



THE UPDATE

York Pioneer and Historical Society

P.O. Box 45026, 2482 Yonge Street, Toronto, Ont.
416 656-2954 (President David Raymont)

www.yorkpioneers.org
yorkpioneers@gmail.com

Scadding Cabin and the CNE



Scadding Cabin welcomed visitors during the 2016 Canadian National Exhibition, and a full slate of special events attracted 7370 guests to the cabin, up from 2279 in 2015. Total sales were \$726.00 and \$1037.90 in donations were received, resulting in a total of \$1763.90 raised during the CNE. The Board extends their gratitude to everyone who volunteered at the Cabin over the seventeen days of the CNE and to the special presenters who made every day a unique experience. *Photo: John Marshall*

Annual General Meeting

Join us at the AGM of the YPHS on Sunday, January 29th, 2017 from 2pm to 4pm at John McKenzie House (34 Parkview Ave, North York). In addition to the report of 2016 activities and the election of directors for 2017, **Gay Gooderham** will speak about her research into the families behind the former industrial site that is now the popular Distillery Historic District.

Contents

Board of Directors Nominations	2
More from the CNE	3
2017 <i>York Pioneer</i> / Howland Memoir	4
From the Archives	5
At the Cabin / Society Events	6
New Members	7
Member News	8

Nominations for the 2017 YPHS Board of Directors

A highlight of the annual general meeting is the nomination of a new board of directors for the York Pioneer and Historical Society. All members are encouraged to compete for positions on the board – 2017 promises to be an exciting year as Pioneers participate in events celebrating Canada's 150th birthday.

Each year the board appoints a nominating committee to assemble a slate of new directors for review by members. The 2016 nominating committee – including Audrey Fox as chair; board members David Raymont and Kayoko Smith and, from the general membership, Patricia Robertson and Paul Litt – have proposed a team of talented individuals for your consideration.

OFFICERS:

Past President: Audrey Fox

President: David Raymont

Vice President: Ari Kulidjian

Treasurer: Faryal Aslam

Recording Secretary: Adrian De Souza

Corresponding Secretary (Social Media): Liam Peppiatt

Archivist: David Duncan

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Editorial: Tamara Gligorevic

Membership: Anukul Sharma

Programme: Vacant

Publicity (Newsletter): Wesley Ferris

Scadding Cabin: Kayoko Smith

Sharon Temple and Canadian National Exhibition Association Representative: Fred Robbins

MEMBERS AT LARGE

Benyamin Gorgan

Derrick Carrington

The nominating committee thanks outgoing board members Nick Burton, Lili Bozhkova, John Marshall and Stephanie Lever for their service.

John Marshall has served York Pioneers in a variety of positions, including two non-consecutive terms as president and most recently as archivist. He is a good friend of the Society and his humour and insight will be missed at board meetings.

More from the CNE



Long-time volunteer at Scadding Cabin, Lillian Tanizaki, takes the chair beside the much-loved Edward Wright cradle, which was the sleeping place for the baby who in 1794 was the first registered birth in the Town of York. *Photo: David Raymont*



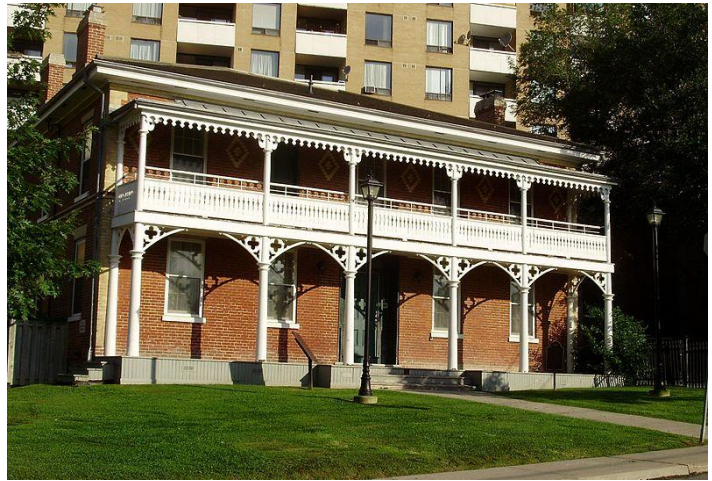
Bob and Susan Roden brought John and Elizabeth Simcoe to life for visitors to the Scadding Cabin. *Photo: David Raymont*



Archaeologist Dr. Matthew Beaudoin talks with York Pioneer Pat Robinson about a 19th century ceramic lid uncovered in the Ward neighbourhood of Toronto. The Ontario Archaeological Society came to Scadding Cabin with a display to promote knowledge of the province's past and threats to archaeological resources. *Photo: David Raymont*

Launch of the 2017 *York Pioneer*

Save the date – the launch of the 2017 edition of the *York Pioneer* journal will be held the evening of Thursday May 18th at historic Lambton House, located at 4066 Old Dundas Street, Toronto. This event will also see the launch and distribution of *Dare to Do What is Right*, the memoir of Sir William Howland. More details will be forthcoming in the spring when guests will be requested to RSVP.



Historic Lambton House (above) will be the site of the launch of the 2017 *York Pioneer*.

Sir William Howland Memoir

Dare to Do What is Right is the lively autobiography of Sir William Howland, describing a life that encompasses the negotiation of Confederation, the politics of the 1860s and the growth of Canadian business. Sir William Howland provides vivid portraits of George Brown, William Lyon Mackenzie, Sir George-Étienne Cartier and other leaders of the day, and explores the challenges of expanding to the West. He also describes his youthful adventures in the Thousand Islands and Jefferson County, New York, in the early 1800s.

The *York Pioneer* and Historical Society, founded in 1869, is Ontario's oldest historical society. It owns and operates the 1794 Scadding Cabin, Toronto's oldest building. The Society moved the cabin to the grounds of Exhibition Place in 1879; to this day, the Society operates it as a museum filled with settler artifacts. The Society also publishes an annual journal, *The York Pioneer*, of articles related to the history of Toronto and York Region, holds an annual dinner, sponsors heritage plaques and organizes meetings on heritage issues.

Heritage York was founded in 1991 with the goal of preserving the built and natural heritage of the former City of York. It also provides educational programmes to increase people's awareness of the usefulness of our history, buildings and structures and their value in today's context and in the future. Heritage York preserves Lambton House, the last remaining landmark of Sir William Howland's Lambton Mills.

Dare to Do What is Right

Sir William Howland Remembers the Birth of Canada and Life in the 1860s

Dare to Do What is Right
Sir William Howland Remembers the Birth of Canada and Life in the 1860s

Dare to Do What is Right, the previously-unpublished memoir of York Pioneer and Father of Confederation Sir William Howland, will be printed and distributed by the YPHS and Heritage York to celebrate the 150th anniversary of Confederation. The memoir will be available free of charge to all 2017 members of the YPHS.

From the Archives: The YPHS Corporate Seal

By John Marshall

Pictured below is a device most York Pioneers have never seen: the YPHS corporate seal.

The York Pioneers' Society, founded in 1869, was incorporated as the York Pioneer and Historical Society on March 18, 1891. The previous November, a declaration was filed with the Provincial Secretary for incorporation under The Benevolent, Provident and Other Societies Act. The original duplicate of that declaration, signed by Henry Scadding and seven other officers, is in our archives.

The seal was likely manufactured in the year of incorporation. It is cast iron with hand-painted decoration, stands about nine inches high and weighs more than four and a half pounds. At some point long ago the top of the handle broke off. Was it dropped, or did an overzealous president push down too hard?

The seal is officially used on legal documents, such as those required when Sharon Temple was transferred to the Sharon Temple Museum Society. Unofficially, it provides a nice finishing touch to awards and life membership certificates.



The YPHS corporate seal.



An imprint of the YPHS corporate seal. After 125 years of use, the beaver in the centre are barely visible.

At the Cabin



An annual tradition, apples from the trees at Scadding Cabin are donated to Not Far From the Tree, a group which picks fruit and gives it to food banks and other charities. Above Kayoko Smith (l) and Not Far From the Tree volunteers pose with this year's bumper harvest. *Photo: David Raymont*



Every Friday in October Scadding Cabin was the final stop on Exhibition Place ghost walks, with volunteers Diane Reid and Kayoko Smith welcoming guests. *Photo: Liam Peppiatt*

Society Events

YPHS Sale



On October 30th the YPHS held a sale of books and treasures at Trinity St. Paul's Church in Toronto, which also provided an opportunity for members to view the society's newly-opened reference library. Thanks go out to John Marshall, Audrey Fox, Adrian De Souza, and Liam Peppiatt who volunteered at the book sale. *Photo: Audrey Fox*

Annual Dinner



On Sept. 25th Pioneers gathered at Terroni Adelaide for the Annual Dinner, at which local author and artist Virginia May spoke. Above, Virginia talks about her watercolours of local heritage buildings with York Pioneer Arlis Barclay. *Photo: David Raymont*

Welcome to New Members

Our apologies for being remiss in publicly welcoming new members over the last year or so. Although we do send welcome notes and emails to those who join, and Life Members receive a signed certificate from the president, we should also tell our newsletter readers who has joined us – so please read about our new supporters.

New Life Members:

Three annual members became Life Members: **George Duncan**, a former YPHS president and YP journal contributor; **Dr. John Carter**, a long-time YPHS supporter and contributor to *The York Pioneer*; and **Nancy Conn**.

We were also very pleased to welcome new members who immediately took out life memberships: **Brent Cunningham** of Ottawa; and **Liam Fox**, **Dr. John Stanley**, **Richard Fiennes-Clinton**, **Nola-Susan Crewe**, **Lionel Collier**, and **Alexandra Fox**, all of Toronto.

New Annual Members:

In late 2015 **Hugh Barnett**, **David Duncan**, **Rochelle Gai Rodney**, **Elsie Sparks**, **Harley Karulis**, **Cheryl Michalson**, and **Kate Rounthwaite** (family) joined as annual members.

In 2016 the **Upper Canada College Archives** became a new subscriber to *The York Pioneer* (corporate member).

And becoming new annual members in 2016: **Benyamin Gorgan**, **Jay Fallah**, **Bonnie Lennie**, **Lili Bozhkova**, **Adrian De Souza**, **Shirley Morriss**, **Tom Bastedo**, **Liam Peppiatt**, **Caroline Ormrod** (family), **Sarah Power**, **Ann Lambert**, **Rachel Connell**, **Tamara Gligorevic**, **Matthew Broadbent & Samira Viswanathan** (family), **Bojan Prznica**, **Anita Foley**, **David Reed**, **Sandra McNamara**, **Ashley Smith**, **Chantel Vechambre**, **Linda Troy**, **Chris Stefanovich**, **Christopher Belfontaine**, **Susan Grundy**, **Judy Keeler**, **Virginia May**, **Virginia Grimaldi**, **William Newland**, and **Philippa Dowding**.



The membership certificate of new life member Brent Cunningham, framed and hung in a place of honour. *Photo: Brent Cunningham*

Member News



York Pioneers Audrey Fox and Alwyn Robertson attended the 2016 Heritage Toronto Awards on October 17th. *Photo: David Raymont*

In Memoriam

The YPHS extends condolences to Life Member Catherine Seymour on the death of her husband Alan on August 25th, 2016. An architect specializing in historic restoration, Alan practised in Toronto for 40 years before returning to his country of birth, England.



Former YPHS president Jeanine Avigdor (*front right*) was awarded the Jean Hibbert Award by the Etobicoke Historical Society during its annual meeting at Montgomery’s Inn on [date?]. *Photo: James Geneau*



York Pioneers and UEL descendants Audrey Fox and Diane Reid at the November 3rd launch of Peter Newman’s latest book *Hostages to Fortune* that tells the story of United Empire Loyalists. *Photo: David Raymont*

The YPHS gratefully acknowledges the financial support of the Government of Ontario through the Ministry of Tourism, Culture, and Sport.