

MUSEUM

2019

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BURLINGTON MUSEUMS FOUNDATION

# Vision

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JULY 2019



*The Joseph Ireland family, among Burlington's earliest settlers, are like many featured in the Community Builders Gallery who helped forge the city as we know it today.*

## COMMUNITY BUILDERS GALLERY SOLID FOUNDATION FOR MUSEUM

By John Doyle

Chair, Burlington Museums Foundation

Joseph Brant Museum provides an important link between the community and its heritage – a link that will become more dynamic than ever when the expanded facility opens to the public this summer.

We need to tell the story of those individuals and families that have laid the foundation for a better Burlington... **Our Community Builders.** A key element of our Joseph Brant Museum expansion is a permanent exhibition that will tell the story of Burlington's Community Builders.

The legacy of families who have made our community what it is today will live on in perpetuity within our Community Builders

gallery, and we are grateful to so many families who have already stepped forward to show their support in a very significant way.

On behalf of the Burlington Museums Foundation, I want to express our gratitude to the latest family to join **Our Community Builders** – the Leggat family. We will feature a profile of their immense contributions to the community in our next edition of *Vision*.

The Leggats join the list of others who are already enshrined as Community Builders including Dan Lawrie, of Lawrie Insurance brokers; Don and Wendy Smith of Smith's Funeral Homes; the Hogarth family, founders of the Pioneer gas station chain and numerous other businesses; the

Schwenger family, who founded Stresscrete Group which today employs more than 400 people; the Paletta family, Burlington-based real estate empire; and Keith Strong, a retired entrepreneur and serial philanthropist who has been giving back to the community since selling two successful businesses 30 years ago.

Their financial contributions have helped make the Joseph Brant Museum expansion project a reality, and their stories will enrich the experience of all who visit the Museum for generations to come.

We look forward to welcoming other Community Builders to our museum as we continue our final fundraising efforts toward our \$2.5-million contribution.



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# MAYORS' CAMPAIGN

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## MUSEUM EXPANSION DELIVERS 'INCREDIBLE' VALUE



The Joseph Brant Museum expansion is a project whose time has finally come, says former Burlington Mayor Cam Jackson who praised the Burlington Museums Foundation for its commitment to moving the project forward.

Cam, who has advocated renaming Highway 403 the Joseph Brant Highway in recognition of Brant's contributions to Canadian success, joins four other living former Mayors in supporting the Mayors' Campaign to help reach the \$2.5-million fundraising commitment of the Burlington Museums Foundation.

"The potential for our museum under this new design and plan is very exciting," says Cam, who since vacating the mayoralty in 2010 has been active in a number of community projects including Community Living Burlington.

Prior to serving as mayor, Cam was a school trustee for 10 years before spending 22 years at Queen's Park as Burlington's MPP.

"When you look at the incredible value we're getting for (the museum) capital expenditure, it means a lot to our waterfront in terms of the programming, and integrating with the rest of the site. I'm just so very pleased the Foundation board worked so hard, and never gave up when council found other priorities. But its time has come, and the community deserves to get behind it 100 percent."

Cam says his childhood memories of learning about the War of 1812 and the contributions of the First Nations people drive his passion for the project. "A lot of



Cam Jackson (left), former Burlington Mayor, MPP and school trustee, says Joseph Brant's contributions are not widely recognized. The portrait of Brant (above), was painted in 1968 by American artist Waldon Arnholz. It will be on display when the Joseph Brant Museum reopens this summer.

people don't realize that British and First Nations forces were here in Burlington getting ready to push the Americans back across the border," he says, adding that without the contributions of our indigenous peoples we probably wouldn't be flying the Canadian flag today.

In speaking to community leaders, Cam says all have a responsibility to get behind the museum in helping future generations better understand where we have been and how Burlington came to be the thriving community it is today. View Cam's interview at [burlingtonmuseumsfoundation.ca](http://burlingtonmuseumsfoundation.ca).

The Mayors' Campaign includes Cam and former Mayors Mary Munro (1977-78), Walter Mulkewich (1992-97), Rob MacIsaac (1998-2006) and Rick Goldring (2010-2018).