

2014 Lieutenant Governor's Ontario Heritage Award recipients

The annual Lieutenant Governor's Ontario Heritage Awards recognize individuals and groups who have made outstanding contributions to conserving Ontario's heritage.

Lieutenant Governor's Ontario Heritage Award for Community Leadership

- **Town of Grimsby**

The Town of Grimsby has a proactive and professional approach to heritage conservation. The community has heritage staff, comprehensive policies for cultural heritage that integrate the Provincial Policy Statement, several recent designations and recognized cultural heritage landscapes. Grimsby has designated 32 properties under Section 29, has 165 listed properties and is conserving the unique heritage of the Grimsby Beach with zoning policies. The municipality also administers the Grimsby Downtown Façade Improvement Program and has successfully conserved a local pump house, Carnegie Library and Nelles Manor. Grimsby also recognizes the heritage value of trees, participates in Doors Open Ontario and designates properties under the Ontario Heritage Act, with or without owner consent. The Town has invested in Grimsby and has successfully advanced its conservation efforts, especially in recent years, with tangible results.

Quote: "Receiving this recognition means a great deal to Grimsby, a community that since the first founding of the Grimsby Historical Society in 1913, has taken pride in its strong sense of history and awareness of the important role of historical landmarks and cultural landscapes in making it a special and distinctive place. Thanks to the hard work and dedication of the Grimsby Heritage Advisory Committee, and Grimsby Historical Society, as well as a supportive community and council, Grimsby has continuously strived for many years to recognize and preserve its heritage. By raising awareness of the distinctive history and heritage that we have in Grimsby, from First Nations burial grounds, loyalist settlements, and birthplace of the continent-wide Chautauqua movement among existing and new residents in the community as well as local youth, Grimsby has fostered a strong sense of community and identity that has made it a more complete and healthy community with a rich community pride." – Michael J. Seaman, Director of Planning, Town of Grimsby

Lieutenant Governor's Ontario Heritage Award for Excellence in Conservation (New)

1. **City of Barrie and E.R.A. Architects Inc. for restoration of Allandale CNR Station**
Allandale Station is located along the shores of Kempenfelt Bay in Barrie, Ontario. Designed in the early 19th century by the Detroit architectural firm of Spier and Rohns

for the Grand Trunk Railway, it consists of three discreet, but connected, Italianate buildings built between 1900 and 1905.

Recognized by the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada in 1990, this city-owned building is legally protected by an Ontario Heritage Trust easement. The station is a landmark along the Barrie waterfront, but has been vacant and in poor condition since the early 1980s when it ceased operation as a railway station. The City of Barrie acquired the building in 2006 and over a period of three years (2012-2014), implemented an impressive revitalization of this once-derelict structure, which is why the Trust nominated the project.

Working with E.R.A. Architects, the City and its other technical advisors developed an adaptive reuse and conservation plan. The exterior of the building was completely restored. The work was done to high conservation standards – layers of paint were removed, original colours were investigated and reinstated, original roofing materials recreated and the station's tower was rebuilt to replicate the missing original structure. The approach preserved all period elements and reinstated those that were missing. The City and its team also showed sensitivity and respect for the heritage character, the massing, scale and context of the site.

The City has demonstrated great leadership by conserving this nationally significant railway station, which will be a catalyst for the City's waterfront regeneration.

2. City of Mississauga, ATA Architects Inc. and Baker Turner Inc. for rehabilitation of Holcim Waterfront Estate

Holcim Waterfront Estate, also known as Harding House and Coach House, was built in 1938 and designated under the Ontario Heritage Act in 2009. It is an important part of the cultural and heritage fabric of Mississauga. The building on the grounds is located on lands regulated for flood protection, and had significantly deteriorated in the years before the City took possession of the property.

In 2013, ATA Architects (Alex Temporale, OAA, CAHP) working on behalf the City of Mississauga, completed the rehabilitation of the existing buildings and adjacent parkland to support the building's reuse as a wedding and banquet venue.

The award-winning work was undertaken by a recognized conservation architect, based on methodical research and done to a high conservation standard. The project exemplifies excellent conservation work. The City of Mississauga recognized the conservation of this building and cultural landscape with a municipal heritage award in 2013.

3. John and Josefa Dunstall for restoration of Grimsby Old Firehall

The Old Firehall building, built in 1883, is the oldest civic building in Grimsby, Ontario. It was a distinctive part of Grimsby's Main Street until its use as a fire hall ended in 1960. John and Josefa Dunstall acquired the property in 2011, researched its history and restored the interior and exterior of the building to enhance the downtown core and attract a new tenant.

In 2012, the Dunstalls participated in the first year of Grimsby's Downtown Façade Improvement Program. The Old Firehall project helped inform local trades, contractors and financial institutions about the municipality's incentive program and the benefits of

heritage preservation. As the exemplar project for the program, a number of restoration techniques and processes were developed, helping to streamline and improve the Town's processes. A key development was the creation of a design review panel comprised of a local designer, conservation professional, council member, property owner, business area representative and heritage advisory committee member.

The restoration of the Old Firehall saw the transformation of a non-descript and dilapidated storefront on Grimsby's Main Street into a landmark. The building has returned a sense of civic presence to the street, provides a downtown home for the Chamber of Commerce and has set the standard in Grimsby for future architectural conservation projects.

Quote: "Josie and I bought the building in early 2011 for investment purposes. We fell in love with the unique history of the building and decided in 2012 to restore the façade to its original look. Our town planning director was a great influence on the project and without the grants offered by the Town of Grimsby and the Region of Niagara we might not have taken on such a significant project." – John Dunstall

Lieutenant Governor's Ontario Heritage Award for Lifetime Achievement

1. **Bill Darfler (Brantford)**

Mr. Darfler has been involved with heritage conservation in his community for over 25 years. In particular, he has helped to designate Brantford's two heritage conservation districts: Brant Avenue and Victoria Park Square. He also spearheaded the creation of the Architectural Digital Inventory, acted as the chief historian on the Ontario Visual Project and has been an active member on the Grand River Conservation Authority.

2. **George Gordon (Oakville)**

Mr. Gordon has been involved in heritage conservation in Oakville for over 40 years. His significant contributions include helping to designate one of Oakville's first heritage properties and spearheading a project to create Oakville's first Heritage Conservation District.

3. **Wayne Hunter (Brantford)**

Mr. Hunter has been active as a historian in the community for over 30 years, including sourcing and identifying images from Brantford's past. Working with the Brant Museum Archives, he has helped double its photograph collection and compiled over 150 years' worth of newspaper clippings and microfiche.

4. **Susan Laing (Clarington)**

Ms. Laing has contributed a considerable amount of work and volunteer time over the last 33 years to the Clarington Museums. She has supported many activities and workshops, served on the board, and raised funds for room restorations, the purchase of important artifacts, the restoration and repair of parts of the collection, and the creation of a beautiful garden.

5. **William Marks (Bradford West Gwillimbury)**

Mr. Marks has significantly contributed to the community since the 1960s through the donation of personal artifacts and historical photographs. He also assisted with the construction of the new Library and Cultural Centre, and accessioned photographs into

the local archive and completed a survey of the pioneer cemetery by using ground penetrating radar.

6. **Patricia Rosebrugh (Waterloo)**

Ms. Rosebrugh has volunteered in support of heritage conservation in Waterloo region since the 1970s. She was involved in the restoration of the living history museum and a 19th-century house. Rosebrugh also has utilized her voice in gaining community support for heritage conservation and distributed information on the value of cultural heritage resources.

7. **Allan Smith (Grimsby)**

Mr. Smith has actively contributed to the community and has been a part of sharing Grimsby's history since the 1960s. He has volunteered at Grimsby Archives, for Doors Open Grimsby, and been a member of the Grimsby Historical Society. Smith has also led visitors on walking tours and assisted Grimsby with obtaining historical information and photographs for heritage designation reports.

8. **Barbara Weese (Greater Napanee)**

Ms. Weese has been active in her community since 1972, including helping the local museum by purchasing important antiques for the museum, gathering interviews for the local Historical Society's book, being an active member on the Hay Bay branch of the Women's Institute, and encouraging others to participate in heritage activities in the community.

Lieutenant Governor's Ontario Heritage Award for Youth Achievement

Individual awards and Young Heritage Leaders scholarships:

• **Mélanie-Rose Frappier (Sudbury)**

Mélanie-Rose Frappier is involved in a wide range of youth, community and cultural activities that led Ecole secondaire du Sacré Cœur to nominate her for the Youth Achievement Award. Mélanie-Rose is proud of her francophone and Métis heritage and is the sole student representative for the Aboriginal Advisory Education Committee and was integral in creating the first Aboriginal Studies course to be offered in the French Catholic School Board. She was spokesperson for the Congress of Aboriginal Peoples' Find Your Voice program, helping to inspire other students to realize their dreams and to make a difference in their community. She also volunteers to promote healthy living to her community. In 2013, Mélanie-Rose was chosen to be Youth Ambassador of Canada to the United States Embassy.

Quote: "I am extremely honored to be receiving such a prestigious award. As a Youth Ambassador of Canada and a motivational speaker, I am grateful for the recognition of my volunteerism and my non-profit organization, It's Cool to be Healthy. Health and community service are lifetime commitments for me. Merci." – Mélanie-Rose Frappier

• **Muhammad Qureshi (Mississauga)**

Muhammad Qureshi is a passionate environmental advocate who helped found the Ontario Nature Youth Council, a group that seeks to build a diverse provincial youth network dedicated to inspiring, connecting and educating communities, while protecting wild species and natural spaces. The Mississauga native has worked for five years with

Ontario Nature, who nominated him for his work leading fundraising initiatives for the council. Qureshi has continued his environmental activism at school; he founded an environmental club at his university and organized a conference that brought together environmental leaders from 53 Canadian universities.

Quote: "I am thrilled to be recognized for my conservation of Ontario's natural heritage with the Ontario Nature Youth Council for the past five years. The Lieutenant Governor's Ontario Heritage Award encourages us to continue youth leadership in conserving Ontario's wild species and wild spaces that inspire and enrich future generations." – Muhammad Qureshi

Group awards:

1. **Huzza for Freedom: Political Cartoons and the War of 1812 Exhibit (Toronto)**

In October 2013, the Ontario Heritage Trust partnered with the University of Toronto's Masters of Museum Studies program to create the exhibit, Huzza for Freedom: Political Cartoons and the War of 1812. Four students – Keely Bland, Hilary Walker, Kristie Nairn and Oriana Duinker – were chosen to curate the exhibit. Huzza for Freedom, which was exhibited at Parliament interpretive centre from April to August 2014, is a thoughtful, innovative and compelling exhibit that explored the relationship between political cartoons and notions of freedom during the War of 1812.

Quote: "The exhibition Huzza for Freedom gave us the opportunity to develop professional skills and to work with historical cartoons that were entertaining, enlightening and still relevant to today's discussion of democracy. As emerging museum professionals, beginning our careers in the heritage sector with this award is a true honour." – Keely Bland, Hilary Walker, Kristie Nairn and Oriana Duinker

2. **Juno Beach Project (Smiths Falls, Oakville and Owen Sound)**

The Juno Beach Project app created by Grades 11 and 12 computer science students at Smiths Falls District Collegiate Institute, Garth Webb Secondary School and Owen Sound Collegiate and Vocational School offers a window into the lives of Canadian soldiers who died on the beaches of Normandy, France, on D-Day. The smartphone application, featuring high-grade graphics, opens up on a poppy graphic through which a visitor can touch the screen and access maps of the battlefields and details on the hour-by-hour progression of Canadian regiments into Normandy. The app also offers details on the German positions, a listing of regiments that fought on D-Day, along with the detailed stories of approximately 371 Canadians who died on D-Day and the ensuing days. The app uses original research developed by Smiths Falls history students as part of the Lest We Forget initiative. The app allows anyone to search soldiers by regiment and narrow down their search to individual profiles. The program also permits a user to discover a soldier's name, rank, regiment, hometown, education, employment before the war, date of death and burial location.

Quote: "It's an honour to have the hard work and dedication of our students recognized by the Lieutenant Governor. Their commitment in memorializing the sacrifice Canadian soldiers made and digitally bringing this to the forefront of Canada's historical conscience is one that I'm certainly proud of." – Mason Black, computer science teacher, Smiths Falls District Collegiate Institute

3. **Métis Nation of Ontario Canoe Expedition (province-wide project)**

The Métis Nation of Ontario Canoe Expedition is an interdisciplinary model of experiential learning; challenging and rewarding students from across Ontario as they gain important and transferrable skills, knowledge and abilities. The project raises awareness of Métis Culture and traditions throughout the province. This project provides an outlet to equip Métis with knowledge of their culture that can be passed down to future generations, as well as the opportunity to gain skills that can be put into practice during the MNO Canoe Expedition, providing a foundation to face future employment and experiences that will enhance employability within today's labour market. After three weeks of cultural and expedition training, the voyageurs launched on May 26, 2014, from Mooney's Bay in Ottawa. A chartered route of over 2,000 km took them through 23 communities before finishing on August 22 at Chippewa Park in Thunder Bay. These youth shared their heritage in the form of traditional Métis storytelling, games, music and jigging.

Quote: "We are all very proud of the leadership shown by our young Métis Voyageurs. They provide a shining example of what is possible when young people set out to be all they can be and provide a living symbol of the relationship between our rich heritage and our promising future." – Gary Lipinski, President, Métis Nation of Ontario

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