

HONOURING OUR JOURNEY

ANNUAL REPORT 2022



THE CANADIAN CANOE MUSEUM
LE MUSÉE CANADIEN DU CANOT

MISSION

With our world-class collection as a catalyst, The Canadian Canoe Museum inspires connection, curiosity, and new understanding.

VISION

Canadian heritage connecting all peoples to the land and to each other.

“There is magic in the feel of a paddle and the movement of a canoe, a magic compounded of distance, adventure, solitude and peace.”

SIGURD F. OLSON

A message from our Executive Director and Chair

A FINAL PORTAGE

defined by meaningful moments and profound relationships

This year, we thanked 910 Monaghan Road, our home for over 25 years, and embarked on our final portage to our new home on the water’s edge. As we start the big lift and take our last few steps toward our new home, we cannot help but reflect on the journey that led up to this exciting moment.

Over the last few years, we’ve faced many challenging waters, moments that left us in awe, and times when we had to change course. Yet two key themes define this journey – resilience and relationships.

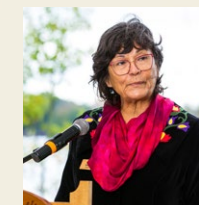
The Canadian Canoe Museum community is an incredible force of positivity, camaraderie, and impact. Together we’ve weathered the storm (quite literally this year!), honoured the Museum’s remarkable watercraft collection, and continued to build on our shared vision of creating a welcoming space through which to convey the diverse and incredible stories of the canoe with future generations.

We continued to foster stronger relationships with communities across Canada, our volunteers and donors, the watercraft we care for, and with the land. Our reach is branching out like a complex, powerful river system, and the connections and relationships we’ve built will serve as a catalyst for exciting new programming and exhibitions in the years to come.

Thank you for paddling alongside us. Your support over the past few years has been nothing short of phenomenal. And, while we will be reaching our new home in 2023, we know that it is just the beginning of the most exciting chapter yet in the Museum’s story.



Clifford Skarstedt,
Peterborough Examiner



CAROLYN HYSLOP
Executive Director

VICTORIA GRANT
Chair, Board of Directors



REFLECTING ON OUR JOURNEY

This past year, the Museum embarked on our final portage to our new home. While the journey has been accentuated with many breathtaking moments, new friendships, and significant milestones, we also faced some rough waters. Yet, our supporters' encouragement, dedication, and commitment continue to blow us out of the water.

Weathering the storm

On May 21, 2022, a significant storm ripped through southern Ontario and the Museum. The derecho storm left a path of devastation – uprooting the large spruce trees from our front lawn, ripping off part of our roof, and shattering windows, leaving a wake of glass and debris in and around the collection. Fortunately, no canoes, kayaks, or artifacts were damaged during this event.

Damage to our new home on Ashburnham Drive was less severe. However, most sadly, many of our beloved trees were lost or significantly damaged. Despite facing their own storm damage at home, our team jumped in to help clear fallen trees and large branches on the property and along the Trans Canada Trail to ensure the safety of those using the trails.

While the storm was devastating in so many ways, it was a reminder of the immense capacity of the Museum community to paddle together through rough waters. It also gave us a glimpse into our future as active stewards of the lands we will soon call home.

We are immensely grateful to the businesses, volunteers, donors, and team members who helped us navigate this unforeseen challenge.

The Big Lift: The move to our new home begins

In 2022 we embarked on what we affectionately call the Big Lift – moving the largest canoes from the Museum to the Collection Centre as part of our moving preparations. With the help of a crane and many hands, we moved approximately 5,000 lbs (2.3 tonnes) of canoes out of the second floor of the Museum. Many of those hands helped load in the very same canoes 22 years prior!

In the summer of 2023, the remainder of the 600 watercraft and 500 paddles, along with hundreds of artifacts and an entire archives and library collection, will be moved to our new home on the water's edge. Moving such an extensive collection is no small feat – every item is carefully cleaned, photographed, documented, and safely packed ahead of its move and installation in the new museum. The Big Lift would not be possible without the generosity and heavy lifting of our supporters and phenomenal team.

Bidding 910 Monaghan Road farewell

On September 8, 2022, we hosted a night of storytelling and reminiscing as we celebrated and said goodbye to 910 Monaghan Road, our home for over 25 years. James Raffan, Vicki Grant, Dale Standen, Mike Harrington, Jeremy Ward, Phyllis Williams, Kelly Eberhard (on behalf of John Eberhard), John Jennings, Bill Lockington, and Carolyn Hyslop reflected on their love for the canoe and their relationship with the Museum. The nostalgia and excitement for the future made for a truly memorable evening.



The legacy of our current location will, however, live on thanks to a grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation and the Government of Ontario, which contributed to the creation of a 360-degree self-guided virtual tour of the Collection Centre. The virtual tour memorializes our past and brings the collection to life for audiences across the globe who might not be able to visit the Museum in person.

To further pay homage to 910 Monaghan Road, the new museum's first temporary exhibition will reflect on the remarkable transformation of the Museum across the decades.





TREASURING THE RELATIONSHIPS WE'VE BUILT

His Excellency Whit Fraser; Jeremy Ward; Her Excellency Mary Simon, Governor General of Canada; Victoria Grant; Carolyn Hyslop; James Raffan; Richard Grant.

There is a saying that “a journey well shared is a journey well enjoyed,” and some of our most treasured moments this past year revolved around the collaborative relationships we sustained and built, not just with people but also with the watercrafts and the environment.

As we continue our journey to our new home, we’re working hard to bring various perspectives from across Canada into the narrative to offer visitors an even richer, more diverse learning experience.

Patronage by the Governor General

In August 2022, Her Excellency the Right Honourable Mary Simon, Governor General of Canada, granted Viceregal Patronage to the Museum in recognition of our efforts to foster deeper collaborative relationships with communities across Canada and share the cultural histories and stories held within the collection. This honour is a long-standing tradition and is granted in recognition of exceptional

contributions to Canadian society. As Canada’s first Indigenous Governor General, Her Excellency focuses her efforts on reconciliation.



Friends make for lighter paddling

From the big storm to the Big Lift, the support and dedication of our extraordinary volunteers remained unwavering. This year, volunteers contributed and assisted with fundraising, governance, consulting, preparing our collection for moving, packing the library, woodshop projects, and visitor services during the summer.

We look forward to welcoming all our volunteers to our new home and are excited about the many unique ways through which volunteers will be able to engage with the Museum in the near future.

A scrumptious new collaboration

In March 2022, we invited proposals from qualified vendors to supply café services at our new location. The goal was to build a relationship with a community-minded team who shared our values and who would enhance our visitor experience.

The Silver Bean Café was a natural fit and will bring fresh and delicious local food and drinks and a welcoming environment to our new home. The new café will accommodate 30 seated inside and 32 seated outside on the terrace and will be open year-round, seven days a week during the Museum’s hours of operation.



Deepening our relationships with Indigenous Peoples

As an organization that stewards the world’s largest and most significant collection of canoes, kayaks, and other paddled watercraft, we are committed to honouring and sharing the cultural histories and stories within the collection in all that we do.

The Museum continues to build on its long history of collaboration with First Nations, Métis and Inuit individuals, communities, and organizations. As we plan and grow the exhibits at the new site, we are ensuring the inclusion of Indigenous perspectives, knowledge, voices and languages in our care for and interpretation of the collection.

We acknowledge with gratitude the work and contributions of community coordinators and knowledge holders from from coast to coast to coast. Together, we are creating an inspiring space where we can all learn.

Fostering local ties

This year, our team met with local language keepers and Elders to discuss the incorporation of Michi Sagiig Anishnaabemowin in our new signage and wayfinding areas. We are incredibly grateful to Williams Treaties language coordinator Anne Taylor and Elder Mary Taylor from Curve Lake First Nation, who created a list of Anishnaabemowin phrases for signage across the new museum.

Local Elders and knowledge holders continue to serve on our Board and offer guidance.

Sharing stories

In 2022, we continued to work with communities to build the Museum’s collection of interviews with Indigenous Peoples to share their stories and the cultural history of the canoe in their own voices. All interviews are conducted with the deepest respect for Indigenous

concerns about ownership, control, access, and possession of knowledge.

Highlights include an interview regarding the Minik kayak, which will form part of the Museum’s new exhibits. In 1897, Minik Wallace, a young boy at the time, and other Inuit from the Qaanaaq area were taken from Greenland to New York by explorer Admiral Robert Peary. In the interview, Aleqatsiaq Peary, the great-grandson of Admiral Peary, shares his perspectives on exhibiting this sensitive item. We also received interviews with Haida knowledge holders who share their canoe culture and knowledge.



The Indigenous Languages Program is supported by TD Bank Group through the TD Ready Commitment.



Trade bead, ornamented canoe from the traditional territory of the Tr’ondëk Hwëch’in First Nation (Yukon River)



Celebrating the launch of the commissioned 21-foot birchbark canoe with builders Todd and Melissa Labrador in Nova Scotia.



Students in Puvirnituk, Quebec work together to build a local style qajaq (kayak) for the Museum. Photo by Alain Cloutier.



Dragons Abreast Toronto gifts a five-foot model dragon boat to the Museum.

HONOURING THE COLLECTION

Watercraft, such as the canoe and kayak, are deeply ingrained in the Canadian story and serve as a catalyst for conversations about our history, culture, geography, ways of knowing, and cross-cultural understanding. The Museum is a place of stories, a unique lens through which to view the country, the peoples, and the lands and waters we live on.

We look forward to providing a space through our new exhibits, programs, and the building itself for dialogue and new understandings informed by a multitude of voices, perspectives, and experiences.

Exciting additions to our exhibits

As we commenced the enormous task of carefully cleaning, photographing, documenting and packing each canoe and kayak for the move to our Ashburnham Drive location, we also welcomed several new watercraft that will be showcased in our new exhibits.

We are incredibly grateful to the individuals and communities who contributed these extraordinary pieces to the Museum's collection – ensuring that the cultural history, craftsmanship, knowledge, and stories associated with these watercraft remain intact for future generations.

Mi'kmaq canoe

We recently welcomed a new 21-foot birchbark canoe built by renowned canoe builder Todd Labrador, his daughter Melissa, and their families. Melissa, who also serves as a community coordinator for the Museum, documented the entire build on video. A launch ceremony was held in Kejimikujik National Park before the canoe made its way to its new home in the Museum.

We are incredibly grateful to the Labrador family for creating this beautiful canoe and sharing their knowledge and cultural history to support the interpretation and care of the Mi'kmaq watercraft at the Museum.

Qajaq

In early 2022, Iqarsivik High School students from Puvirnituk, Quebec, made a local-style qajaq (kayak) for the Museum. Working with skilled teacher Alain Cloutier and supported by historic photos of the last kayak built in Puvirnituk, the students were able to, for the first time in decades, make a qajaq based on a local design rather than the more commonly used Greenland design.

Thank you to Alain and the students for this remarkable contribution to the collection.

New dragon boat acquisition

Bruce Whitelaw and Dragons Abreast Toronto, Toronto's first breast cancer survivor dragon boat team, gifted a five-foot model dragon boat to the Museum. The model represents the history and connections between breast cancer and dragon boating as a way of healing physically and finding a community of people going through the same struggles.

Sharing a love for watercraft

The past year saw the return of in-person events, and we hosted several groups and guided tours before closing temporarily to prepare for our upcoming move.

Our popular hands-on activities areas returned for March Break 2022. Almost 500 people visited the Museum and participated in fun features such as the rocking canoe, Lincoln Logs table, puppet theatre, felt canoe, canoe cut-outs, and a new drop-in craft to try every day.

June 26, 2022, was our last National Canoe Day at our current location and marked the start of our final portage to our new home. Admission to the Museum was free, and many visited one last time before we closed. Supporters also joined virtually and shared photos of their portages with the hashtag #PortagePic.

We continued offering virtual experiences, such as our curriculum-linked virtual field trips, 360° self-guided virtual tours, and live virtual tours of the collection. Through these experiences, our team shared the significant role of the canoe in Canada's story, the richness of traditional Indigenous watercraft, the diverse peoples who build them, and the cultural significance of canoes and kayaks past and present.

Thank you to everyone who visited, joined in activities and shared in our passion for paddled watercraft.



OUR FINAL PORTAGE

"If there's a place, canoe there." – BRENT KELLY

Steady progress has been made since construction started at our Ashburnham Drive location late in 2021. By December 2022, structural steel and mass timber was erected, and both the concrete slab-on-grade and the second-floor slab-on-deck have been completed. The ground team continues to work to close in the building with steel studs and wall panels. Roof decking was nearly all complete, and waterproofing will start early in the new year. The mechanical and electrical teams have also started working on the interior.

Construction has been slightly delayed due to the ongoing impacts of the pandemic on the construction industry and supply chains. For example, a national shortage of cement powder in 2022 created a three-week delay in completing the building's superstructure. As such, the Museum in January 2023 announced that our anticipated opening has moved from summer 2023 to late summer/early fall.

Investing locally remains central to the project. In fact, the entire project leverages the expertise within the region, and we have fostered strong ties with talented consultants, designers, suppliers, trades, and builders working towards

making our home a reality. We believe fostering these strong collaborative relationships will result in an appreciation for the collection and watercraft for generations to come – reinforcing our vision for an accessible and inclusive space for all.

The final push to reach our fundraising goal

The relaunch of the public phase of our fundraising campaign has been a highlight of 2022. Seeing such broad support for the Museum has been genuinely inspiring. Again, this journey is only possible with the many wonderful relationships we have built along the way. Our family of donors continues to grow – people who love our work and cannot wait to be a part of our new home on the water's edge.

To date, we have raised 95% of our \$40 million campaign, and as we take our final forward strokes toward our goal, every contribution to the campaign is significant.

The project is made possible in part by the generous support of our lead donor and government partners, including the Government of Canada, through both the Department of Canadian Heritage and the Federal

Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario (FedDev Ontario), the Weston Family Foundation, the City of Peterborough, Peterborough County, the Province of Ontario, and donors from across the country who recognize the importance of honouring the collection, treasuring its stories, and protecting the knowledge it holds.

As we join together from coast to coast to coast, collectively as one, we will ensure this national treasure and all that it represents is preserved for generations. To learn more or donate, visit canoemuseum.ca/move

FedDev Ontario invests \$750,000 towards new exhibits

On July 12, 2022, we welcomed the Honourable Helena Jaczek, Minister responsible for the Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario (FedDev Ontario), for the announcement of an investment of over \$12.2 million to bolster tourism, community infrastructure and economic development projects in Peterborough, Northumberland, and Kawartha Lakes.



The Museum is honoured to receive this significant investment of \$750,000 towards developing and installing professionally designed exhibits. The 20,000-square-foot Exhibition Hall will feature seven galleries, enabling the Museum to expand its educational programming. The Exhibition Hall also meets Canadian Class "A" Museum Environmental Control standards, allowing us to host temporary exhibits, collaborate with other national and international museums, and ensure unique new visitor experiences for years to come.

Local historian and avid canoeist remembered with a \$250,000 gift to Museum

Our campaign received a boost thanks to a \$250,000 gift from the Grant family. The gift celebrates the legacy of the late Shelagh Grant, a 25-year volunteer and member, and the Grant family's involvement with the Museum since its inception. The Grant family will be recognized in the Loft of the new museum, a central community gathering space on the second floor just outside the Knowledge and Research Centre in the Atrium.

A destination through which to deepen our ties with the land, paddled watercraft, and our community

Our new home will serve as an inspiring space that reinforces our connections to the land, water and one another – all through the unique lens of the canoe. In 2023 we will be opening with a full breadth of reinvigorated programming and a reimagined visitor experience.

Being situated on the water's edge opens opportunities we could only imagine. Visitors will be able to enjoy a meal on the patio at the Silver Bean, take a hike on the trails, and paddle to and from our shores. They will learn more about the role of the canoe in shaping Canada's story through dynamic exhibits and outdoor learning opportunities and celebrate our mutual love for watercraft in multiple voices and languages.

Our new home has also opened opportunities for our team to become active stewards of the land and water. Staff are already involved in helping maintain our shoreline and grounds.

Although our portage will soon be over, reaching our destination marks only the beginning of the endless possibilities to inspire the next generation of paddling enthusiasts.



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SUMMARY STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	Operations	New Museum	2022 Totals	2021 Totals
CURRENT ASSETS				
Cash	709,211	5,045,130	5,754,341	5,607,421
Interfund Loans	552,375	(552,375)	-	-
Investments	-	4,500,000	4,500,000	1,249,167
Accounts and Grants Receivable	7,031	3,230,173	3,237,204	2,099,114
Inventory and Prepaid Expenses	62,110	313,287	375,397	133,223
	1,330,727	12,536,215	13,866,942	9,088,925
LONG TERM ASSETS				
Capital Assets – Monaghan	3,270,787	-	3,270,787	3,392,115
Capital Assets – Ashburnham	-	74,519	74,519	-
New Museum Construction in Progress	-	16,290,942	16,290,942	3,026,088
	3,270,787	16,365,461	19,636,248	6,418,203
TOTAL ASSETS	4,601,514	28,901,676	33,503,190	15,507,128
CURRENT LIABILITIES				
Accounts Payable	39,782	3,655,030	3,694,812	1,417,669
Deferred Revenue	520,396	-	520,396	93,760
Loan Payable	40,000	-	40,000	40,000
	600,178	3,655,030	4,255,208	1,551,429
FUND BALANCES				
Unrestricted	730,549	-	730,549	1,000,754
Internally Restricted – Capital Assets	3,270,787	16,365,461	19,636,248	6,437,384
Internally Restricted	-	610,229	610,229	591,806
Externally Restricted	-	8,270,956	8,270,956	5,925,755
	4,001,336	25,246,646	29,247,982	13,955,699
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES	4,601,514	28,901,676	33,503,190	15,507,128

SUMMARY STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

	Operations	New Museum	2022 Totals	2021 Totals
REVENUES				
Government Grants	183,166	11,776,398	11,959,564	3,852,271
Donations and Fundraising	114,680	4,373,754	4,488,434	5,412,484
Admissions, Memberships, and Retail (Net)	124,531	-	124,531	99,866
Other (Education, Rental, Investment)	30,926	-	30,926	23,855
	453,303	16,150,152	16,603,455	9,388,476
EXPENSES				
Wages and Contract Staff	606,474	-	606,474	696,135
Operating and Administration	99,028	151,034	250,062	328,399
Facilities	201,760	-	201,760	176,970
Exhibition Development	-	189,963	189,963	-
Transitional Costs	-	112,667	112,667	-
Amortization	85,869	-	85,869	96,452
Fundraising	987	31,095	32,082	15,976
Pre-construction Costs	-	-	-	1,485,660
	994,118	484,759	1,478,877	2,799,592
OTHER INCOME/EXPENSES				
Government Assistance – COVID-19	206,256	-	206,256	568,613
Recovery of Pre-construction Costs	-	-	-	410,808
Write Off of Capital Assets no Longer in Use	(38,551)	-	(38,551)	-
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	(373,110)	15,665,393	15,292,283	7,568,305

These summary financials are based on our financial statements as audited by Grant Thornton.

To view the complete financial statements, please visit: canoemuseum.ca/annual-reports-financials

TREASURER'S REPORT

In many ways, 2022 was a milestone year for the Museum, and we made significant headway toward our new home on the water's edge. With construction in full swing, we incurred \$13 million in building and project management spending during the reporting period.

Although we faced some tumultuous waters, such as ongoing pandemic-related closures and the May derecho storm, Museum operations were resilient. We continued offering meaningful programming and store sales were robust. The ongoing support of the Museum and our efforts to share a passion for and history of watercraft resulted in a solid cash position at year-end.

Our strong relationships from coast to coast to coast resulted in almost \$4.5 million in donations from over 700 donors across Canada and internationally. The Museum also received significant funding through all four levels of government in 2022.



New museum under construction

In addition, we received \$500,000 from the Weston Family Foundation, the first instalment of a \$1.5 million commitment that will sustain the Museum's educational programming for the next decade commencing when we open the new building in 2023. With this support, the Museum will be able to create and deliver one-of-a-kind, engaging indoor and outdoor experiential learning activities, online programming, travelling exhibits, and more.

As we journey closer to our final destination, we are grateful for the support and momentum our donors, members, volunteers, staff, and partners have provided us. Now, the final portage truly begins!

Respectfully,

TIM RUTHERFORD, Treasurer



THANK YOU to our donors, sponsors, and partners

In 2022, 724 donors, sponsors, and partners provided funds to support the care of the collection; the creation of new exhibits; the development of programming that focuses on the importance of paddled watercraft to our cultural heritage; the sustainability and day-to-day operation of the Museum; and the campaign for the new museum.

A

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Kenneth Abraham
Susan Ackerman
David Ahier
Audrey Alexander
Sheila Alexander
Algonquin Outfitters
Beth Allan
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Eric Apps
Carolyn Archbold
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My canoe-loving family and friends
National Canoe Day!

GIFTS IN MEMORY OF

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F.J. (Bud) Neville, who loved canoes
Ed Ochiena
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Kirk Wipper
My father who taught us to canoe



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MJ Proulx
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Beth Stanley
Nicholas VanExan
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We thank the following full-time employees who have moved on for their contributions: Cindy Mytruk and Karen Taylor.

Congratulations to long-term employee Jen Burnard on her retirement! Jen has impacted so many visitors and students during the 25 years she has spent at the Museum, and we will always be grateful for her dedication, passion, and positivity.

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