



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: Museum Committee Report - October 2023

Staff Recommendation:

The items in this report are for information purposes.

Background:

Truth and Reconciliation

Several initiatives were planned during the month of September to continue to create public awareness, offer opportunities for education, reflection, show support and join the global conversation to honor the thousands of First Nations, Metis and Inuit children across Canada who were forced to attend Residential School and Indian Day Schools.

With financial support through Canadian Heritage and the Bruce County Cultural Action Plan, the museum in collaboration with the Saugeen Advocacy for Healing Program and the Grey Bruce Community Legal Clinic, hosted three Kairos Blanket Exercises in September. On September 21st a special session was held for 42 Grade 11 and 12 Walkerton District Community School students, and two public events were hosted on September 22 in Walkerton and September 23 at the BCM&CC. Access to all these events was free to attend. Community members from Saugeen First Nation (SFN), further supported these initiatives with an elder present to open and close the sessions and a community member available to provide support for anyone who may require emotional support.

An Orange Shirt Day display was made possible in the museum entrance through the generous donation of a special ribbon skirt by Saugeen First Nation Library Manager and community member Melissa Root.

On September 29, Museum staff were pleased to participate in the Truth and Reconciliation activities at GC Huston Public School which also included a gathering on the Zgaa-biig-ni-gan (We are connected) bridge in Southampton.

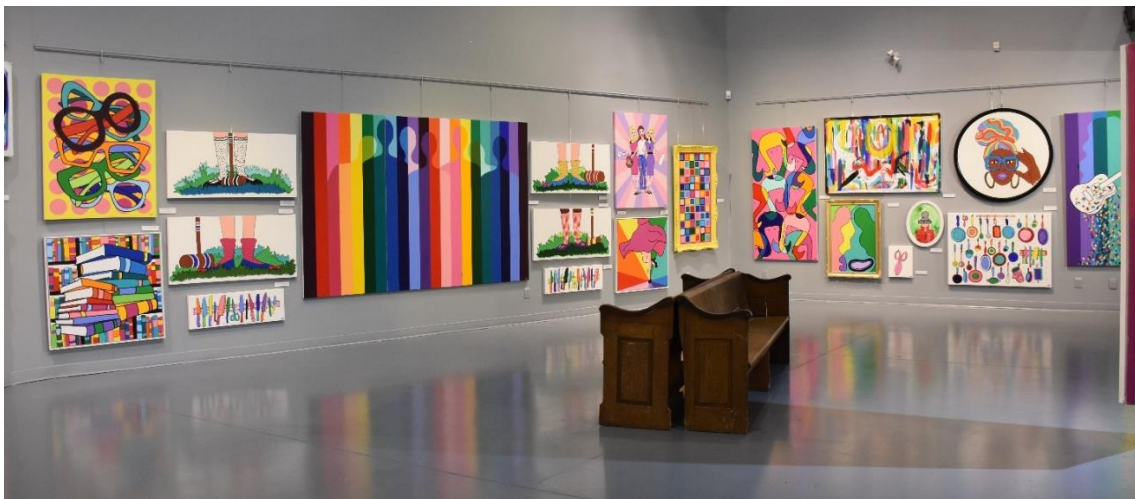
The museum was also pleased to support SFN's Minjimendaamin (We Remember) in community event on September 30.

Exhibits

This Must Be The Place

Located in the OPG Feature Gallery, the exhibition *This Must Be The Place*, featuring the work of Bruce County artist Heather Lynne Travis, opened September 16th. Heather's work features bold colours, big scale, and creative storytelling to invite new conversations around childlessness. Drawing inspiration from her own life and desire to write new fairytale endings, Heather's work reframes patriarchal definitions of "family" by celebrating the diverse stories of childless heroes and creating a happy place for positive new narratives to thrive. This exhibition includes 32 works on canvas inspired by a variety of women including Betty White, Julia Child, Marlo Thomas, and Dolly Parton. A 3D virtual exhibition has also been creating for greater accessibility and to extend the reach. [Heather Lynne Travis Exhibition - 3D virtual exhibition by Bruce County Museum | art.spaces | KUNSTMATRIX](#)

This Must Be The Place will be on display until December 31st.



This Must Be The Place exhibition, artist Heather Lynne Travis

Youth on Reconciliation

This exhibition explores the concept of Reconciliation through artistic expression and what that means to youth in Canada. Ten banners feature artwork and poems by winners of the first Imagine a Canada competition, announced in March of 2016. This program, sponsored by the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation in collaboration with Rideau Hall, asks young people to share their thoughts on what the future of Canada will look like through the lens of hope, respect, and Reconciliation.

On September 17, the membership of Chippewas of Saugeen and Neyaashiiniming were invited to an intimate gathering and exchange about the project followed by a community feast to officially open the exhibition.

In partnership with the Legacy of Hope Foundation (LHF), Saugeen Ojibway Nation (SON), Saugeen Advocacy for Healing, M'Wikwedong Indigenous Friendship Centre, Bruce Grey Catholic School Board, Bluewater District School Board, Bruce Community Legal Clinic and Grey Bruce Health Services (now Brightshores Health System) the project committee worked to enhance and localize the exhibition. Currently more than 60 pieces of local youth artwork

are on display, as well as weekly sessions hosted by community members to offer a more personal perspective on the exhibit and deeper insight through communication to better understand Truth before Reconciliation. [Youth on Reconciliation: Imagine a Canada - Bruce Museum CA](#)

Legacy of Hope: Youth on Reconciliation will be on display until November 30th.



Legacy of Hope: Youth on Reconciliation banners and reflection benches



Local Artwork featured in Legacy of Hope: Youth on Reconciliation

Programming

Welcoming Week Tour

As part of Welcome Week 2023, Sept. 8-17, BCM&CC offered free admission to all new Canadians through our partnership with the Canoo App, bit.ly/CanooPartners, and free tours on Sept. 15. Providing access and free tours for this program enables individuals to have a more in-depth experience, learn more about the history of the county, provide opportunities for social engagement as well as learning about volunteer opportunities with the BCM&CC.

Fall Leisure and Volunteer Fair Outreach

We participated in the Fall Leisure & Volunteer Fair in Port Elgin on Sept. 13th. At this event, we connected with community members and recruited four new potential volunteers.

Upcoming Programs

Art Exhibit Tour with Heather Lynne Travis - This Must Be the Place

October 5, 2023, 6 PM - 8 PM

Experience bold colour when artist Heather Lynne Travis delivers a tour of her captivating art exhibit, This Must Be the Place. Explore over 30 artworks through the lens of Heather's kaleidoscopic perspective and gain insight into the inspirations, techniques, and emotions that drive her unique artistic style. This exhibit invites new conversations around childlessness and celebrates childless heroes, including iconic figures like Dolly Parton, Ina Garten, Missy Elliott, and more. [A Celebration of Colour: Artist's Talk with Heather Lynne Travis - Bruce Museum CA](#)

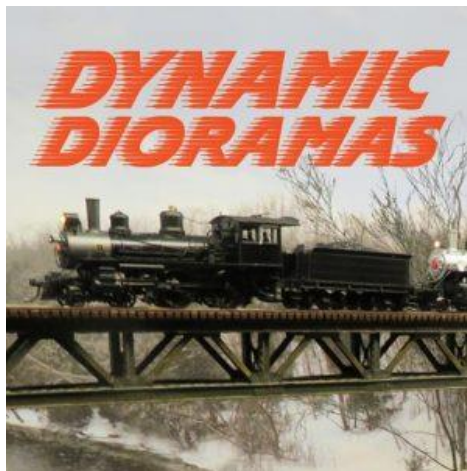


Dynamic Dioramas, a Model Making Workshop

October 4 - November 22, Time: 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM

(8-week class, Oct. 4, 11, 18, 25 & Nov 1, 8, 15, 22)

Led by master-model-maker Randy Schnarr, this eight-week workshop explores the captivating world of model making. Learn from Randy's extensive expertise in designing and crafting intricate models, develop practical, hands-on skills to craft your own custom dioramas, and receive one-on-one instruction. [Dynamic Dioramas - Bruce Museum CA](#)



MUSE-TALK: Innovative Technologies
October 11, Time: 7 PM - 9 PM

Join us on October 11th for an exciting DOUBLE Muse Talks feature evening, where we explore how cutting-edge technologies are transforming two distinct industries: Health, Wellness, and Simulation - Hi-Tech Manikins in Healthcare with Dr. Treva Job, and Mysterious Waters: New Advances in Marine Technology with Captain Colin MacNeil.

[Muse-Talks: Innovative Technologies - Bruce Museum CA](#)



Education and Outreach

September 22 PA Day Maker Day - Fall Colours

Children ages 5-10 enjoyed a full day of art, nature, and colourful activities with this first Maker Day of the school year. Artist Heather Lynne Travis, whose vibrant art exhibit This Must Be the Place is on now at the Museum, led the kids in a special art workshop that encouraged them to unleash their creative sides. The program was sold out with 15 youth.



Maker Day participants being led in an art workshop by artist Heather Lynne Travis

September 22 - School's Out Movies

On the Friday, September 22 PA Day we screened the video-game inspired The Super Mario Bros. Movie (2023, PG) in the Bruce Power Theatre. We had 40 visitors in attendance.



Movie poster for “The Super Mario Bros. Movie (2023, PG)

Outreach Programming

On September 26, the Education & Outreach Coordinator took part in an in-person senior outreach program. With the “Pioneer Experience” artifact trunk in tow, we travelled to the Port Elgin Day Away Centre and led a hands-on discussion of Bruce County early settler artifacts for 20 residents.

On September 28, the Education & Outreach Coordinator took part in a second in-person senior outreach program. Again bringing the “Pioneer Experience” travel trunk, we travelled to Gateway Haven Long Term Care Home in Wiarton and led a hands-on presentation of Bruce County early settler artifacts for 30 residents.

Upcoming Programs

October 27, 2023 - School's Out Movies: When school is out, join us for a movie day! Sit back in the Bruce Power Theatre and get ready to watch great flicks on the big screen. Screening on October 27: Elemental (2023, G)

[School's Out Movies: Elemental - Bruce Museum CA](#)

October 27, 2023 - PA Day Maker Day - Museum Mysteries: Let your kids unleash their creative side and work with their hands in this PA Day full of Halloween fun and games! Kiddos will spend an awesome day exploring the exhibits, solving mysteries, and creating frighteningly fantastic creations.

[PA Day Maker Day: Museum Mysteries - Bruce Museum CA](#)

Revenue Development

Grants & Sponsorships

Confirmed Funding:



Tina Blair Law Firm - Confirmed \$1,000 in sponsorship in support of the Light Up the Holidays event for 2023.

Pending Funding Requests:



Bruce Power - Submitted applications for funding in the amount of \$11,100 in support of four programs: Kidzone Camps, Wildlife Wednesdays, Cultural Demonstrations, Pride.



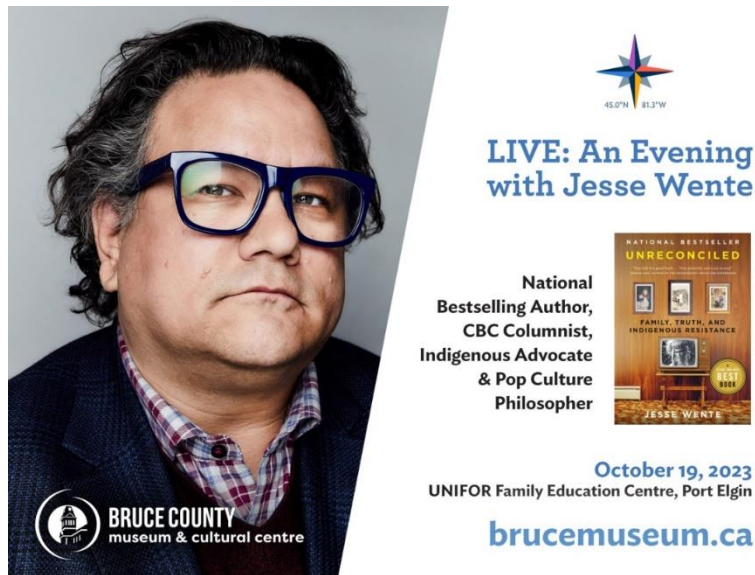
The Leflar Foundation - Submitted application for funding Museum Munchkins program (\$2,000) and Treaties Recognition week program (\$2,000).



Ontario Power Generation (OPG) - Submitted request for funding in support of Family Day (\$1,500), PA Maker Days (\$1,500), and True or False 2024 exhibit (\$10,000).

Speakers Event - An Evening with Jesse Wenté

With over 116 tickets sold to date, tickets to the speakers event featuring Jesse Wenté are selling fast. Tickets, as well as Jesse's book *Unreconciled*, can be purchased in person at the Museum, on our website at [An Evening with Jesse Wenté - Bruce Museum CA](https://www.bruce-museum.ca/events/an-evening-with-jesse-wente)



LIVE: An Evening with Jesse Wenté

National Bestselling Author, CBC Columnist, Indigenous Advocate & Pop Culture Philosopher

October 19, 2023
UNIFOR Family Education Centre, Port Elgin

[bruce-museum.ca](https://www.bruce-museum.ca)

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Marketing

Fall Events Launch

On August 31, we launched our full roster of events for the Fall season (September - November) on the BCM&CC website and events calendar and officially opened registration online. Online Promotions: Eblast - [Fall registration now open!](#) [Facebook](#) & [Instagram](#)



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This Must Be the Place: Heather Lynne Travis Show
Opening Event: September 19 | 2 - 4 PM
Artist's Talk: October 5 | 6 - 8 PM

Legacy of Hope: Youth on Reconciliation
Proudly presented by Enbridge

Muse-Talks
Health, Wellness, and Simulation - Sept 20
Maritime Weather Advances in Marine Technology - Oct 11
Presented by Georgian College

Maker Days
Sept. 22 - Fall Column w/ Heather Lynne Travis
Oct. 27 - Museum Mysteries
Presented by QPAC

KAIROS Blanket Exercise
1-4 PM FREE | Full details at [bruce-museum.ca](https://www.bruce-museum.ca)
Presented by The Department of Canadian Heritage

An Evening with Jesse Wenté
@ UNIFOR Family Education Centre, Port Elgin
Tickets on sale NOW!

Presented by Nuclear Promise X,
sponsoring members TD Bank Group and UNIFOR.
Media partner: 97.9 the Bruce.

Fall 2023 HIGHLIGHTS
September 1 - November 30
See our full events calendar at [bruce-museum.ca](https://www.bruce-museum.ca)

RT07 Photography Project Concludes

This year the BCM&CC applied for and received funding from RT07 to participate in its Partnership Program for Video/Photo Production. These new photo resources support a refresh of marketing materials in 2024 to promote the Museum as a premier tourism destination within Bruce County. Here are just a sample of this completed work:



Outreach - Paisley Fall Fair

BCM&CC staff attended the Paisley Fall Fair on Sunday, Sept 10th. From kids and seniors to local educators, we had many visitors come to the booth to get information on upcoming programming in addition to new prospective visitors and those who haven't been in a while. We handed out 100+ pairs of Museum-branded sunglasses and cups, collected emails for our newsletter, and recruited one new volunteer.

Financial/Staffing/Legal/IT Considerations:

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

Interdepartmental Consultation:

Interdepartmental consultation with the Bruce County Public Library and the Office of the CAO for the Youth on Reconciliation Exhibition and the Kairos Blanket Exercises has occurred.

Link to Strategic Goals and Elements:

Strategic Pillar #1 - Expanding BCM&CC's role as a community hub for the entire County.

Objective 1.2: Establish BCM&CC as a centre of cultural activity.

Objective 1.3 - Build profile as a core tourism destination.

Strategic Pillar #2 - Building affinity across the County.

Objective 2.2 - Deepen relationships with communities across the County.

Objective 2.3 - Enhance digital outreach and engagement

Report Authors:

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