



ONTARIO
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY *Since 1888*



ANNUAL REPORT 2020

OHS THROUGH THE PANDEMIC

Rob Leverty, **OHS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, OHS staff continued to support volunteer historical organizations across the province through the Society's core program of incorporation. Consultations were held both virtually and in-person, as regulations and restrictions fluctuated constantly. Despite logistical and technical challenges, the Society continued its work in every way possible. I am pleased to report that the OHS incorporated six new historical organizations in 2020.

From January to June 2020, OHS Executive Director Rob Leverty made two presentations to the Ontario Legislature's Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs to request that an exemption from property taxes for OHS incorporated organizations be included in the new budget. Although the Province has not yet moved forward on this issue, the OHS continues to advocate for property tax exemption on behalf of its affiliated members, who are working tirelessly to save our local history when no one else will.

The Society also continued to look after the historic John McKenzie House in Willowdale. This valuable community asset has remained a priority for the OHS since its initial restoration was completed by the Society in 1994. Staff have been present at the property throughout the pandemic, ensuring regular maintenance and upkeep.

The OHS held its 132nd Annual General Meeting virtually and the reception was overwhelmingly positive. OHS members from across the province, particularly those in northern Ontario, were delighted that the event was so accessible. The keynote address presented by Dr. Tim Cook was well received by OHS members. The OHS now delivers more digital services than ever, including incorporation meetings and consultations with groups from across the province. Page 12 of this report discusses our new digital programs in greater detail.

Regardless of the challenges we have faced, the Society has always continued its important work. Without any knowledge of what the future will bring, I am confident that our staff will rise to the occasion and help volunteers across this great province to preserve and promote our collective history.



During the first and second waves of the pandemic, the OHS incorporated 12 new historical organizations. One of them, the Friends of the Mindemoya Old School (FOMOS), based on Manitoulin Island, incorporated on January 29, 2021. FOMOS President Janice McQuay is shown here wearing a face mask promoting the new group's important mission to stop the local municipality's demolition of one of the earliest Consolidated Schools (1921) in Ontario. For more information, visit mindemoyaoldschool.ca

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Michel S. Beaulieu, **PRESIDENT**
Chair, Executive Committee

Serge Ducharme, **FIRST VICE PRESIDENT**

Kris Ives, **SECOND VICE PRESIDENT**
Co-Chair, Museums and Affiliated Societies Committee

Mark Plishewsky, **TREASURER**

Allan Macdonell, **SECRETARY**
Co-Chair, Museums and Affiliated Societies Committee

Caroline Di Cocco, **PAST PRESIDENT**
Chair, Nominations Committee

Gabriella Colussi Arthur, **DIRECTOR**
Chair, Fundraising Committee

Janie Cooper-Wilson, **DIRECTOR**
Co-Chair, Preservation and Cemeteries Committee

Michael Dove, **DIRECTOR**
Co-Chair, Honours & Awards Committee

Eric Payseur, **DIRECTOR**
Co-Chair, Honours & Awards Committee

Nora Sawyer, **DIRECTOR**
Chair, Indigenous Affairs Committee

Laura Suchan, **DIRECTOR**
Co-Chair, Preservation and Cemeteries Committee

Jan Haskings-Winner, **DIRECTOR**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

2	OHS THROUGH THE PANDEMIC
4	PRESIDENT'S REPORT
5	TREASURER'S REPORT
6-9	PUBLIC OUTREACH, SERVICES, & PROGRAMS
10	ONTARIO HISTORY
11	HONOURS AND AWARDS
12	DIGITAL PROJECTS LAUNCHED IN 2020
13-15	NEW MEMBERS, SUBSCRIBERS, & DONORS

Established in 1888, The Ontario Historical Society (OHS) is a not-for-profit corporation, registered charity, and publisher. The OHS is 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.

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 OHS@ONTARIOHISTORICALSOCIETY.CA

PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT

Michel S. Beaulieu, **PRESIDENT**

As individuals and organizations, we have all had to face many changes and challenges over the past year. As you will read in this report, the staff and volunteers of the Ontario Historical Society rose, like they have for over a century, to meet them head on.

Our affiliated societies, member organizations, and member institutions play a key role in the over \$25 billion that Ontario's cultural sector contributed to the economy before the onset of restrictions resulting from COVID-19. Since March 2020, letters have been written, virtual meetings attended, and information provided to affiliates, individuals, and the Government of Ontario reiterating the important role of heritage and history not only to the economy, but also to the very fabric of society in Ontario.

As you have read in my various President's Reports in the *Bulletin*, I set out in January 2020 to read through all 121 years of *Ontario History*. I have spent a lot of time working towards this goal while thinking about the content, debates, and changes reflected in the over 2,000 articles and book reviews published by the Society since 1899. Some of the many thoughts that I keep coming back to are the enthusiasm, dedication, thirst for knowledge, and support Ontarians have for our collective past. Incredibly, none of these were dampened in the past year.



OHS Project Manager and Librarian Sarah McCabe accepted the award on behalf of the Ontario Historical Society during a virtual ceremony hosted by the Ontario Heritage Trust and LG Elizabeth Dowdeswell.

Membership in the Society and subscriptions to *Ontario History* increased by over 4% in 2020 and the Society welcomed 110 new members and/or subscribers. In the first eleven months since the launch of the digitized back issues of *Ontario History* on the OHS website, over 3,000 issues have been downloaded. The Society has also seen a substantial increase in *Ontario History* readership through Érudit. 61,684 articles and book reviews were downloaded by users from more than 55 countries around the world in 2020. This represents a doubling from last year.

All of our efforts have not gone without notice. On Thursday, February 18, OHS Project Manager and Librarian Sarah McCabe accepted the Lieutenant Governor's Ontario Heritage Award for Excellence in Conservation for the "Digitization and Sharing of Ontario History Journal Archive" on behalf of the Society. It is an honour and privilege to have the work of our staff and volunteers recognized. Their efforts to digitize the full text ensures that students, teachers, historians, researchers, genealogists, and anyone interested can access our archive of *Ontario History* articles, the largest single collection of stories about Ontario's rich history.

In December, the Society also launched an updated Ontario Heritage Directory & Map showing a list of over 450 of the Society's current Affiliate Members (incorporated through the OHS) and Institutional Members in Ontario. Our database of member groups includes a wide breadth of heritage organizations from all parts of the province, including historical societies, historic sites, libraries, archives, museums, cultural centres, municipal heritage committees, and cemetery preservation committees. It has seen robust usage and is now the third most popular section of our website (after the homepage and *Ontario History* journal). Our Elibrary and Ebook Store are also seeing a lot of traffic.

All of the hard work done throughout these challenging times has only been possible thanks to our generous members, subscribers, and donors, who have supported not only the *Ontario History* digitization project, but also all of our activities this past year. I would also like to acknowledge the financial support of the Government of Canada through the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, and the Government of Ontario through the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries for funds received.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mark Plishewsky, **TREASURER**

The Society's 2020 financial statements, audited by Akler Browning LLP, show a balance sheet that is sound, healthy, and debt free.

Total revenues from grants, memberships, subscriptions to *Ontario History*, investment income and donations amounted to \$354,206. Total revenue the previous year was \$485,307. This decline is principally attributable to a decrease in donations received (\$146,803 in 2019 vs \$12,690 in 2020) given the large bequest made in the previous year and the impact of the pandemic on fundraising activities in 2020.

Total expenses were reduced by 22%, resulting in cost savings of \$114,379 when comparing to 2019. Unfortunately, since the decrease in revenues slightly outpaced this reduction of expenses, the Society has incurred a fiscal deficit of \$41,065. However, this deficit was the direct result of the OHS financing the completion and launch of the Society's new digital projects, including the *Ontario History* journal digital archive, the Ebook Store, the Elibrary, and the Ontario Heritage Directory & Map. These on-going strategic investments into our digital infrastructure will serve OHS members and the general public well into the future.

OHS volunteers donated approximately 7,000 hours of time and expertise to the Society in support of its charitable activities. In its 2018 Report, *The Value of Volunteering in Canada*, the Conference Board of Canada established the average value of work by a volunteer at \$27 per hour. Therefore, based on this calculation, the value of the hours contributed by OHS volunteers in 2020 is worth the equivalent of \$189,000 in donated labour.

In 2020, the OHS successfully completed its second year of financial support for its scholarly journal *Ontario History* from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC). In 2019, SSHRC awarded the Society a three-year grant of \$13,500 per annum which includes supplementary funding to contribute to the costs of currently hosting *Ontario History* on Érudit, a Canadian not-for-profit digital content and distribution platform.

The \$41,065 deficiency of revenues over expenditures, offset by \$1,913 in investment income, results in a decrease of the Society's net asset balance by \$39,152. This decrease is modest in comparison to the remaining accumulated surplus of \$1,047,425. The Society's accumulated surplus, in conjunction with its lack of debt and careful spending, keeps the OHS on sound financial standing.

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



Providing services and support to the Society's member organizations remains a core objective of OHS spending. On June 21st, OHS ED Rob Levery conducted a heritage site visit after accepting an invitation from The Sheffield Park Black History and Cultural Museum (SPBH&CM) in Clarksburg. Seen here at the former Tabernacle Church (circa 1900) are Sylvia and Carolynn Wilson, co-founders and directors of the SPBH&CM.

The SPBH&CM is a Black-led, all volunteer not-for-profit organization representing African-Canadian Freedom Seekers and Underground Railroad refugees and direct descendants. It helps to tell the story of the Black pioneers and settlers of Grey and Simcoe Counties, and welcomes all visitors, from local community members to international travellers, to learn about their history in an inclusive environment.

The museum is a longstanding member of the OHS, and Rob has worked closely with heritage advocates Carolynn and Sylvia Wilson on issues surrounding the preservation of early Black history since 1998, particularly on such projects as the preservation and incorporation of the Old Durham Road Black Pioneer Cemetery near Priceville.

PUBLIC OUTREACH, SERVICES, PROGRAMS

Rob Leverty, **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

NOT-FOR-PROFIT MEMBERS & INCORPORATION

Since January 2016, the OHS has incorporated 40 not-for-profit historical organizations; five in northern Ontario, six in eastern Ontario, six in central Ontario, eleven in southwestern Ontario, eleven in the GTHA, and one provincial not-for-profit corporation.

With the arrival of COVID-19 and province-wide lockdowns, the OHS was often not able to meet with organizations in their local areas, but through phone calls and online meetings, the OHS upheld its commitment to conduct incorporation meetings with members in the following communities: Algoma, Ancaster, Blue Mountains, Clarksburg, Cornwall, East Luther Grand Valley, Elliot Lake, Hamilton, Leaside, Manaki, Middleport, and Mindemoya.

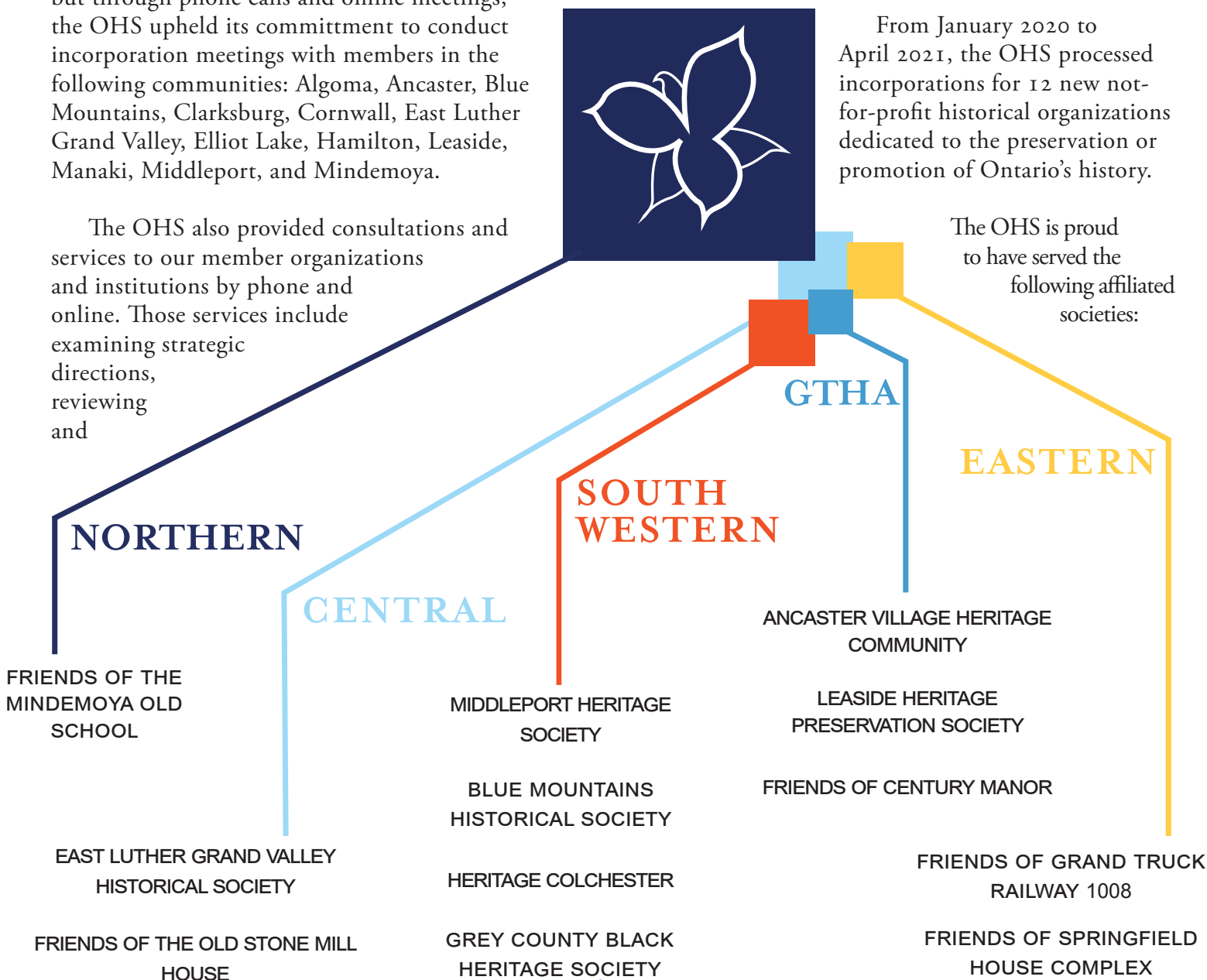
The OHS also provided consultations and services to our member organizations and institutions by phone and online. Those services include examining strategic directions, reviewing and

revising constitutions and by-laws, discussing good corporate governance, providing letters of support for grant applications and fundraising initiatives, advocating for built and digital infrastructure funding, processing insurance applications, writing letters of good standing for member organizations, surrendering charters, and facilitating corporate name changes.

Citizens who organize to preserve and promote Ontario's history can apply to incorporate not-for-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 a set of by-laws, facilitating a public meeting (in person or online) with the OHS, and paying a nominal fee.

From January 2020 to April 2021, the OHS processed incorporations for 12 new not-for-profit historical organizations dedicated to the preservation or promotion of Ontario's history.

The OHS is proud to have served the following affiliated societies:



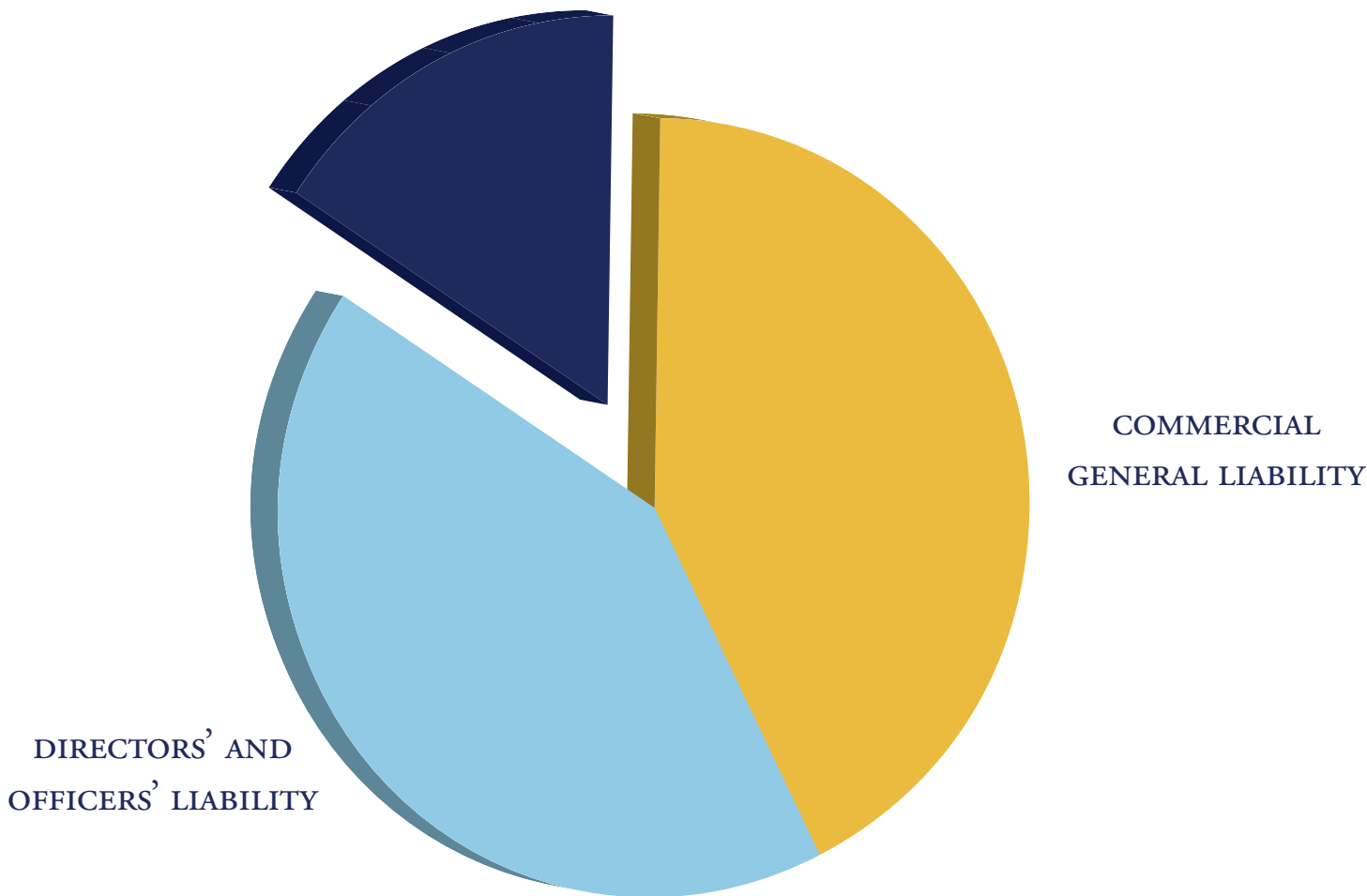
INSURANCE PROGRAM

Established in 2008, the OHS insurance program provides vital protection for the Society's not-for-profit, volunteer-run member organizations. All organizations with a membership in good standing with the OHS are eligible to apply for insurance.

Once the OHS approves a new application, the Society's insurance broker, Jones DesLauriers Insurance Management Inc., holds a thorough consultation with the applicant to ensure that each policy is tailored to the specific needs and local circumstances of the organization.

As of December 31, 2020, there were 167 historical organizations that held Directors' and Officers' Liability insurance policies, 164 organizations with Commercial General Liability insurance policies, and 61 organizations with coverage for Contents and Property.

CONTENTS AND PROPERTY



2020 OHS INSURANCE

PARKVIEW NEIGHBOURHOOD GARDEN

The OHS enjoyed its twelfth year of partnership with the Parkview Neighbourhood Garden (PNG), a communal, organic, market garden run entirely by volunteers. It is believed to be the first instance in Toronto of residential real estate being reclaimed for local urban agriculture. The garden is situated on the site of the McKenzie family's former vegetable garden, adjacent to the milk house, stable, and coach house. The stable is loaned by the OHS to PNG's volunteers to store their tools and equipment.

The 2020 season was a challenging one for the garden. Volunteers got a late start, as community gardens were not deemed an essential service. The province finally allowed community and allotment gardens to open in early May 2020, with many health and safety rules in place to ensure proper social distancing, contact tracing, and disinfecting. The garden leaders made the tough decision to restrict participation to members of the leadership team and a few experienced gardeners, since only five volunteers were allowed in the garden at one time. A core team of about eight regular garden volunteers did all of the garden work (planting, maintenance, harvesting, etc.), and other leaders provided support on issues like social media.

Sales of vegetables in the garden this year were also prohibited by Toronto Public Health, so all of the food grown (over 400 pounds) was donated to organizations that helped to feed people in need. The not-for-profit groups to which food was donated include the Community Share Food Bank, the Community Head Injury Resource Service (CHIRS), and other organizations by means of Food Rescue (a division of Second Harvest). So, this season, instead of selling vegetables in the garden

and donating to food related charities after the fact, food was donated as it was harvested and when it was needed by so many.

The growing season was a very good one, thanks to excellent weather. Even though the garden was planted a little later than usual, most plants did well. Beans and squash were particularly successful this year. The drought in July and August required lots of watering, and with reduced forces, it was challenging to keep the garden watered and weeded. The small group of volunteers donated a great deal of their time to keeping PNG running smoothly.

The front garden on Parkview Avenue, which had been neglected for some time, was cleaned up, thanks to the efforts of a couple of volunteers. Tree Mobile donated some bushes for that area, and more will be purchased next season. Another major improvement this year was the construction of a washstand. This was particularly useful this season, since vegetables had to be rinsed before they were donated.

Before the pandemic hit, PNG donated \$1,000 to various food-related charities. Since there was no income from sales this year, part of which is always set aside for the following season, there were questions about how work would begin in 2021. Thankfully, donors stepped forward, including the City of Toronto, to provide over \$800 in donations to support Parkview Neighbourhood Garden's next season.



CEMETERY DEFENCE

In 1995, the Society was forced to establish a trust fund to protect Ontario's cemeteries from inappropriate development. In 2020, the OHS continued the struggle to preserve and protect Ontario's cemeteries. This on-going work is made possible through financial contributions to the OHS Cemetery Defence Fund and donated time and skills from many generous expert volunteers.

Throughout 2020, the OHS helped to research and answer questions in order to assist families and descendants across Ontario to protect cemeteries that were threatened by invasive real estate development and/or neglect. The Preservation and Cemeteries Committee of the OHS Board of Directors was kept busy in 2020, including work in Manvers Township as well as ongoing consultation with the Bereavement Authority of Ontario (BAO) to save several important Black cemeteries in Haldimand County.

Since 2016, an OHS staff member has sat on the Cemetery, Crematorium & Municipal Advisory Committee of the Bereavement Authority of Ontario (BAO), a not-for-profit corporation, delegated with the responsibility to administer provisions of the *Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002* on behalf of the Ministry of Government and Consumer Services. Meetings of the Advisory Committee were held in person at the beginning of the year before switching to online correspondence, with the aim to represent the consumer interests of Ontarians with respect to Cemeteries and Crematoriums. The OHS is the only member representing heritage interests on this provincial stakeholder committee.

On June 2, 2011, in a meeting with Hon. John Gerretsen, the then-Minister of Consumer Services, the OHS and OGS officially presented the Government of Ontario with a database of 1,535 unregistered cemeteries. The OHS receives no notification and holds no right of appeal with regard to unregistered historic cemeteries when land owners seek to relocate burial sites for private interests. It is almost impossible in these cases for the OHS to intervene effectively to defend the public interest. The Province of Ontario subsequently requested that the two societies positively identify the exact location of all these cemeteries in order to register them.

From 2012-20, the two societies have submitted lists of unregistered cemeteries to the Province of Ontario in the Regions, Districts, and Counties of Algoma, Brant, Bruce,

Carleton, Cochrane, Dundas, Durham, Elgin, Essex, Frontenac, Glengarry, Grenville, Grey, Haldimand, Haliburton, Halton, Hastings, Huron, Kenora, Kent, Lambton, Lanark, Leeds, Lennox and Addington, Lincoln, Manitoulin, Middlesex, Muskoka, Norfolk, Northumberland, Ontario, Oxford County, Parry Sound District, Peel Region, Patricia, Perth, Peterborough, Prescott, Prince Edward, Rainy River, Renfrew, and Russell.

The OHS, with a membership from all cultures and religions, believes it is in the public interest that all cemeteries be afforded the same legal status and be treated equally. The Society will continue to honour its public commitments on this important principle and will work tirelessly to complete this historic initiative as soon as possible, documenting the remaining unregistered cemeteries across Ontario.



Janie Cooper-Wilson, OHS Board Member & Co-Chair of the OHS Preservation & Cemeteries Committee, is shown with BAO Inspector, Andrew Reynolds, on November 3, 2020, during the OHS/BAO Joint Site Inspection of the Street Family Cemetery, in North Cayuga Township, Haldimand County. This site is the final resting place of Underground Railroad Freedom Seekers, Stepney & Lucy (Canada) Street and ten of their immediate and extended family members, including Caroline (Stewart) Barnes, the niece of Underground Railroad heroine Harriet Tubman.

ONTARIO HISTORY

In 2020, the Society published two new issues of *Ontario History* journal, both in print (through the OHS) and online via Érudit, a not-for-profit digital publisher and scholarly disseminator based in Montreal.

The Spring and Autumn issues of *Ontario History* contained a total of ten new articles and 20 new book reviews. Autumn 2020 was a special issue on the theme of Environmental History, and included six new peer-reviewed articles.

Through the Society's partnership with Érudit, readership of *Ontario History* has continued to grow. Downloads of articles and book reviews more than doubled from 29,137 in 2019 to 61,684 in 2020 (an average of 170 per day). In our first four years with Érudit, the journal's articles and book reviews have been downloaded over 100,000 times (103,983).

Total print subscriptions to *Ontario History* were up by 5% in 2020, which is something to celebrate, including an unprecedented 25%

2017 1,513

2018 11,649

2019 29,137

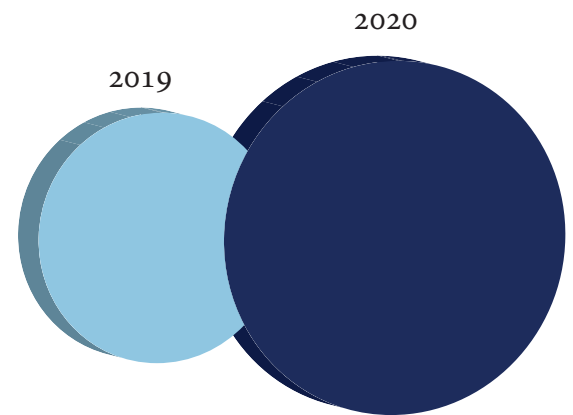
2020 61,684

increase in individual subscriptions. This success was countered by an 11% decrease in institutional (e.g. university library) subscriptions, attributed to the availability of the journal in electronic format on Érudit.

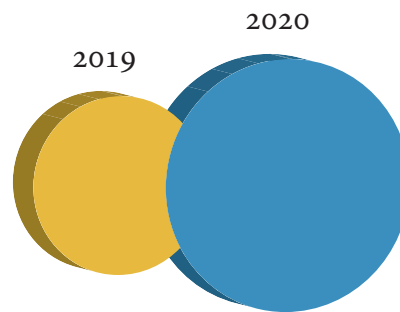
In April 2020, the OHS launched the *Ontario History* journal digital archive. For the first time, the entire run of over 120 years of the journal (1899 to present) is online, with 1916 to 2005 Spring (236 issues) available to OHS Individual and Lifetime members as a new member benefit. In the first nine months (April to December 2020), over 2,700 issues were downloaded through the OHS website.

The OHS celebrates the robust interest in and ongoing publication of *Ontario History*, one of the oldest history journals in Canada.

NEW SUBSCRIBERS



NEW MEMBERS



Total new members and subscribers to the Ontario Historical Society and *Ontario History* Journal doubled from 2019 to 2020. Global downloads of *Ontario History* articles and book reviews also doubled, totalling an impressive 61,684 downloads in 2020.

GLOBAL DOWNLOADS, *ONTARIO HISTORY*

HONOURS AND AWARDS 2019-20

Established in 1967, the OHS Honours and Awards program recognizes excellence in Ontario's heritage community. Congratulations to the 2019-20 recipients.



AWARDS FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT

PRESIDENT'S AWARD
Friends of Grain Elevators

INDIGENOUS HISTORY AWARD
Lake of the Woods Museum & Partners
Shiibaashka'Igan Honouring the Sacred Jingle Dress

CEMETERY PRESERVATION AWARD
Ed Janiszewski
The Lakeshore Psychiatric Hospital Cemetery

CRUIKSHANK MEDAL
Tory Tronrud

DOROTHY DUNCAN PUBLIC HISTORY AWARD
The Champlain Society Podcast
"Witness to Yesterday/Témoign d'hier"

AWARDS FOR AUTHORS

HUGUENOT SOCIETY OF CANADA AWARD
Suzanne Methot
Legacy: Trauma, Story, and Indigenous Healing

ALISON PRENTICE AWARD
Kate Armstrong
The Stone Frigate: The Royal Military College's First Female Cadet Speaks Out

FRED LANDON AWARD
Dieter K. Buse & Graham S. Mount
Untold: Northeastern Ontario's Military Past, volumes 1 and 2

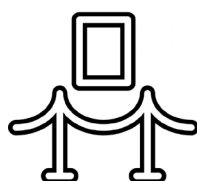
J. J. TALMAN AWARD
Stacie Burke
Building Resistance: Children, Tuberculosis, and the Toronto Sanatorium

RIDDELL AWARD
Gwen Reimer
"British-Canada's Land Purchases, 1783-1788: A Strategic Perspective", *Ontario History*, Spring 2019

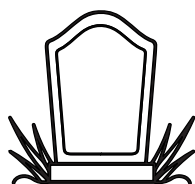
DONALD GRANT CREIGHTON AWARD
Dan Robson
Bower: A Legendary Life



HERITAGE



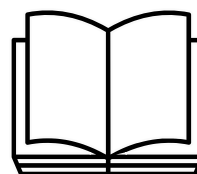
PUBLIC
HISTORY



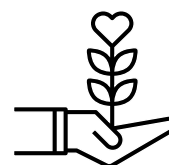
CEMETERY



PUBLIC



RESEARCH
& WRITING



PUBLIC
SERVICE

THE OHS HONOURS & AWARDS PROGRAM RECOGNIZES EXCELLENCE IN

DIGITAL PROJECTS LAUNCHED IN 2020

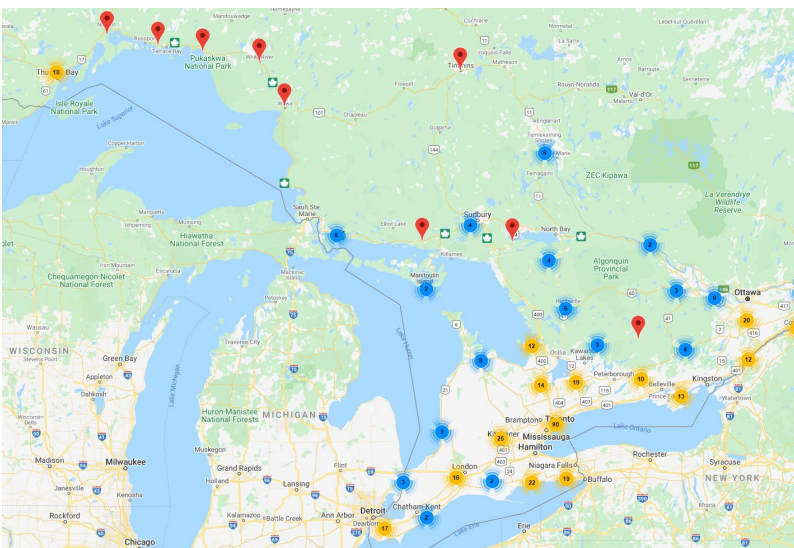
ONTARIO HERITAGE DIRECTORY & MAP

<https://ontariohistoricalsociety.ca/directory-and-map/>

The Society has launched the updated Ontario Heritage Directory & Map (maintained since the 1980s), sharing a list of over 450 of the OHS's current Affiliate Members (incorporated through the OHS) and Institutional Members in Ontario, with their social media links and publicly available contact information.

The Directory & Map is free to use for anyone in Ontario or around the world, and may be explored on desktop computers, tablets, and mobile devices. The map provides a visual representation of heritage activity across Ontario, helping users find and connect with the Society's members.

The database of member groups includes a wide breadth of heritage organizations from all parts of the province, such as historical societies, historic sites, libraries, archives, museums, cultural centres, municipal heritage committees, cemetery preservation committees, and more.



The Heritage Directory & Map provides a visual representation of heritage activity across Ontario, helping users find and connect with the Society's members.

EBOOK STORE

<https://ontariohistoricalsociety.ca/store/>

The Society's Ebook Store offers a selection of titles for purchase and digital download as ebooks (PDF files). The store features 17 books of enduring value published by the OHS between 1946 and 2020.

The list of publications represents a rich body of work, of both scholarly and popular interest, chronicling the history of the province. Topics include the history of Ontario, food and drink, built heritage, cemeteries, Indigenous history, and the Rebellion of 1837.

The Society is pleased to offer OHS members a 30% discount on all ebook titles at checkout.

ELIBRARY

<https://ontariohistoricalsociety.ca/elibrary/>

In the summer of 2020, the OHS launched a new educational benefit for our members: over 115 digitized books and booklets in the Society's new Elibrary.

Publications from the OHS's extensive catalogue, long out of print, which are not featured for sale in the Ebook Store, are now available to meet the growing needs of researchers, scholars, students, and the general public to do their research and writing online.

The OHS acknowledges the many generous members, subscribers, and donors who have contributed to this digitization project, including the financial support of the Government of Ontario, through the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries, and the Ontario Trillium Foundation.

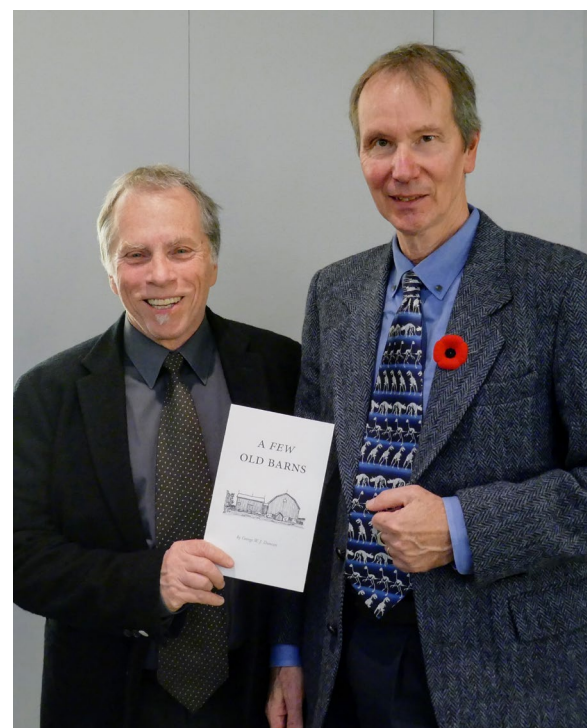
NEW MEMBERS & SUBSCRIBERS 2020

Paul Arculus	Tom Fournier	Paul Litt	Thomas Radder
Heather Armstrong	David Gault	Chris Lodge	Deborah Ranchuk
Susan Barry	Chris Giroux	Bryan Loucks	Rajka Rasevic
Matthew Beaudoin	Brenda Glover	James Mann	Randy Restoule
Mark Borer	Claire Goodchild	Stuart Manson	Walter Rothwell
Barry Bowen	Ed Granger	Richard Marquardt	Steve Russ
Natalie Bugera	Rachel Guy	Dean Martins	Stan Rycombel
Mary Burns	Ian Hadden	Murray McCabe	Richard Sambolec
Brian Charles	Gwen Harris	John McDougall	Heather Sanguins
Sarah Clarke	Richard Hatt	Madeleine McDowell	Laura Savoie
Peter Cooke	William Hewitt	Mark McGowan	Ron Shaw
Joan Corbett-Fujiki	Kathryn Hogan	Marilyn McKay	Daniel Sherwin
Linda Corupe	Sheila Jacques	Olivia McLeod	Michael Slattery
Paul Cote	Mat Johnson	Donald McLeod	Allan Smith
Sonia Cutler	Corey Kalsi	Jim Molnar	Jeff Smith
Debra Demeester	Michael Kekewich	Donna Moore	Christopher Smyth
Jeremy Diamond	Bill Kilfoyle	Bridget Morrison	Peggy Stewart
Michael Dove	Allison Kirk-Montgomery	Devon Morrison	Lara Sullivan
Rose Downes	Vaughan Kitson	Joan Murray	Catharine Tozer
Jonathan Eaton	Elizabeth Koester	Robin Nelson	Anne Villeneuve-Magness
Kae Elgie	Darlene Lane	Nicholas Nolan	Lisa Wacheski
Elsbeth Fallone	Charles Lankford	James Paxton	Paul White
Christine Fillion	Laurie Leclair	Edward Pomer	Donna Williams
Jon Fish	Dave Lemkay	Geoff Powers	Wesley Wilson
Susan Forint			

ORGANIZATIONS & INSTITUTIONS

Ancaster Village Heritage Community
Bark Lake Cultural Developments
Barrie Historical Archive
Blue Mountains Historical Society
Friends of Grand Trunk Railway 1008
Friends of the Rideau
Great Pine Ridge - CVMG
J. Steckle Heritage Homestead
Leaside Heritage Preservation Society
Middleport Heritage Society
Taste Canada - The Food Writing Awards
Toronto Railway Historical Association

The OHS Ebook Store added two new titles in 2020, including the new edition of *Thoreau MacDonald's Sketches of Rural Ontario*, by George W.J. Duncan. This expanded edition contains roughly twice as many works by revered Canadian artist Thoreau MacDonald, and features several new sections on how MacDonald's sketches help us to appreciate the beauty of both life and landscape across rural Ontario. George Duncan is shown here with OHS ED Rob Leverty, holding Duncan's *A Few Old Barns*, published by the OHS in 2019.



DONORS IN 2020

INDIVIDUALS, ORGANIZATIONS, AND INSTITUTIONS

Anne Baillie	Audrey Fox	Ronald Junkin	M. Helen Small
Michael Bartlett	David Gault	Patricia Kennedy	Marjorie Stuart
Michel Beaulieu	Edith & Geoff Geduld	Richard Lucas	Laura Suchan
Robert Biggs	Walter M. Goldsmith	Judy McGonigal	Marcia Turner
Jim Brownell	W N Goodspeed	R.G. & Elizabeth McQuillan	Alpema Foundation
David Brydges	Richard W. Green	Suanne Miedema	Sheffield Park Black History and Cultural Museum
Bob Bull	Robert Halfyard	Donna Moore	The Duane and Thomas
Pamela Cain	Scott & Elizabeth	Naomi Norquay	McIlwraith Fund at The United
George Carere	Heatherington	Sharon O'Shea	Church of Canada Foundation
John Case	Deborah A. Howes	Barry & Jane Penhale	York Pioneer & Historical Society
Steven & Diane Clendenan	Dorothy Johnstone	Chris & Pat Raible	Anonymous
Sidney Down	Helen & Aarne Juhola	Fred Schaeffer	



On March 7, 2020, OHS Executive Director Rob Leverty held an incorporation meeting with Middleport Heritage Society (MHS) at the Onondaga Community Hall in Brant County. MHS officially incorporated through affiliation with the OHS on March 11, 2020, the same day the OHS began work-from-home protocols.

Front row, left to right: Joanne Douglas Lane, Donna Chapin, Tammy Trotman (Vice President), Rob Leverty (OHS ED), Pat VanSickle (Membership Secretary). Middle row, left to right: Marianne Workman Porecki, Mary Anne Workman Rose (President), Alison Workman McBlain, Dorette Allemang (Treasurer) Sue Hager, Lois Douglas, Joyce Deagle Osinga (Secretary). Back row, left to right: Allan Robinson, George Rose, John Osinga (Board Member), John Lane, John Douglas, and Calvin Hager.

DONORS IN 2020

OHS NORTHERN ONTARIO TRUST FUND

Estate of Ruth E. Day

OHS CEMETERY DEFENCE TRUST FUND

Estate of Jean Burnet

OHS GRASSROOTS PUBLIC OUTREACH TRUST FUND

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Real Estate Services, City of Toronto
Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada

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The OHS was pleased to celebrate another successful Black History Month in February, 2020. The Society is proud to say that our members held fantastic programs and events all across the province, which OHS Staff and affiliates were honoured to attend. On Sunday, February 16, the OHS participated in a Black History Month event held at the Heritage Community Church in Collingwood. Sponsored by the Sheffield Park Black History & Cultural Museum (SPBH&CM), this well attended event featured a special presentation by OHS member, The Honourable Dr. Jean Augustine. Seen here (left to right) are: Sylvia and Carolynn Wilson, Directors and Co-owners, SPBH&CM; Nathan Segal, Owen Sound Emancipation Festival; The Honourable Dr. Jean Augustine, and Rob Leverty. Photo courtesy of Lawrence Kerr Media.



**In 2020,
volunteers
contributed an
estimated 7,000
hours of service
in support of the
OHS, worth the
equivalent of
\$189K in donated
labour.**