conducting research about the personal life of Johnny Bower. Ken Guedo spent countless hours scanning documents and photographs, as well as touring Mr. Robson around Prince Albert! Because of this, he was specifically mentioned in the acknowledgements of the book.

The archives database at the end of 2018 now includes 18, 296 documents and maps as well as 8,342 photographs, an increase of 448 documents and 68 photographs over 2017. In the Daily Herald negatives 30 boxes have been finished (archived, entered, and verified), this includes the work done in past years. They are awaiting transfer to the master photo database.

In the fall preparations for the 2019 reorganization of the site started. Plans were made to make the workroom the “storage” area and the archive area we know will become the research/work area. With this change, the Historical Society will have better control over the archival material. The organization will also allow us to bring the PA Daily Herald morgue to the Historical Museum, instead of being at the Gateway Mall. We are all very excited for the changes.

Visitation and Statistics

In 2018, the museums were used more in the winter months by groups outside the museum than in past years, however visitation to the museum is down somewhat from last year. The increase in admission may contribute but there were fewer people coming, not people choosing to leave because of the admission cost. There were only a few issues at other museums because they were previously by donation and paying by debit was not an option.

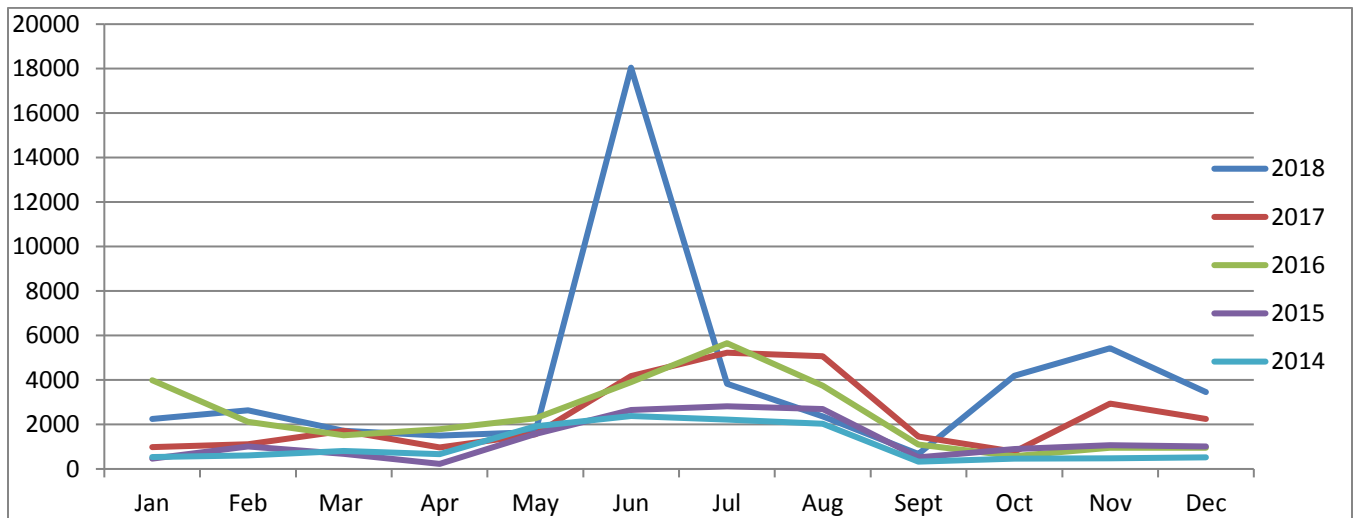
2017 vs 2018 Museum Usage Data

Users	2017	Total 2018
Visitors/Meetings	12,263	10,696
Researchers	66	31
Archive Requests	253	204
Group Tours	104	61
Volunteers Occasions	1,336	1,475
Facebook *	14,297 (726,315)	35,346 (714,936)
Total Museum Use	28,233	47,752

*Facebook numbers calculated by the number of engaged users and post reach (in brackets) for that months posts. It does not take into effect the engaged users on past posts, which at times outnumber the monthly posts.

Part of the reason for fewer visitors is due to fewer school tours in May and June. Rising transportation costs have prevented many schools from coming at that time. The Society needs to work more on curriculum connections to ensure the museums are used during the winter months.

Museums Usage from 2014 to 2018



There were 61 scheduled tours through the museums this year- down significantly from 2017. Public attendance numbers are noted below to include those who did not previously schedule a tour, even if they were provided one upon arrival. There were 49 school tours (all levels), four walking food tours, three walking tours, and five other group tours. The population is very diverse and this year we saw more high school students in than we have in the past. We appreciate this change as those age groups are harder to get into cultural institutions.

Summer 2018 Visitation Statistics (May 22 to August 31)

	People on Tour	Public	2018 Total		2017
Historical Museum			5,137		5,165
Diefenbaker House			853		1,732
Police & Corrections			1,159		1,455
Evolution of Education			281		1,383
Total	1,148	8,585	7,430		9,735

During the summer months, the Historical Museum was open Thursday evenings. However, for the third year in a row there has been limited visitation. This is an opening that we need to be revisited in 2019.

In 2018, we never really advertised a special day of the week that we were open in the winter months, as in the past. However, there seems to be regular visitors into the museum and they are not turned away.

Summary

This year was very busy with many changes. I am very glad that we have an active volunteer base that allows the programming of the Historical Society to grow. Looking forward to 2019... it is going to be another busy year! Projects will be completed and more will be started. We can look forward to the relocation and rebuilding of the Nisbet Church and the blockhouse to the riverbank, the completion of the reorganization of the storage areas as well as moving forward with the redevelopment of the Connaught Room into an Indigenous exhibit area.

The Historical Society is working towards developing programs and exhibits with reconciliation in mind, to engage the wider population in Prince Albert. With these changes, we hope to see a change in the composition of our membership and the use of museum space to raise awareness of the unwritten history of the Prince Albert area. I hope we will see a rise in museum and archive usage as knowledge of the treasures that are here become widespread.