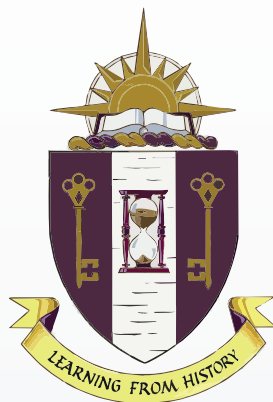


NOW & THEN

Recent and Upcoming Events at the Museum



TBHS Newsletter
SUMMER 2026



Executive Director:
Scott Bradley

Curator / Archivist:
Michael deJong

Chief Operating Officer:
Marcus Agombar

**Education & Outreach
Coordinator:**
Hannah Viau

Collections Curator:
Mary Jane MacDonald

Exhibits Curator:
Sydney Belluz

Receptionist:
Brenda Young

Bookkeeper:
Terri-Lynn Carter

Thunder Bay Historical Museum Society

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The Society recognizes the ongoing support of the City of Thunder Bay through its Cultural Funding Program

A Season of Momentum at the Thunder Bay Museum



As I return to the role of President of The Thunder Bay Historical Museum Society, I want to begin by expressing my sincere appreciation to Dr. Jenna Kirker for stepping forward to serve in that capacity over the past year. Her thoughtful leadership, sound judgement, and unwavering commitment to the Society helped ensure continuity, stability, and meaningful progress during an important period for the Museum. On behalf of the Board of Directors and our membership, I extend my thanks to Jenna for her generosity, professionalism, and

care in this role. I am honoured to resume the presidency and to continue working with our Board, staff, volunteers, members, donors, and community partners as we build on this strong foundation.

Looking ahead, the Society is preparing for an important operational change. Staff are working to replace the current membership platform with a new customer relationship management system (CRM) before July. Further details will be shared with members and supporters once the migration is ready to proceed. This work forms part of a broader effort to streamline our software systems, improve efficiency, and realize savings across communications, membership, and retail operations.

We are also proud to celebrate the release of *Beyond Superior: Railroad Station Architecture Near Lake Superior* by Randy Wilkie, a new Society publication that offers a richly illustrated portrait of railway station architecture across Northwestern Ontario and the Lake Superior region. The volume stands as both an artistic rendering and an important record of stations that remain, are deteriorating, or have been lost over time. It is a publication of which the Society can be justifiably proud, reflecting our ongoing commitment to preserving and sharing the built heritage of our region.

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Pagoda Building Set / Upcoming Exhibits / New Receptionist

Behind the scenes, the Board continues its work to guide the Society's long-term future with care, prudence, and a strong sense of stewardship. Our Annual General Meeting also highlighted continued progress on the Museum's broader facility enhancement work, including major infrastructure planning and fundraising efforts that will help protect the building, strengthen the visitor experience, and support the long-term stewardship of the collection.

This season is also about people. We are delighted to welcome Brenda Young as the Museum's new Receptionist. Her arrival helps ensure that everyone who comes through our doors continues to be greeted with warmth and professionalism. We are also pleased to recognize Dr. Michel Beaulieu, who recently stepped down from the Board, as an Honourary Life Member of the Society in recognition of his nearly 30 years of volunteerism and Board service. This distinction reflects the Society's deep gratitude for his longstanding dedication and meaningful contributions to our governance, publications, and broader mission.

We remain equally grateful to the volunteers, members, donors, and staff whose dedication sustains the Society's work. As reported at the AGM, both volunteer contributions and membership showed encouraging strength over the past year, reflecting the community's continued confidence in and commitment to the Museum.

There are numerous ways to engage with our ongoing efforts. Our monthly 50/50 raffles continue to fund the Museum's improvements and capital projects. We appreciate everyone who attended another successful "A Taste of History" dinner with Dr. Russell Field, discussing the significance of sporting facilities in communities. Visitors are also invited to visit the gift shop and check out the new Pagoda brick sets, a unique addition celebrating Thunder Bay's iconic landmark. Whether you participate in an exhibit, join a walking tour, attend summer camp, enter a raffle, or browse the gift shop, we look forward to welcoming you to the Museum this season.

Douglas Yahn
Chair and President of the Board of Directors
The Thunder Bay Historical Museum Society

CALL FOR DONATIONS

We are seeking donations for the Museum's Education Collection. Objects in the Education Collection are used in programming to provide visitors with a hand-on learning experience. If you have interesting items that would help us explore the history of the region please consider donating.

These items will not be part of the Permanent Collection and will be used exclusively for Education Programming.



Meet Our New Receptionist

Please welcome Brenda Young

Brenda Young is the newest member to join our Thunder Bay Museum team. A new resident to the city, Brenda moved to Thunder Bay to be closer to family. Her career path has been diverse including positions in government, education, small business and fashion retail. The foundation of Brenda's work experience has always been Customer Service. If there are people involved and an opportunity to learn something new every day, chances are it's a role Brenda would enjoy. She is enjoying meeting the many patrons of the Museum, and has already commented that this is the best job ever. Brenda looks forward to meeting you at the front desk, speaking with you over the phone, and generally offering you a pleasant experience whenever and however you connect with The Thunder Bay Museum.



Upcoming Exhibits for Summer 2026

En Plein Air: Thunder Bay Historic Buildings

Working with the Thunder Bay Art Society, we will host their first official exhibition showcasing 'en plein air' paintings of historical buildings in Thunder Bay opening this summer. The exhibit will showcase the talent of local artists alongside historical images of each building.

Anishnaabe Zhiimaagnishii Inaadiziwin / Life of Indigenous Soldiers / Vie des Soldats Autochtones

The long-anticipated Anishnaabe Zhiimaagnishii Inaadiziwin / Life of Indigenous Soldiers / Vie des Soldats Autochtones travelling exhibit will soon be opening. This exhibit honours the contributions and sacrifices of Indigenous soldiers and veterans. We are still collecting stories of veterans to include in the exhibit.

If you or anyone you know has information to add about an indigenous veteran, please share their name and reach out to IndigenousVeteransExhibit@thunderbaymuseum.com.

Keep an eye out for our social media pages and website to see when the exhibit is here!

Claude E. Garton Herbarium Exhibit

Also this summer we will be opening an exhibit in partnership with the Claude E. Garton Herbarium staff at Lakehead University to showcase some of the fascinating and beautiful specimens from their collection, highlighting the biodiversity of plants in Northwestern Ontario.

Stay tuned to our website and social media for updates on all of these great projects.

Hot Item: Pagoda Sets

Our new Thunder Bay Tourist Pagoda brick building sets sold out quickly! As we await the next shipment, backorders for the product are available so you can secure yours now. Order online at:

<https://www.thunderbaymuseum.com/shop>



Fascinating flowers such as the carnivorous purple pitcher plant will be on display courtesy of the Claude E.

A Taste of History Dinner 2026

Celebrating the sporting history of Thunder Bay

Thank you to everyone who joined us for this year's A Taste of History Dinner on 17 April 2026. Your presence, and support made the evening truly memorable and celebrated the 75th anniversary of the Fort William Gardens and the Port Arthur Stadium.



From the historic food (like the vegetable and ham Jell-O) to the presentation by Dr. Field, the night was a wonderful celebration of sporting history, and its community aspect that brings us together. We are grateful to our guests, staff, volunteers, venue host, and everyone who helped bring this commemorative event to life.

Thank you for being part of such an unforgettable evening. We look forward to seeing you again at future events and our dinner for 2027!

SUMMER CAMPS

Join the Museum this summer for 7 unique & incredible camps!

Camps run from:
9:00am - 4:00pm
Drop off starts at 8:45am
Pick up by 4:30pm

Cost Per Week
Members: \$190
Non-Members: \$220
Space is limited
Ages 8-13 years
Campers must be 8 years of age by the start of camp

www.thunderbaymuseum.com
education@thunderbaymuseum.com
807-623-0801 ext. 116
Located at 425 Donald St. E.

The Thunder Bay Museum reserves the right to cancel camps due to staff availability or low registration numbers.

Digging Up the Past

July 6-10

FROM TUNDRA TO TROPICS

July 13-17

Myth, Monsters, and Legends

July 20-24

Galactic Adventure

July 27-31

GADGET GURUS

Aug 4-7

FASHIONISTAS

Aug 10-14

MESSY MASTERMINDS

Aug 17-21



50/50 Draw Every Month

WIN BIG & SUPPORT LOCAL HISTORY!

The Thunder Bay Museum's monthly 50/50 jackpot is growing — and YOU could take home half!

Every ticket purchased helps support the Museum's exhibits, programs, and community events while giving you a chance to win cash.

Don't wait until the last minute — get your tickets today! The bigger the pot, the bigger the prize!

Buy Raffle Tickets

