

Vision



BURLINGTON MUSEUMS FOUNDATION

A COMMUNITY PROJECT COMMEMORATING CANADA'S SESQUICENTENNIAL

JUNE 2017



Town crier David Vollick formally announces the gathering for an important announcement. From right, The Honourable Eleanor McMahon, Ontario Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport; The Honourable Karina Gould, Minister of Democratic Institutions and Member of Parliament (Burlington); and Oakville-North Burlington MP Pam Damoff.

IT'S A GO!

With your support we can put our campaign over the top

By John Doyle

The long-awaited expansion of Joseph Brant Museum is about to become a reality.

The recent announcement that the federal and provincial governments will support Burlington's Sesquicentennial (Canada's 150th Anniversary) project was the final piece in the puzzle needed to move this long-awaited project forward. The city will soon be calling for tenders, and it's only a matter of time until a contract is awarded and we see shovels in the ground.

This is exciting news. But it also means we need your help more than ever.

The federal, municipal and provincial governments have committed to funding the

lion's share of the costs, on the condition that the community will show its support by providing \$2.2 million of the total \$10.4 million estimated cost.

The Burlington Museums Foundation, on behalf of the community, has committed these monies. We are grateful to the community for its support to date, allowing us to fund the development of concept and detailed working drawings, ensuring the project can now move ahead quickly.

But we remain short of our total goal.

Our fundraising target during this sesquicentennial year is \$1 million, which ensures we can fully cover the community's commitment to this exciting project.

To pledge your support, please visit our web site - burlingtonmuseumsfoundation.ca. Please also welcome our team of fundraising ambassadors who will be reaching out into the community in the coming weeks and months.

On behalf of the Burlington Museums Foundation Board of Directors, I want to thank you for being a friend of the museums foundation. We know you will be thrilled when you can showcase this amazing new facility to friends and family, knowing your support was an important part of making it happen.



John Doyle, Chair, Burlington Museums Foundation



An artist's rendering shows the expansive new Joseph Brant Museum, Burlington's Community Museum and Heritage Centre viewed from Lakeshore Road.

Joint announcement paves way for construction to begin

A joint federal-provincial announcement has put the long-awaited Joseph Brant Museum expansion on the fast track.

The \$10.4-million expansion will add 14,000 square feet including four exhibit halls that offer the opportunity to showcase special exhibits, two multi-purpose rooms, a lobby, shop, resource centre and storage for over 25,000 artifacts and historical treasures.

The Hon. Karina Gould, Minister of Democratic Institutions and Member of Parliament (Burlington), who joined The Hon. Eleanor McMahon, Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport, at Joseph Brant Museum on May 26 said the expansion project has been a "labour of love" for so many in the community.

"Today I'm pleased to announce on behalf of the Hon. Melanie Joly, Minister

of Canadian Heritage, the Government of Canada will contribute \$4.5 million to the City of Burlington for the Joseph Brant Museum expansion under the Canada Cultural Spaces program.

"For 75 years the Joseph Brant Museum has been a heritage landmark, an iconic building that honours the contributions of Mohawk military and political leader Joseph Brant. I look forward to the future of this institution, and the role it will play in our community. This allows Canadians to have greater access to our cultural heritage."

Ms. Gould applauded planners for ensuring the expanded museum will attract top-tier national and international travelling exhibitions, that it will be accessible to all and will be Gold LEED accredited, meeting stringent environmental standards.

Burlington Mayor Rick Goldring said "this is a great day for Burlington and its citizens," calling the announcement a major step forward to finally getting a shovel in the ground.

He congratulated a number of people for their contributions to the project including Burlington Councillors Rick Craven and Blair Lancaster, former Burlington Mayor Walter Mulkewich, former Councillor Carol D'Amelio, Burlington Museums Director Barbara Teatero, Burlington Museums Board Chair Larry Waldron and Burlington Museums Foundation Chair John Doyle.

"Thanks to the museum volunteers as well. I know you will be supportive of our future museum."

Ms. McMahon, who said that the provincial government will provide funding through its Ontario 150 Capital Program, said she looks forward to working with all of our partners to maintain momentum on the project.

"As Minister of Culture, and as Minister of Tourism I know this will continue to enrich the lives of citizens right here in Burlington, and will be an important attraction for our community, drawing citizens from across the country and beyond.

"It will make an incredibly important cultural contribution to our national landscape. This year as we celebrate our country's 150th anniversary, it is twinned with the recognition that the indigenous lands on which we stand are getting an important and significant recognition by announcing this museum expansion today."



The Hon. Karina Gould, far left, the Hon. Eleanor McMahon, centre, and Burlington Mayor Rick Goldring speak at a joint announcement of federal and provincial funding for Joseph Brant Museum expansion.



MUSEUM EXPANSION OPENS A WORLD OF POSSIBILITIES

By Kim Watson, Curator, Museums of Burlington

Where will you be able to learn about Burlington's interesting beginnings, view travelling displays from around the world and experience hands-on interactive activities – at our newly expanded Joseph Brant Museum!

The Museum expansion will increase our current exhibition space from 1,600 square feet to over 3,000 square feet. This space will be divided into four separate yet unified galleries, each showcasing interesting aspects of our history while exploring the world around us.

The exhibition spaces will appeal to the entire family and will bring technology to the forefront. There will be a discovery gallery for younger visitors to explore and discover in a fun, engaging atmosphere.

A permanent exhibit will focus on the Joseph Brant story and his connection to the area, featuring personal artifacts from the Museum's collection. There will be a rotating gallery that will encompass various topics relating to the growth and development of Burlington.

The travelling exhibition gallery is a first for the Joseph Brant Museum. This gallery will provide opportunities for people to view artifacts and cultures from other parts of the world.

The announcement of federal and provincial funding for the Joseph Brant Museum is celebrated outside the museum, from left: Councillor Rick Craven; Town Crier Dave Vollick; Councillor Blair Lancaster; Councillor Paul Sharman; Pam Damoff, MP, Oakville-Burlington North; The Hon. Karina Gould, Minister of Democratic Institutions and Member of Parliament (Burlington); Barbara Teatero, Director of Museums; John Doyle, Chair, Burlington Museums Foundation; The Hon. Eleanor McMahon, Minister of Tourism, Culture & Sport; Mayor Rick Goldring; Larry Waldron, Chair, Burlington Museums Board.

Within the Museum, as part of the community builders initiative, there will be an opportunity for people to share their own family's history. This exhibit area will use images of family heirlooms and photographs coupled with interesting textual materials to create an exciting platform to share their stories with the public.

The expanded museum will become a premier cultural heritage destination for Burlington. It will inspire and engage people through interactive in-house and travelling blockbuster exhibitions, expanded programming, cultural exchanges and partnerships. The new Joseph Brant Museum will become a major cultural destination and focal point along the city's beautiful waterfront.

Joseph Brant expansion will enhance awareness about First Nations' role

The story of Joseph Brant (Thayendanegea) is one that many of us know little about, despite its importance to the history of Canada and Burlington.

"It is our plan that the expansion of the Joseph Brant Museum will enable us to raise awareness about the role of Joseph Brant and First Nations peoples in forging the Canada we now know," says Barbara Teatero, Director of Museums in Burlington.

Creating partnerships with First Nations institutions is one of the ways the museum is exploring for bringing Canada's rich indigenous history to life for more and more people in the Burlington community and beyond.

"The creation of new display areas will give us the ability to bring to life the story of Joseph Brant and the rich history of the First Nations for a broader range of Canadians than ever before. These are important stories

in our nation, and we are thrilled to have the opportunity to showcase them properly."

The Joseph Brant Museum is closed in preparation for the upcoming construction, which entails temporarily moving the homestead while the expansion is built. Watch for future editions of Vision 2017 for updates on our progress.

In the meantime, we invite you to test your knowledge about Joseph Brant and the Joseph Brant Museum with our quiz at right. We're sure you'll be surprised by some of the answers.



Portrait of Chief Joseph Brant painted in 1968 by William Arnhold is part of the Joseph Brant Museum collection.



The Joseph Brant Quiz

- Q1 Joseph Brant died in Burlington in 1807 where he lived out his final years. Where was he born?
- Q2 Brant was educated at Eleazar Wheelock's "Moor's Indian Charity School", the forerunner of what noted Ivy League school?
- Q3 What British leader commissioned Brant as a Captain of the British Army in 1780?
- Q4 Name two world leaders visited by Brant in his lifetime?
- Q5 The Joseph Brant Museum is a replica of the original homestead where Brant spent his final years. In what year was it built?
- Q6 How did the museum acquire the silver gilt gorget (pictured above) that was presented to Joseph Brant by King George III?
- Q7 How many times did Joseph Brant marry during his lifetime?

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Find the answers at <http://burlingtonmuseumsfoundation.ca/quiz>