

Vision



BURLINGTON MUSEUMS FOUNDATION

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Welcome to the new Burlington Gallery

There will be three new galleries in the expanded Joseph Brant Museum, and I am excited to tell you about the Burlington Gallery.

The Burlington Gallery will be the first gallery on your tour of the new

museum. Centred around Joseph Brant/Thayendanegea, the gallery will introduce you to the area that became Burlington – between the lake and the bay with the Niagara Escarpment rising behind, and deciduous forests reaching the shore of the lake. Burlington was an important stopping point on the Great Lakes waterway, with the Niagara River to the east and Lake Ontario to the west. A place of strategic importance for early First Nations, who lived here for thousands of years before the first Europeans arrived.

Through the Many Faces of Joseph Brant exhibit, you will learn how Brant maintained his allegiance to his own people while captivating the English and gaining their trust and support. Yet, he was not without controversy. The selling of parcels of tracts



Early farming families and their lives will be highlighted in the new Burlington Gallery.

of land on the banks of the Grand River, the implementation of European agriculture and religious practices on the settlement, made Brant many enemies and created division among its inhabitants.

We will take a look at

Burlington's early farming families and their everyday lives. Many of the families who settled in Burlington came to Upper Canada (Ontario) from the United States after the American Revolution. Among the earliest to arrive from the United States was Joseph Brant and his family. Others came from places such as England, Scotland and Wales.

In small communities, families knew each other well and were often united by marriage. You may know them from the names of local streets, parks and a museum – Ghent, Davis, Chisholm, Kerns and Ireland. We will explore how settlements grew up throughout the township and the area became known as the Garden of Canada.

Did you know that the first peaches grown in Canada were cultivated in Burlington?

By Barbara Teatero, Director of Museums

One of the first industries in the region, essential to farmers, were grist mills where grains were ground into flour. Lumber mills processed trees into building materials until all the trees were gone and the industry died out. As the local communities grew, a tannery, a pottery, two wagon makers and a foundry for making metal casings were added to the mix.

By the 1830s, shipbuilding began as Burlington became a bustling port exporting wheat and produce. **Did you know** by the 1850s and 1860s, at least one schooner a day – from as far away as Chicago – sailed into Port Nelson and Wellington Square, unloading wheat to be ground into flour?

At first railways were not popular with the local citizens but with time, the convenience of the railways for passengers and freight won over. By the end of the 19th century Burlington was connected to the rest of Canada and the United States by “ribbons of steel”.

The Burlington Today Timeline, will take you through Burlington's milestones and show you Burlington today and in the past. You will be able to leave your own mark!

I hope I have piqued your interest just a little bit? Looking forward to seeing you at the new Joseph Brant Museum.

Next Edition....The Costume Gallery.

Serial philanthropist urges community to “open up wallets”

The expanded Joseph Brant Museum will cement Burlington's waterfront area as a major attraction for local residents and tourists, says retired entrepreneur and serial philanthropist Keith Strong, who has been giving back to the community since selling two successful businesses 30 years ago.

He says the museum expansion will be a great catalyst for the city of Burlington. “This

is a valuable addition to a waterfront that already offers exciting attractions including events like the world's largest RibFest and the Sound of Music Festival,” says Keith.

“I see the museum project as a great plus to rounding out a visit for people coming from Southwest Ontario or even New York state. It makes the picture complete.”

Museums, he adds, are important because they create a linkage to our heritage.

That's why he is encouraging others in Burlington and area to “open up their wallets” to help organizers reach the community's \$2.5-million commitment towards the \$11.4-million expansion.

See Keith's complete testimonial at burlingtonmuseumsfoundation.ca.



Keith Strong

MUSEUM EXPANSION IS A GAME-CHANGER



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 www.youtube.com/channel/UCytnsUqxBtRwRnCPRAkKkg



John Doyle and Carol D'Amelio were on hand at a recent Chamber Business After 5 event to showcase the Joseph Brant Museum expansion project.

Burlington Museums Foundation Chair John Doyle has been busy reaching out to community groups throughout Burlington as the Foundation seeks to raise the final \$700,000 for its commitment to the \$11.4-million Joseph Brant Museum expansion.

His message that the museum expansion truly is a game-changer for Burlington was highlighted in his October presentation to the Burlington Chamber of Commerce Business After 5 event in partnership with the Art Gallery of Burlington.

MAJOR CULTURAL DESTINATION

"Through the renovation and expansion that is well underway, we will create a major waterfront and cultural destination for our community and the entire region. The intent is not just to add space but to change the role and purpose of that facility.

"The new facility will enable cross programming with the Art Gallery of Burlington and Performing Arts Burlington so we can start to create multi-purpose events that will draw more people from outside the community to our downtown and waterfront."



The 'green roof' on the expanded museum will provide unique new vistas of Burlington's waterfront.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

"We are going to make the museum accessible to all, and it will support economic development by providing facilities that will draw new knowledge workers to Burlington. It is the cornerstone and will form the western gateway to the Region of Halton's 25-year plan to spend \$50 million on our waterfront."

ATTRACTING BLOCKBUSTER EXHIBITS

"By meeting national museum standards, we will be able to host blockbuster exhibits that today go right past our door. These exhibits attracts tens of thousands of visitors, and we will have those starting next summer. We know, for instance, that bringing 15,000 additional visitors to our community will net out \$5 million in economic benefits to the city. Those are economic benefits that will accrue to everyone in this room."

GET INVOLVED!

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