

MUSEUM

STRATHROY-CARADOC

Discover Our Story!

2022

YEAR IN REVIEW



Preserve the Past

*Share the
Experience*

*Engage the
Community*

INTRODUCTION

The beginning of the year saw continued COVID-19 closures for most of January. Staff were still available during offices hours, however, the gallery remained closed. Once measures lifted, gallery hours remained limited until March.

Due to closures as well as the absence of a Curator, the “All Aboard!” exhibit remained on display until the end of March, when the museum hosted the Strathroy Art Group for a show in April. Following the art show, the museum’s own traveling exhibit “Sir Arthur Currie; Life and Legacy” was installed.

April saw the hiring of a new Museum Curator, Michelle Wright, who started early May.

The remaining of 2022 saw three new exhibits, including “Museum Strathroy-Caradoc; 50 Years and Counting” to celebrate the museum’s 50th anniversary of opening it’s doors, “Community Art Show,” to coincide with the opening of the new gift shop, and “Our Local Connection” to pair with the traveling exhibit “Space to Spoon” from Ingenium. Staff were also able to create new lobby displays, including “Artifacts Untold”, “Strathroy Pride”, “Back to School”, and “Longwoods Treaty No. 21”. The Longwoods Treaty exhibit was made possible through partnerships with Chippewas of the Thames First Nation, Library and Archives Canada and Canadian Heritage. The original treaty from 1822 was on display for about a month to honour its 200th anniversary.

Throughout the year, new and old programs returned to the Museum, including Heritage Walking Tours, artists workshops, school tours, camps, and more.

This year also saw the creation of the 2022-2026 Strategic Plan. The Plan outlines MSC’s goals over the next 5 years and the strategies and tactics that will be utilized to achieve these goals.

Finally, October saw the end of the Museum Advisory Committee’s four year term as it corresponds with the Municipal Election. A new committee was established in November and the first meeting is scheduled for January of 2023.





2022 MSC statistics at a glance

13,629

Total Visitors

1000+

Public Program Participants

5

School Groups

100+

Research Requests

52

Students

Partial opening February 2022 after COVID-19 shutdowns,
return to normal operating hours March 2022.

Administration/Staff Development/Governance

April saw the hiring of a new Museum Curator, Michelle Wright, who started early May.

The Museum Advisory Committee (MAC) met 4 times throughout the year, receiving reports and information from Museum staff during this time. MAC was disbanded with municipal change over in October of 2022, and a new committee was appointed. Two committee members returned to serve another term, and were joined by three new members and a new Council Representative.

Throughout 2022 Museum staff applied for a number of different grants

- Canadian Heritage MAP Grant
- Canadian Heritage Indigenous Heritage Grant
- Wright Family Foundation Grant
- Tourism Adaption Grant
- CMOG 2022

These grants allowed the museum to bring in traveling exhibits and displays, host new programs, and continue other museum operations.

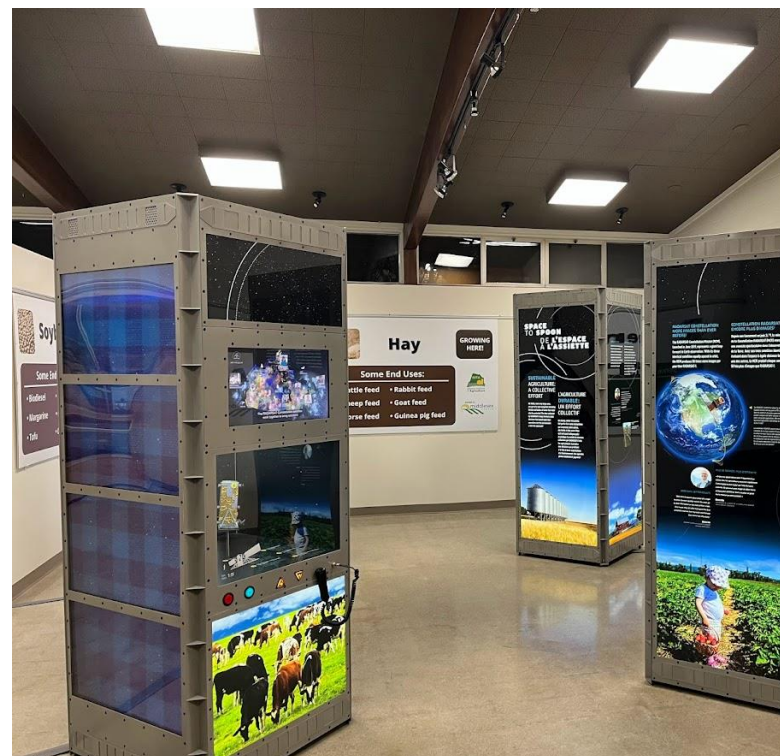
Museum staff were able to complete a number of professional development activities including;

- Ontario Museums Association Conference
- De-escalation training
- Virtual Grant Writing Workshop
- FromthePAGE for Metadata
- C2C Care: Management of Digital Collections
- Create a Local Digital History Experience with On This Spot
- Preserving History Through Podcasting
- Beyond the Blackboard
- Huron Perth Middlesex Museum Network



Main Gallery Exhibitions in 2022:

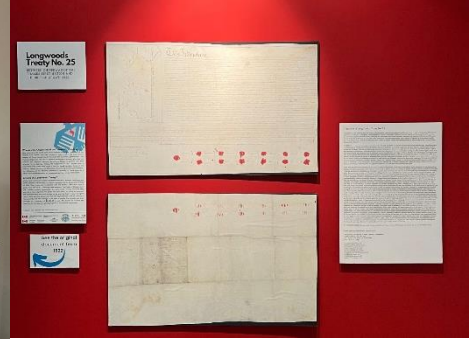
- *All Aboard!*
- *Strathroy Art Group*
- *Sir Arthur Currie: Life & Legacy*
- *Museum Strathroy-Caradoc 50 years and Counting*
- *Community Art Show*
- *Space to Spoon, and Our Local Connection*



Lobby Displays



- *Artifacts Untold*
- *Strathroy Pride*
- *Back to School*
- *Longwoods Treaty 21*



Gift Shop



November 2022 saw the opening of the museum's new gift shop filled with items from over 20 different local artist.



Education / Programming

With the lifting of many COVID-19 restrictions, staff were able to run a number of programs on and offsite. Museum staff were also able to use the newly completed programming space, which is shared with the Strathroy Library.

Throughout 2022, Museum staff developed and executed a number of successful programs for both children and adults. These ranged from Creative Writing Workshop, artist events, walking tours, market appearances, summer camps, and many more.

We also hosted a number of Indigenous theme programs:

- Ska-Nah-Doht Day drop-in, in partnership with Ska-Nah-Doht Village and Museum
- Treaty Talks about Longwoods Treaty No. 21, in partnership with Chippewa of the Thames First Nations (COTTFN), two public talks and one school workshop with 5 classes from Antler River Elementary School
- Moccasin Making Workshops with an artist from COTTFN

Museum staff continued relationships with the Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School and Strathroy-Caradoc Christian School. During the winter and fall semester, we hosted two Co-op students From Holy Cross, who worked on various projects including collections, exhibit, marketing, programming and more. It was also exciting to host Grade 3 students of S.C.C.S. Wax Museum, where the students came in character of Famous Canadians for the public to interact with them.

Over the summer of 2022, Museum staff developed a new program for secondary schools called “Locker Project: A Hallway of History” where students would become curators through workshops, assignments, and collaboration between students, teachers, and museum staff.



Museum At Home Kits

Each kit comes jam packed with supplies for fun, hands-on activities to help you learn and explore, and a booklet filled with games, experiments, and themed recipes for you to try at home! Designed for Ages 5 – 10. Only \$20 per kit (tax included) while supplies last.

Dinosaurs & Archaeology Block Printing



S.T.E.A.M.



Art Attack



Tours & Events

During 2022 staff continued to run three walking tours: Strathroy Downtown, Mount Brydges Downtown and Monuments and Memories – Strathroy Cemetery. 11 public tours were completed and over 34 people participated, and two private tours with 15 participating.

Staff also developed a new “Spooky Cemetery Tour” for the fall. Three tours were completed, with 54 participants.



Media



Photo provided by Museum Strathroy-Caradoc

50 Years and Counting

Museum Strathroy-Caradoc Celebrates Milestone with new Exhibits and Programs

written by | Amy Vieira

Museum Strathroy-Caradoc is up and running just in time for its 50th anniversary. The museum has many upcoming exhibits and programs that are sure to show what five decades of community collaboration can achieve. Visitors can expect all-new exhibits, a gift shop and additional programs for the whole family to enjoy. What a perfect time to get back involved in the museum's activities or try something new and join the museum in celebrating this milestone.

The museum has a 50th anniversary

exhibit called "Museum Strathroy-Caradoc: 50 Years and Counting" running until the

Visitors can expect all-new exhibits, a gift shop and additional programs for the whole family to enjoy.

middle of October. The exhibit features local artifacts from the museum's past showcasing their journey over these 50 years. One example is a look back at the Murray House, a heritage house at 84

Oxford Street in Strathroy, where the museum originally operated. The exhibit will dissect the history that took place there and why the museum moved from that location. Other partners return from the past in this exhibit, like the local Scouts group and a marbles exhibit curated by a 12-year-old boy in 1990. All of these stories and displays celebrate the museum's history while looking forward to the future.

Another new venture for the museum is the launch of their gift shop this

The Museum published two articles in the magazine "Keepin' It Local" to celebrate our 50th anniversary and highlight new programs.

The local radio station "myFM Strathroy 105.7" also produced on air interviews and the local Rogers TV conducted an interview with the Curator, Michelle Wright.

Digital Visitors

**Facebook
followers
1565**

**YouTube
1158 views**

**Collections
Blog 1396**

**Twitter
followers
1124**

3466

**Museum
Website
3452**

**Instagram
followers 777**

Total followers

2022 Collections Highlights

In 2022 the Collections Committee met 2 times to discuss potential donations. There were 20 donations, with 43 new items accepted into the collection. The below images highlight a few of the items that were accepted, including a Strathroy District Collegiate Institute Football jacket, a Glendette trailer floor mat, a local grocery store paper bag and an image of Kirk House (the original hospital).

