



## Committee Report

**To:** Warden Chris Peabody, Chair and  
Members of the Museum Committee

**From:** Cathy McGirr  
Director, Museum & Cultural Services

**Date:** October 5, 2023

**Re:** Archives Report - October 2023

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### Staff Recommendation:

The Archives Report is for information.

### Background:

#### Dear Diary ... Personal Accounts from WWI

Archivist Deb Sturdevant and Curatorial Assistant Laura Leonard will be delivering a virtual presentation through [University of Windsor's Canterbury ElderCollege](#) on October 24. During this session, they will share personal accounts of soldiers whose letters and diaries are housed at the museum and tips on researching soldiers of the First World War, including the use of BCM&CC's Bruce Remembers website. Included will be an introduction to the Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre, and the Bruce Remembers military exhibit.

#### Mohawk College Library Technician Field Placement

Nicole Lake, a student from Mohawk College's Library and Information Technician Program completed a 105-hour unpaid field placement in the Archives during the summer. She entered information about over 200 books, photographs, and other archival records into the collections management database for upload to Online Collections.



Mohawk College student Nicole Lake holding a 1949 Chester N. Feagan calendar. Feagan operated the Langside General Store, Kinloss Township, from 1948 to 1955.

#### Saugeen District Senior School Co-op Student Placement

A student from SDSS began a four-month co-op placement in the Archives on September 25. She will be adding details about archival records to the collections management database and updating soldier records on [Bruce Remembers](#).

## Q3 2023 Update

### Researcher Visits, Inquiries, and Paid Services

In Q3 2023, Archives staff directly served 675 individuals:

- 93 people attended the Archives & Research Room in person for research
- 426 people visited the Research Room for general inquiries or browsing.
- 144 people received answers from staff to general inquiries by email or phone.
- 12 individuals paid for research and copy services or photographs.

### Online Collections

[Online Collections](#) now features a total of 19,632 archival record descriptions with 27,890 images, enabling researchers to view images online and read descriptions of other items available to view in the Research Room. 715 of those record descriptions and 1,263 images were added this quarter by staff, volunteers, and students.

Some of the items described in this quarter include:

- [Canada Spool and Bobbin, Walkerton](#), articles, reminiscences, and photographs
- [Family Histories](#), including families from Arran, Brant, Bruce, and Greenock Townships
- [Knechtel Woodturning and Furniture Co. catalogue, 1903](#)
- [Paisley Mill](#) limited edition drawing by James Paddon
- [Women's Institute minute books and Tweedsmuir community histories](#) from branches including Bervie, Lucknow, Oliphant, Purple Grove, Ried's Corners, Silver Lake, and Williscroft
- Photographs, including:
  - [Bell Buoy near Chantry Island, ca. 1910s](#)
  - [Douglas Point Nuclear Generating Station, 1960s and 1970s \(by Lindsay Thornburn\)](#)
  - [Tiverton Macs Ladies Baseball Team, 1945](#)
  - [Soldier Stuart Macpherson \(1898-1918\)](#)
  - [Saugeen Shores Air Show 2000 photograph albums](#)

An Archives volunteer also created more detailed biographies for Chantry Island Lighthouse Keepers Captain [Duncan McGregor Lambert](#) and Captain [William McGregor Lambert](#), as well as Wiarton's Captain [Harold David Miller](#) for whom the BCM&CC holds a number of artefacts and archival records.



Tiverton Macs Ladies Baseball Team, 1945, A2022.014.074 and Douglas Point reactor building construction, 1961, by Lindsay Thornburn, A2013.012.24347

### **Archival Donations and Transfers**

In Q2, the Archives received donations of material from 38 individuals, businesses, and organizations. In addition, the Archives accepted a transfer of over 600 historic engineering drawings, maps, and plans from Transportation and Environmental Services.

### **Financial/Staffing/Legal/IT Considerations:**

There are no financial, staffing, legal or IT considerations associated with this report.

### **Interdepartmental Consultation:**

Consultation with Transportation and Environmental Services (TES) consulted in relation to the transfer of historic drawings, maps, and plans to the Archives.

### **Link to Strategic Goals and Elements:**

**Strategic Pillar #2** - Building affinity across the County.

Objective 2.2c - Activate the Archive to drive audiences from across the County.

Objective 2.3 - Enhance digital outreach and engagement

### **Report Author:**

Deb Sturdevant  
Archivist

### **Departmental Approval:**

Cathy McGirr  
Director, Museum & Cultural Services

### **Approved for Submission:**

Christine MacDonald  
Deputy Chief Administrative Officer