



Frequently Asked Questions

General Information

About The Canadian Canoe Museum (CCM)

The Canadian Canoe Museum stewards the world's largest and most significant collection of canoes, kayaks and paddled watercraft. The more than 600 watercraft and their stories of national and international significance play a pivotal role in our understanding of our past and our collective future. In partnership with individuals, groups and communities, locally and from coast to coast to coast, we work to experience and explore all that our collection can inspire.

What will happen to the services and programs that the CCM currently offers, particularly during the new building's planning and construction?

The CCM will continue its operations from its current location at 910 Monaghan Road while also observing the public health guidelines during the pandemic. It will remain operational during the planning and construction of the new museum but will close to the public to allow for the collection move and transfer.

About the New Museum

Where will the new museum be located, and what is the significance of this location?

The Canadian Canoe Museum will be located on the Traditional Territory of the Williams Treaties First Nations, in Peterborough, Ontario. Visitors will be able to explore the canoe's leading role in Canada's past, present, and future on Little Lake's waterfront at 2077 Ashburnham Drive (Johnson Property). The new museum will become a part of the vibrant waterfront community, surrounded by parks, the Great Trail of Canada (formerly known as the Trans Canada Trail), soccer fields, GreenUp Ecology Park, Beavermead Park and Campground, Rogers Cove and Trent-Severn Waterway. The site is easily accessible from Highway 115 and the Trans-Canada Highway, with ample parking available on site and nearby.

Do you need a new museum?

As part of its responsibility for this cultural asset of national significance, CCM is building a new museum. The new museum will allow CCM to care for and display 100 per cent of the collection in a Class A museum control standard that will ensure its long-term preservation and protection for generations to

come, the way it deserves to be cared for. Currently, over 80% of the collection resides in an 1960's era industrial warehouse without climate control, basic services and access to the public, leaving just 20 per cent of the museum's collection on display for public viewing.

Additional indoor and outdoor space will allow CCM to host multiple school groups and larger groups. With access to greenspace and on-water programming, CCM will expand its range of outdoor programming.

Why did you abandon the Lift Lock site?

In October 2020, The Canadian Canoe Museum announced the termination of the lease agreement with Parks Canada for the land located alongside the [Peterborough Lift Lock on the Trent-Severn Waterway](#) at 353 Hunter Street East. [As announced in May 2020](#), this location, owned by Parks Canada, was found to contain an industrial solvent, the chemical compound trichloroethylene (TCE), in addition to a variety of other chemicals. The costs associated with clearing the contamination, the resulting unavoidable project delays and the inevitable rising costs rendered the site no longer viable for the new museum build.

Encouraged by strong support and the commitment of donors and funding partners, at the end of 2020, CCM pivoted the project to the new waterfront site at 2077 Ashburnham Drive. The new site meets all of the project goals and is expected to be shovel-ready by the end of 2021.

Do you have enough capital to pay for the new building, or are you still fundraising?

The anticipated costs for the new building on the Johnson site are between \$35M - \$40M. The Canadian Canoe Museum has been encouraged by the continued support of the donors and funders who have been with the CCM along the journey and are inspired by those joining along the way. To fund the full scope of the project, the new museum will be supported by a fundraising campaign of up to \$10M.

If you are interested in supporting the Inspiring Canada by Canoe Campaign, please visit www.canoemuseum.ca or contact Cindy Mytruk, Philanthropy Associate at cindy.mytruk@canoemuseum.ca

How can I support the ongoing work of The Canadian Canoe Museum?

There are many ways to support The Canadian Canoe Museum and enjoy a deeper engagement with Canadian heritage and culture.

- Become a member of the museum
- Become a monthly donor or make a one-time gift
Donations of \$20 or more are eligible for a tax receipt and can be made [online](#) or by calling 705.748.9153 (toll-free 866.342.2663)
- Participate in sponsorship opportunities
- Make a planned gift
- Celebrate a special occasion or remember a loved one with a donation in their name
- Join the team as a volunteer

For more information, please contact Cindy Mytruk, Philanthropy Associate cindy.mytruk@canoemuseum.ca or Kate Kennington, Development Officer kate.kennington@canoemuseum.ca

Will the Canadian Canoe Museum be selling its current property?

Yes, the CCM will be selling its current property on Monaghan Road.

What will happen to the Peterborough Canoe and Kayak Club?

The Peterborough Canoe and Kayak Club have a lease with the City of Peterborough, the current owner of the Johnson Property. We understand that the two organizations are working to find an appropriate solution.

When will the project be shovel-ready?

Construction on the new museum is projected to begin in the fall of 2021.

Is The Canadian Canoe Museum purchasing the land on which the new building will be constructed?

Yes, The Canadian Canoe Museum announced the purchase of the Johnson Property at 2077 Ashburnham Drive from the City of Peterborough in January 2021.

When will the new museum open?

Our goal is to be open for the summer of 2023! For regular updates, please subscribe to our newsletter at www.canoemuseum.ca

Collaborative Relations

How is The Canadian Canoe Museum building collaborative relations with Indigenous Peoples?

Building Collaborative Relations is at the core of the work of The Canadian Canoe Museum. At its essence, it is a strategic commitment to a values-based form of engagement with our various communities. It encompasses re-thinking, reinvention, and re-imagining concepts of equality and fairness, particularly with Indigenous Peoples. Over time, Collaborative Relations will permeate all our decisions in exhibit design, programming, community relations, governance and organizational practices.

As sites of cultural and historical preservation, museums play an essential role in shaping our collective understanding of our past. CCM has a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to dramatically expand its ability to share and present Indigenous voices, perspectives and languages. As we build a new home for our

world-class collection, we have committed to learning from and with Indigenous communities and responding to the relevant calls to action outlined by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

CCM's curatorial staff team is working with knowledge holders, thought leaders and community members from coast to coast to coast to ensure that visitors experience the collection to its fullest in the new exhibit spaces.

Indigenous Peoples, Métis and Inuit designed, built and used the first canoes and kayaks. Canoes and kayaks retain their enduring connection to Indigenous cultures from north to west to east. We have begun reconnecting the Indigenous canoes and kayaks in our collection with their original communities, sharing knowledge about the collection and seeking ways to support the strengthening of culture and language use in those communities. As we develop and deepen respectful and meaningful relations with these community members, we hope to learn from one another and to invite multiple voices into the museum to tell our shared history.

National Council

What is the National Council?

CCM's National Council is a group of distinguished individuals who are champions of the organization's work – past, present and future. These individuals lend their names to support the museum's ambitious plan of reinvention and relocation and serve as special advisors. It is expected that this illustrious group will grow to include approximately 100 individuals.

The Collection

You have a large number of fragile canoes in your collection. How will you move them to the new museum, then store them when they get there?

CCM will be using a system of pallets that can be adjusted to support the watercraft as if they were sitting upright and supported by water. Each canoe will be carefully loaded into the supporting pallet system, and the cradling straps will be adjusted to fully support the canoe. This is the last time that they will have to be touched until they are safely in storage. The pallets will be picked up and loaded at the current museum, transported to the new site and then unloaded and lifted by forklift into the tall, cantilevered racks where they will be safely stored. To access the canoes at any point in the future, they can be safely lifted down, again by forklift, all the while protected from physical damage by their cradles.

Will the new museum meet modern standards for collection care?

The new CCM will be constructed to meet the Class A museum conservation standards as recommended by the Department of Canadian Heritage. Following their established guidelines, and those of appropriate professional bodies, the building design, the collections storage and exhibition areas and all the building systems, such as heating, ventilation and air conditioning, fire detection and suppression,

security and lighting etc., are specially designed and constructed to ensure the long-term safe storage and access to the collection. In addition, the facility includes workshop areas where the museum's popular workshop series can take place to pass on the skills and knowledge of watercraft building and maintenance to new generations. An archive and reading room complete the safe storage and responsible access to valuable archival documentation that has been collected to compliment the watercraft collection.

Landscape & Environment

How will CCM minimize the building's impacts on the environment?

The Canadian Canoe Museum is committed to minimizing its impact on the natural environment. Management of the new museum property will include a comprehensive plan to restore and rehabilitate the site by introducing a mix of diverse, native plants and tree species to enhance its ecological function and bolster the existing woodlot. Through ongoing engagement with First Nations, plant species with cultural significance for Indigenous Peoples will be identified, and where possible, incorporated into the comprehensive planting rehabilitation plan.

A constructed wetland, rain garden and innovative stormwater features will provide on-site infiltration and quality and quantity control of runoff before it reaches Whitlaw Creek or Little Lake. The wetland area will also provide significant wildlife habitat by introducing native water plants and amphibians to the site.

Cambium Inc. has completed a thorough ecological field investigation to ensure that all wildlife habitats and species have been identified and the new museum building will be fully dark-sky compliant.

The natural surroundings of The Canadian Canoe Museum will be echoed in its sustainable design. The warm, organic structure will connect guests to their surroundings by using natural materials that simultaneously reduce the overall carbon footprint of the building. Guests are encouraged to reduce their environmental impact by utilizing one of the many means of active transportation to arrive at the museum from Little Lake, the Trent-Severn Waterway, the Great Trail of Canada or the City of Peterborough's transit routes.

Are you confident that the property on Ashburnham Drive is free of contamination?

As part of the overall due diligence exploration and feasibility studies, multiple stages of environmental assessment and testing of both soil and groundwater took place on the Johnson Property in early December 2020. This work was carried out by a team of highly qualified experts in their field of environmental assessment. The assessments give us confidence that we were provided expert guidance to confirm the site is feasible for building the new museum.

Will the woodlot be removed?

The new CCM will be partially situated within the existing woodlot. The management of this property will provide an opportunity to restore the existing trees and plants' health while also introducing a

diverse range of native plants to the site. Approximately 70 per cent of the forested area will be removed for the building, trails and creation of a constructed wetland as part of the on-site stormwater management plan. A tree inventory, preservation and compensation plan are being prepared in conjunction with a certified arborist, First Nations and Urban Forestry staff of the City of Peterborough. The landscaping master plan will include a planting strategy to introduce more diverse, native plants to the area and ongoing engagement with First Nations will identify important medicinal plants, which can be reintroduced. New plantings will bolster and improve the quality of the remaining woodlot.

Will the newly planted street trees on Ashburnham Drive be removed?

Any existing street trees on Ashburnham Drive will be relocated on-site.

Being so close to the waterfront and nature, what will the museum do to reduce light pollution that can affect migratory birds?

Exterior lighting at the museum will be fully dark sky compliant and have full cut-off light fixtures to ensure the lighting stays focused on paths of travel where it belongs.

How will stormwater management be dealt with, and will there be any impacts to Whitlaw Creek and Little Lake?

Stormwater management design strategies will promote on-site infiltration and provide quality and quantity control to any runoff before it reaches Whitlaw Creek or Little Lake. A variety of innovative stormwater management features will be integrated and built on the site including a rain garden and constructed wetland feature.

Is the site within the floodplain?

A portion of the CCM site is within the floodplain of Whitlaw Creek and Little Lake. The building's finished floor elevation has been set to be 0.4m over and above the regulatory floodplain elevation of Whitlaw Creek and Little Lake to ensure the building and collection are safe in the event of a flood event. In the event of a flood, safe access to the site will be provided by way of Ashburnham Drive.

Will the project impact the bird and wildlife habitat? And if so, what is being done?

CCM is committed to minimizing the impact on the natural environment. While a portion of the woodlot will be cleared for the new CCM development, the preservation of important tree species will be implemented where possible. In addition, a thorough ecological field investigation has been completed by Cambium Inc. to ensure that all wildlife habitats and species have been identified. A comprehensive landscape plan focusing on rehabilitation and restoration of the site involving local First Nations' experts will include introducing diverse, native plant and tree species to the area to enhance the ecological function of the site. In addition, the on-site stormwater management feature will include a constructed wetland that will provide significant wildlife habitat by introducing native water plants and amphibians to the site. Through ongoing engagement with First Nations, important medicinal plants will be identified, and where possible, reintroduced to the habitat.

Have any archeological studies been completed on the site?

A Stage I Archaeological Study has been completed on the historical nature of the site by Northeastern Archaeological Associates Ltd. The report documents the early history of the site, including First Nations the founding of Peterborough, the introduction of the railway in 1854 (Cobourg and Peterborough Railway) across the site, and the subsequent land uses in the 1900's to the development of the property on Ashburnham Drive by the City of Peterborough. A Stage 2 Archaeological Study will be completed in the spring and will consist of a systematic subsurface investigation. Upon completion of the Stage 2 Study, the report will be filed with the Ontario Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries (MHSTCI).