



2022 Summer Newsletter

Fort Frances Museum & Cultural Centre

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Our booth at the 2022 Business Expo!

Meet our Team

Hello! My name is Kayleigh Speirs and I began working as the Museum Curator in November of 2021 after spending 4.5 years at Kay-Nah-Chi-Wah-Nung Historical Centre. I am originally from Winnipeg but have lived in NW Ontario since 2014. I have over 10 years' experience working and volunteering in museum settings, allowing me to develop a broad and deep understanding of how museums run and the challenges they face. I have a Master's degree in archaeological sciences from Lakehead University. I have been really enjoying my time as Curator and learning more about the town and area while getting to develop new and exciting opportunities for the museum. In my spare time I like to cook, bake, be outdoors - and I say hi to every dog I meet.



Museum Curator

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Summer 2022

Meet our Team - Summer Students



Hi! I'm Alyssa - former lemonade stand operator, current museum educator. I've been working at the museum since 2016 and I'm happy to be back for my sixth year. Some fun facts about me are that my favourite colour is pink, I go to bed before 9PM, and my grandma is my best friend. I just received my Bachelor of Education degree from Lakehead University and enjoy working as a primary/junior teacher during the school year. I am excited to continue my role planning children's programs for the museum and persistently begging Justin Bieber to perform at the Rainy Lake Square.

Hi! I'm Anna Gagne. I am the current high school student attendant at the Fort Frances Museum & Cultural Centre. I've worked at the museum for roughly 2 years. My favourite part of the job is building things for children's activities. For example, look at the piñata in the photo on the right. In the fall I am leaving to pursue a degree in history at Lakehead University. I am looking forward to the summer so I can eat the food from the Rainy Lake Market on Thursday's!



Hi! I'm Michaela, a Museum Attendant. I was born and raised in Fort Frances. I am a York University student working towards a degree in English and professional writing. I also know some basic ASL! I am excited to have joined the museum in its capacity to provide accessible histories of our town, though it is a learning experience I am only now beginning for myself.

Hi, my name is Raina Johnson-Luoma, it's my first year at the museum. I'm super excited to plan programs for kids this summer. I finished my first year of school at Fanshaw College for Adventure Expeditions and Interpretive Leadership. Fun facts about me - I love the outdoors, my favourite animals are great white sharks, and I help the environment whenever I can.



Current & Upcoming Exhibits



Current Exhibit

Fort Frances, ON – Art and words come together in the newest exhibit at the Fort Frances Museum & Cultural Centre. Entitled *My Story, My Tattoo*, this travelling show, from Wellington County Museum and Archives (WCMA), features 32 photographs of people and their amazing tattoos. It includes four audio stations, six videos and 30 text panels.

The new travelling exhibit from WCMA reveals that tattoos are living images that reveal important stories about residents, communities and the tattoo phenomenon. Participants in the travelling exhibit represent every walk of life – everyone from a cancer survivor to teachers and their students, a firefighter and a farmer. All of the individuals were open and honest, and their stories and personalities are represented through this series of thought-provoking and colourful images. Chris Piccinetti, a Guelph photographer and graphic designer for the County of Wellington, photographed these inspiring images.

“I am thrilled that this exhibit is coming to our town,” said Museum Curator Kayleigh Speirs. “There is still a lot of stigma associated with tattoos, I am hoping that this exhibit can lead to meaningful discussions about tattoos, including their history, cultural relevance, and value as a unique and beautiful artform.”

The exhibit will run through July 6, 2022. It will also feature a living tattoo area, where visitors will be encouraged to add photos of their own tattoos. The Museum is currently open 10am to 5pm Tuesday through Saturday.

Important Dates

▣ — Exhibits — ▣

- **My Story, My Tattoo - Traveling Exhibit from the Wellington County Museum & Archives on from May 12 - July 6**
- **Culturama - This internally curated exhibit focuses on the history and impact of this once beloved event and why we felt 2022 was the perfect time to revive it! July 9-August 26**
- **Our Climate Quest - Traveling Exhibit from Science North on from August 27 - September 10**
- **Fort Frances Businesses - This internally curated exhibit focuses on the history of Fort Frances businesses. On from September 15, 2022 - January 6, 2023**

Important Dates

▣— Programming —▣

- **Day Camps** - Two weeks of immersive learning and fun! Week 1 July 18-22 & Week 2 August 15-19. **\$125/child (additional children = \$115/child)**
- **Square Days** - A fun new activity every Tuesday in July & August at the Square from 1PM-3PM (excluding July 19, July 26, and August 16). **\$5/child**
- **Night at the Museum** - A night of mystery and intrigue. August 11. **\$10/child**
- **Walking Tours** - Fun and educational walking tour along the waterfront. **\$10/person**
- **Show & Tea** - Enjoy tea and scones while seeing items from the museum collection and learning about history. Every other Saturday in July & August - (July 9 & 23; August 13 & 27). **\$5/person**


Summer Programming

We have a ton in store for this summer! We will be offering some of our regular programming as well as some brand new activities. **All of our programming is for ages 4-12!**

Our regular programming will include **Square Days**, which will run **every Tuesday from 1PM-3PM in July and August (excluding July 19, July 26, and August 16)** and consists of a fun and interactive activity each week. **Cost for Square Day events is \$5 per child.** We will also be offering our **Night at the Museum** event - **August 11.** This event is a fun evening of activities, mystery, and intrigue. **Night at the Museum costs \$10 per child.**

There are a few new programming activities this year, including **Day Camps!** Our Day Camps will consist of two full-weeks of themed activities with an educational twist where we focus on learning while having fun. **Day camps cost \$125 per child, additional children cost \$115 per child.** Another new activity will be the first in a series of outdoor **Walking Tours** led by our Curator or one of our knowledgeable team members. **Walking tours cost \$10 per person** - tours are based on availability and weather, and need to be booked ahead of time. We will also be offering our **Show & Tea** events throughout July and August. Enjoy tea and scones while getting to engage with items from our collection and learning about our town's history. **Show & Tea events are \$5 per person and will happen the second and fourth Saturday's in July and August (July 9 & 23; August 13 & 27).**

All programming activities requires pre-registration and pre-payment!



Call the museum or stop by to register for programming! Payment must accompany registration.

Registration Opens June 21st!



235 Scott St.
Fort Frances, ON
P9A 1H8

RAINY LAKE SQUARE

We also oversee the Rainy Lake Square! The Rainy Lake Square was built in 2018 at the site of the old Rainy Lake Hotel. Located in the heart of our community's downtown, this versatile and adaptable space is an ideal location for programming and can be booked for your next event!



Come check out our **Thursday vendor markets** happening every Thursday until September 29, and grab some amazing, locally made, grown, or procured items. Interested in being a vendor? Contact us for a vendor package or to learn more about taking part.

Follow our Facebook page (@rainylakesquare) to see the list of events happening in the square over the spring and summer - including concerts, comedy shows, BBQ's, and so much more as part of our **Rainy Lake Performer Series**. Thanks to our sponsors this year, Tbaytel and New Gold for supporting this great series.

Contact us for more information about booking the square or to learn about upcoming events!



Follow the @RainyLake Square facebook page for up to date event info!

Come out to our Thursday vendor markets or check out our Facebook page (@rainylakesquare) to see the list of concerts and performances happening in the square!

RAINY RIVER DISTRICT
CULTURAMA
 ARTS & CULTURE FESTIVAL

Culturama is back!

August 5-7, 2022

More details coming soon...



LOUIS COUNCILLOR, of Red Lake, Minnesota, stopped the large crowds in their tracks with his Native hoop dancing



IN ACTION. The local Ukrainian dance troupe was a crowd-pleaser at this year's Culturama

with their lively dancing and footwork



FINNISH FINESSE in the art of dancing was entertainingly evident when the Vihurit Troupe presented for Culturama the folk dances sometimes called "whirling waltzes"



"DEAR OLD IRELAND" was the subject of the rollicking ballads sung by the Irish Tavern Singers, for whom this chap was lead vocalist



DRYDEN'S LACLU DANCERS performed a series of British folk dances during the Culturama program and later transformed into a Mexican dance troupe

Culturama had many winners

The winners of several draws held at the ethnic booths at Culturama have been announced. Sharon Grattan, the food basket, and Sonja Pearson, the "Scottie", both from the British booth. Mary Demianiw, the embroidered table cloth and Marilyn Brown, the cookbook, both from the Ukrainian booth. Mae Triskle, the hand made quilt from the French booth, and Josie S. Ms. Olymik china floral trepices from the Italian booth. Several passport prizes including the \$100 door prize main unclaimed. Do you have the following numbers? Passport numbers: 3021, 4403, 2190, and 2164. If you're a winner, call 274-3396.



CULTURAMA FOR YOUNG AND OLD. Culturama attracted young and old alike to the living music and dancing of countries around the world. Here Will Book and his companion stop to watch and listen



SICILIAN FOLK DANCERS put on a lively performances of old Sicily.



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Hello!

We are reaching out with some exciting news: The Fort Frances Museum & Cultural Centre is planning a revival of Culturama! Beginning in 1980, Culturama was a beloved annual event in Fort Frances, though it has been nearly two decades since the festival was last put on. We are thrilled to be revitalizing this event and are delighted to invite your organization to become a part of this exciting endeavor through an event sponsorship.

Culturama aims to draw audiences from all over the Rainy River District in order to increase communal awareness of the great diversity that exists within our small community, and to create a safe, welcoming, fun environment for locals and tourists to experience cultures other than their own. Our goal is that Culturama will enjoy a new life and provide both our older residents with a joyous nostalgia and new attendees with lifelong memories. This year's Culturama will be August 5-7, taking place in and around Rainy Lake Square.

We know the COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on the economic and social wellness of our community, and we believe an event like Culturama is just what we need: a space to come together and celebrate the resilience and diversity of our beloved corner of the world, and to regenerate economic growth and tourism in our region. However, we can't do it alone. **Your financial support, in the form of sponsorship or donation, will be vital in guaranteeing the success of this event and solidifying its future so that together, we can continue to uplift the diverse voices within our community.**

We sincerely hope you will join us in this exciting project. If you are interested in supporting or partnering with us in this venture, please look over the attached information sheets and contact us at your earliest convenience to set up a time to talk with us. Your support would be greatly appreciated in making the revival of Culturama a great success!

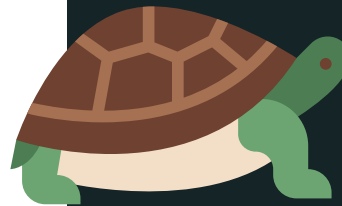
Thank you for your time,

Kayleigh Speirs

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CULTURAMA

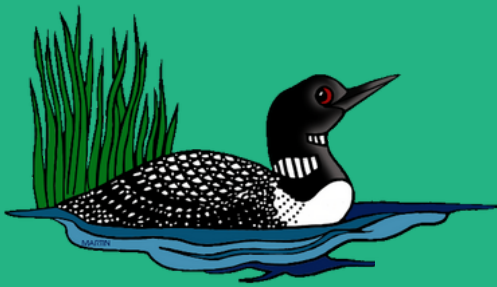
SPONSORSHIP LEVELS



Turtle
\$10-\$99

- Tax receipt
- Letter of appreciation
- Name in program

Loon
\$100-\$999



- Everything from Turtle +
- Event swag!

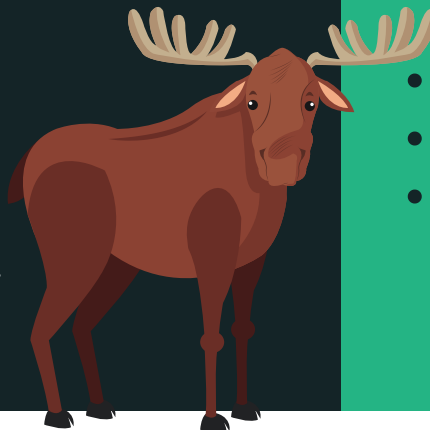


Beaver
\$1,000-\$4,999

- Everything from Loon +
- Name on event merchandise
- Named in social media content

Moose
\$5,000-\$9,999

- Everything from Beaver +
- Logo on event merchandise
- Shout-out during event
- Named in event advertisements
- Choice of event marketing material



Eagle
\$10,000+

- Everything from Moose +
- Event Partnership!
- Culturama is brought to you by "Name of your business/organization"





RAINY RIVER DISTRICT CULTURAMA SPEC SHEET

While the Fort Frances Museum is the main entity behind this revival, we are working with a steering committee comprised of individuals from these local organizations:

- The United Native Friendship Centre
- Kay-Nah-Chi-Wah-Nung Historical Centre
- Binesiwag Center for Wellness
- Fort Frances Chamber of Commerce
- Fort Frances Public Library Technology Centre
- Rainy River District Right Relations Circle

Contact us
about being
part of the
steering
committee!

Event Schedule

Friday, August 5th
4PM-10PM

- Opening Ceremony
- Performances
- Food & Craft Vendors

Saturday, August 6th
10AM-10PM

- Performances
- Food & Craft Vendors
- Workshops & Activities
- Public Art

Sunday, August 7th
10AM-2PM

- Performances
- Food & Craft Vendors
- Closing Ceremony

Events will primarily take place on the 200 Block of Scott St at the Rainy Lake Square, with other venues hosting activities and workshops throughout the weekend.

Other Ways to Get Involved

We are also looking for in-kind donations, event volunteers, vendors, and performers! If you are able to donate your time, or any goods or services to this event, we'd love to hear from you!

More details to be announced soon!



It's a great time to get a museum membership or renew your expired one!

Museum Membership

The Fort Frances Museum & Cultural Centre is located on Treaty #3 Territory in the heart of downtown Fort Frances in Northwestern Ontario. Founded in 1978, The Museum's mission is to collect, preserve, and exhibit items, stories, and local knowledge that depict the story of the Town, the land, and its people. Originally constructed as a schoolhouse in 1898, the Museum continues to be an educational resource to the community, offering interpretive tours and permanent galleries with a focus on local and regional history, a variety of traveling and locally curated exhibits, an extensive local archive, and a collections space with over 10,000 items. In addition to the main building, we also maintain two heritage sites, a logging tugboat and a lookout tower located on the waterfront which overlook the beautiful Manidoo Ziibi (Rainy River). The Museum is a welcoming space for all people; a place for learning, teaching, and sharing different ways of knowing, because everyone should know where they come from.

Please print

Name: _____

Address: _____

Postal Code: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> New Membership | <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$30 | <input type="checkbox"/> Family \$50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Patron \$100-\$249 | <input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining \$250-\$499 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor \$500-\$999 | <input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor \$1000+ |

Cash or cheque payable to the Town of Fort Frances

What's up for 2022

This year has been focused on developing new and exciting programming and content to share with all of our visitors. In the summer, we are planning on offering the first in a series of guided walking tours where patrons will learn the unique histories of a variety of historic sites and buildings around town. We are also excited to share some new exhibits with our visitors, including the temporary travelling exhibit, My Story, My Tattoo, and internally curated exhibits focused on the history of Fort Frances businesses and the history of Culturama.

We sincerely thank all of you for your continued support of the Museum and all of our initiatives! Your generosity is much appreciated!

Your museum membership gets you into the museum for free! Stay tuned for additional membership perks!