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ASSOCIATION OF  
**MANITOBA  
MUSEUMS**

# AMM Messenger

*Keeping you in touch with the museum community in Manitoba*

July 16, 2020



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## MAP Emergency Funds

*This message was sent out twice before, but we wanted to make sure that you knew the deadline is **September 1**, and that these emergency grants are awarded on a **FIRST COME-FIRST SERVED** basis, so apply **NOW!***

The [Museums Assistance Program](#) (MAP) is now accepting applications for emergency assistance through the **COVID-19 Emergency Support Fund for Heritage Organizations**. This assistance will help organizations care for their heritage collections during these exceptional circumstances.

The COVID-19 Emergency Support Fund for Heritage Organizations, administered by the Department of Canadian Heritage, is meant to complement economic measures already announced by the Government of Canada, such as the Canada Emergency Response Benefit, the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy, the Canada Emergency Business Account and the Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance for small businesses.

Not-for-profit organizations with a heritage collection, such as museums, archives, and historic sites, may be eligible to receive funding. Indigenous organizations with a heritage collection are also encouraged to apply. Organizations can receive between \$5,000 and \$100,000 in emergency support.

To expedite funding requests, the Department has created a simplified online application process.

For full details on program eligibility and information on how to apply, please visit [COVID-19 Emergency Support Fund for Heritage Organizations](#). While the deadline to apply is September 1, 2020, applicants are encouraged to apply early as funds are limited.

For more information from the Federal government regarding this program visit their [WEBSITE](#).  
For FAQs visit this [PAGE](#).

For an easy to print breakdown of the program click [HERE / ICI](#)

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## Collections Management Database Info Sessions

The first phase of **Musetoba**, the provincial collections management database, is complete and the AMM is beginning preparations for the next wave of museums to join the program. The AMM is offering info sessions about the program over ZOOM in the next few weeks.

The sessions will include a look at the completed database and an overview of how the system works. We will also share what the AMM is looking for when selecting which museums will join the next phase, how the transfer process works, and some preliminary cost estimates. We may be able to add a few museums this summer, but the main application process will begin this fall.

The first info session will be held on **Thursday July 23rd** at 2:00. If there is enough interest a second session will be held Saturday July 25th at 11:00 and a third Monday, July 27th at 2:00. Registration numbers will be capped to ensure time for questions.

If interested, email project manager Kiersten McLeod at [database@museumsmanitoba.com](mailto:database@museumsmanitoba.com) by Tuesday, July 21st to RSVP. Please include any questions you'd like answered during the session along with information on the collections management system you're currently using and its approximate size.

More information regarding this database will be posted on our website under Member Resources and in future newsletters.

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## Province Expands "Back to Work" Wage Subsidy Program

As part of #RestartMB, Manitoba's roadmap to recovery, the Manitoba government is expanding its "Back to Work" wage subsidy program and providing additional financial support for businesses to bring more Manitobans back, Premier Brian Pallister announced today.

"Since the beginning of this pandemic, we knew we had to create opportunities for young Manitobans and we've created them," said Pallister. "We have supported the creation of 8,200 additional positions for young people and now we lead the country, but there is still work to do. Today, I am proud to announce the expansion of our Back to Work wage subsidy program to provide more opportunities for businesses to offer the services Manitobans depend and rely on."

The enhanced Back to Work program will reimburse up to \$5,000 for up to 10 new workers to a maximum of \$50,000 per business, not for profit or charity. Businesses that have already benefited from provincial summer wage subsidies are eligible for this new wage subsidy benefit to hire or bring back an additional 10 employees. The program will now reimburse half of all wages for those newly hired to Oct. 31. Employers that have received financial support from other various provincial and

federal programs are all eligible, the premier noted.

Over the past month, more than 300 Manitoba businesses have applied for approximately \$5 million to support 1,000 positions.

“Many retailers are only now beginning to slowly rebuild their staffing to their levels prior to the onset of COVID-19,” said John Graham of the Retail Council of Canada. “The extension of this job creation incentive will play a critical role in helping many business owners lessen the risk of expanding their workforce in anticipation of business growth.”

The application deadline is Oct. 1, with a deadline to submit proof of wages of Jan. 4, 2021. Businesses can apply for the wage subsidy starting July 16 at noon at <https://manitoba.ca/covid19/business/btwmp.html>.

Although Manitoba posted the second-best job recovery statistics in the country last month, Pallister noted there are still more than 69,000 Manitobans looking for work.

“Getting people back to work safely is job number one for our government,” said Pallister. “We are leading the country in putting in place the most generous and most comprehensive job creation programs our province has ever seen and any province has put in place.”

As an additional support for Manitoba businesses, the government also announced today that it will be extending the Manitoba Gap Protection Program deadline for applications to Aug. 31 from July 31. Businesses that are ineligible for federal support can also apply for an immediate \$6,000 under this program, which has already provided more than \$45 million in COVID business relief to over 7,600 employers who otherwise had no government support.

“Our suite of job creation programs is designed to give Manitoba workers and employers the right support at the right time for the right job opportunity,” said Pallister. “We are looking ahead to build our economy back even stronger.”

More than 2,500 Manitobans have already applied for the Manitoba Job Restart Program, which provides up to \$2,000 to those who safely return to work and voluntarily stop collecting the federal Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB) or Canada Emergency Student Benefit (CESB). The program application deadline is July 31.

View the [Province's Media Release](#)

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## Order of Manitoba

Congratulations go out to the 12 recipients of the Order of Manitoba.

The twelve deserving recipients are:

- Dr. Stephen Borys, Director and CEO of the Winnipeg Art Gallery
- Mr. Mitch Bourbonniere, educator and community activist
- Elder Mary Courchene, Indigenous leader and role model in the field of public education
- Dr. Krishnamurti Dakshinamurti, emeritus professor in the University of Manitoba faculty of medicine
- Mr. Bill Elliott, founding executive director of the Fort Whyte Centre for Environmental Education

- Mr. Richard Frost, CEO of The Winnipeg Foundation
- Ms Tina Jones, Chair of the Health Sciences Centre (HSC) Foundation board
- Dr. Marion Lewis, pioneer in medical genetics
- Mrs. Margaret Morse, Manitoba's first speech therapist
- Mr. Stuart Murray, chair of Travel Manitoba and co-chair of the Manitoba150 Host Committee
- Mr. Scott Oake, sportscaster and director of the Bruce Oake Recovery Centre
- Dr. Ernest Rady, entrepreneur and former member of the Manitoba Bar Association

For more on the Order of Manitoba and this year's recipients, view the [Province's Media Release](#).

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## Congratulations

Congratulations to The Manitoba Museum on turning 50 years old!

Join them as they celebrate this milestone: <https://manitobamuseum.ca/main/event/celebrate-our-50th-birthday-at-the-museum/>

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## Village News

*By Gary Dyck, Executive Director - Mennonite Heritage Village (Steinbach)*

### Canadians and our Communal History

These days society's accepted views on historical figures go viral and change so quickly. For me, it confirms our need for a more communal understanding of history. Too often, our history classes and books focus on 'heroic' individuals and we can miss that it is usually the small bands of people and society en masse that create change. Or how the individuals with their shortcomings are really part of something that is more systemic and found throughout the community at that time. History does not belong to the individual; it belongs to the community.

At the Mennonite Heritage Village (MHV) we do talk about individuals, but they are placed within the context of their community and wider society. There is so much more at play in history than the personal life of individuals. We all live in a cultural milieu, a social kind of village that influences our lives in subtle and yet deep ways. Most movements are spurred on by individuals, but like the Protestant or Anabaptist reformations, there already was societal disenfranchisement with the current establishment and people were ready to start a movement. History is not changed by an individual; history is changed by a movement of people.

On July 4, 2020 the Ottawa based National Trust of Canada released a new study on Canadians and Heritage Places. It revealed that nine in ten Canadians feel its important to preserve heritage sites and historic places. Their first insight was that "people feel the overall purpose of preservation is to ensure Canada's story continues to be told, experienced and learned." The majority also believed that these places help tell our country's collective story and that these stories are compelling reasons for Canadians and international tourists to visit them.

From the beginning, Mennonites have valued community and doing life together. That the Mennonite story is also a valued part of Canada's story makes us smile. Our first villages that were built with the houses close together, our churches, our support of humanitarian causes and each other have contributed a lot of good to Canada. The Heritage study also found that "people celebrate their localized places of interest as badges of pride, and they serve as important attractions and attributes of where they live for others to see."

There is a heritage movement of people who are making sure our communal story is there for future

generations. You support it every time you visit a museum or historic site, when you eat at their restaurant or buy something at their gift shop. You support it when you discuss current issues with friends and recall something from your heritage to enlighten the conversation. A special thanks to our Mennonite heritage movement – history belongs to you! Here's to our dedicated sponsors, staff, donors and volunteers! Together we are keeping this story going so that it can continue to have its impact in our world today.

Calendar of Events (see [mhv.ca](http://mhv.ca) for more information)

- May 13, Mennonite Heritage Village is now open. The includes our galleries, grounds and Livery Barn Restaurant.
- June 25 – April 2021, 'MCC 100 Years – a century of relief, development and peace in the name of Christ' exhibit is open to the public.
- July 18, August 1,15,29, Demonstration Days - instead of large events MHV is hosting pioneer demonstrations every other Saturday. There will also be barrel train and wagon rides, and waffles and rollkuchen sold by the MHV Auxiliary.
- July 20-24 or August 10-14, Pioneer Day Camp, register your kids for five days of pioneer fun! Space is limited.

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## Public Archaeology Days

Brandon University archaeologist Dr. Mary Malainey and the Manitoba Archaeological Society invite you to visit them at the Olson site. 2020 Public Archaeology Day activities will run on **Saturday, July 18, Sunday, July 19, Saturday, July 25 and Sunday, July 26**. This pre-contact archaeological site is being investigated to gather more evidence about the Indigenous farmers who once lived there and their cultivation practices.

The site is located about 15 km south of Melita, just west of Highway 83 in the Pierson Wildlife Management Area. Site excavations will be taking place in the Gainsborough Creek valley. The slope down to the site is quite steep but you will not have to walk down. They will be discussing the site and showing you artifacts at the valley crest. If you want to walk down, they will be able to show you the site up close. You will also have the opportunity to work with professional archaeologists and participate in the excavations.

Interested individuals are asked to meet in the grassy plain west of Highway 83 (about 500 m north of the junction with 10N) on the Saturdays or Sundays at either 10 a.m. or 12 noon.

For more information, please contact:

Dr. Mary Malainey

Department of Anthropology

Brandon University

Email: [malaineym@brandonu.ca](mailto:malaineym@brandonu.ca)

Leave a message: 204-727-9734

Funding for this project was provided by the Brandon University Research Council, the Manitoba Archaeological Society and the Province of Manitoba through the Manitoba Heritage Grants Program.

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## Mutual Mural Collaboration

The Midwinter Heritage Association is designing and building a 20 ft x 4 ft mural/map of the Historic Dawson Trail. The Mural will show the trail as it was in earlier days, from Winnipeg to Lake of the Woods. Along the Dawson Trail were many historic events and buildings which we have pictures or drawings of and will be placed at the bottom of the map.

A Heritage Archives Group from 3 Museums (The Tache Historic Site, Dawson Trail Museum, and the Midwinter Heritage Site) along the Dawson Trail has helped with the research and has found several very interesting pictures and drawings for display.

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## Re-opening Supplies

If you're looking to open your museum this year you'll be looking for some specific items to help you do so safely and conveniently.

Carr McLean offers many of the items you'll be looking for and AMM members can receive up to a 10% discount on their orders.

A list of suppliers for various items that museums might be looking for can be found on our [website](#).

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## Accessible Educational Programming

Shannon Millar, a graduate student completing a Master of Museum Education through the University of British Columbia, is looking for participation in a survey she's conducting.

The short survey (20 minutes) is about accessible educational programming in small Canadian museums for visitors with visual impairments. For this study a small museum is defined as any museum that has fewer than 10 full-time or part-time paid staff.

Responses from the survey will provide context about the extent of museum programming for the visually impaired.

To participate please use this link: [https://ubc.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_ehN8O4xYANt0ImN](https://ubc.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_ehN8O4xYANt0ImN)

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Shannon, at [s.millar@alumni.ubc.ca](mailto:s.millar@alumni.ubc.ca).

For any further inquiries, please contact the principal investigator, Dr. David Anderson, at [david.anderson@ubc.ca](mailto:david.anderson@ubc.ca)

The survey will be closed by the end of August.

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## Classifieds

### Downsizing and looking for takers

The Manitoba Electrical Museum has deaccessioned some items and is hoping a museum might like to give one of them a home. Items include small motors, fans and small electric kitchen appliances.

View the items [HERE](#). *Association of Manitoba Museums acknowledges that we are on Treaty 1 territory and the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of Anishinaabe, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota, and Dene Peoples, and the homeland of the Métis Nation*

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<https://museumsmanitoba.us19.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=87f5164ecc9400d607136379a&id=95bf1c39b6>

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