

Vision



BURLINGTON MUSEUMS FOUNDATION

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MAY

MUSEUM EXPANSION PAYING OFF



Burlington Museums Foundation Chair John Doyle is joined by Burlington Museums Chair Susan Kun, left, and Director of Museums Kimberly Watson at opening of Giants, Dragons & Unicorns exhibit.

The investment in expanding and revamping Burlington's Joseph Brant Museum was showing a strong return on investment in the first six months after re-opening.

"Attendance numbers have been up substantially since we reopened last September," says Kimberly Watson, Director of Museums in Burlington, adding that the expanded museum attracted as many visitors in its first three months as it would normally draw in an entire year.

"Our first exhibit from the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame brought a lot of people in from Toronto, Mississauga and Niagara. It's bringing people to Burlington, and after they look at the museum they're eating at the restaurants, having a look around downtown - it was definitely having an impact."

Kimberly says she was also seeing more families, more school children and more repeat visitors, something that was rare in the past. "On our Family Day this year, we had

650 people go through in a four-hour span. We weren't sure what to expect, but that exceeded our expectations by far."

The ability of the new facility to bring in travelling exhibits, like Giants, Dragons & Unicorns from the American Museum of Natural History in New York, is proving successful in enticing people to come back again and again.

"We encourage that - we always let our visitors know when the current special exhibit will be closing, and talk about what is coming next."

Kimberly adds the museum is taking a fresh approach. "The old idea of museums where you didn't touch anything - we're getting away from that. The evolution of technology, our interactive special exhibits, our programming makes this a place where you don't just see and read about things behind glass ... you can experience it."

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REACHING OUR GOAL TOGETHER

Although the expansion of Joseph Brant Museum has been completed, we're still working hard to meet our community commitment.

"Community support has been tremendous, and we are now just \$400,000 short of reaching our \$2.5-million commitment to the museum expansion," says Cheryl Jorritsma, Development Officer for the Burlington Museums Foundation, noting that this is the Foundation's top priority.

Cheryl says the Foundation recognizes the landscape has shifted and times are uncertain. "You can still support the Museum at this time by sharing posts to help build profile around this new facility," she noted, adding the Museums of Burlington is alive on Twitter and Facebook using the handle @MuseumsBurlON where you will find great content and interesting reads.

"If you are in a position to give we have many opportunities to do so. The Burlington Museums Foundation is still in need of community support to meet our fundraising goal."

Contact Cheryl for more information:

E: info@burlingtonmuseumsfoundation.ca

HUTTER FAMILY HELPS PAVE THE WAY

Newest Burlington Builders say expansion has made Museum a “go-to” destination

The expansion of Joseph Brant Museum has transformed an underused historical site into a go-to destination on Burlington’s waterfront, says Joe Hutter, whose family’s significant donation to the Museum Capital Campaign makes them the newest member of the Burlington Builders Gallery.

“The downtown Burlington waterfront is a treasure for the people who live and work in our city, and it is so important that we utilize that land in a way that enhances the downtown area and benefits all citizens,” says Joe, noting that projects like the Joseph Brant Museum expansion create a place for community groups, citizens and visitors to enjoy while learning about the history of Burlington.

The Hutter family’s decision to support the museum expansion is a reflection of their long-time commitment to philanthropy.

“A large part of our business is conducted in the communities in which we have offices and manufacturing facilities. Without the support of people in our local communities, the success of King Paving Company, King Packaged Materials Company and The King Truck Centre would not be possible.

“Burlington residents pay the taxes that fund

the roads we build, they buy the building products that we manufacture in our southern Ontario production facilities and they drive the trucks that are maintained in our Howard Road Truck Centre. Sharing in that success through the support of projects such as the Joseph Brant Museum, Carpenter Hospice and other Burlington initiatives is simply the right thing to do.”

Joe says he and his family decided to join the Burlington Builders Gallery, which will preserve their family’s history in perpetuity, after learning that John Doyle (Chair, Burlington Museums Foundation) was instrumental in moving the project forward.

“When we learned of all the dedicated volunteers involved we knew it was a project worthy of our support. I would strongly encourage any businesses that work in our city to support this project. It is an excellent way of giving back to the community, and for sharing the story of family and business successes.”

The Hutter family business ventures were launched by Joe’s father, Hank, who with two partners, purchased King Paving and King Packaged Materials from Genstar Corporation in 1983. Hank had worked at King Paving since 1966.



Joe Hutter speaks at the opening of his company’s Boisbriand, Que. plant in November 2012.

GIVING THANKS

Reflecting on the times that we are in, our thanks go to those who helped us get here, and for the support we have received from our community.

We look forward to getting together with you in the not-too-distant future to celebrate our rich history with an even stronger sense of pride based on how we have come together as a community to stop the spread of Covid-19.

Heritage is our legacy from the past, what we live with today and what we pass on to the future. Thank You for your support and understanding of how history matters.

Contact us to get more information about our ‘ways to give’.

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