



SPARKS

NEWSLETTER OF THE WESTERN DEVELOPMENT MUSEUM



**WITH A LITTLE
HELP FROM
OUR FRIENDS**

Thank you WDM volunteers!

CEO'S REPORT

Thanks to
our volunteers

UPCOMING EVENTS

What's happening at
your WDMs

SK INSPIRED

Bourgault air
seeder

UPCOMING EVENTS



WDM Moose Jaw

Through June 5	<i>Akin to the Land : The History of the Métis in Southwest Saskatchewan</i> exhibit from the Swift Current Museum
June 19	Father's Day

WDM North Battleford

Through April 10	<i>Echoes in the Ice: Finding Franklin's Ship</i> exhibit from the Canada Science and Technology Museum
April 16	Blues & Brews
April 23–24	Heritage Sign Painting workshop – Pre-registration required
June 18	Family Day

WDM Saskatoon

April 19–26	<i>Wheat Field Mural</i> by Monique Martin and Michael Peterson
May to April 29	<i>100 Years Ago: Remembering WWI</i> – WDM Exhibit
April 16	Pioneer Threshermen's Flea Market
June 18	Motorcycle Ride for Dad

WDM Yorkton

Through April 17	<i>Big Bert</i> exhibit from the Royal Saskatchewan Museum
May 1	Mommy & Me – Cookies and Tea
May 20–Sept 21	<i>100 Years Ago: Remembering WWI</i> – WDM Exhibit
May 22	Discovery Box Family Programming
June 5	Movies at the Museum
June 12	Daddy & I – Coffee and Pie

Events and dates are subject to change.

A MESSAGE FROM THE CEO



Thanks to our Volunteers

The Western Development Museum is having a great year. Each day people are working really hard to keep our Museum vibrant and exciting. This is especially true of our dedicated volunteers. In 2015, more than 1,400 volunteers at five WDM locations gave 56,561 hours of their time to the Museum. Many of these people have been WDM volunteers for 10, 20, 30, and even more years. In celebration of National Volunteer Week, April 10-16, we salute our amazing volunteers.

WDM volunteers help to make the Museum more accessible and welcoming to our visitors. They demonstrate blacksmithing, butter churning, ice cream making and rope making. They help restore artifacts. They provide train rides, wagon rides and sleigh rides. They give musical performances. They interpret WDM exhibits. They help with school programs, special events and annual shows. They fundraise for the Museum in a variety of ways. In short, our volunteers help improve the operation of the WDM and enhance the visitor experience in countless ways.

On behalf of the entire Museum, I extend my sincere and heartfelt thanks to each and every volunteer for their ongoing contributions that help to make the WDM the great place that it is. They all truly embody the "Saskatchewan Inspired" spirit!

Are you interested in becoming a WDM volunteer? Please contact the Museum near you to learn about how you can help.

Joan Champ, CEO

IN THE GALLERIES

- A** WDM Moose Jaw – *Akin to the Land: The History of the Métis in Southwest Saskatchewan* from the Swift Current Museum in conjunction with the Gabriel Dumont Institute. Through June 5. (Funded by Heritage Canada, SaskCulture and the Saskatchewan Heritage Foundation.)
- B** WDM North Battleford – New Look Indoor Exhibit Gallery, WDM Permanent Exhibit.



A



B



C



D

- C** WDM Saskatoon – *Wheat Field Mural* by Monique Martin. Through April 19.
- D** WDM Yorkton – *Big Bert* from the Royal Saskatchewan Museum. Through April 17.

WDM MOOSE JAW

VOLUNTEER WORKING ON 75 HP CASE STEAM TRACTION ENGINE.



Akin to the Land

APRIL 10 – JUNE 5

Akin to the Land: The History of the Métis in Southwest Saskatchewan is from the Swift Current Museum in conjunction with the Gabriel Dumont Institute. The Métis are a unique culture arising from the union of fur traders and First Nations women. Traditional Métis culture bridged the old and new combining language, technologies and artistic expression. *Akin to the Land* explores the unique history of the Métis of southwest Saskatchewan and features the art of Métis artist George Gingras. The exhibit is funded by Heritage Canada, SaskCulture and the Saskatchewan Heritage Foundation.

WDM MOOSE JAW

CONTACT US

50 Diefenbaker Drive
Moose Jaw, SK S6J 1L9
Phone: 1-306-693-5989
Email: moosejaw@wdm.ca

APRIL-MAY HOURS

9:00 am – 5:00 pm daily

Volunteers Restore 75 HP Case

Volunteers have begun work on a 75 HP Case steam traction engine from the WDM collection. A part of the WDM's steam program, this engine has been out of service for a number of years. Built in 1912, it was advertised as plowing 30 to 40 acres a day and travelled at a speed of 4 km/h. The factory price was \$2,150 plus freight, about \$53,700 today. It weighs over 9,000 kg. When restored, it will operate at WDM Moose Jaw during the summer months.



WDM NORTH BATTLEFORD

VOLUNTEERS OF ALL AGES BRING THE MUSEUM TO LIFE.



Blues & Brews

APRIL 16

Described as “a blues band with a foot stomping energy, and a groove and searing guitar tone,” the Blue Mules is the featured performer for Blues & Brews. Music fans won’t want to miss this evening of great music. Doors open at 8:00 pm with entertainment from 9:00 pm - 1:00 am. Tickets are \$20 each or a table of eight for \$120.

Exhibit Gallery Renovations

We’ve been renovating! In addition to making a travelling exhibit gallery and tweaking one of our rental spaces, we’ve changed up some of our indoor exhibits. Old Abe the eagle, long time symbol of the J.I. Case machinery company, now towers nearly four metres above a collection of vintage vehicles. New in the gallery is Canada’s best collection of 19th century Canadian-built portable steam engines. The vignettes of rural life that offer a glimpse into the workaday world of the 1920s have also been refreshed.

WDM NORTH BATTLEFORD

GREAT ESCAPES VACATION RAFFLE 2016

One vacation package given away every month in 2016!

\$100 / ticket. For tickets visit wdm.ca/nb/greatescapes.htm

CONTACT US

Box 183, Hwys 16 & 40
North Battleford, SK S9A 2Y1
Phone: 306-445-8033
Email: nbattleford@wdm.ca

APRIL-MAY HOURS
9:00 am – 5:00 pm daily



WDM SASKATOON

VOLUNTEERS SHARE THEIR SKILLS AT THE HERITAGE FESTIVAL OF SASKATOON.



Pioneer Threshermen's Club Flea Market

APRIL 16

You never know what hidden treasure you might find at the semi-annual Pioneer Threshermen's Flea Market and Craft Sale. The Flea Market is a fundraiser by WDM volunteers in support of the WDM Saskatoon. It runs from 9:00 am – 3:30 pm with free admission to the Flea Market.

WDM SASKATOON

CONTACT US

2610 Lorne Avenue
Saskatoon, SK S7J 0S6
Phone: 1-306-931-1910
Email: saskatoon@wdm.ca

APRIL-MAY HOURS

9:00 am – 5:00 pm daily

Wheat Field Mural

THROUGH APRIL 19

For Culture Days 2015, local artist Monique Martin led the creation of this unique collaborative artwork – 62.7 meter mural representing Saskatchewan's 627 km southern border. Students from Georges Vanier Catholic Fine Arts School and St. Maria Goretti Community School used linocut blocks to stamp more than 1000 stalks of wheat to represent the wheat fields of southern Saskatchewan.



WDM YORKTON



VOLUNTEERS AT WORK AT THE THRESHERMEN'S SHOW & SENIORS' FESTIVAL.

Mommy & Me – Cookies and Tea

MAY 1

Plan a special outing with Mom! Tour our galleries, share stories about your family history, have a family photo taken and create a special frame together to proudly display your photo.

This event runs from 2:00 – 4:00 pm.

Discovery Box Family Programming

MAY 22, JULY 10 & 24, AUGUST 14

Get hands-on with history! Touch and hold artifacts from the WDM collection. Each date has a special theme with different artifacts. On May 22, explore “Schools Then & Now.”

Events begin at 2:00 pm.

WDM YORKTON

MOVIES AT THE MUSEUM

June 5 at 2:00 pm

Featuring short films about war from the Yorkton Film Festival.

CONTACT US

Box 98 Hwy 16A West

Yorkton, SK S3N 2V6

Phone: 1-306-783-8361

Email: yorkton@wdm.ca

APRIL-MAY HOURS

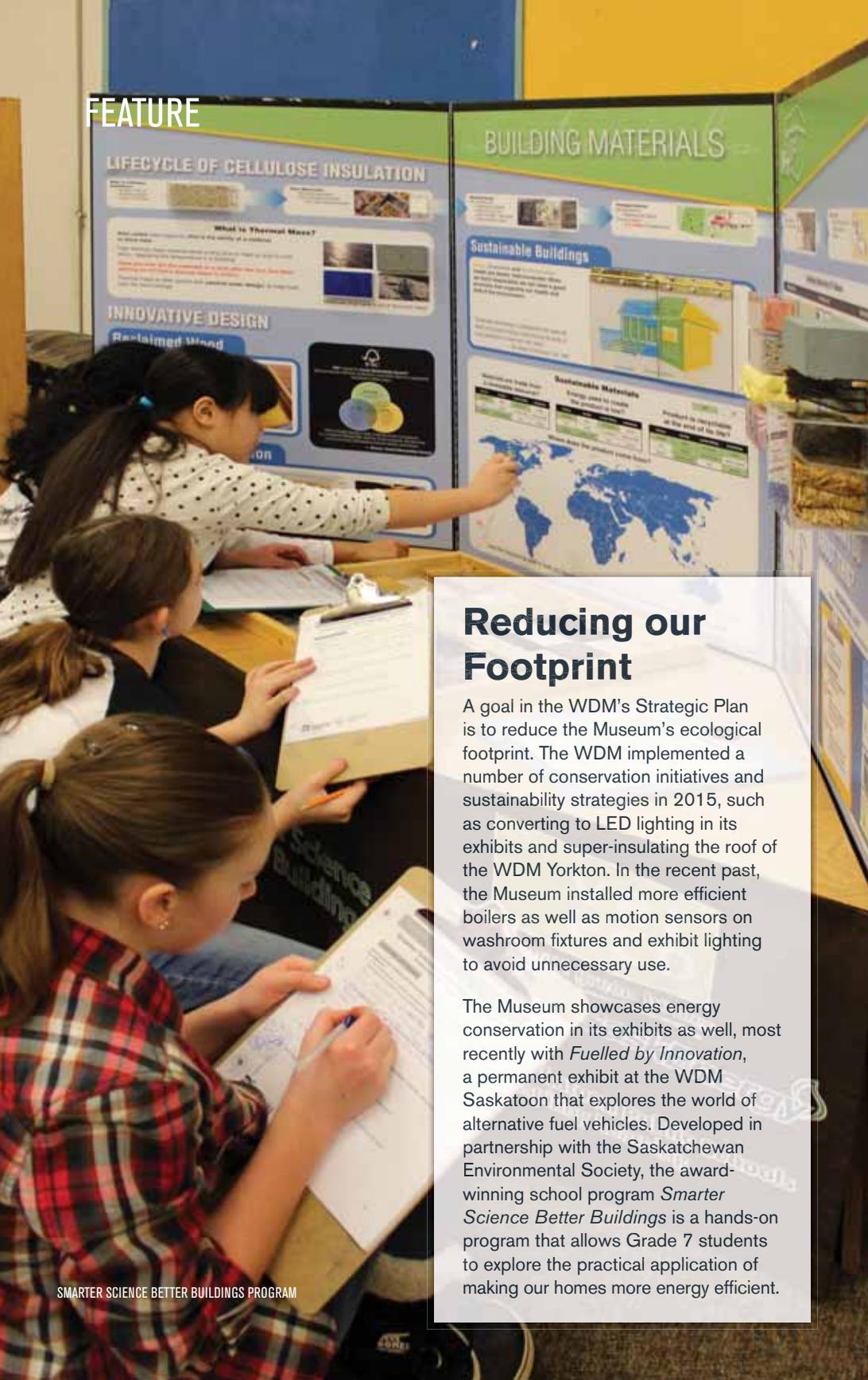
9:00 am – 5:00 pm Monday-Friday

12:00 – 5:00 pm Weekends

Museum Closed: May 23



FEATURE



BUILDING MATERIALS

LIFECYCLE OF CELLULOSE INSULATION

What is Thermal Mass?
Thermal mass is the ability of a material to absorb, store and release heat. It is a key component of passive solar design and can help reduce energy consumption by keeping buildings cool in the summer and warm in the winter.

INNOVATIVE DESIGN

Reclaimed Wood



Sustainable Buildings

Sustainable Materials

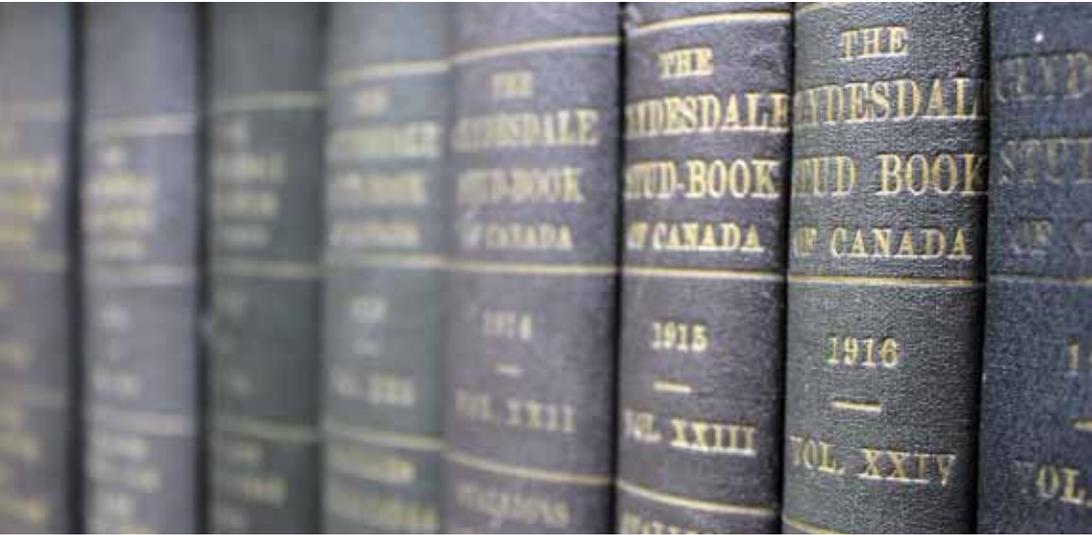


Reducing our Footprint

A goal in the WDM's Strategic Plan is to reduce the Museum's ecological footprint. The WDM implemented a number of conservation initiatives and sustainability strategies in 2015, such as converting to LED lighting in its exhibits and super-insulating the roof of the WDM Yorkton. In the recent past, the Museum installed more efficient boilers as well as motion sensors on washroom fixtures and exhibit lighting to avoid unnecessary use.

The Museum showcases energy conservation in its exhibits as well, most recently with *Fuelled by Innovation*, a permanent exhibit at the WDM Saskatoon that explores the world of alternative fuel vehicles. Developed in partnership with the Saskatchewan Environmental Society, the award-winning school program *Smarter Science Better Buildings* is a hands-on program that allows Grade 7 students to explore the practical application of making our homes more energy efficient.

ABOUT US



What's new in the George Shepherd Library?

As we mentioned in an earlier issue of Sparks, the catalogue of the George Shepherd Library at the WDM Curatorial Centre is available online at wdm.ca/library. Click on the "Browse Virtual Shelf" button to see the items next to the one you are interested in and click on their titles to see the catalogue records. Use the left or right arrow buttons to extend your visual search. It's almost like you are in the library. Need to navigate with French or Spanish? You can do this too. Although we catalogue our records in English, the online library catalogue is now searchable in French and Spanish.

"It feels like home."



TANYA CALLAWAY

It makes sense that people who care about a history museum care about legacy. Legacy and remembering are what the WDM is all about. You can honour your connection to the past like long-time WDM supporter and WDM legacy donor Tanya Callaway:

"Growing up on a farm in rural Saskatchewan, the WDM always held a special place in my heart. My dad restored antique machinery throughout my childhood and by visiting the WDM I feel like I can connect back to those days. The Museum is so important to Saskatchewan – yesterday is history and by preserving it, future generations can have the same feelings I do. Leaving a legacy to the WDM was right for me – it feels like home."

Many people like to leave a gift in their will to charities that are important to them. If, like Tanya, you have included the WDM in your plans, or if you would like to discuss your options for a tribute gift, we would love to hear from you. Please call Jen Pederson at the WDM Curatorial Centre at 1-800-363-6345.

ABOUT US



BOURGALT AIR SEEDER, WDM-2015-S-220

New to the WDM Collection

A Bourgault air seeder tank used on the Whiting farm near Melfort was delivered to the WDM Curatorial Centre in October 2015.

The first air seeder experiments on the prairies began in the 1950s but it was Lajord area farmer Jerome Bechard's work in the 1960s and 1970s that laid the groundwork for the modern air seeder. Cultivator manufacturer Frank Bourgault of St. Brieux bought the rights to Bechard's metering auger in 1978 for use on his own air seeding system. The first model was ready for market in 1980.

Dale Whiting bought his air seeder in 1982, the 202nd machine off the Bourgault assembly line, and used it with a Bourgault cultivator.

Saskatchewan manufacturers are innovators in air seeding technology. Today most Saskatchewan farmers use this technology to seed and fertilize their crops.

WDM BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ken Azzopardi, Chair – Regina
Diana Ireland – Moose Jaw
Janice Hobbs – Saskatoon
Susan Lamb – Saskatoon
Dennis Naphin – Yorkton
Raymond Sadler – Biggar
Dave Whitehead – North Battleford

Western Development Museum – Curatorial Centre
2935 Lorne Avenue
Saskatoon, SK S7J 0S5

WDM Curatorial Centre

For SPARKS and membership questions please contact us at:

Phone: 306-934-1400

Toll Free: 1-800-363-6345

Email: info@wdm.ca

Business Hours

8:30 am - 4:30 pm Monday - Friday

Closed Statutory Holidays

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VICTORIA-BRAND CITRUS CRATE, WDM-1973-S-6438

Happy
Victoria Day!



WDM.CA



#SaskInspired