

# Heritage News

Winter 2016  
Volume 29 Issue 1

*Celebrating Spring*

*The Newsletter of Heritage Mississauga*



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**Cover Image:** The Grange, ready for the Spring Equinox Sunrise Ceremony. Many thanks to Métis Elder Joseph Paquette for use of his Eagle Staff for this picture. See you on **Sunday March 20th at 6:30am** for the Sunrise ceremony. For more info see advertisement on pg.14

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## Become a Member

Membership has its benefits, call us today to see how you can support heritage preservation and celebration in your community.  
 905-828-8411 ext. "0"



Jane Watt



Jenny Walker



Matthew Wilkinson

## What's In A Name?



Many streets and roads around Mississauga carry names that reflect people and places from our past. We drive by (or on) these routes, often without knowing about their name origins. One such road is "Palstan Road", which intersects with Dundas Street East, just east of Tomken Road.



*See page 11 for the answer!*

**HERITAGE NEWS** is a publication of the Mississauga Heritage Foundation Inc. The Foundation (est. 1960) is a not-for-profit organization which identifies, researches, interprets, promotes, and encourages awareness of the diverse heritage resources relating to the city of Mississauga. The Foundation acknowledges, with thanks, the financial assistance of the City of Mississauga Culture Division, the Ontario Trillium Foundation, Community Foundation of Mississauga, The Hazel McCallion Fund for Arts, Heritage and Culture, The Hazel McCallion Foundation for Arts, Culture and Heritage, TD FEF, ArtsBuild Ontario, ArtsVest, the Department of Canadian Heritage, The Heritage Canada Foundation, Canada Summer Jobs, the Ministry of Culture, Dufferin Peel Catholic District School Board, Peel School Board which, together with its members, donors, sponsors, and volunteers, help to preserve Mississauga's heritage in its many aspects. Articles, contributions, comments, advertisements, and letters to the Editor are welcome.

Please contact us at: Mississauga Heritage Foundation, 1921 Dundas St. W., Mississauga, Ontario L5K 1R2, phone: (905) 828-8411 or fax: (905) 828-8176, or e-mail: [info@heritagemississauga.org](mailto:info@heritagemississauga.org). You can also visit us at: [www.heritagemississauga.com](http://www.heritagemississauga.com).

### NEXT DEADLINE: March 11, 2016

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**Printing:** The Print Gurus



### 2016 with High Hopes & Haggis



*Barbara O'Neil and son Adam French with the Haggis, Barbara O'Neil*

Haggis is definitely an acquired taste. However, if you happen to share a Scottish heritage and are looking for an excuse to celebrate *something* in late January, you might find you have sufficient occasion to develop that taste. The bits and bobs stuffed into a sheep's stomach, baked to perfection, splashed with a shot of fine scotch, set ablaze, properly "addressed" with famous ode, and finally cut open with a dirk, dagger or common kitchen knife, has been the ceremonial centrepiece of our recent annual Robbie Burn's evenings. After sampling haggis several times over the decades, I can finally say I rather enjoyed it this year.

Of course, events that honour one's cultural past are about more than eating different food. They are an opportunity: to educate and remind oneself of specific details of one's family history, to deepen family ties through food, music, sometimes dance or other entertainment, and to share the occasion with friends. At best, there's a kind of magic that envelops the celebration, and lifetime memories are made.

As February is Heritage Month, Heritage Mississauga encourages you to remember and mark *your* heritage, whatever it may be! Arrange a get-together with your family and friends. Bring along your old photo albums, scrapbooks and other memorabilia and **tell or write your family stories so the youngest family members don't lose their connection with and pride in their past.**

If you uncover a fascinating personal narrative as a result of these conversations, contact Heritage Mississauga – we record and archive oral histories of Mississauga residents and always welcome new additions.

#### February & Beyond

Still on the topic of the Heritage Month, on February 16<sup>th</sup> HM hosted our annual Open House at the Grange, with special

displays, refreshments, talks, etc. A great turnout thanks for sharing the day with us.

I'm looking forward to presenting the highlights of HM's 2015 successes and 2016 plans to Council in February, and to arranging brief meetings with all Councillors and the Mayor to discuss opportunities to support ward-specific heritage activities over the next couple of years. And, here's **your reminder of the 5 PM February 29<sup>th</sup> deadline for our Selfie Contest!** There's a total of \$500 to be won and staff have received some great submissions, including some in the "most people in one selfie" award category. Check our Facebook ads and website for all the details.

We are already starting work to repeat the stellar entertainment and fund raising results of last November's *Credits* evening. Award nominations are now open. If you'd like to recognize a local Heritage Hero (this may be an individual, group, or company, depending on the category), contact our office or go on our website to complete a nomination.

#### John Moore Is June Luncheon Speaker

Attention early risers: our annual Equinox sunrise ceremony will take place on the lawn of The Grange on Sunday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, led by Métis Elder Joseph Paquette. The bonfire will be lit at 6:30 AM.

Two workshops are planned this spring: a genealogy and an aboriginal workshop. These sessions normally sell out, so reserve early.

In the coming months, we will be rolling out: the much-anticipated "reveal" of our new feature-rich website, more video and print deliverables included in the ongoing Cultural Diversity Project (Ontario Trillium Fund grant), and May's bonus-edition newsletter which will showcase all the major Cultural/Heritage Festivals in our City.

HM has been delighted to host outstanding speakers at our Business Luncheons – past presenters include Christopher Hume, Mayor MacCallion, and Mayor John Tory. This year, our Board was thrilled to confirm John Moore, popular host of Moore in the Morning on Radio 1010, for the event. Mr. Moore will lead a round table-style discussion of relevant local heritage and business issues. **The event is set for noon on June 9<sup>th</sup> at the Mississauga Grand Event Centre (Bristol & Hurontario). As we expect to sell out, call our office now to reserve your tickets.**

Happy Heritage Month to All!



## From the Editor's Desk *by Jayme Gaspar, Executive Director, Heritage Mississauga*

As Canadians you would think we would be used to the blast of winter we get every February, with the deep-freeze and snowy days. Mother Nature always teases us for a number of weeks at the beginning of the year, then into the middle of February temperatures fall into the "minus ridiculous" and brings continuous patches of whiteout snow storms. Ah winter, we welcome you, even with the wild weather you bring because it is the time of year when we celebrate our heritage. February is Black History Month and includes National Heritage Day, or week, whichever you choose to enjoy.



At Heritage Mississauga we celebrate the day after the Family Day holiday with an open house, offering tours, a chance to share stories, great refreshments and opportunities to learn something new about our heritage. Our free presentations this year touched on historic trains, wild stories from local cemeteries, the buildings that never materialized in Peel and local connections to February's Black History Month. We enjoy this event each year as it gives us a chance to connect with members and friends, share some hot apple cranberry and nibbles and put aside our daily work to celebrate. We appreciate the gifts of our speakers: Richard Collins, Denise Mahoney, Nick Moreau and our own Matthew Wilkinson, many thanks for bringing your experience and knowledge to our celebrations. We also welcomed for the afternoon, artist Marian Dragiev who has curated a show of his beautiful photography in the Debbie Hatch Discovery Centre and in our lower hall, a local photography show of Mississauga's Moments through time from our collection. All in all an excellent day to celebrate together. Thank you to all who visited, we hope to see you again soon.

2015 was a year for the record books for Heritage Mississauga. Engaged in over 347 public programs reaching over 106,000 residents and visitors, it was our busiest year to date.

Our Speakers' Bureau program grew significantly giving over 90 presentations to groups and senior audiences. Our

Historian Matthew Wilkinson with help from Lifetime Member Richard Collins reached over 2300 residents.

Our awards program the Credits was a wonderful success, check out the event in review from Jenny Walker our Program Developer on pages 7, 8 and 9.

We launched two new "Heritage Moment" videos, "The Majestic Credit River" and "I am Mississauga" developed under the creative direction of Meghan Mackintosh our Outreach Coordinator and film production company Sanborg Productions.

Our genealogy workshops continue to grow each year under the direction of our own Jane Watt, and speaker Ruth Blair. We have provided valuable assistance to the budding genealogists in the GTA and beyond.

We hosted the internationally significant First World War exhibition: "Souterrain Impressions" by Canadigm. More on this extraordinary exhibition later in this newsletter. We presented our third comic in The Grange Series, *Legend of the Ridge*.

We worked with Heritage Mississauga Director Margaret Jedlewska and the Consulate General of Poland in Toronto to present a Second World War exhibition titled "Canadian Aviators Help Warsaw During the Uprising" at the Mississauga Civic Centre Great Hall. The exhibition was dedicated to the Airmen from the Royal Canadian Air Force, killed on a mission to support the Warsaw Uprising in the Second World War.

We hosted our first Aboriginal Workshop presented by former Chief of the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation Carolyn King, and we planted a red canoe at The Grange as part of the David Suzuki Foundation's, Homegrown National Park Project, providing habitat for Monarch butterflies and other pollinators. The canoe garden acknowledges the traditional territory of the Mississaugas of the new Credit First Nation and includes the Anishinabe "Moccasin Identifier" designed by artist Phil Cote painted on the side. These are just some examples of the really interesting heritage programs and fun events we get into.

Plans are well underway for another excellent year, filled with new opportunities to connect and engage, research and record and celebrate all that is heritage. Our next event at The Grange is our annual **Sunrise Ceremony** celebrating the Equinox. Métis Elder Joseph Paquette will light the sacred fire at 6:30am on Sunday March 20th. Light refreshments will be served following the ceremony. Hope to see you there.

Keep tuned to the Heritage Mississauga social media waves to hear more about our new website, video presentations, publications and celebrations. It's going to be a busy year, don't miss any of the fun, looking forward to sharing it with you.



# The Sikh Heritage Museum of Canada

by Meghan Macintosh, Outreach Coordinator, Heritage Mississauga

In the spring of last year as part of my outreach efforts, I reached out to Pardeep Singh Nagra, Executive Director of the Sikh Heritage Museum of Canada (SHMC) to learn about the museum and the Sikh community here in Mississauga.

Opened on April 5, 2014, SHMC is a Canadian organization celebrating the unique culture, history and legacy of Sikh Canadians and is a tribute to the historical significances of the Sikh community and their contributions to the building of our nation.

I visited the museum during the 'Sikhs in Canada' timeline exhibit, which captured the link between Canadians and Sikhs dating all the way back from 1809 to today. This exhibit was incredible, because it gave me a wonderful picture of what it was like as a Sikh coming to Canada, their sacrifices, challenges, bravery, leadership and legacy in Canada and the community of Mississauga.

In November, the museum won Heritage Mississauga's "The Credits" Community Heritage Award for a community group, as voted by our panel of judges.

I recently caught up with Pardeep over the phone, to find out how this institution was formed.

"Those two events [the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the commencement of the great war and the Komagata Maru incident] kind of got us on the ground running, not to mention that it was also the launch of Sikh Heritage Month, the first time in Ontario." Pardeep explains. "We were doing some exhibits and then we decided that we should institutionalize this piece [Call to Flanders - Sikhs and the Great War: 1914-1918] and work towards building a museum and gallery."

Founded by a group of individuals in the community who were already doing exhibits at various community events like Remembrance Day, they decided to create a nonprofit organization, museum and gallery space to preserve, curate and exhibit artifacts, publications, photographs and documents of historical significance.

"So we pursued, got a space and it had an administration office space, a front gallery, and as a location, enough room for small exhibitions." says Pardeep. "Very quickly, within a few months after opening, we were on a national exhibit [Lions of the Sea: The National Komagata Maru Exhibition] across Canada."



Vice-Chair Harminder Harry Mann, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Chair Colin Kulbir Singh Dhillon and Executive Director Pardeep Singh Nagra, SHMC

This important exhibit included original artifacts from the Japanese steamship, Komagata Maru, which travelled from Hong Kong to Vancouver in May 1914, carrying 374 passengers from Punjab, British India. The Canadian government denied their entrance to Vancouver, which meant some passengers were killed upon their return. This was one of several incidents in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century designed to exclude immigrants of South Asian origin into Canada.



the Credits Award, SHMC



Museum Board of Directors, Sikh Heritage Museum of Canada, SHMC

The museum is about much more than artifacts, and aims to encourage community involvement and engagement.

"We've done book launches, musical performances, exhibits, and there have been a variety of things we've hosted in our space." Pardeep explains. "People are shocked when we share with them how many exhibitions we've done, and how many partnerships we've logged just in the last couple of years."

Cont'd pg 15



## Mississauga Remembers: The Fenian Raids – Part One

By Matthew Wilkinson, Historian, Heritage Mississauga  
(with research assistance by Rebekah Koury)

2016 marks the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of one of the lesser-remembered moments in Canadian history: the 1866 Fenian Raids. In essence, in June of 1866 a long-simmering feud, largely between the American-based Fenian Brotherhood (an organization sympathetic to Catholic Ireland and the Irish Republic) and the British Crown erupted. The Fenian Brotherhood, long agitating for action and not without supporters in Canada, proceeded to invade Canada in April and June of 1866. While the invasions did not come as a complete surprise, and rarely accomplished their goals, the British forces in what would become Canada, along with the civilian militia, were undermanned and poorly organized to face experienced Fenian soldiers, who were largely veterans of the American Civil War.

Many volunteers from historic Mississauga served in the militia and in many fashions, during the raids, principally leading up to and in the aftermath of battles at Ridgeway and Fort Erie in June of 1866. Local militia infantry companies consisting of some 50 men each were formed at Derry West and Grahamsville; Brampton was home to one infantry company and one rifle company; Streetsville formed a half-company of 21 men, and also provided men for a mounted company; volunteers from Port Credit joined with the militia in Oakville.

Below is an interim list of known veterans of the Fenian Raids who have connections to historic Mississauga. If you have any information or pictures relating to the service of these militia volunteers, we would love to hear from you. Upcoming issues of the *Heritage News* will explore historic Mississauga's connections to the Fenian Raids. We remember their brave service:

George Armstrong, William Calvert Armstrong, Henry Baldock, Charles Bamford, William Bamford, Henry Bleakley, William Brown, William Thomas Brown, Alfred Burrows, John Carr, Robert Cotton, John Crawford, Thomas Crombie, James Currie, Robert Currie, John Delaney, Robert Delaney, William Denison, William Duggan, George Elliot, Robert Elliot, William Elliot, Stephen Garbutt, Royal Grafton, Thomas Grafton, Thomas Graham, Robert Graydon, James Hamilton, William Jarvis, John Lennon, George Leslie, John Loughheed, Robert Loughheed, Hugh McCaugherty, Josiah Oliver, William Oliver, John Orr, Albert Parker, Joshua Pollard Jr., Richard Pollard, John Christopher Rutledge, Joseph Jabez Rutledge, Robert Rutledge, James Shaw, William Shaw, Richard Sparling, William Sparling, Samuel Switzer, George Taylor, Henry Taylor, William Taylor, Joseph Tilt, William Todd, David Wedgewood, John Wedgewood, James Wolfe and George Wright.

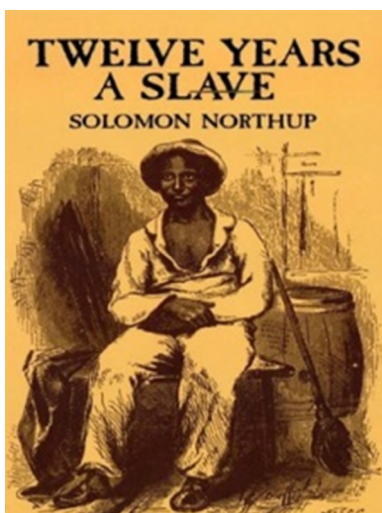


Robert Graydon, 1866, HM



Thomas Grafton, 1866, HM

## Did You Know?



Twelve Years A Slave, Cover

February is Black History Month in Canada, but did you know that Mississauga has several historic connections to early black settlement? Perhaps the most significant connection is with the Ross family. George Woodford Ross (c1796-1878) was an emancipated slave from Virginia. Together with his wife, Didamia (nee Paul), Ross settled in historic Mississauga in 1836, where he purchased a 200-acre farm. Their farm, dubbed "Cedar Park Farm", was located on the North side of modern Burnhamthorpe Road, west of modern Cawthra Road. The Ross family owned the property for three generations, until selling it in 1911. George and Didamia had 10 children, many of whom remained in the community during their lifetimes.

Also, for those who have read the celebrated book *Twelve Years a Slave* (the story of Solomon Northup), you may recall that he was a free black man in the United States who was kidnapped and sold into slavery in 1841, and escaped from slavery in 1853. Did you know that the last known mention of Solomon is in 1857 when he visited Streetsville. It is not known what happened to Solomon Northup after this date.



by Jenny Walker, Program Developer,  
Heritage Mississauga

# Heritage Mississauga Selfie Contest



**Say Cheese and Win!**  
**\$500 worth in prizes**

**Five Categories - Five Prizes of \$100**

1. Most Creative
2. Largest Number of People in the Selfie
3. Cultural Heritage Tourist Site in Mississauga
4. Photo at Heritage Mississauga Offices (1921 Dundas St. W.)
5. Celebrating Heritage Traditions in Mississauga

## Contest Instructions:

We will be giving away 5 different prizes for a total of \$500! Each prize will be worth \$100. All you have to do is post a selfie on your social media account (Twitter or Facebook) with the hashtag: **#HeritageMississaugaSelfieContest**. Be sure to use the five categories above as your guideline for the type of photos you'll want to take. When you post the photo to your social media account, use the hashtag, so that we can search and find it for judging. On Twitter, you can tweet us at @heritagemssauga. If you don't have a social media account, please send your selfie to our email address: [info@heritagemississauga.org](mailto:info@heritagemississauga.org), we will then post your selfie to our social media accounts for all to see!

*"By entering into the Contest, you give Heritage Mississauga complete permission to use, edit, or modify all submissions for any and all of Heritage Mississauga's purposes in its sole discretion. Such purpose may include but is not limited to advertisement for the purpose of the Contest, publication of contest finalists, publication in community brochures, and any other advertisement or trade in any manner or medium whatsoever, or not at all, without further compensation, notification or approval, unless prohibited by law."*

On November 5th, 2015 Heritage Mississauga presented our annual *the Credits* Heritage Awards at the Lakeshore Convention Centre. Celebrating with 427 guests, we honoured 15 heritage heroes, and 17 community anniversaries, with the generous support of 31 corporate sponsors and partners this glittering affair raised valuable funds for Heritage Mississauga to support the community work we do each year.

Check out the photos on the next few pages courtesy of Sanborg Productions and don't forget nominations are open for the 2016 *the Credits*! We received 32 nominations in 2015 and want to see more from the community in 2016. Who is your Heritage Hero? Nominate them today. Mark your calendars and save the date; **November 10, 2016**, see you there!

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## Special Recognition in 2015



*Chairman's Heritage Award -presented posthumously to Ron Lenyk by Event Chair Jake Dheer, accepted by his family given by Heritage Mississauga*



*President's Heritage Award -presented to Ron Duquette, by Heritage Mississauga*

**With thanks to  
the Judges**  
Frank Bosnjak  
Sandra D'Souza  
Eileen MacKenzie  
Gilmar Militar  
Dana Robbins



*the Credit Award designed by Kelly Lowe, LAC Resident Artist*



*Lifetime Member Award presented to Diane Allengame by Heritage Mississauga*

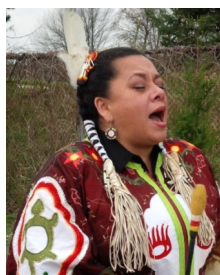


*Emcee - Michelle Littler*



*Nicole and Bryan, dressed in First World War era attire*

## The Entertainers



*Kim Wheatley*



*Sampraydaya Dance Company*



*Portuguese Cultural Centre of Mississauga Youth Group*

## Celebrating Community Anniversaries

**50 Years** - Mississauga News  
**45 Years**

Dufferin Peel Catholic School Board  
Derrydale Golf Course  
Peel District School Board

**40 Years**

Cagney's Streetsville  
Mississauga Central Lions Club  
JUSTUS

Streetsville Santa Claus Parade  
Portuguese Cultural Centre of Mississauga

**30 Years**

Croatia Carassauga Pavilion  
India Rainbow Community Services of Peel  
Portuguese Carassauga Pavilion  
Victim Services of Peel

**25 Years**

Eden Community Food Bank  
National Association of Indo-Canadians  
Punjabi Community Health Services  
Sampradaya Dance Creations



*Eden Food for Change, receiving anniversary recognition certificate from Heritage Mississauga Directors Anthony Dimech and Winnie Fung*



*Enersource with Fire Chief Tim*



*Becky and Yvonne dressed in First World War era attire*



*Sata Airlines Live Auction Sponsor with Committee member Maria Di Silva of BDO*



*People of the Motherland with Heritage Mississauga Director Luz del Rosario and our First World War re-enactors*



## The Award Winners



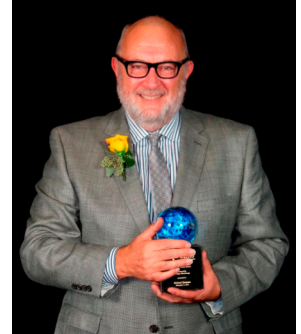
*Lifetime Achievement Award - Ignat Kaneff with family, sponsored by The Summit Garden Chinese Cuisine*



*Heritage Business Leader Award - Todd Ladner with Dan Pastoric from sponsor Enersource*



*Heritage Champion Award, Councillor George Carlson, sponsored by LiUNA! Local 183*



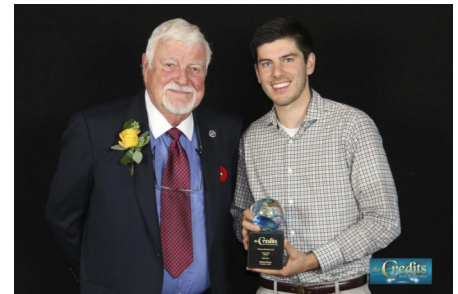
*Members' Choice Award - Michael Spaziani, awarded by the members of Heritage Mississauga*



*Mississaugas of the New Credit Cultural & Heritage Award - Cathie Jamieson with Chief Stacey LaForme and Faith Rivers from sponsor Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation*



*Heritage Youth Award - Portuguese Cultural Centre of Mississauga Youth Group, sponsored by Mississauga Central Lions*



*Volunteer Heritage Award - Charles Brown with Anthony Dimech, from sponsor TELUS*



*Community Heritage Individual Award - Fred Durdan with Andrew Forbes from sponsor KPMG*



*Betty Ross Memorial Volunteer Award - Barb Smith, with Linda Thomas and Jenny Dale sponsored by Goddu Systems Corp.*



*Community Heritage Group Award - Sikh Heritage Museum of Canada presented to Rahuljit Singh Bhogal sponsored by Kimberly Phinney*



*Architectural Heritage Award - Mississauga Celebration Square Nidhi Khanna, Randy Jamieson, Sonja Banic sponsored by the Ontario Architects Association*



*Natural Heritage Award - Lakeview Waterfront Connection, Kate Hayes with Ellen McGregor from sponsor Fielding Chemical Technologies Inc.*



*Modern Heritage Award - AeroVelo accepted the award from nominator BDO, sponsored by Erin Mills Development Corporation*



## A Stop Along the Way *By Richard Collins*

Royal visits are always an occasion for celebration. Thirty years ago, when it was announced that the Duke and Duchess of York were going to spend their upcoming first anniversary in Canada, the City of Mississauga started preparing a year in advance for the occasion, planning a parade and giving the royal couple a new civic centre to open. It was the first time a royal couple paid a visit to Mississauga – officially, anyway. There have been a number of royal visitors through Mississauga over the years but, other than Andy and Fergie, it seems they've always had someplace else to go.

King George VI was the first ruling monarch to visit Canada. He and his wife Queen Elizabeth (the mother of our present queen) toured our great dominion by rail in 1939, cutting ribbons and making speeches along the way. One of their first duties was to open the highway that now bears the queen's name. They boarded their royal train in Toronto and made their way to St. Catharines for the QEW's official opening ceremony. There was no stop scheduled for Mississauga, but that didn't stop thousands from lining up alongside the railway tracks in Lakeview, Port Credit, Lorne Park and Clarkson just to watch the royal train whistle through town.

A second generation of royal watchers lined the same tracks in October 1957 when Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip took a side trip from Toronto to Niagara Falls during their transcontinental train trip. Again, the best that the people of Mississauga could hope for was a wave from the window. The royal train didn't stop until Hamilton.

Rail fans probably enjoyed these two spectacles more than the royal watchers. For both trips, the railways polished their coaches to a shine and decorated their locomotives. King George and the Queen Mum were pulled behind a special CPR steam locomotive, officially dubbed the 'Royal Hudson' for the occasion. (The term 'Hudson' referred to the locomotives arrangement of large driving wheels, and smaller pilot and trailing wheels.) In 1957, CNR selected #6401 – one of its few streamlined 'Northerns' – to convey Her Majesty.

For rail fans, two other "royals" made their way through Mississauga. In 1933, the famed British locomotive, the *Royal Scot* toured North America by way of Mississauga and in 1970 the elegant, emerald-hued steam locomotive, *Flying Scotsman* (#4472) was greeted by Mississaugans with a volley of flash bulbs. CNR's own "Bullet-Nose Betty" #6060 (so named because of her unique, cone-shaped front) also made regular once-weekly trips through Mississauga in the summers of 1975 and '76, on her way from Toronto to Niagara Falls.

In all these cases, Mississauga was just a station along the way. The trains didn't stop. In one case in 1947, Clarkson resident William Lindsay barely had time to get his 8 mm camera up to his eye in time catch a few wobbly seconds of the *Train of Tomorrow* as it whizzed past the old brick station. William didn't see the train coming until the last second. It didn't make

the usual noise that steam trains made – typically announcing their arrival from a mile down the track. This visitor arrived with relative stealth. It was the first diesel locomotive to pass through Mississauga, on its way to the Canadian National Exhibition where it was to be the stainless steel, chrome-highlighted centrepiece of General Motors' sales exhibit that year. (Yes, GM made locomotives too.)

But there was one occasion that was different from the rest. In 1926, our city became something more than just a station along the way. A royal train actually stopped in Mississauga. It was an unscheduled stop, but it was a stop nonetheless.

It was about 1:30 in the afternoon, October 27. Just half an hour out of the 'Queen City', and making good time, a train came to a calm, but unexpected stop in, of all places Port Credit. It stopped right in front of the station, where the locals had come out, as they always did, to get what they thought was going to be a glimpse of the handsome, young prince of Romania from the window of his mother's train as it clocked it way through the village.

After a brief silence – from inside the train, and out – the door of the royal 'palace car' at the far end of the train opened, and Prince Nicholas stepped out onto Stavebank Road. With a serried parade of men behind him, including a Mountie in full dress, the 23 year old prince (a bachelor, in case you hadn't already guessed) walked the length of the platform to the steam locomotive, which was blocking the road at Hurontario Street. The engineer of Number 5281 (an undecorated 'Pacific', in this case) helped the prince climb up into the cab, while all the Port Credit girls giggled at this unexpected close up of a genuine prince.

Queen Marie and her family were on a ten-day visit, mostly through the United States, but while on a trip to Niagara Falls (a must-see for visitors, royal or otherwise) the queen took a side trip to Toronto with her son, and her daughter, Ileana. It was the first visit of a royal to our city.



9712 - *The Royal Scot*, Exhibition Park, Toronto May 4, 1933,  
City of Toronto Archives



## Genealogy Workshops at the Grange

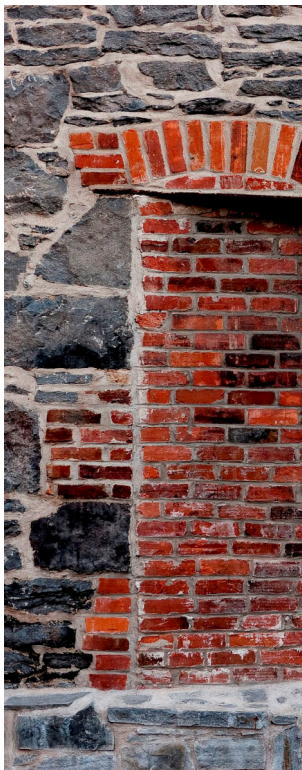
By Jane Watt, Administrative Assistant,  
Heritage Mississauga

Last year we hosted five genealogical workshops with our partner, the Halton Peel Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society. The topics are varied and have been well attended and offered local genealogists the opportunity to speak with experts to break down their genealogical barriers and find the sources they need for their research. Halton Peel also hold general meetings throughout the year and they invite you to visit their website for a list of dates and speakers with topics: [www.haltonpeel.ogs.on.ca](http://www.haltonpeel.ogs.on.ca)

In 2015 Ruth Blair was our speaker, in February she spoke on "Irish Research", in April "Organizing and Writing Your Family History", the Irish workshop was sold out in February and was repeated at the end of April, in June she spoke on "Scottish Research" and in October "Researching Your First World War Ancestor".

In 2016 we are planning four Saturday workshops in February, April, June and October. If you have any topics you would like covered, please let us know.

All workshops are held at the Historic Robinson-Adamson House, The Grange, 1921 Dundas Street West in Mississauga from 10am-3pm. The fee is \$25.00 per person. Space is limited and it must be prepaid to reserve your spot. For more info call 905-828-8411 Ext.0.



## What's in A Name

"Palstan" is named after two significant early families - namely the Pallett and Stanfield families. Other road names in the immediate area also carry strong historical connections: Stanfield Road is also named for the Stanfield family; Arena Road is named for the famed Dixie Arena Gardens which once stood here; Tomken Road is, of course, named for Colonel Thomas Laird (T.L.) Kennedy; and McCarthy Court is named for the McCarthy family who were also early Dixie-area settlers who had a significant impact on the early community and were, like the Palletts and Stanfields, connected to the development of Dixie Arena Gardens.



## the Credits 2016

by Jenny Walker, Program Developer,  
Heritage Mississauga



## Thursday November 10th, 2016

It's amazing to see how *The Credits* has grown over the years and how important it has become to the local community. It's great to see the growth and diversification in our local culture reflected in a program that brings everyone together in celebration and recognition of their cultural heritage. As we all know, the event is just the final piece in the puzzle and is the culmination of a program that actually lasts a good 11 months of the year!

The 2016 program is no different and was launched as usual on February 16 in celebration of Heritage Day. Nomination forms are available on our website and we've tried to make it a little easier by asking people to answer four questions in support of their nomination; of course there's always someone at HM to help!

Nominations are available in the following categories:

- Heritage Lifetime Achievement Award
- Heritage Business Leader Award
- Community Heritage Award (Individual)
- Community Heritage Award (Group)
- Heritage Champion Award
- Heritage Youth Award
- Aboriginal Heritage Youth Award
- Modern Heritage Award
- Natural Heritage Award
- Architectural Heritage Award
- Volunteer Heritage Award

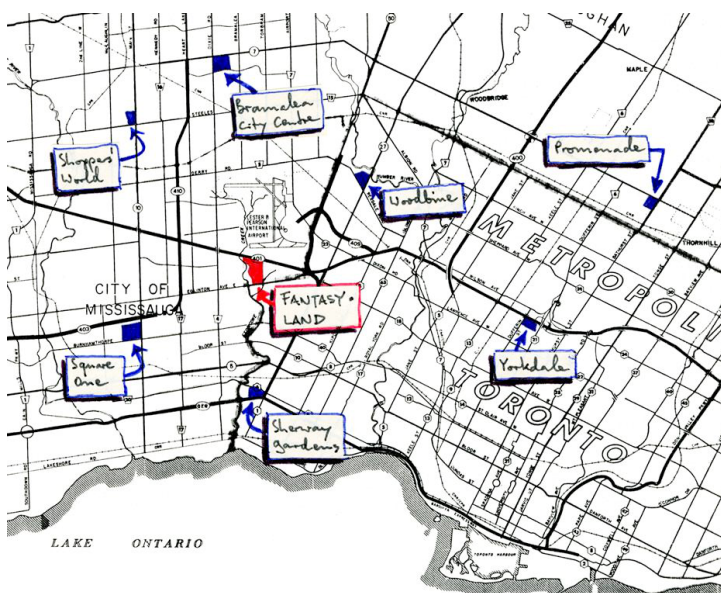
Who do you know in your community that deserves recognition? Please go to our website, nominate a hero and make a difference in your community, nominations are open now!

We also recognize community anniversaries during *the Credits*. Let us know if your community group, or association is having a milestone anniversary. Send details to [info@heritagemississauga.org](mailto:info@heritagemississauga.org).

## Nominate your Heritage Hero Today!

Working in an archives, you sometimes get disappointingly little time to actually dive into the records, particularly ones that were accessioned by previous generations. Even after seven years of being at the Peel Archives, I'm still discovering entire boxes of records that I've never peaked into, let alone had the opportunity to sit down and enjoy.

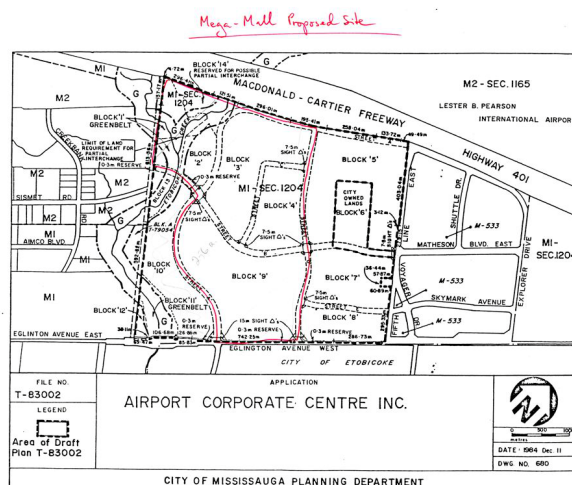
However, over the past few months we have been able to peer into some of those boxes, and found records containing fascinating insights into alternative plans for the Peel area (Council reports, Planning Board minutes, and Planning Department maps and plans). We are all fans of Mark Osbaldeston's book series *Unbuilt Toronto*, but didn't initially think that there would be enough material to mount an exhibition focusing on unbuilt projects in the Peel area. However, slowly but surely, our processing work has revealed a number of never-realized planning and building projects, including some significant ones in Mississauga.



*Fantasy Land, PAMA*

One of the most impressive projects discovered during our research is a project referred to as "Fantasyland." Fresh off the success of the West Edmonton Mall (WEM), the Ghermezian family tried to get the City of Mississauga to help fund a mega-mall and theme park to be located just south of Pearson International Airport, dubbed "Fantasyland." Intended to be twice as large as the first phase of WEM, the land was already zoned as an industrial park, and roads had already been routed. The developers wanted to be fast-tracked through the approvals processes, be given property tax breaks from the City, and have highway off-ramps built by the province. According to Toronto Star reports at the time, they even managed to convince Premier David Peterson to visit the site.

The structure would be an amusement park first, mall second,



*Airport Corporate Centre, PAMA*

with areas themed as Bourbon Street, China Town, Little Italy, The Left Bank, Olivera Street, Piccadilly Circus, and Europa Boulevard. Also planned was live music, real gondolas going through canals, museum exhibits of Chinese culture, and live theatre. The site would also host a sports hall of fame, ice skating arena, space and science centre, contemporary art shows from international artists, a shark and penguin pavilion, seal shows, waterpark, submarine ride, the world's largest indoor amusement park, choreographed fire and water shows, displays of live tigers and bears, and a hotel.

Malls including Square One and attractions such as Canada's Wonderland questioned the projected attendance numbers, and claimed that privileging this new proposal would hurt their existing businesses and surrounding communities. The project fizzled out near the airport, and the land purchase option expired, so developers purchased a parcel of land zoned residential further south. That plan was quashed immediately, and so the Ghermezians announced they'd build housing. They never did, and it's now a public housing site. A third location in the northwest of the city was announced, but by that point the whole thing had evidently lost so much steam, and it disappeared from the public record.

Aside from Fantasyland, a variety of other projects are also showcased in the exhibition, including plans to incorporate the cities of Streetsville and Port Credit (as opposed to creating a unified City of Mississauga in 1974), the many different submissions for the City Hall design competition, the "Trillium Dome" (an alternative to the SkyDome/Rogers Centre - Mississauga Blue Jays, anyone?), and plans for a convention centre in the Forks of the Credit on land owned by Mississauga developer Bruce McLaughlin.

There is enough material left untapped that we are already looking at a second Unbuilt Peel exhibit in the years to come. That is the wonderful thing about archival records: you discover something new in the collection all the time.





By Matthew Wilkinson, Historian, Heritage Mississauga

The October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1927 issue of the Toronto Daily Star carried the front page news of a series of thefts in the Port Credit vicinity. Targeted by the thieves in one night (the Star referred to them as “marauders”) were Hooper's Drug Store, Kane and Culver's Garage, the Red Bus Station, Imperial Oil gas station, and Cohen's furnishing store.

These followed a slew of other local thefts, both in Cooksville and Erindale, in months prior to the October 1927 thefts in Port Credit. There were no reports of threats or violence, but the communities were on edge. A local “night watch” committee was formed in Port Credit to keep eyes on the streets at night, but no additional information appears to have been gleaned by these concerned citizens, although there were no further reports of robberies (at least that were found in newspaper reports from the time).

In total there were at least 14 robberies in Clarkson, Cooksville, Erindale and Port Credit between August and October of 1927. Local police were stymied. There were no suspects, no sightings of the thieves to help identify them, and from available records and newspaper accounts, it appears as though this spate of robberies was never solved.

*If you have any information on this unsolved crime spree from 1927, we would love to learn more!*



## Militia Muster at Bradley Museum



Cooking over the open fire at Bradley House Museum, HM



Drilling at the Bradley House, HM

Come out and join Heritage Mississauga's Thompson's Company (War of 1812 Re-enactment Company) at our bi-annual “Militia Muster” at Bradley Museum (1620 Orr Road) on Saturday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016, from 12 noon until 4:00 pm. There will be on-site demonstrations of marching, drilling and musket fire, as well as civilian interpreters who will re-enact life of the citizens of historic Mississauga from the Regency Period. Special thanks to the Museums of Mississauga for welcoming Thompson's Company to the grounds of the Bradley Museum.



Thompson's Company at Bradley House Museum, HM



## The SOUTERRAIN IMPRESSIONS Exhibition

Heritage Mississauga partnered with Canadigm in the Fall of 2015 to host their exhibition *The SOUTERRAIN IMPRESSIONS Exhibition*, featuring First World War chalk carvings created by Canadian Soldiers in caves near Vimy Ridge, 1917. Mississauga was the only scheduled stop in the GTA for this cross-Canada tour, opened from September 26 to December 5th, welcoming over 1400 visitors.



United Lands Corporation Stonebook  
Presentation Centre, HM

The exhibition included imagery of France during war time, a touch screen that gave details of each of the soldiers in the exhibit, imagery of the Canadigm group scanning and photographing the carvings and the wonderful 3-D printed

replica's of the carvings themselves complete with information and where possible, pictures of the artist. In addition Heritage Mississauga presented a slide show and display on local soldiers who participated in the War and Terry Witiuk, of The Artists Friend, Gallery & Custom Framing provided on loan, paintings by watercolour artist Rueben Alvis Jukes, showcasing different scenes and battles of the First World War. We appreciate the support of local Councillor Karen R a s w h o participated in our launch event and Councillors Jim Tovey and Ron Starr who joined us for the evening. We also appreciate the support of the Museum of Applied Military History who participated in our open house and Doors Open event and our men of Thompson's Company who portrayed First World War Soldiers from Mississauga during the event.



Zenon Andrusyszyn, Executive Director and  
Project Leader, Sanborg Productions

We appreciate the generous support of United Lands Corporation who let us setup the exhibit in their sales centre on Lakeshore Road in Clarkson. Special thanks to our sponsors The Community Foundation of Mississauga, City of Mississauga, Canadian Heritage, The Print Gurus, Clarkson BIA, Terry Witiuk and Heirloom Food Truck for their support.



### "Nurturing Relationships and New Beginnings"

We invite everyone to join us for an  
**Equinox Sunrise Ceremony**  
led by Métis Elder Joe Paquette on  
**Sunday March 20, 2016 at Sunrise**  
at the Robinson- Adamson House.

*Light refreshments will be served - Free Admission*

**Time:** Gather at 6:15am, fire lit at 6:30am

**Ceremony:** 6:45am

**Location:** Robinson-Adamson House "The Grange"

1921 Dundas St. W., Mississauga  
(corner of Dundas St. W. and Sir John's  
Homestead, one block west of Mississauga Road)

Contact Heritage Mississauga  
(905) 828-8411 ext "0" or  
info@heritagemississauga.org for more  
information

**No alcohol or drugs are permitted**

*On this morning, we choose to celebrate the  
beginning of Spring.*

*We give thanks to the Creator for the great gifts of  
life, intelligence, free will and intuition.  
For all of these, we are grateful.*



## Sikh Heritage Museum Cont'd....



*Justin Trudeau with Pardeep, Sikh Heritage Museum of Canada*

They're just blown away. It's become a local international venue within that short period of time. I think that's the most surprising piece, because we've been contacted internationally, nationally and locally." he adds.

The last few years have been exciting for the Sikh Heritage Museum, and the response from the community has been encouraging.

"Knowing that there's a great need out there to continue providing this type of information to our community, the greater community and then seeing the reactions of those people that do have a chance to see it or engage it, knowing how important it is for them or life changing continues to motivate us to continue to do the work." says Pardeep.

As someone who has been to the museum, I believe it's a must see for everyone in our community, as it's a wonderful addition to the Mississauga heritage experience.

"Drop by and learn some aspect of the community in history. You'll be quite amazed to find out that we have a long history with Canada. We're a pioneer community in Canada and we have made some great strides in accomplishments in Canada and around the world, and those are great things to learn about for any Canadian." says Pardeep.

To find out about the events and exhibitions taking place at the Sikh Heritage Museum of Canada, please visit: [www.shmc.ca](http://www.shmc.ca).

## 2016 Exhibit Calendar – Discovery Centre Gallery

Heritage Mississauga is delighted to host a wide array of art and heritage exhibits in the Debbie Hatch Discovery Centre Gallery at The Grange in 2016. Please see the list below for exhibit dates.

**January 26<sup>th</sup> to March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

Photography Exhibition by Marian Dragiev

Opening Reception: Tuesday, January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2016



**March 15<sup>th</sup> to April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

Rick Hansen Secondary School Senior Art Show

Opening Reception: Tuesday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2016

**April 26<sup>th</sup> to May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

Erindale Secondary School Art Show

Opening Reception: Tuesday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2016

**June 14<sup>th</sup> to July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2016**

Art Exhibition by Min Chang

Opening Reception: Tuesday, June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016

**August 2<sup>nd</sup> to August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

Windmill Theatre Exhibit

Opening Reception: Tuesday, August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016

**August 16<sup>th</sup> to September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2016**

Art Exhibition with Maxine McLean

Opening Reception: Tuesday, August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016

**October 4<sup>th</sup> to November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

TBA

**November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2016 to January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

Heritage Exhibit from the Slovak Canadian Heritage

Museum Opening Reception: Tuesday, November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016

## Heritage Matters

### Heritage Mississauga Events

Heritage Selfie Contest February 1 - 29

**Mar 20** 6:30am-Equinox Sunrise Ceremony

**April 16** Aboriginal Workshop

**April 30** Genealogy Workshop

### Heritage Mississauga Exhibits

**Debbie Hatch Discovery Centre**

**Jan 26-Mar 4**-Marian Dragiev Photography exhibit.

**Mar 15-Apr 15**-Rick Hansen Secondary School Art Show

## Community News

### Art Gallery of Mississauga

[www.artgalleryofmississauga.com](http://www.artgalleryofmississauga.com)

### Friends of the Britannia Schoolhouse

**Mar 13** - March Means Maple Syrup. Canadian maple syrup is famous around the world. Come and learn how the First Nations people and the early settlers harvested this sweet sap.

**Sept. to June**, open the 2nd Sunday of the month

### Halton Peel Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society -

contact Jane Watt [jwatt@ica.net](mailto:jwatt@ica.net) 905-281-1701

**Mar 20** 2:00-4:00, Oakville Public Library, Jim Leonard-Regional Archivist at Peel Art Gallery Museum & Archives- Jim discusses this collection, which includes research notes that are alphabetically arranged by family name, newspaper clippings, cemetery and other records collected in the 1930s on more than 2,000 families in the Peel County region.

**Mississauga Arts Council** 1055-300 City Centre Drive  
Mississauga, ON L5B 3C9 905-615-4278  
[mac@mississaugaartscouncil.com](mailto:mac@mississaugaartscouncil.com)

### Mississauga South Historical Society

**March 15, 2016** 7:00 p.m. location to be confirmed  
Matthew Wilkinson, Historian for Heritage Mississauga has been researching the history of the black community in historic Mississauga and will speak about what he has found. For more info contact Richard Collins [chessie217@gmail.com](mailto:chessie217@gmail.com)

**Mississauga Sports Council and the Sports Hall of Fame**  
5600 Rose Cherry Place - Suite 101,(Concourse Lobby - near the elevator), Sports Complex - Hershey SportZone,  
Mississauga, Ontario L4Z 4B6 Contact:  
[info@mississaugasportscouncil.org](mailto:info@mississaugasportscouncil.org) Tel: 905-267-3536  
[www.sportsmississauga.com](http://www.sportsmississauga.com)

### Museums of Mississauga

**March 6, 13, 20, 27 & April 3**- Maple Family Sundays at Bradley Museum

**March 14-20**- Maple Magic at Bradley Museum

*For more heritage matters contact Jane at  
905-828-8411 ext "0"*

### Peel Art Gallery, Museum and Archives at the Mississauga Library PAMA

**Mar 1 - 31**- Mapping Peel: an exploration of maps from the Peel Archives, 1805-2013, at the South Commons Branch, 2233 South Millway

### Sikh Heritage Museum of Canada

416-587-5498 [info@shmc.ca](mailto:info@shmc.ca)

The Sikh Heritage Museum of Canada is open Sundays 11am-5pm and Monday-Friday by appointment only. Tours are also available. Please visit [www.shmc.ca](http://www.shmc.ca) to learn more about our events and exhibits.

### Streetsville Historical Society

905-814-5958 [mbyard@sympatico.ca](mailto:mbyard@sympatico.ca)

The archives at Leslie Log House are open on Sundays and Wednesdays from 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm. Tours are available.

**Trafalgar Township Historical Society** For info contact [jwatt@ica.net](mailto:jwatt@ica.net)

**March 9, 7:00** Guest Speaker: Dave Hobden will speak, on "The Merton's -Will the real Merton please stand up! - A historical review of the two locations within the county of Halton that have been known as Merton!

**Visual Arts Mississauga** [www.visualartsmississauga.com](http://www.visualartsmississauga.com)

## Calling All Festival Organizers

Heritage Mississauga invites you to participate in our April newsletter dedicated to celebrating the City of Festivals -Mississauga. We are dedicating the spring newsletter to sharing your heritage and promoting your celebration. Contact us today at 905-828-8411 ext 23 or by email at [outreach@heritagemississauga.org](mailto:outreach@heritagemississauga.org).

**COPY DEADLINE: March 11, 2016**