

**Date of Meeting:** October 24, 2024

**Report Number:** A48-24

**Report Subject:** October 2024 Curator & Heritage Services Manager Report

---

### **Recommendation:**

1. THAT the Clarington Public Library Board receive Administrative Report No. A48-24: October 2024 Curator & Heritage Services Manager Report; and
2. THAT the Clarington Public Library Board approve the items listed in the Deaccession List 2024-06 (Appendix A) be approved for removal from the Museums & Archives collections.

### **Report Overview:**

To provide the Board with information about operational highlights from the museums and archives and key activities in September and October 2024.

### **Highlights**

#### *Celebrating Courtice History*

On Thursday October 3, the CLMA partnered with the Rotary Club of Courtice, Courtice Vintage History group, and the Municipality's 55+ program to bring together the community's first collaborative community-led event to celebrate the history of Courtice.

This event was intended to serve two strategic priorities: to work with partners in the community on an event to share stories of Courtice, and to seek donations of Courtice-related materials for the museum and archives permanent collections.



The Celebrate Courtice History event drew a crowd of over 70 people who came out to view historic displays and listen to local residents who spoke to the crowd about their experiences living in Courtice. There were artifacts on display on loan from Ebenezer church, Roy Nicols, Gay construction, Courtice Flea market, and a private collection of items found by a local metal detector.

Evening portion of the event with guest panelists sharing their memories.



Displays of artifacts relating to the history of the community were available for viewing

### *Waverley Place Renovations and Restoration*

Beginning in late August, construction work began around Waverley Place with hoarding fencing installed around the north, east and south sides. The old brick pathway was dug out and removed from around the fountain and around the north side of the house. In September, a new concrete pathway was poured including the new ramp leading to the side entrance of the front porch. The brick pathways were also removed from around the east side of the house and the potting shed, and replaced with concrete walkways.



The chimney on the south side of the house was also dismantled and re-built.

### **ClaringTown Highlights**

ClaringTown had 105 visitors during the month of September. Attendees include repeat visitors and children who love the interactive exhibit. With the Fall season starting, the Summer garden boxes have been replaced with the popular pumpkins and gourds for sorting in the Fall market.



## Exhibits

### *Posts to Home, now open!*

Posts to Home is officially open! In this exhibition we explore the function, form, and of course the fun of postcards! As you step into the gallery, you will discover postal history, a look at postal etiquette and various postcards that feature the sites, spaces and voices of Clarington.

This exhibition offers many ways for viewers to interact with the material, including a community postcard wall. We have seen some engagement, and we hope this will continue over the span of the exhibit as the comments make for a

great development of social media posts to encourage others to participate and visit. Come and explore this fascinating piece of history at the Sarah Jane Williams Heritage Centre during regular operating hours.



## Deaccessioning

Deaccessioning refers to the removal of an artifact or artifacts from the permanent collection. To maintain a growing and relevant collection that is aligned with community needs and current professional standards, it is necessary to deaccession artifacts. Deaccessioning must be undertaken in accordance with the Collections Management Policy. Appendix A outlines the items that are recommended for deaccessioning. Staff have conducted an evaluation and based on these factors; the artifacts are considered to no longer be relevant to the Museum's collection.

Approval to deaccession is required by the governing body of the museum, the Clarington Public Library Board. With this approval, the items will be formally deaccessioned from the collection and disposed following The Methods of Disposition, outlined in sections 19, 20 and 20 of the Collections Management Policy.

Staff have submitted the Deaccession List 2024-06 (Appendix A) to the Board seeking approval for the artifacts listed to be removed from the Museums & Archives collections.

## Research

Requests for family history information, property research and special research topics continue to be received on a regular basis. There were 7 research requests in September. The physical archival collections are currently unavailable to researchers;

however, research requests are being answered by Museum staff with information and resources that are available in a digital format.

*Comments from Visitors:*

“Love the new post to home exhibit! I love postcards and I looked forward to receiving them as a little girl, and now I send them to my grandkids when I am away.”- a visitor to the SJWHC, viewing the Posts to Home exhibition

Report Submitted by:  
Heather Ridge, Curator and Manager of Heritage Services  
Monika Machacek, Chief Executive Officer  
October 15, 2024