

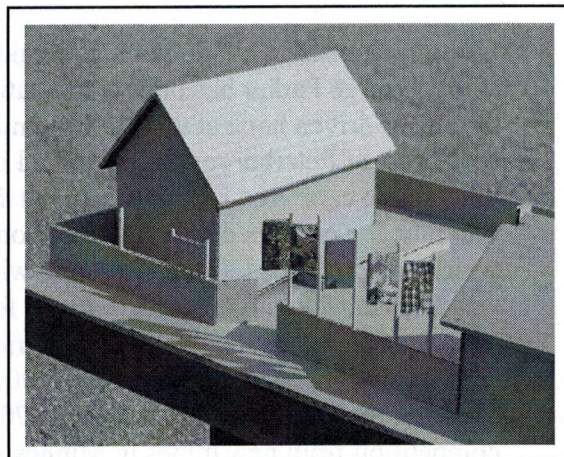
Newsletter

Spring 2016
Vol 16, No 1

The Town, the Federal Government, and Members ... make possible new capital projects!

A new woodworking shop with over 20 feet of work benches and a dust collection system; special small artifact and exhibit panel storage racks; a weatherproof public bulletin board at the Sifton-Cook Heritage Centre entrance; five custom wooden flag poles; improved energy efficiency in the Cottage and an air handling system for the limestone Exhibit Hall, all to be completed by March 31, 2017.

Triggered by a "Canada 150 Community Infrastructure Program" grant requiring matching funds ... the strategic support of the Town of Cobourg along with a number of generous donations, will make all of the above possible at no net cost to the CMF..



Dive into our local history as new exhibits for 2016 reveal "The History of Local Sport".

Open from Victoria Day Weekend to Thanksgiving, the exhibits describe many aspects of sports as they were played and developed over time. Interesting questions arise. Historically how do we define "sport"? When does play become sport? Is it a couple of kids kicking around an inflated sheep's bladder, or "modern" over-worked parents rushing their kids from one expensive and hyper-organized event to another?

What iconic Canadian sport, which was played until recently in a specially constructed indoor facility still standing in Downtown Cobourg, was first played in Montreal in 1807 by tough and brawny men wearing skirts? Find out much more by visiting the SCHC this summer. Call 905-373-7222 for our summer hours. Special tours for groups can always be arranged!

The 15th Annual General Meeting of the CMF

Wednesday April 20, 2016, in the 3rd floor Council Chambers, Victoria Hall

6:30 pm doors open .. 7:00 pm AGM business ... 7:45 pm Ross Quigley will describe
"Growing Up in Cobourg"

All are welcome! Please join us! Those wanting to renew their memberships can do so at the door.

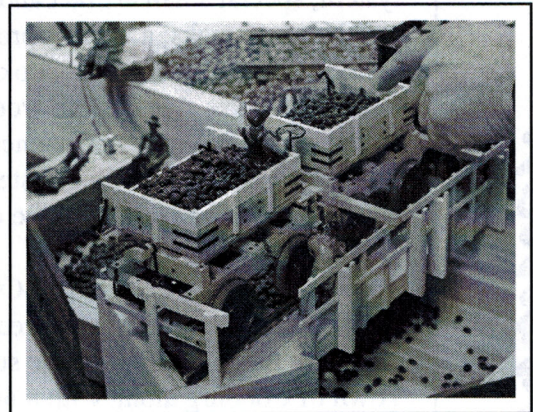
Cobourg Museum Foundation

“Cobourg Council on Heritage and Culture” (CCHC) schedules its first meeting.

Yes another meeting! ... but this one's different ... held only twice a year, and everyone who attends benefits. The CCHC is not an organization ... it's a meeting. Such a Council does not take any action under its name, but offers a forum where information and concerns are shared between like-minded groups. If action results it's the groups that act. Hopefully Coordinators from Town Council will attend as well as individuals from the Planning Dept and Advisory Committees. Meetings are planned for the last week of April and October. Success will depend on who chooses to attend. For more information about the CCHC, call Keith Oliver, 905-377-0107.

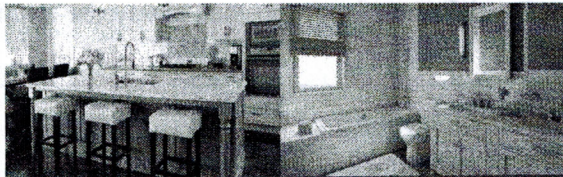
Operating model of Blairton Mine head displayed at Model Train Show

Using his considerable research and model-making skills, George Parker has built an operating model of the steam-driven hoist at the Blairton mine (northeast of Peterborough) that loaded iron ore into railway ore cars. At a special staging at Trent River Landing, the ore was dumped into 60 ton barges which crossed Rice Lake to Harwood where the ore was loaded back into ore-cars destined for Cobourg's harbour. Schooners then delivered the rich ore to smelters in Pittsburgh. At its peak 20,000 tons were exported each year until, in the late 1870s, competition from new mines in Minnesota and Wisconsin forced the mine at Blairton to close. As with so many industrial activities of the time, a great deal of work was performed by hand. Following the May 5th show George moved the model to the SCHC to join the rest of the story of Cobourg's ill-fated railway.




Expansion of Heritage Centre exhibit space put on hold.

Benefitting from the expertise of Engineer Jim Doubt, a long considered project of developing the 960 square foot loft in the Exhibit Hall into a space housing permanent exhibits has been put on indefinite hold. While all the requirements for public safety including fire protection and egress to the outside can be met, the CMF Board felt that the necessary changes would compromise the built-heritage values found in the 180+ year old limestone building. The Board through its policies, recognizes that in its own right, the building is a legitimate and unique heritage artifact.



COBOURG PAINT & WALLPAPER

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To honour Canada's 150th Birthday in 2017, the CMF has approved the creation of a booklet entitled "A Very Very Short History of Canada" to be distributed to every household in Cobourg.

Through the experience of operating the Heritage Centre and talking to our visitors, as well as researching and deciding on each year's exhibit theme, we continue to learn more about our unique local history as well as the history of Canada. Beyond the hard facts of names and dates there are ironical events; the actions of saints and sinners; the influence of ongoing struggles between European Powers; changing technology; changes in weather; changing relationships between cultural groups; both the wisdom and ineptitude of our leaders; and the fact that our neighbours to the south once believed it was their "manifest destiny" to occupy the whole of North America.

The booklet will be based on a 8.5 by 5.5 inch format with 12 numbered pages. They will be broken down into a front and back cover, 10 numbered pages of text, (one of which will be a brief history of Cobourg), and 18 half page "chapters". A three person Editorial Board will define the chapters, ensure a consistent writing style and accept 300 word submissions for any of the chapters. The goal, even in this abbreviated form, is to demonstrate how interesting our history is. A list of references will be provided to encourage further reading. Interested in contributing? Call Keith Oliver at 905-377-0107.

Project to display Cobourg's heritage at the Via Station moves forward.

Two years ago, working with a representative from Via Rail as the local station overpass was being completed, the CMF was given permission to mount two of its 180 exhibit panels inside the station. In black aluminium frames supplied by CMF, the panels describe Cobourg's unique history. With the excellent restoration and expansion of the waiting area on the east, more exhibit space became available. The Montreal office of Via approached the Town with regard to the Town's future involvement.

Following the advice of the Cobourg Heritage Advisory Committee, coordinated by Councillor Brian Darling, the Town Council approved a resolution by which the CMF and four other heritage and cultural groups would decide on the interior panels, and the Town would design and supply six smaller exterior heritage panels similar to those at the foot of Rotary Park at the Waterfront. Via's one condition was that French translations be included. All that has been accomplished and the Town will be presenting Via with its final proposal shortly.

Artist needed to paint a simple 12 ft by 8 ft panorama of Cobourg's Harbour

As part of the 200 foot long model railway at the SCHC, a model of Cobourg's Harbour in 1860 is being developed. As a background, a painting of the East Pier leading out to the Lake and sky beyond is needed. Materials supplied. Proposals welcome. For more information call 905-377-0107

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Sponsorships ... a new funding model.

Ongoing fund-raising enables the Cobourg Museum Foundation to keep the Sifton-Cook Heritage Centre (SCHC) admission-free, place heritage exhibits in a variety of venues in our community and make capital improvements. **Membership fees** provide a valued and predictable source of income, but don't cover our annual operating costs. **Random donations**, which often accompany memberships or are dropped in a donation jar by visitors, are a second source. **Government** matching grants often fund capital projects.

A fourth and quite different source of fund-raising are **Sponsorships**, conceived by the Fund-raising Working Group as a one-time donation acknowledged by public recognition. Through their example sponsors encourage others to do the same. In return, this public recognition of generosity has proved valuable to businesses, professionals, governments, and as a thoughtful means by which colleagues, families or friends can remember and honour an individual.

Sponsorship opportunities being considered range from \$250. to sponsor an exhibit panel with recognition attached, to \$800. for a flagpole, to \$2,500 for a heritage bench, to \$3,500 for 14 handheld audio guides, to as much as \$20,000. for the naming of a room. As to the latter, a bequest, received several years ago resulted in the Heritage Research Library on the second floor of the Cottage being named in remembrance of Mary and Jasper Martin. To find out what other opportunities exist for **Sponsorship** and an appropriate form of public recognition, call Al Mathews at 905-377-1600.

Handheld audio guides ... a valuable addition to the SCHC.

Always searching for new ways to make a visit to the SCHC more meaningful, a proposal to have 14 hand-held audio guides available is being considered. In addition to the exhibit panels and artifacts, the guides would provide more background information and could include sound. The guides would be keyed to any number of stations throughout the Centre, their content changed with each season's exhibits. Station #9 might explain the swing bridge in the model of the Rice Lake crossing, complete with sounds of its construction. Station #17 might take you through the history of the limestone building. Each station would offer English, French and a story for youngsters. Endless possibilities. Cost \$3,500

Donations

Income tax laws now allow individuals to donate investments to not-for-profit charities and receive a tax receipt for 100% of their value, which can then be used as a tax credit to offset capital gains on other parts of their investment portfolio.

To discuss this and other forms of giving please call Joan Chalovich at 905-372-6258.



Claude Hardenne
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CMF continues its search for citizens who want to contribute to our success!

The Foundation has a long list of tasks that an interested individual might enjoy undertaking. From volunteer guides, to designing and implementing out-reach programmes, to building exhibits, to creating an Index that will bring all the various books and documents describing our Local History together, to becoming a Board Member ... the possibilities are endless, the rewards are very real, and if you don't mind us saying so ... **the company is fantastic!**. The box below describes some of the possibilities. Return it with your membership coupon found on the back side. You'll be most welcome!

Organizational structure to be revised as more volunteers join the CMF.

While we've written about this in the past, we believe it's important to remind ourselves and others about a better, more efficient, and less personally-demanding way of organizing and operating both the Cobourg Museum Foundation and the Sifton-Cook Heritage Centre. At present the CMF Board of Directors meets monthly to set policy, budgets, define tasks to be accomplished, establish timetables for their completion and identify individuals or groups responsible for carrying them out. It acts both as a Board and as an Executive Committee. A better organizational structure is a Board whose members represent many different interests, meets four times a year, and a separate Executive Committee which meets monthly and reports to the Board. This will not happen until we have more individuals involved.

Cobourg Museum Foundation

"... bringing our story back to life"

Mission Statement ... "The Cobourg Museum Foundation works to increase the knowledge of the unique local history of this area on the part of residents and visitors alike, and to collaborate with other organizations and individuals having complimentary objectives."

The following is a list of tasks for which an individual or a working group can take responsibility. Circle the ones that appeal to you the most ... then talk to us!

Newsletter, SCHC publications, Briefing Notes.

Media relations, publicity and promotion.

Fund-raising and grant application.

Operating expenses and maintenance.

Gift shop supply, development and operation.

Library development and operation.

Relations with the Kawartha Pine Ridge Schools.

Web-site maintenance, other electronic means of communication, e-mail Newsletter

Events; Waterfront Festival, First Night, parades.

Relationship with local heritage interests

Relationship with other heritage centres and provincial and federal associations.

Recording the history of the CMF and SCHC.

Membership, relations and development.

Relationship with the Town and County and their offices of Tourism and Economic Development.

HRD; training volunteer guides, trailer-park receptionists, community-service students, etc.

Exhibit development, Outreach Programme.

Articles for the media, speaker programme

Cobourg Museum Foundation 2016 Board of Directors:

Joan Chalovich (Board Chair), Stanley Isherwood (Treasurer),
 Al Matthews, Keith Oliver (Board Vice-chair), Al Rose, Ken Willcocks, (Pat Weller, Secretary)

Our Corporate Supporters:

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 J E Doubt Engineers; Kelly Excavating; Lakefront Utility Services; Lakelands Multi Trade; Legacy Vintage Building
 Supply; Lazertech Footings; McCulloch Building Movers; Northeastern Archaeological Associates; Northumberland
 United Way; Quench Design and Communications; Skratk's Tree Service; Stalwood Homes; Wakely Disposal.

Government and NGO Funding Sources:

Federal Government of Canada; Province of Ontario; Town of Cobourg; Ontario Trillium Foundation;
 Northumberland Film Sundays; Architectural Conservancy, Cobourg Chapter; MusicMakers (2006).

Thanks to the following special supporters:

To "Smith's Creek Antiques" of Port Hope for the loan of early Canadian furniture found in the Visitor's Centre

... and lastly a very special thanks to our Members, who over the 16 years since our incorporation as a not-for-profit charity, have provided us with over \$90,000 in fees, donations and bequests.

Your constant support is the life-blood of the Cobourg Museum Foundation!

For more information about the Cobourg Museum Foundation:

... visit us at www.cobourgmuseum.ca ... google "Cobourg Museum Foundation",
 or call ... 905-372-0698 or 905-373-7222

or contact the newsletter editor, Keith Oliver at oliver.symons@sympatico.ca, or 905-377-0107.

Cobourg Museum Foundation

Victoria Hall, 55 King Street West, Cobourg, Ontario, K9A-2M2

I would like to support the work of the Cobourg Museum Foundation!

I understand that the number of Memberships is the most accurate demonstration of the extent of community support for the CMF and helps the Foundation establish its credibility when applying for funds from large corporate donors.

Whether becoming a new Member, or renewing, or changing your Membership category, please circle one of the following categories. Send a check made out to the **Cobourg Museum Foundation** to the address below.

Student	\$5.00	Individual	\$20.00	Individual Life Member	\$500.00
Family	\$30.00	Sustaining	\$100.00	Donation	_____

The Cobourg Museum Foundation

Victoria Hall, 55 King Street West, Cobourg, Ontario, K9A-3X1, Canada

Please Note: An Individual Life Member is a one-time payment. The title Founding Member is reserved for those who became Members during our first year. Sustaining is a higher level of annual membership.

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Check one of the following ... () new, () renewal, () renewal but changed to a different category.

Please do not write below dotted line. For office use only

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