

HERITAGE CORNER

Arbour Day marked first conservation effort

When the pioneers arrived in the early 19th century in what was then Upper Canada, the forests were so abundant that trees, while useful for buildings, firewood, potash, etc., could also have been considered a nuisance to a settler who wanted to farm. Trees had to be felled, stumps pulled, and underbrush burned off in order to create fields for crops. By later in the 19th century, however, enough clearing and logging had occurred that people began to acknowledge the importance of trees and the need for replanting them.

In North America, the state of Nebraska was the first to declare Arbor Day in 1872. This American origin may explain why Arbor Day in Canada appears to mainly be spelled as Arbor, rather than the more Canadian spelling of Arbour. Interestingly, though, while it is spelled Arbor in printed sources, the handwritten notes on the photos in the Moore Museum collection all indicate it as Arbour Day.

Arbour Day became a school holiday in Ontario in 1885, by declaration of the Education Minister. This day was to be used for planting of flowers, trees or shrubs to enhance the schoolyard. Observed on the first Friday in May, Arbour Day for many schools included a clean-up of the yard and schoolhouse, as well as tree planting. Reminiscences found in the book *I Remember the One-Room School* indicate that it was a day enjoyed by students as something outside their ordinary classes. A good scrubbing of the desks and floors, raking the yard (followed by a bonfire to burn leaves and dead grass), and a walk to study nature seem to have been popular activities for Arbour Day. Tree planting to create shade for the schoolhouse, or as a wind break, would also take place on that day.

Right: Vintage photos show local students exploring the woodland on a warm Arbour Day in May. Thank you to the Moore Museum for this story and these photos.



Arbor Day at S. S. 18 Moore (Courtright School), 1922
 Foreground - Mrs. Radford and Robert Morrison
 Background - Mildred Armstrong

Vendor registration forms available

The Moore Museum is now accepting vendor registrations for the annual Downriver Craft and Gift Sale on Sept. 20. Registration forms have gone out by email or by mail to the craftspersons on the mailing list. Potential vendors who have not received their form should contact the Moore Museum at 519-867-2020. Registration forms are also available on the museum's website at: www.mooremuseum.ca



Arbor Day at S. S. 15 Moore (Kimball School), approx. 1930
 Aleta Courtney, Lila Blackman, Mabel Courtney, Clarence Arnold

Notice Bear Creek Cemetery Company

Bear Creek Cemetery has submitted by-laws to the Registrar of the Funeral, Burial, and Cremation Services Act, 2002. Any interested parties may contact Russell Marsh at 519-331-1798 for information or to make copies. By-laws or amendments may be reviewed or copied at 3393 Telfer Road, Mooretown, Ontario.

These by-laws are subject to the approval of the Registrar, Funeral, Burial, and Cremation Services Act, 2002. Contact can be made by telephone to: Bereavement Authority of Ontario, 647-483-2645 or 1-844-493-6356.

MORE HERITAGE CORNER

WANTED

PORT LAMBTON

FAMILY

VISITORS

CHURCHES

SCHOOLS

MILITARY

SPORTS

BUILDINGS

NATURE

- **PHOTOS**
- **DOCUMENTS**
- **STORIES**
- **MEMORIES**
- **HISTORICAL INFORMATION**
- **HISTORICAL ITEMS**

ORGANIZATIONS

TRANSPORTATION

AGRICULTURE

BUSINESSES

NATURE

SCOUTING GUIDING

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Photos wanted

The Port Lambton 200th Committee is seeking photographs and information that will help illuminate the area's heritage. To donate, please email the Port Lambton 200th Anniversary Historical Committee at portlambtonhistory@gmail.com or contact Kailyn at the Sombra Museum, sombramuseum@hotmail.com



Summer Student Employment Opportunities Available Department of Community Services - Moore Museum

PROGRAMS AND PROMOTIONS ASSISTANT at a rate of \$14.50 per hour

The position will involve:

- assisting in the development of pre- and post-visit school program information
- scanning negatives in the Museum's collection for research and exhibition
- enhancing the Museum's social media presence through regular posts

This position is anticipated through funding from the Canada Summer Jobs program therefore all candidates must youth between the ages of 15 and 30 years.

Ideal candidates will be post-secondary students in museum studies, history, art, education or a related field. Required skills include demonstrated research skills, creativity, organizational skills and excellent written English. Experience in a museum setting would be a valuable asset.

Start dates vary so applications should be directed as soon as possible to:
Laurie Mason - Moore Museum 519-867-2020 lmason@stclairtownship.ca

Personal information submitted will be used for the sole purpose of this competition. It is collected under the authority of the Municipal Act and will be used in accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act for employment purposes.

Please note this document is available in alternative formats upon request, to accommodate individuals with a disability beginning with the recruitment process. The Township of St. Clair is committed to providing accommodations for people with disabilities. If you require an accommodation, please contact the Museum and we will make all necessary arrangements to meet your needs.

Only those candidates selected for an interview will be acknowledged. We thank all candidates for their interest.

INTERPRETIVE PROGRAMS ASSISTANT at a rate of \$14.50 per hour

The position will involve:

- exhibit design and installation
- assisting with school programs and events
- creating interpretive materials

This position is anticipated through funding from the Department of Canadian Heritage in support of the Government of Canada's Youth Employment and Skills Strategy, through the Young Canada Works in Heritage Organizations Program, therefore, all applicants must be full-time students who are 16 to 30 years of age.

St. Clair River TRAIL

actively connecting communities

The St. Clair River Trail Facebook page and website has added a new promotional video to its photo archive. The natural beauty of the trail comes alive on the screen.

And while you're looking at the video and submitted photographs, why not send us some of the shots you've taken while enjoying the trail?

Like the St. Clair River Trail on Facebook and message us your pictures.

**Check out Trail
Facebook page, video,
&
website**