Heritage Stewards

Donor News 2014



Message from the Chairman

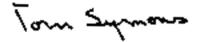
The work of the Ontario Heritage Trust in conserving Ontario's heritage would not be possible without the support of donors, corporate sponsors and partners across the province. These important relationships allow us to deliver a range of exciting public programs and conservation activities. The pages that follow highlight a few of these initiatives.

In 2013, we focused our energies on the celebration of the Elgin and Winter Garden Theatre Centre's (EWG) 100th anniversary. Our plans, to raise the profile of the EWG, to leverage the anniversary to create new partnerships, and to connect with new audiences, were all successfully achieved through a number of events, activities and special projects.

Looking to 2014, we continue to build on the momentum of the anniversary year with special projects at the EWG. The RBC Emerging Artists Project launched in January and fundraising will continue in support of further interpretation of this wonderfully special National Historic Site. Doors Open Ontario will once again tell the stories of the province's communities, and TD Bank Group has provided funds to assist with Trails Open Ontario. The Trust's public programming will

consider the impact of the First World War on Ontario through provincial plaques, exhibits at museum sites, online exhibits, Doors Open Ontario, Heritage Week activities and other resources. There are many ways to be involved and every contribution helps.

On behalf of the Board and staff of the Ontario Heritage Trust, may I thank our generous supporters for their interest and contributions. Together, we are stewards of the heritage of Ontario



Thomas H.B. Symons, C.C., O.Ont, FRSC, LLD, D.Litt., D.U., D.Cn.L., FRGS, KSS Chairman

Message from the Chair, Fundraising Committee

2013 was a stellar year for the Ontario Heritage Trust. We celebrated the 100th anniversary of the world's last operating double-decker theatre, the Elgin and Winter Garden. We hosted and staged many public events, such as Doors Open Ontario, Heritage Week and the Lieutenant Governor's Ontario Heritage Awards. Working with our partners, we facilitated the reburial of 1,760 Huron Wendat Nation ancestors – the largest reburial of aboriginal ancestral remains ever undertaken in North America. We also protected many hectares of land, marked Ontario's diverse history with plagues, and initiated and conducted a myriad of heritage activities and educational opportunities. And you were steadfast champions for our work, contributing both financially and otherwise.

This year launches a significant commemorative period for the Trust as we explore the impact the First World War had on Ontario and its people. As Chair of the Trust's Fundraising Committee, I am extremely excited about the initiatives planned for this year, continuing the work we do on behalf of the people of Ontario.



We are grateful for your support. Every dollar you give or service you provide is critical to our success. Your gifts support programs such as Doors Open Ontario and Trails Open Ontario, provincial plaques, museum exhibits and school programs. They ensure that the important work of protecting cultural and natural heritage properties can continue.

I hope you will join me as a heritage champion. Every gift makes a difference and there are many ways to be involved.

Dawn Bennett Chair, Fundraising Committee









Photos from left: students participating in a school program at Enoch Turner Schoolhouse; members of the Friends of Fulford Place Association; Elgin and Winter Garden Theatre Centre volunteers.

With Thanks to our Friends

Each year, volunteers support Trust sites and museums by assisting with tours, special events, projects and fundraising. Here's a look at the work of three volunteer groups that support some of the Trust's busiest sites: the Enoch Turner Schoolhouse Foundation, the Friends of Fulford Place Association and the volunteers at the Elgin and Winter Garden Theatre Centre.

- The Enoch Turner Schoolhouse Foundation plays an important role in the Schoolhouse's success by supporting the programming and operation of the site, and by providing a wealth of knowledge, experience and passion. The Foundation helps the Trust to ensure that the Schoolhouse remains closely connected to the local community and to today's educators and students. To this end, the Foundation organizes lectures, performances and annual fundraisers, such as The Founder's Dinner. Thanks to their generous annual donations, and continuing fundraising to support school programs, hundreds of students from local schools are able to visit the Schoolhouse free of charge to learn about life in the Victorian era and schooling in old Toronto.
- The Friends of Fulford Place Association celebrated its 20th anniversary in 2013. For two decades, the volunteers have been providing visitors with warm welcomes and informative guided tours. Last year, the Friends provided funds to restore two bedrooms in the mansion to their original colour schemes. Ultraviolet light-filtering blinds were also installed in a bedroom now used for seasonal exhibitions. Thanks to the Friends, Fulford Place hosted many special programs, such as Ghost Walks, Lantern tours, a fun walk, a jewelry social and one of the most anticipated events of the Brockville holiday season, the sold-out Edwardian Christmas Tea. Early this year, the Friends will be identifying a new project to fundraise for in 2014.
- For over 20 years, a dedicated group of volunteers has been supporting the Elgin and Winter Garden Theatre Centre. Last year, through various fundraising initiatives, such as the weekly public tour program and merchandise sales at the

gift shops, the volunteers were able to fund a number of projects for the 100th anniversary. Funds raised supported the refurbishment of occasional tables and acquisition of new chairs in the Elgin Lounge, as well as the printing of the beautiful new souvenir booklet. In addition to these financial contributions, the volunteers led special tours during Celebration Week in October, which included a reunion of some members from the original restoration team. The volunteers' latest project is designing and funding a photography exhibit for the Elgin Lounge.

The Trust sincerely thanks these and the many other volunteers who generously donate their time and enthusiasm to supporting our sites and programs. These friends play a vital role in helping to bring Ontario's stories to life.

- Sam Wesley. Site Coordinator at Parliament and Enoch Turner Schoolhouse; Pamela Brooks, Coordinator of the Eastern Ontario Museums: and Ellen Flowers. Marketing and Communications Manager at the Elgin and Winter Garden Theatre Centre



Linda Atkinson has been a volunteer tour guide at the Elgin and Winter Garden Theatre Centre for the past six years. She can usually be found at special events dressed in an Edwardian-era costume having her picture taken with enthusiastic visitors. Linda also volunteers as the group's Membership

Coordinator, which involves recruiting, interviewing and helping to train new volunteers. Last fall, to show her appreciation for the site, Linda endowed 16 theatre seats in honour of beloved family members. The Trust is grateful to Linda for her ongoing dedication.

Celebrating IOO Years – The Chandelier Gala



Photos this page, from left: Meredith and Bill Saunderson, John Lawson and Ann Hughson (Photo: Kim Lovell); Harriett Bunting Weld and Carol Blades (Photo: David Lee); Michael and Sonja Koerner (Photo: David Lee); opening performance on the stage (Photo: David Lee); Brett Randall, Beth Hanna, The Honourable David C. Onley and Thomas H.B. Symons (Photo: Kim Lovell); Matt Certosimo (centre) and quests from Borden Ladner Gervais LLP (Photo: Kim Lovell).

Photos this page, from left: Gordon Pinsent (Photo: David Lee); emcees Colin Mochrie and Deb McGrath (Photo: David Lee); Rex Harrington (Photo: David Lee); Steven Sabados and Chris Hyndman (Photo: Kim Lovell); Karen Kain and Ross Petty (Photo: Kim Lovell); the performers from Cats (Photo: David Lee); Andra Takacs (centre) and guests (Photo: Kim Lovell).

Celebrating a century of theatre – especially in such an extraordinary venue as the Elgin and Winter Garden Theatre Centre – provides a trip down memory lane that invokes a multitude of characters from bygone eras. On October 7, 2013, we celebrated the 100th anniversary of the theatre centre with the Chandelier Gala at the Elgin, bringing a century of theatrical style and evolution to the stage. From Bojangles to Bob Fosse, Al Jolson to The Who, Canada's elite performers provided an entertainment spectacular for a sold-out audience of the Centre's devotees.

The Gala creative team was led by the renowned Marlene Smith, producer of *Cats* and other successful theatrical ventures. Marlene's original Toronto production of Cats, which ran for two years at the Elgin Theatre prior to its restoration, had recently returned for another successful run in the city – so it was fitting for the cast to come together once more at the Elgin to reprise Jellicle Songs for Jellicle Cats, the musical's famous opening number.

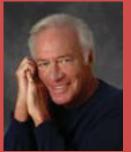
Over the next two hours, the audience was entertained with a four-part tribute to dance over the century choreographed by Gino Berti. David Rogers beautifully recreated the era of Al Jolson in song and dance, the cast of Tommy came down from Stratford to perform *Pinball Wizard*, Adam Brazier and Stephanie Martin reprised the touching love song from Napoleon, On That First Night, we heard the stars of Opera Atelier, as well as an unforgettable performance from Ross Petty (sans drag!) and Adam Brazier singing I'm Nothing Without You.

Another highlight of the evening was a screening of *Silent* Garden, directed by Dylan Reibling, one of six short films created by emerging filmmakers that were filmed in the EWG to mark the centenary. Many organizations contributed funds or in-kind support to this project, in particular bravoFACT, whose financial support made the project possible.

In addition to the Gala – which kicked off the fundraising for The Chandelier Fund – a number of other special events and activities took place throughout the anniversary year, some of

which are profiled in this publication. Nearly 5,000 Ontarians also toured the building to see the world's only fully operating double-decker, vaudeville-era theatre centre and to learn more about how the facility was saved and restored. Moving forward, we will continue to raise funds for interpretive programming at the EWG and to support the re-creation of the Elgin Theatre's original chandelier – last seen in 1935 and the missing pièce de résistance in the theatre's restoration story.

- Brett Randall, General Manager of the Elgin and Winter Garden Theatre Centre



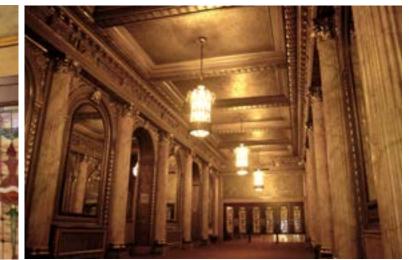
I congratulate the Ontario Heritage Trust for making thi celebration possible for recognizing the magnificent building's significance, and for overseeing its stunning restoration

And, of course, for its efforts to ensure that performers, producers and patrons alike current and future – continue to enjoy these two superb theatres, which have, mercifully, been given back their glory.

Christopher Plummer Honorary Chair, Elgin and Winter Garden Theatre Centre's 100th Anniversary







Celebrating 100 Years — Opening of the Davies Takacs Lobby A Donor's Perspective

On September 3, 2013, the Trust was pleased to announce the naming of the Elgin Theatre's lobby in honour of Bryan Davies and Andra Takacs – both longtime and passionate supporters of the Elgin and Winter Garden Theatre Centre. Here, Andra Takacs shares her perspective on making this donation in celebration of the theatre centre's 100th anniversary.

The Elgin and Winter Garden Theatres have a special place in my heart for several reasons. Foremost is the architectural significance of the buildings. Constructed in 1913 by American theatre impresario Marcus Loew, the theatres acted as the Canadian flagship for his chain of vaudeville theatres. It was the only double-decker theatre built in Canada and is today the friends were delighted with the unique party venue. last of its kind in the world.

Secondly, I have personally attended scores of live performances in the theatres in the past 30 years since I moved to Toronto, and I think they are the most beautiful theatres in the city, bar none.

More recently, I have enjoyed hosting friends from around the world at the Toronto International Film Festival screenings during the month of September. Without exception, these cinephiles have complimented the theatres as the best place in

which to view a film. I recall that in 2012. Dustin Hoffman was hosting a question and answer session on the stage of the Elgin Theatre after a screening of *Quartet*, and he noted that the acoustics in the theatre were very rare, as most modern movie theatres are built to absorb sound. He said he was thrilled to be able to hear each laugh or intake of breath from audience members.

In addition, my husband, Bryan Davies, was a deputy minister in the Ministry of Citizenship and Culture when the Elgin Theatre was being refurbished in the 1980s. Five years ago, we celebrated both of our birthdays by renting the Winter Garden Theatre and hosting a dinner party on stage. Our

Both Bryan and I have donated over the years to the Ontario Heritage Trust, but decided that the 100th anniversary celebrations warranted a larger donation. We were delighted to contribute to maintaining the legacy of the theatre centre and look forward to many more years of theatrical and cinematic pleasure within its doors.

Andra Takacs



Celebrating I00 Years – Stage to Screen Commemorative Project

It started as a conversation about producing a film short commemorating the Elgin and Winter Garden Theatre Centre's 100th anniversary. Applying his creativity, Glen Wood, Producer of Viddywell Films, attracted support from bravoFACT to grow this project into a series of six film shorts by emerging Canadian filmmakers.

While all the shorts were filmed at the theatre centre, the topics differed widely – from a post-apocalypse feature to a romantic silent film to a gangster movie. One of the films, Wakening, directed by Danis Goulet and written by Tony Elliott, made its debut on the opening night of TIFF13, and was screened at the Sundance Film Festival in January 2014. Alex Epstein's Winter Garden was selected to play in the Best of bravoFACT program at the inaugural Canadian International Television Festival (November 2013) and Doug Karr's *Tiny Dancer* received a \$50,000 grant to develop the screenplay into a feature-length film.

Glen Wood commented: "It was such a thrill to work with the Ontario Heritage Trust, bravoFACT, Optix Toronto and PS: Production Services on this film series to celebrate 100 years of the Elgin and Winter Garden theatres. My hope was that by making new films in this magnificent space we would celebrate the theatres as a living public space for the arts. Our amazing filmmakers exceeded all expectations and it's wonderful to see the films go on to successes at Sundance, National Screen Institute, CITF and beyond."

The Trust hosted a public screening of the film shorts in the Winter Garden during TIFF13, providing the creative teams the first opportunity to see their work on the big screen. As the audience that evening can attest, the results of this remarkable collaboration have left a truly unique commemorative legacy.

- Janet Gates, Director of Corporate Businesses and Services

MOVING ON An exhibition of photographs by Ryerson students exploring urban transportation in the Greater Toronto Ansa

Moving On at the Elgin and Winter Garden Theatre Centre until April 3, 2014, through the RBC Emerging Artists Project.

Celebrating I00 Years – Spotlight on Art

Seeking to animate some of the space in its Elgin and Winter Garden Theatre Centre, the Trust used funding from the RBC Emerging Artists Project to embark on a unique partnership: the development of a gallery for exhibiting student and emerging artists' work. Its first exhibit brought together Metrolinx and Ryerson University's Image Arts Faculty to create Moving On: An Exhibition of Photographs Exploring Urban Transportation in the GTA.

Shot and assembled by second-year students, the show offered a varied and nuanced look at the day-to-day experience of Toronto's current transit system and its users and addressed the city's pressing urban challenges. Located on the second-floor lobby of the EWG overlooking Yonge Street, the gallery has two large, Palladian-style windows that admit natural light, making it an ideal space for displaying and viewing works of art.

The lobby is used by patrons during intermission and for pre- and post-show services, and underwent minor repairs and upgrades to provide not only a working gallery for students' programming, but a compelling space that brings together art and audiences who might not otherwise converge.

The Trust is delighted to be working with RBC and Ryerson University and looks forward to also working with the Ontario College of Art and Design University (OCADU) in the coming months as we continue to develop a fruitful partnership that supports the work of emerging artists, more fully uses the theatre's lobby spaces, and – most of all – broadens our relationship with the arts and culture community.

- Catherine Shepherd, Strategic Business Analyst

Donations

Our sincere thanks to all those who generously donated to the Ontario Heritage Trust between January 1 and December 31, 2013. Your support enables the Trust to preserve, protect and promote Ontario's heritage for present and future generations. Friends of the Trust, including members of the Trust's Board of Directors, former members of the Board, staff, volunteers, foundations, corporations and other supporters of heritage who responded generously to our requests for donations and partnership support were:

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Ann P. Richards Larry W. Richards Marcia Turner Margaret Jane Turner UBS Caroline Ursulak Viddywell Films Brenda A. Whitlock Clare Woolgar Anna M. Young . . . and those donors who wish to remain anonymous.

The Great-West Life Assurance Company The Michael and Sonja The Trust is pleased to announce a new partnership with TD Bank Group. Starting in Koerner Charitable 2014, TD will be supporting the Trails Open Ontario component of the Doors Open Foundation Ontario program. For seven years, Trails Open Ontario has been promoting trail use and The Sonar Group education, natural heritage conservation and stewardship, and physical activity and a Tim Horton's healthy lifestyle. We look forward to working with TD on this exciting new venture in Toronto Argonauts the vear ahead! Football Club Toronto Marlies Hockey Club

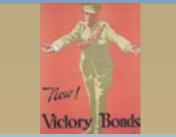


Great-West Life, London Life and Canada Life have supported the Trust's Young Heritage Leaders Program since it began in 2000. Thanks to the recent renewal and expansion of their funding commitment to the program, which now includes support for enhanced engagement with youth over the next two years, the Trust will be able to provide new educational opportunities at museum sites, expand partnerships with youth-focused organizations and increase mentorship for emerging heritage professionals



Homewood Museum in eastern Ontario was brought to life last summer with special events and tours. Staffed for the season by three local students, the site hosted its annual Family Day celebration in July, as well as bus tours brought in for the first time by St. Lawrence Cruise Lines. The Trust thanks the Earl B. Connell Foundation for their ongoing commitment, which made it possible to open Homewood Museum for visitors to enjoy

Be a Heritage Champion!











Each year, donors and sponsors help to make our work possible. There are many opportunities to be involved, including:

Remembering the First World War: Ontario in Transition

This theme is the focus of the Trust's exhibits, events and commemorations in 2014, examining the impact of the war on the everyday lives of Ontarians. Please make a donation toward these activities and help us to explore this important chapter in Ontario's story.

Photo: J.E. Sampson. Archives of Ontario War Poster Collection [between 1914 and 1918]. (Archives of Ontario, C 233-2-1-0-296).

Fool's Paradise Artists-In-Residence

Doris McCarthy was a renowned Canadian artist specializing in landscape painting. She died at age 100 after having lived and worked for most of her life at Fool's Paradise, her home on the Scarborough Bluffs. Her life's dream was to support artists, and to this end, she donated Fool's Paradise to the Trust as a future retreat for artists, musicians and writers, and a setting for heritage activities. To support Doris McCarthy's dream, please donate to the Fool's Paradise Artists-In-Residence Fund.

Youth Internships

Every year, the Trust hires 20 to 25 interns and co-op students, providing an introduction to future careers in heritage conservation, architecture, marketing, museum programming, archaeology and more. To support this important educational opportunity for Ontario's young people, please donate to the Ontario Heritage Trust's Internship Program.

The Chandelier Fund

An elegant Tiffany-style chandelier once hung in the Elgin Theatre. Made of stunning amber-coloured stained glass and brass, it was removed during an alteration to the theatre in 1935 and has been missing since. To help re-create the original, please donate to The Chandelier Fund.

Easement Fund

Did you know that the Trust protects 266 properties across the province with easements? Ontario's heritage properties are precious, irreplaceable assets, well worth conserving for future generations. If you would like to play a part in this, please donate in support of the Ontario Heritage Trust Easement Fund.

There are many ways to be a Heritage Champion. To donate to these funds or other activities at the Trust, please contact us at donations@heritagetrust.on.ca or call 416-325-5025.

- Isla Adelson, Manager of Fundraising and Business Development



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For more information about the Trust or to make a donation, contact: Ontario Heritage Trust, 10 Adelaide Street East, Toronto, Ontario M5C 1J3 Telephone: 416-325-5025 Fax: 416-314-4930, donations@heritagetrust.on.ca, www.heritagetrust.on.ca

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