

Vision



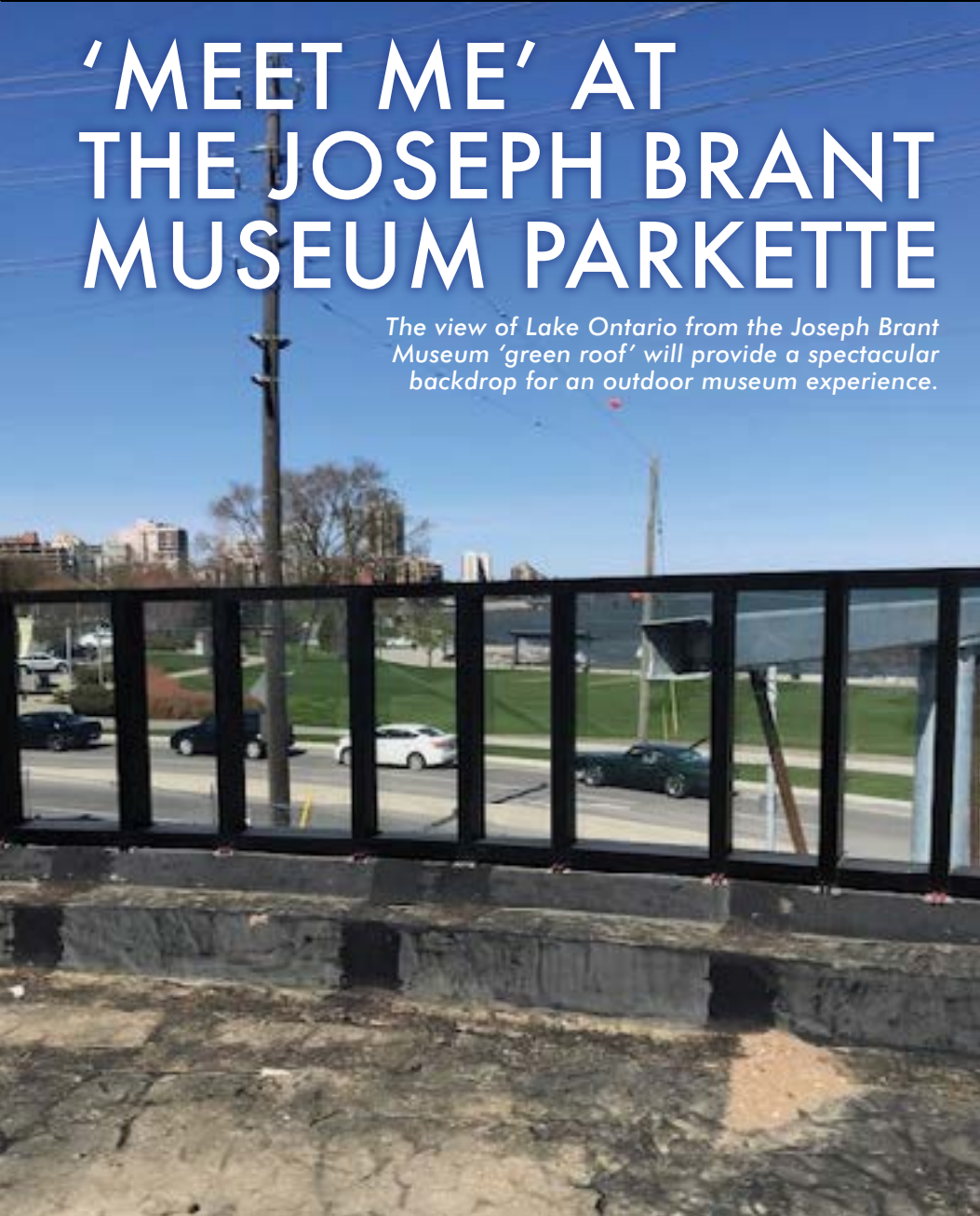
BURLINGTON MUSEUMS FOUNDATION

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JUNE 2019

'MEET ME' AT THE JOSEPH BRANT MUSEUM PARKETTE

The view of Lake Ontario from the Joseph Brant Museum 'green roof' will provide a spectacular backdrop for an outdoor museum experience.



By Barbara Teatero, Director of Museums

I've heard it referred to as a 'green' roof, a 'grassy roof', a 'landscaped' roof, a 'vegetated' roof! Call it what you will, I am very much looking forward to the day when people can enjoy a day at Joseph Brant Museum visiting the galleries, enjoying the

exhibitions, and then extending their visit by spending time up top.

I like to think of it as a *parkette*, a place that will serve as a community gathering space – fully accessible space where you can sit and relax, enjoy the gardens and the truly

amazing view of Lake Ontario. Space that will host a variety of outdoor activities and events.

Visitors will be able to meander along the paved walkways (kind of like the 'yellow brick road') or sit on one of the park benches and enjoy the many varieties of plants. I could give you the botanical name, but I think people will be more familiar with their common name – juniper, euonymus, aster, daylily, hosta (blue angel & blue wedgewood), and an assortment of grasses such as blood brothers switch grass, prairie sky, and Russian sage, along with Indigenous plantings native to the area.

The City of Burlington has put out a Call to Indigenous Artists and/or Indigenous-led artist teams to submit expressions of interest to create a permanent public artwork for Joseph Brant Museum to be installed on the green roof.

We are so pleased to be working with the City of Burlington, Cobalt Connects, representatives from Mississaugas of the Credit First Nations and Six Nations of the Grand River on this project. Our intent is to build on efforts to create awareness of the rich Indigenous cultures, peoples and heritage that are at the root of our territory, city and province.

The City of Burlington Public Art Reserve Fund and the *Dan Lawrie International Sculpture Collection* are jointly funding this art project. Work will be ongoing over the next year or so, and the estimated project timeline is to have the artwork installation and unveiling July 2020!

Along with the well-known phrase, "Meet me at the Brant Inn", I hope that "Meet me at the *Joseph Brant Museum Parkette*" will become an equally known invitation.



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BURLINGTON MUSEUMS FOUNDATION

MAYORS' CAMPAIGN

2019

HONOURING OUR ROOTS

The preservation and expansion of Joseph Brant Museum will help residents gain a deeper understanding about the origins of the City of Burlington, says former Mayor Walter Mulkewich.

"Joseph Brant, in many ways, is the founder of Burlington," adds Walter, who has joined with other past mayors in promoting the Burlington Museums Foundation 2019 Mayors' Campaign to raise the final \$500,000 in the community's \$2.5-million commitment to the project.

The current Brant house was built in the late 1930s as a replica of the original house, which when constructed marked the beginning of a permanent settlement in the area which came to be known as Wellington Square.

Walter, who served as Burlington's mayor from 1992 to 1997, says he is pleased with the placement of the Brant house looking out over the lake from atop the new 14,000-square-foot museum space below.

"When Joseph Brant built his house on this site, it looked out over the lake. You could pull your canoes right up to the edge, and walk up to the house. You will be able to experience that feeling when the museum reopens."

Walter notes the project is also important to enhancing the City of Burlington's image as a significant historical place. "We don't do enough to preserve our history, so this is important for Burlington.



Former Burlington Mayor Walter Mulkewich stops by to see the progress on the Joseph Brant Museum expansion project. The museum is expected to re-open this summer.

"When you have been a mayor of a community, you understand the significance of what the community is all about and where you have come from. Having mayors in a leadership role to promote this development is a good thing."

In addition to the historical importance of the project, Walter says the expanded museum will be an economic driver and a community builder.

"It's important for everyone in the community to get behind this project, and I am pleased to get involved in helping tell that story."

Visit burlingtonmuseumsfoundation.ca to view Walter's complete interview.