



ONTARIO
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY *Since 1888*



ANNUAL REPORT 2022



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ANNUAL REPORT 2022

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The OHS has participated in Doors Open Toronto since its inception in 2000. This event is a great opportunity for staff and volunteers to connect with the community and invite people from across the city to learn more about the historic John McKenzie House. The OHS remains committed to the preservation and maintenance of this important historic site, providing a meeting place for local arts and culture groups.

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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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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Kris Ives, **PRESIDENT**

As we look back on another successful year, we find ourselves reflecting on and celebrating the incredible achievements and the lasting legacy that Rob Leverty has created over his 35 years at the OHS. We thank Rob for his many years of service and his unwavering dedication to our membership and mandate.

I was pleased to participate in the Society's search for a new Executive Director in the final months of 2022. The very competitive process involved a great deal of time and coordination to ensure that it was fair, thorough, and transparent. The Society's new Executive Director, Daniel Dishaw, stepped into the role in early 2023.

As always, the staff and the Board of Directors are here to serve and represent our membership and the public interest. Without your ongoing support and dedication, our work would not be possible. I want to thank all of our members, donors, subscribers, volunteers, and stakeholders for their continued commitment to the preservation and promotion of our collective history.

In recognizing the importance of that work, I would like to highlight a few success stories from within our membership in 2022.

We have wonderful news to report from Collingwood, where one of our affiliated organizations has succeeded in having the Heritage Community Church at 310 Seventh Street designated under the Ontario Heritage Act. The OHS commends the Town of Collingwood for recognizing the importance that 310 Seventh Street plays in the Black Canadian history of Collingwood, of Simcoe County, and all of Ontario. The site, which has been a continuous place of worship for Black settlers since 1870, was a centre for shared culture, for the community, and for support when its congregation faced racism, discrimination, and alienation from their larger society.

In Central Manitoulin, the OHS celebrated a major victory with our affiliated member, the Friends of Mindemoya Old School (FOMOS). Eighteen months after incorporating with the OHS, including countless hours of relentless volunteer work and with a membership of over 300, FOMOS signed a 21-year lease with the Municipality of Central Manitoulin on July 8, 2022. FOMOS President Jan McQuay then stated, "This iconic century building has such exciting potential. Having a lease is a major milestone in bringing the Old School back to life. Now the real work begins!" Congratulations to FOMOS, who have saved this historic building from demolition for the benefit of the local community.

OHS Director Janie Cooper-Wilson celebrated the 25th Anniversary of the restoration of Bethel Union Pioneer Cemetery in September. The SilverShoe Historical Society (SSHS) began the restoration of this historic cemetery in 1997, and has hosted an annual Memorial Candlelight Service for the past 25 years. They were incorporated through affiliation with the OHS in 2007. The preservation of cemeteries in Ontario remains an important part of our mandate.

The Society is working to lead conversations around the importance of heritage preservation and promotion; actively listening to diverse community organizations from across the province regarding their challenges, concerns, and interests. We are working to continue the foundational work of the Society, while also exploring new avenues to reach expanded audiences and to engage new members.

In 2022, the OHS began developing its first podcast series in partnership with renowned historian, Dr. Donald B. Smith. *In Hindsight: Half a Century of Research Discoveries in Canadian History*, has received very positive feedback and reviews from both historians and Canadian history lovers. In



Curator of the John R. Park Homestead and OHS President, Kris Ives, pours taffy on snow for an eager audience at the 2023 Maple Festival in March.

2022, the OHS also partnered with OHS Award-winning author Nathan Tidridge and Leaking Ambiance Studios to help produce *The Crown in Canada* podcast, which can also be found on the OHS website. It is exciting to see the Society continue to evolve and to connect with members in new formats, and to engage new audiences in dynamic ways. Congratulations to the Society staff and partners for their incredible work on this engaging project.

The Society enjoyed another successful Annual General Meeting in 2022. Thank you to all our members who attended from across the province. In recent years, it has been a pleasure to invite so many of our members to participate virtually who were previously unable to join in person. As the keynote presenter for the Society's 134th AGM, Steve Paikin emphasized the importance of studying Ontario's history and explored the contents of his book through an engaging and interactive discussion with the OHS membership. Steve Paikin's talk is now available on the OHS YouTube channel: 2022 OHS Keynote: Steve Paikin – *John Turner: An Intimate Biography of Canada's 17th Prime Minister*.

Once again, thank you to all of our supporters. It is only with your help and dedication that the work of the OHS is

made possible. 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 Citizenship and Multiculturalism for funds received. I am looking forward to all that we will achieve together in 2023!



Faced with the imminent demolition of an historic school (1922) in their community, Friends of the Mindemoya Old School (FOMOS) incorporated through the *OHS Special Act, 1899* on January 29, 2021. FOMOS issued a press release stating, "The school, a solid brick and stone building, is historically significant, being one of the earliest Consolidated Schools in Ontario. We want to save this building not just because of its history, but also because tearing it down is such a terrible waste. We've become a throwaway society and that has to stop."

Seen here in front of the historic school on Sunday May 8, 2022, is then OHS ED Rob Leverty with FOMOS President Jan McQuay. After an extensive building inspection and tour with Jan, Linda Kelly (Manitoulin resident and former OHS Secretary), and Tom Sasvari (News Editor, *The Manitoulin Expositor*), Rob declared, "No photo could ever do justice to seeing the wonderful, skilled craftsmanship of this magnificent building. Where some in the municipality saw a liability, FOMOS and the OHS saw an invaluable community asset."

For further information or to make a donation please visit www.mindemoyaoldschool.ca or contact mindemoyaoldschool@gmail.com.



On September 24, 2022, then OHS ED Rob Leverty joined OHS Director Janie Cooper-Wilson to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the restoration of Bethel Union Pioneer Cemetery. The SilverShoe Historical Society (SSHS) began the restoration of this historic cemetery in 1997, and has hosted an annual Memorial Candlelight Service for the past 25 years. They were incorporated through affiliation with the OHS in 2007. OHS Director Janie Cooper-Wilson is also the Founder and Executive Director of the SSHS. From left to right: Gary Ethridge (SSHS Co-Founder & Financial Advisor), Janie Cooper-Wilson (SSHS Founder & Executive Director), Rob Leverty (then OHS Executive Director), Sharon Dunn (SSHS President), Debbie Ebanks-Schlums (SSHS Secretary).

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mark Plishewsky, **TREASURER**

The Society's 2022 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 \$369,680. Total income the previous year was \$394,025, a decrease of 6%. This decline in income is due to a one-time \$20,000 grant received in 2021, absent in 2022. Total expenditures amounted to \$399,724, which is up 2% from \$393,533 in the previous year.

Given the excess of expenditures over income for the year, the Statement of Operations shows a deficit of \$30,044. This deficit is offset by \$14,474 in investment income resulting in the Total Fund balance decrease of 1.3% to \$1,059,502. Furthermore, the deficit is in line with the 2022 drop in market valuation of the Society's investments, specifically fixed income. This was due to the increase in market interest rates set by the Central Bank of Canada. The Society was able to mitigate such losses by shifting from fixed income to equity investments during the year. The market has since rebounded in 2023. Despite the 2022 deficit, the Society's accumulated surplus, in conjunction with its lack of debt and careful spending, keeps the OHS on sound financial standing.

In 2022, the OHS invested in the production of new podcasts, including new web development, technology, and staff training. The Society recently released *In Hindsight: Half a Century of Research Discoveries* with Dr. Donald B. Smith.

OHS volunteers once again 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 2022 is worth the equivalent of \$189,000 in donated labour.

In 2022, the OHS submitted its application for another three-year term of financial support for its scholarly journal, *Ontario History*, from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC). I'm pleased to report that SSHRC has once again 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 OHS remains committed to its policies of fiscal discipline, strict spending controls, no debts, and prudent financial management.



Dr. Donald B. Smith with Sarah McCabe (OHS Project Manager and Librarian) at the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation Historical Gathering in Hagersville on February 21, 2023. Dr. Smith presented on *In Hindsight* and debuted Episode 5, which focuses on Peter Jones and Eliza Field, offering a portrait of the marriage of Mississauga Chief Kahkewaquonaby and his English bride.

ONTARIO HISTORY

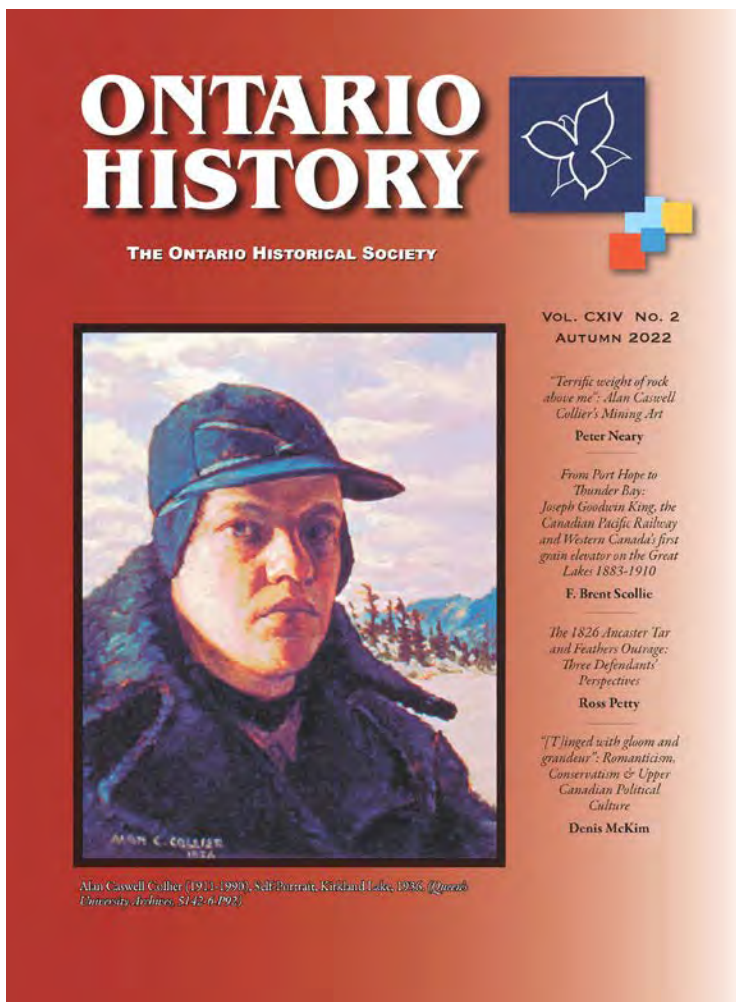
In 2022, the Society published two new issues of *Ontario History* journal, both in print (through the OHS) and online via Érudit, a not-for-profit digital publisher and scholarly disseminator based in Montreal.

The Spring and Autumn issues of *Ontario History* contained a total of nine new peer-reviewed articles

average of over 230 downloads per day in 2022. Our partnership with Érudit exposes the journal to over 170 academic and other libraries across Canada and worldwide. In a challenging publishing environment, the journal maintained its print subscriber base with a 1% increase.

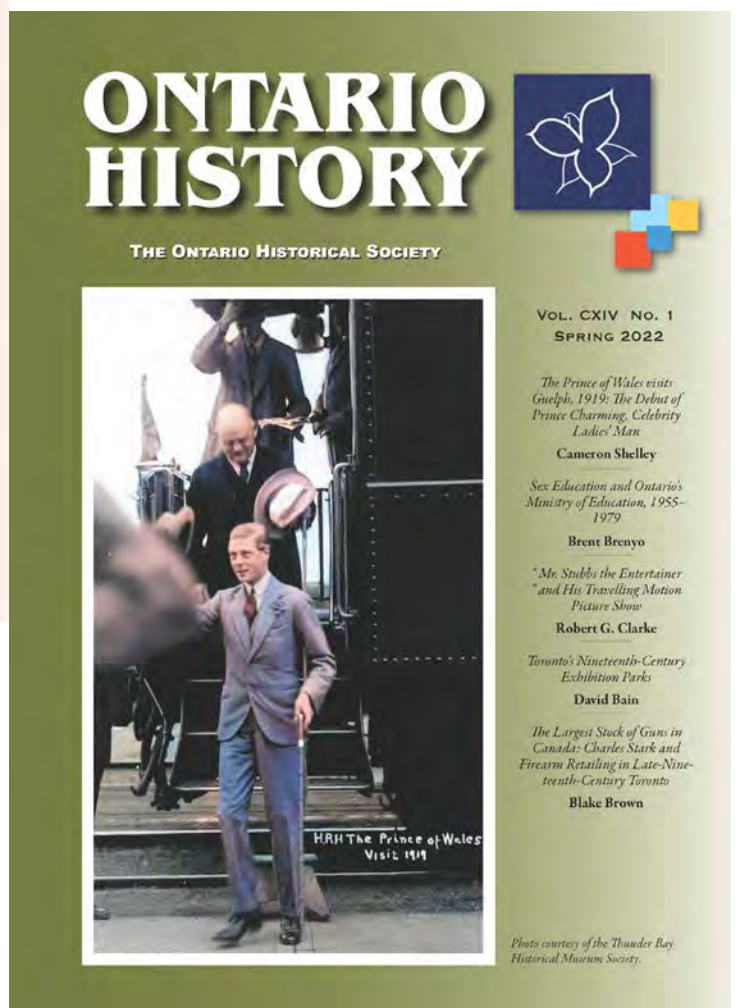
In 2022 the OHS was very pleased to be approved by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) for institutional eligibility, and to subsequently be awarded three years of SSHRC's Aid to Scholarly Journals funding at \$13,500 per year.

The OHS extends warm congratulations and sincere thanks to *Ontario History* Editor Dr. Thorold Tronrud on publishing his 35th issue of the journal in Autumn 2022 (beginning in Autumn 2005). One of the Society's most trusted advisors, Dr. Tronrud received the OHS Cruikshank Medal in 2020 for his unflagging commitment, outstanding scholarship, and generous volunteerism to the Society.



and 19 new book reviews. A variety of historical themes characterized the two 2022 issues. These included royal history, educational, cinema, urban, business, art, agricultural, legal, and political history.

Through the Society's partnership with Érudit, readership of *Ontario History* has continued to grow. In *Ontario History*'s first six years with Érudit, the journal's articles and book reviews have been downloaded almost 300,000 times (272,696), with an



PUBLIC OUTREACH, SERVICES, & PROGRAMS

Daniel Dishaw, **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

NOT-FOR-PROFIT MEMBERS & INCORPORATION

From January 2016 to December 2022, the OHS incorporated 42 not-for-profit historical organizations: seven in northern Ontario, seven in eastern Ontario, six in central Ontario, eleven in southwestern Ontario, ten in the GTA, and one provincial group.

In 2022, the OHS was able to embrace in-person events and meetings once again, but still used the tools we relied upon during the pandemic to serve our vast provincial membership with virtual meetings and consultations. In 2022, the OHS held incorporations meetings with members of the following communities: Elliot Lake, Lanark County, Port Credit, Schumacher, Stouffville, Brighton, Hamilton, and Minaki. As part of the ongoing work to secure property tax exemption for OHS members, former Executive Director Rob Leverty also held extensive consultations in 2022 with affiliated societies, such as Friends of the Haileybury Fire Museum, Madill Church Preservation Society, and the Manitouwadge Archival and Historical Society, to discuss their needs before submitting a brief to the Province of Ontario.

The OHS also provided consultations and services to our member organizations and institutions by phone and online such as: 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 an incorporation fee.

From January 2022 to December 2022, the OHS processed incorporations for three new, not-for-profit historical organizations dedicated to the preservation or promotion of Ontario's history.

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

Incorporated May 5, 2022
- Lanark County Arts and Heritage

Incorporated June 14, 2022
- Elliot Lake Historical Society

Incorporated November 4, 2022
- Schumacher Historical Society



On May 10, 2022 the OHS held a successful community meeting at the Mt. Dufour Ski Chalet in Elliot Lake to discuss the establishment and incorporation of a new historical society. The participants voted unanimously to incorporate the Elliot Lake Historical Society (ELHS) through the *OHS Special Act, 1899*. Seen here after the meeting with then OHS ED Rob Leverty are Marie Murphy-Foran, Vice Chair, and Edo Ten Broek, Chair. On June 14 the OHS Board of Directors voted to incorporate ELHS as an independent not-for-profit corporation.

INSURANCE PROGRAM

Established in 2008, the OHS insurance program provides vital protection for the OHS'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. This program is just one of many ways that the OHS works with organizations across the province to ensure volunteers and community heritage organizations are protected from liability.

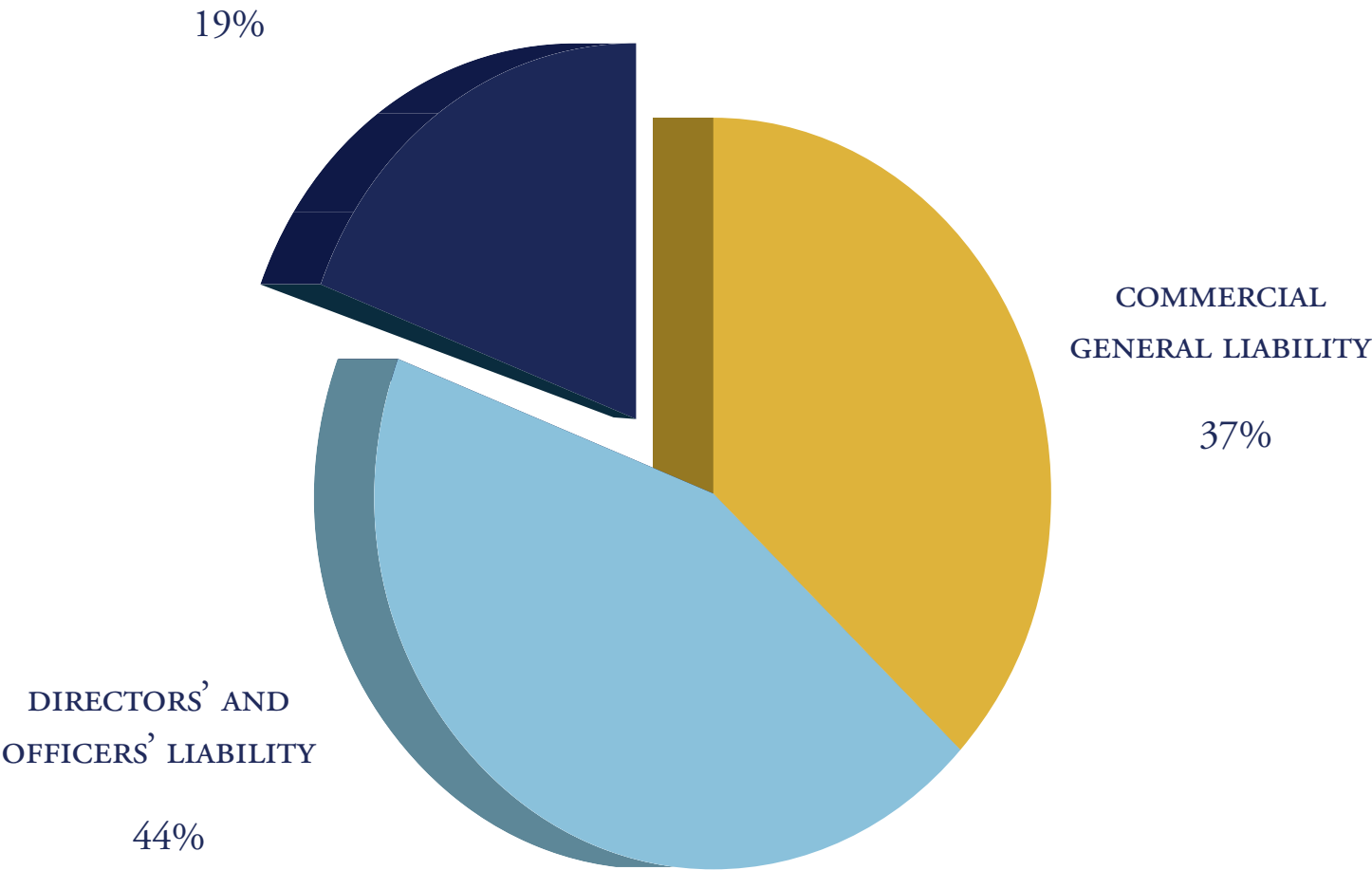
Once the OHS approves a new application, the Society's insurance broker, Jones DesLauriers Insurance Management Inc., holds a thorough consultation with

the applicant to ensure that each policy is tailored to the specific needs and local circumstances of the organization.

As of December 31, 2022, there were 179 historical organizations that held Directors and Officers Liability insurance policies, 174 organizations with Commercial General Liability insurance policies, and 66 organizations with coverage for Contents and Property.

Overall, twenty-seven new policies were negotiated and underwritten for OHS members organizations in 2022.

CONTENTS AND PROPERTY



2022 OHS INSURANCE PROGRAM POLICIES

PARKVIEW NEIGHBOURHOOD GARDEN

In 2022, the OHS enjoyed the fourteenth year of its partnership with the Parkview Neighbourhood Garden (PNG), a community-run, completely organic, market garden. 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 John McKenzie family'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 their tools and equipment.

In the 2022 season, with pandemic restrictions loosened, the garden was once again able to welcome new volunteers to participate in the garden work. About 65 volunteers (23 of whom were high school students earning their community service hours) worked in the garden in 2022. To accommodate restrictions on the

number of volunteers permitted in the garden at one time, volunteers signed up ahead of time for shifts.

As COVID-19 restrictions eased, members of the surrounding community could once again visit the garden to exchange donations for freshly harvested produce.

Since the direct donation system worked so well during the pandemic, garden leaders decided to change the garden model. Half of the produce is now donated to community organizations directly following each harvest, and half is offered to neighbours in exchange for donations. Over 379 pounds of food was donated. Recipient organizations and agencies included the Community Head Injury Resource Service (CHIRS) and Willowdale Neighbourlink. Monetary donations to the Parkview Neighbourhood Garden totaled \$1,494. The PNG leadership team would like to thank all the generous volunteers and community members who offered donations in exchange for organic produce.

The 2022 growing season was a good one. We did not have to contend with many weather challenges. Most of our plants did quite well. Squash, cabbage, and carrots were particularly successful. As usual, lots of watering was required during the hottest part of the summer, and a watering schedule with committed resources kept the garden irrigated.

The front garden on Parkview Avenue remained a priority. Thanks to the contributions of a few talented flower gardeners, it is a beautiful introduction to the garden.

The increase in revenue ensured a much better outlook for the 2023 growing season. To boost revenue, volunteers also stepped up fundraising efforts. Various kinds of fruit jam, pesto, salsa verde, and chutney were prepared and offered up for sale. It was wonderful to have volunteers and students back in the garden after the pandemic changed all of our operating methods. PNG's role as a teaching garden remains a primary objective, and the gardeners are thankful for the continued support of OHS.



Every year, PNG join OHS staff in welcoming visitors to the John McKenzie House property for Doors Open Toronto. The OHS and the Parkview Neighbourhood Garden team were very pleased to welcome community members back to the house in 2022. Volunteer gardeners are pictured above preparing for Doors Open Toronto.

CEMETERY DEFENCE

In 1995, the Society was forced to establish a trust fund to protect Ontario's cemeteries from inappropriate development. 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, and was more relevant than ever throughout 2022.

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 Public and Business Service Delivery. Meetings of the Advisory Committee were held online during 2022, with the aim to represent the consumer interests of Ontarians as regards to Cemeteries and Crematoriums. The OHS looks forward to continuing their working relationship with the BAO, preserving and protecting Ontario's historic cemeteries.

Since 2020, the Preservation and Cemeteries Committee of the OHS Board of Directors has had an ongoing consultation with the BAO to save a number of important Black history cemetery sites in Haldimand County, including the Barnes-Street Family Burials, Morris-Williams Cemetery, and the Duncan Family Burials site. Preservation and Cemeteries Committee Co-Chair, Janie Cooper-Wilson, and BAO Inspector, Andrew Reynolds, have put in countless hours of travel, research, and local outreach to preserve and tell the story of these sites of national historical significance.

On June 2, 2011, in a meeting with Hon. John Gerretsen, the then-Minister of Consumer Services, the OHS and OGS (now Ontario Ancestors) 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 that owners seek to relocate 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.

In 2022, the Unregistered Cemetery Committee completed their submission 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, Russell, Simcoe, Stormont, Sudbury, Temiskaming, Thunder Bay, Toronto, Victoria, Waterloo, Welland, Wellington, Wentworth, and York.

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 is pleased to have honoured its public commitments on this important principle, and will continue to work tirelessly to protect Ontario's historic cemeteries.



Preservation and Cemeteries Committee Co-Chair Janie Cooper-Wilson and BAO Inspector Andrew Reynolds are pictured above carrying out a site inspection at the Barnes-Street Family Cemetery in Haldimand. Haldimand County has recently invested in the restoration and cleanup of this historic cemetery, the final resting place of Harriet Tubman's niece, Lucy Street, who fled the United States in search of freedom, ultimately settling in Canfield.

HONOURS AND AWARDS 2021-22

Established in 1967, the OHS Honours and Awards program recognizes excellence in Ontario's heritage community. Congratulations to the 2021-22 recipients.



AWARDS FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT

PRESIDENT'S AWARD
Graeme Bachiu - *Canfield Roots*

INDIGENOUS HISTORY AWARD
Helen Olsen Agger
Dadibaajim: Returning Home Through Narrative

DOROTHY DUNCAN PUBLIC HISTORY AWARD
Mississippi Valley Textile Museum
Millworkers' Staircase and Riverwalk

CEMETERY PRESERVATION AWARD
Aly Boltman
Potter's Field Monument

HERITAGE CONSERVATION AWARD
Friends of Mindemoya Old School

CARNOCHAN LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD
John Sabean

DONALD GRANT CREIGHTON AWARD

Dr. Suzanne Evans
The Taste of Longing:
Ethel Mulvany and her Starving Prisoners of War Cookbook

ALISON PRENTICE AWARD

Dr. Ian Radforth
Jeannie's Demise: Abortion on Trial in Victorian Toronto

FRED LANDON AWARD

Dr. Jamie Benidickson
Levelling the Lake: Transboundary Resource Management
in the Lake of the Woods Watershed

J. J. TALMAN AWARD

Dr. Dale Barbour
Undressed Toronto: From the Swimming Hole to Sunnyside,
How a City Learned to Love the Beach, 1850-1935

JOSEPH BRANT AWARD

Dr. Jason Wilson
King Alpha's Song in a Strange Land:
The Roots and Routes of Canadian Reggae

AWARDS FOR AUTHORS

HUGUENOT SOCIETY OF CANADA AWARD
Dr. Julie Macfarlane
Going Public: A Survivor's Journey from Grief to Action

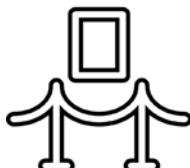
RIDDELL AWARD

Dr. Robert K. Barney and Riley Nowokowski
"A Canadian Distinction of Note: London, Ontario's Labatt
Memorial Park, Baseball History's Oldest, Continuously-
Operating Baseball Precinct"

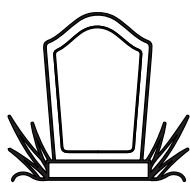
THE OHS HONOURS & AWARDS PROGRAM RECOGNIZES EXCELLENCE IN



HERITAGE



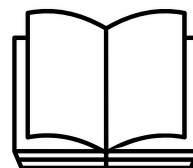
PUBLIC
HISTORY



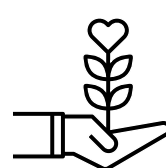
CEMETERY



PUBLIC



RESEARCH
& WRITING



PUBLIC
SERVICE

NEW MEMBERS & SUBSCRIBERS 2022

Alexander Adams	Debra Crawford	Eleanor Heard	Cheryl Morrissey
Krista Barclay	Patricia Crowe-Grande	Greg Johnsen	Sarah Pirani
Jean Rae Baxter	Alan Ducret	Scott Kennedy	Brian Price
Eugene Berezovsky	Frances Dupont	Johanna Keus	Callum Rempel
Joanne Bidini	Michelle Eber	Abril Liberatori	Julia Roberts
Lucy Black	Sherry Farrell Racette	David Maclean	Daniel Rollings
Nancy Black	Peter Fitzpatrick	Madalyn Mandziuk	Jennifer Schinkel
Stephen Boyle	Samantha Fritz	Christian Martel	Anne Shore
Ron Brown	Eric Galowitsch	Michael Martin	Josh Skelton
Laura Brown	Christopher Gismondi	Kyle Mastarciyan	Nathan Smith
Deirdre Bryden	Brenda Graham	Alexander McGurk	Stephen Smith
Beverly Campbell	Christine Green	Heather McTavish Taylor	Christopher Thorne
Janet Carlile	Matthew Griffis	Bruce Miller	Jo-Anne Trousdale
Charles Collins	Angela Gunn	Lyle Miller	Elka Weinstein
Jean-Philippe Côté-Angers	Michael A. G. Haykin	Tom Mohr	Chiara Williamson

ORGANIZATIONS & INSTITUTIONS

Brighton Digital Archives	Kent Historical Society	Schumacher Historical Society
Canadian Aviation Historical Society	Lady Hamilton Club	Ontario Association of Former Parliamentarians
Elliot Lake Historical Society	Lanark County Arts & Heritage	Paisley Artscape Society
Exlibris	Oakenwood Research Services	Port Burwell Historical Society
Friends of St. Alban's Adolphustown	Old Hay Bay Church	



On Sunday June, 26, OHS Executive Director Daniel Dishaw travelled to Owen Sound for the Grey County Black Heritage Society's event "Lest We Forget: A Tribute to the No. 2 Construction Battalion" held at the Grey Roots Museum & Archives.

These men served honourably, despite being treated so poorly by a government that they were volunteering to fight for. Their contributions were largely forgotten in the 100+ years that followed, something that many community leaders and public historians are now working to correct. The event held on June 26 served to honour and remember the sacrifices these men made for their country, and to recognize the appalling racism they faced.

The OHS incorporated the Grey County Black Heritage Society (GCBHS) on April 9, 2021. Pictured here (left to right) on June 26 at the Grey Roots Museum & Archives are OHS ED Daniel Dishaw, OHS Director Janie Cooper-Wilson, GCBHS President Dorothy Abbott, and OHS member/columnist Barry Penhale (centre).

DONORS IN 2022

INDIVIDUALS, ORGANIZATIONS, AND INSTITUTIONS

Anne Baillie
Michel Beaulieu
Robert Biggs
Ellen Blaubergs
Glenn Bonnetta
John Case
Rowena Cooper
Kari Dehli
Sidney Down

Audrey Fox
Edith & Geoff Geduld
Robert Halfyard
Kristin Ives
Dorothy Johnstone
Ronald Junkin
Linda Kelly
Patricia Kennedy
Paul R. King

Richard Lucas
Madeleine McDowell
Marjorie McLeod
Adrian and Suanne Miedema
Betsy Nelson
Naomi Norquay
Ian Radforth
F. Brent Scollie
Martha Smart

Donald Smith
James Stanley
Suzanne Stickley
Marjorie Stuart
Laura Suchan
Thorold Tronrud
Samuel Whyte
Community Heritage Ontario
Gananoque Historical Society



The Society enjoyed another successful Annual General Meeting in 2022. As the keynote presenter for the Society's 134th AGM, Steve Paikin emphasized the importance of studying Ontario's history and explored the contents of his book through an engaging and interactive discussion with the OHS membership. Always a passionate lover of history, Steve Paikin offered the following note of recognition to the Society and its members: "I'm really glad the Ontario Historical Society is there to do this important work and keep the public's love of history—and keep champions of history—going, because we need it. We have too much of living in the moment and living of today, and not enough appreciation for what's come before us, so thank you for doing this good work." Steve Paikin's talk is now available on the OHS YouTube channel: 2022 OHS Keynote: Steve Paikin – *John Turner: An Intimate Biography of Canada's 17th Prime Minister*.

Above: Steve Paikin visited the John McKenzie House in 2022 to sign copies of his new book for OHS members and donors.

DONORS IN 2022

OHS NORTHERN ONTARIO TRUST FUND

Estate of Ruth E. Day

OHS CEMETERY DEFENCE TRUST FUND

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Long-time OHS donor and supporter Jamie Laidlaw visited the John McKenzie House for Doors Open in 2023. Jamie has been an incredible advocate for the Society for many years. He has personally donated both time and financial support to help the OHS modernize and reach new audiences. Jamie has helped the Society fundraise for its digitization and digital infrastructure projects, including the OHS website, the *Ontario History Journal* Archive, and OHS Podcast production. Pictured here from left to right are OHS ED Daniel Dishaw, Jamie Laidlaw, and new OHS member and supporter, Philip Stern.



**In 2022,
volunteers once
again contributed
an estimated
7,000 hours of
service in support
of the OHS, worth
the equivalent of
\$189K in donated
labour.**