MAIGazine

Newsletter of the Municipal Archives Interest Group

Issue 10   August 2014

**Please join us
at the
Municipal Archives Interest Group
OPEN HOUSE**

Friday, October 24th, 2014
10:00 am- 4:00 pm

Stratford-Perth Archives
24 St. Andrew Street
Stratford, Ontario

http://www.stratfordpertharchives.on.ca/.

Perth County
Cultivating Opportunity

Join us for a power point presentation about the progress of the new, purpose-built, 10,000 square foot building which will house the Stratford-Perth Archives. Also, there will be a tour of the courthouse, a visit to the new site of the archives, and a visit to the neighbouring Stratford-Perth Museum.

The historic Perth County Courthouse is located at 1 Huron St. in Stratford.
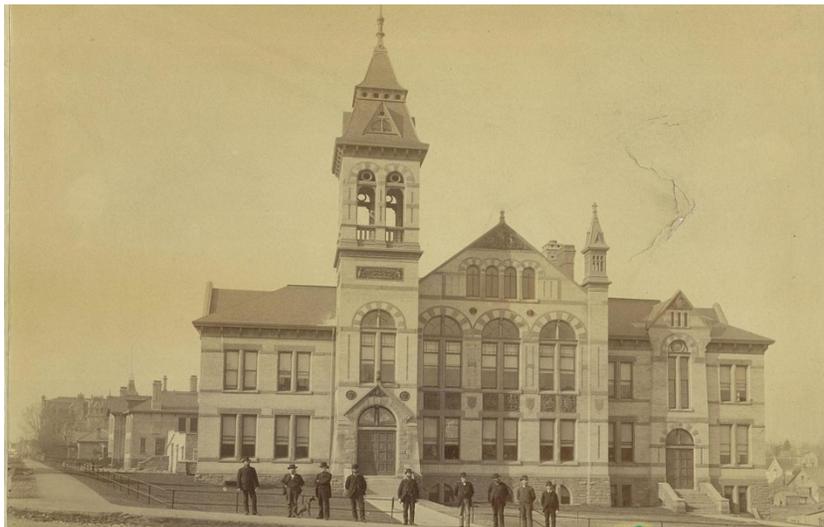
RSVP by October 20th to
Gina Coady, MAIG Secretary-Treasurer
gcoady@elgin-county.on.ca or call (519) 631-1460 ext. 154.

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Message from the Chair
Laura Lamb

This year Brenda Hicock and I hosted the MAIG annual meeting at the University of Ontario Institute of Technology (UOIT) in Oshawa. The turnout was positive and it was nice to see many new faces. There was lots of discussion and this event was an excellent opportunity to connect with others, exchange ideas, and talk about ways to promote our individual archives and the MAIG.

I would like to acknowledge all the work and dedication to MAIG by Liz Mayville. After many years of keeping us organized, Liz has moved on to dedicate more time to her career at the County of Oxford Archives and to her young family. Thank you Liz, and we wish you well. It is my pleasure to announce that Gina Coady from the Elgin County Archives is our new Secretary/Treasurer. We look forward to working together and please join me in welcoming Gina to the Executive.

Don't forget to mark your calendars! The 2014 MAIG open house is scheduled for Friday, October 24 at the Stratford-Perth Archives in beautiful Stratford. Stay tuned for more details.

MAIG Executive
Laura Lamb, Chair
Brenda Hicock, Vice-Chair
Gina Coady, Secretary/Treasurer

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MIDDLESEX CENTRE ARCHIVES

Established 2013

Dedicated to Preserving our Heritage Resources

The Middlesex Centre Archives is the culmination of more than two decades of aspiration, possibility, partnership, opportunity, disappointment and retrenchment. The idea began with the publication of the *History of Lobo* over 20 years ago. By 2003 the *Committee to Establish A Middlesex County Archives* was formed. This Committee, assisted among others by archivist advisors, worked diligently to learn, inform, educate and explore ways and means, culminating in a detailed plan for a Middlesex County Archives in partnership with Fanshawe Pioneer Village, which was presented to the County in 2010.

To our dismay, this was declined by County Council. However, we continued to be faced with the problem of safeguarding a large quantity of archival materials in private citizens' homes and in former municipal offices. Our group realized that any progress would have to be on a smaller scale. For historical reasons we decided to limit our catchment area to the former townships of Lobo, London, Delaware and portions of Westminster, since 1997 amalgamated as Middlesex Centre. We sought and received the support of Middlesex Centre Council, who generously donated the use of the former Delaware Township offices. This enabled us to establish the **Middlesex Centre Archives** (**MCA),** as a sub-committee of the Middlesex Centre Historical Society. With Council's encouragement and countless volunteer hours from many dedicated people across Middlesex Centre and beyond, this project has now become a reality.

Our mandate : to acquire, preserve, and make available to the public, records of enduring value to Middlesex Centre and in particular to the former Townships of Delaware, Lobo, London and portions of Westminster.

P.O. Box 47, 2652 Gideon Drive Delaware, ON N0L 1E0

Phone: 519-518-5590

Email: middlesexcentrearchives@gmail.com

Website : **middlesexcentrearchive.ca**

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Facilities Committee, from right : Stan Elliott (Chair), Sid Prior and Charlie Scott

Our accomplishments:

- Board of Directors and policies & procedures in place
- Professional archivist contracted on a part-time/volunteer basis
- Dedicated volunteer base established
- Office furnished, including two archival rooms with shelving
- Cataloguing underway
- Grant opportunities being investigated

All of this has been funded by profits donated from the sales of local Townships' History Books.

Our Goals:

- Collect and protect the documentary heritage of the community
- Develop and grow as a recognized municipal archive
- Be open to the public for those doing research on local history
- Fundraise to continue our work

Outreach:

- Celebrate Heritage Week at various community sites
- Participate in various community activities throughout the year

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Happenings at the Elgin County Archives
Stephen Francom. Manager/ Archivist
Elgin County Archives

The Archives has designed and published a new virtual exhibit outlining the history of the Elgin County Court House in St. Thomas, a provincial historic site originally constructed 1852-1853 to satisfy conditions outlined in *14 & 15 Vic. C.5*, 2 August 1851, which provisionally granted Elgin County's petition to separate from Middlesex County, contingent on the erection of a Court House and jail. One of the earliest extant pre-Confederation court houses in Ontario, it was the focus of a three-year, multi-million-dollar reconstruction and expansion project consolidating the Ontario Court of Justice and Superior Court of Justice in a single location. Using photographs and key documents from the Archives' collections, the exhibit tells the story of the evolution of the Court House from the original 1848 deed by which St. Thomas citizen Benjamin Drake conveyed by gift to the Crown the property on which the Court House and ancillary buildings would eventually be erected, to the text of a commemorative scroll enclosed in a time capsule as part of re-opening ceremonies for the new Consolidated Court House on March 17, 2014. In addition to tracing the history of the Court House and treating its functional and symbolic purpose as exemplar and guarantor of justice, the exhibit examines the building's social role in reflecting and affirming the emotions and values of its host community, as exemplified in the accompanying photograph showing the Court House decorated on the occasion of the official visit of the Governor General, HRH the Duke of Connaught, May 6, 1914.

We are currently in the midst of a busy processing season, with two summer students (thanks to Young Canada Works and Canada Summer Jobs!), a digitization assistant and two dedicated volunteers (current and prospective students at the Faculty of Information and Media Studies, Western University) hard at work arranging, describing and digitizing a number of high-value collections.

The Archives has recently acquired and is making extensive use of a new digital film scanner (http://stimaging.com/product/viewscan-ii-2/) and book scanner (http://www.book2net.net/book-scanner/book2net-spirit.html) to digitize and publish online large volumes of municipal by-laws from microfilm and an extensive collection of municipal directories dating back to the 1870s. Finally, we recently marked the 2 millionth view on our flickr photo sharing site (www.flickr.com/photos/elgincountyarchives/), which has become an indispensable element of our outreach and content distribution strategy.

A new Elgin County Archives database web interface
Gina Coady, Archivist Assistant
Elgin County Archives

In late 2013, we began working with Vancouver-based Andornot Consulting Inc. to update our existing Inmagic WebPublisher PRO web interface (in use since 2004) by installing the web version of the Archives Starter Kit, which Andornot had developed. This Starter Kit capitalizes on all the latest features available within the Inmagic software plus adds on some extra functionality. Because of this latest update, our new interface, which has been live since February 2014, incorporates numerous improvements:

-Integration of search and result displays in a consistent, easily edited template using master pages. This permits the inclusion of branding and navigation from our website for seamless integration.

-Intuitive contextual searching: the ability to type two or three words next to each other without needing to add the '&' symbol, or wildcards.

-The option to select a different form to sort by date, relevance or title.

-The option to select items to a list so that users can print, save or email the selected items, and request information about them. Also, users can more easily request photographic prints.

-Hyperlinks to retrieve all records for popular topics.

Advanced Search

Enter Keywords, or use the specific fields below

[   ] [Go]

Names of Persons, Places, Organizations

[AND ▾] [   ] [Browse]

Subjects

[AND ▾] [   ] [Browse]

Collection Name

[AND ▾] [   ] [Browse]

Type of Material

☐ Textual Records   ☐ Microform Records
☐ Graphic Material   ☐ Drawings
☐ Moving Images   ☐ Maps
☐ Sound Recordings   ☐ Objects
☐ Electronic Records

☐ Limit to records with photos available

Level of Description

☐ Collection   ☐ File
☐ Fonds   ☐ Item
☐ Series   ☐ Box
☐ Sub-Series   ☐ Shelf

[Search]   [Clear Form]

Search Tips

Use & for AND
e.g. grocery & store

Use * for truncation
e.g. rail* finds rail, railway, railroad, etc.

Use / for OR
e.g. company / business

Use ! for NOT
e.g. grocery ! store

Use " " to search for a phrase
e.g. "grocery store"

Use >, <, >=, <= for greater or less than
e.g. >= 1999 finds dates from 1999 onwards

Use : to search a range
e.g. 1999:2003

More help is available.

This database is intended to provide an overall description of our holdings.

To research these records more fully, it is necessary to visit the Archives or use the Elgin County Archives Research Service.

All images in our collection are available for reproduction. Please review our Schedule of Fees and Photo Order Form.

Please contact us with any questions.

Home | Quick Search | Advanced Search | View Selections (0 items) | Help | Contact Us

Search Results

Result 10 of 593. New Search Revise Search Back to Results   First Previous Next Last

Elgin County Library Co-Operative Board, 1964

Date:	1964
Part Of:	Elgin County Library fonds
Series:	Elgin County Library fonds - Photographs series
Description Level:	File
Storage Room:	Archives Storage Rm. 107
Storage Location:	R7 S3 Sh3 B1 F27
GMD:	graphic material
Physical Description:	1 photograph : b&w 3 negatives : b&w
Scope & Content:	File contains a black and white photograph of the Elgin County Library Co-Operative Board, 1964. The photograph features Lahla Craik, Librarian, Springfield Public Library, Board Chairman; Albert Auckland, Elgin County Councillor; Russell McKibbin, Warden of Elgin County; Thomas Goodland, Elgin County Councillor; Douglas Schliehauf, Elgin County Councillor; Della Ludy, Librarian, Rodney Public Library; Mr. William S. McKillop; and Ruth Prowse, Elgin County Library staff. File also includes three black and white negatives featuring Mrs. Craik.
Names:	Elgin County Library Elgin County Library Co-Operative
Subjects:	Libraries

☐ Add to list   Permanent Link

Result 10 of 593. New Search Revise Search Back to Results   First Previous Next Last

If anyone wants more information on this latest update, or to discuss our experiences with Inmagic products, do not hesitate to contact me at gcoady@elgin-county.on.ca or (519) 631-1460 ext. 154.

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Grey Roots Museum & Archives Blog
Karin Noble, Archivist
Grey Roots Museum & Archives

Grey Roots Museum & Archives has been blogging for about a year now. Weekly posts are made alternatively from Archives, Collections, Community Relations, Heritage Interpretation or Visitor Services. So far it's been a rewarding way to feature different items from the holdings or profile events in a forum where people may comment, share or ask questions, along with giving more meaty fare to a Facebook or Twitter presence. It can also be fun to feature an historic dimension to a special occasion or local event. Visit http://greyrootsmuseum.wordpress.com/.

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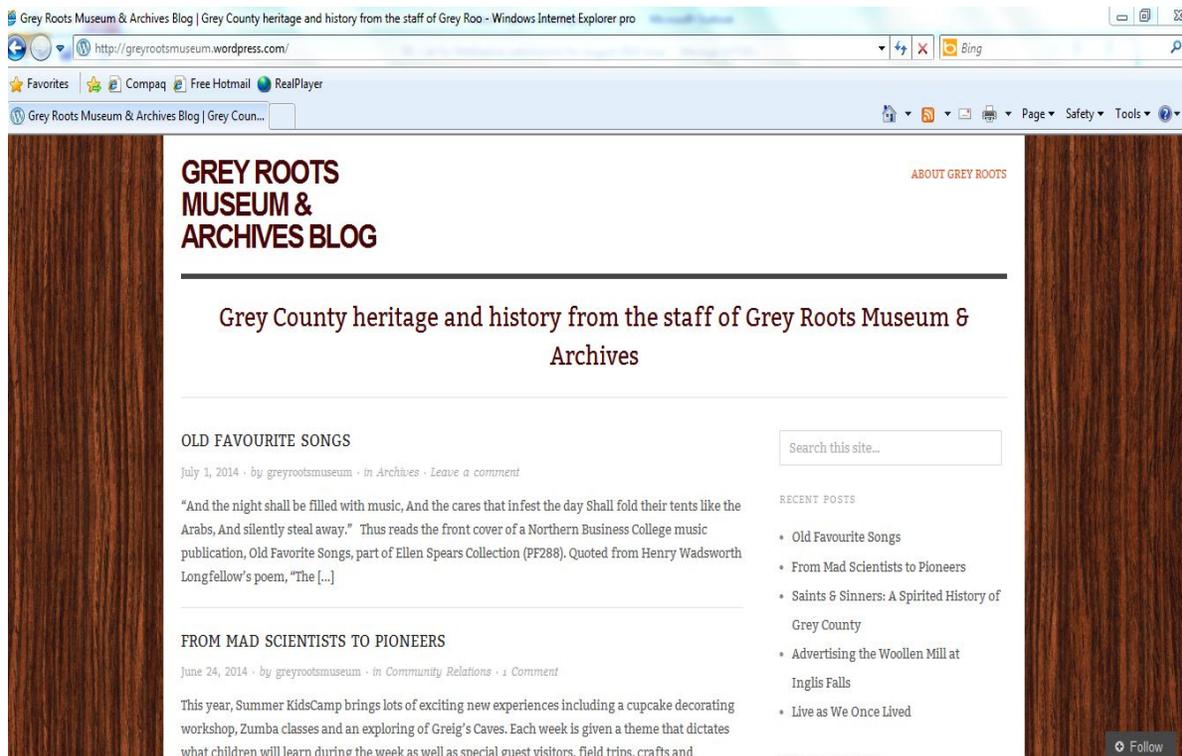
Catching Up with the City of Vaughan Archives
Gillian Shaw, Archival Records Analyst
City of Vaughan Archives

Having recently come to municipal archives from historic and community archival settings, the last few months have been a blur of exciting new finds, unique acquisitions and interesting reference requests covering an array of new topics. As I have settled into this new role, I have gained a greater appreciation for the transparency of municipal records and the value of having a wide range of records (such as By-Laws, Assessment Records and Council Minutes), at your fingertips provides.

The City of Vaughan Archives follows a 'total archives' approach, focusing on both civic and private records, which complement one another in regards to research, access and accountability. With a wide range of materials ranging from textual to photographic, as well as more unique artifacts including medals, textiles and artwork, the conservation and housing needs of our collection prove to be more of a challenge than would be found in strictly paper based repositories. I am excited to utilize my background in museums to ensure that all artifacts have proper support and permanent storage, as many are currently in temporary housing. Moving forward, I look forward to providing my colleagues, as well as the public, with more information about how to properly store and care for such unique materials.

Over the past year, the City of Vaughan Archives has been very active increasing our online presence by promoting our collections through various social media channels. In addition to outreach through the City of Vaughan's website, Twitter and Facebook accounts, a new Blog Series was created to provide information about the Archives, as well as promote the acquisition and maintenance of our collections. Upcoming posts include information about how to conduct property research, investigate genealogy and preserve collections both in the archives and at home, so please keep an eye out for upcoming posts – www.vaughancityblog.ca/archives!

The Archives is also taking a more active role in commemorating local and historic Canadian Anniversaries through social media posts and online exhibits. Earlier this year, the Archives showcased its earliest municipal document, a 1798 Crown Deed complete with Pendant Seal in honour of International Archives Day, as well as commemorated the 70th Anniversary of D-Day in June. Moving forward, additional online exhibits will be curated to commemorate the Centennary of the First World War, the Dodranscentennial of the Second World War, as well as exhibits showcasing some of our premier collections, which we hope will encourage more patrons to visit our archives.

In addition to increasing our online presence, the Archives is also working towards capturing more local histories through less traditional means of archival acquisition. Last year, my colleague Brenda Hicock introduced an Archival Memory Project to capture stories and memories from local residents in order to preserve knowledge and word of mouth accounts in a more permanent form. This project consists of a survey with generic questions that acts as a jumping off point for local community members. Surveys were mailed to local groups and historical society members as well as posted online. To date, numerous responses have been received and a future exhibition compiling the data and stories is anticipated.

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City of Vaughan
Liked · June 9
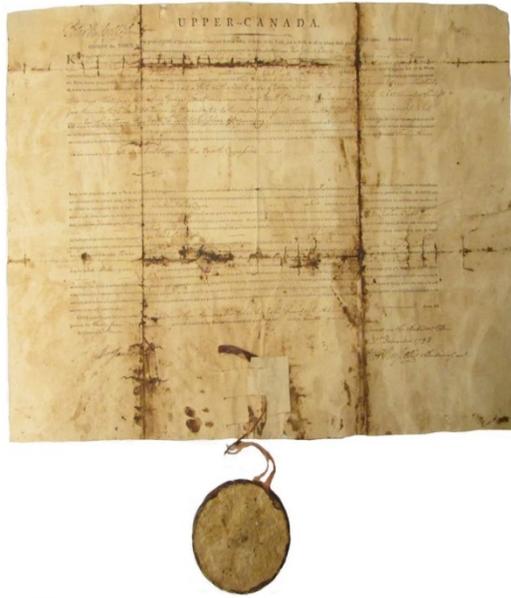
In honour of #InternationalArchivesDay, take a look at the oldest government document in the City of #Vaughan's Archival Collection. This Crown Deed complete with pendant seal, was created in 1798 and granted land to the fifth family to settle on Yonge Street in the Thornhill area. The patent provides a legal description of the land deeded to Nicolas Cover and bears the signature of the Upper Canada Administrator Peter Russell. The City of Vaughan Archives collects, preserves and makes available for research permanently valuable municipal and non-government records from the Vaughan community that document the rich and diverse heritage and development of our community.

June 6, 2014

Archives series: Conservation procedures at the City of Vaughan

💬 Leave a comment

We're doing a mini series that offers a glimpse into how the City of Vaughan preserves its history.

The main role of the City Archives is to manage government records with long-term business value. The City Archives also collects, preserves and makes available for research valuable non-government records from the Vaughan community that document the rich and diverse heritage of the City of Vaughan. For more information, visit the City of Vaughan Archives web page.

To view images from the City's archival collections, visit the City of Vaughan's Facebook page.

Here is the first post in the series:

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FOLLOW OUR STORY. OUR CITY VIA EMAIL

Follow

CITY OF VAUGHAN WEBSITE

VAUGHAN

SEARCH FOR BLOG CONTENT:

Search

CONTACT US

Send your blog ideas and feedback to socialmedia@vaughan.ca

City of Vaughan shared a link.
July 23

Historical family records belonging to iconic #Canadian author and journalist #PierreBerton have a special place at #Vaughan #Archives. Learn more about their journey from the Berton home in #Kleinburg to Vaughan City Hall where they were cleaned, restored and expertly organized:
http://vaughancityblog.ca/2014/07/17/archives-series-the-story-of-the-pierre-berton-family-records

Archives series: the story of the Pierre Berton family records
http://vaughancityblog.ca/2014/07/17/archives-series-the-story-of-the-pierre-berton-family-records
We're doing a mini series that offers a glimpse into the...

Unlike · Comment · Share

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Local History & Archives.
Hamilton Public Library
Laura Lamb, Archives Technician

The Hamilton Public Library was established in 1889. The Canadiana Collection was created in 1914 to house rare and interesting examples of early Canadian books and the local history collection. The Special Collections Department was formed in 1974 to bring together the following collections: Canadiana, Hamilton, Archives, Rare Books and historical ephemera. It was at this time the department began the practice of actively acquiring these types of materials, both from within the Hamilton Public Library system and from outside sources. In 1980, when the Central Library relocated to the newly-constructed building at 55 York Boulevard, the collection was moved to its current location on the third floor. Climate-controlled book vaults contain the collections. The name of the department was changed to Local History & Archives during Heritage Week 2008. The public reading room of Local History & Archives is named the Waldon Room in honour of long-serving Chief Librarian, Dr. Freda Farrell Waldon. Once again, we are supporting the Community Exhibits Program (2014-2015) at the Legislative Assembly of Ontario.

We are also sharing our history online with a video walking tour of the downtown core.
Buildings of the Gore Walking Tour
Please join us throughout 2014 to celebrate our 100th anniversary and explore what this fascinating department has to offer!

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Multicultural History Society of Ontario's Digital Archive
Sarah Warner, Outreach Coordinator, MHSO
and Cathy Leekam, Program Manager, MHSO

A not-for-profit organization established in 1976, the Multicultural History Society of Ontario (MHSO) is an archive and educational institution located in Toronto. The Society strives to preserve significant, non-renewable heritage resources related to the immigrant and ethnic experience. Over its 38-year history, it has amassed the most extensive assemblage of archival materials in Canada, and one of the largest in North America, documenting that experience. The archive is composed of various collections – oral history interviews, historical photographs, and newspapers as well as documentary records – and includes materials from over 50 ethnocultural communities and 240 municipalities in Ontario. In addition to its archival work, the Society undertakes educational programming to increase appreciation of the importance of diversity to the development and ongoing vitality of the province.

The MHSO Digital Archive:

In November 2011, the MHSO announced the start of a new project, the creation of a digital archive, *Strangers No More: Immigrant Stories and Multicultural Ontario*. Made possible through funding from the Ontario Trillium Foundation and in partnership with OurDigitalWorld (ODW), the digital archive will feature a large selection of archival materials from the Society's collections. Specifically, it will include:

- Digitized oral history interviews in 25 different languages (professionally digitized by The Media Preserve)
- Digitized visual material, such as historical photographs and newspapers
- Contextual material, such as transcripts, translations and biographies

The archive will be searchable, with options to browse content by individuals, themes, subjects, or locations. Digitization will be a great benefit to the oral history interviews in particular. The majority of this collection is stored on audiocassette tapes recorded in the 1970s and 1980s, and they are not easily accessible by the general public, especially researchers living outside of Toronto and the GTA. The tapes are also reaching the end of their natural lifespan and are beginning to degrade because of age and continued use.

The digital archive will also include crowdsourcing tools allowing for user engagement. ODW's VITA Toolkit provides essential crowdsourcing features that encourage members of the public to contribute content and share their own stories through the website. These crowdsourcing features include:

- Adding comments
- Writing Testimonials
- Answering Mystery Questions which are posed by the MHSO
- Uploading their own archival material (oral history interviews, photographs etc.)

All of the crowdsourcing features will be approved by the MHSO before they are published on the digital archive, which will allow the Society to monitor public contributions.

In order to engage with the public and spread the word about its collections, the MHSO undertook an extensive outreach program that resulted in over 250 volunteers contributing to the digital archive over a two and a half year period. Volunteers working virtually from home helped in many ways, but have focused primarily on developing the contextual material for the archive by transcribing, translating and indexing interviews. The digital archive would not have been achievable without all of these amazing and dedicated volunteers.

The digital archive will be launched in late 2014. The MHSO's goal in creating the archive is to ensure that its collections are accessible, sustainable and interactive. The archive will guarantee that the MHSO collections reach a wider audience and it will facilitate their becoming educational tools and resources for people around the world.

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Commemorating the First World War in Deseronto
Amanda Hill, Archivist
Deseronto Archives

Our project started with researching the 34 names on Deseronto's war memorial: a manageable number, you might think. But then it slowly began to grow. First we thought it would be good to commemorate the men and women who enlisted in Deseronto and who survived the war: their contribution was just as memorable, surely, as those who died. And then there were those who signed up somewhere else but who had been born in Deseronto, or who had next-of-kin living there. And of course we had to record those men who died locally during training at the two Royal Flying Corps camps sited either side of Deseronto – Camp Rathbun and Camp Mohawk. By the time all of these categories of people had been listed, the original list of 34 names had mushroomed to a rather less manageable 350!

We will be publishing a blog post for each Deseronto wartime event: the 100th anniversary of each attestation or death will be marked on the Deseronto Archives blog with information about the soldier, nurse, or airman concerned. There will be a total of around 400 blog posts written over the course of the next four years and we hope that family members will contribute additional information to the facts we have been able to gather from official records.

You can follow along on our blog at https://deserontoarchives.wordpress.com/category/world-war-i/ or via Twitter (@DeserontoArch) and Facebook https://www.facebook.com/DeserontoArchives.Ontario.

And don't forget to RSVP!!!!

Municipal Archives Interest Group (MAIG) Open House
October 24th, 2014
Stratford-Perth Archives

Stratford-Perth Archives
24 St. Andrew Street
Stratford, Ontario

http://www.stratfordpertharchives.on.ca/.

10:00 am – 4:00 pm

Join us for a power point presentation about the progress of the new, purpose-built, 10,000 square foot building which will house the Stratford-Perth Archives. Also, there will be a tour of the courthouse, a visit to the new site of the archives, and a visit to the neighbouring Stratford-Perth Museum.
The afternoon will include the yearly MAIG meeting to discuss what is happening with Municipal archives across the province.

If you would like to attend, please **RSVP** to Gina Coady, Secretary-Treasurer by October 17th.

If you have any questions about the MAIG (Municipal Archives Interest Group) or would like to get involved please feel free to contact our executive:

Laura Lamb – Chair llamb@hpl.ca

Brenda Hicock – Vice-Chair brendaolynyk@gmail.com

Gina Coady – Secretary-Treasurer gcoady@elgin-county.on.ca