



ANNUAL REPORT 2022

Aylmer-Malahide Museum & Archives

Email: info@aylmermuseum.ca

Tel: 519-773-9723

Website: www.aylmermuseum.ca

14 East Street, Aylmer



TABLE OF CONTENTS

2022 Chairperson's Message	3
2022 Finance Report	4
2022 Acquisition Report	6
2022 Building Report	7
2022 Membership Report	8
2022 Volunteer Report	10
2022 Curator's Report	11
2022 Board of Directors and Staff	13
2022 Members, Sponsors, and Supporters	14

2022 CHAIRPERSONS MESSAGE

Welcome to the 2022 Annual General Meeting of the Aylmer-Malahide Museum and Archives.

This past year, especially since the Museum took possession of its new “digs” at 75 Talbot St. E. in Aylmer, we have seen a flurry of activity by the Museum staff and volunteers. Pop-up exhibits, such as our Christmas and railway presentations, have introduced the public to the current and potential possibilities of the new location. As part of our ongoing adventures in fundraising, we held a highly successful Car Show with the support of the German-Canadian Club (the winning car was a gorgeous robin’s-egg-blue 1957 Chevrolet Bel-Air).

A major effort was undertaken to develop a new AMMA publication chronicling the history and biographies of those individuals who have provided medical services to the people of Aylmer and Malahide since the mid-1800s. The book was prepared in conjunction with the fascinating exhibit at our East St. location, “Just What the Doctor Ordered”, and shares its title. Fully illustrated and at 210 pages, it is our most ambitious project to date and has been praised for its comprehensiveness and style. Congratulations to everyone involved in creating this book, especially Amanda and Sarah for their immense hard work.

And then we were eleven. We welcomed three newcomers to the Board: Shirley Fallowfield, Jim McCallum and Sarah Leitch. Shirley, as a past member of the Board, brings back her much-appreciated wisdom and guidance. Jim has a background in genealogy, which is a very useful skill in an organization such as ours. Sarah Leitch will represent the interests of the Township of Malahide and serve as our liaison.

It is time to acknowledge the tremendous contribution of the OLG and Jackpot Time in St. Thomas. The funding, provided through our volunteer participation in their bingo games, gives the Museum opportunities to further our mandate of keeping our collections organized and safe.

Just as an army marches on its stomach, our Museum relies on its volunteers. They help with our bingo charity, fundraising, and the maintenance of our collections. This coming fall will see the return of the very popular Christmas Tour of Homes, a project that brings in a large portion of our yearly revenue. Without the devoted effort of our volunteers, we would not be able to bring the amazing history of Aylmer and Malahide to our community. Thanks, guys.

The future is bright and our hopes are high. Here’s to another great year for the Aylmer-Malahide Museum and Archives.

Ron Sawyer

Board Chair, Aylmer-Malahide Museum & Archives

2022 FINANCE REPORT

Overview

Last year was a busy, sometimes hectic year, with numerous encouraging highlights. Unquestionably, the biggest of these was the purchase of the old Trader's Bank building on Talbot Street in downtown Aylmer. We expect this to be the permanent home of the museum for decades to come. The purchase required us to cash in most of our investments; savings that had been accumulated over many years to this end.

Year over year, total revenue increased by a little more than \$119,000. Taking into account the fact that the Relocation Fund brought in just over \$157,000, this really means that we had ~\$38,000 less available for all operations, requiring us to draw down on our savings.

Expenses increased by just under \$23,000. Although inflation became a factor in 2022, the biggest chunk of that increase came from added payroll expenditure. Given that this line will grow even more in 2023 due to the implementation of long-overdue pay increases, we will need to continue to pursue opportunities for additional revenue. Significantly though, we should take great pride that we were able to maintain our current level of staffing (2.5 fte) throughout 2022 without resorting to layoff.

Our biggest forthcoming challenge will be to, once again, ramp up income to the Relocation Fund to get us across that finish line and into our new (to us) building. The longer this stretches out for, the longer we will have double expenses for utilities and insurance.

Funding Highlights

Our largest single source of funds for operating expenses in 2022 came from the federal government. A little over \$40,000 was provided, approximately \$21,000 of it to help with post-Covid reopening expenses. Also, the Museum Assistance Program helped to pay for new shelving and contributed to wages for our Collections Manager.

We were pleased to have the Town of Aylmer maintain their annual grant at the previous year's level of \$20,000 for 2022 and to see the Township of Malahide increase their grant by \$1,500. The Township of Malahide has committed to a further increase of \$3,500 for 2023. Going forward, we may wish to seek to have the museum's funding by the municipalities included as a regular budget item rather than relying on grant requests. We were also delighted to receive an Aylmer Community Foundation grant to mount an exhibition of Dave Ritchie's work. This exhibition is expected to be one of our highly anticipated fundraisers for 2023.

Paid memberships increased across almost every level to boost our revenue by close to \$1,500. Bingo revenue which increased by more than \$10,000 in 2022 greatly helped to offset

increased expenditures. Our loyal volunteers are to be thanked for this. Both staff and volunteers should also be credited for supporting numerous smaller fundraisers, including: the summer yard sale and barbecue raffle; the fall classic car show; and the Christmas raffle. These events not only contributed to our bottom line but, perhaps more importantly, helped to promote the museum throughout the community upon which we rely so heavily.

We had very encouraging financial support for the publication of “Just What the Doctor Ordered.” Major donors included (in order) Rhonda McNaughton, Rosemary Kennedy, the Springfield Swans, Royal Canadian Legion Br. 81 and Aylmer Express Graphics Group. These donations covered three quarters of the total cost.

Funding Challenges and Expenses

As Covid has waned, government support for enhanced funding has dried up. We were down by close to \$56,000 in revenue compared to 2021 as a result. In 2021 we had benefited from an additional CMOG grant of \$3,000 for digital engagement but this grant was not available for 2022.

Additional staffing costs were added but were largely covered by the Museum Assistance Program and bingo money.

Although the publication of “Just what the Doctor Ordered” had a net cost to the museum of just over \$1,000, much of that has already been or can expect to be recouped through sales.

Fundraising expenses were surprisingly lean given all that was done. Just a few hundred dollars were spent on advertising, etc. in order to solicit new funds, especially for the Relocation fund.

Outlook

Although 2023 will certainly have its share of financial challenges for the museum board, we have every expectation that these will be met and overcome. Already, there are plans in the works to bring back some of our major volunteer-led fundraisers such as community luncheons and the Christmas Tour of Homes. Additional sources of revenue, such as online 50/50 draws and raffles are being explored.

Finally, securing major funding from the three levels of government for the Relocation fund will be essential to realizing the dreams we have for a first-class facility; a home to safely store and exhibit the heritage riches which have been endowed by the members of our communities.

Dan Reid

Finance Chair, Aylmer-Malahide Museum & Archives

2022 ACQUISITION REPORT

The Acquisition Committee continued to review acquisitions in 2022 via email. Items were listed, pictures accompanied the lists and the committee members e-mailed comments and voted. The acquisition committee consisted of Kelly Pearson, Deb Addley, Pat White, Allan Cross and James McCallum, with support from Sarah Bentley and Amanda VandenWyngaert.

The largest donation of items received in 2022 came from the IOOF and Rebekahs, 124 items in all.

Items of interest varied from a bilingual dictionary (Dutch-English) 1948; to a pamphlet for McConnell's Nursery.

'Offer of Donation' forms and 'Acquisition Records' were created to better communicate the process of donations, acceptance, and charitable tax receipts.

Janet Rigsby

Acquisition Committee Chair, Aylmer-Malahide Museum & Archives

	Number of Items	Number of Donors
2021	375	30
2022	325	27

A special thank you to volunteers Vicki Hull and Bozena Boadway for assisting our Collections Manager Sarah in listing, cataloguing, and photographing our new acquisitions!

2022 BUILDING REPORT

It has been an interesting and exciting year. After two years of Covid restrictions, the current museum at 14 East St. was able to open on schedule, on March 7, 2022. Visitors enjoyed our exhibit, “Just What the Doctor Ordered”, and we cautiously started back with some fundraising events. There were no major renovations or repairs to the building proper required, however, the south facing roof required new shingles. This was covered under our insurance policy as the damage was storm related.

On June 23, 2022, we finalized the purchase of 75 Talbot St. E., Aylmer as a new home for the museum. This historic building was once home to the Traders Bank of Canada, the Royal Bank of Canada, Hamilton Ward Cathers Insurance and, lastly, McFarlan Rowlands Insurance. The museum was able to purchase the building outright using funds donated from several estates, including those of Giles Hume, Mary Bushell Evens, and Marie Briggs. We have now started a capital campaign to raise funds to cover the costs of renovations. The building is in great shape, structurally, but will need several upgrades to bring it up to full accessibility standards and to accommodate exhibit space, offices, and storage.

Renovations will include:

- Relocating the stairs to the upper floor and basement
- Removing two full-sized bank vaults from the main floor
- Adding a 500 sq. ft. addition on the back of the building
- Installing an elevator or freight lift
- Creating an inviting foyer and gift shop area
- Opening up all the walls on the second floor to create office space, a storage area, a dedicated artifact processing area, and a photo studio
- Installing a small kitchenette and employee break room
- Waterproofing the basement for additional large item storage

The estimated cost of renovations is 2.5 million. Much of this cost can be covered through government grants, but there is still a significant amount that needs to be raised. A Building Committee was formed to look at new fundraising events, grant applications, and media campaigns for online fundraising.

Kathi Vandermeer
Office Manager, Aylmer-Malahide Museum & Archives

2022 MEMBERSHIP REPORT

With the purchase of the new building, it was decided that the museum membership structure should be reviewed. Once the new building is fully renovated and the museum is able to move, then we will be able to extend our hours to year-round, offer more programming and content and run events such as lecture and demonstration series. We decided to create two membership categories the Classic Membership and the Curators Circle Membership with different fee levels in each category. Each category in the Classic membership includes one membership only. A secondary membership per family household can be added for only \$15. Membership letters were sent out in December 2022.

Classic Membership

Individual \$20	Includes 1 museum membership Admission for 1 to all museum exhibits Access to the Museum Archives (by appointment) 5 AMMA Newsletters per year
Friend \$50	<i>All Individual Membership Benefits above</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Charitable tax receipt for a \$30 donation Recognition in the AMMA Newsletter
Supporter \$100	<i>All Individual Membership Benefits above</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Charitable tax receipt for an \$80 donation Recognition in the AMMA Newsletter Admission for one guest to museum exhibits

Curator's Circle

Founder \$250	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Receive a Charitable tax receipt for a \$250 donation
Benefactor \$500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Receive a Charitable tax receipt for a \$500 donation
Associate \$1000+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Receive a Charitable tax receipt for full amount of donation

The board of directors welcomed two new members. Jim McCallum joined August 16, 2022, and Shirley Fallowfield joined September 13, 2022. Both have proved to be valuable assets to the museum board. Arthur Oslach was reappointed as Aylmer Liaison while continuing to hold a board position, and Sarah Leitch joined as our Township of Malahide Liaison.

	2020 Memberships	2021 Memberships	2022 Memberships
Traditional - \$20	16	16	22
Foundational - \$50	16	17	12
Archaeological - \$100	22	22	19
Historical - \$250	4	4	5
Classical - \$500	6	5	7
Archival - \$1000	1	1	1
Business Card Ad	7	5	6
¼ page Ad	4	2	2
Event or Exhibit sponsor	0	1	0

Kathi Vandermeer
Office Manager, Aylmer-Malahide Museum & Archives

2022 VOLUNTEER REPORT

The Aylmer-Malahide Museum & Archives is incredibly fortunate to have a team of dedicated, talented, and hardworking volunteers to assist us in our operations. With thanks to our volunteers, our organization has grown into the flourishing museum it is today.

We were pleased to welcome eight new volunteers into our organization in 2022. Between 79 registered volunteers, the museum logged a total of 901 volunteer hours. Volunteers are credited for hours given as members of our Board of Directors, as members of our various committees, and as representatives of the museum at Jackpot Time Gaming Entertainment in St. Thomas. With the purchase of our new building at 75 Talbot St. E. came the need for a new committee to oversee the building and the fundraising for its renovation. The Building Committee consists of seven dedicated and insightful volunteers. We were also grateful to have the help of our volunteers in tasks like exhibit setup, cataloguing, collections management, building maintenance, and the successful operation of fundraisers and events.

The museum hosted three volunteer meetings in 2022. In April, we gathered the volunteers to announce the purchase of our new building and to discuss potential fundraisers. In July, we welcomed volunteers to view our new building and celebrate this significant milestone in the museum's history. Finally, we invited the volunteers to a holiday party in November to thank them for their time and hard work.

The Province of Ontario issued Volunteer Service Awards to seven of our volunteers, including Ron Sawyer (5 years of service), Deb Waite (5 years of service), Phyllis Ketchabaw (15 years of service), Ann Donkers (20 years of service), Edie Vindasius (20 years of service), and Betty Segui (25 years of service).

We look forward to the return of our volunteer-operated fundraisers, including our Spring Luncheon, our Heritage Luncheon, and the Aylmer-Malahide Museum & Archives Volunteers' 19th Annual Christmas Tour of Homes.

I have been pleased to serve as the interim Volunteer Coordinator for the museum as our Board of Directors searches for an appropriate candidate to fill the role. Thank you all for the opportunity to get to know you better!

Sarah Bentley

Interim Volunteer Coordinator, Aylmer-Malahide Museum & Archives

2022 CURATOR'S REPORT

I want to start by thanking everyone for their continued support throughout 2022! This year marked a very exciting year for the museum! After more than a decade of searching, we were finally able to purchase a new building to serve as the future home of the Aylmer-Malahide Museum & Archives. Throughout the year we were able to host a variety of displays and events at our new building, and we can't wait to make it our permanent new location!

Exhibits

Our primary exhibit that ran through 2022 was *Just What the Doctor Ordered: The Medical History of Aylmer and Malahide*. The exhibit featured the history of the doctors, nurses, dentists, optometrists, and chiropractors in Aylmer and Malahide. Along with the exhibit, we were also able to publish a book that provided an in-depth look at the medical history of our area, including the medical professionals currently practicing in Aylmer and Malahide.

Staff

We were very grateful to be able to extend Paul Hickling's Young Canada Works grant from the summer of 2021, and he was with us part-time throughout the spring. Following his grant with us, Paul finished his Master of Library & Information Science program at the University of Western Ontario and was offered a full-time position as the head archivist at The Banff Centre Archives.

We were fortunate to be able to hire two new students in the summer of 2022. Aidan Haldenby was a second-year student studying Health Sciences at Western University. He was hired through the Canada Summer Jobs program, and he worked diligently to digitize the Museum's General Artifact Collection. Following his grant with Canada Summer Jobs, his contract was extended through Young Canada Works. Joshua Zea was a second-year student studying History at King's University College. He was hired through the Young Canada Works program, and he worked to digitize the museum's archives.

Offsite Events and Displays

Throughout 2022, we participated in several exciting events and hosted a variety of offsite displays. On June 18th, we attended Springfield Family Fun Day where we featured a display with information about our new building and our relocation project. We also distributed history-themed crafts and activities for children.

On July 29th, we hosted an educational program in collaboration with the Aylmer Library in support of their Summer Reading Program. The lesson looked at the pre-colonial Indigenous history of the area and featured opportunities for participant engagement and artifact handling.

From August 12th to the 14th, we presented a display at the Aylmer Fair. The display featured information, photographs, and artifacts from our collection celebrating their 173rd year!

On September 15th, we hosted an open house for museum members and the general public to come and tour our new building and see our plans for the renovations. The open house had 150 people in attendance, and it was a great opportunity to showcase our plans for the future of the Aylmer-Malahide Museum & Archives.

On November 22nd, we hosted Original Exhibition of Artworks, an art show featuring original works of art by local artists. The show, organized by the Aylmer BIA in partnership with Wendall Graves, was a resounding success, with an estimated 350 people in attendance!

Throughout November and December, we held a pop-up exhibit entitled *Christmas Through the Ages*, at our new building. The exhibit looked at Christmas traditions and popular decorating styles in the Victorian era, during the Great Depression, and mid-century.

Volunteers & Fundraising

Throughout the year we were very grateful to receive funds from our participation in bingos at Jackpot City in St. Thomas. Through this program, the museum receives funds monthly that we can use towards the preservation and maintenance of our collection. This year we were able to fund a portion of Sarah Bentley's salary to work on the collection and we were able to provide a much-needed upgrade to our general artifact storage. We are very grateful to be one of the charities that receive funds through the charitable gaming program, and very thankful for the volunteers that assist us with bingos each month.

In an effort to raise funds for our new building, we hosted a raffle and sold tickets to win a BBQ donated by Canadian Tire, a grill donated by C.J. Telfer Holdings, a meat package donated by Johnson Meats, and gift basket donated by Miller's Your Independent Grocer. Through the raffle, we were able to raise \$2,085 towards our relocation project.

Other fundraisers for our relocation project included a yard sale on August 20th that raised \$500, a car show on October 1st at the Saxonia Hall in conjunction with Elgin's Oktoberfest that raised \$1,614, and tickets on Christmas gift baskets that raised \$1,055.

I look forward to seeing what 2023 has in store for the Aylmer-Malahide Museum & Archives, and I cannot wait to bring back some of our incredible fundraisers!

Amanda VandenWyngaert
Curator, Aylmer-Malahide Museum & Archives

2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND STAFF

Board of Directors

Ron Sawyer
Chair

Dan Reid
Finance Chair
Vice-Chair

Janet Rigsby
Acquisition Chair

Bill Murch
Building Committee Chair

Larry Jeffery
Director

Rebecca Horeth
Director

Jim McCallum
Director

Larry Telfer
Director

Shirley Fallowfield
Director

Arthur Oslach
Director
Aylmer Council Liaison

Sarah Leitch
Director
Malahide Council Liaison

Museum Staff

Amanda VandenWyngaert
Curator

Sarah Bentley
Collections Manager

Kathi Vandermeer
Office Manager

2022 MEMBERS, SPONSORS, AND SUPPORTERS

2022 FOUNDATIONAL MEMBERS

Barb & Allan Cross
 Susan Graves
 Sylvia Hall
 Lynn Johnston
 John & Henrietta Karn
 Ella Killough
 Bill Murch
 Janet Rigsby
 Ron Sawyer
 Kathi Vandermeer
 Edie Vindasius
 Ken & Mary Wilson

2022 HISTORICAL MEMBERS

Tom & Linda Charlton
 Jim & Doreen MacIntyre
 Dave & Judy Mennill
 Duncan & Margaret Sinclair
 Harvey & Kathleen Tribe

2022 CLASSICAL MEMBERS

Carl & Debra Bagshaw
 Keith & Anne Howe
 Larry & Jacquie Jeffery
 Rosemary Kennedy
 Dan Reid
 Pat White

2022 ARCHAEOLOGICAL MEMBERS

Ian Begg
 Keith Benner
 Dennis & Bozena Boadway
 Jessie & Bob Charlton
 Chris Dancey
 Ann Donkers
 Allan & Mary Finch
 Mary French
 Robert Habkirk
 Mike & Penny Hilliker
 Rebecca Horeth
 Pud & MaryAnne Hunter
 Herb & Jeanette Kebbel
 Donald Kunz
 Susan Kyle
 Joe and Lindsay Lowagie
 Kelly Pearson
 Bertha Strickland
 Larry & Shereen Telfer
 Jeff & Nicole Wiebenga
 Pat Zimmer

2022 ARCHIVAL MEMBERS

Marvin Ryder

2022 SUPPORTERS

Aylmer Canadian Tire
 Aylmer Community Foundation
 Aylmer Express Ltd.
 Aylmer Legion
 Canadian Museum Association
 Canada Summer Jobs
 Estate of Donna Bushell
 Eastlink
 Estate of Giles Hume
 Hills Pharmacy
 Inclusive Communities Consulting
 Rhonda McNaughton
 Rosemary Kennedy
 Springfield Swans
 Town of Aylmer
 Township of Malahide
 Ministry of Tourism, Culture & Sport
 Young Canada Works

JACKPOT
TIME
 GAMING ENTERTAINMENT



AYLMER EXPRESS GRAPHICS GROUP
 Aylmer | London | Woodstock | Toronto
aegg.ca



BUYING OR SELLING?
 Work with a community minded, experienced realtor

Jeff Wiebenga
 BROKER

showcase
 EAST ELGIN REALTY INC.

calljeffnow@eastlink.ca
 519 773 8800

OVER 35 YEARS REAL ESTATE EXPERIENCE

CALLJEFFNOW.COM



showcase
 EAST ELGIN REALTY INC.

51 Talbot St. East Aylmer, Ont. N5H 1H3
 p. 519 773 8800 f. 519 773 8809
showcaseeastelgin.com info@showcaseeastelgin.com



DUFF'S GARAGE
 GENERAL REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE

Email: duffsgarage@amtelecom.net

380 Talbot St. E.
 Aylmer, Ont. N5H 1J5

(519) 773-8500



GRAHAM SCOTT ENNS LLP
 CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS

Michael Stover, CPA, CA
 President - Michael S. Stover C.A. Professional Corporation

Partner

mstover@gsellp.com · www.grahamscottenns.com
 P. 519-773-9265 x302 · C. 519-476-2117
 25 John Street S., 2nd Floor, Suite 208, Aylmer, ON N5H 2C1

H. A. Kebbel
Funeral Home Limited

119 Talbot Street East
 Aylmer, Ontario N5H 1H3
kebbel@eastlink.ca
 (519) 773-8400

FUNERAL DIRECTORS kebbelfuneralhome.com

HELEN KEBBEL | BOB KEBBEL | BILL WHITE



Elgin County Heritage Centre
 460 Sunset Drive, St. Thomas
 519-631-1460 ext. 193
 Hours: Tuesday- Saturday 10 am – 4 pm



HILLS & HILLS CLINIC
Rx PharmaChoice
Advice for Life

2 Locations to Serve You Better

35 Talbot Street East t. 519-773-9263 * f. 519-765-3607 hillspills@amtelecom.net	420 Talbot Street West t. 519-765-2880 * f. 519-765-4550 hillsclinic@amtelecom.net
--	--

**McNAUGHTON
FARM DRAINAGE LTD.**

Wilfrid and Rhonda McNaughton

(519) 765-4400

Box 131, R.R. #2
Springfield, ON N0L 2J0

eastlink

Defenders of Honour
Excalibur
INSURANCE
 GROUP

STEELWAY
 BUILDING SYSTEMS

 **CANADIAN TIRE**

 **Community Museum**
 Operating Grant



Springfield Swans

Formerly known as the Springfield Lioness, Springfield Swans took flight on July 1, 2021!

This club is a small group of civically minded women with a goal of making their community a great place to live. We're not all about fundraising. Our service work includes maintaining the Mary H Pearson Memorial Garden (Cenotaph Park, Springfield) and an annual Seniors "Christmas in July" event. Donations are made primarily to local endeavours, and include our school, fire department, parade, Fun Day, and area hospitals. Our fundraising events include an annual Community Beef Supper (each year in support of a new charity), "B" Sale (books, baking, etc) for Breast Cancer, Community Spirit Birthday Calendars and assignments at Jackpot City Gaming Entertainment in St Thomas. Anyone who is 18 years of age or older, who is service minded and is invited into the club may be a member.

"Volunteering for a Better Community"

Check out our Facebook Page: *Springfield Swans Club - Ontario* ~~~~ *PO Box 179, Springfield, ON N0L 2J0*

Goodwill's usedcars.com
Over 250 used vehicles to choose from

We Finance

SALES⁵¹⁹ 765-1047 SERVICE⁵¹⁹ 773-9607

Aylmer • Ontario