



HERITAGE CORNER



Moore Museum to hold *Canada 150* photo contest: *Seasons In St. Clair*

As part of St. Clair Township's celebration of Canada's 150th anniversary, Moore Museum is holding a photography contest that will capture the beauty of the four seasons as township residents experience them. All township residents are invited to submit photographs showing their community throughout 2017.

Rules

- ◆ Contest is open to St. Clair Township residents only.
- ◆ Photos must be taken in St. Clair Township.
- ◆ All photo entries must be accompanied by the photographer's name, address and phone number, as well as the date the photo was taken.
- ◆ All photos must include the location in St. Clair Township where the photo was taken.
- ◆ All photos must be of a subject matter suited to the family-friendly nature of Moore Museum.
- ◆ No recognizable faces shall be included in the photos.
- ◆ Entries are limited to a maximum of 3 photos per person.
- ◆ Cropping of photos and tonal or colour corrections are permitted but neither content alteration of digital files nor addition of graphic elements are allowed.
- ◆ Digital photographs should be at a minimum resolution of 300 dpi at 8 x 12 inches.

By entering a photo or photos, the photographer grants to Moore Museum and the Township of St. Clair a royalty-free, world-wide, perpetual, non-exclusive license to display, distribute, reproduce and create derivative works of the entries, in whole or in part, in any media now existing or subsequently developed, for any Moore Museum purpose, including, but not limited to, advertising and promotional materials, its website, exhibition and commercial products. Moore Museum will not be required to pay any additional consideration or seek any additional approval in connection with such uses.

At the end of the contest period, the photographs will be judged by a panel of judges chosen by Moore Museum. Prizes for winning entries will be: 1st prize - \$100 cash + a one-year Moore Museum membership; 2nd prize - \$50 cash + a one-year Moore Museum membership; 3rd prize - \$25 cash + a one-year Moore Museum membership.

The top 12 photographs will be used to produce a 2019 calendar which will be made available for sale in mid-2018.

The contest will run from January 1, 2017 to December 15, 2017

Submissions may be made by email to photocontest@twp.stclair.on.ca or in print format delivered or sent to Moore Museum, 94 Moore Line, Mooretown, ON N0N 1M0. Please note that photos will not be returned. For more information, please call Moore Museum at 519-867-2020 or visit www.mooremuseum.ca



Vintage Pesha post cards document a local industry that thrived in early 1900s

From the files of Heritage St. Clair

The early history of St. Clair Township is unknown to many residents, but thanks to the work of pioneer photographer Louis Pesha, originally from Florence, Ontario, some of that history has been preserved in the form of photographic post cards.

Two examples shown here reveal a thriving salt industry that was active in Courtright at the turn of the 20th century. According to author Jean Turnbull in her book, *Canada West's Last Frontier*, salt was a naturally occurring resource in the area, first exploited by J.J. Carter in the 1880s. The Western Salt Company moved the industry from Mooretown to Courtright around 1912 and, in 1928, the company's owners bought out the Dominion Salt Company in Sarnia. The Courtright plant was eventually closed because the Sarnia

plant was cheaper to run; the Sarnia mine's salt was lower in calcium and was less costly to dry. Today, remnants of the stack, **right**, can still be seen in a in an empty field south of Courtright. And right across the river in St. Clair, Michigan, the Cargill Salt factory is still in operation.

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Louis James Pesha took images of all of the communities on both sides of the St. Clair River, and he was a noted photographer of the ships of the Great Lakes. His office, which housed the Pesha Postcard Company, was located along Main Street in Marine City, Michigan, affording him a perfect view of the river.

Pesha died in a

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Pesha Postcard images donated to Sombra Museum

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car accident on Oct. 1, 1912 while driving his steam-powered automobile and his wife carried on the business for about eight years.

His post cards are highly collectible today, some worth up to \$100 U.S. each.

Collector Dave Burwell of Sarnia recently allowed over 400 images specific to the former Sombra and Moore Townships to be scanned and donated to Heritage St. Clair. They will be divided between the Moore and Sombra Museums.

~ *Heritage St. Clair extends thanks to Dave Burwell for sharing these important images with the people of St. Clair Township.*

Working snow blower needed

The Moore Museum is in dire need of the donation of a working snow blower. Through the winter, it is necessary to keep paths on the museum site clear of snow to improve access for checking buildings and artifacts, and to enable security checks, programming, and chapel rentals.

If you received a new snow blower for Christmas or if you're downsizing and are looking for a good home for the old one, please call the Moore Museum at 519-867-2020.

