



# COLDWATER CANADIANA HERITAGE MUSEUM

**2021 Spring Newsletter – Vol. 2, No. 1**

**2020 ACCOMPLISHMENTS**  
Continued from Fall 2020  
Newsletter

## **Completed**

Cleaning, repairs, resetting of displays in Carriage & Display Barns, including Borland tools

**Installation of new seasonal exhibits which are extended for 2021**  
(see pages 2-4)

Painting of doors and trim on various buildings

**Museum website reorganized; new content added including pandemic health & safety protocols**

**New, unique-to-the museum email address registered**

Published Spring and Fall 2020 electronic Newsletters

## **In progress and multi-year projects**

School House – New roof

**Print Shop reorganization**

Fordson and Steam Tractors

**Pole Barn Extension**

Doors on old Pole Barn

**Wagon parts reorganization**

Photo: E. Blaubergs, June 2020

## **Greetings and Happy Spring!**

When the layout of this newsletter began in late February, there seemed to be more optimism in the air. We were really looking forward to the return of “normal, predictable and comfortable.” Let’s hope the events planned for the 2021 season (see page 5) can actually occur, with some alterations to accommodate health and safety protocols. Wouldn’t that be grand?

We are pleased to include a “President’s Message” in this issue (page 2). Richard Jolliffe notes that while 2020 was a year of challenges and changes, several significant artifact donations came into the collection. These will undoubtedly serve as enticements for future visits and research projects.

Once again, we ask you to take a moment to renew your support for 2021. It is needed more than ever! You might also consider contributing to the GoFundMe campaign, launched last summer. We are fundraising for extensive repairs and renovations to our signature artifact – the Woodrow homestead cabin. Please see the attached “**Supporter**” form. You can also do all of this through our website. Thank you! -EB



Save  
the  
Dates

**Crafty Tuesdays – Every Tuesday from 11 a.m. – 3:30 pm in July & August**

**Woodrow Farm Day (formerly Heritage Day) - Sunday, July 18**

**Vintage Crafts and Trades Festival - Saturday, August 21 & Sunday, August 22**

## President's Message

I must admit with all our lives being turned upside down, writing about the goings on at the Coldwater Canadiana Heritage Museum is not as straight forward as it should be. For example, event planning and organizing projects have changed to more emailing and phone calls. Other duties such as property maintenance, building repairs and machinery operations have also changed - surprise, surprise - but many aspects to looking after the museum have continued, in some cases in anonymity.

We believe it is important to show our community that the museum is alive and being cared for. Our community has been very kind and supportive in many ways. For example, this newsletter issue is featuring a 1929 Model T Auto Trac and a Fairmont railway speeder. When I received the email from Shannon Jackman indicating a donation and when I looked at the image she sent, I almost fell off my chair. This fully restored Auto Trac is a reminder of how industry made a contribution to farming during the Depression. The other featured donation is a 1950s Fairmont railway speeder donated by Tom Barber. See page 4 for more information and images.

The museum has received so many wonderful donations over the past few years: two 1917 buzz saws, a 1900s Archie Tucker Coldwater-built canoe, a 19<sup>th</sup> century single horse cutter, a 19<sup>th</sup> century Gilbert Eaton doctor's buggy, early 20<sup>th</sup> century tools and chest from a local carpenter, just to mention a few. I would like to write an article about each of these wonderful donations in the next few newsletters. Now my bride says, "don't write too much - people will get bored." She may have a point as there are so many artifacts to discuss and also show how our volunteers have brought them back to life.

To say we were disappointed in 2020 is bit of an understatement. Cancellations occurred all across the board, but I think it is even more difficult when volunteers have so much passion for the work they do and are unable to express it. Maybe this will make their resolve to bounce back even stronger.

It is important that an institution like the Coldwater Canadiana Heritage Museum be open and welcoming to visitors. It is important for many reasons, one being that it is a way of thanking the community for their support, as well as showing that we are growing in quality and experience. Another reason is to brag a little, and show off the work we are doing to preserve local history. I'm not sure what words to use to express the importance of institutions like the Coldwater Mill and the Canadiana in our community but they are both integral to the identity of our heritage.

Respectfully yours,

Richard Jolliffe

Extended for 2021 - seasonal displays in the Woodrow cabin, on the grounds, and in several outbuildings:

**1929 Ford Model T Auto Trac**  
**Railway Speeder (right on our track)**

**Hats, Haberdashery & Hankies**  
**All Around the Cobbler's Bench: Our Footwear Collection**

**Tools of The Trade**  
**Schoolhouse Memories**  
**Cameras, Tintypes & Daguerreotypes**

**Coming Soon:**  
**Robinson Buggy – Made in Coldwater**



## 2020 Displays, Repairs and Additions – Extended for 2021



A new roof on the general store and school house



Arithmetic display featured in the *School House Memories* exhibit



The Fireplace Room and upstairs bedroom were re-designed



Tools of the Trade – our 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century tool collection represents the wide variety of implements in the museum collection.



The Humble Handkerchief

Photos: Sarah Terry, 2020





### 1929 Ford Model T Auto Trac - by Gord Smith

This **1929 Ford Model T** was shortened and had a tractor rear drive installed. It was made by Otaco in Orillia and still runs! The Model T, when converted to a tractor, was called an **AUTO TRAC**. The reason for the conversion was that during the 1930s farmers did not have the funds to buy a tractor but had old Model Ts sitting around. The conversion kit was inexpensive. We are grateful to the Orillia Historical Society for donating this vehicle to our museum – a great addition, to be sure.



### 1950s Fairmont railway speeder - by Richard Jolliffe

This wonderful donation from Tom Barber has several names. It can be called a railway speeder, railway motor car, putt-putt, track maintenance car, crew car, jigger, trike quad, trolley, inspection car or draisine. One of the first was built by the Daimler Motor Company and was gasoline powered; it could run at speeds up to 15 mph. The Fairmont Motor Company founded in 1909 by Frank Wade in Fairmont, Minnesota produced these vehicles well into the late 1970s. This particular speeder, putt-putt or whatever you want to call it, did a trip along the Algoma rail line with the owner, Tom Barber at the controls. If you have ever taken the Algoma express trip, you might recall the height of the trestles. Can you imagine crossing them in one of these speeders with no doors and a straight down view?

Photos: Sarah Terry, 2020

## 2021 EVENTS AT THE COLDWATER CANADIANA MUSEUM

We post these events with cautious optimism; depending on new or altered Covid-19 pandemic health and safety regulations, some may be postponed or cancelled. Event formats may be changed to enable social distancing and other museum safety protocols. Check our website for updates.

**Remember to wear your mask!**

Date(s)	Event	Time	Details
Tuesday, May 25	<b>Museum Reopens</b>	TBA	Last year's seasonal exhibits and acquisitions will remain on display for the 2021 museum season. <b>Indoor and outdoor displays.</b>
<b>Every Wednesday in June, July, August</b>	<b>Devon Teas</b>	1-4 pm	Enjoy an authentic <b>Devon Tea</b> served on fine vintage china in the 1830s Woodrow cabin. Air conditioned. <b>\$10 pp. Indoor tables, distanced seating.</b>
Saturday, June 5	<b>Annual Yard &amp; Plant Sale</b>	9 am - noon	Find a treasure among a great selection of donated items. All proceeds support museum operations and programs. <b>Outdoor event.</b>
Every Tuesday in July & August Starting July 6	<b>Crafty Tuesdays</b>	11 am – 3:30 pm	Learn a new fibre craft or bring your own & enjoy a pleasant and supportive atmosphere. No experience needed as our volunteer instructors will guide your efforts. All ages welcome. BYO lawn chair & bag lunch. Refreshments provided. <b>Admission by donation. Outdoor event.</b>
Sunday, July 18	<b>Woodrow Farm Day</b> formerly Heritage Day	10:30 am - 4 pm	Music, crafts and trades demonstrations, working machinery, vintage cars & motorcycles, church service, bbq lunch, kids' activities; dedication of outdoor bake oven; launch of barn quilt; a few surprises; lots of family fun. <b>Admission by donation. Outdoor event.</b>
Friday, August 6 & Saturday, Aug. 7	<b>Coldwater Steampunk Festival</b>	10 am - 5 pm	The largest Steampunk festival in Canada. This year's theme: <b>Steampunk Galactic</b> . Dress up and don't miss the 11 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of this amazing event! <b>Admission by donation. Outdoor event.</b>
Saturday, August 21 & Sunday Aug. 22	<b>Vintage Crafts &amp; Trades Festival</b>	10 am - 3 pm on both days	Join fibre crafters, bakers, blacksmiths, printers, chair caners, and other crafts & trades people. Demonstrations, working steam engines, hands-on opportunities, displays & more. Cost: tba. <b>Outdoor event.</b>
Saturday, September 18	<b>Coldwater Fall Fair</b>	TBA	Visit our <b>indoor</b> booth featuring a vintage dress display. Some of our working machinery and other artifacts will be on display <b>outdoors</b> . We extend <b>sincere appreciation</b> to the Coldwater & Area Agricultural Society for supporting our participation. See you at the Fair!
TBA	<b>Annual General Meeting</b>	TBA	All welcome! Approval of 2020 AGM minutes and financials; election of board of directors; outline of 2021 and future endeavours.

### Spring Fling Lucky Draw \*



If you are on our mailing list, your name has been automatically entered into a special Spring Fling Lucky Draw. Two anonymous supporters have assembled a wonderful gift basket to help boost our spirits. It is full of **locally-made and purchased** edible and drinkable treats, gift cards, and other desirable items. The draw will take place on **June 5<sup>th</sup>** (Lawn Sale day) at the museum. We'll contact the winner to arrange a safe and convenient pick-up time. **Good luck to everyone!** \* Draw may be postponed if Lawn Sale cancelled.



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December 7, 2020

Hello Richard and Ellen,

Thank you for your notes and copies of the newsletters. I received them today (we haven't been in the office much lately). It looks like there are lots of things going on at the museum and you have a solid group of passionate volunteers. It's been a couple of years since our family has visited the museum and we look forward to returning when COVID is done with. It is a pleasure to help support what you are doing. Richard, I particularly enjoyed reading your piece about Vic Connor and the MB. I actually took my family to Big Chute by boat this summer and spent a lot of time thinking about Vic and imagining the MB plying the waters. Many thanks to you both and to your entire team for bringing history to life.

Sincerely,

Brad Dunkley

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### **Erratum and Apologies**

The surname of CCHM founding member Ruth Woodworth was misspelled in the Fall 2020 Newsletter. Thank you to eagle-eyed Dianne for noticing. We hope to feature an article about Ruth and other founders, in future newsletters.

### **Appreciation**

Once again, we are grateful to Sarah Terry for the images of various displays and artifacts in this issue. Richard Jolliffe, Gord Smith and Bob Turnour kindly provided artifact information, while Patti Turnour updated our events and exhibits. Images and summaries of 2021 events and happenings would be appreciated for the next issue.

#### **COLDWATER CANADIANA HERITAGE MUSEUM Board of Directors**

**President:** Richard Jolliffe • **Vice President:** Gord Smith  
**Secretary:** Linda McDowell • **Treasurer:** Margo Van Muyen  
**Curator:** Patti Turnour • **Curatorial Advisor:** Lynda Whiston  
**Property Manager:** Bill Wilson  
**A-Team Coordinators:** Richard Jolliffe & Bob Turnour  
**Staffing:** Gord Smith, Patti Turnour, Margo Van Muyen & Lynda Whiston  
**Directors:** Wanda Frost, Wendy Hough, Bill Prentice, Linda Wilson

The positions of "Chair" and "Vice Chair" were changed to "President" and "Vice President" at the Annual General Meeting in September 2020.

#### **Contact us: COLDWATER CANADIANA HERITAGE MUSEUM**

1474 Woodrow Rd., Coldwater, ON L0K 1E0  
705-955-1930  
coldwatermuseum.com  
Email: coldwatercanadianamuseum@gmail.com

Interested in receiving more information about our events, displays, artifacts and activities directly? Go to the museum website home page to subscribe. We can now post regular updates via **Mailchimp**. Join our growing museum community and be part of something special!

The Coldwater Canadiana Heritage Museum is a legally incorporated not-for-profit organization and registered charity. Financial support from Canada Summer Jobs, Young Canada Works, a Covid-19 emergency grant, the Dunkley Charitable Foundation, HODG grant, the Township of Severn, and several generous Friends, Patrons and Benefactors is gratefully acknowledged for the 2020 season. We also appreciated the generous donations received in memory of Terry Lye.