

HURON COUNTY MUSEUM AND HISTORIC GAOL

Volunteer
Information



FRIENDS OF THE
HURON
COUNTY
MUSEUM





VOLUNTEERING

at the Huron County Museum & Historic Gaol

Volunteering is a great way to get involved! Huron County Museum & Historic Gaol volunteers work hard, have fun, and enjoy many social engagements and events. Museum volunteers are all ages and from many backgrounds offering a broad range of skills.

In 2017, more than 60 volunteers gave more than 2600 hours of their time to support the Museum and Gaol! Volunteers participated in research, cataloging artifacts, collections management, transcribing documents, gardening, customer service, as well as the organization and execution of many successful events!

We would love for you to join us in our effort to preserve, share and celebrate Huron County culture! The information in this guide will outline some of the many ways you can get involved!

ON THE COVER

Rachel Garland
Actor for *Behind the Bars*

LEFT

John Meyers
Actor for *Behind the Bars*

CENTRE

Elise Puska
Actor for *Behind the Bars*

RIGHT

Betty Hendriks
Working in the Community Garden

Always Changing. Always Inspiring.

www.HuronCountyMuseum.ca

110 North Street, Goderich ON N7A 2T8
519-524-2686



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

ARTIFACT CATALOGING & ASSISTANCE

Volunteers assist the Museum Registrar with artifact documentation, cataloging and labeling through the catalogue process as items are donated to the collection. Catalogue training is provided in the spring and fall, as needed. Time commitment is coordinated in consultation with Registrar.

Volunteer assistance is appreciated with artifact and exhibit cleaning, inventory, and seasonal opening/closing activities. Adopt-A-Gallery options are available! Artifact care and handling instruction provided by the Museum Technician.

BEHIND THE BARS EVENING TOURS (JULY, AUGUST AND OCTOBER)

This is a "Living History" event at the Huron Historic Gaol in which volunteers take on the roles of inmates or Gaol staff of the past. A very popular event with visitors to Huron County.

EDUCATION AND CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

Many school groups visit the Huron County Museum & Historic Gaol and there is often a need for volunteers to help with programs. Volunteers may assist with tours, activities or crafts for various ages. Staff will provide more information and interpreters notes for programs. Outreach programs are also in development.

EXHIBIT ASSISTANCE

Temporary Exhibits at the Huron County Museum change at various times of the year under the direction of the Senior Curator. Volunteer tasks may include research, cleaning artifacts, helping to install or assemble exhibits, and dismantle exhibits.

MUSEUM AMBASSADOR/HOSPITALITY

For larger group or bus tours, volunteers are invited to assist by becoming the friendly face of either the Huron County Museum or Historic Gaol, answering questions, providing directions and assisting with refreshments. Group tours are coordinated by the Curator of Engagement & Dialogue.

PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES AND OUTREACH

The Huron County Museum and Gaol provides outreach exhibits, displays and presentations to various community groups and events (i.e. Fairs/Seniors Groups). Volunteers are invited to staff (and perhaps assemble) these exhibits for shifts throughout the event, and facilitate the presentations.

RESEARCH PROJECTS

Exhibits, artifact and local history research is an ongoing process for the Huron County Museum. If you like to do research, this option is for you. Requests for research are developed by the Senior Curator & Archivist.

VISITOR SERVICES

Museum visitor services take place at the front desk at the Huron County Museum and are the first point of contact for most of our visitors. Tasks include visitor orientation, ticket handling, answering calls, and generally answering visitor questions. Available September through May/June.

Or chat with visitors to the Huron Historic Gaol in the Governor's House to answer questions and provide further information about the Gaol and its long history in Huron County. Available May through October.

THREASHERS REUNION IN BLYTH (WEEKEND AFTER LABOUR DAY)



Shifts are available throughout this weekend long event. It's an easy, fun experience. Training on the popcorn machine will be provided. A yearly donation from The Threshers Reunion helps the *Museum Friends* provide other programming and special events throughout the year.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Volunteers are invited to assist with the planning, coordination and execution of special events throughout the year. Two main events are coordinated by the Museum Friends.



FAMILY DAY

Each year the theme changes, and appropriate crafts, games and other activities are planned. Committee work is paramount to the success of this event (and all events), and we always need help/new ideas on this committee. Event day assistance also required. Attendance is 500+.



HALLOWEEN

This event is held in the Museum's History Hall, on Halloween afternoon and evening. Needed are planners, decorators and helpers at the event itself. Attendance is 300+.



BRIAN WOLFE
MUSEUM FRIEND



THE FRIENDS OF THE HURON COUNTY MUSEUM

Some of the Museum's volunteer opportunities are through *The Friends of the Huron County Museum*. This is a non-profit organization of volunteers who aim to assist & support the goals of the Huron County Museum & Historic Gaol. In addition to the volunteer opportunities previously outlined the *Museum Friends* participate in regular meetings and enjoy additional social engagements and events.

VOLUNTEER BENEFITS

Museum volunteers enjoy many perks including:

- Volunteer appreciation events
- Invitations to exhibit openings
- Community hours credits for students
- Volunteers who provide more than 20 hours of service per year will receive a Museum Membership

We welcome all who have an interest in preserving, sharing and celebrating Huron County culture. If you have a new idea for an event or a new method of contributing, let us know, we'd love to hear from you!



JOIN US!

BECOME A HURON COUNTY MUSEUM & HISTORIC GAOL VOLUNTEER!

For more information on volunteer
opportunities please contact the Museum at:
museum@huroncounty.ca
519.524.2686



Volunteer applications are available on the Museum website:
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