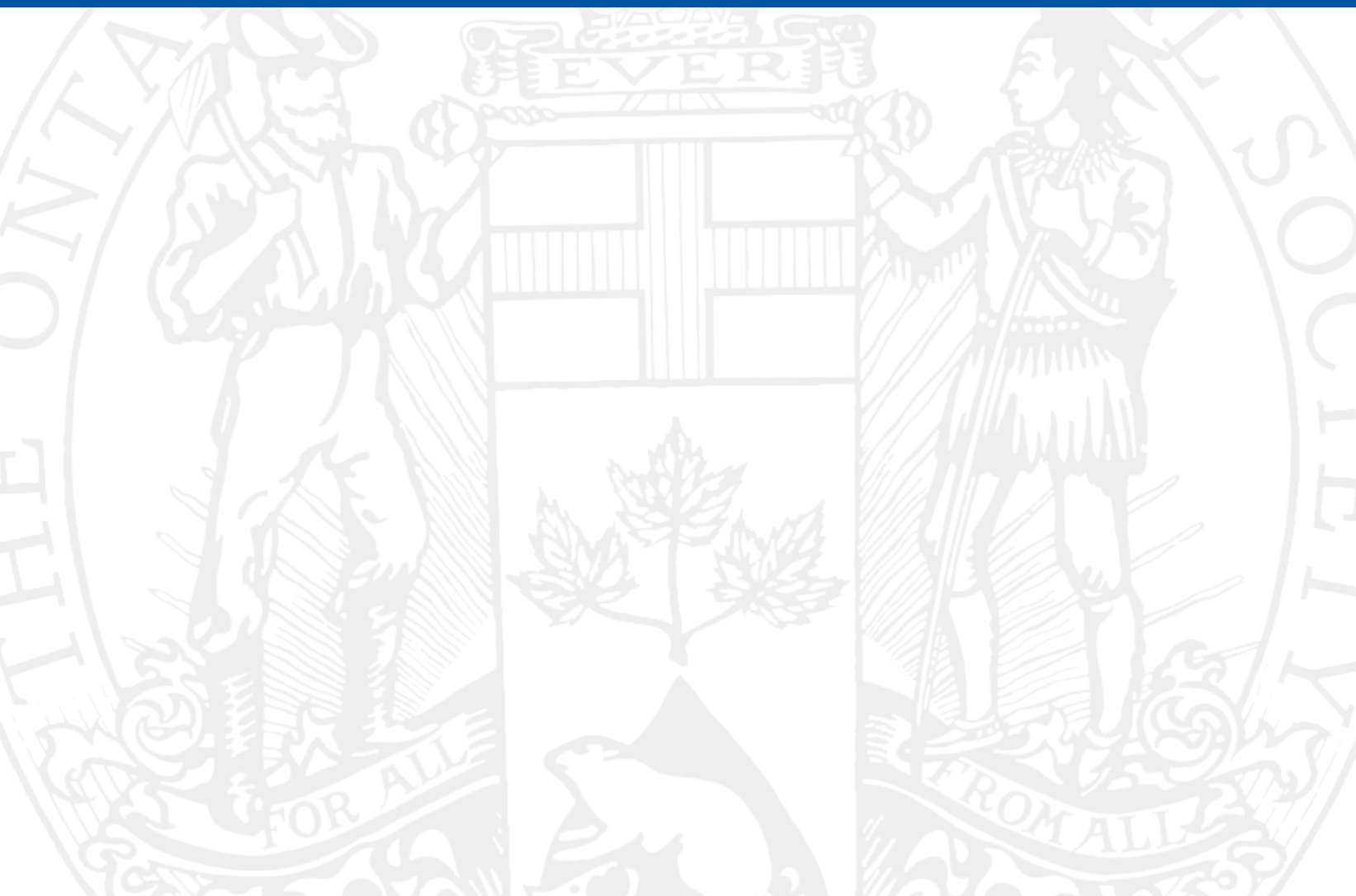


# The Ontario Historical Society



## 2013 Annual Report

# The Ontario Historical Society

## Annual Report 2013

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@OntarioHistory



2013 proved to be another transformative and successful year for *Ontario History*, the scholarly journal of The Ontario Historical Society. In addition to publishing nine new peer-reviewed articles and sixteen book reviews, the Society launched a 125th anniversary fundraiser campaign to help finance a digitization project that will ultimately ensure electronic access to past and current issues of the journal. In addition, a new electronic index of all of the articles and book reviews published since 1899 was added to the website and is accessible at [www.ontariohistoricalsociety.ca/index](http://www.ontariohistoricalsociety.ca/index). Learn more on page 10.



The Ontario Historical Society is thrilled to announce that after four years of hard work, a heritage conservation easement for the historic John McKenzie House and adjacent buildings and property has been completed and established between the Ontario Heritage Trust and the City of Toronto. With 2013 marking the 100th anniversary of the construction of the house, this is indeed a timely victory for all Ontarians to cherish and celebrate. The easement represents an important step forward for the OHS in its over twenty-year campaign to preserve this invaluable heritage asset for current and future generations.

# 2013 Annual Report of The Ontario Historical Society



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## Looking for More Information?

*Learn more about the OHS!*



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The Ontario Historical Society, established in 1888, is a non-profit educational corporation, registered charity, and publisher; a non-government group bringing together people of all ages, all walks of life and all cultural backgrounds interested in preserving some aspect of Ontario's history.

# 2013: A Year of Milestones and Innovation

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Last year presented The Ontario Historical Society with many historic milestones on which the organization could look back and opportunities for innovation and looking forward.

In the past year, the OHS marked two major milestones – the Society's 125th anniversary and the centennial of the John McKenzie House. As important as it is for us to look back, it is even more important to continue to focus on the present and the future. The following reports speak well for the diversity and significance of the OHS's work, its fiscal health, and its growing programs designed to preserve and promote Ontario's past.

Again this year, your Society posted strong growth. With the incorporation of twelve historical organizations, the demand for our support, consultation, and services continues to rise. Over the past five years, the OHS has incorporated 61 new not-for-profit corporations, 95% of which are based outside of Toronto. With each passing year, our umbrella continues broaden into new communities and across every discipline in the heritage field (*read more on page 11*).

As in the past two years, I am pleased to report that your Society is sound, debt-free, and continues to operate with a surplus. Hearty thanks are extended to Treasurer Naresh Khosla, accountant Sheila Berzitis, and our independent auditing firm. We note, with no little sadness, the retirement of Naresh after eight years as our capable and conscientious treasurer. Naresh, your care, concern, and wise counsel will be greatly missed (*read more on page 4*).

Our outstanding peer-reviewed journal *Ontario History* continues to raise the bar of the province's historical scholarship. Our sincere thanks are extended to editor Dr. Tory Tronrud and book editor Dr. Ron Stagg for their professionalism and expertise. The year saw nine new articles and sixteen book reviews published, in addition to a new electronic index of the journal from 1899 at [www.ontariohistoricalsociety.ca/index](http://www.ontariohistoricalsociety.ca/index). The project to begin digitizing all back issues of

*Ontario History* and its predecessor *Papers and Records*, with the help of our special 125th Anniversary fundraising campaign, continued to move ahead. Look for substantive progress over the coming year (*read more on page 10*).

Our expansion into the world of the web was greatly enhanced this past year with the advent of the Strengthening Ontario's Heritage Network (SOHN) project. Of special note, were the four webinars hosted by your Society, which attracted over 350 participants, most of whom were not members of the OHS. In the works also is a redesigned website that will host a map for our popular Ontario Heritage Directory and a members-only blog, The Well. The OHS remains committed to moving forward in the digital world (*read more on page 6*).

Our 125th Annual General Meeting and Awards Ceremony were held in partnership with and hosted by the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation (MNCFN) on June 22, 2013. On all fronts, it was a grand day. We were privileged to extend greetings and congratulations and to present a certificate on behalf of the Society at the official opening of the MNCFN's



Photo Andrea Izzo

**In June, the OHS held its 125th Annual General Meeting and Awards Ceremony with the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation (MNCFN) in Hagersville. The eventful day coincided with the opening of MNCFN's new community centre and War of 1812 exhibit. Pictured above (from left) are: MNCFN Chief M. Bryan LaForme; former MNCFN Chief and OHS Director Carolyn King; Minister of Aboriginal Affairs, the Hon. David Zimmer; OHS Executive Director Rob Leverty; and OHS Director Dr. Alison Norman.**





**In recognition of the 125th Anniversary of The Ontario Historical Society, the Office of the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario hosted a celebratory reception at Queen's Park in Toronto. The event was well attended and featured remarks and a speech by His Honour, a portrait exhibit *About Face: Celebrated Ontarians Then and Now*, and oral history interviews conducted with past OHS presidents, which are now available on the OHS's YouTube channel. Pictured above with the Honourable David C. Onley and Her Honour, Mrs. Ruth Ann Onley are members of the board of directors of the OHS. Read Hon. David Onley's speech at [www.ontariohistoricalsociety.ca/125th](http://www.ontariohistoricalsociety.ca/125th).**

impressive new community centre. Our sincere thanks are extended to Chief Bryan LaForme, the elders, band councillors, and members for a most memorable day. Thanks also to director Carolyn King for doing so much to make the day such a success. Thanks are also due to director Dr. Ian Radforth for his continuing fine work in orchestrating the awards programme.

I would be remiss in not drawing attention to two other highlights of the past year. On November 5th, the OHS's Honorary Patron, the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, David C. Onley and Mrs. Onley hosted a delightful reception at Queen's Park in celebration of our 125th Anniversary. For the many people able to attend, it was an occasion not soon forgotten.

Secondly, after four years' patient and hard work, the Ontario Heritage Trust and the City of Toronto executed a heritage conservation easement protecting the cultural heritage value of John McKenzie House in perpetuity. This is the highest level of protection available to any property in the province and is an important and tremendous accomplishment. The easement represents an important step forward in the OHS' twenty-year campaign to preserve this invaluable heritage asset for current and future generations. Thanks to all of the donors and volunteers who

generously contribute to the work of the OHS. The Estate of Ruth E. Day made a generous donation in recognition to our work in northern Ontario. The North York Garden Club donated valuable in-kind services to mark the John McKenzie House's centennial. Our 2013 audited financial statements record that OHS volunteers donated over 8,900 hours of their time in skills in support of the Society's activities!

In closing, as my term as president draws to a close, I would like to thank everyone for the honour and privilege of serving as your president these past three years. It has been my good fortune to serve during a period of growth and development. It has also been my good fortune to work with an extremely talented and conscientious board of directors and a staff second to none.

Our Society is blessed by all that you do each and every day. Finally, on behalf of the entire board of directors, thank you on to all of our members. Without you there would be no Ontario Historical Society, and a province without a strong and vibrant OHS would be so much the poorer.

**Dr. B.E.S. (Brad) Rudachyk**  
President

# Treasurer's Report

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The Society's 2013 financial statements audited by Akler, Browning, Frimet & Landzberg LLP demonstrate that OHS is in sound financial health and continues to improve. 2013 was another active year for the Society, and the operations again show a fiscal surplus and an increase in net assets. Fund balances have increased to \$708 thousand from \$605 thousand in the previous year. 2013 was the sixth consecutive year in which the OHS has managed its operations within the funds available.

*"The Society remains committed to its policies of no deficits, fiscal discipline, strict spending controls, and prudent financial management."*

Revenues increased to \$572 thousand in 2013 from \$445 thousand in the previous year. However, there has been no increase in permanent staff for several years. The OHS staff continues to deal with a heavier

workload resulting from the demands of rapid and sustained growth in our membership and increased and improved online services.

In 2013, volunteers donated 8,900 hours in support of the Society's activities.

The Society remains committed to its policies of no deficits, fiscal discipline, strict spending controls, and prudent financial management.

The Society is very appreciative of the continued financial support of the Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport, the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, all corporate sponsors and not-for-profit organizations, and individual members, subscribers to *Ontario History*, and donors.

**Naresh Khosla**  
Treasurer

Photo Andrea Izzo



For the past three years, The Ontario Historical Society has co-hosted with Trinity Theatre Toronto a peer leadership workshop for youth living in high priority Toronto neighbourhoods. The workshop is held at the John McKenzie House site and focuses on the positive benefits of community involvement, civic engagement and volunteerism and on the importance of Canada's cultural and heritage organizations and institutions.

In 2013, the OHS also delivered professional development workshops for teachers of history and social studies in an effort to improve education for Ontario youth. These included a free online webinar hosted by OHS with the Historical Thinking Project, and a hands-on workshop at Lloyd S. King Elementary School at the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation.

# Public Outreach, Services, and Programmes

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## Not-for-Profit Members

Throughout 2013, the OHS continued to provide consultations and services to its over 835 affiliated societies, member organizations, and member institutions to discuss strategic directions, solve problems, provide references for grant applications, explore heritage designations and conservation easements, review and revise constitutions and by-laws, ensure good corporate governance, process insurance applications, incorporate non-profit organizations through affiliation, surrender charters, facilitate corporate name changes, and support member applications for federal charitable tax status.

In 2013, the OHS held incorporation meetings in the following communities: Algonquin Highlands, Camlachie, Flesherton, Ottawa, Owen Sound, Penetanguishene, Silver Mountain, St. Thomas, Thorold, Toronto, and Windsor (*read more on page 11*).



In 2013, the OHS supported countless small community museums and organizations across Ontario through consultations, site visits, and by promoting their programs, events and exhibits. Pictured above is Dr. Bryan Walls in front of an 1846 log cabin at the John Freeman Walls Historic Site and Underground Railroad Museum in Essex County.

## Presentations, Workshops, and Events

The following list is a *sampling* of the events, presentations, and workshops the OHS was involved in during 2013:

### The OHS celebrated its 125th Anniversary in 2013!

The Society's 125th Annual General Meeting and Honours and Awards Ceremony was held in partnership with and hosted by the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation (MNCFN) in June.

The successful day included:

- A traditional ceremony to celebrate the opening of the MNCFN's new community centre;
- Keynote address and First Nations book launch of Don Smith's *Mississauga Portraits: Ojibwe Voices from Nineteenth-Century Canada*;
- Unveiling of a new exhibit, *First Nations / War of 1812*;
- Marketplace, networking and exhibits.

The OHS was thrilled that a 125th Anniversary celebration was hosted by the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, David C. Onley, at Queen's Park in November. The reception included remarks, a speech by the Lieutenant Governor, and oral history interviews of past OHS presidents conducted by students of Waterdown District High School.

### The OHS made a presentation and/or held an exhibit at the following events in 2013:

- Prospectors and Developers Assoc. of Canada's International Convention, in partnership with Jack Munroe Historical Society of Elk City and the Elk Lake Community Forest;
- Third National Conference of the Italian-Canadian Archive Project (ICAP) in Montreal;
- Ontario Black History Society's Annual Brunch;
- SilverShoe Historical Society's Annual Memorial Candlelight Service at the Bethel-Union Pioneer Cemetery in Clearview Township;
- City of Toronto Cultura Festival at Mel Lastman Square;
- Heritage Canada's 2013 National, Provincial, and Territorial Council Meeting in Ottawa.

### The OHS provided the following workshops and professional development opportunities in 2013:

- "Heritage Cemeteries" workshop at the ACO/CHO Ontario Heritage Conference 2013 in Midland;
- "Peer Leaders" youth workshop with Trinity Theatre;



- History teacher workshop at the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation Education Conference at Lloyd S. King Elementary School;
- Workshop at the Spring Meeting and the Fall Meeting of the Voyageur Heritage Network, hosted by the Dionne Quints Museum in North Bay and the Northern Ontario Railroad Museum & Heritage Centre in Capreol, respectively;
- “Rebellion Remembrances” Workshop with the Richmond Hill Historical Society.

**The OHS was a guest or keynote speaker at the following events in 2013:**

- Brown Family Monument Dedication at Port Ryerse;
- The Huntsville and Area Historical Society Annual General Meeting;
- Mississauga South Historical Society 50th Anniversary;
- Aurora Historical Society 50th Anniversary;
- Wainfleet Historical Society 30th Anniversary.

**The OHS participated in and supported the following events in 2013:**

- Ontario Black History Society 35th Anniversary Celebration;
- Hosted Scott Kennedy’s *Willowdale: Yesterday’s Farms, Today’s Legacy* book launch with Dundurn;
- Heritage Trees Presentation with Edith George, Ontario Urban Forest Council;
- Impact Day with Deloitte Volunteers;
- North York Garden Club 100th Anniversary Community outreach project;
- Architectural Conservancy of Ontario’s NextGen Design Charette.

**In 2013, the OHS also visited communities across Ontario and abroad, including:**

Beaverton, Bradford, Caledon, Camlachie, Cannington, Chatham, Chatsworth, Chesley, Cobalt, Cobourg, Dublin, East York, Edinburgh (UK), Feversham, Flesherton, Goderich, Gore Bay, Huntsville, Kagawong, Kincardine, Leaside, London, Massey, Meaford, Merrickville, Minesing, Mississippi Mills, Montreal (QC), Newmarket, Norwich, Owen Sound, Paisley, Pickering, Port Burwell, Port Colborne, Richmond Hill, Ridgetown, Rosemount, Sanilac County (Michigan), Sombra, Southampton, St. Thomas, Stayner, Thornton, Thorold, Toronto, Vaughan, Weston, Wiarton, and Windsor.

## Insurance Programme

The OHS processed and approved 25 applications from member organizations across the province in 2013. After the OHS approves an application, Jones DesLauriers consults each historical organization to ensure that policies are tailored to address specific needs and local circumstances. The OHS insurance programme enables and protects volunteers across Ontario who serve on the boards of directors of the Society’s member organizations. As of December 31, 2013, there are 87 historical organizations that have Directors and Officers Liability Insurance policies underwritten at a limit of \$2 million each. There are 90 organizations that have General Liability Insurance policies with liability limits of at least \$2 million, with some up to \$5 million, and 35 organizations have purchased coverage for contents and property.

## Strengthening Ontario’s Heritage Network

Launched in 2013, this initiative has allowed OHS staff to reimagine its online presence, develop new outreach activities and strengthen existing services.

The aim of the project is to connect and engage Ontario’s heritage sector through a webinar series, an online map tool that visualizes the existing Heritage Directory, a redesigned OHS website and membership directory, and upgraded office hardware, software and infrastructure.

As of March 2014, over 350 participants from organizations and institutions across Ontario have joined our initial four OHS-hosted webinars, touching on topics including built heritage visibility, classroom and museum education, social media marketing, and applying for grant-based government funding.

As part of the SOHN project, the OHS website was redeveloped with a newly-designed aesthetic and layout, new menus and content pages, along with improved functionality.

One of the most exciting aspects of the new website will be our members-only blog, entitled The Well, which will feature profiles of member and affiliate groups, articles submitted by readers and OHS stakeholders, audio visual content, links to relevant or interesting content from the web, and regular question and answer discussion posts. The goal of





OHS Accessible Heritage volunteer John Rae (right) wrote an addition to his “Access Beyond the Ramp” series entitled “Transportation and Access,” featuring Hamilton’s Westfield Heritage Village. Here, John is pictured examining a historic type set with the help of a volunteer in the Village’s print shop.

The Well is to increase sharing of knowledge and best practices among Ontario’s heritage organizations and institutions.

The new online map developed through the SOHN project will be publicly accessible and provide a visual representation of Heritage Directory sites, groups, and institutions across Ontario.

In addition to a redesign of the OHS website and its inner workings, the SOHN project has allowed staff to rebuild the Membership Management System to improve workflow and efficiency.

The Strengthening Ontario’s Heritage Network project is supported by The Government of Ontario’s Museums and Technology Fund. Learn more at [www.ontariohistoricalsociety.ca/sohn](http://www.ontariohistoricalsociety.ca/sohn).

## Museums Committee

Established in 1953, the committee is comprised of museum professionals from across the province who provide input into how the OHS can continue to promote and support the museum community.

The committee continues its project to identify historical societies that own and operate museums and/or museum collections to identify resources and areas of need. It continues to provide input on policy and training and members are active in providing support for regional networks and local societies.



The OHS co-hosted the annual Spring and Fall Meetings of the Voyageur Heritage Network (VHN). Pictured are representatives of OHS and VHN at the Spring Meeting, held at the Dionne Quints Museum in North Bay. As a provincial organization, the OHS conducts outreach and services to Ontario’s many diverse regions. For example, of the 61 heritage organizations incorporated by OHS in the past five years, 16% are based in northern Ontario.

The OHS continues to support museum events and exhibits by promoting them to wider audiences.

This year’s Museum News page in the *OHS Bulletin* has been a growing success – thanks are due to John Carter for working with Ontario museums to write each column and for preparing an introduction, and to all committee members for donating their professional skills in 2013. The work of Serge Ducharme in chairing this committee is to be commended; he will be missed as he pursues new professional opportunities.

## Accessibility

OHS’s accessibility workshop leader John Rae gave a presentation to students at the Applied Museum Studies Program at Algonquin College, Ottawa. John Rae also contributed another article entitled “Transportation and Access,” his sixth installment in the “Access Beyond the Ramp” series of the *OHS Bulletin*. The 2013 feature article examined the importance of transportation to rural sites as an access issue, and profiled Hamilton’s Westfield Heritage Village.

## Online Connection ...

[www.ontariohistoricalsociety.ca/accessibility](http://www.ontariohistoricalsociety.ca/accessibility)



Read John Rae’s article series  
“Access Beyond the Ramp”



The OHS attended and spoke at many special community events across the province. Pictured here at the 30th Anniversary Picnic for the Wainfleet Historical Society (WHS) are two founding members of the WHS, Jasmine Kitchen and Ken Dayboll with OHS Executive Director Rob Leverty (left).



The OHS has participated in every Doors Open Toronto weekend since its inception in 2000, providing free local history educational tours at the John McKenzie House site to over 15,000 individuals from around the world. Pictured here are guests visiting the 1915 stable, designated under the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

## John McKenzie House

In 1992, the former City of North York enacted by-law no. 31872 designating the John McKenzie House, milk house, and coach house for their provincially significant historical and architectural features (*Ontario Heritage Act*, Part IV).

In 2013, the OHS' four year initiative to complete a heritage conservation easement to protect the John McKenzie House, milk house, stable, coach house, and surrounding lands (park and community gardens) in perpetuity was finalized. On June 4, 2013, the Ontario Heritage Trust and the City of Toronto executed a heritage conservation easement to protect the cultural heritage value of the John McKenzie House. The OHS has now done whatever is legally possible to protect these valuable heritage assets from inappropriate development and destructive interests.

In May, the OHS participated in the 14th Annual Doors Open Toronto; over 1,000 guests visited the historic John McKenzie House. This successful event depended on OHS volunteers who donated their time to provide tours. The OHS has participated in every Doors Open Toronto since its inception in 2000. Events hosted at the John McKenzie House last year included: OHS's Heritage and Family Day Reception in recognition of its 2012 partners, donors, and volunteers, the OHS board of directors and committee meetings, several community meetings, five special events and a variety of rentals, including for private functions and organization meetings. For example, OHS affiliates Canadian Friends

Historical Association and the Ontario Heritage Fairs Association both held their AGMs at the historic John McKenzie House.

## Parkview Neighbourhood Garden

The OHS enjoyed the fifth year of its partnership with the Parkview Neighbourhood Garden (PNG), a communal, organic market garden led by a volunteer steering committee. It is believed to be the first instance in Toronto of housing being reclaimed for local urban agriculture. The garden is situated on the site of the John McKenzie property's former vegetable patch adjacent to the milk house, stable and coach house. The stable is loaned by the OHS to PNG's volunteers to store tools and equipment.

In 2013, PNG sold over 1,400 lbs. of organic herbs, berries and vegetables; \$800 was donated to local food related charities. Steering Committee members participated with City of Toronto staff to plan an expanded garden area to be completed in 2014. A Facebook page was established and along with the website, will help PNG interact with the local community. Garden members teamed with the OHS in support of numerous community events, including Doors Open. Garden volunteers provided tours to student groups, presentations to other garden groups and provided supervision to more than a dozen high school students working towards their community service credits.

**Rob Leverty**  
Executive Director

# Honours and Awards

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Established in 1967, the OHS's awards program recognizes excellence in Ontario's heritage community. Congratulations to the 2013 recipients:

**Scadding Award of Excellence**

The Living History Multimedia Association

**Dorothy Duncan Award**

Great Lakes Storm of 1913 Remembrance Committee

**President's Award**

Denis Langlois, Owen Sound

**Cruikshank Medal**

Tom McIlwraith, Mississauga

**Carnochan Award**

Elwood Jones, Peterborough and Danièle Caloz, Toronto

**Joseph Brant Award**

William Jenkins for *Between Raid and Rebellion: The Irish in Buffalo and Toronto, 1867-1916*

**Fred Landon Award**

John L. Riley for *The Once and Future Great Lakes Country: An Ecological History*

**Alison Prentice Award**

Nina Reid-Maroney for *The Reverend Jennie Johnson and African Canadian History, 1868-1967*

**J. J. Talman Award**

John Clarke for *The Ordinary People of Essex: Environment, Culture, and Economy on the Frontier of Upper Canada*

**Riddell Award**

Michael Commito for "The Rise of Dubreuil Brothers Limited, 1948-1973" in *Ontario History*, Autumn 2013

**Donald Grant Creighton Award**

Donald B. Smith for *Mississauga Portraits: Ojibwe Voices from Nineteenth-Century Canada*

# Cemetery Preservation

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In 1995, the OHS was forced to establish a trust fund to protect Ontario's cemeteries from inappropriate development; many accomplishments were achieved last year in the struggle to preserve and promote Ontario's cemeteries thanks to generous financial contributions to the OHS Cemetery Defense Fund and donated time and skills from dedicated volunteers.

*OHS Bulletin's* Cemetery News column remained very popular and the number of pressing issues submitted far exceeded the space available for publication. Throughout the year, OHS volunteers assisted families across Ontario research descendants buried in pioneer cemeteries threatened by development.

In 2013, volunteers working on behalf of both the OHS and the Ontario Genealogical Society (OGS) continued their public outreach activities at events province-wide, including making formal presentations at the OGS's Hamilton Branch and Quinte Branch.

Since 2006, the OHS and the OGS have collaborated to determine how many cemeteries remain unregistered with the Province of Ontario. The OHS has no appeal rights with regard to those unregistered, and thus it is almost impossible in these cases to intervene effectively to protect the public interest. In 2011, during a meeting with the Hon. John Gerretsen, then Minister of Consumer Services, the two societies jointly submitted a database of 1,535 unregistered cemeteries. The Province subsequently requested that the two societies positively identify the exact location of all these cemeteries in order to have them registered.

In 2013, the OHS and OGS officially submitted to the government lists of unregistered cemeteries in the counties of Elgin, Essex, Frontenac, Grey, Glengarry and Haldimand, growing upon the seven counties submitted in 2012. Volunteers continue to work tirelessly on this historic initiative. It is in the public interest that all cemeteries be accorded the same legal status; the OHS will continue to honour its public commitments on this important principle.



# Ontario History

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## Research and Scholarship

Nine articles appeared in the pages of *Ontario History* in 2013.

A master of political history, Ged Martin of the National University of Ireland, brought new information to light on Alexander Campbell, a largely forgotten Father of Confederation. Hugh Whitney of Memorial University in Newfoundland, may have solved the mystery of the strange death of another, more notorious, 19th-century figure, the 4th Duke of Richmond, a statesman and Governor General.

Three articles covered aspects of Upper Canadian history, long a staple subject of the journal. Denis McKim explored the religious roots of political culture in the period, keying in on the debate between those supporting state-aided Christianity and those who opposed it. Gregory Stott focused on a mid-century case study of supposed corruption in Lambton County. And Guylaine Petrin took a completely different tact in her study of women, marriage and property in Upper Canada, telling the fascinating story of Elizabeth Sanders, a woman who took charge of her property despite a legal system stacked against her.

Kevin Woodger's groundbreaking study of the Toronto Humane Society at the end of the 19th century showed how social class played a role in the spread of humane sentiments towards animals in the city; it is the first article of its kind in Canadian history.

Three very different 20th-century subjects round out volume 105 of *Ontario History*. Michel S. Beaulieu revealed how the International Workers of the World, largely dismissed by historians as irrelevant beyond the First World War, remained a significant force in the Canadian lumber and mining unions as late as the 1930s. Michael Commito told the story of how an entrepreneurial timber company, Debreuil Brothers Ltd., managed to thrive in the years following the Second World War and, in the process, defied the stereotypical view of French Canadian business. Finally,

Ryan O'Connor argued convincingly that the broadcast of *The Air of Death* in 1967 was a pivotal moment in the birth of environmentalism in Ontario, spawning two highly influential environmental organizations.

As usual, I owe a great debt to my colleagues: Ron Stagg for editing 16 excellent book reviews and one movie review, Arthur Silver for his timely translations of English abstracts into French, all nine members of the Editorial Advisory Committee for the excellent advice and support they gave to me, and the staff and board of the OHS for their continued support.

**Dr. Thorold Tronrud**  
Editor, *Ontario History*

## Fundraising Campaign

The OHS is cognizant that the world of publishing is currently experiencing a period of both opportunity and of uncertainty. It has made a strategic decision to digitize all of the articles and book reviews appearing in *Ontario History* since 1899 in order to preserve and make them available for generations to come. It has also committed to providing digital access to the journal, allowing subscribers in the future to choose between print or electronic delivery options. The Society is aware of the struggles currently experienced by major publishers to distribute and sell their print products in a digital age.

As such, in 2013, the Society launched a fundraising campaign “Preserving 125 Years—Our Legacy for the Next 125” to help tackle the large undertaking of digitizing this invaluable resource, including the purchase of new computers, development of custom software, a database equal to the task, and the personnel to get the job done.

Members and subscribers responded very generously and over \$31,000 was raised privately for the project; the OHS owes its donors a large debt of gratitude. Thank you for your continued support!

# Affiliated Societies

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Citizens who organize to preserve and promote Ontario's history can apply to incorporate non-profit corporations through affiliation with the OHS. Each applicant must satisfy incorporation criteria, which includes preparing a mission statement, forming a volunteer board of directors, establishing a constitution and by-laws, holding a public meeting, and paying a fee.

The Ontario Historical Society provides many services and programmes to its affiliated societies, including the popular insurance programme. Since 2009, the OHS has incorporated 61 historical organizations across Ontario, 95% of which are based outside of Toronto, and 16% of which serve communities in northern Ontario.

In 2013, the OHS incorporated twelve not-for-profit historical organizations. The Society is proud to have served the following affiliated societies:

## February 23, 2013

- Haliburton Highlands Quilt Guild
- Silver Mountain and Area Historical Society

## May 25, 2013

- The Glengarry Pioneer Museum
- Penetanguishene Historical Society
- Friends of the Educational Archives Servicing Brant, Haldimand, and Norfolk Counties

## October 19, 2013

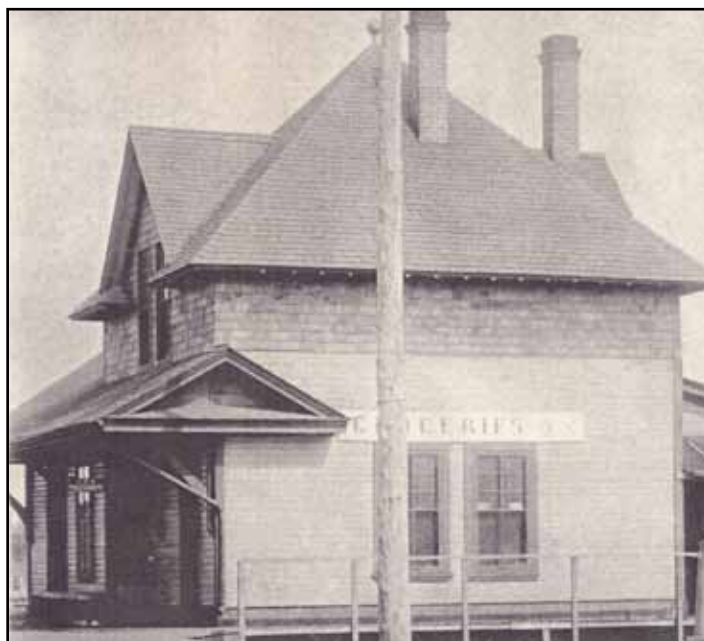
- The Friends of the Beaverdams Church
- The Community Waterfront Heritage Centre
- Toronto Branch, The Monarchist League of Canada
- Friends of the South Grey Museum
- Les Amis Duff-Bâby (The Friends of the Duff-Bâby Mansion)
- Plympton-Wyoming Historical Society

## November 19, 2013

- The 100th Regiment Historical Society

## Allan Macdonell

Chair, Affiliated Societies



In February 2013, the OHS incorporated through affiliation the Silver Mountain and Area Historical Society, a northwestern Ontario-based organization with strong community connections and a remarkable online presence. The SMHS promotes and preserves the history of the Port Arthur, Duluth and Western Railway (PAD & W) and the Silver Mountain Station (pictured above, circa 1910). The structure is located 45 minutes southwest of Thunder Bay and is the last remaining station on the historic PAD & W line.



Photo Joelle Claudon

Congratulations to the Dalkeith Historical Society! Scotiabank matched funds from their Classy Cabaret ticket sales, and made a donation of \$3,000. The eastern Ontario-based group incorporated through affiliation with the OHS in June 2011.

## New Members and Subscribers in 2013

Bob Aceti	Susan Sullivan
Sheryl Adelkind	Emiko Sumi
Andrew Beveridge	Doug Tracy
Russ Boychuk	Paul Douglas Turner
Betty Brannen	Casey Vinkle
Terrylynn Brant	Michael Waldon
Jason Brock	Gail Warner-Metzlaff
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The foremost historical organization in the province. The Ontario Historical Society, originally called the Pioneer Association of Ontario, was established on September 4, 1888 largely through the efforts of the Reverend Henry Scadding. It initially operated as a federation of local groups and was primarily concerned with the promotion of British-Canadian nationalism through the study of history. Reorganized in 1898 and incorporated with an expanded mandate the following year, the Society became increasingly involved in the movement to preserve archival records and historic sites. It also assumed more scholarly pursuits, including a publication program, in addition to encouraging and co-ordinating the activities of local historical associations and museums. Today the Society continues its many efforts to preserve, interpret and publicize Ontario's multi-faceted heritage.

Erected by the Ontario Heritage Foundation, Ministry of Culture and Communications